



National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI)



**STIR BULLETIN
VOLUME 4, OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2024**

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EDITORIAL

“Science and Technology for Prosperity”



The second quarter of the Financial Year 2024/2025 witnessed an upsurge of activities in the Commission both within our offices and in partnership with our stakeholders. This is the period in which execution of the programs planned for the year is in full course.

One of the Commission’s key functions, as outlined in Section 6(1)(f) of the Science, Technology and Innovation Act, 2013, is to accredit research institutes and approve all Scientific research in Kenya. The process towards granting of research license involves review of the research proposal by Institutional Scientific and Ethical Review Committees (ISERCs) which are accredited by NACOSTI in line with Legal Notice No 107, The Science, Technology and Innovation (Relevance and Quality Assurance in Research) Regulations, 2014. In appreciation of the important role of ISERCs is assurance of quality of research, many institutions of higher learning have been applying to NACOSTI for approval to establish ISERCs within their institutions. A number of these applications are under review and one that went through the process in this quarter is the KCA University Institutional Scientific and Ethical Review Committee. In this bulletin, we share with you the journey of accreditation and what it means for an institution to have an accredited ISERC.

As part of its mandate of promotion and building capacity of players of RSTI Sector in the Country, the Commission initiated

the STI Certification courses. These courses are offered in modules and two of these modules were offered in the second quarter of this Financial Year. These trainings generated a lot of interest amongst RSTI institutions and provided a forum for a rich exchange of ideas. We are happy to share highlights of these training sessions in this module as look forward to hosting trainings in other modules in the subsequent quarters.

The STI Act, 2013, requires the Commission as one of its functions to promote and encourage private sector involvement in scientific research and innovation and development. Towards this end, during this quarter, the Commission signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with The Factor-Y (a private sector entity), the University of Nairobi (UoN) and the United States International University-Africa (USIU). The MOU facilitates collaboration amongst these entities which emphasizes the importance of aligning academia, industry, and government to accelerate translation of research outputs into viable commercial solutions. Key areas of collaboration include biotechnology, renewable energy, water and sanitation, and agribusiness.

This Bulletin also highlights other topical issues in RSTI within and outside the country as we continue to promote the enhancement and mainstreaming of RSTI in the day-to-day operations of our entities.

Mr. Gideon Kirui
Bulletin Committee Chairman

REMARKS FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL/CEO

“Science and Technology for Prosperity”



I take this opportunity to welcome you to read the 4th Edition of the STIR Bulletin, a publication of the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI). STIR Bulletin captures the latest news and featured articles from the Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) sector, and is therefore the voice of stakeholders in the STI Ecosystem as communicated by the STI Regulator, NACOSTI. It serves as part of the avenues through which we endeavour to reach a wider network of our stakeholders. In the recent past, we have interacted with stakeholder in the STI ecosystem through hosting and participating in conference, seminars and meetings both physically and virtually. This has enabled NACOSTI to share ideas with local and international experts and stakeholders cutting across various science fields and as a result enriched our capacity to execute our mandate.

NACOSTI is established under the Science, Technology and Innovation Act, 2013 (Rev. 2014) with a unique mandate of regulating and assuring quality in the research, science, technology and innovation sector, and advising the Government in matters related thereto. In so doing, the Commission shall Regulate, Coordinate, Advise and Promote Science, Technology, Innovation and Research activities in the country.

Among others, the functions of NACOSTI include; developing priorities in scientific, technological and innovation activities in

Kenya, Registering and Accrediting Research Institutions, Licensing of Research and assuring relevance and quality of research programmes in research institutions, coordinating and evaluating activities relating to scientific research and technology development, annually reviewing the progress in scientific systems, and promoting the adoption and application of scientific and technological knowledge in attaining national development.

Further, the Science, Technology and Innovation (STI), Legal Notice No. 108 (Research Licensing) Regulations, 2014 obligates all persons intending to undertake scientific research in Kenya to obtain a license in accordance with the Act. In this regard, we have made this process easy and convenient for you all by making it available online.

I trust that you will enjoy interacting with the information presented herein. Feel free to contact us through our telephone numbers, email and all our social media platforms.

Prof. Walter O. Oyawa, PhD
National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI)

NACOSTI MANDATE, VISION, MISSION, CORE VALUES, & FUNCTIONS

Mandate

The objective of the Commission shall be to regulate and assure quality in the science, technology and innovation sector and advise the Government in matters related thereto.

Vision

Accelerate the Transformation of Kenya as a knowledge-based economy.

Mission

To facilitate quality in the research, science, technology and innovation sector through regulation, promotion and provision of advisory services.

Core Values

The Commission upholds Integrity, Customer Focus, Professionalism, Teamwork and Leadership in the discharge of its mandate.

Functions

- a) Develop, in consultation with stakeholders, the priorities in scientific, technological and innovation activities in Kenya in relation to the economic and social policies of the Government, and the country's international commitments.
- b) Lead inter-agency efforts to implement sound policies and budgets, working in collaboration with the county governments, and organizations involved in science and technology and innovation within Kenya and outside Kenya.
- c) Advise the national and county governments on the science, technology and innovation policy, including general planning and assessment of the necessary financial resources.
- d) Liaise with the National Innovation Agency and the National Research Fund to ensure funding and implementation of prioritized research programmes.
- e) Ensure co-ordination and co-operation between the various agencies involved in science, technology and innovation.
- f) Accredite research institutes and approve all Scientific research in Kenya.
- g) Assure relevance and quality of science, technology and innovation programmers in research institutes.
- h) Advise on science education and innovation at both basic and advanced levels.
- i) In consultation with the National Research Fund Trustees, sponsor national scientific and academic conferences it considers appropriate.
- j) Advise the Government on policies and any issue relating to scientific research systems.
- k) Promote increased awareness, knowledge and information of research system.
- l) Co-ordinate, monitor and evaluate, as appropriate, activities relating to scientific research and technology development.
- m) Promote and encourage private sector involvement in scientific research and innovation and development.
- n) Annually, review the progress in scientific research systems and submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Cabinet Secretary.
- o) Promote the adoption and application of scientific and technological knowledge and information necessary in
- p) Develop and enforce codes, guidelines, and regulations in accordance with the policy determined under this Act for the governance, management and maintenance of standards and quality in research systems.
- q) Undertake, or cause to be undertaken, regular inspections, monitoring and evaluation of research institutions to ensure compliance with set standards and guidelines.

