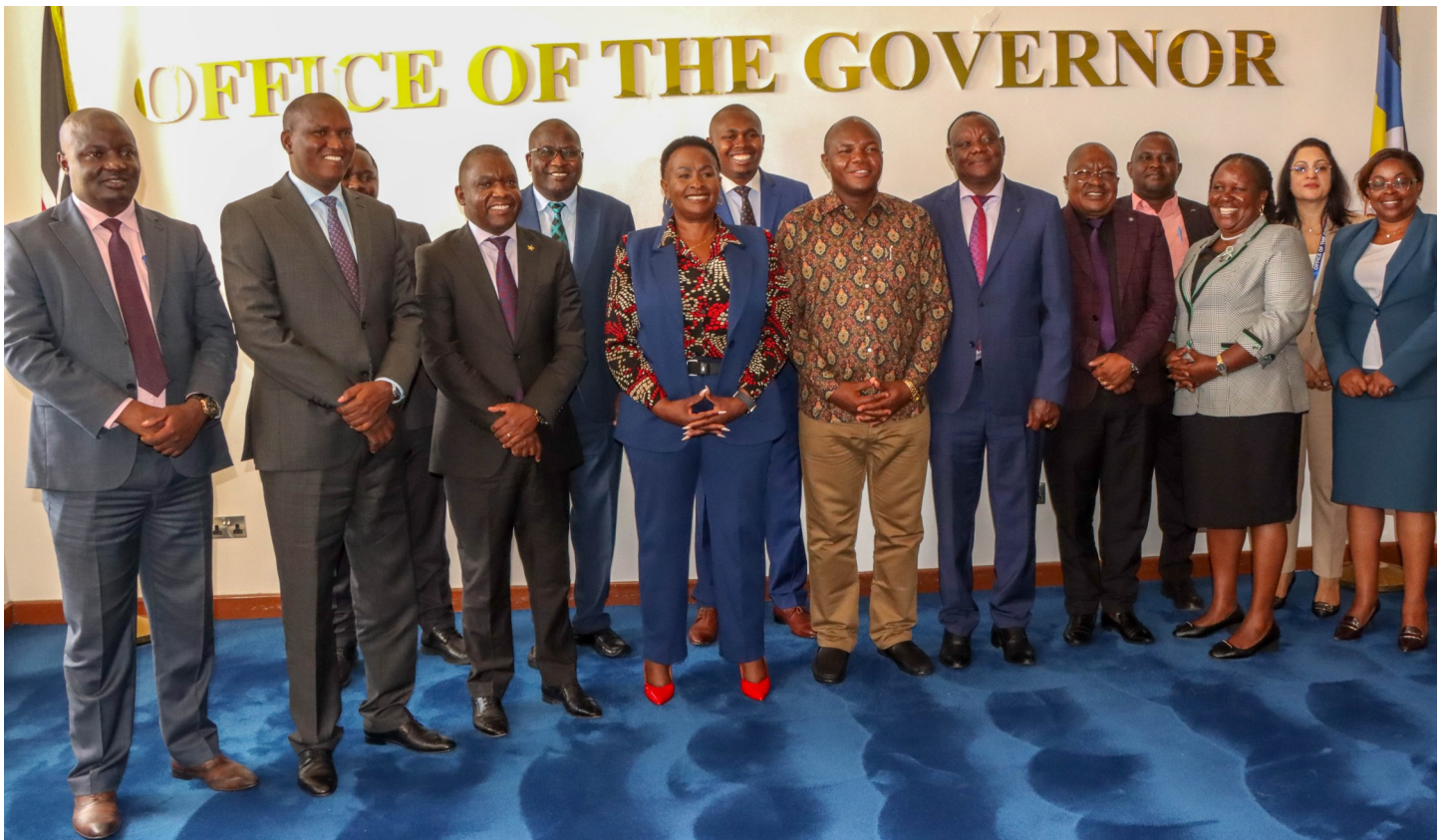


February 08- February 14 2025

KEWI and Gansu Academy for Water Conservancy Collaborate to Establish an International Research and Training Centre on Rainwater Harvesting and Irrigation in Machakos County



Machakos County Governor Her Excellency Wavinya Ndeti and Kenya Water Institute Governing Council Chairperson Hon. Patrick Musili Mbangula (front row, centre) pose for a group photo with other members of the county and institute leadership at the county headquarters in Machakos. H.E Wavinya donated land for the upcoming Rainwater Harvesting and Irrigation Research and Training Centre.

