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KEWI Expands Global Footprint Through Strategic CultivAid Partnership to Advance Water and Agriculture in East Africa



Kenya Water Institute's Director/CEO Dr. Leiro Letangule EBS, exchanges partnership documents with CultivAid CEO Dr. Tomer Malchi shortly after signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two organizations during the East Africa Food-Energy-Water (FEW) Nexus Conference in Mbeya, Tanzania.

BY: PIUS KIMANI

The Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) and CultivAid, an Israel-based NGO, have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that marks a major step toward strengthening agricultural and water development across East Africa. This agreement was formalized during the East Africa Food-Energy-Water (FEW) Nexus Conference held in Mbeya, Tanzania, from July 14 to 16, 2025. The MoU was signed by KEWI CEO Dr. Leiro Letangule, EBS and CultivAid

CEO Dr. Tomer Malchi, setting the stage for a dynamic partnership that merges academic training with real-world practice in water and agricultural systems.

The signing came on the heels of KEWI's strong presence at the conference, where Dr. Letangule, accompanied by Mr. Eric K. Wamiti, KEWI's Deputy Director Academic Affairs, delivered a strategic address outlining the Institute's contributions to national priorities in water reuse,

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July 14-16, 2025 | Mbeya, Ta



Dr. Letangule EBS makes a presentation during the East Africa Food-Energy-Water (FEW) Nexus Conference in Mbeya, Tanzania. He underscored KEWI's role in integrating research, training, and policy alignment to national priorities in water reuse, renewable energy, and climate-resilient irrigation systems.

renewable energy, and climate-resilient irrigation systems. His presentation underscored KEWI's role in integrating research, training, and policy alignment, supported by transformative initiatives such as the TWENDE Climate Adaptation Project and the KOSAP renewable energy rollouts.

This strategic collaboration recognizes the critical role of water in agriculture and the need to foster innovation, capacity building, and research. It aims to expand opportunities for KEWI

students and staff by offering practical internships at the Agricultural Innovation and Technology Center (AITEC) in Embu, Kenya, as well as opening doors for structured internship programs in Israel. These initiatives are designed not only to enhance student exposure to advanced agricultural technologies but also to promote professional development and technical knowledge transfer.

A key outcome of the MoU is the commitment to jointly design and implement irrigation training programs,

workshops, and seminars tailored for KEWI staff and water sector experts in Kenya. This aligns with KEWI's longstanding mission of providing hands-on, relevant training that addresses local and regional development needs.

Furthermore, the partnership will support applied research and demonstration projects at the AITEC Farm in Embu, particularly in water use and reuse technologies. These research activities are expected to produce evidence-based innovations that will inform

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Dr. Letangule EBS with other participants during the East Africa Food-Energy-Water (FEW) Nexus Conference held in Mbeya, Tanzania.

policy and improve practice in the water and agriculture sectors.

High-level institutional engagements are also envisioned under this partnership, including a planned introduction between KEWI and the Ambassador of Israel to Kenya. A proposed visit to Israel by KEWI leadership in August-September 2025 will further explore opportunities for bilateral collaboration, particularly in the establishment of specialized training sites for irrigation

technicians and engineers. These efforts are poised to strengthen KEWI's institutional capacity and reinforce its role as a regional hub for professional development and technology exchange.

To ensure effective implementation, a Joint Working Group will be formed to develop action plans, set timelines, and coordinate funding strategies. Each institution will designate a focal person to oversee the coordination of activities, ensuring timely delivery and

accountability. The MoU will initially run for two years, with provisions for renewal upon mutual agreement.

By aligning with CultivAid, KEWI further cements its commitment to delivering inclusive, practical, and future-ready solutions to the region's most pressing food, energy, and water challenges. The partnership represents a timely and impactful response to the growing need for integrated development solutions in East Africa.

County Chief Officer Engages KEWI Chiakariga on Tourism and Culture Synergy



Chief Officer for Culture, Tourism, Trade, and Energy, Tharaka Nithi County, Ms. Irene Nkirote Makarius (second left) poses for a group photo with Chiakariga Campus team after she paid the campus a courtesy visit.

BY: KORIR KIPKIRUI

In a move aimed at strengthening partnerships between the county government and educational institutions, the Chief Officer for Culture, Tourism, Trade, and Energy, Tharaka Nithi County, Ms. Irene Nkirote Makarius, made a courtesy visit to the Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) Chiakariga Campus.

Warmly received by the Dean of Students, Eng. Castro Nyagudi, who represented the Campus Principal, alongside staff, Miss Esther Karimi and Miss Mwanamisi Omar Chinono. Ms. Nkirote visit centered on fostering collaboration between the KEWI campus and the Office of

Tourism to promote local tourism, environmental conservation, and cultural awareness.

Ms. Nkirote and KEWI explored areas of joint operations with key areas of discussion being among them enhancing student participation in regional tourism through organized visits to nearby parks. This initiative is expected to boost both environmental education and local tourism engagement among students.

Additionally, the meeting focused on the conservation and promotion of Kibuga Falls, a hidden gem located within the county. The campus pledged its involvement in environmental conservation efforts around

the falls, including water conservation and rehabilitation initiatives. KEWI students and staff will participate in planting indigenous trees to preserve the ecosystem and raise awareness about sustainable practices.

