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KEWI Launches Fourth Session of JICA-Supported Governance Training for Turkana County Water Utilities



Dr. Leiro Letangule, EBS (seated, center) in a group photo with participants shortly after he officially opened the “Governance and Strategic Management for Sustainability of Water Utilities” training for 3 Turkana County water utilities. He noted that building robust capacity is key to ensuring that these utilities can sustainably deliver vital services.

BY: PIUS KIMANI

The Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) Director/CEO Dr. Leiro Letangule, EBS has stressed that strengthening governance is essential for the evolving water institutions, which are shifting from humanitarian-led models to government-run utility structures.

Making his remarks during the opening of a five-day capacity-building workshop aimed at strengthening

governance and promoting long-term sustainability within three Turkana County water utilities, Dr. Letangule has noted that proper governance is key to sustainable water utilities in the country.

“With this transition, building robust capacity is key to ensuring that these utilities can sustainably deliver vital services,” he stated.

The training themed “Governance and Strategic

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Dr. Letangule, EBS addresses the participants of the “Governance and Strategic Management for Sustainability of Water Utilities” training. Below is NRW Trainer Mr. Kihara Kibuchi.

Management for Sustainability of Water Utilities,” which is convened by the Turkana County Department of Water Services, jointly with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) targets board members and senior managers from Kakuma, Kalobeyei, Letea and Lopur Water and Sanitation Company (KALWASCO), Turkana Urban Water and Sewerage Company (TUWASCO), and Turkana Rural Water and Sanitation Company (TURWASCO).

The course is tailored to help these institutions strengthen their governance frameworks and enhance their operational performance.

Delivered by experts from the KEWI, the programme focuses on closing critical gaps in leadership, management,

governance systems, financial stewardship, regulatory compliance, and sustainable operational practices and forms part of a wider initiative to enhance professionalism and improve the quality of water service delivery across the county.

During the opening session, County Executive for Finance and Economic Planning Ms. Roseline Aite reminded participants that good governance must be demonstrated consistently, not only discussed in policy documents.

“Our water utilities must be equipped with capable leadership,

strong systems, and the right competencies to deliver equitable and reliable services even under difficult conditions,” she said.

Ms. Aite further observed that the workshop complements broader county efforts under the Kalobeyei Integrated Socio-Economic Development Plan (KISEDIP), which aims to provide harmonized services to both host communities and refugees.

Dr. Atsushi Hanatani, JICA’s Nexus Advisor to the Department of Refugee Services, reaffirmed JICA’s commitment to supporting the county’s water sector, noting that reliable water supply is central to community well-being and essential for fostering refugee inclusion.

He added that JICA and KEWI have co-designed a specialized curriculum to reinforce governance and management competencies



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Dr. Letangule, EBS and Dr. Hanatani engage at the sidelines of the five-day capacity-building workshop for board members and senior managers of 3 Turkana County water utilities. Looking on is Mr. Walter Moseti, lead facilitator and JICA-KEWI coordinator .

within the sector.

Mr. Godfrey Ikone Akolong, Director of WASH Services under KISED, noted that the workshop supports the institutional transition envisioned in both KISED and the Shirika Plan, which call for inclusive and efficient service delivery systems.

“Our utilities face mounting pressure from population growth, climate variability, and limited resources. Strengthened governance is critical to meeting these emerging challenges,” he said.

This shift corresponds with the national Shirika Plan, implemented in refugee-hosting regions such as Turkana and Garissa. The Department of Refugee Services describes the plan as a multi-year strategy to promote

socio-economic integration of refugees by transforming camps into inclusive settlements for both refugees and asylum seekers.

KALWASCO Acting Managing Director Ms. Fridah Nyanga Lomuria emphasized the company’s dual responsibility to serve both communities and expressed optimism that the training would clarify governance roles for board members while enhancing managerial competencies for senior staff.

“ For management

teams, this course presents an invaluable opportunity to improve how we run operations, engage staff, monitor performance, and mobilize resources,” she noted.

Mr. Walter Moseti, the lead facilitator and JICA-KEWI coordinator explained that the training is intended to build the knowledge and skills necessary for sustainable utility management, ensuring that services effectively support both refugee and host populations.

This session and which attracted representatives from JICA Kenya, the Department of Refugee Services, Peace Wings Japan, and the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation is the fourth in a planned series of nine workshops under the customized KEWI training programme.

The broader initiative aims to steadily build the technical, managerial, and governance capacity of Turkana’s water utilities over the coming months.



KEWI and UNICEF Strengthen Water Capacity in Garissa County through Comprehensive Training Needs Assessment



Eng. Nanetia Nchoko with a section of KEWI delegation engages locals during a Training Needs Assessment (TNA) mission to evaluate the functionality, management, and sustainability of solar-powered boreholes to host and refugee communities at Daadab, Garissa County.

