



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

Co-Creating Sustainable Futures

MKSU Newsletter



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The 27th Nairobi International Education and Career Fair participation by Machakos University

Machakos University participated in the 27th Nairobi International Education and Career Fair, held from February 7th to 9th 2025, at the Sarit Expo Centre in Nairobi. The theme for the event was “Building Skills for Global Competitiveness,” brought together local and international universities, TVET institutions, Industry leaders, and organizations committed to skills development and youth empowerment.



The expo serves as a hub for networking, knowledge exchange, and industry insights, helping students and educators to stay ahead in a rapidly evolving academic and professional landscape. The event also featured insightful panel discussions led by keynote speakers, who addressed critical topics shaping education and career development, including:

- Skills for a Globally Competitive and Inclusive Workforce
- Skills for Kenya’s Economic Transformation
- Fostering Global Collaborations for Impact and Scale
- AI and the Future of Work

Machakos University made a remarkable impact at this year’s event by showcasing three projects developed by students from School of Engineering and Technology and Humanities and Social Sciences. The Innovations showcased include;

1. **Robox Farm**– An Internet of Things (IOT) powered precision agriculture and automated irrigation system designed to enhance farming efficiency and productivity.
2. **Deaf Connect**– An assistive technology application that bridges the communication gap between the deaf community and the rest of the world.
3. **Flutter Pay**– A financial literacy application designed to help users manage matters finances.



Additionally, **Master of Design students** exhibited their exceptional artwork and designs, highlighting their creativity and talent.

Machakos University remains dedicated to fostering skills development, research, and innovation that align with global trends. By participating in forums such as the Nairobi International Education and Career Fair, the university continues to strengthen its role in shaping a competitive and skilled workforce for sustainable futures.

National Sensitization of Safer Internet Day at Machakos University

On February 11th, Machakos University hosted Safer Internet Day, a global initiative dedicated to promoting the safe and responsible use of digital technology among children and young people. The event, organized by the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection alongside National partner representatives, County government representative, local leaders and local guests, embraced the theme “Together for a Better Internet.”

The delegation, led by Mr. Shem Nyakutu, Secretary of Children Services at the Directorate of Children Services, Kenya, representing Mr. Joseph M. Motari the Principal Secretary, State Department for Social Protection and Senior Citizen Affairs paid a courtesy call to Prof. Joyce Agalo, the Vice Chancellor of Machakos University. The Vice Chancellor was represented by Prof. Richard Kimiti, Dean of the Graduate School. Also present was Prof. Peter Kibet, representing the Deputy Vice Chancellor in charge of Administration, Planning and Finance and the Registrar in charge of Research, Innovation and Linkages.



Prof. Richard Kimiti Representing Prof. Joyce Agalo, the Vice Chancellor Machakos University during the courtesy call.



Mr. Shem Nyakutu signing the Vice Chancellor's visitors book

A tree planting session followed at the university grounds, during which five trees were planted near the ADB School of Engineering building.



Prof. Kimiti planting a tree

The focus of event was to educate parents, guardians, and teachers on effective strategies for monitoring children internet usage in today's digital landscape. Key discussions emphasized the importance of guiding children through online experiences and critically evaluating the content encountered. Participants were encouraged to engage in open conversations with children about why certain online content may not be suitable, fostering an understanding of the potential dangers associated with unrestricted internet access.

By implementing positive monitoring strategies and establishing reasonable screen time limits, the community can mitigate many risks associated with unmonitored internet use. Such proactive measures aimed not only to protect children but also to cultivate a healthier digital environment. The insights shared during the event highlighted the collective responsibility of adults in guiding children and the youth to navigate the digital world safely.

Training on Innovation and Entrepreneurship

The Division of Research, Innovation, and Linkages, through the Directorate of Research, Innovation, and Technology Transfer (RITT), organized a one-day training on Innovation and Entrepreneurship on Wednesday, 12th February 2025. The training aimed to equip both staff and students with knowledge and skills to promote innovation and transform research outputs into viable entrepreneurial models and products.

