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News >> Mathira MP Escapes Irate Pro-Gachagua Demonstrators In Karatina

P. 8. As MP Eric Wamumbi Was Trying To Counter The Karatina Pro-Gachagua Demonstration, DCP Nyeri County Coordinator Wanyaga Gathaka Was Leading Another Protest In Nyeri Town.



News >> Health Staff Face Heat From Governor Njuki Over Absenteeism, Private Practice Priorities

P. 12. Tharaka Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki has sounded a stern warning to county health workers who are neglecting their public duties in favor of running or attending to their private clinics.

Ndindi: NSSF Funds Diverted To Road Construction Projects

⚡ A legislator has revealed how billions of shillings from the NSSF are diverted to fund infrastructure projects, after the private contractors ignore them. Kiharu Member of Parliament Ndindi Nyoro castigated the National Treasury for forcing the NSSF to divert workers' retirement package to fund road construction projects through the Private Public Partnership. The fiery MP and a former Budget and Appropriation committee chairman dared anyone to challenge his sentiment, for he has the evidence.



Kiharu MP Ndindi Nyoro

STORY ON PAGE 9



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Dr Thuo Mathenge
 Noo Wanguku
 Noo Wanguku
 Noo Wanguku



Mount Kenya University In New Law Training Deal With Kenyan And South African Institutes

By: MKT Reporter
@themtkenyaticimes

Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures During The Ceremony On Monday

One of the leading universities in the East African region, Mount Kenya University (MKU) has partnered with Kenyan and South African institutes to boost training in arbitration law. Its School of Law through the Center for International and Development Law signed tripartite Memorandum of Understanding with the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Kenya branch and the International Law Institute - South African Centre for Excellence (ILI-SACE) that will bolster learning in alternative dispute resolution. MKU's Centre for International and Development Law (CIDLAW), based at the Parklands Law School in Nairobi signed the agreement with the International Law Institute- South African Centre for Excellence (ILI-SACE) and CI Arb. The MOU was signed at the university's Main Campus in Thika town and witnessed by among others the institution's Vice Chancellor Prof Deogratius Jaganyi and ILI-SACE Vice Chairman Swithin Muniyanti.

By James Wakahiu



Prof. Githu Muigai Arbitration and Public International Law Expert addressing hundreds of Mount Kenya University law school students at Thika main campus.



Ms Njeri Wachira, Deputy Solicitor General International Law Division at AG's Office, receives a gift from MKU VC Professor Deogratius Jaganyi. Ms Wachira represented the AG Dorcas Oduor during the tripartite singing of CIDLAW Arbitration at MKU Main Campus.



A law student addressing the participants.



Participants pose for a commemorative photo.



Parties display the signed pact.



Former AG, Prof. Githu Muigai giving a public lecture during the ceremony.



MKU VC Professor Deogratius Jaganyi addressing the forum.



Ms Jacqueline Waihenya, Chairperson of CI Arb-Kenya and MKU Vice Chancellor Prof. Deogratius Jaganyi displaying the new MoU.



Ms Jacqueline Waihenya, Chairperson of CI Arb-Kenya and MKU Vice Chancellor Prof. Deogratius Jaganyi signing the new MoU.

Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



The Mt Kenya Times is a Kenyan Newspaper that provides a unified view of Kenyan news, entrepreneurship, events, opinions, analysis, and a historical background to current affairs in a way that is both creative and innovative. It is published by Exponential International Limited, a Private Limited Liability company incorporated in Kenya to provide Communications and Media services.

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NEWS IN BRIEF



Deputy President Kithure Kindiki says the National Government is accelerating the construction, equipment and operationalization of 47 County Aggregation and Industrial Parks (CAIPs), one per county, at a cost of KSh500 per park by 2027, in accordance with the President William Ruto's, administration manifesto.

The DP said CAIPs are for aggregation, value addition and are the first step towards an industrialised Kenya. Speaking in Buuri constituency in Meru County yesterday, Kindiki revealed that the first 13 parks including the Meru one are set for completion and operationalization by December this year. He spoke after inspecting the ongoing construction of the Meru CAIP that is 80 per cent complete, at Ruiru Rwa Reera in Buuri. The DP was accompanied by among others, Meru Governor Isaac Mutuma, Senator Kathuri Murungi, Deputy Governor Nominee Linda Kiome, Speaker of Meru Assembly Ayub Bundi and Members of the Meru County Assembly.



On the margins of World Health Assembly (WHA) 78, Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale held a bilateral engagement with Dr. Jerome Kim, Director General of the International Vaccine Institute (IVI), to explore strategic partnerships aimed at advancing vaccine research, development, and manufacturing in Africa. He emphasized on Kenya's ambition to position itself as a regional hub for vaccine production and highlighted key collaborative proposals. Central to these discussions was the development of joint vaccine research initiatives under the Africa Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator (AVMA) and Africa Vaccine Expertise Collaboration (AVEC) platforms. Kenya seeks IVI's partnership to co-develop and co-lead at least two proposal submissions by the end of 2025, focusing on vaccines targeting endemic diseases such as Rift Valley Fever, Chikungunya, and Dengue. Additionally, Duale proposed the establishment of a Regional Biomanufacturing Workforce Development Centre of Excellence. This center seeks to serve as a core facility for training and capacity building, incorporating simulation laboratories, Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP)-aligned training programs, and practical apprenticeship modules. The government requests IVI's technical expertise and support in mobilizing resources and designing the center by the end of 2025. The CS was accompanied by Amb. Fancy Too, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations Office at Geneva and Dr. Patric Amoth Director General Health.



The Engineers Board of Kenya is carrying out a training workshop for Graduate Engineers on preparation of professional examination reports for GEs working with Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) in Mombasa. This is in line with the Board's strategic intent to have 10,000 Professional Engineers by 2028 and achieve an annual target to register at least 600 engineers. The workshops are open to all engineers in public and private sectors.



Labour PS Joseph Motari yesterday participated in a high-level multi-agency meeting aimed at accelerating the implementation of the Bomas International Convention Complex (BICC) project. The meeting, chaired under the leadership of the Ministry of Defence and the State Department for Culture, brought together key government stakeholders, including Principal Secretaries Ummir Bashir (Culture), Patrick Mariru (Defence), Gitonga Mugambi (Kenya Forest Service), Eng. Joseph Mbugua (Roads) and Solicitor General Shadrack Mose. Deliberations focused on aligning institutional mandates, strengthening inter-agency coordination, and developing joint strategies to ensure this landmark national project's timely and effective delivery. I emphasized ensuring the facility is inclusive and accessible to all, particularly persons with disabilities. The BICC is envisioned as a world-class convention facility that will elevate Kenya's profile as a hub for global conferences, cultural exchange, and inclusive development.



Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation, Eng. Eric Mugaa, together with the Principal Secretary for the State Department for Irrigation, Ephantus Kimotho, held a high-level consultative meeting with the Governors of Marsabit and Turkana Mohamed Ali and Jeremiah Lomorukai, respectively, alongside senior county officials. The meeting focused on addressing challenges related to fund flow under the Drought Resilience Programme for Northern Kenya (DRPNK). Officially launched in November 2024, the DRPNK aligns with the National Irrigation Sector Investment Plan's pathway for revitalizing irrigation in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs), with the goal of enhancing farmers' resilience to drought and climate change in Marsabit and Turkana counties. Funded by the German government through KfW, the programme has faced several disbursement challenges due to bureaucratic red tape and complex administrative processes. Following a directive from President Ruto, the Ministry and the two county governments met to resolve the bottlenecks that have hindered fund absorption.



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TVET Trainers And Master Crafts Persons Trained On Recognition Of Prior Learning

By: Felix Njenga

@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

• “The efforts are as a result of strong collaboration of stakeholders like Kenya national federation Jua Kali association, TVET institutions, government agencies and development partners,” the PS stated in the speech read by the director.

• She noted that the partnerships are central to building a more inclusive accessible education system.

• “I encourage every trainer to participate and actively share your perspective and contribute to designing a module that truly addresses the diverse needs of our applicants and industries,” Kanyi read.



Master trainers and master crafts persons in Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) institutes in Kiambu are undergoing training on Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) so as to ensure trainees are well equipped in technical skills.

Speaking during the second phase of the training of trainers on RPL assessment and certification, at the Kiambu National Polytechnic (KINAP) Kiambu, the TVETs director Dr. Joseph Kanyi representing Principal Secretary TVETs Dr. Esther Muoria said that the high level training is being done with a goal of maximizing the effectiveness and impact in supporting government initiatives in formalizing the informal sector comprising over 15 million workers with recognized skills.

“The efforts are as a result of strong collaboration of stakeholders like Kenya national federation Jua Kali association, TVET institutions, gov-

ernment agencies and development partners,” the PS stated in the speech read by the director.

She noted that the partnerships are central to building a more inclusive accessible education system.

“I encourage every trainer to participate and actively share your perspective and contribute to designing a module that truly addresses the diverse needs of our applicants and industries,” Kanyi read.

The PS said that inclusivity must be at the heart of TVETs approach supporting RPL practitioners from all backgrounds and ensuring no one is left behind.

“We have expanded this training to include master crafts persons from industry and workshop laboratory technicians empowering them to participate and contribute to the assessment of RPL,” she said.

She said training is taking place in three other key regions that include

lower eastern regions, Nairobi and Bungoma county regions have been strategically restructured to ensure affordability, durability and mass roll out of RPL.

The State Department for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) has reorganized the national initiative aimed at identifying, assessing, and certifying individuals with knowledge and skills acquired through informal and non-formal learning, but lack formal qualifications.

The reorganization is aimed at lowering the cost of capacity-building TVET Trainers and Master Crafts Persons from industry to enhance uptake.

A total of 10,000 TVET trainers and Master Craft Persons are targeted for up skilling with RPL andragogy to effectively deliver RPL.

During the training, participants will undergo a 40-hour, comprehensive face-to-face training at institutional premises and another 40 hours Practi-

cal assignment.

The initiative is coordinated by the State Department through RPL Delivery Unit.

Successful participants will be awarded RPL Practitioner Level 2 Certificate of Achievement upon completion of the training.

The key components of the workshop include, training of TVET trainers and Master Crafts Persons from various regions.

The establishment of Regional RPL Implementation Committees to be chaired by National Polytechnics is collaborative regional networks that bring together RPL actors including government agencies, regulatory bodies, industry players, RPL practitioners, Assessment and Placement Hubs (AHPs), and large-scale government projects—to drive the adoption and up scaling of RPL within their regions.

