DEDAN KIMATHI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

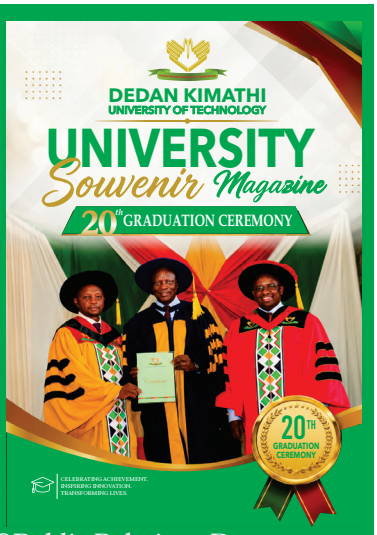
UNIVERSITY Souvenir Magazine

20th GRADUATION CEREMONY



20TH GRADUATION CEREMONY

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT.
INSPIRING INNOVATION.
TRANSFORMING LIVES.



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR



General (Rtd) Dr. Julius Waweru Karangi

EGH, CBS, DCO, ICOM

Chancellor, DeKUT

> *The future is bright, and this achievement is only the beginning of greater accomplishments ahead.*

It is my great honour and privilege to welcome you all to the 20th graduation ceremony of Dedan Kimathi University of Technology. It is a momentous occasion marking the culmination of years of dedication, resilience and intellectual pursuit by our graduands.

Today, we celebrate more than the conferment of PhD's, Master's, degrees and diplomas, we celebrate the determination and resilience that have carried you through every challenge and triumph during your time at DeKUT. Your journey has equipped you with knowledge, practical skills, and values that will empower you to navigate an ever-evolving world with confidence and purpose.

As you embark on new opportunities in your careers, further studies, entrepreneurship, and service to society, I encourage you to remain innovative, adaptable, and committed to excellence. The world awaits your ideas, talents, and contributions, and I have every confidence that you will rise to the occasion and make a lasting impact in your respective fields and communities.

As ambassadors of DeKUT, continue to uphold the University's core values of Innovation, Scholarship, Diversity, Integrity, and Teamwork. Let these principles guide your decisions and inspire you to become leaders who drive positive transformation both locally and globally.

The future is bright, and this achievement is only the beginning of greater accomplishments ahead. Wherever life takes you, remember that you will always remain an important part of the DeKUT family.

Congratulations, Class of 2026!

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN



Dr. James Kariuki
Council Chairman, DeKUT

> *"The education, skills, and experiences gained at DeKUT have equipped me with the meaningful to development and to create positive impact in the communities and environments you will serve."*

It is with great pleasure to be here on this important day in the University calendar. I extend my hearty congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2026. This occasion stands as a testament to the University's unwavering commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and the development of graduates who are prepared to make meaningful contributions to society and the nation at large.

Dedan Kimathi University of Technology has continued to distinguish itself through remarkable achievements that underscore its rising profile in innovation, excellence, and National impact. The University was honoured with the Excellence in Engineering Education Award 2026, the Presidential Golden Award, and further showcased its ingenuity through an outstanding performance at the Kenya Tourism Board Hackathon 2026 – Tinderet Edition. These accomplishments, alongside other commendations, underscore the University's growing reputation for excellence in innovation, entrepreneurship, and contributions to National development. They also reflect the collective dedication of the University Council, Management, staff, and students in advancing the University's vision.

To the Graduating Class of 2026, we take great pride in celebrating your perseverance, commitment, and the many achievements you have attained throughout your academic journey. As you venture into the opportunities that lie ahead, we encourage you to remain guided by the enduring principles of integrity, innovation, and service to society. The education, skills, and experiences gained at DeKUT have equipped you to contribute meaningfully to development and to create positive impact in the communities and environments you will serve.

Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2026!

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR



Prof. Eng. Peter N. Muchiri, EBS,
Vice Chancellor, DeKUT.

> *"The future is bright, and this achievement is only the beginning of greater accomplishments ahead."*

It is a privilege to reflect on this milestone moment in the University's calendar as we celebrate the 20th Graduation Ceremony and honour the dedication, resilience, and academic excellence of our graduands. We also extend our sincere gratitude to the parents, guardians, faculty, staff, and partners whose unwavering support has been instrumental in shaping this achievement.

In the course of the year, the University has continued to achieve notable milestones that strengthen its academic, research, and experiential learning profile. These include the inaugural DeKUT Mountain Trek, which promoted student wellness, community engagement, and environmental appreciation; the launch of the Master's Programme in Industrial Biochemistry, which expands advanced training and research opportunities in a key scientific field; and the successful hosting of the Regional Leather Value Chain Capacity Building Project launch, reinforcing the University's role in supporting industry-relevant research, skills development, and regional collaboration.

In addition to academic and research excellence, the University continues to nurture well-rounded graduates who excel in leadership, creativity, and co-curricular engagement. Key highlights include participation in public lectures, the Annual DeKUT Mountain Trek, and the Career Fair, as well as strong representation at the Ladha Za Africa Culinary Competition 2026, where a DeKUT student earned the Culinary Hygiene Excellence Award and another was named Junior Sommelier of the Year. The University also excelled at the National Start-Up Expo, receiving a Top Innovation Award.

To our graduands, today marks not an end, but the beginning of a new and exciting chapter. Your dedication, discipline, and resilience have brought you this far, and we are confident that you will carry the DeKUT spirit of excellence into all your future endeavours. You remain valued ambassadors of this University wherever you go.

On behalf of the entire University community, I extend my heartiest congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2026.

Congratulations!

DeKUT is Honoured with the Excellence in Engineering Education Award, 2026



Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) has been honoured with the prestigious Excellence in Engineering Education Award during the 7th Engineering Recognition and Excellence Awards 2026, held as part of the Engineering Partnerships Convention in Mombasa.

The award recognizes DeKUT's outstanding contribution to engineering education and its continued commitment to nurturing innovation, research, and academic excellence. It highlights the University's role as a leading institution in producing highly skilled engineers who are equipped to address modern challenges and drive sustainable national development.

As the Premier University of Technology, DeKUT has consistently positioned itself at the forefront of quality education by offering industry-relevant programmes, promoting hands-on learning, and fostering strong collaborations with industry and professional bodies. This recognition affirms the University's dedication to maintaining high academic standards while preparing graduates to excel in a competitive global environment.

The Excellence in Engineering Education Award serves as a testament to the efforts of the University's faculty, staff, students, and partners whose collective contribution continues to strengthen DeKUT's reputation as a centre of excellence in engineering and technology. Through cutting-edge research, innovation hubs, and a strong emphasis on practical training, DeKUT remains committed to advancing



engineering solutions that address societal needs and contribute meaningfully to Kenya's industrial growth and transformation.

As DeKUT we continue to champion excellence in engineering education, the University remains steadfast in its mission to inspire the next generation of engineers and innovators who will lead the Nation toward sustainable progress and global competitiveness.





DeKUT is Honoured with the Presidential Golden Award

> *Celebrating excellence, inspiring service, transforming lives.*

The Republic of Kenya, through the President, H.E. Dr. William S. Ruto, CGH, conferred the prestigious Golden Award to Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) during the Presidential Award Ceremony held at State House, Nairobi. Prof. Eng. Peter N. Muchiri, Vice-Chancellor of DeKUT, received the award on behalf of the University.

