

October 17th - 24th 2025

## Institute in Partnership with MUWASCO Marks Milestone with First Recognition of Prior Learning Assessment



Engineer Mercy Khamonya (in braids) and his counterpart Engineer Jacob Gitonga look on as Kennedy Ng'ang'a demonstrates how to service a water meter during the inaugural Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Assessment exercise at Murang'a Water and Sewerage Company (MUWASCO) premises. A total of 36 candidates underwent through the rigorous practical assessment.

BY: PIUS KIMANI

The Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) has marked a major milestone in strengthening professional competence within the water sector following the successful completion of its first-ever Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) assessment conducted in partnership with the Murang'a Water and Sewerage Company (MUWASCO). This landmark exercise represents an important advancement in

formally acknowledging the technical skills and competencies that industry practitioners have gained through years of practical experience, workplace-based learning, and informal training.

A total of 36 candidates underwent rigorous practical assessment covering key areas including the operation and maintenance of water supply distribution systems, operation and maintenance of

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## Institute in Partnership with MUWASCO Marks Milestone with First Recognition of Prior Learning Assessment

water supply distribution systems, operation and maintenance of sewer networks, installation of water supply systems, and operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment plants. MUWASCO played a vital role by providing access to its operational units and live infrastructure, ensuring that the assessments took place under realistic field conditions.

This enabled candidates to demonstrate their abilities in practical scenarios that reflect everyday industry operations. The partnership demonstrated the effectiveness of collaboration

between training institutions and water utilities in promoting workforce competence, improving service delivery standards, and enhancing professionalism across the sector.

The exercise was further strengthened through international collaboration. During the exercise, KEWI was honoured to host Ms. Millicent Kariuki from the Confederation of Danish Industries (DI), whose involvement highlighted the importance of global partnerships in advancing technical skill development.

DI's engagement contributes to benchmarking Kenyan practices against international standards, promoting



*Candidates being taken through their Portfolios of Evidence (PoE) that they had submitted as precursor to practical assessment.*

innovation, and supporting continuous improvement in training methodologies. Such collaboration reinforces Kenya's commitment to building a globally competitive and well-equipped water sector workforce.

Quality assurance and adherence to national regulatory standards were central to the process. The assessment was closely supervised by the Deputy Director of Standards at the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA), Mr. Paul Mureithi, together with industry experts Eng. Christoph and Mr. Nahashon. Their oversight

ensured that the RPL process aligned with the national quality assurance frameworks governing Technical and Vocational Education and Training. This commitment to standardization protects the credibility of the certification process and safeguards the integrity of Kenya's National Qualifications Framework.

The assessment was led by the KEWI Deputy Director, Academic Affairs, Mr. Eric Wamiti, with strong support from RPL Coordinator Eng. Mercy Khamonya; Head of Water Engineering, Mr. Jacob Gitonga; and senior lecturers Eng. Everyne Nyakundi and Eng. Jabez Nyagaya. Their coordinated expertise ensured smooth administration of the

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assessment, objective evaluation, and validation of each candidate's technical competence.

The successful implementation of this first RPL exercise underscores KEWI's dedication to empowering industry practitioners through formal recognition of skills, supporting lifelong learning, and strengthening the capacity of Kenya's water sector. It also signals a shift toward training and evaluation models that respond directly to industry needs, encouraging workforce mobility and providing experienced staff with pathways for professional progression.

The benefits of the initiative extend across multiple levels. For KEWI, working directly with MUWASCO ensures that its training programmes remain aligned to real operational needs, improving



*Eng. Nyakundi engages the candidates shortly after their assessment on how to operate a flushing unit. Below: a candidate demonstrates how to maintain a grit chamber.*

relevance and graduate employability. For MUWASCO, the exercise enhances staff technical competence, strengthens internal capacity, and supports continuous performance improvement. For individual practitioners,

recognition of prior learning opens opportunities for certification, promotion, and career growth. At the national level, adherence to the TVET Standard – Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) – Requirements

and Guidelines, TVETS 02:2023 contributes to a fair, transparent, and credible national qualifications framework that acknowledges skills gained both within and outside formal education.

As KEWI and MUWASCO look ahead, this successful RPL exercise sets a benchmark for future collaborations, encourages broader industry participation, and strengthens efforts to professionalize the water sector. KEWI remains committed to scaling RPL initiatives, deepening partnerships with regulators and development partners, and building a resilient, skilled, and efficient workforce capable of sustaining the country's water and sanitation needs for years to come.



## Director Lauds KEWI-Wilo Partnership, Links It to Institute's Rising Technical and Human Capacity Development



*Director/CEO, Dr. Leiro Letangule, EBS addresses attendants of the Wilo SE AMEA Reception at the German Ambassador's Residence in Nairobi. He hailed the KEWI-Wilo partnership as a proof of how public-private partnerships can deliver transformative results.*

**BY: PIUS KIMANI**

**T**he Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) has reaffirmed its strong partnership with Wilo SE, marking a milestone in public-private collaboration for sustainable water management and technical capacity building in Africa.