The event was officially opened by Prof. David Mulwa, the Registrar in charge of Research, Innovation, and Linkages, who represented Prof. Joyce Agalo, the Vice Chancellor of Machakos University. In his remarks, Prof. Mulwa emphasized the critical role of research and innovation in driving economic growth and societal transformation. He encouraged participants to embrace entrepreneurship as a pathway to transforming ideas into impactful solutions.



The training featured Dr. Joshua Oscar Aghan as the facilitator, leading two insightful sessions. The first session covered Innovation and Entrepreneurship Linkages, highlighting strategies for bridging the gap between research and industry. The second session focused on Converting Research Outputs into Innovation and Entrepreneurial Models, providing practical approaches to commercializing academic research.

The training provided an interactive platform for participants to explore new ideas, network, and gain valuable insights into the innovation ecosystem. Machakos University remains committed to fostering a culture of research-driven innovation and entrepreneurship among its staff and students.

Machakos University Hosts the 3rd Environmental Cleaning Day

Machakos University successfully held its 3rd Environmental Cleaning Day on Friday, 21st February 2025, from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM. The event, brought together staff, students, stakeholder partners, the County Government, and community members.

The event began with opening remarks and speeches recognizing officials from the University, key stakeholder partners from Neema, Environment and Natural Resources, and representatives from Machakos County Government.

Hon. Nathaniel N. Reuben, the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Lands, Urban Development, Housing, and Energy, commended the University for spearheading this noble initiative. Hon. Nathaniel N. Reuben expressed gratitude to the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Joyce Agalo, and the University Management for the commitment to environmental sustainability.



Hon. Reuben further emphasized the collective responsibility of all stakeholders in ensuring proper waste disposal and underscored the importance of recycling as a means of transforming waste into valuable resources. As a demonstration of support, the County Government provided two waste disposal trucks to facilitate efficient waste collection and disposal throughout the clean-up exercise.

Hon. Nathaniel Nganga

Prof. Joyce Agalo, the Vice Chancellor of Machakos University, followed in delivering her welcoming address and the official flagging off of the exercise. She reaffirmed the University's dedication to environmental stewardship, stating, "Today, we come together as one community—staff, students, stakeholder partners, and the County Government—with a shared vision to safeguard our surroundings and create a cleaner, greener, and healthier environment for future generations and ourselves."

The Vice Chancellor further expressed appreciation to the County Government for the continued support in various community outreach initiatives. Prof. Agalo also extended her sincere gratitude to all contributors to the success of the event, including committee organizers, student leaders, Deans, staff, students, stakeholder partners, and community members.

The Vice Chancellor officially presided over the flag-off ceremony, marking the commencement of the Environmental Cleaning Day exercise. This initiative was designed to promote cleanliness within the Machakos University community and its environs while fostering awareness of environmental conservation.



The Vice Chancellor (c) alongside Hon. Nganga (l) flag off Machakos University's 3rd Environmental Cleaning Day

Participants were strategically organized into five groups, each assigned to specific zones for cleaning. Each School, under the leadership of its respective Dean, took responsibility for designated areas. Staff, students, and community members actively participated in the initiative, equipped with the necessary cleaning tools to ensure efficiency.



Students and staff participate in the environmental cleaning day

The primary focus of the cleaning exercise was on the collection and proper disposal of solid waste, reinforcing the University's commitment to public health and environmental sustainability.



Students and staff participate in the environmental cleaning day

As part of the ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship, Machakos University will continue to identify and implement impactful initiatives that will enhance community engagement through teaching, training, and research. The University remains dedicated to positioning itself as a leader in environmental sustainability, serving as a model institution for responsible waste management and conservation practices.

Through these strategic initiatives, Machakos University reaffirms its commitment to fostering a culture of environmental responsibility, contributing to a sustainable and resilient future for all.

Machakos University Signs A One-Year Contract with Garbage Hero for Enhanced Cleanliness

Machakos University has signed a one-year service contract with Garbage Hero, a leading waste management service provider. The agreement, formalized on 6th February 2025, underscores the University's commitment to maintaining a clean and sustainable environment.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by members of the University management led by Prof. Joyce Agalo, Machakos University Vice Chancellor and representatives from Garbage Hero. This partnership is a significant step towards ensuring comprehensive cleaning services across the University and the Hotel and Conference Center.



