

February 22- February 28 2025

Ministry Promises to Implement the Report on Compliance Risk in Development and Management of Dams



Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation Eng. Eric Murithi Mugaa (Seated 3rd from left) is joined by various water development agencies and companies in the water sector during the releases of a report on Compliance, Risk and Monitoring in the Development and Management of Dams in Kenya at KEWI Headquarters, Nairobi.

BY: FAITH GENESIS TAUNET

Development of an integrated water master plan to streamline resource allocation & minimize duplication & use of a participatory approach that involves grassroots communities in dam construction have been cited as some of the interventions that can be used to curb the inefficiencies which arise during the development and of dams in Kenya.

Speaking during the presentation of a report on Compliance, Risk and Monitoring in the Development and Management of Dams in Kenya to Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation Eng. Eric Murithi Mugaa (MWSI) at Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) in Nairobi, Vincent Okong'o, MBS, Director of Preventive Services, Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) noted that there were difficulties in

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Ministry Promises to Implement the Report on Compliance Risk in Development and Management of Dams

replicating lessons from successfully built dams.

Okong'o noted that lack of coordinated efforts among professionals like geologists, surveyors, and hydrologists, and the high costs of dam projects, were creating corruption loopholes which were turning to be pressing concerns when

it came to implementation of dam projects across the country.

"The sheer cost of dams encourages corruption, leading to continued loss of public funds and failure to meet objectives, to the detriment of citizens," he warned.

While elaborating on the scope of the report, which focused on governance structures, water resource management, project initiation and conceptualization, construction processes, and dam management, Mr. Okong'o noted that the report presented a compelling case for urgent reforms in the development and management of dams in Kenya. He insisted that addressing the identified



CS Eng. Eric Murithi Mugaa addresses participants during the releases of a report on Compliance, Risk and Monitoring in the Development and Management of Dams in Kenya at KEWI Headquarters, Nairobi.

challenges and implementing the recommendations will help reinforce transparency and accountability, ensuring that dam projects fulfill their intended purpose efficiently and effectively.

"An elaborate system of oversight, including evaluation and inspection, is essential," Mr. Okong'o noted.

His statements were echoed by his deputy Ms. Neema Mkorori, OGW, who noted that the institutional and administrative arrangements such as limited staffing and lack of a comprehensive master plan by regional water agencies contributed to project inefficiencies. These, she said, were exacerbated by other array of concerns such as the

quality of water resource data, lack of risk policies and land acquisition and ownership issues.

While observing that the development of dams required identification, planning and extensive research, yet many of the equipment used remained outdated, Ms. Mkorori noted

the need for simpler language in documentation and comprehensive feasibility studies, as measuring quality remains a challenge. The environmental impact assessment tools were also flagged as outdated, and it was observed that some institutions lacked risk policies altogether.

"Land acquisition and ownership issues present another significant challenge, as seen in the cases of Kiserian and UMMA dams. There should be a regulatory requirement for dam owners and operators," she added.

On his end, the CS promised a thorough review of the report. He reiterated that the inability to transfer lessons from one project to another

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created loopholes and there was a need for stewardship to mitigate corruption in dam projects.

"Sometimes, decisions must be made on-site, which can be challenging without professional engineers overseeing implementation. If you can drill it, you can actualize it—engineering projects start from the mind," he asserted.

The report which was prepared with the engagement of the State Department for Water with a purpose to understand policies, sampled various water development agencies and companies. Their review of the national dam database underscored the importance of maintaining and maximizing this database before refurbishing any dam.

The report further revealed that the absence of a master plan led to duplication of efforts which led to a disconnect between project planning and budget allocation. Furthermore, lack of clear regulation for Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)



Participants during the releases of a report on Compliance, Risk and Monitoring in the Development and Management of Dams in Kenya at KEWI Headquarters, Nairobi.

under the PPP Act 2021 contributed to skewed auditing of dam projects, raising concerns about transparency and accountability.

Dr. Cicilia Mutuku, Commissioner at EACC, outlined the commission's three-pronged approach to mitigating corruption: prevention, education, and enforcement underscored that Vision 2030 recognizes water as a critical requirement for sustainability. She however noted that key issues such as weak accountability mechanisms and inadequate integration persist.

"For any meaningful change, commitment from leadership is essential. At EACC, we conduct extensive

training on integrity and reinforcement, strengthen partnerships, and facilitate capacity building on integrity," she emphasized.

In light of the fact that every year a huge amount of money is allocated for dam projects across the country, yet it takes years for them to be accomplished, the report comes at a time when the need for a refocused energy on the operating environment, management of water resources, and project evaluation in the country is needed for ease of assessment on bottom-up economic dams and high-impact projects. This will help identifying significant areas of weakness and inform on measures taken to mitigate losses and delays that may arise from such inefficiencies.