Speaking during the Wilo SE AMEA Reception at the German Ambassador's

Residence in Nairobi, KEWI Director and Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Leiro Letangule, EBS, expressed gratitude to Wilo SE, the German Embassy, and the German Business Association for their continued partnership and collaboration with the institute.

He noted that the KEWI-Wilo partnership exemplifies

how the private sector and public training institutions can work together to advance sustainable water management and strengthen technical expertise amid challenges posed by climate variability and resource scarcity.

Since the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding in January 2024, the partnership has made

## Director Lauds KEWI-Wilo Partnership, Links It to Institute's Rising Technical and Human Capacity Development



*From Left: Belete A. Matebe, Managing Director, Wilo East Africa, Jens Dallendorfer, CEO Africa, Middle East, and Asia (AMEA) Region, WILO Group and Sebastian Groth Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Kenya during the Wilo SE AMEA Reception.*

significant strides in training, technology transfer, and innovation at KEWI. Through this collaboration, KEWI has established and re-equipped an Energy Efficiency Workshop, which now serves as a regional hub for hands-on training in pump systems, energy audits, and solar-powered pumping solutions. The facility supports water utilities, private sector practitioners, and students through KEWI's modularized curriculum, bridging the gap between theoretical learning and practical application. This approach has gained recognition from the Director-General of the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA), who commended the model and encouraged its adoption

across other TVET institutions in Kenya.

The tangible outcomes of the KEWI-Wilo partnership are already evident. The collaboration has enhanced capacity building and training, equipping technicians, plumbers, and engineers with essential skills in pump testing, calibration, and system optimization—skills that directly improve the efficiency and reliability of Kenya's water utilities. In terms of technological advancement, Wilo has introduced a fully functional pumping system model in KEWI's laboratory, enabling students to study water flow dynamics, pressure systems, and energy efficiency across various system components.

This practical exposure has transformed how students and professionals approach the concept of energy-efficient pumping.

Beyond training and technology, the partnership has also fostered professional growth among KEWI staff. Through Wilo's support, KEWI personnel have participated in international conferences and regional workshops, such as a recent event in Ethiopia, thereby broadening their global outlook and strengthening institutional expertise. The collaboration is also nurturing innovation and entrepreneurship among students through the proposed Waterpreneurship Development Hub, which is designed to promote creative

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*Attendants of the Wilo SE AMEA Reception at the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany at Riverside Drive, Nairobi. The reception brought together Wilo SE, the German Embassy, and the German Business Association.*

solutions for water access, energy efficiency, and community resilience.

In addition, the partnership has expanded KEWI's capacity for outreach and consultancy. Through energy efficiency training programs, KEWI is supporting government initiatives such as the SHIRIKA Plan under the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) by building the capacity of host water utilities, training youth and refugees on solar-powered water pumping systems and promoting employability and entrepreneurship within the water sector.

This collaboration aligns closely with Kenya's Vision 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals,

particularly SDG 6 on Clean Water and Sanitation and SDG 7 on Affordable and Clean Energy. It demonstrates how public-private partnerships can deliver transformative results through technology transfer, capacity building, and the development of practical solutions that benefit both public institutions and private enterprises.

The KEWI-Wilo model has also inspired other private sector stakeholders to engage with KEWI, opening new opportunities for dialogue, innovation, and sectoral advancement.

Dr. Letangule reaffirmed KEWI's commitment to deepening its collaboration with Wilo SE and expanding this successful model to other

counties and institutions across the region. He emphasized that the partnership is not only about training individuals but also about building future-ready water professionals and shaping a more sustainable, energy-efficient future for Kenya and beyond.

In his closing remarks, he extended heartfelt appreciation to Wilo SE for its trust, investment, and visionary partnership, which have elevated KEWI's institutional capacity, strengthened its programs, and set a benchmark for excellence in the water sector.

He concluded with a call for continued collaboration, innovation, and empowerment in pursuit of a shared sustainable water future.

## KEWI Launches Student Ambassador Outreach Program to Boost Visibility and Inspire Future Water Professionals

BY: FAITH TAUNET

“Everybody can be great. Because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject, and your verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love,” **Martin Luther King, Jr**

The Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) has rolled out an innovative outreach initiative dubbed the Student Ambassador Outreach Program (SAOP) – a strategic move designed to enhance the institution's visibility, strengthen student recruitment, and empower students as the face of KEWI across the country.

Spearheaded by the Resource Mobilization, and Business Development Department in collaboration with the Academic Affairs Division, the program taps into a unique and often overlooked resource, KEWI students currently on industrial attachment. These students, stationed in various regions nationwide, will now serve as authentic ambassadors, sharing their real-life experiences and inspiring the next generation to pursue careers in the water sector.

According to Mr. Eric Wamiti, the Deputy Director Academic Affairs, the initiative will see each ambassador visit at least two secondary schools

during their attachment period.