EMPOWERING STIR PROFESSIONALS TO SECURE SUSTAINABLE FUNDING



Figure 1: Group photo of participants from the training on STI Grant Seeking, Resource Mobilization, and Report Writing Program from 25th to 29th November 2024 .

Science, Technology, Innovation and Research (STIR) professionals from across the country have converged in Naivasha, Nakuru County, for a transformative five-day training

under the Science, Technology, and Innovation Anchored in Research Professional (STIR-Pro) programme. The event, running from 25th to 29th November 2024, focuses on enhancing

participants' skills in grant seeking, resource mobilization, and report writing.

Module 6
"STI - Grant Seeker/
Resource
Mobilization,
and Report
Writing
Programme"

**Science,
Technology
and Innovation
(STI)
Certification
Course**

Taking cognizance of STI as the game-changer in ensuring a robust national security and sustainable prosperity, NACOSTI presents STI Certification course (in eight Modules) aimed at sharpening a competent workforce to fast track the attainment of Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA). The in-person trainings are occasioned by stakeholder requests for the same, taking cognizance of the crucial role of emerging trends in science, technology and innovation in the transformation and empowerment of humanity.

About the Module
This module underscores the crucial role played by Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) in the social and economic development as well as national security and public safety of a country leading to sustainable prosperity. Science, Technology, and Innovation cuts across all sectors hence the need for it to be integrated into, and coherent with, key aspects of national development, security and the well-being of citizenry.

Learning objectives

- 01 Understand the current grant-seeking landscape for Research, Science, Technology and Innovation
- 02 Acquire diverse skills in grants proposal writing, resource mobilization, research ethics, research integrity, and research security specific to funder/donor needs
- 03 Enhance skills in grants management, impact measurement, and periodic reporting
- 04 Prepare and implement frameworks for protection, dissemination and commercialization of outcomes

Course Delivery
Training will include:
i. Presentations and formal lectures,
ii. Plenary Discussions,
iii. Group seminar and discussions,
iv. Group Case studies and presentations,
v. Group Reports and presentations.
Upon successful completion of each module, based on Attendance-Active participation in all sessions including Group Discussions, Presentations and Reports, Trainees will be awarded a Certificate for having successfully attended and completed the Training Course on Science, Technology and Innovation Professional for the particular Module.

Cost
The Cost of each training module, which lasts for five-days, is subsidized at KSh 65,000 inclusive of VAT per person. Participants will meet their costs for transport and accommodation.

Dates and Venue
From 25th to 29th November 2024 at Lake Naivasha Resort, Naivasha.

Register Here! <https://forms.office.com/r/TsuWpPVJAU>

Eminent Guest Speakers

- Dr. David A. Njiru, Director General, NACOSTI
- Dr. Ezer Kipkor, Director General, KALRO
- Prof. Njiru Njiru, Former Vice-Chancellor, JKUAT and Former Chairperson, NACOSTI
- Agnes Kariuki, Ministry of Research/Security Agencies
- Prof. Peter Obiero, CEO, Kenya Bankers Association
- John Peter Obiero, CEO, National Research Fund, Kenya
- Mr. John Mwangi, Managing Director, KCB
- Prof. Walter O. Oyunga, Director General, NACOSTI

Coordinator
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PAYBILL NUMBER
6 8 0 9 0 7

Bank Account
Bank: Kenya Commercial Bank
Branch: Kpande House
Account Name: NACOSTI
Account Number: 1104 65247
Swift Code: KCBKEN
Transaction Description: Training

Other Modules
Module 1: STI Management in MDAs in Rapidly Changing Times
Module 2: STI Policy Development, Implementation and Advocacy
Module 3: Research Ethics, Security, Integrity, Quality Assurance and Monitoring
Module 4: STI Leadership and Diplomacy in Volatile Times
Module 5: Harnessing Frontier Technologies for Resilient and Inclusive Sustainable Development
Module 7: STI Intellectual Property Rights, Transfer, and Commercialization
Module 8: STI for National Security, and Public Safety/Good

Register Here! <https://forms.office.com/r/TsuWpPVJAU>

Figure 2: Module 6: Call Training Flyer

The training, themed “Empowering STI Professionals for Sustainable Innovation,” is a crucial step in addressing the need

for effective resource management in the dynamic landscape of research, science, and technology. By aligning research proposals with donor priorities, participants will be better prepared to secure funding for their innovative projects, driving economic growth and development.

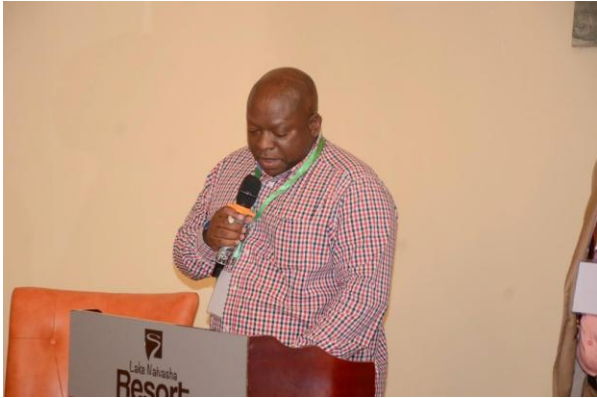
The STIR-Pro program, an initiative of the National Commission for Science, Technology & Innovation (NACOSTI), is dedicated to empowering Kenyan researchers and fostering a vibrant innovation ecosystem.