The Gold Award represents the culmination of a demanding personal development journey that challenges participants to grow in character, leadership, service, and resilience. As the highest level of recognition requiring the longest commitment and the highest standards of participation compared to the bronze and silver levels, the Gold Award reflects exceptional dedication and sustained impact. This recognition underscores DeKUT's unwavering commitment to community service and holistic student development, which continue to guide the University 's service delivery and institutional mandate.

The award celebrates individuals and institutions that have left a lasting impact on their communities and beyond, while providing an inspiring platform to encourage young people to pursue self-development through discipline, service, and meaningful contribution to the transformation of institutions, communities, and the nation. The University extends its sincere gratitude to His Excellency the President for acknowledging DeKUT's contributions to national development, further cementing its role as a leading institution dedicated to excellence in education, innovation, and societal impact.



DeKUT Excels in National Start-Up Expo with Top Innovation Award

DeKUT has once again demonstrated its commitment to innovation and excellence, following an outstanding performance at the recently concluded Karatina University Start-Up Expo 2026. The Expo, held under the theme "Market-Driven Innovation: Developing Solutions Aligned with Global Needs," brought together student innovators from four universities, providing a platform to showcase transformative ideas and solutions.

On behalf of the University, the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs and Research, Prof. Eddy Owaga, received a trophy in recognition of DeKUT's exceptional achievement. The highlight of the event was the remarkable performance by Team NATURO, which emerged 1st overall out of 20 projects drawn from Karatina University, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, Murang'a University of Technology, and Tharaka University.

In his remarks while receiving the award, Prof. Owaga underscored the importance of nurturing and supporting student-led innovations. He emphasized the need for stronger collaboration, strategic scaling of ideas, and deliberate efforts to position such innovations competitively on the global stage.

Team NATURO's achievement stands as a testament to the creativity, resilience, and ingenuity of DeKUT students. Their success not only highlights the University's dedication to fostering innovation but also reflects the transformative potential of young innovators in addressing real-world challenges.

As DeKUT continues to champion innovation-driven education, this milestone reinforces its role in shaping Kenya's innovation landscape and inspiring the next generation of changemakers.



> *"Innovating today, transforming tomorrow, impacting the world."*







DeKUT Excels at the Kenya Tourism Board Hackathon 2026 – Tinderet Edition

DeKUT marked a strong presence at the Kenya Tourism Board Hackathon 2026 – Magical Kenya Series, Tinderet Edition, cohosted by Konza Technopolis in Tinderet. The University was represented by teams from the Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management, who brought creativity, technical skill, and innovative thinking to the national platform.

The hackathon challenged participants to develop solutions that advance Kenya's tourism sector, with a focus on Culture & Heritage, Tourism, and Sports Development. Over the course of the event, seven participating teams showcased forward-thinking approaches, leveraging technology and practical insights to create ideas aimed at enhancing visitor experiences, preserving cultural heritage, and promoting sustainable tourism initiatives. DeKUT's teams, who participated virtually, stood out for their ingenuity and professionalism.

In recognition of their exceptional performance, Ms. Ruth Muriithi, Konza Technopolis Manager for Knowledge Economy and Innovation, presented appreciation awards to the DeKUT team. Additionally, Dr. James Wakiru, Director of the University 's Startup and Incubation Centre, was also recognized for his role as one of the hackathon's facilitators and coaches, guiding participants and supporting solution development throughout the event. DeKUT Excels at the Kenya Tourism Board Hackathon 2026 – Tinderet Edition. The University 's involvement in the hackathon reflects its commitment to experiential learning, innovation, and national development. By engaging students in real-world challenges and promoting collaboration with industry stakeholders, DeKUT continues to nurture practical skills that prepare graduates to drive Kenya's tourism, hospitality, and cultural sectors forward.

Participation in initiatives such as this also underscores DeKUT's strategic focus on building partnerships with key national institutions, encouraging research-driven innovation, and promoting solutions that address Kenya's socioeconomic development goals. Through its active engagement in national competitions and innovation challenges, DeKUT reaffirms its dedication to producing creative, skilled, and socially conscious graduates, while contributing meaningfully to the growth and sustainability of Kenya's tourism sector.

Trekking for a Cause, the DeKUT Endowment Fund Mountain Trek Empowers Students

By Ms. Lucy Kinyingi

HoD, Institutional Advancement Office



Flagging off by DeKUT VC and Council Member.


DeKUT Visitors from German join the Trek.

Founded on the noble ideals of community empowerment and national transformation, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology continues to uphold its historical heritage of serving society through education, innovation, and entrepreneurship. Established in 1972 through the collective efforts of the community, the University has grown into a premier institution attracting some of Kenya's brightest students from diverse social and economic backgrounds. However, despite their academic excellence, many deserving students continue to face financial challenges that threaten to interrupt or terminate their education. It is against this backdrop that the Dedan Kimathi University of Technology Endowment Fund (DeKUTEF) was established with the objective of mobilizing resources to support needy and deserving students, ensuring that no bright learner is left behind due to lack of fees. Through the support of alumni, corporate organizations, development partners, friends of DeKUT, and well-wishers, the Endowment Fund seeks to strengthen the University's mission of nurturing future innovators, entrepreneurs, and professionals who will contribute significantly to Kenya's Vision 2030 and Africa's Agenda 2063.

In support of this noble cause, the University successfully held the 2026 Climb to Educate Initiative — a one-day Mt. Kenya Trek to Old Moses Camp through the Sirimon Route on 14th March 2026. The event attracted over 100 participants comprising members of the University Council, University staff, students, alumni, and friends of DeKUT who came together in solidarity to support financially challenged students. The event not only promoted wellness, networking, and environmental appreciation, but also reaffirmed the University community's commitment to educational access and student success. The University sincerely appreciates the invaluable financial and moral support received from the University Council, the University Management Board, DeKUT Alumni Association, DeKUT Centre for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence, Afyalishe, DeKUT Enterprises Company, The Catholic Students Association, Kenya Institute of Highways and Building Technology, ICEA Lion Group, Geminia Insurance, and Equity Bank, whose generous contributions greatly contributed to the success of the initiative.

As the University looks ahead, we warmly invite prospective donors, parents, friends of DeKUT, members of the graduating class, corporate organizations, and all well-wishers to support and participate in the 2027 Annual Climb to Educate Initiative scheduled for 20th February 2027. This initiative remains a powerful platform through which individuals and institutions can transform lives by supporting bright and needy students to remain in school and complete their education. Any contribution towards this noble cause can be sent through Pay Bill Number 222222, Account ENDFU, and the confirmation message shared through 0792873289. For more details on how to participate, partner, sponsor, or tag along a friend or institution, kindly reach us through institutional. advancement@dkut.ac.ke. At Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, we strongly believe in Keeping All Our Students in Class, and we appeal for your continued support in making this vision a reality for generations to come.

Join us for the 2027 Annual Climb to Educate

and take every step towards transforming lives through the power of education.



DeKUT Launches a Master's Programme in Industrial Biochemistry

Every great scientific revolution begins quietly.