“They will deliver career talks, promote KEWI's academic programs, and highlight the broader opportunities available in the water sector,” he explained.

“This approach not only promotes the institute but also nurtures our students' leadership and communication skills.”

The program's primary objectives are to enhance KEWI's brand visibility, drive student recruitment, and foster holistic development among the ambassadors. Students will receive virtual training and a detailed “Ambassador Toolkit”-complete with presentation guides, branded materials, and outreach protocols, to ensure effective and consistent messaging.

Ms. Purity Kerubo, a marketing officer at the institute, noted that the idea was inspired by the need to



*Ms. Purity Kerubo, a marketing officer at KEWI opines that the Student Ambassador Outreach Program (SAOP) which employs peer-to-peer approach adds credibility to the institute's outreach efforts.*

creatively utilize available human resources for maximum impact.

“We realized that students on attachment represent a powerful yet untapped resource,” she said.

“When they share their authentic experiences at KEWI and in the field, it's far more convincing than traditional marketing. They embody the KEWI story.”

She further emphasized that this peer-to-peer approach

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She further emphasized that this peer-to-peer approach adds credibility to the outreach efforts.

“If I go to schools as a marketer, people see me as just promoting an institution. But when a student currently interning at Nyeri Water Company, for instance, shares their journey, the training, the skills, and the opportunities, it resonates differently. It’s real, relatable, and inspiring.”

Beyond marketing, the SAOP aims to empower students through soft skills development. The program will offer training in public speaking, leadership, and interpersonal communication, equipping ambassadors with life-long competencies.

Participants will also be recognized with certificates of participation, and discussions are underway to explore additional forms of facilitation.

“We want them to feel valued,” Ms. Kerubo added.

“They are doing meaningful work not just for KEWI, but for their own growth as professionals.”

The program is a cost-effective solution to a long-standing challenge, limited reach in institutional marketing. By leveraging students who are already dispersed across Kenya, KEWI



*Dr. Emily Chepkoech, Senior Principal Registrar at the institute. Dr. Emily notes that the pilot SAOP phase aims to reach over 10,000 secondary school students in its first year.*

can now engage thousands of young minds without heavy logistical investments.

The pilot phase aims to reach over 10,000 secondary school students in its first year. Early expectations are that the initiative will lead to a noticeable rise in applications and inquiries from regions covered by the ambassadors.

In a message welcoming student to the program, the Director of KEWI, Dr. Leiro Letangule, lauded the initiative as a milestone in student empowerment and institutional growth.

“At KEWI, we are not just building technicians and professionals; we are cultivating the next generation of leaders and innovators in

the water sector. Each of you carries our mission through your work and now, through your voice,” he said.

The Director encouraged the ambassadors to embrace their role with pride and purpose. “When you visit schools and share your journey, you are not just promoting KEWI, you are lighting the path for others. You are shaping futures.”

As KEWI continues to position itself as a leader in water sector training, the SAOP stands out as a bold and timely initiative, one that blends strategic marketing with student empowerment. It reflects a simple yet powerful philosophy: the best way to tell KEWI’s story is through those living it.

# SPOTLIGHT

Celebrating the Achievements,  
Talents, and Stories of Our Students

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**Linus Leshan**

"Create your own path and  
always prepare thoroughly;  
success favors consistency."

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## In Carving His Own Path, Leshan Inspires Others to Believe in Themselves

BY: FAITH TAUNET

*Do you see a skilled man? He will serve before kings; he will not serve before obscure men.*  
— Proverbs 22:29

These timeless words perfectly capture the spirit of Linus Leshan, a young man whose dedication, resilience, and vision have made him one of the shining academic stars at the Kenya Water Institute (KEWI).

Currently pursuing a Diploma in Water Engineering Technology, Leshan embodies the power of passion and purpose; a student whose story is not just about grades, but about growth, leadership, and the unrelenting pursuit of excellence.

From his humble beginnings in Narok County, where communities struggle with water scarcity, Leshan's inspiration to join KEWI was born out of a desire to be part of the solution.

"I wanted to help address the challenges facing rural areas like mine," he says.

"The lack of clean and sustainable water sources motivated me to study water engineering so that I can make a real difference."

That determination has shaped his academic journey. A consistent top performer since primary school, Leshan's story is one of perseverance and self-belief.



*Linus Leshan during a practical lesson at KEWI Laboratories. The upcoming water Engineering Technologist believes that everyone is enough and capable of being part of the solution to problems bedeviling the modern society.*

"I've always believed that in every room I enter, I am enough and capable. That mindset keeps me going," he shares. Indeed, his results speak volumes; from an impressive 82 points in Year One, Semester One, to 84 points in subsequent semesters. His academic record, coupled with his leadership roles, has made him a role model among peers.