Institute Organizes International Knowledge Dissemination Webinars for Water Sector Practitioners, Researchers and Learners

BY: ENG. JUSTUS WERSONGUR

The Kenya Water Institute (KEWI), a premier institution mandated with training, research, consultancy, and outreach in the water sector, continues its commitment to knowledge dissemination through impactful engagements.

Through its Non-Revenue Water Centre of Excellence (NRW CoE) and in partnership with the Canadian organization Operators Without Borders (OWB), KEWI is pleased to announce two upcoming webinars in March 2025.

These knowledge-sharing events will focus on critical water sector issues, offering participants an opportunity to learn from leading experts in the field.

WEBINAR 1

Topic

Low-Cost Water Treatment Technologies for Rural Areas

Date:

March 5th, 2025

Time:

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM EAT

Registration Link:

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SUBJECT: LOW-COST WATER TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES FOR RURAL AREAS

Guest Speaker: Dr. Paul Onkundi
 Research Associate in the Civil Engineering department at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.
 Doctor of Engineering in Electronic Science and Technology from Xiamen University, China
 Host: Kenya Water Institute

5TH MARCH 2025 3PM - 4.30PM EAT

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About the webinar

Access to clean and safe drinking water remains a challenge for many rural communities. This webinar will explore innovative, affordable water treatment technologies suitable for resource-limited areas. Participants will gain insights into practical solutions, and low-cost treatment options.

Experts will discuss the feasibility, implementation,

and sustainability of these technologies. Participants will have opportunity to ask questions and interact with training experts.

Target participants include water sector practitioners, water sector professionals, researchers, students, community members and all individuals with interests in community water treatment methods.

Institute Organizes International Knowledge Dissemination Webinars for Water Sector Practitioners, Researchers and Learners

WEBINAR 2

Topic

Non-Revenue Water Reduction through Pressure Management and System Modelling

Date:

March 12th, 2025

Time:

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM EAT

Registration Link:

Visit www.kewi.go.ke

About the webinar

Non-Revenue Water (NRW) is a major challenge in the water sector, leading to significant financial losses and inefficient service delivery. This webinar will feature Carl Yates, President of Yates Water Management Inc. and Chair of the Canadian Water Network, who will share expertise on best practices in NRW reduction.

Key discussion areas will include pressure management and advanced system modelling. Participants will learn about innovative strategies that utilities can adopt to enhance efficiency and revenue recovery.

Why You Should Attend

- Gain expert knowledge from industry leaders in water management.



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Join us as we host this upcoming

Virtual WEBINAR

Subject: Non-Revenue Water Reduction through Pressure Management and System Modelling



Guest Speaker: Carl Yates
President, Yates Water Management Inc.
Chair of the Canadian Water Network
Director of Operators Without Borders

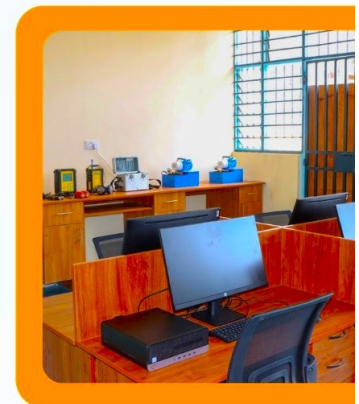


12th March 2025, 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM EAT

Host: Kenya Water Institute, Non - Revenue Water Management Center of Excellence (CoE)

Click here to Register: [Follow this link](#)

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Kenya Water Institute

- Learn about cutting-edge technologies and strategies to improve water service provision.
- Interact with professionals, researchers, and policymakers in the water sector.
- Receive practical guidance on implementing sustainable water solutions.

These webinars reaffirm KEWI's commitment to knowledge dissemination and capacity building in the water sector. Don't miss this opportunity to expand your expertise and contribute to sustainable water management in Kenya and beyond.

For inquiries, contact KEWI at info@kewi.or.ke or visit our website www.kewi.or.ke.

The Registry: A Cog That Keeps Organizations Roaring

BY: JUDY KAMAU

Most government ministries and departments operate with centralized registry systems. When a central registry is used, all the organization's records are maintained in that registry. However, as some departments and units of the ministry or department can be found in physically separate locations, each of these units might have its own registry within its locality.

Critical functions of the registry are many, ranging from receiving and processing incoming mail, processing and dispatching outgoing mail, maintaining a filing system and filing mail that is received or generated internally, distributing mail and other information as required, retiring semi-current and non-current information, and storing and maintaining the non-current records, among others.

Registry management in any organization thus manages information in an organization throughout its life cycle, from the time of creation or receipt to its eventual disposition. This includes identifying, classifying, storing, securing, retrieving, tracking, and destroying or permanently preserving records.

