Volume 2 Issue 29

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

KENYA WATER INSTITUTE KEWI Fountain Of Water Knowledge

WEEKLY Newsletter

July 27–August 2 2024

Academic Affairs Division: at the Centre of Delivering the Institute's Training and Certification Mandate

Students undertaking a practical lesson on how to assemble a Solar Water Heater. The Academic Affairs Division is implementing a Competency-Based Education and Training curriculum that emphasizes on the acquisition of competencies.

BY PIUS KIMANI

Kenya Water Institute's (KEWI) stands out as the only water training institute in Kenya mandated to offer training, research, innovation, and consultancy under the ministry of water, sanitation, and irrigation, the institute has lately refined its focus on achieving this critical mandate.

Against an operating environment that is littered with challenges, including but not least financial constraints, inadequate physical infrastructure, and equipment, among others, the institute has resiliently strived to deliver on its key result areas, which include access to quality and relevance training.

However, the Academic Affairs Division, one of the three critical arms of the institute that supports and oversees the implementation of its long-term

HIGHLIGHTS

3 CWET Students Conduct Levelling Survey Practical

4 Strengthening Creditworthiness: A Collaborative Approach to Financing Kenyan Water Utilities

6 Opportunities for KEWI's Graduands

7 Call for September 2024 Intake

Academic Affairs Division: at the Centre of Delivering the Institute's Training and Certification Mandate

training needs, has strived to meet the demands of its clientele.

Currently headed by the Deputy Director Mr. Eric K. Wamiti, and Heads of Departments, the division, which oversees its functions across all the four campuses, i.e., Nairobi, Chiakariga, Kitui, and Kisumu is solely responsible for conducting training and examinations and awarding certificates as per Kenya Water Institute Act No. 11 of 2001.

Its other functions include developing and implementing academic training programs, undertaking research in curriculum development and review, coordinating library management services, undertaking guidance and counseling for students, and issuing certificates to students who have graduated.

The division further oversees student services, which include student registration, examinations, and student welfare services in the institute and library and resource center, thus ensuring that the management of the library and resource center services in the institute is running smoothly.

And to deliver on its training capacities, the division has enhanced the implementation of training programs at the institute through its three acclaimed training departments which include Water and Waste Water Engineering, which

Mr. Eric K. Wamiti, Deputy Director Academic Affairs

spearheads teaching and assessment of all engineering-related courses in the institute; the Water Resource and Environmental Management which oversees teaching and assessment of all water resources management-related courses; and Management and Information Technology, which ensures that teaching and assessment of all information technology, and other support subjects in the institute are implemented.

To help manage the smooth implementation of the above functions, the division has an academic board that sets and reviews the content and academic programs, establishes standards and evaluates the quality of the training programs.

The division has in recent times implemented critical developments that have emboldened its competence. Key among them is formulation of critical policies and training of its trainers in a bid to equip them with the critical skills and technical knowhow required to implement new phases of the training curriculum.

The management has emphatically and boldly spearheaded implementation of Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) curriculum. This will consequently help deliver quality training especially now that the enrolment is increasing with each subsequent intake.

To further enrich the training experience and bridge the gap occasioned by distance, the division runs a blended e-learning mode of lesson delivery where online training on common units is implemented. various programs in the future.

TRAINING

CWET Students Conduct Levelling Survey Practical

Certificate in Water Engineering students engaged in a hands-on learning experience by conducting a levelling survey practical. This exercise is an essential part of their curriculum, designed to equip them with the fundamental skills necessary for the field of water engineering.

Levelling in surveying is a technique used to determine the elevation of points on the Earth's surface relative to a reference level. This process is crucial for various applications, including construction, land development, and mapping. By mastering this technique, students will be well-prepared to address real-world challenges in their future careers.

The practical session focused on the two primary methods of surveying:

Chain Survey: This traditional method involves measuring distances with a chain or tape. It is commonly used for small-scale surveys.

Levelling Survey: This method determines the relative height of different points on the Earth's surface. It is vital for creating accurate topographical maps and ensuring proper construction alignment.