BY: BRITNEY MOKEIRA

The Kenya Water Institute (KEWI), in partnership with UNICEF and other sector stakeholders, recently concluded a comprehensive Training Needs Assessment (TNA) mission in Daadab, Garissa County.

The assessment targeted both host and refugee communities, with a focus on evaluating the functionality, management, and sustainability of solar-powered boreholes that provide water to thousands of residents across the region. This initiative forms part of a broader effort to build local capacity in water supply operations, system

maintenance, and solar technology management.

The KEWI delegation was led by Eng. Nanetia Nchoko, Head of Short courses and curriculum Development (SCCD), and included key departmental heads and trainers, Jacob Gitonga (Water and Wastewater Engineering), Simon Ndeweni (Planning, Research and Management Development), trainers Walter Oswaga and George Maina, and coordinator Ibrahim Galgalo.

Together with UNICEF, the team reaffirmed their shared commitment to advancing sustainable water solutions and strengthening technical

capacity for both refugee and host populations.

The first day of the mission began with a courtesy visit to the Garissa County Government, where the delegation met Mr. Daud A. Biriye, Director of Administration. He provided an overview of the county's water infrastructure, highlighting that Garissa operates 254 boreholes, 65% of which are situated within refugee camps. He also outlined ongoing World Bank-funded water projects and challenges such as political interference, clan dynamics, and security concerns that influence water management

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A solar-powered borehole in Daadab. Building local capacity in water supply operations, system maintenance, and solar technology management helps in strengthening of resilience for both refugee and host populations.

and service delivery. Engagements continued at GAWASCO (Garissa Water and Sewerage Company), where technical managers discussed operational challenges including vandalism and workmanship issues, while noting that 30% of their staff are KEWI graduates, a testament to KEWI's role in sector capacity development. Later, the team visited GARUWASCO, where CEO and KEWI alumnus Mr. Rashid K. Siyat guided them through a solar-powered borehole in Korakora and emphasized the need for technical certification for local operators.

Day 1 discussions highlighted the importance of

capacity building, professional training, and sustainable management practices, providing valuable insights to shape KEWI's future training programs. On Day 2, the delegation met with Dr. Mohammed A., Head of UNICEF's Garissa office, who outlined UNICEF's broad interventions in water, health, education, and sanitation.

He highlighted challenges such as low youth education levels, limited awareness of water sustainability, and the prevalence of uncertified technicians are some of the issues that reinforce the necessity for structured capacity-building efforts. The team also visited the Daadab

Municipality, where the CEO shared detailed demographics of the region, which hosts approximately 708,000 people across 70,000 households and oversees numerous boreholes powered by the Merti Aquifer. Key updates included the establishment of DAWASCO, a new water service provider, and the implementation of World Bank-funded water projects.

The team also attended a partnership briefing led by UNICEF's Mrs. Catherine Wanjihia, where plans for engagements with Peace Winds Japan (PWJ), World Vision, and Finnish Church Aid (FCA) were outlined. These collaborations aim to expose

KEWI and UNICEF Strengthen Water Capacity in Garissa County through Comprehensive Training Needs Assessment



Training Needs Assessment (TNA) mission team inspects a solar-powered borehole in Korakora, Garissa County. There is the need for technical certification for local operators as a way of promoting long-term sustainability for the area water infrastructure.

KEWI to ongoing field operations and deepen understanding of existing capacity gaps. Day 3 involved a detailed field visit to Ifo Refugee Camp under PWJ's guidance. The team inspected multiple solar-powered boreholes and interacted with operators and community members to gather insights that will inform customized training curricula. This visit reinforced KEWI and UNICEF's commitment to sustainable and community-driven water solutions.

Day 4 saw the KEWI team engage with World Vision Kenya in Daadab to discuss sustainable water management practices and challenges faced in maintaining solar-powered systems, particularly relating to spare parts availability and the

need for certified local technicians. These discussions enriched KEWI's understanding of capacity gaps affecting both host and refugee communities and highlighted the importance of professional training in ensuring the longevity of critical water infrastructure.

The final day, Day 5, concluded with an engagement with Finnish Church Aid (FCA), an organization actively supporting water access and community resilience initiatives in Daadab. FCA shared their experience in managing boreholes, water storage facilities, and sanitation programs, emphasizing the need for community involvement and technical training to sustain

these systems. This final visit wrapped up a week of valuable learning and collaboration, setting a strong foundation for KEWI's continued efforts to develop targeted training programs that empower local technicians and promote long-term sustainability in the water sector.