Sometimes, it begins with the usual sounds: the gentle swirl of liquids in glass flasks, the soft hum of equipment in the background, and the focused eyes of students observing reactions that seem ordinary, yet hold extraordinary potential.

This is exactly how this story began in the laboratories of Dedan Kimathi University of Technology. Beneath the familiar routine, something new was taking shape in the Department of Chemistry. A bold and timely decision was made: to move Biochemistry beyond classroom theory and place it firmly where it had always belonged, the world where it can create the greatest impact; industry, innovation, and real-life problem solving.

This marked the beginning of the **Master of Science in Industrial Biochemistry,** a programme designed for a new generation of scientists who want more than knowledge, and who are ready to turn science into solutions. The programme was born out of a simple but powerful idea: what if biochemists didn't just study life processes, but actively transformed them into solutions for society? *What if the same reactions studied in test tubes could be scaled into industries, improve health systems, enhance food production, and protect the environment? What if students could graduate not only with expertise, but with the ability to shape industries and improve communities?*

From that vision, a journey of a truly transformative programme began. The programme brings together a rich blend of disciplines including **Biotechnology, Molecular Biology, Microbiology, Food Biotechnology, Pharmaceutical Biochemistry, Environmental Biochemistry, Bioinformatics, Metabolic Engineering,** and Bioprocess Engineering. Each area contributes to a larger scientific vision, preparing students to understand complex biological systems and convert them into practical, scalable industrial solutions.

Students entering this world quickly realized that this is not a programme where science remains confined to books and classrooms.

Here, science becomes alive. The laboratory becomes a place of discovery. Research becomes a tool for innovation, and learning becomes a pathway to meaningful impact.

But every meaningful journey begins with a first step, and this one is only getting started. As the first cohort stepped into the programme with curiosity and big dreams, pipettes in hand and ideas alive with possibility in mind, the boundaries of the classroom began to dissolve. Laboratories evolved into innovation hubs, and experiments were no longer routine exercises but stepping stones toward industrial applications. Through hands-on training and research-driven learning, students began bridging the long-standing gap between theory and practice, often moving seamlessly from bench experiments to conversations about real-world industrial scale-up.

Soon, the story stretched far beyond the University. Through strategic collaborations with industries, hospitals, research centres, and academic institutions, students gain access to advanced laboratories, professional mentorship, and real-world scientific environments. These partnerships create opportunities for students to experience how industrial biochemistry is shaping modern healthcare, diagnostics, pharmaceuticals, sustainable agriculture, and environmental management. Students are no longer just learners. They are becoming innovators, problem-solvers, researchers and future industry leaders.

And the story continues to grow. There are scientific conferences to attend, innovations to showcase, communities to engage and global challenges waiting for new solutions. There are questions to answer about food safety, environmental sustainability, and how science could better serve society. Each experience adds a new layer, shaping new generation of scientists who could confidently navigate academic inquiry, industrial application and contribution.

What began as a quiet idea in a laboratory is now becoming a transformative journey of discovery, innovation, and purpose. It is a story of hope. A story of ambition. A story of science with real-world impact. Most importantly, it is a story still being written, step by step, by passionate students and dedicated lecturers working together.

This is more than just a new programme. It is a starting point for future discoveries. A place where science meets industry. A place where curiosity becomes innovation. Where knowledge becomes impact, and where tomorrow's scientific leaders begin their story.

The Master of Science in Industrial Biochemistry programme welcomes new students through three intakes each year: **January, May, and September,** offering multiple opportunities for aspiring scientists to begin this life-changing journey. Prospective students with passion for science and innovation are warmly encouraged to enroll and become part of a programme that is opening doors to opportunities in biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, food industries, environmental science, and research worldwide.

This is only the beginning. Join us and be part of the beginning of something extraordinary where science meets purpose—and your future takes shape.

DeKUT Hosts Launch of Regional Leather Value Chain Capacity Building Project

By Dr. Benson Ongarora



Members of the Department of Chemistry demonstrated unity and elegance during the grand opening ceremony at DeKUT's Satima Amphitheatre. The event marked the launch of the project *Capacity Building for Competitive Leather Value Chain in Uganda and Kenya (CBCSLeVCUK).*

The CBCSLeVCUK project is a collaborative effort between DeKUT (Kenya) and several Ugandan institutions, including Kyambogo University, Makerere University, Kawumu Tannery, and Kampala International University. It is co-funded by the National Research Fund (NRF)–Kenya and the Uganda National Council of Science and Technology (UNCST).

The launch was attended by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of NRF, officials from the Kenya Leather Development Council (KLDC), University management, students, staff from the Department of Chemistry, consortium members, and the Director of Research, Innovation Management, and Community Linkages (RIMCL), among others. The chief guest, the CEO of NRF, praised the Kenyan project team for successfully implementing a similar NRF-funded initiative on schedule. He also expressed appreciation to the University management for their continued support of NRF-funded projects. KLDC commended the consortium's approach to strengthening the leather value chain and pledged ongoing collaboration with like-minded institutions to help the sector achieve its target of contributing KES 120 billion to Kenya's GDP



Ms. Janet Mesa (KLDC) addressing attendees



NRF CEO during a courtesy call to DVC AAR



by 2030.

Through this project, two students will pursue master's degrees in Leather Technology, while one student will undertake doctoral studies in Chemistry. The beneficiaries will come from Uganda and Kenya, respectively. In addition, CBCSLeVCUK aims to strengthen the capacity of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in both countries to ensure that the quality of leather goods and footwear meets consumer demands. The MSME trainees will, in turn, train their colleagues under a "trainer-of-trainers" (ToTs) model.

DeKUT had previously partnered with Rukira Technical Vocational Centre and Yallo Leather Limited to build MSME capacity in Kisumu, Nakuru, Nyandarua, Nyeri, and Isiolo counties. The current project intends to engage these trained ToTs to support an additional 50 MSME players. This model will eventually be expanded to other counties and beyond, promoting a sustainable and competitive leather value chain while creating jobs for local communities.

This initiative aligns with the government's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), which seeks to generate employment by fostering growth in the leather sector. It also aims to enhance innovation in leather manufacturing, creative design, environmental protection, and quality assurance. With strong government support, the future of the leather industry looks brighter than ever, and DeKUT is committed to contributing to this vision.

Leather is gold!

My Transformative Journey as an MSc Industrial Biochemistry Student at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology



By Douglas Kahura Njuguna,
MSc Industrial Biochemistry Student

Pursuing my Master of Science in Industrial Biochemistry at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) has been a profoundly rewarding experience. The University quickly surpassed my expectations. Nestled in the cool, serene highlands of Nyeri, DeKUT offers a tranquil and refreshing environment with fresh breezes, lush greenery, and immaculate landscapes. This peaceful atmosphere creates an ideal setting for focused learning and innovative thinking, far removed from urban distractions.

The campus stands out for its exceptional cleanliness and order. Well-maintained pathways, vibrant flora, modern lecture halls, and state-of-the-art laboratories provide ample resources for hands-on research in enzyme isolation, fermentation, and bioresource valorization. These facilities enable high-quality, industry-relevant research without common resource constraints.