At Kenya Water Institute (KEWI), appropriate document management remains one of



A cabinet full of files in a registry office. File storage and retrieval is a critical component of a well functioning organization

the main elements that has contributed to its employees' exceptional performance. Planning, sound decision-making, and efficient and successful KEWI administration have all been influenced by the safety of the records the institute has. All this has been made feasible by monitoring file movement, guaranteeing file safety, and properly classifying all files to provide simple and rapid file retrieval, which saves time.

To provide competency-based training, research, consulting, and outreach services, the institute has complied with state laws and standards to guarantee that it has all the documents required for audit. Additionally, the institute has continually maintained a soft copy inventory of all records, a practice that has aided in tracking the whereabouts of official copies of records as well as retention periods.

"We produce the necessary documents, save the necessary records as crucial proof, get rid of old records, and store our records in a secure

location. Additionally, we use effective access and retrieval tools to swiftly obtain information. We have a retention and disposal plan that guarantees that pertinent documents are available for use in litigation, audits, and daily business activities," says Ms. Beth Mwangi, a records officer at the institute.

It has been observed that the institute's employees are more effective since they save time and can compare performance over time. Once more, by adhering to the records regulations, staff members have been able to do more, handle records more easily, and make better use of their recording time, all of which have improved employee performance. Furthermore, accurate identification and location of information, user-friendly record access, and staff accountability are all made possible by the institute's records being well protected.

To guarantee responsibility and adherence to regulatory compliance, the Kenya Water Institute has made sure that staff members who handle records receive adequate training.

Overall, any organization's ability to perform effectively is correlated with how well its registry, the institutional records bank, is managed.

Advancing Water Sector Growth Through Specialized Short Course Training



Trainees drawn from Eldoret Water and Sanitation Company (ELDOWASCO), Mombasa Water and Sanitation Company (MOWASCO), Kwale Water and Sanitation Company (KAWASCO), and Murang'a Water and Sanitation Company (MUWASCO) pose for a group photo after completing their Professional Development Trainings at KEWI Nairobi.

BY: C. KIPTOO

The Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) has wrapped up an intensive short course covering three key areas in the water sector: Water Quality Management, Metering & Installation of Customer Service Connections, and Smart Meter Connections. This specialized training attracted participants from four major water service providers: Eldoret Water and Sanitation Company (ELDOWASCO), Mombasa Water and Sanitation

Company (MOWASCO), Kwale Water and Sanitation Company (KAWASCO), and Murang'a Water and Sanitation Company (MUWASCO).

The training program was designed to equip participants with both theoretical knowledge and hands-on experience. KEWI's highly skilled instructors and technicians delivered in-depth classroom sessions, ensuring that participants gained a solid understanding of the principles and best practices within their respective fields.

To enhance practical learning, the participants also took part in a field visit to Kabete Water Treatment Works, operated by Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company (NAWASCO). Here, industry experts provided real-world demonstrations of water treatment processes, smart metering, and customer service

connection installations. This hands-on exposure allowed participants to see the direct application of their coursework in a real operational environment, bridging the gap between theory and practice.

KEWI remains committed to capacity building in the water sector by offering a wide variety of short courses tailored to industry needs. For more information on upcoming training opportunities, visit our website at www.kewi.go.ke or contact us at info@kewi.or.ke.

Gaining Momentum: Recap of Semester One Formative Assessment



Students taking examinations at the institute. Formative and Summative examinations are administered to track the students performance and grasp of what they learn at the institute.

BY: JOHN KITONGA

The Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) has completed its first phase of formative assessments for students across various programs for the 2025 academic year. These assessments are crucial in tracking student progress and ensuring they acquire the necessary skills and knowledge required to succeed in the water management field. Formative assessments are conducted throughout the semester, providing continuous feedback and allowing teachers to adapt their teaching

techniques to meet the diverse learning needs of students.

KEWI employs various formative assessment methods tailored to each course's learning objectives, including tests, quizzes, tasks, projects, group discussions, presentations, peer reviews, and fieldwork for programs centered on hands-on skills like water treatment or ecological management. These assessments offer numerous benefits to students, such as enhanced academic performance, personalized support, self-reliance, and

practical skills for careers in water resource management, policy development, and environmental conservation.

However, there are challenges related to formative assessments, such as student participation, technological issues, and workload. Some learners may not be fully involved in ongoing assessments, which can hinder their ability to complete assessments on time. Encouraging vigorous participation is essential for maximizing the effectiveness of these assessments. Technological issues also pose a challenge for online assessments, as

learners may face problems such as poor internet connections or platform breakdowns.