Another major highlight of the visit was planning for the upcoming URA Gate Cultural Celebrations, slated for August. The event is set to bring together communities from across the region to celebrate and showcase diverse cultures. KEWI

Chiakariga Campus will take part in the celebrations, providing an excellent platform to market its programs and raise its profile throughout the county and beyond.

Ms. Nkirote commended the campus for its commitment to environmental and cultural initiatives, emphasizing the role of institutions like KEWI in promoting sustainable development and regional heritage.

The collaboration marks a significant step toward integrating education, culture, tourism, and environmental conservation in Tharaka Nithi County, with mutual benefits for the county government, KEWI Chiakariga Campus, and the broader community.

ICTA Inspects Fibre Optic Installation at Kitui Campus to Boost Digital Access

BY: MUTIA MULAA

The Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) Kitui Campus recently hosted a successful inspection by the ICT Authority (ICTA), an agency under the Ministry of Information, Communications and the Digital Economy. The visit focused on evaluating the newly installed fibre optic infrastructure, which is part of the ongoing National Optic Fibre Backbone Infrastructure (NOFBI) initiative aimed at enhancing digital connectivity across the country.

The primary objective of the inspection was to assess the quality, compliance, and operational readiness of the fibre optic installation at the campus. The evaluation covered key areas, including backbone and last-mile connectivity, ducting, termination points, and equipment integration.

According to the inspection report, the installation met the required ICTA.2.2.004:2025 standards governing backbone, metro, and last-mile fibre infrastructure. The inspection team verified the proper use of HDPE ducts, maintenance chambers, and hand holes, which are critical for the protection and longevity of the



Kitui Campus Mutia Mulaa (centre) poses for a group photo with officers from ICT Authority (ICTA) shortly after the team inspected the newly installed fibre optic infrastructure within the institute.

fibre network. Additionally, Optical Time Domain Reflectometer (OTDR) tests were conducted, confirming strong signal integrity and minimal attenuation – indicators of a high-quality fibre link.

The fibre optic link has been successfully terminated at KEWI's ICT hub, providing reliable internet access for both academic and administrative functions. This connectivity is expected to enhance the campus's digital learning platforms, support research initiatives, and facilitate access to e-government services.

The ICTA team recommended that the campus continue with routine

maintenance and monitoring of the fibre infrastructure to ensure its long-term performance. They also advised expanding fibre access to student laboratories and remote learning centers. Furthermore, integration with KEWI's water research data systems was encouraged, enabling real-time analytics and improved data sharing.

This inspection marks a significant step in bridging the digital divide in underserved regions such as Kitui. By enhancing access to fast, reliable internet, KEWI Kitui Campus is better positioned to advance its mission in water research, education, and public service delivery.

KEWI Leads National Effort to Build Climate-Resilient Water Systems Through Green Technology Training for Sector Leaders



Participants among them Managing Directors from Water Service Providers (WSPs) and County Executive Committee Members (CECMs) from across the country during a training session on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation for the Water Sector at KEWI, Nairobi.

BY: BRITNEY MOKEIRA

This week, the Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) successfully convened a high-impact professional development training on *Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation for the Water Sector*, reaffirming its commitment to climate resilience and sustainable water governance in Kenya.

The training brought together Managing Directors from Water Service Providers (WSPs) and County Executive Committee Members (CECMs) from across the country, positioning KEWI as a central hub for advancing climate leadership in the sector.

With climate change increasingly straining water resources through prolonged droughts, erratic rainfall, and water quality degradation, the training aimed to equip key decision-makers with practical tools, policy insight, and technical expertise to lead transformation in their regions. The course offered a comprehensive exploration of Kenya's legal and administrative frameworks guiding climate and water governance, while aligning with national sustainability goals and the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA).

Developed in partnership with Danish Industry (DI), the

curriculum focused on green technologies and the policy, financing, and regulatory frameworks supporting their integration into water systems. Sessions covered critical areas such as renewable energy in wastewater management, bio digesters for biogas production, and advanced desalination technologies including reverse osmosis and thermal systems. A live demonstration of a desalination plant offered participants hands-on exposure to practical solutions addressing water scarcity, enhanced by case studies highlighting global and local success stories.

Recognizing the importance of informed policy

KEWI Leads National Effort to Build Climate-Resilient Water Systems Through Green Technology Training for Sector Leaders

Recognizing the importance of informed policy development, the training emphasized strategic planning, institutional alignment, and data-driven climate risk assessment. Participants explored methodologies for identifying vulnerabilities within their water systems and designing anticipatory measures to improve resilience.

Modules on policy mainstreaming and innovation provided a roadmap for integrating new technologies within existing structures.

The training culminated in action planning sessions, enabling participants to develop tailored strategies aligned with their county and institutional needs. Exposure to Danish water and climate solutions offered valuable perspectives and inspiration, reinforcing the importance of global collaboration and localized implementation.

Speaking after the training, Ms. Millicent Kariuki, TVET



Ms. Millicent Kariuki, TVET Project Manager at DI East Africa contributes during the trainings at KEWI Nairobi. She emphasized on renewed determination to drive climate adaptation efforts within water utilities jurisdictions.