BY: PIUS KIMANI

Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) quest to build state-of-the-art water academy that will be used to help advance water conservation techniques in the world has sailed through following a breakthrough agreement with Machakos county headquarters on

provision of land for the purpose.

In a move hailed as one loaded with benefits for the water, agriculture, education and labour sector in not only the county and the country but also for the whole of Africa, the academy, International Research and Training Centre on Rainwater Harvesting and

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KEWI and Gansu Academy for Water Conservancy Collaborate to Establish an International Research and Training Centre on Rainwater Harvesting and Irrigation in Machakos County



H.E. Governor Wavinya Ndeti of Machakos County gives her insights during a meeting with KEWI management in her office.

Irrigation, will be build in a piece of land measuring not less than 10 hectares that the county government has accepted to offer. The proposed research centre is an initiative that will be realized through the partnership between the institute and Gansu Academy for Water Conservancy (GAWC) in China, a project which will further be supported by the ministry of Science and Technology of China under the China-Africa Cooperation Forum Framework.

In a very productive talk between the county and the institute that was held at the county headquarters in Machakos, Her Excellency Governor Wavinya Ndeti, the Machakos Governor agreed to provide the land and proposed

two sites for the institute to choose from. Governor Wavinya welcomed the move, noting that she was ready to support all the initiatives that would help address problems within her county.

“We welcome the move and will offer all the support needed to help this project come to life. It will not only benefit the Machakos residents but also the whole of Africa,” said the governor.

The Chairperson, KEWI Governing Council Hon. Patrick Musili Mbangula thanked the governor for her steadfast support for the project, terming her acceptance to offer the land as a move that has ripple effects.

“We are happy and thankful for this milestone.

The academy will be one of its kind in the region and will help transform the water conservation and irrigation sector both in the country and in the region through research and training,” he added.

Governor Wavinya instructed that a taskforce to oversee the formalization of the partnership agreement and provision of the land be constituted and the results be availed in two weeks times.

The formalization of the proposed centre has already received immense resource support from GAWC. The academy has already mobilized significant resources including research capacity building and the construction of rainwater harvesting infrastructure.

With the discussions with GAWC already finalized for the establishment of the East African Research Centre and the necessary support secured to establish the said centre in Kenya, partnering with the county government and securing the land will not only yield jobs for the Machakos residents and accelerate infrastructural development in the county but will position the county as a regional hub and leader in water resource

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management and sustainable agriculture. This strategic advantage will attract researchers, students and professionals from across East Africa, a situation which will enhance the institute's reputation and dominance as a leader in water resources management and consultancy in the region.

The proposed center which seeks to address critical challenges in water resources and supply management and agriculture will focus on rainwater harvesting for both domestic and agricultural uses, promote high-efficiency irrigation technologies to maximize agricultural productivity while conserving water and equip farmers with modern farming techniques and the appropriate use of agromachinery to improve food security.

Apart from the county's experience in managing water scarcity and its agricultural potential which aligns perfectly with the project's objectives, KEWI's choice to formalize

partnership with Machakos county to advance this critical water agenda has been also informed by the county's proximity to Nairobi and its strategic location which has been termed as one with suitable climate.

The center will see the establishment of demonstration farms for rainwater harvesting and irrigation techniques, construction of research and

delivery and non-revenue water management for the county.

KEWI has been taking lead efforts to address emerging challenges in the water, sanitation and irrigation sector by partnering with both local and international partners. In this endeavor, the institute has already achieved a huge milestone by collaborating with the academy on joint training programs. This is through



KEWI Governing Council Chairperson Hon. Patrick Musili Mbangula engages with H.E. Governor Wavinya Ndeti in her office. With him is KEWI CEO Dr. Leiro Letangule.

training facilities such as laboratories, offices and storages and provision of on-site accommodation for researchers and trainees. KEWI will also seek to take a central role in retooling staff involved in water service provision on effective service

successfully organizing two international training sessions in Kenya and China where participants were equipped with practical skills in water resource management and sustainable agriculture.

