

June 14th – 20th 2025

KEWI Management Reaffirms Commitment to Empowering Student Leadership and Enhancing Welfare



Members of Kenya Water Institute Students Association (KEWISA), Nairobi Campus shortly after holding a meeting with Director/CEO Dr. Leiro Letangule EBS at his boardroom. Led by the council chairperson Mr. Dima Juma Rashid, the students representatives shared their progress since assuming office and presented to the director a number of emerging issues they felt required his attention.

BY: BRITNEY MOKEIRA

Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) Director/CEO, Dr. Leiro Letangule, EBS has for the umpteenth time assured the students leadership that the management is keen in ensuring it's well capacitated to offer sound leadership to thousands of students who take the studies in KEWI.

While holding a meeting with the Nairobi Campus student's leaders who included Kenya Water Institute Students Association (KEWISA) chairperson Dima Juma Rashid

and other student representatives at his boardroom, Dr. Letangule has reiterated that the management had a lot in store for the student's leadership and fraternity that would see the student's community make huge strides as it pursues its studies in KEWI.

Dr. Letangule shared several developmental plans aimed at enhancing the learning environment and student experience. While noting that the institution was progressively improving the

HIGHLIGHTS

- 4 KEWI Holds High-Impact Training Programs, Reinforcing Sectoral Capacity in Water and Sanitation
- 7 KEWI and Jenkins Asia Explore Innovative Water Treatment Technologies to Expand Clean Water Access in Kenya
- 10 Final-Year Students Lead Community Development Project in Dagani Area, Chiakariga
- 11 KEWI Hosts Climate Change Training Workshop to Strengthen Water Sector Resilience
- 12 Strengthening Kenya's Water Sector: Ministry Ramps Up Capacity Building and PPP Investments

KEWI Management Reaffirms Commitment to Empowering Student Leadership and Enhancing Welfare



Director/CEO Dr. Leiro Letangule EBS addresses the students representatives from Nairobi Campus when he recently met them.

quality of its infrastructure, he informed the representatives that the management was keen on equipping the institute's workshops with modern tools and equipment.

He, further to the excitement of the attendees, noted that the management would provide new computers for student use and organize more inter-campus sports competitions. This, he said, would enrich the learning experience of the students and ensure wholistic growth while at KEWI. Dr. Letangule further said that the management was holding talks with relevant stakeholders with a view to securing scholarships for deserving students.

The administration also plans to acquire two new buses

to facilitate student transport and as a continuation of its capacity building culture to the students' leadership, organize for leadership training for the student council to improve their skills and effectiveness in representing their peers.

In his commitment to tackle emerging issues effectively and respond to queries from the leadership, Dr. Letangule assured the council that the management was committed to providing allowances in accordance with the student constitution. This was after the student council representatives requested that the management provide allowances for those serving in leadership roles. The

students noted that such allowances are essential in supporting the council members as they discharge their responsibilities on behalf of the student body.

The director, who was flanked by deputy directors, Mr. Eric Wamiti and Mr. Nelson Kwamini and dean of students, Mr. Feisal Hassan, informed the council that the management was in the final stages of preparing modern identification cards that align with the new security structure at the institute's entrance gate. He assured the students that these IDs would be available in the coming weeks. This was in response to a query on the recent delay in issuing students' identification cards.

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From left: Deputy Director Research, Consultancy and Technical Services Mr. Nelson Kwamini, Deputy Director Academic Affairs Mr. Eric Wamiti and Dean of Students Mr. Feisal Hassan during the students representatives meeting with the director.

Responding to the need for a medical professional at night which the council termed as crucial in case of any health emergencies that may arise after hours and which would effectively ensure that the students were safe in case they fell ill and especially during nighttime, the director noted that the management acknowledged the urgency and importance of this matter.

He assured the students that they were actively looking into the matter and that a resolution would be reached soon to ensure the well-being of all boarders.