What truly distinguishes DeKUT is its human element. The student body exhibits remarkable discipline, mutual respect, and academic integrity, fostering healthy collaboration and excellence. The lecturers are renowned experts who are equally friendly and approachable, offering genuine mentorship that blends theoretical depth with practical insight. Security is handled efficiently, allowing students to focus fully on their studies.

The MSc program is rigorous yet streamlined, with most students completing it within two years. It strongly aligns with Kenya's Sustainable Development Goals through bio-based innovations, sustainable processing, and value addition to local resources. Furthermore, the DeKUT Startup and Incubation Centre bridges academic knowledge with marketable solutions, nurturing entrepreneurial skills in areas such as biopesticides and biochemical products.

DeKUT is more than an institution of learning — it is an ecosystem where discipline, creativity, and innovation thrive. I am deeply grateful for this transformative experience and highly recommend it to aspiring scholars seeking excellence in a supportive, world-class environment.

> *"DeKUT is not just a place to learn, it is a place to grow, innovate, and transform the future."*

ATriumph at the Ladha Za Africa Competition 2026

By Muthoni Teddy Munge



Our mindsets are shaped by the level of exposure we receive, and so too are our thoughts. While this may not appear to be a conventional subject, it forms the foundation of my narrative. Ladies and gentlemen, I am Teddy Munge, and I have a story to tell.

A fateful day remains vivid in my memory, the 13th of April. Following a cordial invitation to the Ladha Za Africa competition, courtesy of Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, I experienced something that ignited a spark within me. That spark has since grown into a burning passion in my heart. Looking back, the event served as a gentle yet powerful reminder of our African roots. Every dish told a story, offering a glimpse into the cultures of communities from the cradle of mankind. Since ancient times, food has been one of the most profound bridges between strangers, transforming unfamiliar faces into friends. Even in today's world, this tradition persists in the way relationships and deals are often sealed over shared meals and toasts.

To describe the event as simply immaculate would be an understatement. The attire alone commanded attention bold, unapologetic African fabrics and designs inspired by diverse cultures across the continent. The décor was a living mosaic of Africa itself, from the table settings to the backdrops and beautifully curated spaces, each detail thoughtfully woven into a celebration of identity. It quietly, yet powerfully, raised an important question: when did we begin to lose pride in our culture? When did being African become something to downplay rather than celebrate?

Ladha Za Africa boldly challenged that narrative. It rebranded Africa not as a continent of stereotypes, but as a home of rich, world-class cuisines and deep cultural heritage. More importantly, it embodied Pan-African unity, bringing together participants who shared laughter, stories, and connections that will remain etched in memory for years to come. I extend my sincere appreciation to the Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management (IToHM) at DeKUT for their continued commitment to nurturing students through a skill-based and experiential curriculum. Their efforts in creating meaningful exposure opportunities are shaping a generation of competent, confident, and industry-ready professionals, and I am proud to be one of them.

As I reflect on this experience, I can only describe it as a defining moment one that made me proud, deeply and unapologetically, to be African. Ladha Za Africa truly lived up to its name, bringing together professionals and students from across the continent in a shared celebration of African excellence. As a competitor, I had the privilege of expressing creativity through service, blending mixology, sommelier artistry, and gueridon service while honouring African culture and identity. It was more than performance; it was storytelling through craft. The tenacity and boldness displayed in every presentation reflected a deep pride in our cultural diversity and a renewed call to embrace it fully.

Even now, a sense of nostalgia returns as I recall the awarding ceremony. Winning the Junior Sommelier of the Year marked a significant milestone in my journey, one that stands as a testament to the power of dreams. It is proof that no dream is too small to be pursued, and no ambition too distant to be achieved.

There are countless opportunities in this world, but sometimes, all it takes is one that aligns with your passion to propel you toward the pinnacle of your success.

A Notable Achievement at Ladha Za Africa Edition II, 2026

By Eligah Mutanda Atieno



Participating in the Ladha Za Africa Edition II, culinary category, was such a humbling and defining milestone in my academic and professional journey in sustainable tourism and hospitality industry. Phew, the pressure there was like seasoning food, just enough to bring out flavor. The host, Boma International College of Hospitality and other good will sponsors like Trufoods, brought together emerging culinary talent from across Africa to celebrate indigenous African ingredients, cultural identity and the critical role of gastronomy in sustainability and conservation.

Competing alongside peers from countries such as Uganda, Botswana, Nigeria and reputable Kenyan Colleges and Universities, I was honored to receive the **Culinary Hygiene Excellence Award,** a subcategory that underscores the importance of precision, discipline and global standards in food practice. Beyond competing, the student experience was enriched through mentorship from internationally acclaimed chefs and immersive masterclasses to elevated both skill and perspective.

This opportunity, made possible by Dedan Kimathi University of Technology and IToHM, transforms my admiration to passion then precision and purpose- in that order. I will continue refining my craft and vision for a career in research and consultancy within Tourism and hospitality industry. Hopefully this becomes a testament to the power of experiential learning and a call to fellow students to embrace such platforms that not only showcase African excellence but also redefine it on the global stage.

Culinary Medicine and Innovation in Tourism and Hospitality

By Dr. Peninah Chege

Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management



The hospitality industry is evolving beyond traditional notions of comfort and indulgence. Today's guests are increasingly motivated by the desire to live healthier, longer lives. This shift has positioned culinary medicine as a defining trend influencing the success of hospitality businesses. Culinary medicine integrates nutrition science, culinary arts, and health awareness to support disease prevention and management. Guests are no longer satisfied with generic "healthy menus". They expect personalized dining experiences tailored to conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, and lifestyle-related illnesses. They seek to be understood and supported by professionals who can walk the journey with them. A critical component of this approach is the keen selection and combination of ingredients. Every ingredient contributes to the nutritional and functional value of a dish. Thoughtful pairing, such as combining nutrient-enhancing foods, ensures meals are not only delicious but also beneficial to health. Equally important is the integration of traditional and contemporary cooking techniques. Indigenous African foods offer rich nutritional value and cultural authenticity, while modern culinary methods improve precision, presentation, and nutrient preservation. This fusion creates meals that are both meaningful and medically supportive. To meet these expectations, hospitality education must go beyond theory. Students must be equipped with practical, technical competencies from recipe modification and ingredient functionality to guest communication and personalized service. Culinary professionals are no longer just chefs; they are contributors to guest well-being and longevity.

Sampled Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management Students Experiences

International Culinary Competitions

Ms. Eligah Mutanda and Mr. Teddy Munge Representing the Institute at the 2nd Edition of Ladha za Africa Culinary Competition 2026

The Institute continues to demonstrate excellence through active participation in high-impact regional and international platforms. In the 2nd Edition of Ladha za Africa Culinary Competition, which brought together participants from across Africa and leading industry stakeholders, the Institute achieved remarkable success by winning two prestigious awards. This achievement reflects a high level of technical skill, creativity, and strong knowledge in culinary and culture.

Culinary Innovations

In 2025, the Institute participated in several Food Innovation Competitions emerging among the top performers. These accomplishments highlight the Institution's commitment to experiential learning, innovation, and industry relevance.