During the practical, students used leveling instruments to measure and record the elevations of various points within the campus. They worked in groups, which fostered collaboration and allowed them to apply theoretical knowledge in a practical setting.

The hands-on experience was not only educational but also enjoyable for the students. It provided them with a deeper understanding of the importance of precise measurements in water engineering projects. The faculty members overseeing the practical were impressed with the students' enthusiasm and dedication.

This levelling survey practical is a significant step in the students' journey towards becoming skilled water engineering professionals. By gaining proficiency in surveying techniques, they are better equipped to contribute to sustainable development and infrastructure projects in the future.

By Nancy Vivian; She is a Year 2 student pursuing Certificate in Water Engineering Course.

Strengthening Creditworthiness: A Collaborative Approach to Financing Kenyan Water Utilities

BY: VIRGINIA NANETIA

By aligning financial pathways with Kenyan policies and local dynamics and offering specialized financial products, banks and financial institutions can foster a supportive environment for water utilities.

This approach not only enhances creditworthiness but also ensures the delivery of reliable and equitable water services, contributing to the overall development and sustainability of the sector.

To boost the creditworthiness of Kenyan water utilities and facilitate their access to commercial financing, a collaborative approach involving banks and financial institutions is essential.

Crafting a tailored financial pathway that aligns with Kenyan policies, socioeconomic conditions, and local regulations can create a sustainable investment environment that benefits both utilities and investors, without placing undue strain on the utilities. Financial Practices and Operational Efficiency for Kenyan water utilities to attract investment, demonstrating sound financial practices is crucial. This includes accurate budgeting, efficient cost management, and timely financial reporting.

Operational efficiency must also be a priority; utilities need to optimize resource use, minimize wastage, and improve service delivery.

Mr. George Sato, a beneficiary of the credit-worthiness course.

In Kenya, balancing affordable water tariffs with sufficient revenue generation is a significant challenge. Utilities need to optimize resource use, minimize wastage, and improve service delivery. In Kenya, balancing affordable water tariffs with sufficient revenue generation is a significant challenge. Utilities should develop detailed financial plans and operational strategies to ensure that tariffs can sustain operations and service debt effectively.

Collaborative Banking Support Banks and financial institutions play a vital role in this process. Just as large corporates benefit from personalized banking services, public utilities need similar support. It is imperative for banks to identify gaps and opportunities within the water sector and consolidate resources to assist utilities in their journey toward creditworthiness. By understanding the specific needs of utilities, banks can ensure that their financial support aligns with the goals and requirements of the utilities, creating a symbiotic relationship that fosters growth and sustainability.

Strategic Investment Planning Strategic investment planning is critical for the development and modernization of infrastructure. Utilities should create comprehensive asset management plans, identify areas for improvement, and

Strengthening Creditworthiness: A Collaborative Approach to Financing Kenyan Water Utilities

prioritize investments that offer long-term benefits.

In Kenya, where infrastructure projects are often transferred from government initiatives to utilities, effective planning ensures that these assets are well-integrated into utility operations. This integration enhances the utilities' ability to generate revenue and manage debt effectively.

Tailored Financial Instruments Navigating financial markets to secure necessary funds for expansion and improvements requires presenting credible business plans and demonstrating the ability to manage and repay loans. Developing specialized financial instruments, such as tailored investment portfolios for the water and sanitation sector, can attract commercial financing while aligning with local policies and socioeconomic conditions.

Banks should offer special packages designed to address the unique challenges faced by water utilities, including fluctuating revenue streams and significant infrastructure needs. These adaptable financial solutions will support utilities in achieving long-term sustainability without imposing undue financial strain.

needs. These adaptable financial solutions will support utilities in achieving long-term sustainability without imposing undue financial strain.

Governance and Compliance Effective internal governance is crucial for maintaining financial health and creditworthiness. Utilities must adhere to national and international standards, engage in proactive advocacy to shape favorable regulatory environments, and ensure transparent reporting and strategic planning. Implementing best practices in financial and operational management, including robust risk management strategies, is essential for building and maintaining trust with investors. Innovation and Sustainability Incorporating advanced technologies and sustainable practices can significantly enhance efficiency and reduce costs.