Figure 3: Participants during the training session

For more information and updates on the STIR Professional, please visit the NACOSTI website: www.nacosti.go.ke.

Pictorial



RESEARCH SECURITY, AND ETHICAL RESEARCH IN FOCUS



Figure 4: Group photo of participants from the training on Research Ethics, Security, Integrity, Quality Assurance and Monitoring

Researchers, policymakers, and professionals in science, technology, and innovation have convened for a pivotal training program under the Science, Technology, and Innovation Research (STIR) initiative. The five-day training, running from 18th to 22nd

November 2024, is part of the certification process for participants aiming to become certified as STIR Professionals (STIR-Pro).

Module 3
“Research Ethics, Security, Integrity, Quality Assurance and Monitoring”

Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Certification Course

Taking cognizance of STI as the game-changer in ensuring a robust national security and sustainable prosperity, NACOSTI presents STI Certification course (in eight Modules) aimed at sharpening a competent workforce to fast track the attainment of Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA). The in-person training are occasioned by stakeholder requests the same, taking cognizance of the crucial role of emerging trends in science, technology and innovation in the transformation and empowerment of humanity.

About the Module
 This module underscores the crucial role played by Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) in the social and economic development as well as national security and public safety of a country leading to sustainable prosperity. Science, Technology, and Innovation cuts across all sectors hence the need for it to be integrated into, and coherent with, key aspects of national development, security and the well-being of citizenry.

Learning objectives

01 Internalize Research Ethics, Research Security and Research Integrity Principles	02 Develop and review Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Scientific and Research Ethics Committees	03 Apply national and international Research Ethics, Research Security and Research Integrity guidelines and frameworks;	04 Conduct scientific and ethics review of research proposals, and subsequent monitoring and evaluation of approved research studies
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Target Participants
 CEOs, Deputy CEOs or Senior Officers overseeing activities pertaining to Research, Technology Development and Innovation; Members of the National Scientific and Ethics Committee (NSEC); Members of the Institutional Scientific and Ethical Review Committees (ISERCs); Institutional Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Focal Persons, STI Champions, Researchers, Scholars, Innovators, Inventors, as well as Institutional Performance Contracting Coordinators/Officers are eligible to participate in the in-person five-day training. The course will commence only after adequate number of participants have registered and paid.

Course Delivery
 Training will include:
 i. Presentations and formal lectures,
 ii. Plenary Discussions,
 iii. Group seminar and discussions,
 iv. Group Case studies and presentations,
 v. Group Reports and presentations,
 Upon successful completion of each module, based on Attendance-Active participation in all sessions including Group Discussions, Presentations and Reports, Trainees will be awarded a Certificate for having successfully attended and completed the Training Course on Science, Technology and Innovation Professional for the particular Module.

Cost
 The Cost of each training module, which lasts for five-days, is subsidized at Kshs 65,000 inclusive of VAT per person. Participants will meet their costs for transport and accommodation.

Dates and Venue
 From 18th to 22nd November 2024 at Lake Naivasha Resort, Naivasha.

Eminent Guest Speakers

Chelangat, Simeon Dr. Simeon Nyang'ala	Prof. Rationo Muliaka The Chancellor, Tharaka University	Prof. Mabel Mwangi Biochemistry, NRF and ASRIC	Dr. Carol Hwang Secretary (Higher Education and Research), Ministry of Education	Experts From Kenya National Academy of Sciences (KNAS), Former Chairman of NOST	Prof. Yusef Mwangi Agribusiness, Kenya National Academy of Sciences (KNAS), Former Chairman of NOST	Prof. Walter G. Juma Director, KARI, University of Nairobi	Prof. Alice N. Mutungi Director, NACOSTI	Prof. Walter O. Oyawa Director-General, NACOSTI
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Coordinator
 LIPA NA M-PESA
 PAYBILL NUMBER
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Bank Account
 Bank: Kenya Commercial Bank
 Branch: Kipanda House
 Account Name: NACOSTI
 Account Number: 1104162547
 Swift Code: KCBLKEN
 Transaction Description: Training

Other Modules

Module 1: STI Mainstreaming in MDAs in Rapidly Changing Times	Module 6: STI- Grant Seeker/Resource Mobilization, and Report Writing Programme
Module 2: STI Policy Development, Implementation and Advocacy	Module 7: STI Intellectual Property Rights, Transfer, and Commercialization
Module 4: STI Leadership and Diplomacy in Volatile Times	Module 8: STI for National Security, and Public Safety/Good
Module 5: Harnessing Frontier Technologies for Resilient and Inclusive Sustainable Development	

Register Here! <https://forms.office.com/r/CTVsV2ubmN>

Figure 5: Module 3: Call Training Flyer

The training, themed “**Research Ethics, Security, Integrity, Quality Assurance, and Monitoring,**” is the third module in the STIR certification program. It focuses on equipping participants with skills essential for maintaining ethical and quality standards in research.

This programme is part of a broader initiative to enhance Kenya’s capacity in science, technology, and innovation by ensuring research aligns with both national and global ethical standards.

As the world continues to grapple with challenges in data security, ethical dilemmas, and research integrity, programmes like STIR-Pro are pivotal in fostering responsible research practices that benefit society while safeguarding scientific credibility.

The training comes at a time when the global scientific community is grappling with issues like data security breaches, ethical dilemmas in research, and declining public trust in scientific findings. Such programs play a vital role in addressing these challenges, ensuring that research benefits society while safeguarding scientific credibility.