At Mt. Kenya Hub, innovation in sustainable food systems has been significantly advanced through collaborative initiatives that bring together academia, industry experts, and innovation partners to address real-world challenges in food and nutrition. In line with its mission to foster practical, impact-driven innovation, the M-hub and other partner organizations supported a Plant-Based Culinary Competition that attracted participants from universities across the Kenya, as well as hospitality professionals and industry stakeholders. **Ms. Edith Asachita Food Innovation emerged position 2.**

Innovation: Vegetable Legume Fusion Sausage (MUBEA)

A plant-based sausage made from locally available vegetables and legumes. It is designed as a healthy, affordable, and sustainable alternative to meat sausages, catering to vegetarians, vegans, and individuals seeking low-fat, high-protein diets. This product is rich in nutritional value, combining essential amino acids from both vegetable and legumes, as well as its appealing "meaty" taste achieved through natural spices and herbs. The student emerged position two (2) in a competition that attracted participants across Kenya. The plant-based sausage innovation promotes health, sustainability, and inclusivity in modern hospitality.

Janet Muchiri and Caroline Nyambura Plant Based Innovation

Innovation: Cheese made from plants – Best Innovator Award 2024

Innovation: Yoghurt made from vegetables - Best Innovator Award 2025

Janet Muchiri and Caroline Nyambura represented the Institute in both the 2024 and 2025 editions of the competition, demonstrating remarkable consistency in applied culinary innovation. In 2024, they developed a plant-based cheese made entirely from plants, showcasing a creative approach to dairy alternatives. In 2025, they further advanced their work by producing a plant-based yoghurt derived from vegetables. Their outstanding innovations earned them the Best Innovator Award in both years, underscoring the Institute's commitment to experiential learning, sustainability, and the promotion of student-led innovation within the evolving tourism and hospitality industry.

Tourism and Hospitality Technology Innovations

Future Leaders Challenge (2025)

Focus: The ADHD Challenge – Empowering every mind in the workplace

The East Africa Future Leaders Challenge (FLC) brought together industry leaders and institution of higher learning across Africa to address technology challenges in the tourism and hospitality industry.

The Institute team identified a critical accessibility gap - The ADHD Challenge – and developed a product that can address the challenge.

Mt. Kenya Innovation Week (2025)

Focus: Architecting the Future of Emotionally Intelligent Hospitality - Best Innovator Award

In the 5th Edition of Mt. Kenya Innovation Week 2025, a premier gathering of innovators and visionaries in Kenya, the Institute was represented by a team of students led by Mr. Mark Githinji. They developed a decentralized AI ecosystem designed to humanize hotel management. The students didn't simply build a digital tool but engineered a digital tool - a Reasoning Engine capable of functioning as the operational brain of a hotel.

Konza Technopolis and the Kenya Tourism Board (KTB) 2026 – Innovating Tourism

Focus: Preserve culture, empower local communities

In January 2026, the Institute, represented by a team of students, participated in a high-stakes 48-hour sprint co-hosted by Konza Technopolis and the Kenya Tourism Board (KTB). The students identified a critical accessibility gap in tourism and hospitality and built an App to help in bridging between culture, community, and technology.

Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Management (CIEM)

From Lab to Launchpad: A Mindset Shift from Job Seeker to Opportunity Creator

Dr. Rosemary K. Kagondu

Director, Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Management (CIEM)

As our graduands step into the future equipped with cutting-edge technical skills, a critical question emerges: *what turns brilliance into market success?* At Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, the answer lies with the **Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Management (CIEM)**.

Millions of people wake up each morning looking for a job, but only a few wake up thinking about building something bigger than themselves. CIEM is shifting that conversation. We help transform knowledge into real products, services, and ventures. Entrepreneurship is not only about employment, it is about empowerment. A job pays your bills, a system pays generations.

True entrepreneurs design structures, create value, and open doors for others. They build businesses that grow and create opportunities long after the founder steps away.

Bridging the Workshop and the Marketplace

CIEM serves as the vital bridge between technical expertise and commercial success. While we do not teach technical skills directly, we ensure that DeKUT's strengths in engineering, computing, health sciences, applied sciences, geospatial, and beyond translate into sustainable enterprises. We turn great ideas into great businesses, working closely with the StartUp Centre and DeHUB to provide soft skills to budding entrepreneurs.

Forging the Path from Prototype to Enterprise

CIEM's impact is visible across the University and the wider community, built on three key pillars:

- **Commercializing Innovation:** We transform technical research into investable opportunities by teaching the soft skills required for commercialization.
- **Building Entrepreneurial Muscle:** We provide targeted entrepreneurship training, including specialized programs for innovators, such as our recent support for the School of Computer Science and Information Technology under the Mozilla Project.
- **Incubating Startups:** We offer direct incubation support to student and staff ventures born from DeKUT's expertise.

Charting the Future: A Sustained Ecosystem for Success

CIEM is a one-stop resource hub for aspiring entrepreneurs. Students are encouraged to use the University's rich innovation ecosystem to become the next generation of job creators in Kenya and beyond. Our strategy ensures every technically skilled graduate has a clear pathway to enterprise, including specialized modules in business management, market analysis, and financial literacy. We remain the go-to centre for strategic planning and business development, helping innovators craft compelling plans to secure funding. Specifically, CIEM helps prepare bankable business plans for your startup, ensuring your venture is investment-ready and positioned for sustainable growth.



Innovators at a recent an entrepreneurship training session at DeHUB

Through strengthened mentorship programs, business coaching, and dynamic events like startup weekends, CIEM guides graduates from skill acquisition to enterprise establishment. We are committed to building a vibrant, enduring culture of innovation.

To the Class of 2026: As you carry the DeKUT spirit into the world, remember that CIEM is more than a centre. It is your ongoing partner in building, launching, and leading the enterprises that will shape tomorrow's economy.

Congratulations, Graduands. Now, let's build.

Centre for Food Safety and Naturopathy (CeFoNa)

At the heart of Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, **the Centre for Food Safety and Naturopathy (CeFoNa)** is redefining how we think about food, blending rigorous safety research with the healing potential of nature. Under the inspiring leadership of Dr. Monica Mburu, a distinguished researcher and lecturer, CeFoNa conducts cutting edge research, develops functional foods and nurtures a therapeutic herbal garden, all while training students and communities in sustainable, health promoting practices. Dr. Monica's journey from pioneering food science research to mentoring the next generation of innovators is marked by vision, dedication and deep belief in the power of natural foods to improve lives. The Centre is a beacon of innovation, education and hope, shaping a future where wholesome and therapeutic foods are within everyone's reach.

CeFoNa has launched several transformative initiatives aimed at strengthening research and community.



By Dr. Monica Mburu

Guided by a culture of innovation, the Centre is committed to bringing to life five groundbreaking innovations every year with innovations that not only address food safety challenges but also unlock the healing and nutritional potential of nature.

Ideas/ Innovations commercialized

Afyalishe Wellness Ltd

Afyalishe wellness Ltd is a DeKUT startup that deals with the production and processing of functional food products (nutrient dense) that innates the healing power of nature.

1. Afyalishe Products

(a) Herbal probiotic immune boost



(b) Chia Yoghurt



(c) Hibiscus herbal blend



(d) Chia seeds



(e) Chia Oil



2. Banpass

Banpass is a startup that involves making Jam and concentrate from banana passion fruits to add value and reduce post-harvest losses. The innovators chose this fruit because it's rich in nutrients like vitamin C and fiber and it's not very common in the market, making the Banpass product unique and quality.