Project Manager at DI East Africa, underscored the trainings urgency and impact:

“Within every challenge, there is a call: A call to lead. A call to act. A call to rise. This week, we brought together decision-makers to confront urgent climate realities—not just to acknowledge the risks, but to unlock the opportunity to build smarter water systems that safeguard our shared future.”

By the end of the course, participants departed with not only enhanced technical knowledge but a renewed determination to drive climate adaptation efforts within their

jurisdictions. KEWI’s leadership in delivering this training reaffirms its role as a premier institution for water sector capacity building and innovation.

As Kenya grapples with the growing effects of climate change, initiatives such as this are vital in shaping a water-secure future. Water institutions are no longer just service providers—they are frontline actors in the nation’s fight against climate vulnerability. KEWI’s ongoing efforts ensure they are prepared to meet that challenge with skill, vision, and resilience.

Social Economic Dimensions of Water Challenges & Mitigation Strategies: Critical Insights from International RWH training in Lanzhou China

BY: PURITY KERUBO

Water scarcity and quality concerns are no longer isolated environmental issues—they are deeply interlinked with public health, food security, economic growth, and social well-being. Climate change has intensified these challenges, making water variability and scarcity more severe and unpredictable. In many developing countries, these issues are compounded by socio-economic factors such as poverty, urbanization, and infrastructure gaps.

Addressing water challenges thus requires a holistic approach that considers both environmental and human dimensions. China's Rainwater Harvesting and Utilization (RHU) strategies, particularly those implemented in GanSu province and the city of Lanzhou, offer practical solutions with wide-reaching socio-economic benefits.

In many parts of the world, water scarcity exerts a heavy toll on households, businesses, and agriculture. Industries suffer from operational disruptions, households face increased costs and health risks, and rural livelihoods become unstable. Water contamination worsens the problem. Biological contaminants like enteroviruses and parasites

from sewage runoff, alongside chemical hazards like arsenic, contribute to widespread waterborne diseases and long-term health complications. These illnesses drain public health systems and reduce productivity. The false belief that rainwater is

always safe further endangers communities—rainwater can carry atmospheric pollutants and catchment-borne contaminants, making treatment essential.

Agriculture, the backbone of many economies, is particularly vulnerable. Insufficient or unsafe water threatens crops and livestock, undermining food security. In urban settings, rapid population growth often outpaces water and sanitation infrastructure, exposing residents—especially those in informal settlements—to greater risks. Water collection duties, often shouldered by women and girls, reduce time for education and income-



A fertilizer mixer in one of the irrigation plant in China. Modern irrigation technologies help save 70% of the components that facilitate irrigation including water compared to regular water irrigation setup.

generating activities, reinforcing gender inequities.

China's response to these challenges offers instructive insights. Through its government-led, non-profit model of water provision—charging as little as 3 yuan per cubic meter—China ensures that access remains affordable and equitable. This model forms the foundation for the country's broader water management innovations, particularly in RHU.

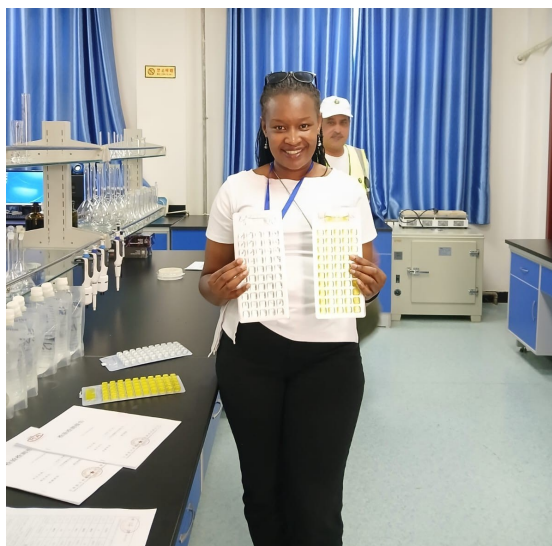
During training in Lanzhou, participants observed how China has successfully deployed RHU systems that draw from rainwater, reused water, and even brackish sources. Projects such as the "1-2-1" model (one catchment,

Social Economic Dimensions of Water Challenges & Mitigation Strategies: Critical Insights from International RWH training in Lanzhou China

two storage tanks, and one irrigation plot) in rural areas support domestic use, aquaculture, and small-scale agriculture. This diversification boosts productivity, strengthens food security, and reduces dependency on distant or expensive water sources. Moreover, households benefit from improved hygiene and time savings, especially for women and children.

China's emphasis on water treatment and quality assurance is a key pillar of its success. From basic first-flush systems to advanced purification technologies like reverse osmosis and ultraviolet disinfection, the focus remains on ensuring safety. Most notably, the country mandates daily water quality testing before supply – instilling public confidence and preventing outbreaks.

Technology integration is another game changer. China employs real-time remote monitoring to track water flow, quality, and infrastructure integrity across entire networks. These systems enable immediate responses to leaks or contamination, support optimal distribution, and enhance accountability. Artificial intelligence and predictive analytics are increasingly used to anticipate rainfall, guide maintenance, and improve system



Ms. Purity Kerubo holds water samples in a water quality laboratory in China. China's emphasis on water treatment and quality assurance has helped instill public confidence and prevent outbreaks.

performance. On a national scale, remote sensing and GIS tools are used to evaluate RHU potential, strategically zone regions, and manage resources efficiently.