As for the missing exam marks, the school dean Mr. Feisal Hassan personally

committed to ensuring that such issues are promptly resolved so that no student would complain that their marks were not reflected after the official release of exam results.

In a direct address to the student leaders, the CEO emphasized the importance of collaboration and open communication between the students and the administration.

He stated, "I urge the student leaders to work hand in hand with the management to make sure that things run smoothly and to always follow the correct channel to seek for any help of any kind.

Let's portray good leadership qualities as leaders and help one another."

In response, the student leaders appreciated the management's commitment and gave their assurance to remain dedicated to working closely with the administration. They promised to foster cooperation and uphold responsible leadership that will ensure the smooth running of affairs within the institute.

The meeting ended on a positive note, with both parties expressing commitment to maintaining open dialogue and working together to make KEWI a better place for all students.

KEWI Holds High-Impact Training Programs, Reinforcing Sectoral Capacity in Water and Sanitation



Trainees from Nairobi City Water and Sewerage Company and Kiambu Water and Sanitation Company during a joint benchmarking visit to the Gatundu Water and Sanitation Company.

BY: KIPTOO C. & KIMUTAI I.

The Kenya Water Institute (KEWI), a premier institution in water and sanitation training, has successfully concluded a series of impactful short courses across its Nairobi and Kisumu campuses.

Running from Monday, June 16 to Friday, June 20, 2025, these intensive training programs attracted professionals from a range of water service providers across the country and focused on critical skill

development in water supply operations, metering, revenue management, pipework, and water quality assurance.

At KEWI's Nairobi Campus, two specialized courses were offered. The first, titled *"Management of Metering, Billing, and Revenue Collection,"* was attended by participants from the Nairobi City Water and Sewerage Company. This course addressed modern water utility operations, including comprehensive training on metering systems, billing

frameworks, smart meter applications, data entry, revenue collection strategies, and customer relations. Emphasis was placed on integrating digital tools into utility management to boost efficiency and service delivery.

Concurrently, the *"Pipework Skills for Water Supply and Sewer Networks"* program catered to professionals from the Kiambu Water and Sanitation Company. The hands-on course equipped participants with essential pipework skills, covering everything from pipe

KEWI Holds High-Impact Training Programs, Reinforcing Sectoral Capacity in Water and Sanitation

identification and sizing to jointing and installation of various pipe materials. Practical sessions were integrated with technical theory, offering an in-depth understanding of water supply infrastructure and network systems.

A standout component of the Nairobi-based programs was a joint benchmarking visit to the Gatundu Water and Sanitation Company on Thursday, June 19, 2025. This field visit provided participants a unique opportunity to explore newly constructed water sources and treatment works, reinforcing their classroom learning with practical, real-world insights into operational best practices.