The startup recently acquired a grant from British funding, which will help the startup start small scale production and development. Banpass' goal is to improve the product, build a strong brand and eventually expand it into a profitable agribusiness that promotes innovation, smart agriculture, and benefits students, local farmers and the community at large.

Banpass Products

(a) Jam



(b) Concentrate



3. Yacowine

Yacowine is an alcoholic beverage startup made from the Yacon (Peruvian Ground Apple) tuber, a naturally sweet root rich in fructo-aligosaccharides (FOS). The wine is mildly sweet, low in calories and known for its digestive health benefits.

Yacowine contains natural prebiotics that support gut health. It also has low glycemic index, suitable for people watching their sugar levels. The wine offers a unique, healthy alternative to traditional wines; it can be marketed as a functional beverage with nutritional benefits.

Growing demand for health focused drinks will make Yacowine more popular with potential to expand into local and international markets as a unique Kenyan specialty wine.

Yacowine Products

(a) Yacowine



4. Naturo_ Nature Skin Care

Naturo is a skincare startup dedicated to creating natural, effective and affordable beauty solutions by harnessing the power of traditional botanical essential oils such as castor, coconut and herb based essential oils. Inspired by the meaning behind its name "Nature Skin Care", Naturo blends time tested ingredients with modern research to formulate innovative products like Coffee Castor Oil Lotion, Coffee Castor Oil, Rosemary Castor Oil Lotion and a range of Hydrosol Mists that nourish, protect and revitalize the skin and hair. Beyond offering chemical-free skincare, Naturo stands as a social enterprise promoting agricultural value addition by sourcing locally grown castor beans, coconuts, coffee and herbs, supporting small holder farmers and encouraging sustainable farming practices. With its commitment to purity, safety and inclusivity, Naturo is redefining clean beauty in Kenya while empowering young people through training in agribusiness, formulation and safe manufacturing, creating a holistic "Nurtured by Nature. Loved by Skin", impact.

Naturo Products

(a) Coffee Castor Oil Lotion **(b) Rosemary Castor Oil Lotion** **(c) Hydrosol Mists (Geranium, Rosemary, Lavender)**







5. Rabbifert

Rabbifert is an innovative startup dedicated to producing high-quality organic bio fertilizer derived from rabbit urine, supported by rabbit rearing units at the Centre for Food Safety and Naturopathy, which includes breeds such as Chinchilla, Californian White, Dutch, Havana, Flemish Giant and Angora. The urine is enriched though the fermentation of herbaceous plants like Tithonia and Mexican marigold, creating a powerful 2-in-1 product that works both as a nutrient rich fertilizer and a natural pesticide. The combination boosts soil health organically, strengthens crop resilience and significantly lowers production costs for farmers. By integrating sustainable livestock management with value added processing, Rabbifert delivers an eco-friendly solution that promotes healthier soils, higher yields and more affordable farming. "Where Nature Feeds Nature," Rabbifert.

Rabbifert Products



Conclusion

Innovation and research are the main forces behind comprehensive, sustainable approaches to agriculture and health in today's quickly evolving world. CeFoNa exemplifies the seamless integration of science, innovation and nature to advance food safety, health and sustainable agriculture in Kenya. Through its research, training and incubation of startups like Afyalishe wellness Ltd, Banpass, Yacowine, Naturo and Rabbifert startups, the Centre is turning groundbreaking ideas into practical solutions that improve nutrition, empower communities and promote eco-friendly practices. Guided by a commitment to innovation, education and social impact, CeFoNa is shaping a future where safe, nutritious and natural products are accessible to all, while fostering entrepreneurship and sustainable livelihoods across the value chain.

Critical Thinking and Communication Skills: The Foundation of The Minor Degree

By Prof. Theuri M.M., PhD
Director Institute of General Studies

Since 2020 and eight years after Dedan Kimathi Institute of Technology (KIT) had become a fully-fledged government aided university and with students coming from all corners of Kenya and beyond, the University Senate introduced the **Minor Degree in Critical Thinking and Communication Skills** to be taken by all students regardless of their core degree program. Many questions were raised both in the Senate and among the academic staff as to why a student taking Engineering, Food Science, Nursing, Business or Science units required a degree whose orientation was towards social sciences and humanities? In many instances and to those lacking in the latter, the introduction of such units was nothing but an extra workload and such a degree should be left as a common unit like Communication Skills, Introduction to Philosophy or General Mathematics. One would easily conclude that such arguments fall short of the meaning of holistic approach to education. The purpose of this article is to articulate, enlarge and enhance the background from which **the Minor Degree in Critical Thinking and Communication Skills,** thus emphasizing the fundamental principles governing the said area of study. Additionally, it will be noted that the Minor degree covers all areas of knowledge but with a critical, innovative and analytical mind that enables the learner to have critical, innovative and communicative abilities in his or her core degree program.

The Minor Degree offered in Dedan Kimathi University of Technology has been a game-changer not only to the students and possible graduates but also to the industry and places of work. The tracer studies have shown that our graduates rank among the best employees in the country and their performance has been noted by many institutions. Why is this? A few and short explanatory notes are important in order to appreciate the importance of this degree.

Critical Thinking and Communication Skills

These are key and foundational, interdependent competencies required by any learner to be an effective problem-solving and decision-making agent. These competencies are offered not only during the lecture hours but through active participation of learners who are taken through in navigating complex information needed for the development of the person in all areas of growth. Through critical thinking, the learner is



"The Minor Degree at DeKUT is more than an academic requirement; it is a transformative foundation that equips students to think critically, communicate effectively, and become agents of change."