In urban areas, RHU forms a core component of China's "Sponge City" initiative. Green infrastructure—such as porous pavements, green roofs, and wetlands—absorbs stormwater, mitigates urban heat, and reduces flood risk. These features not only protect infrastructure but also improve urban living conditions, create employment, and reduce pressure on potable water supplies.

Kenya and other developing nations can draw powerful lessons from China's experience. First, rainwater

must be embraced as a strategic water source, integrated with conventional supply systems. Second, rigorous treatment and quality testing—ideally daily—should be prioritized to ensure public health. Third, governments must play a central role in making water affordable, potentially through subsidies or non-profit models.

Investing in remote monitoring systems for water resources—from household tanks to regional reservoirs—will enhance management and accountability. Using data-driven tools like GIS and remote sensing can guide national and county-level planning, ensuring resources are allocated effectively. Finally, building the technical capacity of local personnel to operate and maintain these systems is essential for long-term sustainability.

China's RHU model demonstrates that thoughtful water management is not just a technical challenge—it is a strategic investment in public health, economic growth, and social equity. By adopting similar approaches, developing nations can build resilient water systems that support prosperity for generations to come.

KEWI Rolls Out on knowledge sharing sessions to Empower Students with Hands-On Training

BY: FAITH TAUNET

The future belongs to those who learn new skills and combine it in creative ways-
Robert Greene

In a bold move to improve the quality of Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) trainees and prepare them for the job market once they graduate, the institute has introduced a hands-on knowledge sharing sessions aimed at equipping students with practical skills to address critical skill gaps.

The initiative, led by Mr. Jacob Gitonga, a Technical Instructor and Head of the Water and Wastewater Engineering Department, is centred on knowledge sharing among staff and students. The goal is to produce competent professionals capable of solving real-world water issues in communities and utility sectors.

Speaking during a recent session on one of Kenya's biggest water challenges: Non-Revenue Water (NRW), Mr. Gitonga explained that the training was designed to bridge the gap between classroom theory and real-life challenges.



Students, most in their final year participating in a knowledge sharing session at KEWI, Nairobi. The interactive sessions have been introduced to help equip students with practical skills to address critical skill gaps.

“Our main objective is to ensure that our students leave KEWI with more than just classroom theory. We want them to go out there and solve real problems, especially in the water utilities, where issues like Non-Revenue Water are costing the country billions,” he said.

Non-Revenue Water refers to water that is produced but never reaches the consumer due to leaks, theft, or inaccurate meter readings. In Kenya, it is estimated that 42% of water is lost annually through such inefficiencies, amounting to a staggering Ksh. 10.2 billion in losses every year.

To address this, students were trained on modern leak detection methods using specialized acoustic devices.

These tools help identify both visible and underground leakages. Listening sticks, for instance, are simple metal rods used to detect sound changes along pipelines. More advanced equipment like noise detectors, fitted with microphones and speakers, help amplify and pinpoint leak sounds. Additionally, noise correlators, which rely on headphones to eliminate outside noise, enhance the precision of leak detection by focusing on the sounds within the pipes.

According to Mr. Gitonga, many leakages occur underground and go unnoticed. These tools are crucial in detecting such silent water losses.

“With acoustic tools, you can listen to the sounds within

KEWI Rolls Out on knowledge sharing sessions to Empower Students with Hands-On Training



Up and below: Mr. Gitonga, a Technical Instructor and Head of the Water and Wastewater Engineering Department at KEWI Nairobi, takes students through a session on Management of Non-Revenue Water.

the pipes and detect changes that indicate a leakage,” he said.

The session also addressed commercial losses resulting from faulty or inaccurate water meters. Mr. Gitonga highlighted the benefits of using advanced meters such as electromagnetic and ultrasonic meters, which offer higher accuracy. These meters help in identifying whether a system is over-reading or under-reading water usage, which is critical when calculating Non-Revenue Water. For example, if a conventional meter reads more or less than the actual volume of water passing through, it distorts data and affects billing.

Ultrasonic meters are particularly useful for monitoring night flows, periods when water

usage is low, but pressure in the pipelines is high. Such conditions often lead to increased leaks and bursts. By tracking these flow patterns, utilities can adjust pressure levels to minimize losses and avoid damage.

This training was specifically designed for final-semester students in Diploma



and Certificate programs. It aimed to strengthen their practical knowledge and prepare them for the field with skills they can immediately apply.

“These are our exit-level students, they will soon be out there in the field. It’s important they leave with the confidence and skill set to make a difference,” Mr. Gitonga noted.

The program also fosters collaboration and knowledge exchange among KEWI staff. By encouraging departments to share expertise, the initiative promotes a deeper understanding of the various specializations within water engineering, from irrigation and drainage to wastewater management.

“As much as we are all in water engineering, everyone specializes in different things,” Mr. Gitonga said. “By sharing what we know, we create a stronger, more knowledgeable team.”

The new practical skills program is expected to become a regular part of KEWI’s training approach. It not only strengthens student competencies but also supports national efforts to improve water management and reduce losses in utilities across the country.