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MKU Partners With Kenyan And South African Institutes To Boost Training In Arbitration Law

School Of Law Through The Center For International And Development Law Signs Tripartite Memorandum Of Understanding With The Chartered Institute Of Arbitrators, Kenya Branch And The International Law Institute - South African Centre For Excellence (ILI-SACE) To Bolster Learning In Alternative Dispute Resolution

By: James Wakahiu
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- The MOU focuses on mutual capacity building, innovation in legal practice, and advancing justice through practical, world-class learning programs.
- In the agreement, MKU, through CIDLAW, shall contribute academic infrastructure and student reach while CIARB will bring professional arbitration expertise and global networks. On its part, ILI-SACE will offer international standards in arbitration and ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) compliance training.
- Speaking during the signing of the MOU, Vice Chancellor Prof Deogratius Jaganyi said arbitration plays a vital role in fostering sustainable economic growth and ensuring fair, transparent dispute resolution mechanism across the continent. "The cost efficiencies, effectiveness and flexibility of arbitration appeals to many business owners in Kenya over court litigation," he said.

town. The Partnership establishes a tripartite framework for collaboration in the areas of alternative dispute resolution (ADR), with a special focus on investment arbitration and ESG compliance.

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The VC applauded the Kenya government through the office of the Attorney General and the judiciary for embracing arbitration within the Kenyan law systems. "CIARB Kenya has been providing quality training for local arbitrators; your impact and outstanding effort is recognized in Kenya and abroad," he said.

Prof Jaganyi said the South Africa Centre is one of the few institutions offering training in global finance and governance. "It has made significant strides in advancing legal governance and education in Africa," he said.

Welcoming the guests at the signing ceremony, the VC said the MOU is a significant milestone. He said MKU will host the first joint training programme on investment protection and arbitration in August 2024. "MKU students and alumni will be given priority in the training programme. It is a unique training opportunity since it will offer an international dimension for both current students and also practicing lawyers," he added.

The Centre for International and Development Law (CIDLAW) anchors the MKU School of Law's niche area, International and Development Law. It is the think tank on research, publications, workshops, trainings, public lectures, partnerships, and linkages.

Prof Jaganyi appreciated the collaboration between CIDLAW with various local and international partners. "Without a deliberate and strategic

action towards sustainability, we risk compromising the future of the next generation'. The VC also declared that the first training in Investment Arbitration will take place in August 2025.

Ms Jacqueline Waihenya, Chairperson, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIARB), Kenya Chapter said the opening up of global opportunities by digital technology going forward is likely to be laden with legal disputes, resulting in demand for arbitration services.

"Take advantage of this training opportunity in arbitration bearing in mind the costs of these trainings. Listen, grab something now when the costs are subsidized and ran with it," she tipped the students and invited guests.

Mr Swithin Munyantwali, Vice Chairman and Co-Founder, ILI - South African Centre for Excellence, said the spirit of the MOU is the blue print for transformation. "It signals a shared ambition between our three institutions to equip the East African legal and professional with tools that meet international arbitration," he said.

He called for intensified training and acceptance of youths as arbitrators so that Africa can stop relying on elderly arbitrators from the Western world. He said Kenya is unique and - as the former US ambassador Margaret "Meg" Whitman said recently at university in America, one of the top three investment destinations in Africa.

Attorney General Dorcas Oduor, who was the chief guest, said new complexities of international investment disputes require a new kind of legal professional. In the past decade, Africa has decried the international dispute resolution mechanism as highly skewed to foreign investors, she noted.

The AG said since 1993, over 170 investment disputes in Africa worth billions of shillings have been recorded from Africa. "Even when we win, we still lose. The Cost of defence is about \$5 million (Sh650 million) for one case. It takes four to five years to prepare for a hearing," she noted.

The Attorney General was represented by Ms Njeri Mwangi Wachira, Senior Deputy Solicitor General (international law division). She said the government is keen on protecting investors but also "safeguarding our people and to lift them out of poverty to ensure that investments are beneficial to the population".

She said the Kenya government has taken measures to protect the nation from rogue investors while safe-



MKU Partners With Kenyan And South African Institutes To Boost Training In Arbitration Law



Swithin Munyantwali, Vice Chairman of ILI-SACE and MKU Vice Chancellor Prof. Deogratius Jaganyi signing the new MOU at MKU Thika campus. Photos/Courtesy

guarding the rights of genuine ones. This includes adoption by the Cabinet of a decision to terminate, revoke or renegotiate old bilateral investment agreements and treaties that were mostly detrimental to the country.

"In 2019, the Attorney General, in consultation with the national Treasury spearheaded the process of development a new investment policy and models for bilateral treaties which continue to guard the nation," she said.

However, she cautioned, treaties and bilateral agreements are not enough. "This MOU creates a pipeline for training from classrooms to courtrooms and boardrooms," she said.

Key activities under this MOU include organizing high-profile public lectures on investment arbitration and emerging legal themes, the first of which is to be held after the signing of the MoU with Keynote speaker, Prof. Githu Muigai. The partners will co-deliver arbitration training and certification, with CIARB offering its entry course at discounted rates and ILI-SACE providing advanced modules. Students may qualify for

Associate Membership with CIARB and scholarships for further train-

ing. The collaboration also involves joint research on topics like ESG compliance, the use of mediation in public-private dispute resolution, and the integration of investment arbitration within Kenya's trade ecosystem, amongst others.

This will result in the publication in peer-reviewed academic journals, policy briefs, and institutional repositories. Additionally, curriculum enrichment at MKU will be supported through guest lectures, masterclasses, and mentorship forums.

Further, the partners will jointly develop CPD-accredited programs tailored for legal and corporate professionals across East and Southern Africa and host moot court competitions, ADR conferences, and roundtables. MKU students will also be exposed to regional ADR events such as CIARB's annual ADR Week. To enhance knowledge access, CIARB and ILI-SACE will donate learning resources and possibly invest in shared digital platforms.

Mount Kenya University (MKU) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIARB) Kenya Branch and a South Africa-based institute, International Law Institute - South African Centre for Excellence (ILI-SACE) that has expertise on arbitration of global legal disputes.

MKU's Centre for International and Development Law (CIDLAW), based at the Parklands Law School in Nairobi signed the tripartite agreement with the International Law Institute- South African Centre for Excellence (ILI-SACE) and CIARB.

The MOU was signed at the university's main campus in Thika

Mathira MP Escapes Irate Pro-Gachagua Demonstrators In Karatina

As MP Eric Wamumbi Was Trying To Counter The Karatina Pro-Gachagua Demonstration, DCP Nyeri County Coordinator Wanyaga Gathaka Was Leading Another Protest In Nyeri Town. Last Night Kikuyu Community Patron Dr Thuo Mathenge Condemned The Protests And Attacks, Calling On Citizens To Preach And Live Peacefully

By: MKT Correspondents
 @themtkenyetimes

Mathira Member of Parliament Eric Wamumbi hoped into a Probox to escape from irate pro- Gachagua demonstrators in Karatina yesterday.

Female market traders who are fanatically loyal to former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua had started preparing for demonstrations when they were confronted by goons said to have been unleashed by the legislator.

Trouble started when the thugs leader slapped one of the traders, resulting in her colleagues crying out for assistance.

The slim, tall fellow who is dreaded in the town is said to be the area leader of the proscribed Mungiki sect was accosted by the traders about 200 metres from the market and handed a thorough beating.

By press time, he was said to be in critical condition in one of Nairobi hospitals where he was transferred to after Karatina level 4 hospital authorities refused to admit him fearing that he might be dragged out of the wards by residents.

The situation was not made any better by the arrival of the MP moments later and started boasting that he would single handedly man the town and bring the demo to an end infuriating the already charged residents.

His bodyguard momentarily lost his gun after his attempt to cock and shoot in the air was thwarted by youth who hit his arm leading to the pistol and its contents flying off metres away.

In the melee the lawmaker hoped into a Probox car and driven off as scores of security officers flooded the often cool and busy town.

Businesses in the town were closed for the better part of the day as traders feared looters might take advantage.

In Nyeri town, hundreds of security officers flooded the town thwarting attempts of residents to hold demonstrations.

Gachagua's new found Party, Democracy for the Citizens Party (DCP) Nyeri County coordinator, Wanyaga Gathaka moved across the town accompanied by boda boda riders but was accosted by security officers and

denied space to have a fully-fledged demonstration.

He was however able to address a group of supporters in the town centre where he urged them to join the new party enmasse as a way of solidarity with the former Deputy President.

By last evening, tension was high in the county as word spread that the proscribed group would attack in the night to avenge for their leader, but youth who sought for anonymity vowed to deal with them accordingly.

Though the group has had a low profile in recent years, memories of their heinous acts still linger among residents .

In August, 2010, in Gathaithi village on the border of Nyeri and Kirinyaga counties, 29 residents were butchered in cold blood and residents still shudder at a possible recurrence. Last evening, Nyeri industrialist, Dr Thuo Mathenge condemned the fracas witnessed yesterday terming it as unfortunate incidents.

Dr Mathenge who is the patron of the Kikuyu community said he was deeply saddened by the incident that happened in Karatina saying it should not be witnessed again.

“We need to preach peace to all. Why should people of the same place, speaking same language attack each other? We need to live as brothers and sisters who care for each other;”



Democracy for the Citizens Party (DCP) Nyeri County coordinator Wanyaga Gathaka (in white) addressing Nyeri town residents yesterday.

said Dr Mathenge who is the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO) chairman as well The New Democrats (TND) political party chairman.



Mathira constituency MP Eric Wamumbi (left) with anti-Gachagua demonstrators in Karatina town yesterday. Photos/Courtesy..



Dr Thuo Mathenge.

Ndindi: NSSF Funds Diverted To Road Construction Projects

By: Morris Githenya
 @themkenyatimes

A legislator has revealed how billions of shillings from the NSSF are diverted to fund infrastructure projects, after the private contractors ignore them.

Kiharu Member of Parliament Ndindi Nyoro castigated the National Treasury for forcing the NSSF to divert workers' retirement package to fund road construction projects through the Private Public Partnership.

The fiery MP and a former Budget and Appropriation committee chairman dared anyone to challenge his sentiment, for he has the evidence.

He said the diversion of the workers retirement package has been committed to development projects without parliamentary approval.

Speaking at Mothers Union Hall in Murang'a town, when he met the constituency bursary committees, said workers' retirement package had

been diverted to fund infrastructure projects without contributors' knowledge.

"The decision makers should stop seeking unnecessary debts, thus should utilise the resources collected by KRA," he noted.

He said it was suicidal for billions of shillings entrusted to the NSSF forced to fund infrastructure projects, that the private constructors are not interested with.