Meanwhile, at KEWI's Kisumu Campus, two additional training courses

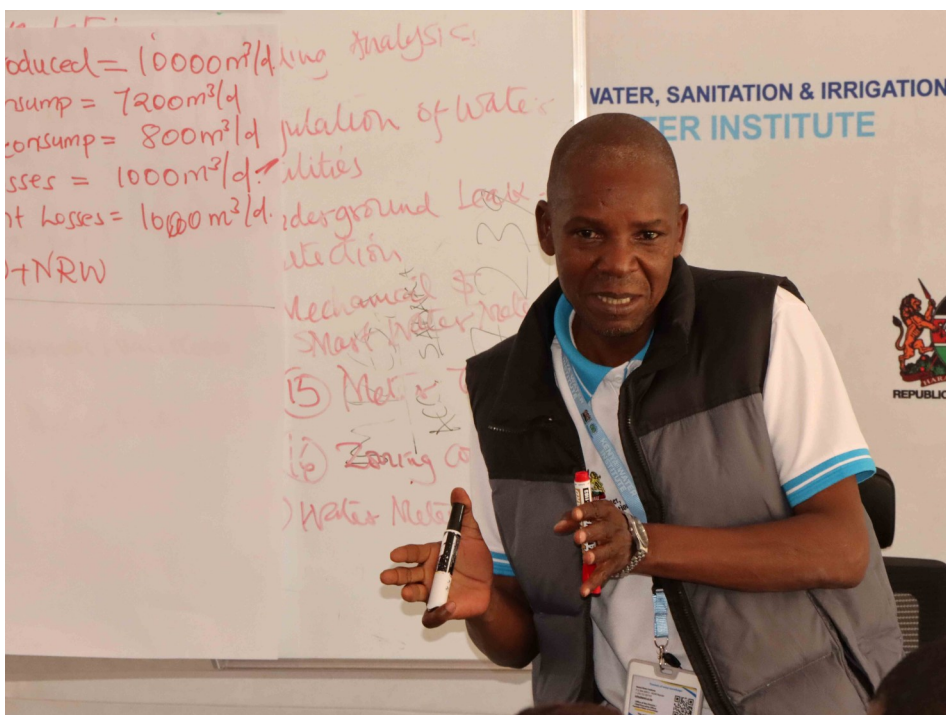


Trainees from various water utilities during a study tour to the Kisumu Water and Sanitation Company.

were held concurrently: “Operations and Maintenance of Water Supply and Wastewater

Networks” and “Water Quality Management.” These courses attracted a combined total of 11 professionals – seven in the operations course and four in water quality management – representing various water utilities from across the country.

Delivered by experienced trainers and instructors, the Kisumu programs emphasized practical application alongside theoretical instruction. Participants learned the latest techniques in managing and maintaining water and wastewater infrastructure, as well as laboratory procedures for ensuring water safety and regulatory compliance.



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Mr. Kimutai I. facilitates a session during the short course trainings at Nairobi Campus.

One of the highlights in Kisumu was a study tour to the Kisumu Water and Sanitation Company (KIWASCO). This eye-opening experience allowed participants to observe the full water treatment cycle – from abstraction at Lake Victoria, through purification processes, wastewater treatment, and eventual discharge. Additionally, trainees toured the KIWASCO water quality laboratory to witness firsthand the critical testing procedures that uphold drinking water standards.

Feedback across both campuses was overwhelmingly

positive. Participants praised the relevance of the course content, the quality of instruction, and the hands-on learning opportunities. As one trainee noted during the closing session,

“The experience was enriching and very applicable to the work we do. I now have a better understanding of how to improve operations at my workplace.”

These coordinated training efforts underscore KEWI’s continued commitment to professional development, capacity building, and institutional strengthening in

Kenya’s water and sanitation sector. By offering industry-specific, practical training aligned with national development goals and global best practices, KEWI reaffirms its position as a center of excellence in water resource management education.

As the country faces growing challenges related to climate change, population growth, and urbanization, KEWI remains steadfast in equipping water professionals with the skills and tools needed to deliver safe, sustainable, and inclusive water and sanitation services for all Kenyans.

KEWI and Jenkins Asia Explore Innovative Water Treatment Technologies to Expand Clean Water Access in Kenya



Mr. Weng Kin Chen, President of Jenkins Asia presents Wastewater Treatment and Waste Management innovative technologies to KEWI Chairperson Hon. Patrick Mbangula, Director/CEO Dr. Leiro Letangule EBS and other members of KEWI Management at KEWI Nairobi. Mr. Weng and KEWI are exploring on partnership possibilities on piloting wastewater treatment projects for marginalized communities.

BY: PIUS KIMANI

The need to provide safe, usable, and drinkable water for Kenya's rural and marginalized communities remains a significant challenge for the government. With clean water access directly linked to public health, economic development, and environmental sustainability, the urgency to address this issue cannot be overstated.

Approximately 15 million Kenyans still lack access to safe water, and for the government to meet its universal water access goals, scalable and innovative solutions are imperative. One promising

avenue involves forging partnerships with the private sector to leverage cutting-edge technologies that can help resolve Kenya's water challenges more efficiently.