Beyond academics, Leshan is deeply engaged in campus life. He serves as the Chairman of both the

Environmental Club and the Peer Counsellors Club; roles that have allowed him to nurture his leadership and interpersonal skills while promoting sustainability and mental wellness.

Under his leadership, students have participated in tree-planting drives, cleanup campaigns, and awareness programs aimed at promoting environmental responsibility within and beyond the institute.

But the journey hasn't been without challenges. Coming from a humble background,

## In Carving His Own Path, Leshan Inspires Others to Believe in Themselves

Leshan has had to navigate financial hardships that once threatened to disrupt his education. Yet, he credits his resilience and the supportive environment at KEWI for helping him overcome these obstacles.

“There was a time thing got really tough,” he recalls.

“But with the help of Ms. Rebecca Njeri, Head of Counselling, and the Director, Dr. Leiro Letangule, I was able to stay on track. Their encouragement reminded me that my dreams are valid.”

At KEWI, Leshan has found more than just an academic home; he has discovered mentorship and purpose. He acknowledges the institute’s well-equipped facilities, resourceful lecturers, and practical learning approach as key factors behind his success.

“The library, ICT labs, and practical sessions make learning not just theoretical but hands-on. It’s the perfect environment to grow technically and professionally,” he notes.

His motivation runs deep. Inspired by visionary leaders like Dr. Letangule and Engineer Eric Mureithi Mugaa, the Cabinet Secretary for Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation, Leshan aspires to one day join their ranks – not for titles, but for impact.

“I look up to them because they show that excellence



opens doors for one to bring change,” he says.

When asked how he maintains his impressive consistency, Leshan reveals a disciplined study routine. He allocates time for challenging units, participates in peer discussions, and research current trends in engineering and environmental management.

“I avoid procrastination, break big tasks into smaller goals, and stay calm during exams,” he explains.

Leshan’s personal philosophy is anchored in integrity, humility, and consistency. These values, he believes, are the cornerstones of success. His advice to fellow students is equally

inspiring: “Never give up. Believe in your potential and stop comparing yourself with others. Learn to create your own path and always prepare thoroughly; success favors consistency.”

Looking ahead, Leshan envisions himself as a water engineer and environmental innovator, developing solutions to Kenya’s pressing water challenges.

His ideas include pervious pavements in urban areas to combat flooding, smart leakage detection systems, and community water rangers to reduce non-revenue water.

“We need sustainable innovations to manage drainage, reduce wastage, and ensure every Kenyan has access to clean water,” he asserts.

In a world often defined by shortcuts, Leshan’s story is a refreshing reminder that excellence is built through diligence, faith, and focus.

His journey at KEWI stands as a testament to what happens when passion meets opportunity; and when a young man decides not to wait for change, but to be the change.

As Proverbs reminds us, “Do you see a skilled man? He will serve before kings.”

If his journey so far is any indication, Linus Leshan is well on his way there.

## How Kenya's Modular CBET Curriculum is Closing the Skills Gap and Quietly Helping the Economy

BY: PIUS KIMANI

As Kenya continues to grapple with youth unemployment and a rapidly changing economy, an ongoing reform in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) is quietly redefining how education links to real jobs. The rollout of the modular Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) curriculum across TVET institutions is enabling learners to gain verified, stackable skills that employers recognize, translating into faster job placement, business creation, and higher productivity.

Unlike traditional semester-based, theory-heavy courses, CBET divides training into short, industry-aligned modules assessed through demonstrated competence. Learners prove their ability to perform actual tasks rather than simply recalling information. This approach addresses Kenya's long-standing skills mismatch, where millions of youth remain jobless or underemployed despite firms struggling to find suitably skilled workers.

By aligning training with industry standards, CBET ensures that graduates' skills directly match employer needs. Modules and assessments are developed jointly with employers and standards bodies, guaranteeing that