He added that the country's debts were rising thus being in bad books with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

He observed that Kenya's external debt was at KSh11.3 trillion compared to the late President Mwai Kibaki KSh1.2 trillion in his 10 years.

"The worst scenario is Sh175 billion borrowed secretly by the government, and after 10 years, the interest plus principal will be at Sh 300 billion. The amount was borrowed guaranteed by the fuel levy fund at Sh7 per litre of petrol," said the MP.



Kiharu MP Ndindi Nyoro arriving at Mothers Union in Murang'a town hall where he met constituency bursary fund..

Public Health Practitioners Launch Fight For Turf Control From Colleagues

By: Erick Kyalo
 @themkenyatimes

Environmental and Public Health officers have decried being overshadowed by key institutions and departments under Infections, Prevention and Control (IPC) by medical colleagues in the curative field.

The Public Health Officers (PHOs) claim that doctors and nurses who essentially deal with curative measures in the healthcare system have invaded their departments and taken leadership roles in disease prevention areas, which is their turf.

Speaking during a meeting in Garissa County led by the national General Secretary of the Kenya Environmental Health and Public Health practitioners (KEHPHU), Brown Ashira, the PHOs want counties to post their qualified members to IPC departments.

"Infections, prevention and control (IPC) is a reserve of public health, primary healthcare is also a reserve of public health. We know there are colleagues in the clinical areas who have

occupied IPC and we are putting them on notice and we are telling them to relinquish those positions," Ashira said.

"We are asking the Chief Officer in charge to post qualified PHOs to be in charge of Infections, Prevention and Control and also the public health department in Garissa. We cannot allow intruders, people who masquerade as public health officers, coming in to be in charge of public health departments," he added.

The union further wants the Garissa county government to recruit enough PHOs to meet the World Health Organization (WHO) recommended ratio to population.

"Garissa county government has failed to employ the number of public health officers required to fight diseases. As we speak, there is an outbreak of polio in this county but we only have 60 public health officers serving a population of 800,000 people. The World Health Organization (WHO) ratios are very clear that one PHO is supposed to serve around 6,500 – 7,000 people," Ashira said.

Among other issues the PHOs are raising include alleged sidelining during promotions and management



of the Facility Improvement Fund (FIF).

"As public health officers, we collect and mobilize revenue. It is very sad that we collect revenue and then the FIF act that revenue is not ring-fenced. We mobilize medical certificates, give yellow fever vaccines, enforce food hygiene licenses and provide other resources. It is very immaterial for somebody else to say that a sub-county PHO cannot access these funds," said Juma Mahero, the KEHPHU's

national vice chairperson.

"We need our officers to be signatories to the FIF just like the act says. We have curative and preventive. We are the only people leading in prevention and we cannot miss out on the FIF because we are generating a lot of revenue," he added.

Antony Kilonzo, the Garissa branch secretary general for KEHPHU said that Garissa County is faced with frequent disease outbreaks mainly as a result of cross-border migration from

the neighbouring countries which may not have consistent vaccinations for their population.

"The biggest issue in this county is the frequent outbreak of diseases. You will find that we have outbreaks of polio, we have outbreaks of measles and cholera in very large numbers currently and we have Dengue fever and measles. We are also currently investigating a polio case in Dadaab Sub County," Kilonzo said.

Push For More Huduma Centres As PS Imbunya Seeks Increased Budget Allocation

By: PSCU

Public Service Principal Secretary Dr. Jane Imbunya has appealed to the National Assembly's Committee on Labour to consider increasing budgetary allocations for the expansion of Huduma Centres across the country.

Dr. Imbunya made the request during a presentation on the State Department's Budget Estimates for the next financial year.

She emphasized the need to enhance access to government services, particularly in rural and underserved areas, by establishing Huduma Centres in every sub-county.

"Our goal is to bring services closer to the people by constructing Huduma Centres in all sub-counties," she stated, adding that the initiative would significantly improve public service delivery at the grassroots.

The PS further called for collaboration with Members of Parliament



Principal Secretary Jane Imbunya.



Committee members during yesterday's session.

through the National Government Constituencies Development Fund (NGCDF) to support the construction of the centres. She assured the committee that the ministry is ready to equip and operationalize the centres once infrastructure is in place.

Dr. Imbunya also disclosed that the department is exploring revenue-shar-

ing mechanisms from services offered at the centres to ensure their sustainability and effective service delivery.

"The department seeks to retain a share of the revenue generated from the centres to support their operations and ensure continuity," she said.

However, members of the committee raised concerns about the expansion

strategy. Committee Chairperson Ken Chonga who is also the Kilifi South MP urged the ministry to prioritize the completion of stalled Huduma Centre projects before initiating new ones.

"It is prudent to complete existing projects before starting new ones to ensure effective use of public funds and deliver services promptly to the

people," Chonga remarked.

Vice Chair and Kangundo MP Fabian Muli echoed the sentiments and recommended site inspections to monitor progress and enhance accountability.

"We need to understand the status of ongoing projects so we can provide appropriate support for their completion," Muli said.

Gichugu TVET Has Introduced Two Courses, Machine Operator And Driving Courses

By: David Wandeto
@themkenyatimes

Gichugu Technical Vocation College (TVC) is a state-of-the-art public technical training institute with well-furnished workshops and laboratories to give the best to our learners.

Furthermore, with these new courses and support from Machere College, the institution's leadership aims to provide the best learning experience by equipping students with modern skills that are essential for the job market.

Speaking during the launching of the two courses, school Principal Joseph Kimemei said the school has decided to work with the private sector to give competence and quality skills to learners.

Additionally, Vision 2030 predicts industrialization in Kenya, increasing demand for technical courses. Thus, calls for youths and skilled

individuals to obtain certificates for better courses and better pay.

On the other hand, Samuel Murange, the administrator operations manager at the Machele Group of Companies, says the school will work hard with the TVETs, saying they are targeting more youth who will be equipped with relevant skills. Murange reports three-month courses for machine operator experts, citing high demand in Kenya, with many counties signing working contracts and a high demand for skilled workers in this field.

However, he has called on parents to take advantage of the courses in the school, saying the burden to travel for distance to get these courses.

Symon Munene Nyanga student at Gichungu TVET taking plant operator courses, thanks the school administration for introducing the course in school, adding that he hopes he will get skills that will make him fit in the job market.



Students undergoing training at Gichugu TVET

Harmonization Of Seed Policies Key In Achieving Food Security In The COMESA Region

By: Joseph Ng'ang'a
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- “The potential of the total seed market in the COMESA region is at 2 million (Metric Tons) MT of quality and improved seed; however, the region is currently producing and accessing less than 500,000 MT of quality and improved seed. This is equivalent to 2 percent of the global seed production and value,” said Dr Mukuka.

- He explained that the above challenge is attributed to the fact that the regional seed market is still fragmented into small national markets, and each country operates its seed policies and regulations differently from other COMESA Member States.

- “Seed companies therefore enter each of the national seed markets separately and individually. This is not only costly for the seed companies but also results in prolonged delays before seeds of good quality can find their way to the small-scale farmers,” he disclosed.

Harmonization of seed policies and regulations has been termed a key ingredient in enhancing seed production, reliability, and trade including increasing the competitiveness of the seed industry.

To expedite the process, The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), through its Specialized Agency, the Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa (ACTESA) has put in place the COMESA Seed Trade Harmonization Regulations.

ACTESA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dr John Mukuka said that according to the COMESA statistics, out of the 90 million smallholder farmers in the COMESA region, only 20 percent have access to quality and improved seeds.

Speaking in Nairobi during the regional COMESA Seed Harmonization Plan (COMSHIP), Dr Mukuka said that about 130 million people out of a total of 610 million COMESA population remain food insecure and experience chronic poverty and hunger.

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In view of the above challenge, Dr Mukuka said that they have put in place the COMESA Seed Trade Harmonization Regulations.

“To expedite implementation of the regulations both at the national and regional levels, the Regional Enterprise Competitiveness and Access to Markets Programme (RECAMP), funded under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF), is currently under implementation,” said Dr. Mukuka.

He noted that progress has been made on COMSHIP since 2015 and so far, 119 varieties have been reg-



Ms. Florence Munguti

istered from 20 seed companies and CGIAR centres in the COMESA Region in line with COMSHIP.

“Seed companies are now able to commercialize their seed without the two to three years required before commercialization,” he said.

Dr Mukuka added that the COMESA Seed Trade Harmonization Regulations have been officially gazetted in 11 COMESA Member States, namely, Burundi, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eswatini, Malawi, Rwanda, Kenya, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, with DR Congo earmarked for the official gazette of the COMESA Seed Trade Harmonization Regulations end of May 2025.

He disclosed that COMSHIP Standard Operating Procedures for 13 COMESA Staple Food Crops of Barley, beans, sorghum, wheat, maize, cassava, irish potatoes, groundnuts, soybeans, sunflower, cotton, rice, and pearl millet are in place with the support of EU-RECAMP and AGRA.

Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) Managing Director Prof Theophilus Mutui said that seeds are the foundation of the entire farming ecosystem and therefore,

high-quality, certified seeds are essential to achieving optimal yields, resilient crops, and sustainable farming practices.

In a speech read on his behalf by KEPHIS Ag. Director Laboratory Services Ms. Florence Munguti, Prof Mutui said: “Over the years, KEPHIS has worked diligently to develop robust regulatory frameworks, quality assurance systems, and certification procedures for seeds produced, tested, and distributed across our country.”

He stated that KEPHIS participated from inception at the COMESA Regional Seed harmonization and the regional validation of the COMESA Seed Harmonization Implementation Programme in May 2015.

“COMESA Regional Seed Labels were developed through a software by Mpedigree that was initially used by KEPHIS. In this regard, KEPHIS is happy to use the COMESA Regional Seed Labels based on the COMESA Seed Trade Harmonization Regulations,” he said.

He explained that the label has features showing the species, variety, lot number, test certificate number, and

date of test. In addition, the COMESA Regional certificate has logos of the country of the seed produced and COMESA, including Seed Treatment and COMESA declaration.

COMESA European Development Fund (EDF) Programme Manager Mshuka Kamwela said that with the financial support of the European Union through the 11th EDF Regional Enterprise Competitiveness and Access to Markets Programme (RECAMP), support has been provided to raise awareness, build institutional capacity, and assist Member States in aligning their national seed laws with COMESA Seed Trade Harmonisation Regulations.

“This validation workshop is a testament to the commitment of all Member States and stakeholders in strengthening regional seed trade, improving access to quality seed for smallholder farmers, and enhancing food security and agricultural transformation in the COMESA region,” said Kamwela.