In this regard, the Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) hosted Mr. Weng Kin Chen, President of Jenkins Asia—a leading Product Design and Development Consulting Company based in China. Mr. Weng presented an innovative concept focused on river water purification, aimed at benefiting communities residing near riverbanks. His presentation included compelling case studies from

Colombia and Malaysia, where water treatment technologies have been successfully applied to improve public access to safe water. He emphasized the potential of replicating these technologies in Kenya, particularly in areas affected by waterborne pollution and inadequate infrastructure.

The visit sparked productive dialogue, with KEWI's Governing Council Chairperson Hon. Patrick Musili Mbangula and Director/CEO Dr. Leiro Letangule, EBS expressing keen interest in the proposed innovations. They lauded the technological potential and

KEWI and Jenkins Asia Explore Innovative Water Treatment Technologies to Expand Clean Water Access in Kenya



granted preliminary approval for the development of a collaboration framework. This partnership, if realized, is expected to offer mutual benefits—enhancing research and academic exchange while equipping students and professionals with practical knowledge of emerging water treatment technologies.

A focal point of the discussions was the potential application of the proposed technologies in cleaning Nairobi River, a highly polluted but vital watercourse running through Kenya's capital. Mr. Weng emphasized that with coordinated effort—particularly through collaboration with institutions like the Nairobi Rivers Commission and private sector players—it would be feasible to deploy small-scale treatment plants at strategic points along

the river. Dr. Letangule echoed this view, noting that this initiative could significantly address localized water scarcity, improve community health, and foster environmental restoration.

The technologies proposed by Jenkins Asia include Cavitation Air Flotation (CAF), Lamella Plate Settlers, and Membrane Bioreactor (MBR) systems—all of which represent advanced, scalable solutions in the global water sector. CAF technology uses fine air bubbles to lift suspended solids, oils, and algae to the water surface, making them easier to remove. It is already widely applied in the treatment of industrial wastewater from oil refineries, chemical plants, and paper mills. This method is particularly suitable as a first-stage treatment for polluted river water, offering rapid improvement in water quality.

The Lamella Plate Settler, another innovation pitched, uses inclined plates to reduce



KEWI Governing Council Chairperson Hon. Patrick Musili Mbangula.

KEWI and Jenkins Asia Explore Innovative Water Treatment Technologies to Expand Clean Water Access in Kenya



Mr. Nelson Kwamini, Deputy Director Research, Consultancy and Technical Services.

settling distance and time, thereby increasing efficiency in sedimentation. Its compact design makes it ideal for decentralized systems with space limitations. This system can remove up to 99% of free oils and greases and lower turbidity levels to as low as 1–2 NTU, particularly when used in conjunction with other treatment processes.

Equally significant is the Membrane Bioreactor (MBR) technology, which integrates biological treatment with micro or ultrafiltration to eliminate pathogens and solid waste. Notably, a pilot MBR system has already been implemented in Kisumu, where it is used to treat domestic wastewater for reuse in aquaculture and vegetable irrigation. The success of this pilot project

demonstrates the viability of MBR systems in the Kenyan context and underscores their potential for broader adoption in river-cleanup efforts.

Beyond the technical benefits, the adoption of these technologies offers immense social and political gains. Clean water access enhances public health, reduces disease burden, and restores dignity

to underserved communities. It also contributes to economic empowerment by enabling agriculture, small-scale industry, and job creation. Politically, such projects can strengthen public trust, support community stability, and elevate Kenya's profile in international forums on sustainability and innovation.

Looking ahead, Mr. Weng expressed interest in working with Kenyan institutions to not only implement these technologies but also build local capacity. He proposed training programs for plant operators and technicians, the rollout of additional treatment plants, and the nurturing of future developers of monitoring and filtration technologies. This aligns with KEWI's broader mission to build human capital and technological competence in Kenya's water sector.

The engagement between KEWI and Jenkins Asia stands as a testament to the transformative potential of



public-private collaboration in addressing real-world challenges. If implemented, the proposed technologies could mark a turning point in Kenya's journey toward universal access to clean, safe water for all.