Pictorial



Figure 6: Pictorial of Module 3 training

KCA UNIVERSITY'S SCIENTIFIC AND ETHICS REVIEW COMMITTEE ACCREDITED BY NACOSTI



Figure 7: Meeting between NACOSTI and KCA staff during the accreditation process.

KCA University's Institutional Scientific and Ethics Review Committee (ISERC) has been accredited by the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) to conduct ethics review of research proposals in Social Sciences.

This accreditation, awarded under the number NACOSTI/NSEC/AC/04524, will be valid for a period of three (3) years, to October 2027.

This accreditation affirms KCA University's commitment to upholding the highest standards of ethical research in the Social Sciences and will capacity-build the University to review and approve research proposals, ensuring that studies conducted meet rigorous ethical guidelines that protect the rights and welfare of the parties involved.

Speaking on the accreditation, Prof. Isaiah Wakindiki VC & CEO noted that the accreditation aligns with the institution's 2024-2028 Strategic Pillar on excellence in Research, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship.

"It will ensure that all research undertaken at the University and beyond adheres to the outlined ethical standards, fostering trust and credibility in the institution's research outputs. It will also enhance the scope of our cross-institutional collaborations, responsible commercialization of research findings and contributions to societal and economic transformation," said Prof. Wakindiki.

"As a leading institution in Business, Technology, and the Arts, KCA University is dedicated to cultivating an environment where responsible research and innovation thrive. We have been elevated to a key player in ethical research oversight and strengthened our capacity to contribute to the global research community. By fostering a culture of integrity in research, we ensure that the knowledge we generate is impactful, responsible, and valuable to society."

KCA University invites researchers, collaborators and stakeholders to engage with the Institutional Scientific and Ethics Review Committee to advance accountable, transparent and innovative research that addresses the evolving needs of society.

Source: <https://www.citizen.digital/news/kca-university-scientific-and-ethics-review-committee-accredited-by-nacosti-n351583>

THEFACTOR-Y, UON, USIU, AND NACOSTI PARTNER TO FOSTER INNOVATION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY



Figure 8: Signing of MoU with the UoN, USIU, and NACOSTI.

TheFactor-Y has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the University of Nairobi (UoN), United States International University-Africa (USIU), and the National Commission for

Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI).

This collaboration aims to harness Kenya's innovation potential by enhancing the commercialization of intellectual property (IP) and fostering innovation-driven growth in key sectors.

The partnership is anchored on the shared recognition of the transformative power of research and innovation in driving sustainable development.

The collaboration emphasizes the importance of aligning academia, industry, and government to accelerate the translation of research outputs into viable commercial solutions. Key areas of collaboration include biotechnology, renewable energy, water and sanitation, and agribusiness.

Kenya's innovation ecosystem faces significant hurdles, including limited funding, weak linkages between research institutions and industry, and policy gaps in intellectual property management.

Many innovations, particularly in academia, fail to progress beyond the conceptual stage due to a lack of commercialization pathways.

Speaking during the signing of the collaboration, TheFactor-Y's Business Development Director Andre Varma noted, "Our Company-Building as a Service (CBaaS) model offers a disruptive solution to these challenges. By transferring an IP to a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) under UK law, we provide global investor

access, robust IP protection, and risk-free pathways to commercialization at our best ability. This partnership represents a transformative step in unlocking the untapped potential of Kenya's research and innovation sectors."

TheFactor-Y offers a unique approach to turning intellectual property into thriving businesses, empowering institutional and individual innovators to take their ideas to market through a streamlined, supportive framework.

It offers an alternative to traditional venture capital-financed company building, and serves as a bridge between academic pursuits and real-world technological advancements, emphasizing a blend of academia and practical technology to pioneer groundbreaking innovations allowing universities to utilize and realize their cutting-edge innovation, without having to get involved operationally.

Moreover, innovators receive support to scale and commercialize solutions that address pressing societal challenges.

The partnership will also mobilize resources to support innovation and the commercialization of IP assets, transform research into impactful products and services and assist with funding to support innovations with patentable outcomes.

Through these collaborations, TheFactor-Y will prioritize identifying and commercializing dormant patents held by inventors, start-ups, and institutions to unlock the untapped potential of idle IPs.

Proceeds from these projects will be deployed to funding of future initiatives, creating a self-sustaining model for innovation growth.

Leveraging its vast technical expertise in intellectual property ecosystems across the world, TheFactor-Y, through CBaaS, will help partner institutions explore opportunities to scale innovations across the East African Community (EAC).

TheFactor-Y will offer innovators financial, advisory services and market-entry support to enable them to commercialize their technologies regionally.

The collaboration is expected to catalyze Kenya's innovation landscape by providing innovators with access to global networks and funding opportunities, monetizing dormant IPs to create sustainable funding models for future research and development initiatives, and strengthening Kenya's position as a regional hub for innovation and technology transfer.

Source: <https://kbc.co.ke/thefactor-y-uon-usiu-and-nacosti-partner-to-foster-innovation-of-intellectual-property/>

NACOSTI HOSTS A DELEGATION FROM THE UK CENTRE FOR ECOLOGY AND HYDROLOGY UKCEH



Figure 9: Group photo taken during the courtesy call

The National Commission for Science Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) hosted a delegation of senior scientists from the United Kingdom Centre for Ecology and Hydrology visited the National Commission for Science Technology and Innovation at the NACOSTI Plaza. The high-level meeting discussed UKCEH's work in Kenya and the Eastern Africa region and prospects for new and inclusive collaborations in Research, Science Technology and Innovation.