The institute has also held high level engagements with the institute by hosting high level delegations from China's ministry of education where partnerships and future collaborations were hatched and where approval was granted for specialized rainwater harvesting training. On this approximately 30 Kenyan water sector practitioners will get specialized tailor-made training will be offered in China later in the year.

KEWI and NEA Partner to Strengthen Employment Prospects for Students

BY: BRITNEY MOKEIRA

The ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation has promised to look into the modalities of making the process of Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) graduates securing jobs outside the country easier and flawless. This is by working closely with other stakeholders in the job market chain by addressing the critical challenges that would stand in the line of the graduates realizing the dream of securing jobs abroad.

Addressing participants during a breakfast meeting with private recruiting agencies at KEWI Nairobi, Dr. Nancy Koech, who represented the Principal Secretary, State Department for Water and Sanitation, Mr. Julius Korir appreciated the roles played by the National Employment Authority (NEA) via the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection in addressing the menace of joblessness in the country. Dr. Koech hailed the agencies and retaliated that the ministry would step in and help address the gaps.

“As the ministry, we shall look into how we can bring on board other stakeholders like banks so that we can help address the financial hindrance that may stand in the way of our graduates getting jobs outside the country. We understand there are administrative obligations



Dr. Nancy Koech, reads the speech on behalf of Principal Secretary, State Department for Water and Sanitation Julius Korir during a breakfast meeting between the Ministry, NEA and KEWI at KEWI Nairobi.

needed before the full process is achieved and we believe if addressed, a solution is available,” she said.

Mr. Yunis Issack, Manager, Labor Migration, NEA welcomed the move and hailed the ministry and the agencies for coming on board and helping the authority discharge its mandate. He noted that with more agencies passing the suitability tests and exploring deeper markets, the country was moving in the right direction in attempts to have more jobseekers get employed. He termed the partnership between KEWI and the authority as a game changer since it would see skilled workforce acquire jobs that require specialized training.

“KEWI produces skilled caliber of graduates and whose demand is rising especially in gulf countries. This partnership will therefore guarantee continuous provision of workforce and especially in drainage and irrigation sectors where demand for skilled workforce is rising and especially in counties which are fast growing and have water shortage issues,” he asserted.

Managers of the recruiting agencies present during the meeting noted that they were ready to work with the institute and requested to be provided with the available data of the graduates. This, they said, will be for ease of retrieval and communication once job opportunities are available.

KEWI and NEA Partner to Strengthen Employment Prospects for Students



KEWI CEO Dr. Leiro Letangule gives his remarks during the breakfast meeting with the private recruiting agencies at KEWI

Josephine Muriuki, the director of Samoline Agency and member of the Association of Skilled Migrant Workers Agencies of Kenya (ASMAK) dispelled fears that the gulf countries were increasingly becoming hostile ground for local jobseekers due to cases of mistreatments and even deaths. She noted that the cases reported were isolated ones and NEA was keen on revoking licenses for agencies who did not make efforts to address cases of mistreatment reported to them due to negligence.

“Currently, the gulf countries have proved to be the highest providers of job opportunities and therefore we

cannot afford to demonize the whole labor environment in those countries due to isolated cases of mistreatment. Our umbrella body has always ensured that any case reported to is followed to its conclusion and justice dispensed. We even make quarterly visits to meet with our partner agencies in the counties where jobs are found to ensure that everything is well,” she asserted.

Her statement was validated by Ms. Betty Wababu of Tafari Consulting International who noted that it was time the media told the sunny side of the recruitment agencies who were working within the law and were helping in job placements

rather than generalizing all the agencies due to the negligence of some few rogue recruiters.

“The media should know the impact of their reporting when it comes to shaping the perception of the would-be jobseekers who think that all agencies and labor environments are hostile due to negative prominence given to isolated rogue employers and agencies. Gulf countries indeed are the highest providers of jobs and we cannot afford to dismiss that truth.”

With Dr. Koech highlighting the far-reaching benefits of KEWI-NEA partnership, which include increased international employment opportunities for Kenyan youth, thereby

KEWI and NEA Partner to Strengthen Employment Prospects for Students

alleviating the unemployment burden, she noted that the move will enhance Kenya's global reputation as a reliable source of high-quality human capital in the water and sanitation sector, address global skills shortages in the water sector by providing well-trained professionals, boost the Kenyan economy through increased remittances from skilled professionals working abroad, and position KEWI as a center of excellence in training for the water and sanitation industry, enhancing its international profile.