Final-Year Students Lead Community Development Project in Dagani Area, Chiakariga

BY: KORIR KIPKIRUI

A group of dedicated final-year students at the Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) Chiakariga Campus recently demonstrated their deep commitment to societal impact through a hands-on community development initiative in Dagani, Chiakariga. Under the expert guidance of their lecturer, Florence Njeri, the students successfully rehabilitated a hand pump that had been out of service for several months, restoring vital access to clean water for the local community.

The Dagani hand pump rehabilitation was part of a broader community engagement program coordinated by KEWI, aimed at equipping students with practical skills in real-world settings while instilling a spirit of civic responsibility. As Lecturer Florence Njeri explained, “Education goes beyond the classroom. By involving students directly in community service, they gain valuable life skills and develop a deeper understanding of the impact they can have on people’s lives.”

The initiative provided students with hands-on experience in key technical tasks—such as diagnosing mechanical failures, replacing worn washers and seals, and re-priming the pump—as well



as non-technical skills like teamwork, stakeholder communication, and project planning. These competencies mirror those emphasized in KEWI’s curriculum, which focuses on combining theoretical knowledge with applied problem-solving.

For residents of Dagani, the hand pump had been their primary source of clean, potable water, serving dozens of households before it broke down. During its downtime, locals were forced to walk long distances in search of alternative water sources. The pump’s restoration has not only reduced the physical burden—especially for women and children—but also improved health outcomes and daily life. One student involved in the project, Monica Murithi, reflected: “This is more than just fixing a pump. It’s about making a difference where it matters most.”

Community members greeted the students with warm gratitude, celebrating the reactivation of a vital

lifeline. The project exemplifies KEWI’s mission—endorsed since its inception—to provide sustainable water solutions in challenging regions through student training, research, and outreach.

This rehabilitation project highlights the power of community-driven solutions and the pivotal role of technical institutions like KEWI in cultivating civic-minded professionals. Beyond their academic achievement, the students have demonstrated empathy, resilience, and leadership—attributes essential not only to their disciplines but also to addressing national challenges such as Kenya’s goal for universal access to clean water by 2030.

The success of the Dagani hand pump project underscores the potential of KEWI’s student-led, field-driven approach. It offers a scalable model for future water and sanitation interventions—particularly in ASAL regions—where technical training is matched with real service to communities. As final-year students graduate and carry these lessons forward, they exemplify how education, when grounded in active civic engagement, can catalyze meaningful change—and how young engineers can be at the forefront of delivering it.

KEWI Hosts Climate Change Training Workshop to Strengthen Water Sector Resilience

BY: PIUS KIMANI

The Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) successfully hosted a focused half-day workshop titled “Training of Trainers on Climate Change”, aimed at building institutional and professional capacity to respond to the growing impacts of climate change on water, irrigation, and sanitation systems. Held at KEWI’s main campus, the workshop aligns with national efforts to promote sustainable, climate-resilient infrastructure across Kenya, and supports the country’s development blueprint – Vision 2030.

The session brought together a range of stakeholders, and trainers from the water sector. Among the key guests were Klaus Lehn Christensen and Millicent Kariuki from the Confederation of Danish Industries (DI), underscoring the importance of international collaboration in tackling global

climate challenges. The highlight of the event was a compelling keynote lecture by DI Global Advisor Svend-Erik Jepsen, who

provided critical insights into how climate change continues to affect water and wastewater systems worldwide. He emphasized the urgent need for adaptation strategies that are locally relevant yet informed by global best practices.

Participants engaged in interactive sessions that addressed specific vulnerabilities within Kenya’s water sector, such as prolonged droughts, flooding, and changing rainfall patterns—all of which have



Confederation of Danish Industries (DI) Global Advisor Svend-Erik Jepsen gives his lecture on how climate change continues to affect water and wastewater systems worldwide.

direct implications for water quality, availability, and infrastructure integrity. The workshop particularly focused on equipping trainers with updated knowledge

and teaching tools to integrate climate change adaptation into technical and vocational water sector curricula.