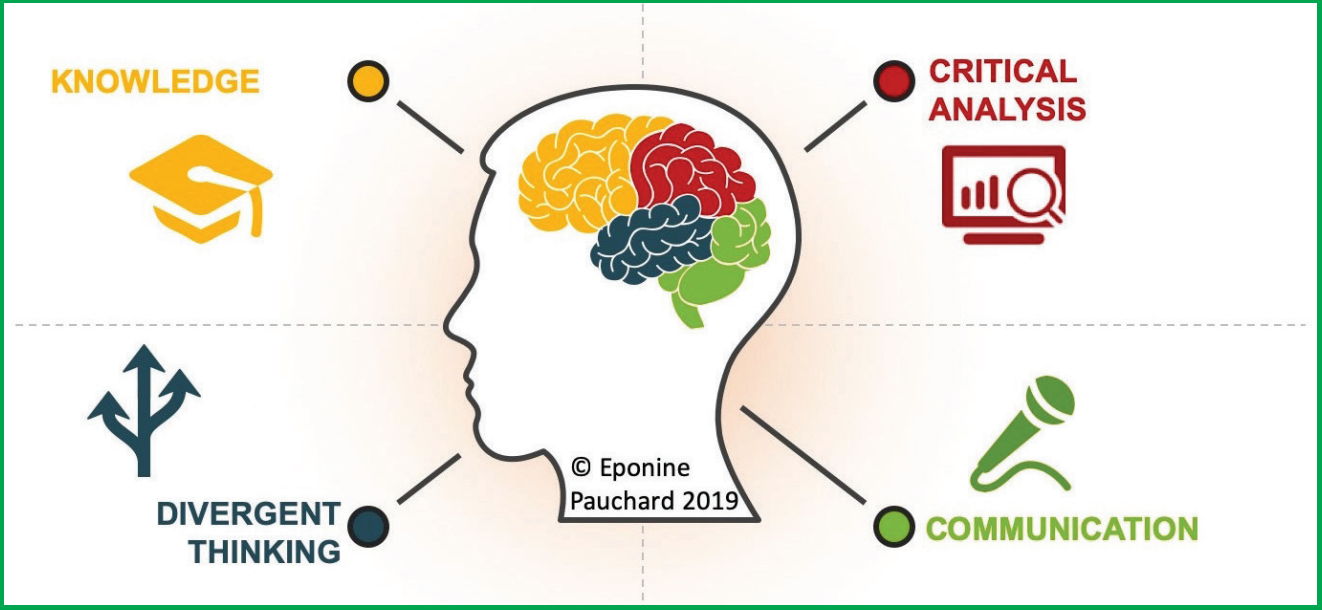
provided with a clear and logical framework on how to analyze, evaluate and synthesize information. The clarity of thought in any given situation is as important as any other educative element in a person. Using a critical and analytical approach to reality, the lecturer takes the learner through a clear process from which ideas are founded. What are the fundamental principles of critical thinking? In philosophy, critical thinking is the intellectual process that engages one to actively conceptualize, analyze and evaluate information towards a clear goal and expected belief and action. Thus, taking the Minor degree enables one to become an agent of change or transformation in what he or she does across the board. The process of self-identity and involvement in human development is also emphasized in the curriculum which also brings together the socio-economic, historical and philosophical development of a people. It is through the Minor Degree curriculum that a holistic approach to education has been emphasized. For instance, an engineer will find origin of technology, transportation and engineering, the nurse will also understand the origin and importance of medicine from an African perspective, a business student will appreciate the spirit of trade and entrepreneurship from ancient time to now. Likewise, one will appreciate the beginning of civilization and the current wave on African liberation and renaissance, and their philosophical background, Egyptology as well as the issues relating to the universe, language, feminism, religion, war, geology, machines, and the cosmos at large. Hence, the Minor Degree at DeKUT is an inclusive degree as it covers that which cannot be possibly achieved in just one specific discipline of study.

Additionally, critical thinking enhances one's ability to reason logically, thus becoming able to analyze ideas, breaking them down, recognizing cause-effect, and evaluating the strength of evidence at hand. There is no one particular time that a learner becomes a passive listener or a parrot as the mind is continually engaged in a creative, analytical and innovative manner. The Minor Degree in DeKUT leaves one with an open mind ready to be receptive to new ideas, challenging one's own assumptions, thus setting aside personal biases in order to evaluate multiple viewpoints. It is because of this training that one becomes a truth seeker and evidence-based researcher whether in engineering or in other areas of study. One is in a position to trust facts and logic over opinion and mere feelings, and would be in a position of ensuring conclusions of any research are supported by reliable data. It is through critical thinking that one is in a position to reflect (Metacognition), to analyze one's own thought processes and easily adjust ideas for a better future.

The Minor Degree enables one to conceptualize the underlying complexities whether social, medically or historically, thus enabling one to foresee potential consequences of any underlying difficulties. By taking the Minor Degree, one engages in a process of problem solving systematically identifying issues, generating alternatives, and implementing the best solutions based on reasoned judgement.

To complement critical thinking under the Minor Degree, the learner is taken through the motion of communication skills and its key principles. How? Through communication skills, the learner is enabled to become effective in demonstrating critical thought, fostering teamwork as well as ensuring the importance of shared understanding. It is through proper communication skills that the learner is able to express ideas freely, directly and simply using precise language free from any ambiguities or fallacious thinking and expressions. A critical thinker is concise in expression, short in messages and sticks to the point, avoiding unnecessary issues or repetitions. The power of critical thinking makes one to be accurate and precise even in projects or responsibilities assigned to him or her pegging and structuring arguments logically and relevant to the point. A critical thinker will always provide evidence for any topic or research undertaken in every situation. In the process of learning critical thinking and communication skills, one becomes a good listener, appreciating the others point of view without necessarily interrupting the others flow of ideas. Communication skills enhance critical thinking in that, one becomes a participant in all forms of communication whether oral, written, spoken of expressed through signs. This is noted in the Minor Degree - the point of debating, presenting, continuous assignments, and writing of the capstones in the final year of study.

In conclusion, for the Minor Degree to be effective, the two elements of critical thinking and communication skills must be integrated. The intersection of these discipline results in higher-order skills, where one does not just think critically, but communicates those thoughts effectively to drive action (**Thought + Reflection + Communication = Praxis**). The combination of the two areas makes a scholar to be persuasive in arguments which are evidence based, logical and clear in understanding the opposing viewpoints. It is through critical thinking and communication skills that ones' mind is open to ethical forum that accommodates intellectual fairness. In the final spectrum, the Minor Degree, places one on a higher platform which encourages collaborative dialogue with one open mind, structured discussion that promotes the development of collective, high-quality decisions. In any event, the Minor Degree becomes the fulcrum from which the future generation will find a better tomorrow because in it exists continuous feedbacks enhanced in seeking and providing criticism to refine both thinking and expression of any vision and mission of any institution, whether private or public.



Creative and Communication Skills

By Catherine Njoroge and Humphrey Gachomo

Institute of General Studies

The importance of creative and communication skills for students and graduates cannot be overstated. These skills are essential competencies that significantly influence the academic and social experience of university students. These skills not only enhance learning but also prepare students for future professional environments. Business leaders and educators around the world over rate these skills as highly as they do technical skills and include them in their list of desired skills in the workplace. Indeed, many recognize these skills as separating students who are prepared to succeed in complex environments and those who are not. Thus, not possessing these skills can result in a candidate's rejection despite their technical skills.

Students in institutions of higher learning such as DeKUT require creative skills to enable them succeed in their educational pursuit. Creativity fosters innovative thinking, enabling students to approach challenges with original solutions. Creative skills enhance critical thinking and the ability to generate unique ideas in research and projects. Being creative helps students adjust to new environments and evolving demands in academic and social settings that they encounter every day.

Today's competitive labour market and new management approaches require employees to possess both creative skills, especially those related to critical thinking and problem-solving, and effective communication skills. There is broad consensus that new recruits need more than the know-how and know-what of a job. In a rapidly changing world, technical knowledge can only go so far. One needs to be curious, open minded, and imaginative in order to apply the knowledge learnt to come up with solutions to real world problems and to generate new ideas. This is what allows the society to grow and change for the better.

Intertwined with creative skills are communication skills. Effective communication is highly prioritized in the professional world, aiding in networking. Creative thinking relies heavily on human interaction. It emerges through open dialogue, active listening and constructive feedback. In projects, cross-functional and virtual teams characteristic of modern workplaces, communication skills help to align individuals who approach problems from different perspectives. One must be able to engage and work with other personalities, achieve compromise so as to achieve collective and individual goals. Good communication allows students to express ideas clearly and engage actively in discussions and group work, thus enhancing effective learning. Strong communication skills improve collaboration with peers, lecturers, and university staff.