A key focus of the meeting was exploring strategies to enhance students' employability skills beyond technical training. The recruiters emphasized the importance of equipping students with soft skills, including communication, leadership, and adaptability, to better prepare them for the job market. Additionally, discussions revolved around industry needs and emerging career opportunities,



Mr. Yunis Issack, Manager, Labor Migration, NEA address participants during the breakfast meeting at KEWI.

prompting KEWI to take proactive measures such as organizing a job fair that will be held in March at the institute for students and alumni to expand their employment prospects. This job fair will serve as a direct link between students and potential employers, offering networking opportunities and career guidance from industry experts.

The session also addressed the importance of continuous professional development, encouraging students to pursue further certifications and training to enhance

their employability. The institute is making commendable strides in ensuring that its students contribute meaningfully to society by securing employment in both local and international markets. Through partnerships such as the one with NEA, KEWI is not only addressing youth unemployment but also strengthening Kenya's position as a global supplier of skilled human capital in the water and sanitation sector. With initiatives like job fairs, career sensitization programs, and ethical recruitment awareness, KEWI remains committed to shaping the future of its students and enhancing their career prospects.



Institute and Engineers Board of Kenya Deliberate on Strategic Partnership

BY: FAITH GENESIS TAUNET

In a significant move towards enhancing engineering expertise and collaboration in Kenya's water sector, the Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) and the Engineers Board of Kenya (EBK) convened a high-level meeting to explore potential partnerships. The deliberations were led by Ms. Margaret Ongai, Registrar and CEO of EBK, and Leonard Makokha, Head of the Management Information Technology Department at KEWI, alongside other key stakeholders.

Ms. Ongai underscored the critical role of lifelong learning in the engineering profession. EBK, the regulatory body responsible for registering and licensing engineers in Kenya, has set ambitious targets to increase the number of professional engineers from the current 4,000 to at least 10,000.

"We regulate the profession, investigate non-professionals engaging in engineering work, enforce ethical standards, and accredit university programs – 90% of which are now accredited. Additionally, we collaborate internationally, particularly within the East African Community, to ensure mobility of engineers across



A group photo of officials from KEWI and Engineers Board of Kenya led by the Board's Registrar and CEO, Ms. Margaret Ongai and Head of Department, Management Information Technology Mr. Leonard Makokha (4th and 5th from left) when they met to deliberate on areas of strategic partnership.

borders," she stated.

She highlighted ongoing efforts to align Kenya's engineering sector with global standards, citing the country's application for recognition under the Washington Accord, an international agreement that would allow Kenyan engineers to practice globally.

Moreover, EBK organizes an annual engineering partnership convention, a key platform for policy discussions, networking, and compliance monitoring. The board is also actively engaged in addressing the alarming statistic that 50% of construction projects in Kenya are not handled by

professional engineers, posing a serious safety risk. To tackle this, EBK is forging strategic partnerships to uphold infrastructure safety and sustainability.

On the other hand, Mr. Makokha emphasized KEWI's role as a leading training institution in water engineering and resource management. With a legacy spanning 60 years, KEWI has trained about 70% of Kenya's water supply providers, offering diploma, craft certificate, and artisan-level programs that serve as stepping stones to university-level engineering degrees.

"We train, certify, and collaborate on research related to water sector challenges.

Institute and Engineers Board of Kenya Deliberate on Strategic Partnership



Engineers Board of Kenya Registrar and CEO, Ms. Margaret Ongai chairs a meeting between the board and KEWI to deliberate on areas of strategic partnership.

Many of our students aspire to become professional engineers, and a partnership with EBK will provide them with invaluable exposure to industry standards and best practices,” Makokha remarked.

Ms. Nanetia Nchoko, Short Courses Coordinator at the institute, further elaborated on KEWI’s mandate, emphasizing its role in building human resource capacity for the water sector. She noted that the institute is already engaged in various partnerships with organizations such as WASREB, National Employment Authority, Equity Foundation, National Bank, and Safaricom. These collaborations focus on research, capacity building, and financing for engineers

and businesses in the sanitation and water industries.