KEWIMA Spreads Hope and Joy at Mama Fauzia Children's Home

BY: FAITH TAUNET

“No one has ever become poor from giving.” - Anne Frank

In a heartwarming display of compassion and community spirit, the Kenya Water Institute Muslim Association (KEWIMA), Nairobi Campus, visited Mama Fauzia Children's Home in Kasarani as part of their growing commitment to corporate social responsibility.

The weekend visit was a vibrant day filled with service, laughter, heartfelt conversations, and shared meals. Backed by the support of the

KEWI administration, KEWIMA members gathered early at the institute before heading out on a mission not just to give, but to connect with and uplift vulnerable children.

Upon arrival, the students quickly organized themselves into groups to manage various tasks efficiently. Some cleaned the compound and rooms, others chopped onions and vegetables, while a few took over the cooking pots. As the aroma of food filled the air, the children were treated to fun games and interaction with the students, creating an



Members of Kenya Water Institute Muslim Association (KEWIMA) join hands in preparation of meals when they visited Mama Fauzia Children's Home in Kasarani, Nairobi.

atmosphere of joy and belonging.

At around midday, everyone shared a warm, home-cooked meal—a moment that turned strangers into friends and laughter into a common language. Later in the afternoon, while the male students observed prayers, the ladies prepared tea, keeping the afternoon lively and communal.

By sunset, the KEWIMA team, children, and home staff gathered for a brief ceremony. KEWIMA Patron Mr. Guyo

Abdulkhadir who is also in charge of the student welfare at KEWI extended his gratitude to the institution for their warm welcome and to the students for their commitment and generous contributions. His speech underscored the purpose of such initiatives, not just as acts of charity, but as lessons in humanity, leadership, and faith in action.

Ms. Zara Kariuki, the home's coordinator, offered powerful words of appreciation and shared the journey of Mama Fauzia

KEWIMA Spreads Hope and Joy at Mama Fauzia Children's Home



KEWIMA members join children at Mama Fauzia Children's Home for a group photo when the latter visited the facility as part of their corporate social responsibility

Children's Home. Founded in 1989 by the late Mama Fauzia Muthoni Hassan, the home began in the heart of Majengo slums and moved to its current Kasarani location in 2005. Over the years, it has grown, thanks to donors and well-wishers, despite lacking any permanent sponsor.

"We don't have a regular donor, but through God's grace and people like you, we have never gone without food," Zara noted emotionally. She emphasized how such visits remind the children that they are not forgotten and that a community of kind-hearted people exists beyond the walls of their home.

She proudly highlighted the home's success stories; former

residents now serving as teachers, bankers, and professionals, with some studying abroad. Still, she lamented the harsh government policy of releasing children at 18, regardless of their readiness for independence, stressing the importance of continued mentorship and support.

The event culminated with KEWIMA presenting donations, followed by a cake-cutting ceremony as a gesture of love and shared humanity. A group photo sealed the day, capturing not just smiling faces, but the spirit of giving that KEWIMA embodies.

This initiative by KEWIMA is a shining example of how student associations can go

beyond academic activities to make a meaningful impact in society. It highlights the role of faith-based and student-led groups in nurturing empathy, responsibility, and real-world problem-solving skills. KEWIMA's outreach efforts also reinforce KEWI's broader goal of shaping not just professionals, but holistic, socially responsible citizens.

Such acts of kindness, though seemingly small, leave lasting impressions. As KEWIMA continues to inspire through action, they remind us all that community transformation starts with individual effort and a willingness to care.

Transforming Water Governance for A Sustainable Future



Members of a community fetching water in what appears to be a dried water point. KEWI plays a pivotal role in training community leaders and local water committees to understand governance frameworks and take active roles in managing water resources. (Photo: Courtesy)

BY: ABBIGAE SONGOK

Water is the lifeblood of any society, and its governance — the way we manage and allocate it — is critical for Kenya's development. From bustling urban centers to remote rural communities, effective water governance ensures that everyone has equitable access to this vital resource while safeguarding it for future generations. In Kenya, where water scarcity is a pressing issue and climate change is intensifying, the need for sound governance systems has never been more urgent.

At the Kenya Water Institute (KEWI), water governance is central to both education and

practical action. As a leader in water sector training, KEWI's mandate extends beyond imparting technical knowledge; it also includes fostering a deeper understanding of the policy frameworks, regulatory bodies, and collaborative strategies needed to manage Kenya's water resources effectively. By bridging the gap between theory and practice, the institute aims to produce professionals capable of addressing complex water challenges, particularly in rural and underserved areas.

In Kenya, governance structures such as the Water Resources Authority (WRA) and local water service boards work with KEWI and other

stakeholders to ensure that water is used wisely and responsibly. Effective governance is not just about setting regulations; it's about creating inclusive systems that balance the needs of all water users, from domestic households to industrial operations and agriculture.

A hallmark of modern water governance is the emphasis on community participation. While Kenya has made significant strides in decentralizing water governance, much of the responsibility still lies with local communities, especially when it comes to managing water at the grassroots level. KEWI plays a pivotal role in training community leaders

Transforming Water Governance for A Sustainable Future

and local water committees to understand governance frameworks and take active roles in managing water resources.