Health Staff Face Heat From Governor Njuki Over Absenteeism, Private Practice Priorities

By: Alex Njeru
 @themtkenyatimes

Tharaka Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki has sounded a stern warning to county health workers who are neglecting their public duties in favor of running or attending to their private clinics.

Addressing congregants on Sunday during a service at the PCEA Jennifer Njuki Memorial Church in Chuka/Igambang'ombe Constituency, Governor Njuki expressed concern over growing complaints from patients regarding slow or absent medical attention at public hospitals despite the county having employed a significant number of healthcare professionals.

"I have information that there are many health workers who have concentrated on their private health facilities, neglecting their duties at public hospitals," said the visibly irate governor. "I will be making impromptu visits to these facilities and anyone found abandoning their duties will face serious disciplinary action."

Njuki emphasized the county's investment in the health sector and warned that any form of laxity will not be tolerated, particularly from public servants who continue to draw salaries while underperforming.

The governor also updated the public on the restoration of services at Chuka County Referral Hospital, which had experienced disruptions following a power surge that crippled the outpatient block.

He announced that the county has since installed a high-capacity generator to ensure continuity of services during blackouts and replaced the equipment damaged during the incident.

Expanding his tough talk to other departments, Governor Njuki warned all county employees against complacency and laziness, urging them to justify their salaries through dedicated service delivery.

The governor also took a swipe at political opponents eyeing his position, cautioning them to hold their ambitions until the right time.

"Elections are not near. This is not the time for early campaigns. We still have work to do," Njuki remarked, adding that all county staff should focus on their current roles instead of engaging in premature political activities.

Deputy Governor Nyaga Muisrael stood firmly by the governor's stance, praising Njuki's leadership and reaffirming their joint commitment to fulfilling their development agenda.

He accused certain politicians of sabotaging tax collection efforts and misleading the public into demonstrations under false pretenses of



Tharaka Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki during the Service at PCEA Jennifer Njuki Memorial Church. Photo/ Alex Njeru

failed development.

"Let's be honest about our financial challenges instead of inciting the public. We must protect our institutions and work together to find solutions," said Muisrael.

Speaker of the County Assembly John Mbabu echoed similar sentiments, commending Governor Njuki for uniting the county leadership and overseeing transformative projects.

He pledged that the county assembly would continue supporting the executive in its development plans.

Meanwhile, Members of the County Assembly (MCAs), led by Godfrey Murithi (Karingani), Justin Kithinji (Magumoni), and Zachary Njagi (Ig-

ambang'ombe), condemned leaders allegedly inciting tax boycotts.

They warned that areas resisting revenue collection would not benefit from county-funded development projects.

"If you ask your people to stop paying revenue, then don't expect your ward to benefit from money collected in others," said Mr. Njagi.

Mr. Murithi noted that over 50 percent of local revenue comes from Karingani ward, yet he has never demanded preferential treatment in terms of development.

The MCAs maintained that tax sabotage is politically motivated and intended to undermine Governor Nju-

ki's administration.

In a show of political loyalty, the MCAs declared their intention to support Njuki's bid for the senatorial seat in 2027 or any national government appointment he may pursue.

"Whether he runs for Senate or joins the national government, we will support him all the way," said Mr. Kithinji.

The unfolding political undercurrents and governance issues in Tharaka Nithi signal a potentially heated lead-up to 2027, even as Governor Njuki maintains that service delivery remains his top priority.



A section of Members of Tharaka Nithi County Assembly during a church service at PCEA Jennifer Njuki Memorial Church. Photo/ Alex Njeru

Worth Noting:

- Njuki emphasized the county's investment in the health sector and warned that any form of laxity will not be tolerated, particularly from public servants who continue to draw salaries while underperforming.
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- He announced that the county has since installed a high-capacity generator to ensure continuity of services during blackouts and replaced the equipment damaged during the incident.
- Expanding his tough talk to other departments, Governor Njuki warned all county employees against complacency and laziness, urging them to justify their salaries through dedicated service delivery.

CSOs Push For Increased Budget Allocation To Child Welfare Services



By: Cynthia Masibo
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- “With just over Ksh 11 billion allocated to the new State Department, this translates to only Ksh 260 per child for all welfare services — an amount too low to effectively rescue, protect, and support our children,” the coalition stated. “Even though children are small, their needs are not, and the cost of inaction is far greater — estimated at over \$10.8 billion annually in economic losses and health consequences.”
- The CSOs have proposed a Ksh 4.5 billion increase in funding for the Directorate of Children Services. This would finance county-level operations, care reform implementation, prevention and response to violence against children, and the expansion of child participation programs.



Civil society organization representatives issuing their address to the media

A coalition of 30 child-focused civil society organizations (CSOs) from across the country has called on the government to significantly increase budgetary allocations towards child welfare services in the 2025/26 national budget.

Speaking during a press briefing, the organizations applauded the establishment of the State Department for Children Welfare Services and commended Kenya’s continued commitment to upholding children’s rights as stipulated in Article 53 of the Constitution, the Children Act 2022, and international instruments such as the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.

However, the CSOs expressed concern over the limited budgetary allocations to child protection services despite the country’s growing population of children, who constitute 46% of the population.

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this translates to only Ksh 260 per child for all welfare services — an amount too low to effectively rescue, protect, and support our children,” the coalition stated. “Even though children are small, their needs are not, and the cost of inaction is far greater — estimated at over \$10.8 billion annually in economic losses and health consequences.”

The CSOs have proposed a Ksh 4.5 billion increase in funding for the Directorate of Children Services. This would finance county-level operations, care reform implementation, prevention and response to violence against children, and the expansion of child participation programs.

Specifically, the proposals include Ksh 1.4 billion to support operations across 47 counties and 336 sub-counties, Ksh 600 million for care reform efforts such as family tracing and reintegration, and another Ksh 600 million for prevention and response initiatives to address the alarming rates of child violence, including sexual

and physical abuse.

Additionally, Ksh 500 million is requested to facilitate child participation forums, while Ksh 400 million would support positive parenting programs. A further Ksh 1.29 billion would go toward increasing the number of children officers at the sub-county level, addressing a 40% vacancy rate in existing posts.

Non-financial recommendations were also issued, including the call to clearly distinguish between Social Development Programmes and Children Welfare Services within the new State Department. The CSOs also urged the formation of new departments focused on Child Participation and Ending Violence Against Children.

They criticized the current budget indicators as misaligned with the State Department’s new mandate and pushed for the revision of performance indicators to reflect the goals of the National Care Reform Strategy (2022–2032).

Of particular concern was the unutilized Victim Support Fund, currently standing at Ksh 32 million. The CSOs recommended its reallocation to the Directorate of Children Services to support victims of abuse.

Lastly, the coalition urged the operationalization of the Child Welfare Fund, as provided in Section 12(7) of the Children Act 2022, recommending an annual allocation of Ksh 1 billion up to 2030 to strengthen case management and community-level interventions.

With 26 million Kenyans under the age of 18, the CSOs emphasized the importance of making budget documents more child-friendly and inclusive. They called on the Treasury and National Assembly to facilitate children’s participation in budgeting and planning processes to ensure their voices are heard and their rights are upheld.

Alive Outside, Dead Indoors



I'm alive outside. Dead indoors.
I died when you betrayed my trust—but
I held on.
I died when you lied to my face, over and
over.
When you disrespected me.
When you stopped seeing my worth.
When you no longer called me your
peace.
When you found peace elsewhere.
That's when you began your own
destruction.

It started when you ignored my pain.
When you let it pile up inside me.

When my feelings no longer mattered.
When you stopped asking, "How are
you?"
When my smile became a mask, and you
never noticed.
When you celebrated alone, though I was
with you all along.

It started when you stopped listening.
When I was always the bigger person.
When I became invisible unless you
needed me.
When I lay there hurting, and you never
cared.
When you weren't there to wipe my
tears.
When I lost my mind, and you never saw
it.
When I lost my breath every single day.

And now...
I don't know what's left of me.
Just pieces I can't put back together.

By Cathren Gathoni

The Role Of Artificial Intelligence In Learning English



By: Nilufar Qosimova

English has become the most widespread and essential international language, serving as a key to success across various fields. With the advancement of technology, artificial intelligence (AI) plays a crucial role in making English learning more efficient and engaging. AI-driven methods contribute to the development of educational techniques, introduce interactive learning approaches, and help personalize the learning experience based on individual needs.

Artificial intelligence fosters interactivity in language acquisition. For instance, virtual assistants such as Siri, Google

Assistant, and Alexa assist learners in correctly pronouncing words and phrases in real-time, expanding their vocabulary, and improving comprehension. These AI-powered tools analyze language mistakes, offering corrections and helping learners recognize their weaknesses.

Errors are an inevitable part of learning a language, but AI can significantly aid in their analysis and refinement. Advanced applications detect grammatical inaccuracies, suggest proper word usage, and ensure correct sentence construction. By integrating AI into education, the language learning process becomes more dynamic and effective, equipping learners with essential tools for success.

With AI-driven innovations, mastering English transforms into an exciting journey—one where learners receive continuous guidance, feedback, and motivation to achieve fluency.

Jizzakh State Pedagogical University,
English Practical Course,
Teacher Nilufar Qosimova

The Test Of True Friendship



By: Sayitqulova Shahnoza

The village of Chamanzor was once a simple place. The fields swayed in quiet waves, people knew each other well, and everyone lived by their fate, bound to life through hard work. In this village, two friends—Sadir and Asad—grew up together. Their lives were vastly different: Sadir came from a wealthy family, his father was a successful businessman, while Asad was born into a poor household where his father worked tirelessly in the fields and his mother was a seamstress. Despite these differences, Sadir and Asad played together as children, studied side by side in school, and became inseparable. Yet, the world around them constantly tested their friendship. "A rich boy will never stay friends with a poor one!" people would say. "Sadir will eventually go his own way!" "Asad will only be a burden to him!" Many tried to convince Asad to step back, thinking his friendship with Sadir was impossible. But they never listened, holding onto the

strength of their bond. Years passed, and life put them through various trials. Sadir followed his family's path, becoming a successful businessman. Asad, on the other hand, pursued his education, traveled abroad for research, and finally made a name for himself through his intellectual contributions. Both reached great heights, earning wealth and recognition.

Yet, success did not change them. Sadir remembered the promises of their childhood—Asad was still by his side. Together, they decided to help struggling families, opening a charity foundation to provide housing, education, and medical assistance to those in need.

One day, as they returned to their village, an elderly woman welcomed them with tearful eyes—it was Asad's mother. Overcome with emotion, she turned to Sadir and said:
— Thank you, my son, for never abandoning him. Your friendship has truly stood the test of time...