The mission reinforced the critical role of partnerships, technical capacity development, and community engagement in strengthening water service delivery for both communities. Through this collaboration, KEWI is poised to develop enhanced training programs that address identified skill gaps, support professional certification, and promote resilient, sustainable water systems for all.

Bilateral Water Innovations Take Center Stage at Kenya-Israel Water and Agriculture Knowledge Exchange Forum



Ms. Veronicah Muhia makes her presentation during the Kenya-Israel Water and Agriculture Online Symposium. The forum brought together experts, and researchers to explore sustainable water management practices, irrigation technologies, and opportunities for capacity building within the water and agriculture sectors.

BY: FAITH TAUNET

"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success." – Henry Ford

A groundbreaking collaboration between Kenya and Israel unfolded during the Israel-Kenya Water Resource, Irrigation, and Capacity Building Symposium, a high-level knowledge exchange forum jointly facilitated by CultivAid, the Volcani Institute (Agricultural Research Organization – ARO, Israel), and the Kenya Water Institute (KEWI).

The symposium brought together leading experts, researchers, and policymakers

to explore sustainable water management practices, cutting-edge irrigation technologies, and opportunities for capacity building within the water and agriculture sectors.

The event, graced by Prof. Leiro Letangule, Director of KEWI, and Prof. Benny Chefetz, Director of the Volcani Institute highlighted innovative approaches to water resource management, technology-driven agricultural solutions, and collaborative models for training and research between Kenya and Israel.

Both Prof. Chefetz and Letangule outlined how both institutions champion efficient

water use and technology-driven farming. They noted that the collaboration between them aligns with global efforts to address water scarcity, climate change, and food security.

The symposium delved into water resource management and irrigation systems in both countries. Daniel Kurtzman of ARO showcased Israel's advanced water management models, while Ms. Veronicah Muhia a trainer from KEWI provided an in-depth overview of Kenya's surface and groundwater resources. She highlighted major drainage basins, including Lake Victoria North and South, the Rift

Bilateral Water Innovations Take Center Stage at Kenya-Israel Water and Agriculture Knowledge Exchange Forum



From left: Mr. Ian Kimutai, Ms. Dorice Situma, Dr. Emily Chepkoech and other participants during the water and agriculture symposium at KEWI Nairobi.

Valley, and the Athi basin, noting that the Nairobi Aquifer System (NAS) remains a key groundwater resource for the metropolitan area. Muhia also emphasized the growing importance of rainwater harvesting systems, which encompass catchment, conveyance, storage, and treatment components, in addressing Kenya's water supply challenges.

Despite Kenya's progress, she observed that pollution, climate change, limited funding, poor infrastructure, and catchment degradation continue to threaten sustainable water management.

In her presentation, Brenda Nateya from Sustainable Development Initiatives (SDI) traced the history and growth of irrigation in Kenya, pointing out that nearly 70 percent of the country's water resources are used in agriculture,

primarily through deep irrigation methods.

She revealed that Kenya's irrigation potential stands at approximately 1.9 million acres without adequate storage, calling for more coordinated investments and structural frameworks to enhance efficiency.

Nateya detailed various irrigation techniques practiced across the country, from surface or flood irrigation in regions such as Mwea, Ahero, Bura, and Bunyala (with 45–55% efficiency) to sprinkler systems used in vegetable production (60–75% efficiency) and drip irrigation,

particularly in greenhouse and high-value crop farming (achieving up to 90% efficiency).

Subsequent sessions introduced participants to groundbreaking technologies from Israel's ARO, including rooftop aquifer recharge, remote sensing for irrigation optimization, and the application of data science to integrate agriculture, water resources, and food networks.

Presenters like Uri Nachshon, Yafit Cohen, Alon Sela, and Chagai Kohai demonstrated how data-driven approaches can significantly improve water conservation, monitoring, and efficiency.

Eddie Cytryn's session on "Irrigation with Treated Wastewater" drew particular attention, offering lessons from Israel's extensive experience in wastewater reuse, a model that could be replicated in Kenya to enhance agricultural productivity while reducing



Bilateral Water Innovations Take Center Stage at Kenya-Israel



Participants following the presentations. Participants expressed commitment to practical outcomes, including joint training programs, and collaborative research projects.

environmental pressure on freshwater sources.

The symposium also spotlighted the need for skilled human capital in the water sector. KEWI's ongoing programs, ranging from diploma and certificate courses in water engineering and sanitation to artisan programs in plumbing and pipefitting; have been instrumental in equipping Kenya's workforce with technical expertise.

The institute also conducts short-term training on non-revenue water management, smart metering, drilling operations, GIS applications, and climate-smart agriculture.