Utilities should explore innovative approaches to service delivery and environmental stewardship, such as energy-efficient technologies and community conservation efforts. These practices not only improve operational performance but also contribute to the broader goal of sustainability.

Mr. Leonard Makokha, giving his insights during the graduation of the creditworthiness course at Radisson Blu Hotel.

TRAINING

Opportunities for KEWI's Graduands

Kenya Water Institute is pleased to announce that graduates of our Artisan and Certificate courses now have the opportunity to gain employment abroad through a new initiative supported by the National Employment Authority of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection.

Students enrolling in these programmes, and who possess a valid passport, will have an advantage in securing positions outside the country. This exciting opportunity aims to enhance the career prospects of our graduates and contribute to the global workforce in water and wastewater management sectors.

The programmes eligible for this initiative include our one-year Artisan courses in Plumbing and Pipefitting Technology, Water and Wastewater Management Technology, and Water Operators Course, as well as our two-year Certificate Courses in Water Engineering, Wastewater and Sanitation Engineering, Water Laboratory Technology, and Irrigation and Drainage.

By enrolling in these courses, students not only receive top-notch education and training but also opening to international employment opportunities, furthering their professional growth and development.

As part of our commitment to enhancing the employability of our graduates, we strongly encourage students enrolling in our Artisan and Certificate courses to obtain a valid passport. While a passport is not a mandatory requirement for admission, possessing one will provide students with a significant advantage in securing employment opportunities abroad through the National Employment Authority of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection. This initiative is designed to broaden our graduates' career prospects and enable them to participate in the global workforce.

Quote of the Week

"You are responsible for your life. If you're sitting around waiting on somebody to save you, to fix you, to even help you, you are wasting your time. Only you have the power to move your life forward ."

-Oprah Winfrey.

EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor

Dorine Eva Irungu

Writers:

Pius Kimani

Nancy Vivian

Virginia Nanetia

Photographer

Pius Kimani

Designer

Pius Kimani

Call for September 2024 Intake

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION & IRRIGATION

KENYA WATER INSTITUTE

CALL FOR SEPTEMBER 2024 INTAKE

DIPLOMA COURSES

- Water Resources Management
- Water Laboratory Technology
- Water Engineering Technology
- Information Communication Technology
- Wastewater and Sanitation Engineering Technology
- Irrigation and Drainage Engineering Technology

CERTIFICATE COURSES

- Water Resources Management Technology
- Water Laboratory Technology
- Water Engineering Technology
- Information Communication Technology
- Irrigation and Drainage Engineering Technology
- Wastewater and Sanitation Engineering Technology

ARTISAN COURSES

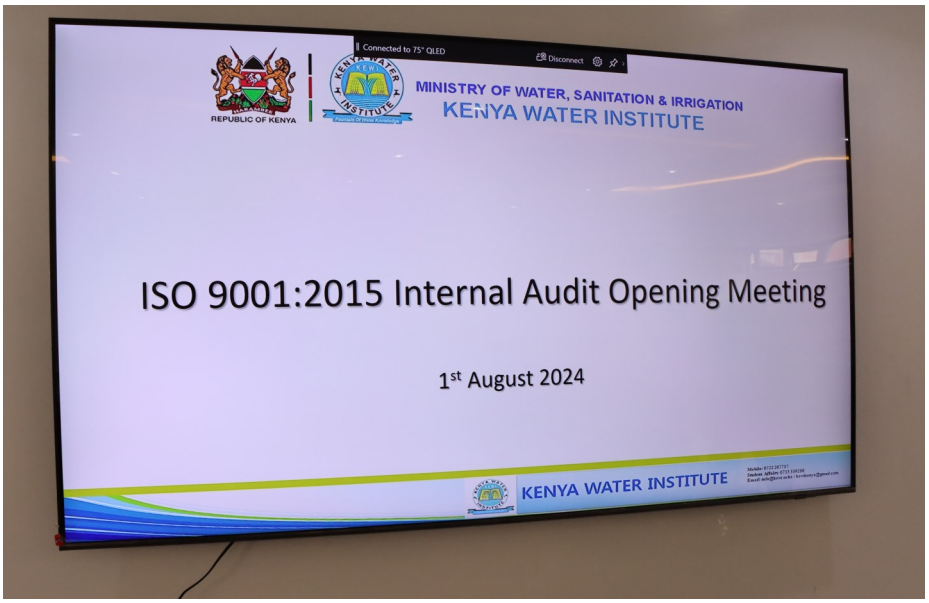
- Water Operator Course
- Plumbing and Pipefitting Technology
- Water and Wastewater Management Technology

