









# **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

- MksU/China Delegation for Water Research Collaboration
- Afrobarometer Workshop
- Follow-up Training on Change Management
- KPI's Management Workshop
- New Equipment for Chemistry Lab

Co-creating Sustainable Futures

"Monday, the start of a new week, with brandnew opportunities to enjoy all that life has to offer."

-Audrey Carlan



### MksU Hosts Chinese Delegation to Forge Groundbreaking Water Research Collaboration

Machakos University was privileged to host Professor Yang Min and a high-level delegation from the Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences (RCEES) under the University of Chinese Academy of Sciences (UCAS) ON 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025, marking a pivotal moment in advancing water research and environmental sustainability.

#### Key Highlights from the Visit:

•Fieldwork Launch- Prof. Yang's team initiated a grantfunded project aimed at early warning systems and mechanisms for detecting cyanobacteria and preventing water quality degradation.

- Research Collaboration- Plans were laid out for joint studies on toxin analysis, harmful algal blooms, and water pollution mitigation.
- Capacity Building- Discussions included UCAS scholarships, joint supervision, and exchange programs for Machakos University Students.

Professor Yang Min commended Machakos University's strong environmental vision, while the Vice-Chancellor reaffirmed the University's commitment by endorsing the collaboration agreement.



### Machakos University Hosts Transformative Afrobarometer Workshop on Public Opinion Research and Data Analysis

The Department of Social Sciences in collaboration with Afrobarometer, successfully held an intensive two-day training workshop on Public Opinion Research and Data Use from 23rd to 24th June 2025. The event attracted enthusiastic participation from teaching staff and students at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The highlight of the workshop was the Comprehensive Data Analysis Training, which empowered participants with practical skills in interpreting and applying public opinion data.

Master's and PhD students received tailored guidance on integrating survey data into their theses, while faculty explored strategies for embedding data-driven content into teaching and research. Participants left not only with enhanced analytical proficiency but also a renewed confidence in using evidence-based approaches in their disciplines.

This training has marked a significant milestone for Machakos University as a leader in promoting research excellence, civic awareness, and data literacy in higher education.



## Follow-Up Change Management Training to Sustain Organizational Transformation

Members of staff of Machakos University were taken through a comprehensive follow-up Change Management Training on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at the University Luban workshop. The training targeted both administrative and academic staff with the aim of reinforcing the transformation journey initiated in the previous session held in March 2025.

In her opening remarks, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Joyce Agalo, underscored the importance of embracing change as a strategic opportunity to improve service delivery, build stronger inter-departmental relations, and align daily operations with institutional Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). She encouraged staff to maintain a positive outlook in their roles, adopt new practices, and create impact within their respective departments.

Prof. Agalo also thanked the University Council for the unwavering support and guidance in driving capacitybuilding initiatives and enabling a conducive environment for institutional growth. Speaking during the session, the Chairman of Council, Dr. Christopher Gakahu, emphasized the Council's commitment to supporting staff development through targeted trainings. The Council Chair highlighted the importance of discipline, time management, and strategic planning as key pillars for achieving institutional transformation.

The training was facilitated by Mr. Martin Muteti and CPA. Moses Mwariri who guided participants to:

- Define personal change goals aligned with responsibilities;
- Assess readiness for change, including identifying internal and external barriers;
- Develop individual and departmental action plans with measurable objectives;

Engage in collaborative discussions to refine strategies for sustainable transformation.

The University remains committed to building a responsive and performance-driven institutional culture through continuous capacity-building, leadership development, and stakeholder engagement.



### Key Performance Indicator Workshop Sets Tone for Machakos University's Strategic Execution

Members of Machakos University management held a twoday Management Workshop on Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) at Utalii Hotel, Nairobi, as part of its commitment to performance excellence and strategic goalsetting.

The workshop brought together members of the University Management Board led by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Joyce Agalo, alongside Deans, Directors, Heads of Departments, and representatives from staff unions. The objective of the workshop was to equip participants with the necessary tools to develop effective KPIs aligned with the University's strategic priorities for the upcoming financial year. Participants took part in engaging sessions focused on performance planning, evaluation metrics, and aligning departmental objectives with the University's overarching strategic goals. On the second day, CPA Moses Mwariri, an experienced expert in performance management, led a comprehensive session on developing KPIs that are measurable, actionable, and results-oriented.

The workshop concluded with all participants successfully developing and signing off their departmental KPIs, paving the way for a results-oriented performance culture across the institution.



### New Equipment Boost at University's Chemistry Lab

Machakos University is proud to announce a significant upgrade to its Chemistry laboratory after receiving state-ofthe-art equipment, thanks to a generous grant from The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS)! The newly acquired equipment include; a Hydrothermal Autoclave, High-Speed Centrifuge, and Microwave Digestion System, ushering in a new era for scientific innovation at the university.

- Hydrothermal Autoclave Enables the synthesis of advanced materials and nanotechnology experiments
- High- Speed Centrifuge- support precise sample separation for enhanced chemical analysis
- Microwave Digestion System– speed up the complex samples for accurate elemental analysis





#### These tools will empower students and researchers to:

- Improve accuracy and efficiency in analytical process.
- Conduct high level experiments in environmental chemistry and material science.
- Compete and collaborate on a global research stage.

We extend our deepest appreciation to the TWAS research grant office for their unwavering support of scientific development and capacity building.

"This is a game changer for our department as students now have access to world class lab technology. With this grant from TWAS we are unlocking new dimensions in our research capacity" Dr Veronica Okello.

#### Featured Researcher: Dr. Eric Omuya



Holds a Ph.D. in Information Technology from Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Master of Science degree in Computer Science from The University of Nairobi

Dr. Erick Odhiambo Omuya is an academic and researcher specializing in computer science: Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning. He serves as a lecturer at Machakos University in the school of engineering and technology, department of Computing and information Technology (CIT) where he serves as the chairman of the department.

Dr. Omuya has contributed to various scholarly works, particularly in the areas of sentiment analysis and machine learning. His research and publications deal with developing AI models for improving the performance of classification, clustering and prediction using Machine/deep leaning algorithms as applied in sentiment analysis, market segmentation among others.

#### **Technology Corner**

Machakos University recently participated in China – Africa seminar focused on the management of Luban Workshops, which took place at Ningbo Polytechnic in China, Themed "Harmony in Diversity."

Machakos University was represented by Dr. Omuya, Chair of the Department of Computing and Information Technology and Mr. Humprey Mwambaji, a key technician at the University's Luban Workshop, whose participation demonstrated the University's unwavering commitment to delivering high-quality, industry-relevant education, as the university aspires to become a center of excellence in applied sciences and technology, and as it continues to champion international collaborations to ensure its students and faculty are globally competitive and locally impactful.





# AACHAKOS UNIVERSITY HOTEE S CONFERENCE CENTRE

Experience world-class dining and events setup at Machakos University Hotel & Conference Centre where every detail is crafted to impress. Perfect for weddings, conferences, and special occasions.









www.mksu.ac.ke