KEWI's active research portfolio includes studies on

water quality in Kitui sand dams, anthropogenic impacts on Kiserian Dam, and collaborative investigations into rising water levels in Rift Valley lakes.

Ongoing projects with partners like UNDP, Pwani University, UoN, IHE Delft, and KEMFRI continue to expand knowledge on groundwater sustainability, non-revenue water management, and sanitation innovations such as fecal matter composting funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB).

In the final session, participants discussed strategies for deepening cooperation between Kenya

and Israel. Tomer Malchi, Director of CultivAid, underscored the importance of climate-resilient agriculture, while KEWI's facilitated a roundtable discussion on actionable next steps.

Both sides expressed commitment to practical outcomes, including joint training programs, collaborative research projects, and the establishment of a model demonstration farm at KEWI.

Other areas of cooperation include exchange programs, automation and software integration in irrigation, and expanded scholarship and internship opportunities.

Lilongwe Water Board Makes Major Strides in Reducing Non-Revenue Water Through TCTP Program



A Scada system at the Lilongwe Water Board call center, Malawi. According to a Follow-Up Report on Action Plan of the Malawi NRW Action Plan developed during the TCTP Phase I training, the utility has registered strong operational and capacity-building efficiency with the review indicating that 80% of actions in the plan are already completed.

BY: PIUS KIMANI

The Lilongwe Water Board has reported significant progress in tackling Non-Revenue Water (NRW) as part of the Third Country Training Program (TCTP) on strengthening capacity for sustainable water management in Africa.

According to the Progress Review Report of Phase I conducted from 3rd to 7th November 2025, by Eng. Nyakundi Everlyne, Mr. Edwin Wachira, and board leadership, the implementation of the Malawi NRW Action Plan developed during the TCTP training, highlighted key achievements in policy

engagement, capacity building, and institutionalization of NRW management systems.

The follow-up activities included visits to the Lilongwe Water Board headquarters, water production units, District Metered Areas, the meter laboratory, and the wastewater treatment plant.

The review team presented findings to board staff led by Eng. Gustaff Chikasema, Director of Production and Distribution.

The visit provided an opportunity to review the progress of key interventions, identify ongoing challenges,

and outline next steps for sustained NRW reduction.

One of the most pressing issues addressed by the action plan was the lack of a formal NRW policy and the absence of a dedicated NRW section within the Ministry of Water. The follow-up report indicates that a proposal to integrate NRW management into national water policy has been developed and forwarded to the Ministry, although adoption will require ongoing advocacy and budget support.

Capacity-building efforts have also been a major focus, with technical staff receiving comprehensive training in meter reading, data analysis,

Lilongwe Water Board Makes Major Strides in Reducing Non-Revenue Water Through TCTP Program



A review visit to the Lilongwe Water Board water production unit.

and proper meter installation practices. The report notes that more than ten staff members were trained, and practical demonstrations reinforced the importance of compliance with installation standards. Monitoring field-level compliance and providing refresher training for new staff remain priorities to ensure consistent application of best practices.

Digital innovation has played a pivotal role in enhancing NRW management. The piloting of Kobo Toolbox in the Central Zone enabled more accurate validation of bulk and customer meters, representing a critical step toward improving data reliability and decision-

making. The follow-up report recommends scaling this tool to all service zones and integrating it into the utility's broader data management systems.

The SCADA system has also enhanced monitoring of pressures and hydraulics across the distribution network, while a 24/7 customer call center has strengthened service delivery, reduced response times, and improved detection of water theft and physical losses.

Another milestone has been the institutionalization of the Performance-Based Incentive Program (PBIP) to motivate staff in NRW reduction. Launched in March 2025, the program links incentives to

operational performance, including responsiveness at the customer call center. The follow-up report emphasizes the need for ongoing monitoring and evaluation to measure the system's impact on NRW reduction.

Despite these advances, challenges remain. Delays in policy approval slow the national adoption of NRW strategies, and low revenue collection and cumbersome billing systems continue to affect operational efficiency and organizational reputation.

Minimum night flow measurements remain inadequate, hindering accurate NRW estimation and effective leak detection. Staff experience in meter testing and servicing,

Lilongwe Water Board Makes Major Strides in Reducing Non-Revenue Water Through TCTP Program

though extensive, often lacks formal certification, highlighting the need for recognition of prior learning assessments. The leak detection training facility, stalled at the superstructure stage, also requires completion to strengthen staff capacity and NRW management across all water boards.

Lessons from the follow-up exercise underscore the importance of policy backing for sustainable NRW interventions, continuous capacity building to maintain high field performance, and the adoption of digital tools such as Kobo Toolbox for enhanced monitoring and data quality. These insights inform the board's next steps, which include developing a comprehensive staff training plan covering leak detection, equipment usage, water system operation and maintenance, and revenue collection and billing analysis.