Prof. Harry Dixon, a senior scientist, led the UKCEH delegation. During the engagement, NACOSTI's Director of Advisory,

Standards and Licencing, Dr David Ngigi highlighted the mandate and functions of the Commission and opportunities for multi-institutional collaboration

NACOSTI TEAM ENGAGES WITH RSTI FOCAL PERSON AT TRANS-NZOIA COUNTY



Figure 10: A group photo of the Trans-Nzoia County Focal Person and NACOSTI Staff taken during the courtesy call

The National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) in line with its mandate and function of Leading inter-agency efforts to implement sound policies and budgets, working

in collaboration with the county governments, and organizations involved in science and technology and innovation within Kenya and outside Kenya, paid a courtesy call to the office of the RSTI focal person Ms. Beatrice Lukoko at the Trans-Nzoia county.

The Consultative meeting was on “STI mainstreaming at the counties through establishing County technology and innovations advisory and prospecting centres to coordinate technology transfer and adoption” which was aimed to explore and accelerate the integration of Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) at the county level. In addition, it was envisaged to strengthen the regulation, coordination and promotion of RSTI at the count level.

For instance, on March 3 and 7, 2024 a Swiss national was allegedly found at Iten Township in Elgeyo Marakwet County while drawing blood samples from athletes and non-athletes, without license from the National Commission for Scientific Technology and Innovation. They pleaded guilty to five counts of offences and were fined a total of Ksh400,000 or go to jail for three years and 10 months.

These initiatives will steer enhanced governance of RSTI at the county to curb incidences and contribute to anchoring RSTI in local production and consumption systems. The discussion demonstrated the dedication that NACOSTI has in advancing research, innovation, and sustainable development within the counties by growing science, technology, and innovation for national prosperity and the public good.

NACOSTI PROMOTES RSTI IN MASHINANI DURING THE ASK NORTH RIFT NATIONAL SHOW



Figure 11: Pictorial highlights from the Kitale National Show, showcasing key events, exhibitions, and participants.

The National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI), in line with its mandate and function of promoting increased awareness, knowledge and information of research system and advising on science education and innovation at both

basic and advanced levels, made a remarkable impact at the recently concluded Kitale National show, which took place from 9th -12th October 2024.

In its stand NACOSTI was visited by secondary school students who received mentorship in STEM subjects with an objective of unlocking their potential in STEM for a secure & sustainable future. This mentorship was meant to equip them with relevant information to enable them to make informed career choices and to boost their interest in STEM education.

Other clientele at the NACOSTI stand were county officials seeking collaboration with NACOSTI to ensure that the research being conducted within county level is licensed and to enhance safety of the local communities, County residents were sensitized on the functions of the commission. NACOSTI plans to further engage with county fraternities through establishing county technology and innovations advisory and prospecting centres to coordinate technology transfer and adoption.

NACOSTI's participation at the show demonstrates its dedication to advancing research, innovation, and sustainable development in Kenya.

KENYAN INSTITUTIONS WIN BIG IN THE ERASMUS+ VIRTUAL EXCHANGES (EVE) AWARDS 2024



The National Commission for Science Technology and Innovation's Director General is the Erasmus+ National Focal Point (ENFP) responsible for promoting participation by Kenyan institutions and individuals in Erasmus+ activities and programmes.

About the Erasmus Virtual Exchanges (EVE) in higher education and youth.

These are online people-to-people activities promoting intercultural dialogue and developing soft skills. These activities make it possible for every young person to access high-quality international and cross-cultural education (both formal and non-

formal) without physical mobility. The 2024 EVE call targeting activities in 2025 were published with several objectives:

1. Encourage intercultural dialogue
2. Promote various types of virtual exchanges,
3. Enhance critical thinking and media literacy,
4. Foster the digital and soft skills development of students, young people and youth workers
5. Promote citizenship and the common values of freedom, tolerance and nondiscrimination through education
6. Strengthen the youth dimension in the relations of the EU with third countries.

Kenyan institutions are associated with 5 exchange programmes selected in the 2024.

#	Proposal ID	Title of Exchange programme	Kenyan institution (s) involved
1.	100093288	Next-Level Skills for Student Leaders	KCA University African Council for Distance Education
2.	101193336	Critical Exchange Artificial Intelligence	Maseno University Muranga University Bomet University College
3.	101193492	ECO-ACT- African -European Virtual Exchange for Environmental Conservation and Climate Action	Kibabii University

4.	101193499	Youth Resilience	Eco- Kenya Voluntary Development Association
5.	101193630	New EU - SA International Leadership Programme	International Leadership University

NACOSTI AND UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI JOIN FORCES IN REFORESTATION DRIVE

In a significant step towards achieving national reforestation goals, the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) and the University of Nairobi (UoN) have collaborated to plant thousands of trees at the university's upper Kabete Campus.

The initiative, which directly supports the Presidential directive on tree growing, saw the planting of 1,800 indigenous trees and 200 avocado fruit trees. This effort underscores the commitment of both institutions to environmental sustainability and the broader national campaign to increase Kenya's tree cover.

Pictorial



THE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN AND BENEFIT FROM SCIENCE



The ISC's interpretation of 'the right to participate in and benefit from science' provides a clear framework for understanding the right to science, emphasizing its application in research, policy, and global access to scientific knowledge. It clarifies the obligations, opportunities, and responsibilities in ensuring universal access to science, fostering global dialogue to shape a more inclusive and sustainable future.

Background

Participating in and benefitting from science (abbreviated to 'the right to science') is a universal human right, but the understanding and application of this right has been problematic. State obligations regarding the right to participate in and benefit

from science have been neglected, while the implications for scientists – including the fundamental existence of this right – remain overlooked by the global scientific community.

Critical elements within science and the science-policy interface remain poorly understood and underdeveloped. These include the view of science as an intrinsic part of human culture, the importance of education and access to science as a human right, the obligation to protect knowledge producers and the production of knowledge, and the aspiration for truly universal access to the use and benefits of science.