Sadir smiled and replied:
— We were never apart, Mother. Now, it's time to give back to those in need!

Their friendship had endured every hardship, survived countless obstacles, and emerged unbreakable. They were no longer just successful men, but pillars of hope for the less fortunate. Sadir and Asad's story was not a fairy tale, but a reflection of life itself. They proved that friendship is never defined by wealth or poverty—it is only measured by the purity of the heart.

Life is what you make it
So many are coming at it wrong
Victims
Seeing that life happens 'to them'
Life is bad 'for them'
But life is life
In and of itself, it simply is what it is
Shakespeare was a genius.
"There is nothing good or bad, but thinking makes it
so."
We are obsessed by the truth.
Yet we don't live true to ourselves
You are a human after all
Who can change your perspective on things
See things differently
Feel things differently
Because you have cognition
Yet you're stuck, falling in a life of waiting and cursing
When you could be discovering and creating
If only you come from a place of creation
Rather than having to know
Your life would transform miraculously

Sayitqulova Shahnoza

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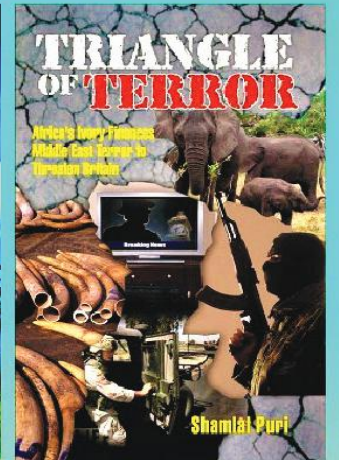
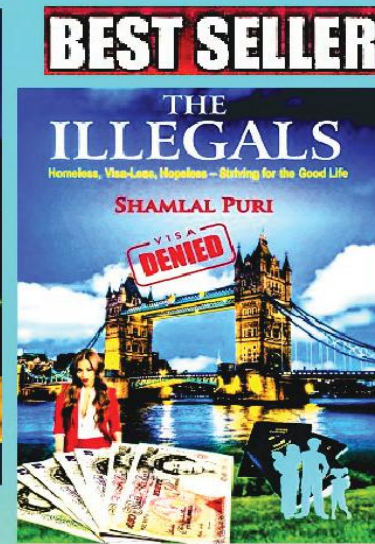
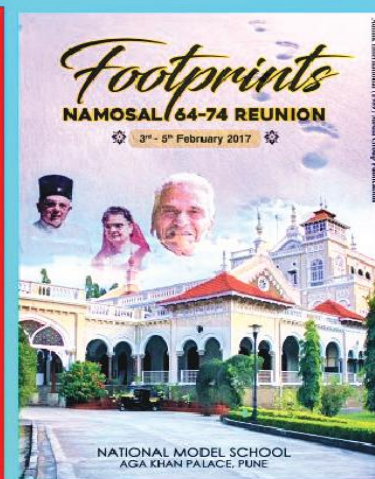
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ENERGY

Advocating For Affordable And Clean Energy, Decent Work And Proper Economy: SDG 7 And SDG 8 In Kenya's Vision

By: Tonny Kyule
 @themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- Besides access to energy, we must spur decent work and economic growth as enshrined under SDG 8. Kenya boasts of a strong economy but an under-employment and youth unemployment bedeviled economy. We require a business-friendly environment to spur innovation and entrepreneurship if we are to realize the full potential of our youth. Empowerment of SMEs by enhancing access to finance, training, and mentorship will create jobs and stimulate local economies.
- We should also enhance good labor practices and decent work. Everyone should be treated with respect, receive a decent wage, and enjoy a healthy workplace where they can excel. By enforcing labor law and encouraging corporate social responsibility, we can have a just workforce where everyone can flourish.

Underlying Kenya's vibrancy is tremendous potential to propel economic growth in an inclusive and no-one-left-behind manner. Sustainable Development Goals 7 and 8; modern, affordable, reliable, sustainable, and efficient energy for all and decent work for all and durable productive employment are the window of opportunity to build a prosperous future. In adopting them, we open the door to a more just society.

Vision a Kenya with every household powered by clean and green energy, energizing the country and changing lives. Energy is the foundation of development; it illuminates industries, schools, and homes. However, the humongous majority of Kenyans are still using outdated sources of energy, which not only waste but also ruin. We can also achieve a cleaner future in energy by investing in cleaner forms of energy such as solar energy, wind energy, and hydroelectric energy. These investment initiatives not only decrease our dependency on fossil fuels, but they also create job

opportunities and stimulate economic growth in the regions.

Availability of clean energy is particularly significant in rural villages, where electricity may introduce education and economic opportunity. Look at a school where children are able to study at night, or a small business that is able to stay open late due to inexpensive energy. With availability of energy, we empower people to pursue their dreams and contribute back to society, making economic development from the ground up.

Besides access to energy, we must spur decent work and economic growth as enshrined under SDG 8. Kenya boasts of a strong economy but an under-employment and youth unemployment bedeviled economy. We require a business-friendly environment to spur innovation and entrepreneurship if we are to realize the full potential of our youth. Empowerment of SMEs by enhancing access to finance, training, and mentorship will create jobs and stimulate local economies.

We should also enhance good labor practices and decent work. Everyone should be treated with respect, receive a decent wage, and enjoy a healthy workplace where they can excel. By enforcing labor law and encouraging corporate social responsibility, we can have a just workforce where everyone can flourish.

While working towards SDG 7 and 8, we must also work out the issue of inequality. Growth has to be inclusive for all society and not for elite society. That requires marginalized society policies and growth that includes everyone. Education and skill training for marginalized communities can put them into the workplace and render them productive citizens of the economy.

To achieve this, we need to create synergy between the public and private sectors. Synergy will provide innovative solutions for bridging energy access divides and building sustainable jobs markets. We can share our collective resources and abilities and make a worthwhile contribution.

SDG 7 and SDG 8 realization is a shared agenda. It needs government, business community, civil society, and communities to unite towards its realization. We can collaborate on actions to drive inclusive economic growth and access to energy and decent work for everyone.

Ultimately, the vision of a Kenya powered by economic growth through renewable energy and inequality reduction is possible. With the achievement of these Sustainable Development Goals, we can have a world wherein we can all coexist with the capability to prosper and be given a chance to be able to make a contribution to a prospering nation.

Tonny Kyule is an advocate of SDGs vision 2030 in Rongo University and a writer of the Journalism student association of Kenya.



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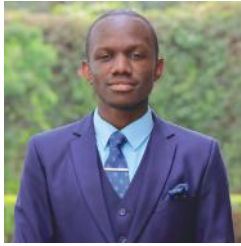
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The Nexus Of ESG And Climate Financing: Catalyzing A Sustainable Future



By: Odhiambo Jerameel Kevins Owuor
@themkenyatimes

In 2023, global sustainable investment assets reached approximately \$30 trillion, a testament to the growing influence of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) frameworks in shaping financial markets. This figure, reported by the Global Sustainable Investment Alliance, reflects a 15% increase from 2020, driven largely by heightened investor focus on climate-related risks and opportunities. Climate financing, a critical subset of ESG investing, has surged, with over \$1 trillion mobilized annually to support low-carbon and climate-resilient projects, according to the Climate Policy Initiative. Yet, achieving the Paris Agreement's goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C requires an estimated \$4.3 trillion per year by 2030, highlighting a significant funding gap. This convergence of ESG principles and climate financing represents a transformative nexus, where financial decisions align with environmental imperatives and social equity. This article explores this dynamic interplay, delving into the mechanics of ESG, the role of climate finance, and their collective impact on fostering a sustainable global economy.

Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) investing is a framework that integrates non-financial factors into investment decisions to promote long-term sustainability and ethical outcomes. The environmental pillar focuses on a company's impact on the planet, encompassing metrics like carbon emissions, energy efficiency, and waste management. For instance, a manufacturing firm reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by adopting renewable energy demonstrates strong environmental performance. The social component evaluates how organizations manage relationships with employees, communities, and customers, prioritizing fair labor practices, diversity, and community engagement. Governance, meanwhile, examines corporate leadership, transparency, and ethical practices, such as anti-corruption measures and board diversity. Together, these pillars guide investors to support companies that mitigate risks and create value beyond profit, aligning capital with societal and environmental goals.

Climate finance refers to the flow of funds public, private, or blended toward projects and initiatives that address climate change, either through mitigation (reducing emissions) or adaptation (building resilience to climate impacts). In 2022, global climate finance flows reached \$1.3 tril-



lion, yet this falls short of the \$8.6 trillion annually needed by 2030 to meet global climate targets, as estimated by the International Energy Agency. Examples include investments in renewable energy infrastructure, such as wind farms in India, or adaptation projects like flood-resistant urban planning in the Netherlands. Climate finance is often channeled through green bonds, which saw issuances of \$580 billion in 2023, or through multilateral development banks like the World Bank, which committed \$70 billion to climate projects last year. By prioritizing low-carbon and resilient development, climate finance bridges the gap between economic growth and environmental stewardship. It operates within the ESG framework, emphasizing the environmental pillar while intersecting with social and governance aspects, such as ensuring equitable access to clean energy.

The nexus of ESG and climate finance lies in their shared goal: aligning capital allocation with sustainable outcomes. ESG frameworks provide the metrics and standards to evaluate a company's or project's sustainability, while climate finance supplies the capital to act on those evaluations. For example, a solar energy company with high ESG scores—due to low emissions, fair labor practices, and transparent governance is more likely to attract climate finance through green bonds or impact funds. In 2021, global ESG funds saw inflows of \$350 billion, with 40% directed toward climate-focused initiatives, according to Morningstar. This synergy drives innovation, as seen in Tesla's ability to secure \$10 billion in sustainable financing since 2018, fueled by its high

ESG ratings and leadership in electric vehicles. By integrating ESG criteria, climate finance ensures investments are not only profitable but also resilient to regulatory shifts and climate risks, creating a virtuous cycle of sustainability and value creation.

The environmental pillar of ESG is central to climate finance, as it directly addresses the urgent need to curb greenhouse gas emissions. Companies with strong environmental performance, such as those reducing scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions, are prioritized for climate finance. For instance, Unilever's commitment to net-zero emissions by 2039 has attracted \$2 billion in sustainability-linked loans, which tie interest rates to ESG performance. Data from the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) shows that firms adopting TCFD recommendations disclosing climate risks and opportunities see a 10% reduction in borrowing costs. Climate finance supports such efforts by funding renewable energy, energy-efficient technologies, and reforestation projects. A relatable example is a small coffee shop chain in Seattle switching to solar-powered operations, funded by a local green bond, demonstrating how ESG-driven climate finance scales from global corporations to local businesses.