The team during a visit to a water wastewater treatment plant. Below, members interact with Leak detection equipment used at the zone

The Lilongwe Water Board also plans to conduct refresher training on meter reading and installation, scale Kobo Toolbox across all zones, link it to billing systems, complete the leak detection facility, and implement recognition of prior learning assessments for experienced staff without formal certificates. Technical support will continue to guide the development and advocacy of a national NRW management strategy,

ensuring that lessons learned translate into long-term improvements in service delivery.

With 80% of operational and capacity-building actions already completed, the Lilongwe Water Board is demonstrating a proactive approach to tackling NRW, positioning itself as a regional model for sustainable water utility management. By combining policy engagement, staff development,



technological adoption, and institutional innovation, the board is building the foundation for lasting improvements in efficiency, revenue collection, and customer satisfaction, while contributing to broader efforts to strengthen water management across Africa.

When KEWI Became Their Enterprise Launchpad: For Nzioki and Mwaniki, its Making the Hay While the Sun Shines

BY: ABIGGAEL SONGOK

As the Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) prepares to celebrate its 37th Graduation Ceremony on November 28, 2025, a wave of pride sweeps through its campuses

It is a moment that marks not only academic achievement but also the triumph of perseverance, purpose, and transformation through knowledge. Among the many stories of success emerging this year are those of Julius Nzioki and Bernard Mwaniki Mulwa, two outstanding students from KEWI's Kitui Campus whose journeys embody resilience, innovation, and service.

For Julius Nzioki, a graduating Diploma student in Water Engineering Technology, the journey through KEWI has been one of courage and conviction. Born and raised in a community that often struggled with access to clean water, Julius developed an early passion for improving lives through water solutions. Living with a disability did not slow him down; instead, it became his driving force.

"I wanted to prove that persons with disabilities can excel in technical fields and lead change," he shares with quiet confidence.

During his training, Julius distinguished himself both in class and in leadership. He served as the student representative for persons with



Julius Nzioki conducting a water analysis. Nzioki who is abled differently has launched his own company, Scapethru Springs Ltd, which provides water analysis, treatment, and consultancy services to communities and institutions.

disabilities, advocating for inclusion and participation.

His leadership qualities earned him a place at the Young Leadership Program at the Kenya School of Government in Embu, where he refined his managerial and entrepreneurial skills. His industrial attachment at Aquatreat Solutions Ltd became a turning point, inspiring him to launch his own company – Scapethru Springs Ltd, which provides water analysis, treatment, and consultancy services to communities and institutions.

"KEWI equipped me not just with technical knowledge, but with the confidence to

lead and the courage to start something of my own," he says.

Scapethru Springs Ltd is more than a business – it's Julius's way of giving back, creating opportunities for others, and promoting inclusion for persons with disabilities in technical fields.

His dream is to expand the company across Kenya, offering innovative water solutions while generating employment for young people.

Equally inspiring is the story of Bernard Mwaniki Mulwa, a Certificate in Water Engineering graduand and continuing Diploma student, whose curiosity and

When KEWI Became Their Enterprise Launchpad: For Nzioki and Mwaniki, it's Making the Hay While the Sun Shines

and determination have guided him from the classroom to the field. Growing up in drought-prone areas, Bernard witnessed the struggles of families and schools without clean water, which sparked his lifelong interest in sustainable systems.

“Water is life, and engineering is the tool that brings that life closer to people,” he says.

When he joined KEWI, Bernard found an institution

that transforms passion into technical mastery, preparing students to tackle Kenya’s pressing water challenges. His industrial attachment in Makueni deepened his hands-on experience in plant operations, distribution networks, and community-based water management.

Outside the classroom, he applied his skills in local plumbing and installation projects, gaining confidence and real-world exposure. Bernard now plans to start his own enterprise in water system installation and maintenance, focusing on reliability, innovation, and community service.

“Every challenge is an opportunity to learn. The skills



Bernard Mwaniki Mulwa fixing a water distribution pipe. He has been active in local plumbing and installation projects and is set to start his own water system installation and maintenance enterprise soon.

we have gained at KEWI are the foundation for building something meaningful,” he reflects.

Though their journeys differ, Julius and Bernard share a commitment to using their knowledge to serve others. Julius’s path represents breaking barriers and redefining possibility, while Bernard’s story illustrates how curiosity can grow into craftsmanship and purpose.

Together, they represent a new generation of KEWI-trained professionals ready to drive Kenya’s water sector forward with passion, integrity, and innovation.

As the 37th Graduation Ceremony approaches, both students look back with

gratitude – to their lecturers, mentors, and classmates who made their journeys memorable.