*Students during a practical lesson at a KEWI workshop.*

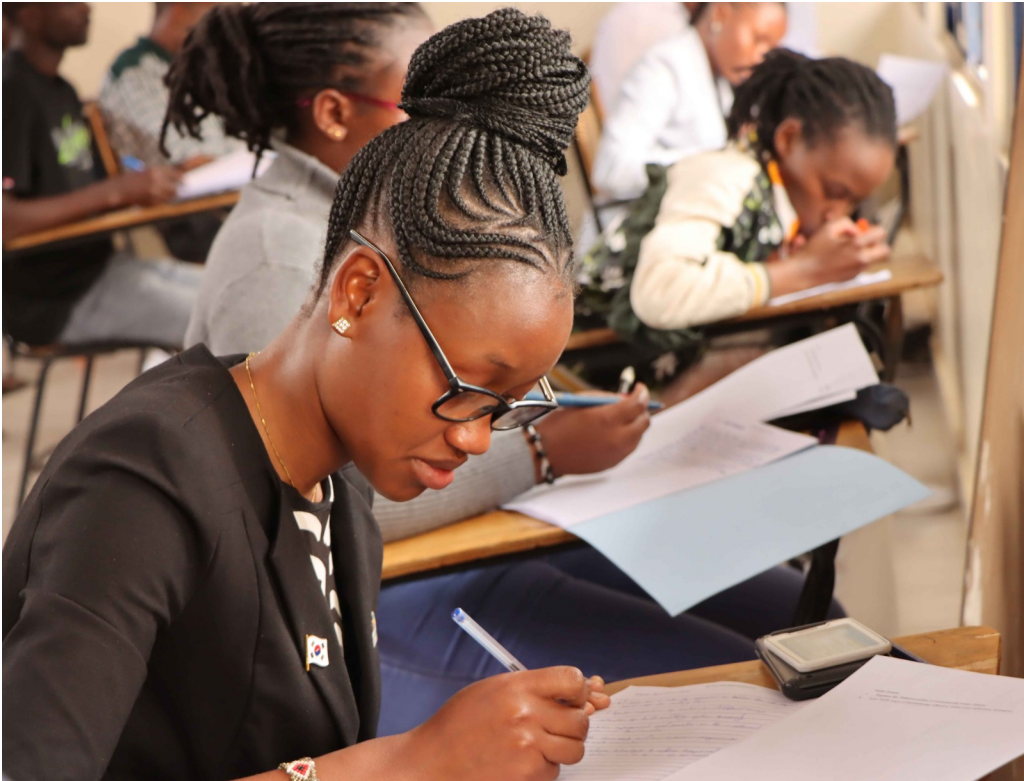
certificates reflect workplace performance. Each module offers an employable certification, even before completing a full qualification, allowing trainees to enter the job market early and continue learning progressively. This flexibility supports lifelong learning and faster labour market entry.

CBET also enhances recognition of prior learning. Informal artisans, on-the-job trainees, and experienced workers can have their competencies certified through the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) framework – a critical companion to the CBET rollout. Early findings from the Kenya National Qualifications Authority

(KNQA) show that RPL helps artisans secure formal recognition, boosting mobility, income, and access to better opportunities.

Although still early, the impacts of CBET are already visible. Short modular courses – some lasting only three months – allow trainees to take on internships or micro-contracts as they learn. Employers can recruit based on specific competencies, reducing hiring bottlenecks in sectors such as construction, ICT, and renewable energy. Firms report improved productivity when workers possess both technical and soft skills relevant to the job. Studies from the World Bank affirm that targeted skills training enhances employment rates and productivity, crucial

## KEWI Strengthens Water Sector Skills through Ongoing Professional Training Programmes



*A student during a lesson. The rollout of CBET curriculum across TVET institutions is enabling learners to gain verified, stackable skills.*

for Kenya's economic growth and demographic dividend.

RPL and modular certification are also formalizing the informal sector by validating skills gained outside traditional classrooms. Certified artisans are gaining better access to credit, contracts, and value chains.

KNQA reports that those with recognized credentials experience higher earnings and stronger integration into the formal economy – outcomes that expand the tax base and strengthen small enterprises.

This reform comes at a pivotal moment. Kenya's economy, strained by fiscal pressures, climate shocks, and periodic instability, requires

efficient, cost-effective growth strategies. A skilled and productive workforce drives higher firm revenues, better wages, and sustainable public finances. Aligning skills development with market demand is now a cornerstone of Kenya's National Skills Development Policy and key to job creation under national development blueprints such as Vision 2030 and the Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda.

However, challenges remain. Many TVET institutions face capacity gaps – shortages of qualified trainers, outdated equipment, and limited access to workplace attachments hinder full implementation.