The social component of ESG ensures climate finance addresses human welfare alongside environmental goals. Investments in climate projects must consider community impacts, such as job creation or access to clean energy. For example, a \$500 million climate fund in South Africa supports renewable energy projects while prioritizing jobs for local communities,

aligning with ESG's social criteria. In 2022, social-related shareholder proposals rose by 37%, reflecting growing investor demand for equitable climate solutions. Neglecting social factors can lead to backlash, as seen when a mining company faced protests for displacing communities without compensation during a clean energy project. By integrating social metrics, climate finance fosters inclusive growth, ensuring that the transition to a low-carbon economy benefits marginalized groups and aligns with broader societal values.

Strong governance is critical to the ESG-climate finance nexus, ensuring accountability and trust in how funds are allocated. Transparent governance practices, such as clear ESG reporting and independent audits, attract climate finance by reducing risks of greenwashing where companies falsely claim environmental benefits. In 2023, the EU's Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) classified funds as Article 8 or 9 based on their ESG alignment, boosting investor confidence. A practical example is a European bank issuing a \$1 billion green bond, with third-party verification ensuring funds support verified renewable projects. Poor governance, conversely, can deter investment, as seen in a 2021 case where a fund's inconsistent ESG voting record led to a 15% drop in investor subscriptions. Robust governance thus ensures climate finance delivers measurable, credible outcomes.

Worth Noting:

- Climate finance refers to the flow of funds public, private, or blended toward projects and initiatives that address climate change, either through mitigation (reducing emissions) or adaptation (building resilience to climate impacts). In 2022, global climate finance flows reached \$1.3 trillion, yet this falls short of the \$8.6 trillion annually needed by 2030 to meet global climate targets, as estimated by the International Energy Agency.
- Examples include investments in renewable energy infrastructure, such as wind farms in India, or adaptation projects like flood-resistant urban planning in the Netherlands. Climate finance is often channeled through green bonds, which saw issuances of \$580 billion in 2023, or through multilateral development banks like the World Bank, which committed \$70 billion to climate projects last year.

The Nexus Of ESG And Climate Financing: Catalyzing A Sustainable Future

Contd from page 18

Worth Noting:

- The environmental pillar of ESG is central to climate finance, as it directly addresses the urgent need to curb greenhouse gas emissions. Companies with strong environmental performance, such as those reducing scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions, are prioritized for climate finance. For instance, Unilever's commitment to net-zero emissions by 2039 has attracted \$2 billion in sustainability-linked loans, which tie interest rates to ESG performance.

- Data from the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) shows that firms adopting TCFD recommendations disclosing climate risks and opportunities see a 10% reduction in borrowing costs. Climate finance supports such efforts by funding renewable energy, energy-efficient technologies, and reforestation projects.



Despite its promise, the ESG-climate finance nexus faces hurdles, including inconsistent metrics and greenwashing risks. ESG ratings vary widely across providers Bloomberg, MSCI, and Sustainalytics often assign different scores to the same company due to methodological differences. In 2022, 60% of ESG funds faced scrutiny for misaligned investments, eroding trust. Additionally, climate finance struggles with high upfront costs, particularly in emerging markets, where currency and regulatory risks deter investment. For instance, a solar project in Nigeria stalled due to unstable exchange rates, despite strong ESG credentials. Addressing these challenges requires standardized metrics, enhanced transparency, and innovative financing models like blended finance, which combines public and private capital to de-risk projects. These obstacles underscore the need for rigorous frameworks to sustain the nexus's momentum.

Innovative financing mechanisms are pivotal in scaling the ESG-climate finance nexus. Green bonds, sustainability-linked loans, and carbon credits are reshaping how capital flows to climate projects. In 2023, green bond issuances grew by 20%, with Apple raising \$4.7 billion to fund clean energy initiatives. Blended finance, involving multilateral banks and private investors, has mobilized \$200 billion for climate projects in developing nations since 2015. A relatable example is a community wind farm in Kenya, funded through a mix

of public grants and private investment, creating jobs and clean energy. These models leverage ESG criteria to attract diverse investors, ensuring projects are both financially viable and environmentally impactful, thus closing the climate finance gap.

Government policies and regulations are critical enablers of the ESG-climate finance nexus. The EU's Green Deal, launched in 2019, aims to channel €1 trillion toward sustainable investments by 2030, setting a global benchmark. In the U.S., the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 allocated \$369 billion for climate initiatives, incentivizing ESG-aligned investments. Policies like mandatory carbon disclosures, adopted by 40% of G20 countries, enhance transparency and drive climate finance flows. For example, a Canadian utility company secured \$500 million in climate finance after complying with TCFD disclosures, demonstrating policy's role in unlocking capital. However, inconsistent global regulations can hinder progress, as seen in Asia, where varying ESG standards complicate cross-border investments. Harmonized policies are essential to amplify the nexus's impact.

Technology is a game-changer in strengthening the ESG-climate finance nexus. Advanced data analytics, blockchain, and IoT devices enable precise tracking of ESG metrics and climate finance impacts. For instance, blockchain ensures the traceability of green bond proceeds, as seen in a \$100 million bond issued

by HSBC in 2022. IoT sensors in agriculture projects monitor carbon sequestration, attracting climate finance by providing verifiable data. In India, a startup used AI to optimize energy efficiency in factories, securing \$10 million in ESG-focused venture capital. However, technology adoption faces barriers, such as high costs and data privacy concerns, particularly in developing nations. Scaling tech solutions is crucial to enhancing transparency and efficiency in the nexus.

Real-world examples illustrate the power of the ESG-climate finance nexus. In Denmark, Orsted transformed from a fossil fuel-based utility to a renewable energy leader, raising \$7 billion in green bonds since 2017, driven by its high ESG scores. In Brazil, a reforestation project funded by \$50 million in climate finance created 1,000 jobs while sequestering 500,000 tons of CO₂ annually. Conversely, a Chinese coal company with poor ESG ratings struggled to secure climate finance, highlighting the nexus's selective nature. These cases show how ESG criteria guide capital toward impactful projects, while also underscoring the need for inclusive financing to support smaller enterprises. The nexus thrives when investments align with measurable, sustainable outcomes.

The future of the ESG-climate finance nexus hinges on collaboration among governments, corporations, and investors. By 2030, ESG assets are projected to exceed \$50 trillion, with climate finance compris-

ing a significant share, according to Bloomberg. Public-private partnerships, like the \$130 billion Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero, are pivotal in mobilizing capital. A relatable example is a U.S. city partnering with private investors to fund electric bus fleets, reducing emissions and improving public health. Scaling impact requires addressing data gaps, enhancing ESG standardization, and prioritizing emerging markets. The nexus's success depends on collective commitment to aligning financial systems with a sustainable, equitable future.

The ESG-climate finance nexus offers a blueprint for aligning capital with planetary and societal needs. By integrating environmental, social, and governance criteria, ESG frameworks ensure that climate finance delivers measurable, ethical outcomes. From green bonds funding solar farms to policies driving transparency, this nexus is reshaping global finance. Yet, challenges like inconsistent metrics and financing gaps persist, demanding innovation and collaboration. As seen in cases like Orsted and local community projects, the nexus empowers transformative change at all scales. By harnessing this synergy, we can bridge the climate finance gap and build a resilient, sustainable world for future generations.

The writer is a legal researcher and writer

The Indispensable Role Of Mental Health In The Job Market, Families, And Society



By: Silas Mwaudasheni Nande
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Worth Noting:

- Mental health directly impacts workplace performance. Employees suffering from stress, anxiety, or depression often experience reduced concentration, lower productivity, and increased absenteeism. Studies indicate that mental health disorders cost the global economy billions in lost productivity annually. Organizations that invest in mental health initiatives see improved efficiency, lower turnover rates, and enhanced employee engagement.
- A mentally healthy workforce is more satisfied and committed to their roles. Employees who feel supported in their mental well-being are more likely to remain loyal to their employers, reducing recruitment and training costs. Companies that prioritize mental health through wellness programs and flexible work arrangements foster a positive work culture that attracts and retains top talent.

Introduction

Mental health is an essential component of human well-being, influencing how individuals function in their personal and professional lives. Despite its significance, mental health is often overlooked or stigmatized, leading to widespread consequences in workplaces, families, and communities. This article argues that mental health is not just a personal concern but a societal necessity, affecting productivity, relationships, and overall stability. By examining its role in the job market, families, and broader society, we can understand why prioritizing mental health is crucial for sustainable development.

Mental Health in the Job Market

1. Productivity and Workplace Efficiency
Mental health directly impacts workplace performance. Employees suffering from stress, anxiety, or depression often experience reduced concentration, lower productivity, and increased absenteeism. Studies indicate that mental health disorders cost the global economy billions in lost productivity annually. Organizations that invest in mental health initiatives see improved efficiency, lower turnover rates, and enhanced employee engagement.

2. Job Satisfaction and Employee Retention

A mentally healthy workforce is more satisfied and committed to their roles. Employees who feel supported in their mental well-being are more likely to remain loyal to their employers, reducing recruit-

ment and training costs. Companies that prioritize mental health through wellness programs and flexible work arrangements foster a positive work culture that attracts and retains top talent.

3. Innovation and Creativity

Mental well-being fosters creativity and problem-solving abilities. Employees with good mental health are more likely to think critically, innovate, and contribute meaningfully to their organizations. Stress and burnout, on the other hand, stifle creativity and lead to rigid thinking, limiting organizational growth.

Mental Health in Families

1. Emotional Stability and Relationship Quality

Families serve as the foundation of emotional support. When mental health is neglected, relationships suffer, leading to conflicts, misunderstandings, and emotional detachment. A mentally healthy family fosters open communication, empathy, and resilience, creating a nurturing environment for all members.

2. Parenting and Child Development

Parents with good mental health are better equipped to provide emotional and psychological support to their children. Studies show that children raised in mentally stable households exhibit higher self-esteem, better academic performance, and stronger social skills. Conversely, parental mental health struggles can lead to behavioral issues and emotional distress in children.

3. Coping with Life Challenges

Families face various challenges,

including financial difficulties, loss, and health crises. Mental health plays a crucial role in how individuals cope with adversity. A mentally resilient family can navigate hardships with strength and unity, whereas untreated mental health issues can exacerbate stress and lead to dysfunction.

Mental Health in Society

1. Social Cohesion and Community Well-being

A society that prioritizes mental health fosters inclusivity, empathy, and cooperation. Mental health awareness reduces stigma, encouraging individuals to seek help and support one another. Communities that invest in mental health programs experience lower crime rates, improved social interactions, and enhanced overall well-being.