In 2025, community-based water governance has become even more critical as Kenya faces increasingly unpredictable weather patterns,

often resulting in flash floods and prolonged droughts. In rural areas, where access to piped water is limited, the ability of local water committees to make timely decisions on water allocation, storage, and conservation is vital. KEWI's field training programs ensure that these committees are equipped not only with technical skills but also with the governance knowledge necessary to make decisions that are both environmentally and socially sustainable.

Technology is playing an increasingly important role in shaping water governance practices. By 2025, Kenya has seen the growth of smart water management systems, which use sensors and real-time data to monitor water quality and usage. These technologies are especially useful for detecting



A rural water supply infrastructure. Effective water governance ensure that water is used wisely and responsibly. (Photo: Courtesy)

water pollution, monitoring boreholes, and managing water distribution in urban areas. However, the integration of technology into water governance also presents challenges. For instance, there are concerns over the accessibility of high-tech solutions in rural areas and the risk of digital exclusion. KEWI has incorporated digital literacy into its training programs, ensuring that upcoming water professionals are prepared to navigate both traditional and modern water management systems. Additionally, through its collaborations with government bodies and technology providers, KEWI is helping to promote the adoption of cost-effective technologies that can be used across diverse communities, even in remote areas with limited infrastructure.

In line with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, governance must also promote water access and equity. Access to clean water remains a significant challenge in Kenya, with disparities between urban and rural areas. The National Water Master Plan (2024-2050), a comprehensive policy document, outlines the country's plans for equitable water distribution and infrastructure development over the coming decades.

Looking toward 2025 and beyond, water governance in Kenya must evolve to meet emerging challenges. This is necessary not only to ensure water access and quality but also to implement governance strategies that can withstand the pressures of population growth, climate change, and increasing demand.

CS Water Addresses Senate on National Water and Irrigation Progress as Sector Leaders Push Urban Water Transformation

BY: PIUS KIMANI

The Cabinet Secretary for Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, Eng. Eric Mugaa, appeared before the Senate of Kenya to respond to wide-ranging questions raised by Senators regarding pressing issues in the country's water and irrigation sector. The session offered a critical platform for accountability and collaborative dialogue, with particular focus on the status of ongoing projects, county-specific challenges, and the Ministry's broader commitment to effective service delivery.

Eng. Mugaa was accompanied by key senior officials including Mr. Julius Korir, CBS, the Principal Secretary for Water and Sanitation; Eng. Samuel Alima, Water Secretary; Eng. Vincent Kabuti, Irrigation Secretary; and Eng. Charles Muasya, CEO of the National Irrigation Authority. Together, the delegation engaged the Senate on matters such as project delays, equitable funding, and the socio-economic impact of water interventions across counties.

The Ministry reaffirmed its dedication to transparency, accountability, and responsive governance in delivering on its mandate. Emphasis was placed on strengthening



Cabinet Secretary for Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, Eng. Eric Mugaa, when he appeared before the Senate to respond to questions by Senators regarding issues in the country's water and irrigation sector.

intergovernmental partnerships and working closely with development partners to fast-track critical water and irrigation initiatives in line with the country's development agenda.

Separately, the Principal Secretary for Water and Sanitation, Mr. Julius Korir, CBS, led a strategic engagement with Chief Executive Officers from key water sector agencies to review the draft Implementation Agreement for the National Urban Water Supply Programme.

This engagement forms part of the Ministry's preparations ahead of the rollout of this transformative programme aimed at modernizing and expanding water and sanitation infrastructure in urban and peri-urban areas.

Phase One of the National Urban Water Supply

Programme, supported by the African Development Bank (AfDB), is valued at approximately Ksh 22.5 billion. It is expected to benefit over 1.9 million Kenyans by significantly improving access to safe,

clean, and reliable water and sanitation services in targeted urban centres. This initiative aligns with the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) and signals a strong government commitment to equitable, inclusive, and sustainable development.

Agencies represented in the deliberations included Athi Water, Lake Victoria South, and North, Coast Water Works, Tana Water Works, Tanathi, Northern Water, North Rift Valley Water Works, Central Rift Valley Water Works, the Water Resources Authority, Wasreb Kenya, and the Kenya Water Institute.

These collaborative efforts underscore the government's resolve to deliver on the promise of universal access to safe water and sustainable irrigation as key pillars of national development and improved livelihoods.

KEWI Shines on Friday Friendly Games at RTI

BY: FAITH TAUNET

“Sports inculcate something in you that no institution, family or friendship can. A quality that eventually emanate from you, something called Sportsmanship.”
— Sandeep Sahajpal

The Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) delivered a thrilling performance during a friendly sports exchange held on Friday, July 11th, 2025, at the Railway Training Institute (RTI) grounds in Nairobi. The event brought together top institutions including RTI, the Kenya Institute of Mass Communication (KIMC), and Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) for an action-packed day of netball, football, and basketball.

In a dramatic basketball showdown, KEWI men edged out hosts RTI in a nail-biting finish, winning 53–52. The game kept spectators on their feet as both teams traded baskets throughout, with KEWI holding their nerve in the final seconds to seal the victory.

On the football pitch, KEWI and JKUAT locked horns in a tight and tactical match that



A scoreboard displays scores of a basketball showdown between KEWI and RTI. (Below) KEWI lady's team during one of the match.

ended in a goalless 0–0 draw. Both teams displayed solid defence and midfield control, but neither could find the back of the net despite several close attempts.