By engaging a professional service provider, Machakos University aims to enhance the overall cleanliness, improve environmental sustainability, and create a more welcoming and hygienic atmosphere for students, staff, and visitors. The initiative aligns with the university's dedication to providing a conducive learning and working environment while upholding high standards of hygiene and customer service.

Machakos University Students Excel in University Sports Competitions

Students from Machakos University showcased outstanding athletic prowess in various university sports competitions held on 15th and 16th February 2025 across different venues. The teams delivered remarkable performances, securing victories in multiple categories.



Match Results:

- Football (Men) – Machakos University won (15th Feb, JKUAT)
- Football (Women) – Machakos University won (15th Feb, CUEA)
- Volleyball (Men) – Machakos University won (16th Feb, Strathmore University)
- Basketball (Women) – Machakos University won (15th Feb, Strathmore University)
- Handball (Men) – Machakos University won (15th Feb, CUEA)
- Handball (Women) – Machakos University won (15th Feb, CUEA)
- Netball (Women) – Machakos University won (15th Feb, CUEA)
- Basketball (Men) – Machakos University lost (16th Feb, Strathmore University)
- Rugby (Men) – Machakos University lost (15th Feb, Machakos Showground)



The university teams demonstrated resilience, teamwork, and excellence, bringing home well-deserved victories. Machakos University remains committed to fostering sportsmanship and nurturing talent among students.

Antimicrobial Resistance Stewardship in Kenya Stakeholder Workshop

Machakos University in collaboration with members of the Fleming Fund Project, Funded by United Kingdom Government, hosted a stakeholder workshop on Antimicrobial Resistance stewardship in Kenya with the theme ‘Strengthening Antimicrobial Stewardship’ on 13th February 2025.



The workshop brought together participants from various sectors including veterinary practitioners and policy makers, Researchers and Fisheries officers from Kenya and United Kingdom.

The workshop was coordinated by Dr Patricia Muendo, the Dean School of Pure and Applied Sciences of Machakos University and Mr. Mahmoud Eltholth, Lecturer, Global Health from Royal Holloway University of London.

The workshop fostered global collaboration in scientific research, strengthening partnerships between Machakos University, the University of Edinburgh, Royal Holloway University, and other institutions. It reinforced the University’s commitment to advancing research, innovation, and global best practices in antimicrobial stewardship.

Second Training on Grant Proposal Writing and Sourcing of Funds

Machakos University, through the Directorate of Research, Innovation, and Technology Transfer (RITT), hosted the Second Training on Grant Proposal Writing and Sourcing of Funds on Wednesday, 29th January 2025. The one-day training, was specifically designed to enhance the capacity of academic staff and postgraduate students in developing credible grant proposals to attract research funding.

The event was officially opened by Prof. Stanley Makindi, representing the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Joyce Agalo. In his opening remarks, Prof. Makindi highlighted the importance of research funding in driving innovation and academic excellence, urging participants to leverage the knowledge shared during the training to advance their capacity to develop fundable research proposals.



The training featured distinguished facilitators, including Prof. Solomon Mumah from the Technical University of Kenya and Dr. Philip Mayeku from the Institute of Primate Research. The sessions covered key aspects of grant proposal writing, including:

- **Team Formation and Conflict Management** – Prof. Solomon Mumah provided insights into building effective research teams and strategies for conflict resolution to foster collaboration.
- **Developing Budgets and Work Plans** – Dr. Philip Mayeku guided participants on crafting realistic budgets and structured work plans for research projects.
- **Personal Experiences in Grant Writing** – Prof. Zachary Getenga and Dr. Hezborne Tindih shared their practical experiences in securing research funding, providing valuable lessons for aspiring researchers.



The training served as an interactive platform for both academic staff and postgraduate students to gain hands-on knowledge and skills and engage with experienced researchers. By equipping researchers with essential skills in grant proposal writing and fund sourcing, Machakos University re-affirms its commitment to fostering a robust research culture and academic excellence.

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