Bernard appreciates the encouragement and vision of KEWI Principal Mr. Matara Kaburi, and the faculty’s dedication to practical learning and mentorship. Julius is thankful for the inclusive environment that allowed him to thrive academically and personally.

“Graduation is not the end; it is the beginning of service – the chance to use what we’ve learned to make a real difference,” he says.

Their stories remind us that success is not defined by circumstance but by determination and purpose. As KEWI continues to produce skilled professionals for Kenya’s water, sanitation, and environmental sectors, the journeys of Julius and Bernard shine as proof that when opportunity meets resilience, transformation follows.

They are not just graduating students – they are symbols of possibility, carrying forward KEWI’s mission of shaping a sustainable and inclusive water future for all.

Institute's upcoming Graduation: The Skilled Workforce Kenya Needs Now



Graduands during a past graduation ceremony. Each year, KEWI produces a cohort of skilled professionals trained to safeguard one of Kenya's most essential resources; water.

BY: BRITNEY MOKEIRA

In just two weeks, the Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) will host its graduation ceremony, marking an important milestone not only for the students and their families, but for the nation's water and environmental sector. Each year, KEWI produces a cohort of skilled professionals trained to safeguard one of Kenya's most essential resources; water.

This year's graduation comes at a particularly pivotal moment, as the country continues to grapple with challenges related to water security, rapid urbanization, climate change, and the need for sustainable environmental

management. In this context, the academic achievements being celebrated extend far beyond personal accomplishment; they represent a strengthening of the workforce that Kenya urgently needs.

As Kenya pursues major national goals such as Vision 2030, the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), and the Sustainable Development Goals especially SDG 6 on clean water and sanitation, the demand for competent water and environmental practitioners continues to rise. The country is investing heavily in dams, water distribution infrastructure,

wastewater treatment systems, climate resilience initiatives, and county-level service delivery. Each of these pillars relies on professionals who not only understand the technical aspects of water management but can also apply practical solutions within communities, industries, and government institutions. This is where KEWI's graduates play a transformative role.

The strength of KEWI's training lies in its Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) model, which emphasizes hands-on skills and real-world application. Graduating students have spent their academic journey in modern laboratories,

Institute's upcoming Graduation: The Skilled Workforce Kenya Needs Now

conducting water quality tests, learning plant operations, designing environmental solutions, and participating in industrial attachments across the country.

Their preparation goes beyond classroom theory; it exposes them to the daily challenges faced by Water Service Providers, county water departments, environmental agencies, and private sector firms.

Through fieldwork, research projects, and mentorship from experienced trainers, the graduates are equipped to step confidently into roles that require technical competence, problem-solving ability, and accountability.

Many of these graduates will soon join county water and sanitation teams, where the impact of their training will be most visible. Counties rely heavily on skilled technicians to improve water supply reliability, operate treatment plants, manage wastewater, maintain rural community projects, and ensure compliance with environmental standards.

Trained professionals reduce system breakdowns, enhance public health outcomes, and promote sustainable resource use—directly improving the daily lives of Kenyan citizens. For rural and marginalized communities, the presence of well-prepared water



Students during a practical session on Water Leak Detection technologies. The strength of KEWI's training lies in its Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) model, which emphasizes hands-on skills and real-world application.

practitioners often determines whether families have consistent access to safe water.

The industry's demand for KEWI graduates continues to grow. Water Works Development Agencies, Water Service Providers, environmental consultancies, NGOs working in WASH, and regulatory bodies all depend on a steady supply of competent professionals. KEWI's reputation for producing work-ready graduates has made its alumni some of the most sought-after practitioners in the sector.

Their practical readiness, adaptability, and understanding of Kenya's water landscape position them to contribute meaningfully

from the very start of their careers.

As KEWI prepares to celebrate this year's graduating class, one truth stands out, the ceremony is not merely an ending but the beginning of a far-reaching contribution. These graduates will shape how communities access clean water, how the country adapts to climate challenges, and how environmental standards are upheld.

Their skills and commitment will influence public health, economic development, and the sustainability of Kenya's natural resources. This graduation is more than a just a celebration it is a national investment in a water-secure and environmentally resilient future.

Kenya, Korea Sign MoU to Boost Smart Water Resource Management

BY: PIUS KIMANI

Kenya has deepened its international and local partnerships in the water sector following a series of high-level engagements led by the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, signaling renewed commitment to sustainable water management, technological innovation, and disaster-response collaboration.