The ISC's interpretation clarifies what 'the right to science' means, and how it will shape the practice of science, and the use of the knowledge generated.

The right to participate in and benefit from science is a normative framework that challenges us to consider what our rights should be in engaging with and using science. This overlaps with the ISC's Principles of Freedom and Responsibility in Science, which urge us to reflect on the conditions - freedoms to be protected and responsibilities to be upheld – that enable scientific progress for the peaceful and sustainable development of humanity. The right to participate in and benefit from science aligns with these Principles by setting ideal aspirations for rights and freedoms, while also balancing them with responsibilities and limits.

Both Principles are essential to the ISC's vision of science as a Global Public Good, which positions science as a beneficial resource that should be freely and permanently accessible and available to anyone.

Without protecting the free and responsible practice of science, and without universal recognition of the right to participate in and benefit from science, this vision of science's central role in society cannot be realized. As respect for scientific freedoms and adherence to scientific responsibilities decline globally, the global scientific community faces significant pressure to address the multiple, intersecting, and existential threats confronting our societies.

Therefore, the right to participate in and benefit from science must be more consistently recognized as the universal human right that it is.

The Right to Participate in and Benefit from Science

The International Science Council believes that there is a universal human right to participate in and enjoy the benefits of science, and that it is a responsibility of governments to create and sustain the opportunities of citizens to use this right.

A right to participate in science

This right presumes a right to basic scientific literacy, and a right to scientific education, training and mentoring.

1. A right to participate in generating diverse forms of

knowledge through the study of natural and social phenomena using theoretical, observational, experimental, and analytical approaches to introduce and test existing and new models, conjectures, hypotheses and ideas unconstrained by political agendas or belief systems.

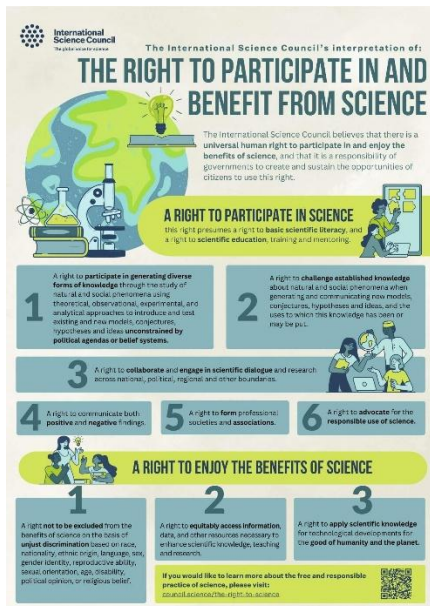
2. A right to challenge established knowledge about natural and social phenomena when generating and communicating new models, conjectures, hypotheses and ideas, and the uses to which this knowledge has been or may be put.
3. A right to collaborate and engage in scientific dialogue and research across national, political, regional and other boundaries.
4. A right to communicate both positive and negative findings.
5. A right to form professional societies and associations.
6. A right to advocate for the responsible use of science.

A right to enjoy the benefits of science

1. A right not to be excluded from the benefits of science on the basis of unjust discrimination based on race, nationality, ethnic origin, language, sex, gender identity, reproductive ability, sexual orientation, age, disability, political opinion, or religious belief.
2. A right to equitably access information, data, and other resources necessary to enhance scientific knowledge, teaching and research.
3. A right to apply scientific knowledge for technological developments for the good of humanity and the planet

The ISC sees this interpretation of the right to participate in and benefit from science as a living document. Led by the Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science, the ISC’s membership has the opportunity to engage regularly to ensure our work remains relevant.

The ISC’s interpretation of the right to participate in and benefit from science raises awareness of the importance of this right – and obligations towards it – throughout the scientific, human rights, and policy communities. The ISC’s interpretation aims to encourage wide discussion and to contribute to the continual development of the right to participate in and benefit from science in ways that will benefit all people everywhere.



Understanding the right to participate in and benefit from science: a guide to the ISC’s interpretation

The right to participate in and benefit from science (referring to all rights, entitlements, and obligations related to science) is briefly considered in Article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR, 1948), and in Article 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR, 1966), but neither of these documents offer much specificity as to the extent of the right, its limits, and obligations towards it. These are, however, discussed at length in ‘General comment No. 25 on article 15: science and economic, social and cultural rights’ (2020). What we need now is a more concise articulation of the right to participate in and benefit from science and its practical applicability to how science is done and how scientific knowledge is used.

These explanatory notes offer additional information for each section of the ISC’s interpretation of the right to participate in and benefit from science, elaborating on the reasoning behind their inclusion, and on their implications for the practice of science and the use of scientific knowledge.

Source: https://council.science/our-work/right-to-science/?utm_source=International+Science+Council&utm_campaign=3bf0e3de92-NOVEMBER+2024&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_6e20810dfd-3bf0e3de92-218422846&mc_cid=3bf0e3de92&mc_eid=2ddb3ead7e7

Kenyatta University Surpasses University of Nairobi in New Global Rankings



Figure 12: Kenyatta University Main Campus

According to the 2025 World Universities Rankings released on Wednesday, October 9, 2024, Kenyatta University now leads the country, leaving UoN grappling with its sliding global and regional position.

This development follows a year in which UoN rankings fell 20 places in just 12 months, highlighting the challenges that Kenyan

public universities continue to face. Funding shortages, staffing issues, and unrest among lecturers, who only recently ended a nationwide strike over pay, have weighed heavily on institutions.

The Times Higher Education rankings rely heavily on performance indicators like teaching environment, research quality, and international outlook. Kenyatta University

performed better in teaching, earning a score of 14.2 per cent, compared to UoN's 12.5 per cent. However, UoN still leads in research quality, with 37.3 per cent compared to Kenyatta University's 27.2 per cent.