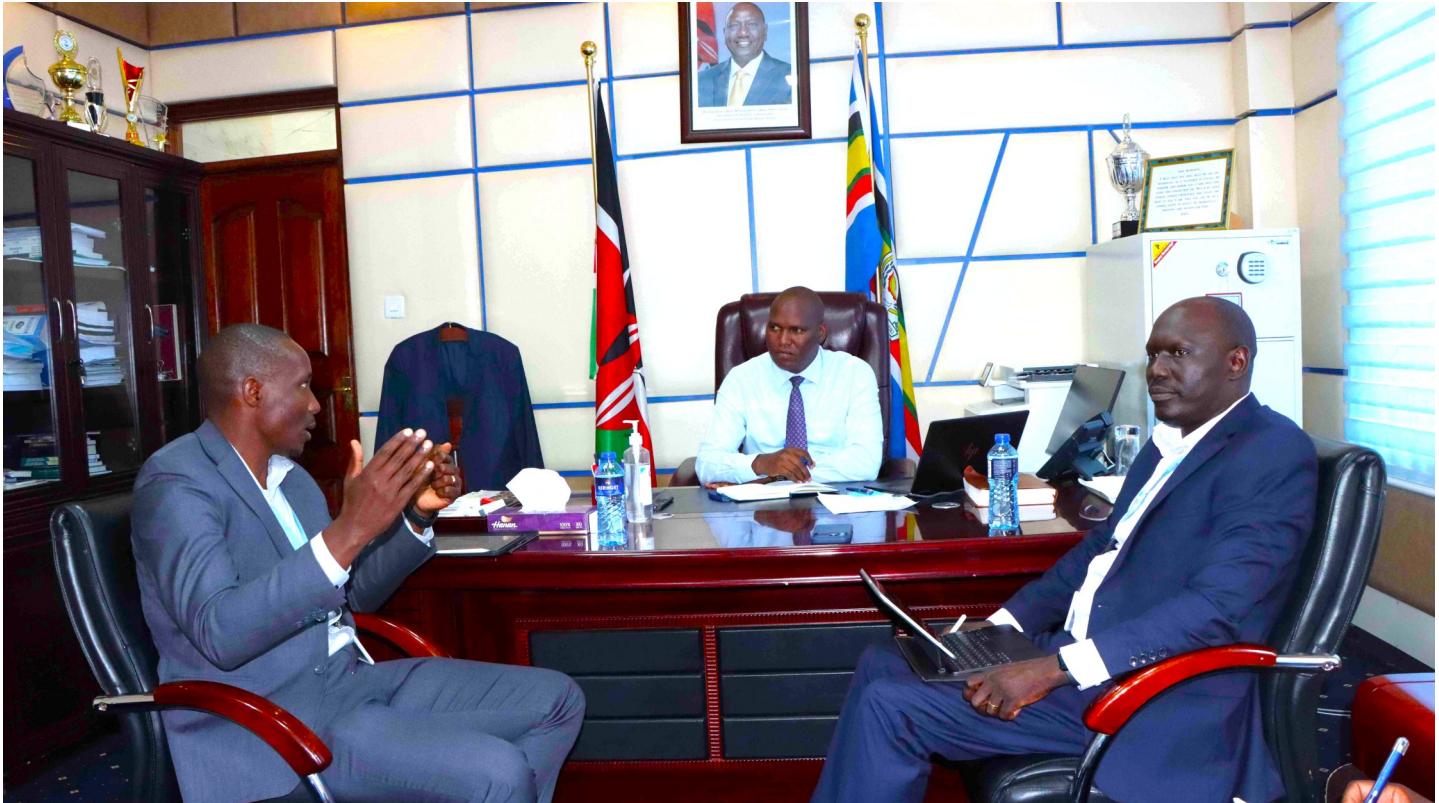
Sustained employer engagement is vital to keep training relevant in fast-evolving sectors like ICT and green energy. Financing barriers also persist for low-income learners, especially in rural areas.

To unlock CBET's full potential, experts advocate continued investment in trainer development, modernized infrastructure, and stronger industry-TVET collaboration. Expanding workplace attachments, scaling RPL, and simplifying certification will ensure broader inclusion.

Targeted funding for peri-urban and rural areas is essential to reach the youth most affected by unemployment.

Modular CBET is more than an academic adjustment – it redefines how Kenya's education and labour markets interact. By validating real-world skills and recognising experience, it bridges the gap between learning and earning. If implemented at scale, it can raise employability, foster entrepreneurship, and strengthen national productivity. The framework and evidence are in place; Kenya's next task is ensuring that CBET delivers on its transformative promise across the entire economy.

## The Strategic Imperative of Partnerships at KEWI



*Mr. Hillary Bungei and Abraham Cheruiyot, directors at Linia Pipes when they visited KEWI for an introductory meeting and a discussion on a possible partnership. KEWI partnerships are a long-standing pillar of its identity and mission.*

**BY: BRITNEY MOKEIRA**

In the face of mounting global water challenges such as scarcity, pollution, and the growing need for climate resilience, collaboration has become more vital than ever.

The Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) recognizes that achieving a water-secure future is not a solitary pursuit but a collective journey. For KEWI, partnerships are not a recent development but a long-standing pillar of its identity and mission. They have shaped the Institute's evolution, strengthened its capacity, and expanded its influence across Kenya's water and sanitation sector.

For decades, KEWI has cultivated diverse partnerships

that bring together academia, industry, government, and development agencies in pursuit of shared goals. Through collaborations with institutions such as Zhejiang University and the University of Nairobi, KEWI has advanced joint research, strengthened knowledge exchange, and enriched its curriculum with global best practices. These academic alliances ensure that KEWI's training remains current, practical, and internationally competitive.

Strong linkages with industry partners like GoSoft Integrated Systems, Wilo, and Apex Piping Limited have also been central to KEWI's success. These relationships keep training aligned with

technological advancements, exposing students to modern equipment and real-world applications. The result is a workforce equipped with hands-on skills and ready to meet the demands of Kenya's rapidly evolving water sector.