A particularly notable initiative involves KEWI’s collaboration with GATSBY Africa on non-revenue water management—a critical issue in Kenya. Additionally, KEWI partners with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JAICA) for capacity-building programs and sponsors research projects in irrigation and water resource management. Some of KEWI’s students have even travelled to Israel to study advanced irrigation technologies and implement them back home.

As the discussions concluded, the Chair of EBK proposed forming a joint team to further explore and finalize

the partnership framework within a month. The collaboration between KEWI and EBK is expected to strengthen Kenya’s engineering workforce, enhance compliance in the construction sector, and improve the country’s water infrastructure.

This partnership will be instrumental in ensuring that engineers in Kenya receive the necessary training, licensing, and global recognition to contribute meaningfully to national development. By leveraging their combined expertise, KEWI and EBK are set to create a more robust and sustainable engineering landscape for Kenya’s future.

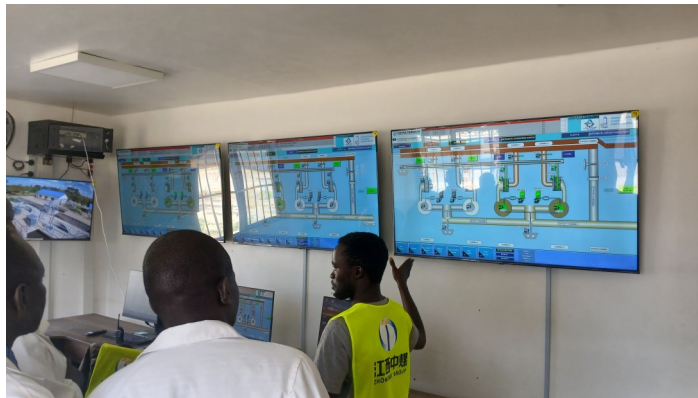
KEWI Conducts Successful Short Course on Wastewater Sewer Systems

BY: C.KIPTOO

The Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) recently hosted a comprehensive short course on wastewater sewer systems from Monday, 10th January to Friday, 14th January 2025.

This intensive training attracted participants from Eldoret Water and Sanitation Company (ELDOWASCO), who specialize in various wastewater operation systems and pipework. The course was designed to enhance the technical expertise of professionals in the water sector, ensuring they are well-equipped to handle emerging challenges in wastewater management.

Throughout the week, participants engaged in rigorous theoretical and practical training sessions aimed at deepening their knowledge of modern wastewater treatment technologies and operations. The curriculum covered crucial aspects such as sewer network design, wastewater treatment processes, maintenance of sewer systems, and the latest advancements in sanitation technology. Special focus was given to the challenges posed by increasing urbanization and



Participants follow up a demonstration on the use of modern Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems, during the field study trip at Ruai Wastewater Treatment Works.

industrialization and how innovative wastewater management solutions can address these issues effectively.

A significant highlight of the course was a field trip to the Ruai Wastewater Treatment Works, one of the most advanced treatment plants in Kenya. At Ruai, participants received hands-on training from the skilled technicians of Nairobi Water and Sanitation Company (NAWASCO). They were introduced to the plant's upgraded processes, including the use of modern Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems, which allow for remote monitoring and control of all plant operations. The tour provided a comprehensive overview of the entire wastewater treatment process, from intake to discharge, offering participants practical exposure

to real-world applications of their training.

Additionally, industry experts facilitated discussions on best practices in wastewater management, safety measures, and regulatory compliance. The interactive sessions allowed participants to exchange knowledge, share experiences, and explore

strategies to improve wastewater infrastructure and services in their respective organizations.

KEWI continues to demonstrate its commitment to developing capacity in the water sector by offering tailored short courses designed to equip sector experts and officials with essential skills. These courses play a critical role in enhancing service delivery and supporting innovation in water management across the country. By providing high-quality training, KEWI ensures that water and sanitation professionals are well-prepared to tackle emerging challenges in the industry. The institution remains dedicated to fostering collaborations with key stakeholders to further strengthen water sector training programs.

For more information visit the KEWI website at info@kewi.or.ke or contact shortcourses@kewi.or.ke.

Call for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) & Environmental Audit (EA) Training

BY: PIUS KIMANI

The Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) has been accredited by NEMA Kenya to offer Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and EA short course. This course aims to equip participants with the necessary knowledge and skills to conduct EIA/ESIA and EA effectively, in line with the regulations set by NEMA.