According to the data, there are more female students at Kenyatta University, while at UoN the number of men is more than women. The data shows, the ratio of female to male students is 75:25 at KU and a ratio of 25:76 at UoN, the least of all universities.

Kenyatta University's rise comes amidst broader struggles in the public university system. The funding model introduced last year, designed to provide a sustainable solution for higher education, has faced substantial resistance. Lecturers have long protested poor pay, overcrowded classes, and reduced research budgets, issues which have severely affected institutions' ability to deliver quality education.

UoN's drop in the rankings reflects a troubling decline in two critical areas: the employability of its graduates and its research output. Once hailed for producing some of the most employable graduates in the region, UoN has now seen its students struggle to compete on the global job market. Its research output has also suffered, a key factor that global rankings take into account, contributing to its fall to 1,445th in the world, down from 1,425th last year.

This year's rankings also revealed a concerning trend for Kenya's universities as a whole. No Kenyan university made it into the top 10 in Africa, reflecting the broader challenges faced by the sector.

Other top-ranked Kenyan universities include Amref International University, Egerton University, Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology, Kabarak University, Kibabii University, Kisii University, Maasai Mara University, Machakos University, Catholic University of Eastern Africa, University of Eldoret, University of Kabianga, and Zetech University.

The performance gap between the two universities reflects broader structural issues. Kenyatta University has outpaced UoN in its teaching environment, but UoN's research capabilities remain strong. Despite this, the pressures of underfunding and inadequate staffing are evident across the board.

Experts have pointed to the Kenyan government's financial decisions as a key factor in these developments. Nick Hillman, director of the Higher Education Policy Institute, noted, "When you underfund university teaching, the result is often worse staff-to-student ratios and inadequate contact hours. If you do this while other countries improve, your relative position is bound to deteriorate."

Public universities have also struggled with their international outlook, another key performance indicator in global rankings. Kenya's institutions have found it increasingly difficult to attract international staff and students, further limiting their competitiveness on the global stage.



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TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION (NACOSTI)**

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Licensing of Research in Kenya

The National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation is established by the Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Act, No. 28 of 2013, Revised in 2014 (the Act) as a State Corporation. The Commission **regulates and assures quality in Science, Technology and Innovation Sector and advises the Government in matters related thereto.** In this regard, the Act stipulates seventeen (17) functions of the Commission. Among the functions of the Commission, Section 6(1)(f) of the STI Act 2014 [2013] specifies that the **Commission shall accredit research institutes and approve all Scientific research in Kenya.**

Consequently, **Section 12(3) of the Act requires that any person undertaking or intending to undertake research in science and technology in the country, or who accesses, handles, or transfers any material or technology or moves it within, from or into the country, shall apply to the Commission for the grant of a licence in accordance with the Act.**

Section 12(5) of the Act further **directs that no licence shall be granted** by the Commission for any research involving activities which;

- (a) may **adversely affect the culture of any community** in Kenya;
- (b) may **adversely affect the environment**;
- (c) may **result in the exploitation of intellectual property rights of communities** to their traditional knowledge.

- (d) may, in the view of the Commission, **adversely affect the lives of Kenyans.**

Section 13(1) of the Act reinforces Section 12(5) by directing that the Commission shall, upon receipt of an application under section 12, evaluate the application, and if **satisfied that the conduct of the research is beneficial to the country, and that the research shall not adversely affect any aspect of the nature, environment or the security of the country,** issue to the applicant a licence in the prescribed form.

Pursuant thereto, members of the public are hereby notified that according to the Science, Technology and Innovation Act 2014 [2013], Scientific Research in Kenya must be approved and licensed by the Commission.

As stipulated in Section 15 of the Act, any person who accesses, handles, transacts, transfers or moves any specified technology or any material necessary for scientific research within, into or from Kenya without a licence issued under this Act; or contravenes the provisions of Section 12 of the Act, **commits an offence** and shall, in addition to any other penalty which may be provided for in this Act or any other written law, be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding five million shillings or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding four years, or both.

For further clarification kindly contact the Commission, or visit online services at <https://research-portal.nacosti.go.ke/>

PROF. WALTER O. OYAWA, PhD
DIRECTOR GENERAL

NACOSTI is ISO 9001:2015 Certified

SERVICE CHARGES

Fees/Charges for Research Licensing

Table 1: Current fees/charges for Research Licensing

No	Category of Research License	Fees/charges
1)	Kenya Citizens: Diploma / Undergraduate	Ksh. 100
	Kenya Citizens: MA/MSc	Ksh. 1,000
	Kenya Citizens: PhD	Ksh. 2,000
	Kenya Citizens: Individual / Post Doctoral	Ksh. 5,000
	Public Institutions	Ksh. 10,000
	Private Institutions	Ksh. 20,000
	2)	EAC Citizens: Diploma / Undergraduate
EAC Citizens: MA/MSc		Ksh. 1,000
EAC Citizens: PhD		Ksh. 2,000
3)	EAC Citizens: Individual / Post Doctoral	Ksh. 5,000
	Rest of Africa: Diploma / Undergraduate	Ksh. 200
	Rest of Africa: MA/MSc	Ksh. 2,000
	Rest of Africa: PhD	Ksh. 4,000
4)	Rest of Africa: Individual / Post Doctoral /Non-academic Doctoral	Ksh. 10,000
	Non-Africans: Diploma / Undergraduate	US\$ 150
	Non-Africans: MA/MSc	US\$ 350
	Non-Africans: PhD	US\$ 400
	Non-Africans: Individual / Post Doctoral /Non-academic	US\$ 500

Notes:

1. Non-Kenyans in local institutions with work permits and/or Permanent Resident Permits to pay same as Kenya citizens.
2. Students in local institutions of higher learning pay same as citizens.
3. The Supervisor may apply on behalf of a class undertaking Diploma or Degree course, however the service cost will be dependent on the number of students

Fees/Charges pertaining to Research Institutions

Table 2: Current fees/charges for Registration of Research Institutions, Accreditation of Research Programmes, and Monitoring and Evaluation of Research Institutions

No.	Services	Current fee in KES
1)	Registration of Research Institutions	250,000
2)	Accreditation of Research Programmes	250,000
3)	Inspection, Monitoring and Evaluation of Research Institutions	A basic fee of 275,000 will be levied per inspection in addition to any other additional costs that will be related to the inspection

DRAFT GUIDELINES FOR STAKEHOLDER INPUT, COMMENTS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) is established by STI Act 2013(Rev. 2014) with the objective of regulating and assuring quality in the science, technology and innovation sector and advise the Government in matters related thereto. Further, Section 6(1)(p) of the STI Act mandates the Commission to develop and enforce codes, guidelines and regulations in accordance with the policy determined under this Act for the governance, management and maintenance of standards and quality in research systems. In this regard, the Commission has developed draft guidelines as listed below, and hereby invites stakeholders for their written input, comments, suggestions and recommendations by September 2021. In this regard, the Commission has developed draft STI Priorities, and Guidelines as listed below, and has circulated the same to stakeholders for their input, comments, suggestions, and recommendations. The Commission therefore reminds stakeholders who have not yet submitted their written input, suggestions and recommendations to the Commission for consideration to do so by the latest 30th November, 2021. The documents may be downloaded at NACOSTI Website www.nacosti.go.ke

- **DRAFT “NATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR REGISTRATION, LICENSING, AND REGULATION OF RESEARCHERS IN KENYA”.**
The Guideline is in line with Section 15 of the Legal Notice 106 of 2014, of the STI Act 2013, titled “STI (Registration and Accreditation of Research Institutions) Regulations, 2014”, which mandates the Commission to register, license and regulate researchers in the Scheduled Science areas.
- **DRAFT “NATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR ACCREDITATION OF ACADEMIC JOURNALS IN KENYA”.**
The Guideline is in line with Section 26 of the STI Act which specifies that “Research findings and information regarding research systems shall be stored or disseminated, utilized or applied in such a manner as may be prescribed by the Commission from time to time”.

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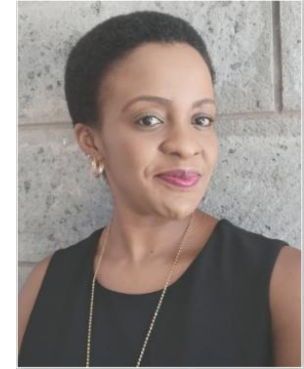
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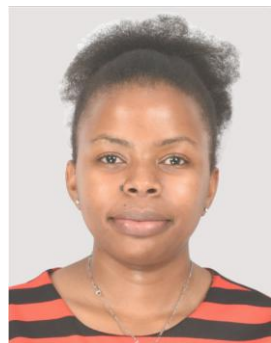
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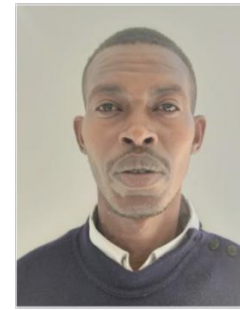
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KENYA'S NATIONAL ANTHEM

Kiswahili

1

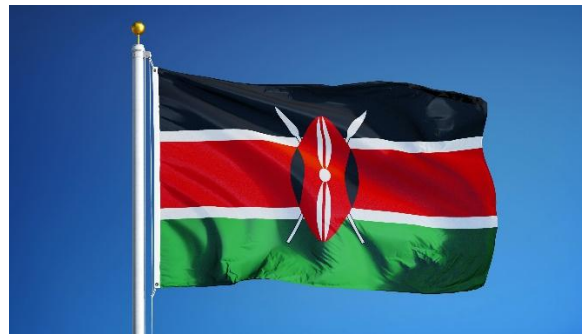
Ee Mungu nguvu yetu
Ilete baraka kwetu
Haki iwe ngao na mlinzi
Natukae na undugu
Amani na uhuru
Raha tupate na ustawi.

2

Amkeni ndugu zetu
Tufanye sote bidi
Nasi tujitoe kwa nguvu
Nchi yetu ya Kenya
Tunayoipenda
Tuwe tayari kuilinda

3

Natujenge taifa letu
Ee, ndio wajibu wetu
Kenya istahili heshima
Tuungane mikono
Pamoja kazini
Kila siku tuwe na shukrani



English

1

O God of all creation
Bless this our land and nation
Justice be our shield and defender
May we dwell in unity
Peace and liberty
Plenty be found within our borders.

2

Let one and all arise
With hearts both strong and true
Service be our earnest endeavour
And our homeland of Kenya
Heritage of splendour
Firm may we stand to defend

3

Let all with one accord
In common bond united
Build this our nation together
And the glory of Kenya
The fruit of our labour
Fill every heart with

THE EAST AFRICA COMMUNITY ANTHEM



1. Ee Mungu twaomba ulinde
Jumuiya Afrika Mashariki
Tuwezeshe kuishi kwa amani
Tutimize na malengo yetu.

Chorus

*Jumuiya Yetu sote tuilinde
Tuwajibike tuimarike
Umoja wetu ni nguzo yetu
Idumu Jumuiya yetu.*

2. Uzalendo pia mshikamano
Viwe msingi wa Umoja wetu
Natulinde Uhuru na Amani
Mila zetu na desturi zetu.

3. Viwandani na hata mashambani
Tufanye kazi sote kwa makini
Tujitoe kwa hali na mali
Tuijenge Jumuiya bora.



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