Partnerships with development organizations and NGOs such as UNICEF, Danida, and the Red Cross have further enabled KEWI to extend its reach beyond the classroom. Working together, these partners have implemented programmes that provide clean water and sanitation solutions to underserved communities, advancing Sustainable Development Goal 6 on clean water and sanitation. Collaboration with national

## The Strategic Imperative of Partnerships at KEWI

and county governments, as well as water service providers, ensures that KEWI's training, research, and consultancy services respond directly to policy priorities and



*A solar powered water desalination plant at KEWI. Strategic partnerships have continued to strengthen the institute's capacity to deliver on its mandates as it expands its influence across the region's water and sanitation sector.*

sectoral needs. Whether tackling non-revenue water, improving water quality, or enhancing utility management, these partnerships help translate knowledge into action.

A partnership with KEWI represents an investment in sustainable impact. The Institute offers a unique combination of expertise, infrastructure, and public mandate. Its faculty and researchers are not only educators but also practitioners who bring deep technical experience to every collaboration.

KEWI's specialized facilities, such as the Energy Efficiency Laboratory established with support from industry partners, provide an ideal environment for research, innovation, and skills development. Through its national network of campuses and training centres, KEWI serves as a hub where ideas are tested, solutions are refined,

and the next generation of professionals is empowered.

This spirit of collaboration continues to thrive, as reflected in KEWI's recent engagement with Linia Pipes, a leading pipes manufacturer in the water and sanitation industry. The company's delegation visited KEWI for an introductory meeting and a tour of its laboratories and training facilities, guided by the Department of Resource Mobilization and Business Development. The visit provided an opportunity to explore areas of mutual interest, including curriculum development, joint training programmes, and applied research on piping technologies. The engagement demonstrated KEWI's capacity to offer industry partners an environment where innovation and practical training intersect, reinforcing the Institute's role as a trusted partner in sector-wide transformation.

Partnerships remain central to KEWI's strategic direction. They facilitate resource mobilization, strengthen institutional sustainability, and drive innovation. By working closely with partners, KEWI continues to introduce new technologies and methodologies into its training programmes, diversify its revenue

base through consultancy and specialized courses, and amplify its impact across communities. Each collaboration contributes to the broader goal of building a skilled workforce capable of addressing Kenya's and the region's water and sanitation challenges.

At KEWI, collaboration is more than a strategy—it is a commitment to shared progress. The Institute remains open to partnerships that promote innovation, research, and capacity development. Together with its partners, KEWI continues to shape a future where every community has access to safe, sustainable water and where knowledge and collaboration remain the cornerstones of national development.

**For partnership inquiries, please contact the Department of Resource Mobilization and Business Development at the Kenya Water Institute.**

## Government Strengthens Strategic Partnerships to Boost Irrigation and Water Supply Initiatives

BY: PIUS KIMANI

Cabinet Secretary for Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, Eng. Eric Murithi Mugaa, together with Cabinet Secretary for Agriculture, Hon. Mutahi Kagwe, co-chaired a high-level meeting aimed at accelerating land commercialisation and strengthening Kenya's import substitution agenda, with a particular focus on rice, maize, edible oils, and animal feeds.

The meeting brought together Principal Secretaries CPA Ephantus Kimotho for Irrigation and Dr. Paul Rono for Agriculture, senior officials from the State Department for Irrigation and State Department for Agriculture, the National Irrigation Authority led by CEO Eng. Charles Muasya, as well as representatives from the Office of the Attorney General and other strategic institutions.

During the deliberations, Eng. Mugaa underscored the need for a shift in approach to agricultural production, urging stakeholders to embrace a results-driven mindset. He emphasized that Kenya must now adopt new, more efficient ways of working, prioritizing solutions and collaboration over delays and bureaucratic



*Cabinet Secretaries Eric Murithi Mugaa and Mutahi Kagwe when they co-chaired a high-level meeting aimed at accelerating land commercialization and strengthening Kenya's import substitution agenda.*

hurdles. Hon. Kagwe echoed his remarks, highlighting the national importance of food security and the significant economic benefits that would result from reducing dependence on food imports. He emphasized that the land commercialisation initiative is timely and viable, noting that investors are ready to support it if provided with a conducive operational framework.

A key proposal arising from the meeting was the establishment of a One-Stop Land Commercialisation Office to streamline land leasing and agricultural investment processes. The proposed office will bring together key agencies from the Irrigation, Agriculture, Lands,

and Prisons/Correctional Services sectors to fast-track approvals and coordination, particularly for irrigated rice and livestock production projects. Stakeholders were directed to assess ongoing and proposed projects to identify those with strong commercial prospects and to consider innovative financing models in light of existing fiscal constraints. The session further underscored the need to reduce bureaucracy, strengthen inter-agency synergy, and diversify commercial agriculture into strategic value chains such as sugar, pyrethrum, and livestock.

In a related engagement, the Principal Secretary for Water and Sanitation, Julius Korir, held discussions with

## Government Strengthens Strategic Partnerships to Boost Irrigation and Water Supply Initiatives

FINEXPO officials and representatives from the Embassy of Belgium, led by Dr. Carmen Mazijn, to review ongoing partnerships and explore new areas of cooperation within the water sector.