INTAKES:

JANUARY
MAY
SEPTEMBER

+2547 35339206 admissions@kewi.or.ke www.kewi.go.ke

Round up of The Week's Events



Institute's departments held an opening meeting for an Internal Audit Exercise in readiness for ISO Certification.

Long - Term Programmes

Diploma in Water Engineering Technology (DWET) Diploma in Wastewater
Diploma in Water, Sanitation Engineering Technology (DWSET)
Diploma in Water Resources Management Technology (DWRTM)
Diploma in Irrigation and Drainage Engineering Technology (DIDET)
Diploma in Information Communication Technology (DICT)-KNEC
Diploma in Water Laboratory Technology (DWLT)
Certificate in Wastewater and Sanitation Engineering Technology (CWSET)
Certificate in Water Resources Management Technology (CWRMT)
Certificate in Information Communication Technology (CICT)- KNEC
Certificate in Water Laboratory Technology (CWLT)
Certificate in Water Engineering Technology (CWET)
Drilling Operations and Management (DOM)
Plumbing and Pipe Fitting (PPF)
Water Operators Course (WOC) in:

- Water Supply
- Meter Reading
- Sewerage Operations

Short - Term Programmes

Use of Earth Observation Tools and GIS for Water Resources Management
Entrepreneurship and Financial Management for Water Managers
Operation and Maintenance of Water Supply Networks
Metering and Installation of Water Supply Networks
Leak Detection & Repair techniques
Drilling Operations and Management (DOM)
Operation & Maintenance of Pumping Stations
Pump Selection, Installation and Maintenance
Plumbing, Pipe Fitting and Solar Water Heating
Instrumentation for Water and Wastewater Systems
Water Governance, Management and Technology
Application of GIS for Water Utilities Mapping
Drilling Operations and Management
Water Quality Sampling and Testing
Microbiological Water Quality Assessment
Integrated Water Resources Management
Non-Revenue water
Water Management
Customer Care

Vision

A Technical Centre of Excellence in Training, Research, Innovation and Consultancy in the water, Sanitation and Irrigation Sector.

Mission

T o offer Competency-Based Training, Research, Innovation, Consultancy and Outreach Services in the Water, Sanitation and Irrigation Sector for sustainable development.

Core Values

Good Corporate Governance
Professionalism
Customer Focus
Innovativeness
Inclusivity
Patriotism
Integrity

GET IN TOUCH WITH US

The Director,
Kenya Water Institute,
P.O. Box 60013-00200 Nairobi
TEL: +254 722-207757
Email: info@kewi.or.ke
Website: www.kewi.go.ke

For enquiries about our TVET programs
Contact the Registrar, Admissions Office.
Phone: 0735339206
Email: admissions@kewi.or.ke

KEWI Nairobi Campus
P.O. BOX 60013—00200
Tel: 0722207757
Email: info@kewi.or.ke

KEWI Chiakariga Campus
P.O. BOX 12—60215
Tel: 0729009104
Email: chiakariga@kewi.or.ke

KEWI Kitui Campus
P.O. BOX 1514—90200
Tel: 0707566395
Email: kitui@kewi.or.ke

KEWI Kisumu Campus
P.O. BOX 7825—40100
Tel: 0722207757
Email: kisumu@kewi.or.ke

OTHER SERVICES OFFERED

Water Quality Laboratory Services
Drilling and Test Pumping Services
Ground water Assessment Services
Conferencing Services
Troubleshooting of pumps boreholes and distribution systems
Repair of pumps boreholes and distribution systems

Your feedback is crucial for our improvement

communications@kewi.or.ke **@kewi_kenya** **Kenya Water Institute** **www.kewi.go.ke**