Cabinet Secretary for Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, Eng. Eric Mugaa, held a meeting with a delegation from World Vision Kenya led by the Country Director for Programme Effectiveness and Impact, Mr. Frederick Kasiku. The team had paid a courtesy call to brief the CS on the progress of major water projects the organization has been implementing across the country. Since 2021, World Vision has been running several transformative projects including the Athi-Mutomo Water Project in Kitui County, Athi-Kalawa and Kiboko-Twaandu projects in Makueni County, the Mwaluvuno Water Project in Kwale County expected to be commissioned next year, and the Vyulya Water Project in Machakos County.

During the meeting, the CS underscored the need for synergy and collaboration in all water-related initiatives to enhance efficiency and ensure far-reaching impact. He



Cabinet Secretary for Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, Eng. Eric Mugaa, when he held a meeting with a delegation from World Vision Kenya at his Maji House office.

acknowledged World Vision's consistent support during emergencies and commended the organization for its swift response in the recent Elgeyo Marakwet landslides, noting that such partnerships strengthen resilience and save lives.

In a parallel international engagement, the Principal Secretary for Water and Sanitation, Julius Korir, CBS represented Kenya at the Opening Ceremony of Korea Water Week 2025. Held under the theme "Building a Smart Water Future by Sharing Experience and Technology," the event brought together global leaders and innovators in water governance.

The PS participated in the Water Leaders Roundtable and the Global Partnership Forum, which culminated in a

landmark Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Water Resources Management. The MoU, signed between Kenya's Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation and the Republic of Korea's Ministry of Climate, Energy and Environment, is expected to strengthen access to technology, knowledge exchange, and research collaborations.

In his remarks, PS Korir reaffirmed Kenya's commitment to adopting smart water technologies aimed at improving groundwater governance, water supply systems, wastewater treatment, Non-Revenue Water (NRW) management, flood risk mitigation, and water quality monitoring. He highlighted the strategic role of ongoing work between the Regional Centre

Kenya, Korea Sign MoU to Boost Smart Water Resource Management

on Groundwater Resources Education, Training & Research and Korea's International Centre for Water Security and Sustainable Management (i-WSSM) under UNESCO, a partnership that continues to expand research opportunities and enhance capacity building.

The PS also presided over the Kenya - Korea Cooperation Seminar, where he called for stronger partnerships with Korean agencies, particularly in integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other technological innovations into Kenya's water sector.

He acknowledged Korea's longstanding support in human capacity development, citing the numerous Kenyan professionals who have benefited from scholarships and training in Korean institutions.

Reiterating Kenya's commitment to global cooperation, the PS praised UNESCO and the Korean Government for their continued support through i-WSSM, noting that such collaborations play an essential



PS Julius Korir, CBS, and Korea's Vice Minister Kum Hanseung Pose with MoU on Cooperation in Water Resources Management, signed between Kenya's Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation and the Republic of Korea's Ministry of Climate, Energy and Environment.

role in promoting sustainable water resource development.

While in Korea, PS Korir visited the K-Water Headquarters—an institution globally recognized for its advanced water management systems, integrated technology models, and exemplary Non-Revenue Water reduction strategies. South Korea's success in maintaining NRW levels at 15% offers a benchmark Kenya is determined to emulate as it works to reduce the national average from the current 43% to 20%.

The PS also toured a Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) site, where Korea employs a modern technique to reinject excess surface water

into underground aquifers. The technology not only boosts water availability but also enhances water quality and protects ecosystems, offering vital lessons for Kenya's groundwater management efforts.

Following the recently signed MoU between the two nations, Kenya is expected to benefit significantly from the transfer of cutting-edge technology, improved institutional capacity, and data-driven water management practices.

The Ministry noted that these developments mark a major milestone in the journey toward a resilient, efficient, and water-secure future for all Kenyans.

CONTINUATION OF THE RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL) PROCESS



Following the successful implementation of the inaugural Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) screening and assessment exercise, the Kenya Water Institute is pleased to announce the continuation of this process.

In accordance with the RPL Guidelines, the Institute will now proceed to the next phase of screenings for all interested applicants.

During this phase, KEWI RPL Counselors will engage with applicants to:

- **Provide guidance on the RPL process**
- **Review existing knowledge, skills, and work experience**
- **Determine specific areas for assessment and certification**

This is an opportunity for individuals with practical experience in the water sector to have their knowledge and skills formally recognized.

Interested?

For inquiries and further guidance:

Call / WhatsApp: +254 723 137 450

Eng. Mercy Khamonya – RPL Coordinator

Round up of The Week's Events



Moments during the launching of the training manual for parents on Nurturing National Values in Children and Youth at Kenya Railways Headquarters, Nairobi.

JANUARY 2026 INTAKE ANNOUNCEMENT



MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION & IRRIGATION KENYA WATER INSTITUTE

KENYA WATER INSTITUTE INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION

Kenya Water Institute invites applications for January 2026 intake for the programs offered in Nairobi campus and the satellite campuses of Chiakariga, Kitui, and Kisumu. The KEWI programs are modularized, allowing flexibility within the Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) Framework. Applicants **MUST** indicate their preferred campus in the application form.