To address these challenges, the institute is working on ways to streamline assessments, reducing the workload while ensuring their continued effectiveness. By implementing these strategies, KEWI aims to create a learning environment that encourages active participation and helps students develop the necessary skills and knowledge for success in the water management field.

Institute and Equity Bank Limited reaches out to start-ups for a Sanitation Value Chain Workshop



Call for Sanitation Business Ventures.

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BY: PIUS KIMANI

Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) is set to organize a one-day Sanitation Value Chain Workshop that will culminate into onboarding in a business development support project implemented by Equity Bank Limited.

Through a call for business ventures placed on its website and which seeks to unlock opportunities at the end of the sanitation value chain, the institute has called out to entrepreneurs or innovators who are passionate about transforming the sanitation

sector and driving sustainable development to apply for the opportunity before the end of February 2025

The call which also targets formal and informal businesses and start-ups that have a scalable solution with a clear business model and a commitment to advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) seeks to further identify and promote sustainable, innovative, and practical solutions that transform wastewater management into profitable businesses, contributing to economic growth,

environmental sustainability, and also identify the efficient use of water resources, while emphasizing, resource recovery, recycling, reuse, and safe disposal.

The call is urging the participants to submit businesses that innovatively repurpose wastewater for reuse in agriculture, industry, or municipal purposes, integrate technology to enhance wastewater treatment processes and safe disposal methods, create commercial opportunities that generate income while addressing environmental challenges,



Institute and Equity Bank Limited reaches out to start-ups for a Sanitation Value Chain Workshop



particularly through recycling and resource recovery and contribute to water conservation, recycling, and sustainable water management practices.

Winning participants will qualify for a chance to develop their ideas further at the KEWI Water Technology Innovation & Incubation Hub which will consequently provide access to resources, mentorship, and technical expertise to help scale up the ideas into competitive business ventures.

The call has outlined several key considerations for the participants who are looking for this opportunity to be inducted into the innovation and incubation hub. Among them is such start-ups to be operating within the sanitation value chain, focusing on waste treatment, resource recovery, recycling, reuse, or innovative by-products and demonstrate a

clear alignment with more than one SDG. The start-ups are also required to have a scalable and defensible business model that possess a Minimum Viable Product (MVP) or operational prototype.

Those with innovations and creative models in wastewater management solutions, particularly in recycling, reuse, and safe disposal which are commercially viable and scalable, can pass technical and environmental feasibility and have a wide social impact and sustainability are also encouraged to apply.

Terming it as an opportunity to commercialize ideas and get a chance to give life to innovative and industry-changing ideas in the sanitation sector, the head of the short courses coordination unit in the institute Eng. Nanetia Nchoko has outlined

scores of benefits that will be accrued by those who will attend and get the chance of getting farther attention from the implementing partner.

“Selected ventures will receive among other benefits collateral-Free Financing mentorship, coaching and capacity building from experts in sanitation, finance, and technology and access to investor networks and potential partnerships and key stakeholders in the sanitation and development sectors.” She spoke.

Interested participants and who also stand an opportunity to get business development support and formalization of the informal business venture are required to visit the website www.kewi.go.ke and fill in the application form.

WATER SECTOR JOB FAIR 2025



The Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) in partnership with National Employment Authority (NEA) and Association of Skilled Migration Agencies of Kenya (ASMAK) Invites you to the;

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📍 Kenya Water Institute, Nairobi, South C

📅 13th & 14th March, 2025

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KEY COMPONENTS OF THE WATER SECTOR JOB FAIR 2025

Recruitment Agency Spaces for Networking and Engagement; Opportunities for job seekers to engage directly with employers in the water sector and related industries.

Workshops and Panel Discussions: Topics will include skill development by KEWI, industry needs by recruiters, labor migration policies, and safe migration practices by NEA.

Career Guidance and Counseling: Personalized career advisory services to assist job seekers in navigating the labor market.

Information on Safe Migration: In collaboration with ASMAK, the fair will provide insights into safe & legal migration pathways, including job opportunities abroad & protections for migrant workers.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Demonstrations: Sessions showcasing how formal and experiential skills can be assessed and certified for greater employability.

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Call for Applications

Kenya Water Institute Calls for Applications for its

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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

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Quote of the Week

"Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off your goal."

– Henry Ford

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Round up of The Week's Events



Trainees from Eldoret, Mombasa, Kwale, and Murang'a Water and Sanitation Companies during the closing ceremony for their Professional Development Trainings at KEWI Nairobi.

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Doreen Mora Mokonju

*Senior Office Administrator
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 Diploma in Information Communication Technology (DICT)-KNEC
 Diploma in Water Laboratory Technology (DWLT)
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 Integrated Water Resources Management
 Non-Revenue water
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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
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Inclusivity
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