Belgium remains a valued partner to the Ministry, having previously supported the Ithanga Water Supply Project implemented by the Athi Water Works Development Agency, which now supplies clean water to over 60,000 people in Murang'a County.

The Principal Secretary expressed appreciation for this continued collaboration and appealed for additional support toward priority water projects, including the Yatta-Masinga Water Supply Project, aimed at improving water coverage and reliability. The meeting was attended by Water Secretary Eng. Samuel Alima and Athi Water Works CEO Eng. Joseph Kamau.

Meanwhile, the Irrigation Secretary, Eng. Vincent Kabuti,



*Principal Secretary State Department for Water and Sanitation, Julius Korir CBS during a meeting with FINEXPO officials and representatives from the Embassy of Belgium at his office. Below: Irrigation Secretary, Eng. Vincent Kabuti chairing a meeting with the AFD Group on potential collaboration in Farmer-Led Irrigation Development and Community-Based Irrigation Schemes.*

chaired a meeting with the AFD Group on behalf of the Principal Secretary for Irrigation. The discussions focused on potential collaboration in Farmer-Led Irrigation Development and Community-Based Irrigation Schemes, which are key pathways in the National Irrigation Sector Investment Plan. The approach prioritizes

empowering farmers cultivating between 0.5 and 2 hectares to increase irrigation uptake and move towards market-oriented production. The Community-

Based Irrigation efforts aim to enhance scheme management and agricultural enterprise development through coordinated agronomic and organizational support. The State Department reiterated its commitment to partnering with development organizations to expand irrigation coverage, enhance livelihoods, and strengthen national food security while reducing reliance on imports.

These engagements collectively reflect the government's strengthened commitment to agricultural transformation, irrigation expansion, and sustainable water development as key pillars in ensuring a food-secure and economically resilient nation.



## Picture of the Week



**In the workshop's warm hush.....**

**Students bend over their work, welding rods glowing like small suns in their hands. Sparks fly in silver arcs, briefly illuminating faces marked with focus and quiet courage.**

**The bright flash may try to blind, yet their vision is fixed beyond the moment.**

**On achievement, on skill, on futures they are shaping spark by spark.**

**The heat hums, the metal sings, but their hearts remain steady.**

**Proving that the hardest obstacles are the ones the mind imagines.**

**Here, resilience is not loud – it is steady, patient, and unwavering.**

**And from them, we learn that success is born not from ease.**

**But from choosing to continue even when the light is blinding and the path is bright with challenge.**

**LESSON**

**When the will to grow is strong, no challenge is too intense to overcome.**

# Round up of The Week's Events



Moments during the inaugural Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Assessment exercise at Murang'a Water and Sewerage Company (MUWASCO) premises.

## SHORT COURSE



# Israel–Kenya Water & Agriculture Symposium

An online event bringing together experts from Kenya and Israel to explore water and agricultural solutions, fostering collaboration and building partnerships

 11 November, 2025 | 09:00 AM - 01:00 PM (EAT)

 Register through the QR code or link below



## Quote of the Week

*“Nairobi, the capital city of Kenya, is transitioning to a circular waste-based economy – focusing on resource efficiency and waste reduction, collection, and recycling.”*

*(Summary statement from the Nairobi Circular Economy Baseline Study).*

## EDITORIAL TEAM

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# SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT



MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION  
**KENYA WATER INSTITUTE**

## INTERNAL MEMO

**FROM: SENIOR PRINCIPAL REGISTRAR**

**TO: ALL STUDENTS**

**Ref: KEWI/TRA/4/7 VOL XI (26)**

**DATE: 15<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, 2025**

**SUBJECT: OCTOBER SUPPLEMENTARY AND SPECIAL EXAMINATIONS**

Supplementary and Special examinations are scheduled to start from **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2025**. All students who wish to take these examinations are hereby notified to take note and prepare adequately. You are advised to register via this shared link <https://shorturl.at/hsdT5>

All students sitting for these examinations are required to have the following during the examination time:

1. Payment receipt for the supplementary paper being done - **Kshs. 1000 per paper**
2. Fee statement with zero fee balance for previous semester- **for special examination**
3. Special examination card obtained from the examination office
4. Student ID
5. National Identity Card

  
**EMILY CHEPKOECH, Ph.D.,**

**Ag. SENIOR PRINCIPAL REGISTRAR**

Director- to see file copy

**CC:**

DDAA

Academic HODs

Campus Principals

### Long - Term Programmes

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

- Water Supply
- Meter Reading
- Sewerage Operations

### Short - Term Programmes

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

## Vision

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

## Mission

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

## Core Values

Good Corporate Governance  
Professionalism  
Customer Focus  
Innovativeness  
Inclusivity  
Patriotism  
Integrity

## GET IN TOUCH WITH US

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## OTHER SERVICES OFFERED

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

Your feedback is crucial for our improvement



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Kenya Water Institute



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