PROGRAM TITLE	Minimum Requirements	CAMPUS
NATIONAL DIPLOMA – KNQF LEVEL 6 – 3 YEARS		
1. Diploma in Water Engineering Technology (DWET) 2. Diploma in Water Resources Management Technology (DWRMT) 3. Diploma in Irrigation and Drainage Engineering Technology (DIDET)	a) Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) mean grade C- (minus) b) Craft Certificate KNQF Level 5 in a related field OR c) Equivalent qualifications as determined by Kenya National Qualifications Authority (KNQA)	Nairobi Kitui Chiakariga Kisumu
4. Diploma in Wastewater and Sanitation Engineering Technology (DWSET) 5. Diploma in Water Laboratory Technology (DWLT) 6. Diploma in Information Communication Technology (DICT)- KNEC	d) KNEC CERTIFICATE FOR CICT	Nairobi
CRAFT CERTIFICATE KNQF LEVEL 5 – 2 YEARS		
7. Certificate in Water Engineering Technology (CWET) 8. Certificate in Water Resources Management Technology (CWRMT) 9. Certificate in Irrigation and Drainage Engineering Technology (CIDET)	a) Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) mean grade D+ (Plus) OR b) Artisan Course KNQF Level 4 qualification in a related field OR c) Equivalent qualifications as determined by Kenya National Qualifications Authority (KNQA)	Chiakariga Kitui Kisumu
10. Certificate in Wastewater and Sanitation Engineering Technology (CWSET) 11. Certificate in Water Laboratory Technology (CWLT) 12. Certificate in Information Communication Technology (CICT)- KNEC		Nairobi
ARTISAN CERTIFICATE KNQF LEVEL 4 – 1 YEAR		
13. Plumbing and Pipe Fitting (PPF) 14. Wastewater Operators 15. Irrigation and Drainage Systems 16. Drilling Operations	a) Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) OR b) KNQF Level 3 Qualification in a related field OR c) Equivalent qualifications as determined by Kenya National Qualifications Authority (KNQA)	Nairobi Chiakariga Kitui Kisumu
		Nairobi

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 not later than **22nd December, 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 Kisumu – 0746212708 **Persons with disability and female students are encouraged to apply**

TUTION FEE PER SEMESTER: DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES: KSHS, 31,300/=

CERTIFICATE AND ARTISAN PROGRAMMES: KSHS. 30,000/=

OPENING DATE FOR FIRST YEAR STUDENTS, FIRST SEMESTER IS ON 6TH JANUARY, 2026

37TH GRADUATION CEREMONY ANNOUNCEMENT





REPUBLIC OF KENYA



MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION & IRRIGATION
KENYA WATER INSTITUTE

The Governing Council, Management and
Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) Fraternity
Cordially invites you

37th

Graduation Ceremony

28TH

NOVEMBER 2025

FRIDAY

From 9.00 am

KEWI Main Campus, along Ole Shapara
Avenue, South C Nairobi

Theme:
**Empowering Water Professionals for
Climate Resilience and Sustainable Development**

Chief Guest:
Eng. Eric Murithi Mugaa
Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation

Guests are requested to be seated at the graduation arena by 8.00 am



Quote of the Week

“Until you dig a hole, you plant a tree, you water it and make it survive, you haven’t done a thing.” – a widely-used Maathai line often cited in Kenyan resilience and catchment-restoration contexts.”

-Wangari Maathai (environmentalist, Nobel laureate)

EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor	Writers:	Pius Kimani Britney Mokeira Faith Taunet Abiggael Songok	Photographer/Designer
Dorine Eva Irungu			Pius Kimani

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

The Director,
Kenya Water Institute,
P.O. Box 60013-00200 Nairobi
TEL: +254 722-207757
Email: info@kewi.or.ke
Website: www.kewi.go.ke

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

KEWI Nairobi Campus
P.O. BOX 60013 – 00200
Tel: 0722207757
Email: info@kewi.or.ke

KEWI Chiakariga Campus
P.O. BOX 12 – 60215
Tel: 0729009104
Email: chiakariga@kewi.or.ke

KEWI Kitui Campus
P.O. BOX 1514 – 90200
Tel: 0707566395
Email: kitui@kewi.or.ke

KEWI Kisumu Campus
P.O. BOX 7825 – 40100
Tel: 0746212708
Email: kisumu@kewi.or.ke

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



communications@kewi.or.ke



[@kewi_kenya](https://twitter.com/kewi_kenya)



Kenya Water Institute



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