In the men's netball category, KEWI faced mixed fortunes. In the opening game, they went down 7–10 against KIMC in a spirited contest. However, they bounced back strongly in their second match, edging past RTI 5–4 in a closely contested encounter.

Beyond the scores and results, the day highlighted the true spirit of sportsmanship. Participants showcased mutual respect, discipline, and fair play, reminding all present that sports is not just about winning, but also about character building. Through shared competition, the games fostered strong bonds of friendship among players from different institutions, encouraging unity and goodwill across campuses.

Such inter-institutional events go a long way in promoting healthy lifestyles among students by encouraging physical activity, mental wellness, and teamwork. For the KEWI players, it was also a chance to strengthen relationships with their teammates, develop trust, and build confidence in each other's abilities both on and off the field.

The event also served as a powerful reminder of how sports can be used as a tool for diplomacy, creating lasting connections between institutions and nurturing values such as respect, cooperation, and resilience.

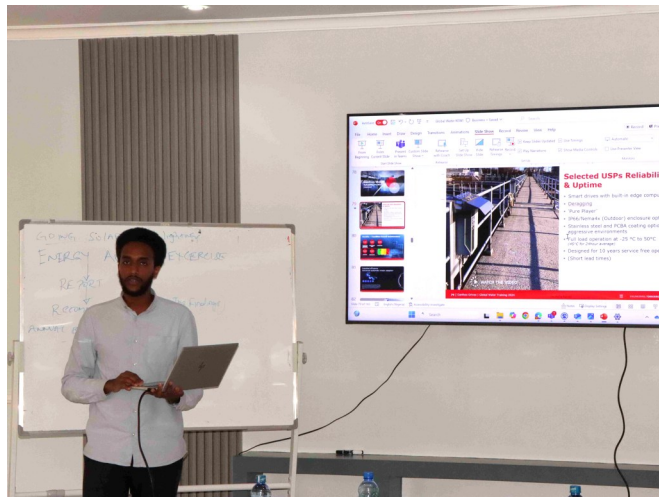
As the day wrapped up, players, coaches, and fans commended the warm hospitality of RTI and echoed the desire for more regular sports exchanges. The success of the friendly games left many hopeful that such events will continue to grow, uniting students through healthy competition and shared value.

Round up of The Week's Events



Moments during the training of water utility managers on "Management of Commercial Losses" as an intervention on management of Non-Revenue Water (NRW)

Round up of The Week's Events



Moments during the training of water sector players on "Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation for the Water Sector" at KEWI Nairobi.

KENYA WATER INSTITUTE INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION

Kenya Water Institute invites applications for September 2025 intake for the programs offered in Nairobi campus and satellite campuses of Chiakariga, Kitui and Kisumu. The programs will be offered through a Blended Learning Model (online and in person learning for practical based courses). Applicants MUST indicate the campus of choice in the application form.