2. Economic Impact

Mental health disorders contribute to economic burdens through healthcare costs, lost productivity, and social welfare expenses. Governments that integrate mental health policies into their economic strategies see improved workforce efficiency and reduced healthcare expenditures.

3. Public Health and Safety

Mental health is closely linked to public health and safety. Untreated mental health conditions can lead to substance abuse, homelessness, and criminal behavior. Societies that prioritize mental health through accessible healthcare services and awareness campaigns experience lower rates of social instability and violence.

Recommendations for Prioritizing Mental Health

1. Workplace Mental Health Policies

Organizations should implement mental health programs, including counseling services, stress management workshops, and flexible work arrangements. Employers must recognize the importance of mental well-being in sustaining a productive workforce.

2. Family Support Systems

Families should encourage open discussions about mental health, provide emotional support, and seek professional help when needed. Schools and community centers can play a role in educating families about mental health awareness.

3. Government and Policy Interventions

Governments must integrate mental health into public health policies, ensuring accessible and affordable mental health services. Investments in mental health research, awareness campaigns, and community support programs can significantly improve societal well-being.

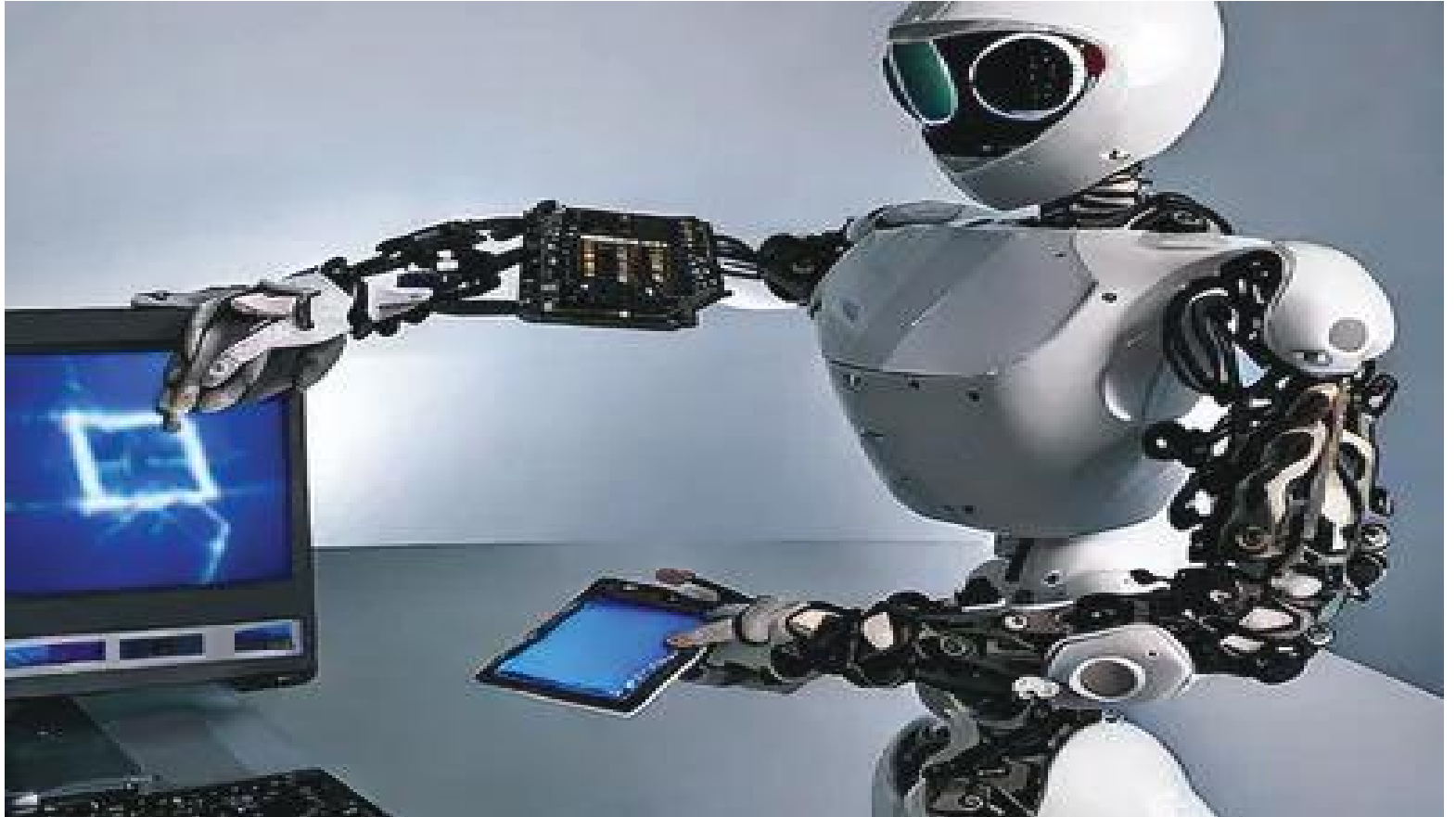
Conclusion

Mental health is not a luxury but a necessity in the job market, families, and society. Its impact on productivity, relationships, and social stability underscores the need for prioritization at all levels. By fostering mental health awareness and implementing supportive policies, we can create a world where individuals thrive both personally and professionally.

The Role Of Translators In Intercultural Communication: Translators And AI



By: Shahnoza Ochildiyeva
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Worth Noting:

- The 21st century is a significant era marked by globalization, which has fostered close cooperation between nations of different races, ethnicities, and cultures in political, scientific, economic, and social fields.
- In a time when global leaders are gathering around the same table to act collectively, when major industries and multinational corporations are expanding international partnerships, and when education and tourism are increasingly supported, the role of translators is more crucial than ever.
- As intercultural communication and mutual understanding through language become increasingly important, language and cultural barriers can lead to serious misunderstandings and conflicts. Translators bear the responsibility of accurately conveying not only words but also cultural meanings, historical contexts, and societal expressions.

Abstract:

As the world is uniting to tackle global challenges and implement innovative plans, the culture of communication is becoming increasingly essential. In the process of international interaction, not only linguistic but also cultural understanding is necessary. This responsibility primarily falls upon translators. At the same time, Artificial Intelligence (AI), which is actively striving to compete with human translators, is viewed differently by various experts. This paper explores the vital role of professional human translators in cultural communication and highlights their advantages over AI in conveying context, emotion, and cultural nuance.

Keywords:

Globalization, translator ethics, cultural bridge, grammar, politics, impartial translation, context.

The 21st century is a significant era marked by globalization, which has fostered close cooperation between nations of different races, ethnicities, and cultures in political, scientific, economic, and social fields. In a time when global leaders are gathering around the same table to act collectively, when major industries and multinational corporations are expanding international partnerships, and when education and tourism are increasingly supported, the role of translators is more crucial than ever. As intercultural communication and mutual understanding through language become increasingly important,

language and cultural barriers can lead to serious misunderstandings and conflicts. Translators bear the responsibility of accurately conveying not only words but also cultural meanings, historical contexts, and societal expressions.

The International Federation of Translators (FIT) unites over 100 professional associations from 55 countries, representing more than 80,000 translators, translation editors, and language professionals. This is a clear indication of the institutionalization and global recognition of translation as a vital social profession. In the 21st century, translators are no longer mere converters of words from one language to another — they are cultural ambassadors, diplomatic intermediaries, and facilitators of humanitarian dialogue. Translators must accurately convey meaning, style, and cultural layers. Their roles vary across different fields: in diplomacy, precise translation can prevent political conflict; in literature, it reveals the spirit of a work, the author's voice, and the cultural atmosphere of the time; in cinema, art, and tourism, translators adapt content to the national culture and public mentality.

However, this demanding profession comes with challenges and potential errors. Stereotypes in translation can lead to misrepresentation, and misinterpretation of humor, idioms, or proverbs may cause awkward or even offensive situations. For example, the English phrase “break a leg” has nothing to do with breaking bones —

it actually means “good luck”. Translators must recognize such idioms and convey their meaning appropriately.

In today's digital era, where programming, automation, and AI are rapidly evolving, translation is also undergoing transformation. Many people prefer using AI-powered tools such as Google Translate, DeepL, or ChatGPT for their speed and accessibility. Indeed, AI offers many valuable features: it allows users to learn languages with mobile apps, engage in real-time dialogues with AI assistants, and instantly translate texts. While AI systems are highly advanced in grammatical accuracy, they still fall short in understanding cultural values, emotional depth, and nuanced context. Every word often carries specific cultural concepts. Translating them literally can lead to distortion. For instance, the English word “privacy” has deeper legal and cultural implications than the Uzbek equivalent “shaxsiy hayot”. The Japanese term “wa” reflects societal harmony and cannot be fully captured in translation without detailed explanation. Similarly, the phrase “hit the sack” simply means “to go to bed”, and “it's raining cats and dogs” means “it's raining heavily” — their literal translation is nonsensical without understanding the cultural context.

Unlike AI, human translators are sensitive to cultural thought, tone of speech, and context. They also possess emotional intelligence, ethical responsibility, and professional in-

tuition — traits that AI lacks. As AI ethics specialist Luciano Floridi aptly stated: “AI can translate words, but only humans can translate emotions.”

Conclusion:

In processes involving migration, international education, diplomatic negotiations, and digital technology, accurate communication through translators is crucial. No matter how advanced AI becomes, it cannot fully replace human translators, because the depths of human intellect and the power of emotions remain unmatched. However, a translator who thinks critically and collaborates effectively with AI can significantly improve work efficiency and save time. A translator equipped not only with linguistic knowledge but also with cultural sensitivity, communicative creativity, and modern technological skills can become a true cultural bridge. In addressing global challenges of the 21st century, culturally aware and impartial translation is not only a translator's duty — it is a priceless contribution to humanity's progress and international friendship.