This intensive program will be rolled out for six weeks (in both online and face to face). Participants who complete the course will gain valuable insights into EIA and EA methodologies, processes, and reporting, which will enable them to contribute effectively to environmental protection and sustainable development.

The purpose of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is to identify and evaluate the potential impacts (beneficial and adverse) of development and projects on the environmental system. It is a useful aid for decision making based on understanding of the environment implications including social, cultural and aesthetic concerns which could be integrated with the analysis of the project costs and benefits. This exercise should be undertaken early enough in the planning stage of projects for the selection of environmentally compatible

Call for Applications

Kenya Water Institute Calls for Applications for its

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
&
Environmental Audit (EA)

Short Course

Course Timelines: March 24th, 2025 - May 2nd, 2025
Mode of Delivery: Blended (Online and Face to Face)
Application Deadline: March 18th, 2025
Non-Residential Cost: Ksh. 50,000
Venue: Kenya Water Institute, Nairobi, South C

"KEWI is a NEMA - Kenya Accredited EIA/EA Training Center."

Apply at the link: <https://ee.kobotoolbox.org/single/S8dwMdHt>

✉ shortcourses@kewi.orke | Kenya Water Institute | @kewi_kenya | 0722207757

sites, process technologies and such other environmental safeguards.

Environmental Audit (EA) is the systematic documented, periodic and objective evaluation of how activities and processes of an ongoing project to determine how far these activities and programs conform with the approved environmental management plan of that specific project and sound environmental management practices. A comprehensive EA promotes a

safe and healthy environment at all stages of project operations, as well as decommissioning.

The goal of EA is to establish if proponents of projects are complying with environmental requirements and enforcing legislation. NEMA reviews annual environmental audit (EA) reports submitted by businesses and other listed facilities under the Environmental Impact Assessment/Audit regulations, 2003.

Upcoming Professional Development Program



MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION & IRRIGATION
KENYA WATER INSTITUTE

PROGRAM

NON-REVENUE WATER MANAGEMENT

DATE 17th – 21st Feb 2025
(5 Days)

VENUE Main Campus Along
Ole Shapara Avenue,
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COST Ksh. 35,000

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 shortcourses@kewi.or.ke

 www.kewi.go.ke

Professional Development Program Schedule (February)

MANAGERIAL			
Strategic Leadership in water Management	3rd—7th February 2025	KEWI Main Campus	Ksh.45,000
Water Governance			
SUPERVISORY			
Non-Revenue Water Management	17th—21st February 2025	KEWI Main Campus	Ksh. 35,000
Advanced Pump Technology			
TECHNICAL			
Drilling Techniques	17th—21st February 2025	KEWI Main Campus	Ksh.30,000
Non-Revenue Water Management			

Blood Donation Exercise at KEWI Main Campus



Quote of the Week

"People don't buy what you do; they buy why you do it."

Simon Sinek

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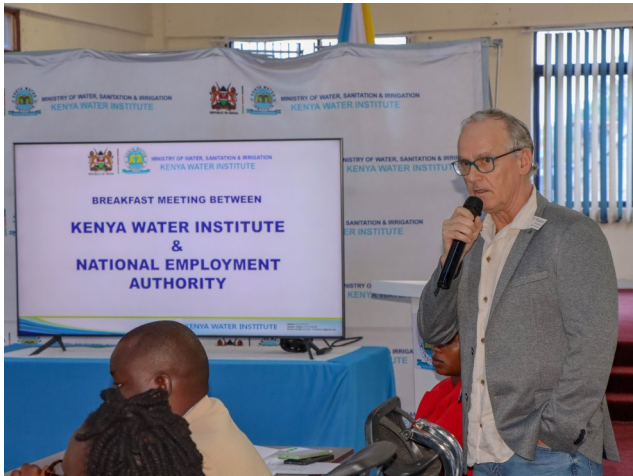
Training of Eldoret Water and Sanitation Company on Wastewater Sewer Systems



KEWI and Machakos County Leadership Meeting



KEWI and NEA Breakfast Meeting



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 (DWRMT)
 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 (CWLTL)
 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

To 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
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Innovativeness
Inclusivity
Patriotism
Integrity

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Your feedback is crucial for our improvement



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