As part of the day’s activities, attendees were taken on a guided tour of KEWI’s Nairobi City Campus, where they observed the ongoing construction of a biogas plant. This facility is a flagship project that demonstrates KEWI’s commitment to promoting low-carbon and circular economy technologies within its training programs. Once completed, the plant will serve both as a practical training facility for students and as a source of sustainable energy for campus operations.

Looking ahead, KEWI plans to scale up similar training programs across its regional campuses to ensure widespread dissemination of climate-smart practices. With strong partnerships and strategic investments, KEWI continues to position itself as a regional center of excellence in water and environmental training.



The team during the visit to the biogas plant construction site.

Strengthening Kenya's Water Sector: Ministry Ramps Up Capacity Building and PPP Investments

BY: PIUS KIMANI

The Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation is taking significant strides to reform and strengthen Kenya's water sector through a dual focus on institutional capacity building and innovative financing mechanisms. Under the leadership of Principal Secretary Mr. Julius Korir, CBS, these efforts are aimed at enhancing public investment efficiency while accelerating progress toward universal access to water and sanitation services by 2030.

This week, Mr. Korir officially launched a high-level capacity building workshop for Ministry staff and affiliated Water Sector Agencies. The training, facilitated by the National Treasury, aligns with Circular No. 16/2019 and the Public Investment Management (PIM) Regulations of 2022. It is designed to equip participants with critical skills in project development, from concept formulation to feasibility assessments, thereby

promoting standardized and effective project lifecycle management.

The workshop attracted representation from a broad spectrum of water sector institutions, including the Water Resources Authority, various regional Water Works Development Agencies, the Water Sector Trust Fund (WSTF), and regulatory and research bodies such as Wasreb Kenya and the Regional Centre on Groundwater Resources Education, Training & Research. This initiative underlines the Ministry's commitment to institutional capacity strengthening as a foundation for impactful and sustainable public investments.

In parallel, the Ministry is advancing key Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects to leverage private sector investment for enhanced service delivery. Mr. Korir, alongside technical experts, reviewed the status of six



Up and below: State Department for Water and Sanitation Principal Secretary Mr. Julius Korir CBS during the opening of the capacity building workshop for the Ministry and Water Sector Agencies staff and review of status of six major projects currently under review by the PPP Committee of the National Treasury respectively.

major projects currently under review by the PPP Committee of the National Treasury. These projects represent a shift toward alternative and sustainable financing models that can complement public funding.

The adoption of PPPs signals a robust strategic direction, one that is expected to unlock new investment flows and ensure long-term impact for communities across Kenya. By fast-tracking these initiatives, the Ministry aims to bridge infrastructure gaps and ensure that every Kenyan has access to safe, reliable water and sanitation.

Together, the focus on capacity building and PPP development marks a transformative chapter for Kenya's water sector—one rooted in good governance, institutional excellence, and collaborative financing.



Round up of The Week's Events



Moments during the students council meeting with the Director at KEWI Nairobi.

Pictures of the week



Whether it's a formal event or a lively cocktail party, KEWI's catering promises world-class service and dishes that are truly second to none.

Offering a spectacular culinary experience marked by elegance, variety, and impeccable service, KEWI's catering team crafts vibrant, mouthwatering dishes that turn every meal into a memorable event.

Renowned for delivering topnotch hospitality, the faces and efforts behind these services offer with unmatched smiles.

Quote of the Week

"Employees are a company's greatest asset – invest in their growth and they'll invest in your vision."

Simon Sinek

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Long - Term Programmes

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 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:

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- Meter Reading
- Sewerage Operations

Short - Term Programmes

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 Operation & Maintenance of Pumping Stations
 Pump Selection, Installation and Maintenance
 Plumbing, Pipe Fitting and Solar Water Heating
 Instrumentation for Water and Wastewater Systems
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Vision

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

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