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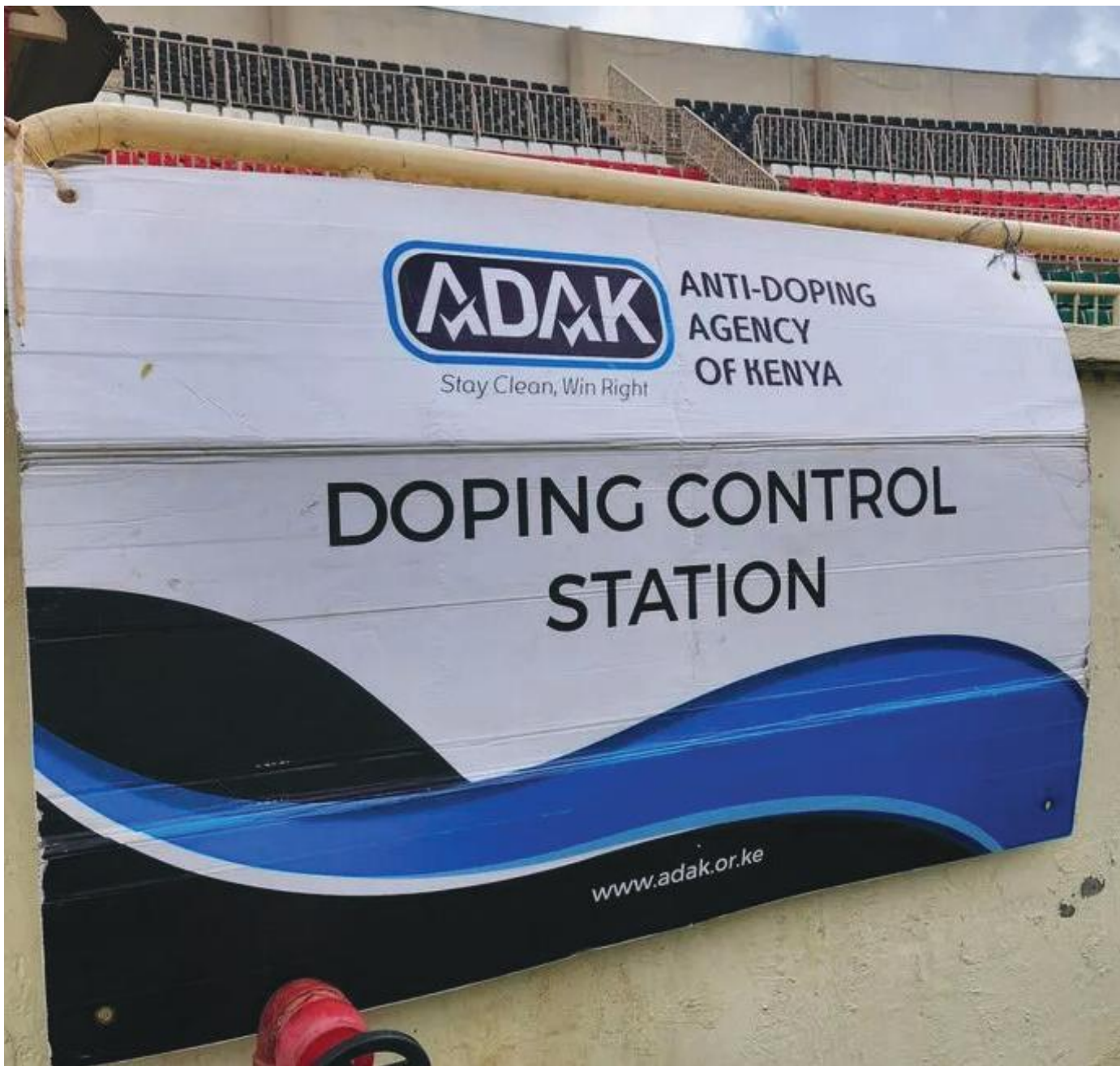
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Sports >> *The Anti-Doping Agency of Kenya, ADAK, has reiterated its commitment to strengthening the fight against doping in sports.

Anti-Doping Agency Roots For Knowledge Sharing In A Bid To Stem Anti-Doping Violations



The Anti-Doping Agency of Kenya, ADAK, has reiterated its commitment to strengthening the fight against doping in sports.

The anti Doping Agency in a move to rally federations in the fight for clean-sport is holding a two day seminar that has brought together representatives from 30 sports federations with key focus being to share the knowledge required to the athletes on staying off cheating.

The seminar, taking place in Nairobi, is part of ADAK's continued efforts to promote integrity and fair play in Kenyan sports.

Officials say the focus is on building a strong foundation of awareness and education, starting with the federations and filtering down to the grassroots level.

Over the two days, federation leaders will be taken through modules on anti-doping rules,

the dangers of banned substances, and ethical sportsmanship.

Once the seminar concludes, each federation is expected to roll out localized training and awareness campaigns in their regions.

Kenya has had its fare share of doping violations with a number of both high and low profile athletes facing sanctions. ADAK says education and early intervention are key to safeguarding

the future of sport.

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GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Manchester United received a fitness boost on the eve of the Europa League final as Joshua Zirkzee, Diogo Dalot and Leny Yoro all returned to training yesterday.

Man Utd Trio Back Training Before Europa League Final



Manchester United received a fitness boost on the eve of the Europa League final as Joshua Zirkzee, Diogo Dalot and Leny Yoro all returned to training yesterday. Ruben Amorim's side are preparing to face Tottenham in an all-English Europa League showpiece in Bilbao on Wednesday. Zirkzee had been ruled out for the rest of the season after suffering a hamstring injury at Newcastle in April, but the Dutch striker could be available after missing United's last eight games in all com-

petitions. Portugal full-back Dalot has been absent for six matches due to a calf problem, while French defender Yoro sat out last Friday's 1-0 loss at Chelsea with a foot issue. While that trio were able to train with their team-mates at Carrington on Tuesday, there was still no sign of Dutch centre-back Matthijs de Ligt, who has been sidelined with an undisclosed problem for the last three games. United face Tottenham at the San Mames stadium looking to sal-

vage a wretched domestic campaign by winning the first trophy of Amorim's reign. Amorim, who replaced the sacked Erik ten Hag in November, has presided over United's slump to 16th place in the Premier League — just one point above 17th-placed Tottenham. As well ending the season with silverware, United would secure a lucrative place in next season's Champions League if they beat Tottenham.

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SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



The Mt Kenya Times



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India-Pakistan conflict: A Timeline of Recent Events

By: Hira Jamal

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Worth Noting:

- Both regional powers were on the verge of strategic standoff during all this time and then on the night of May 7 India launched "Operation Sindoor" cowardly targeting the innocent civilians by firing missiles from its airspace targeting multiple locations in Pakistan including Bahawalpur, Muzarabad, and Kotli causing the death of 50 civilians and 121 injured, Islamabad had vowed to retaliate strongly against the Indian aggression as the Pakistan's military spokesperson told local media that "Pakistan will respond according to the time and place of its own choice."
- "On the same night within 1 hour Pakistan Air force shot down 6 Indian fighter jets including 3 Rafal jets and destroyed the brigadier headquarters."

In recent time we have witnessed one of the most severe escalations and military confrontation of the modern geopolitical history between the two regional giants and Atomic powers of Asia, Pakistan and India came face to face, as the terrorist attack occurred on April 22, 2025 in Baisaran Valley, Pahalgam located in the disputed territory of Jammu and Kashmir, costing the life of 26 civilians including 25 Hindu tourists, a Christian tourist and a local Muslim. Following this incident India blamed Pakistan for the attack and labeled Pakistan as the terrorist state by accusing that Pakistan is financing and funding the terrorist organization to attack on India, without any investigation and proof India continues to blame Pakistan despite Pakistan's offer for an open investigation of the case. India also suspended the Indus water treaty and threatened Pakistan that it will disrupt its water supply to Pakistan, not only this India also suspended all kinds of diplomatic ties with Pakistan and sent the Pakistani high commission officials back. In response Pakistan issued its stance after the National Security Committee (NSC) meeting that the Palgham attack was a false flag operation and warned India that any disruption of its water supply would be considered as "an act of war" adding that Pakistan is prepared to retaliate "with full force across the complete spectrum of national power." Pakistan also announced the closure of Wahga border post, the suspension and cancellation of SAARC visas for Indian nationals, the reduction in the staff of the Indian High Commission and closed its airspace to Indian airlines.

Both regional powers were on the verge of strategic standoff during all this time and then on the night of May 7 India launched "Operation Sindoor" cowardly targeting the innocent civilians by firing missiles from its airspace targeting multiple locations in Pakistan including Bahawalpur, Muzarabad, and Kotli causing the death of 50 civilians and 121 injured, Islamabad had vowed to retaliate strongly against the Indian aggression as the Pakistan's military



spokesperson told local media that "Pakistan will respond according to the time and place of its own choice." "On the same night within 1 hour Pakistan Air force shot down 6 Indian fighter jets including 3 Rafal jets and destroyed the brigadier headquarters."

On May 10, 2025 after offering Fajar prayer, Pakistan launched its retaliatory operation called "Operation Bunyan un Marsoos" (Iron wall) a comprehensive military response including Fatah-1 missiles that strike on Indian military bases and artillery in Bathinda airfield, while the Pakistan's JF-17 thunder hypersonic missiles destroyed India's S-400 air defense system in Adampur, a Russian system worth around 1.5 Billion Pakistan also launched a cyber-attack by hacking key Indian websites, including the Assam Rifles, Atomic Energy Departments and Defense Sites. On the same day Indian military spokesperson Colonel Sofia Qureshi announced in the media briefing that India don't want more tensions while also confirming that Pakistan has attacked on major military targets in India with heavy artillery. India reportedly seeks help

from the USA for a ceasefire as an international journalist claim on international media that India reached out to call for a ceasefire. On May 10 2025 due to the mediation of the US president Donald Trump the a ceasefire was made between the two nuclear powers on the brink of a nuclear conflict. Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif showed willingness to conduct peace talks with India to de-escalate the tensions.

The conflict draws the international attention as many states condemned the India's aggression and targeting of civilians in the dark. While Israel announced its full support to India, Pakistan's allies also openly supported its stance, like China condemn India's military strikes on Pakistan and supported Pakistan's call for independent investigation of the Palgham incident. China provided Pakistan with the substantial military and technical assistance including the air defense system, satellite imagery and advanced communication technology. Turkey also openly supported Pakistan as the brother Islamic country and provided its arm supply and naval ships, Turkey's support also strengthen the

Pakistan's position on the Kashmir issue. Azerbaijan also announced the full diplomatic support for Pakistan in respect to its trilateral partnership with Pakistan and Turkey. This unwavering support from Turkey and Azerbaijan led to a widespread anger among the India public and government, Institutions like Jamia Millia Islamia University suspended ties with Turkish institutions and many Indians cancelled their bookings to Turkey and Azerbaijan. Malaysia, Qatar, Iran and Saudi Arabia also supported Pakistan's call for the independent investigation of the Palgham incident and condemn the Indian aggression. While the ceasefire has temporarily halted the escalations, the main issue remains unresolved and there are still chances of the re-escalations and aggression from both sides. The international community role in facilitating discussion and dialogues will be crucial in ensuring the lasting peace in the region.

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