Program Title	Minimum Requirements	Duration	Campus	Tuition Per Semester
1. Diploma in Water Engineering Technology (DWET)	a) KCSE Mean Grade C- (minus) or a division (II) in KCE with at least D (plain) in any of the sciences (Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry or Physical Science and Biology) or Geography OR b) KCSE Mean Grade C- and Artisan Course Certificate from KEWI or any equivalent National Qualification c) As determined by the Academic Board.	Three years	Nairobi Chiakariga Kitui Kisumu	Kshs. 31,300
2. Diploma in Water Resources Management Technology (DWRMT)	a) KCSE Mean Grade C- (minus) or a division (II) in KCE with at least D (plain) in any of the sciences (Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry or Physical Science and Biology) or Geography OR b) KCSE Mean Grade C- and Artisan Course Certificate from KEWI or any equivalent National Qualification c) As determined by the Academic Board.	Three years	Nairobi Kitui Kisumu	Kshs. 31,300
3. Diploma in Irrigation and Drainage Engineering Technology (DIDET)	a) KCSE Mean Grade C- (minus) or a division (II) in KCE with at least D (plain) in any of the sciences (Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry or Physical Science and Biology) or Geography OR b) KCSE Mean Grade C- and Artisan Course Certificate from KEWI or any equivalent National Qualification c) As determined by the Academic Board.	Three years	Chiakariga Kisumu	Kshs. 31,300
4. Diploma in Wastewater and Sanitation Engineering Technology (DWSET)	a) KCSE Mean Grade C- (minus) or a division (II) in KCE with at least D (plain) in any of the sciences (Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry or Physical Science and Biology) or Geography OR b) KCSE Mean Grade C- and Artisan Course Certificate from KEWI or any equivalent National Qualification c) As determined by the Academic Board.	Three years	Nairobi	Kshs. 31,300
5. Diploma in Water Laboratory Technology (DWLT)	a) KCSE Mean Grade C- (minus) or a division (II) in KCE with at least D (plain) in any of the sciences (Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry or Physical Science and Biology) or Geography OR b) KCSE Mean Grade C- and Artisan Course Certificate from KEWI or any equivalent National Qualification c) As determined by the Academic Board.	Three years	Nairobi	Kshs. 31,300
6. Diploma in Information Communication Technology (DICT)-KNEC	a) KCSE Mean Grade of C- and above or its equivalent as acceptable Qualification by KNQA OR b) KNEC Certificate for CICT	Three years	Nairobi	Kshs. 31,300
7. Certificate in Water Engineering Technology (CWET)	a) KCSE Mean Grade D (plain) OR b) Artisan Course qualification from KEWI or any equivalent National Qualification OR c) As determined by the Academic Board	Two years	Nairobi Chiakariga Kitui Kisumu	Kshs. 30,000
8. Certificate in Water Resources Management Technology (CWRMT)	a) KCSE Mean Grade D (plain) OR b) Artisan Course qualification from KEWI or any equivalent National Qualification OR c) As determined by the Academic Board	Two years	Nairobi Kitui Kisumu	Kshs. 30,000
9. Certificate in Irrigation and Drainage Engineering Technology (CIDET)	a) KCSE Mean Grade D (plain) OR b) Artisan Course qualification from KEWI or any equivalent National Qualification OR c) As determined by the Academic Board	Two years	Chiakariga Kisumu	Kshs. 30,000
10. Certificate in Wastewater and Sanitation Engineering Technology (CWSET)	a) KCSE Mean Grade D (plain) OR b) Artisan Course qualification from KEWI or any equivalent National Qualification OR c) As determined by the Academic Board	Two years	Nairobi	Kshs. 30,000
11. Certificate in Water Laboratory Technology (CWLTL)	a) KCSE Mean Grade D (plain) OR b) Artisan Course qualification from KEWI or any equivalent National Qualification OR c) As determined by the Academic Board	Two years	Nairobi	Kshs. 30,000
12. Certificate in Information Communication Technology (CICT)-KNEC	a) KCSE Mean Grade D (plain) and above OR b) Its equivalent as an acceptable Qualification by KNQA	Two years	Nairobi	Kshs. 30,000
13. Plumbing and Pipe Fitting (PPF)	a) KCSE Mean Grade D (plain) and above OR b) Its equivalent as an acceptable Qualification by KNQA	Two years	Nairobi	Kshs. 30,000
14. Water Operators Course (WOC) in: • Water Supply • Meter Reading • Wastewater Mgt. Tech.	a) KCSE Certificate OR b) Basic Operator Course qualification OR c) Any other qualification approved by the Academic Board	Two semesters	Nairobi Chiakariga Kitui Kisumu	Kshs. 30,000
15. Irrigation and Drainage systems	a) KCSE Certificate OR b) Basic Operator Course qualification OR c) Any other qualification approved by the Academic Board	Two semesters	Chiakariga Kitui	Kshs. 30,000
16. Drilling Operations and Management (DOM)	a) KCSE Mean Grade D (plain) OR b) Certificate in Water Related course (Water Technician, Water Resource Management, Water Engineering, Mechanical Engineering) OR c) Industry Practice as a Drilling Technician of at least 2 years	8 weeks	Nairobi	Kshs 40,800

MODE OF APPLICATION

Application forms can be obtained from Kenya Water Institute, Nairobi South 'C', Chiakariga, Kitui and Kisumu campuses; or downloaded from KEWI website. A non-refundable application fee of Kshs 1,000.00 should be paid using this link: <https://www.kewi.go.ke/application-payment-process>

Applications should be addressed to the **DIRECTOR, KENYA WATER INSTITUTE, P. O. BOX 60013 -00200 NAIROBI**. Applications to reach us not later than **29th August 2025**. Attach photocopies of Academic Certificates, National ID card and original application fee receipt.

Foreign students to add 20% on all charges. For enquiries: Nairobi - 0722 207 757, 0735339206, Chiakariga – 0729009104, Kitui 0707 566 395

Persons with disability and female students are encouraged to apply.

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50,000 ksh



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For more information and how to apply, scan the QR Codes on the posters.



MINISTRY OF WATER SANITATION AND IRRIGATION
KENYA WATER INSTITUTE

Water Quality Sampling and Testing Course

Venue: Kenya Water Institute

Date: From 28th July to 1st August 2025

Cost: KES. 30,000



REGISTER NOW

For more information
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www.kewi.go.ke



Advanced GIS and Remote Sensing in Water Management Course

Venue: Kenya Water Institute, Nairobi Campus

Date: 4th - 8th August 2025

Cost: Kshs 45,000/=



JOIN NOW

for more info
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📧 shortcourses@kewi.or.ke

🌐 www.kewi.go.ke

For more information and how to apply, visit www.kewi.go.ke

Picture of the week



When the Last Bite Unlocks the Gossip

Lunchtime confessions hit different when the plates are empty and only banana peels and drained juice glasses remain as evidence of the feast. These two colleagues clearly knew that serious conversations require full tanks – because nothing says “now we can talk” like finishing a fruit salad summit.

Whether they’re solving office mysteries, plotting a weekend escapade or just laughing about who took a big share, one thing’s certain: some conversations can only be digested after the food!

Quote of the Week

"Success is best when it's shared – and even sweeter when achieved together." – Howard Schultz

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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
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 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
Customer Focus
Innovativeness
Inclusivity
Patriotism
Integrity

GET IN TOUCH WITH US

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Website: www.kewi.go.ke

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

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P.O. BOX 60013 – 00200
Tel: 0722207757
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KEWI Chiakariga Campus
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Water Quality Laboratory Services
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Repair of pumps boreholes and distribution systems

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