In addition, work environments are increasingly multi-cultural with teams spread across different time zones. This demands strong interpersonal awareness and clear communication and interpersonal skills. Possessing these skills creates better engagement with colleagues leading to high productivity and business growth.

Strong communication skills enable a team member to share technical information with non-specialist team members, thereby increasing the teams' knowledge capital.

Creative and communication skills play a vital role in shaping a student's success and growth at the university. Developing these skills helps students excel academically, socially, and professionally. They also help in preparing graduates to adapt easily in today's work environment.

Holistic Education in The Foundational Vision of DeKUT

By Rev. Fr. Dr. Vincent Wambugu
Senior Lecturer, Institute of General Studies

Although *education* and *schooling* may sound synonymous, a critical analysis reveals a significant difference. The statement by the 20th century American writer, futurist, and businessman *Alvin Toffler*, calls for a radical departure from simplistic and conventional definitions of education. Toffler's contention, *"The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn,"* invites a critical analysis of the concepts of *schooling*, *education*, and *learning* by interrogating their outcomes in real life. While *schooling* may have its merits, it has deficiencies as a tool that makes a person live up to the challenges of the day. Education must include *holistic capacity-building* to prepare students to face the challenges of the 21st century and beyond.

Authentic learning is an ongoing process. While *school* enables students to read and write the conventional understanding of literacy, they face another form of illiteracy, inadequate skills, and innovations beyond school. Scholars must endeavor to rediscover education's meaning, development and value by engaging its philosophical roots and dimensions to unearth and expound on the values of education beyond the limitations of mere amassing knowledge.

Holistic Education: Concept and Philosophy

The concept of holistic education is traced to philosophical and cultural traditions that emphasized learning as a process of developing the whole person. Holistic education is grounded in the understanding that the human person is a unified *being* composed of intellectual, moral, emotional, social, and spiritual dimensions. Education, therefore, must address all these aspects in a coherent and integrated manner. Education is not only a preparation for work but also a means of fostering meaning, purpose, and responsibility in citizenship.

Philosophically, this perspective resonates with classical and contemporary traditions. Ancient Greek philosophy, particularly in the works of Plato and Aristotle, emphasized the cultivation of virtue alongside knowledge. Similarly, African indigenous education has long upheld communal responsibility, moral uprightness, and practical wisdom as essential components of *learning.* Modern educational theorists also advocate for learner-centered approaches that recognize the interconnectedness of knowledge, values, and action.

Holistic Education in the Foundational Vision of DeKUT

Dedan Kimathi University of Technology provides a concrete institutional expression of *holistic education.* The principle is firmly grounded in its Statement of Purpose and foundational vision. The University is founded on the principle that intellectual development cannot and should not be isolated from the whole person's development. It is, therefore, dedicated to nurturing its students into well-balanced and productive citizens through the transmission of knowledge, refinement of intellect, development of moral character, and promotion of service. The University envisions excellence in moral guidance and undertakes as part of its mission to produce morally upright leaders to contribute to attaining national goals.

At DeKUT, this philosophy of *Holistic Education* is expressed through a commitment to nurturing "well-balanced and productive citizens" by combining the transmission of knowledge with the refinement of intellect, development of moral character, and promotion of service. This formulation reflects a classical understanding of education, reminiscent of philosophical traditions that view education as the cultivation of wisdom and virtue. It also resonates with contemporary calls for value-based education.

One of the distinguishing features of DeKUT's vision is its emphasis on moral character and integrity as core components of education. Moral formation involves the development of virtues such as honesty, responsibility, respect, and accountability. The University explicitly upholds integrity as a central value in the formation of its students and envisions excellence in moral guidance. In the University context, it is achieved through mentorship, ethical instruction, community engagement, and the modeling of integrity by faculty and administrators.

By aligning academic programs with ethical and civic values, the University embodies a model where education becomes a transformative process rather than a transactional one. Graduates are expected to emerge not merely as professionals, but as leaders and agents of change. Knowledge is not an end in itself but a means toward human development and societal transformation. Holistic education negates the isolation of intellectual achievement from ethical responsibility. It promotes harmony between what one knows, who one is, and how one acts.

Holistic education, therefore, is not an abstract ideal but a practical orientation that shapes curriculum design, pedagogy, institutional culture, and student life. It demands that universities create environments where intellectual inquiry is accompanied by ethical reflection, and where academic excellence is inseparable from personal integrity. In the Kenyan context, where higher education plays a crucial role in achieving development goals, this approach is particularly significant. Universities like DeKUT have the potential to shape a generation of leaders who are committed to the public good and capable of driving sustainable development.

Conclusion

The concept of holistic education, as articulated and embodied in the vision of Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, represents a powerful and necessary approach to higher learning. It affirms that education must address the full spectrum of human development—intellectual, moral, social, and spiritual. By integrating cognitive excellence with ethical integrity and civic responsibility, holistic education prepares graduates who are not only competent professionals but also principled leaders and committed citizens. In an era increasingly marked by ethical challenges and social fragmentation, *holistic education* is not merely desirable—it is indispensable.

African Renaissance in The Premier University of Technology

Institute of General Studies & Centre for African Renaissance Studies

"The shortest way to the future is the one that always goes through the deepening of the past."Aimé Césaire (1913-2008), Poet, Writer, Politician, Founder of the Negritude movement, and Author of the "Discourse on Colonialism."

The theme of African Renaissance and its related topics, which deal with the awakening, progress, social, economic, and technological reconstruction of the African continent as a whole, are usually envisioned as part of the Humanities, namely History, Anthropology, Archaeology, Philosophy, Political Science, etc. From this perspective, STEM Education and Universities of Technology are generally excluded. This is both a serious misunderstanding of the concept of "Renaissance" and a regrettable mistake. Science and Technology are the backbone of the Renaissance, as they are meant to craft the future. According to a famous motto adopted by the KLFA freedom fighters in the early fifties, Technology is considered the "*shield of the Nation*" (***Muturi niwe ngo ya ruriri***).

The discipline of History indeed teaches us what our continent has been in the past, and still is, when it comes to the birth and evolution of humankind, the origins of rationality and the first human civilizations, technologies, and innovations. All these achievements, and many others, took place in the Eastern part of the continent. In particular, thanks to recent archaeological



Africa and the rest of the world

excavations carried out in Turkana, we know that the origin of technology (the use of skill and knowledge for practical aims in human life) dates back to around 3.3 million years… in this country known as Kenya (cf. Sonia Harmand et al., *3.3-million-year-old stone tools from Lomekwi 3, West Turkana, Kenya*. ***Nature***, *521*(7552), 310-315).

Furthermore, the domestication of crops and animals, leading to the invention of farming, also took place in the Nile Valley, from where originated disciplines like Mathematics (particularly Geometry), firstly for a practical purpose of land redistribution after the flooding of the Nile, in Kemet, ancient Egypt. Our students need to be aware of all that.

For this reason, and regardless of their main discipline, all DeKUT students have to take the common units offered by the Institute of General Studies. These courses are precisely oriented toward the intellectual conditions for African Renaissance, which include Philosophy and Critical Thinking, the African origins of Civilization, Science and Technology, Mathematics, Healthcare and environmental concerns, Literature and Arts, etc. So that, when they graduate in their main discipline, the students are also awarded a Minor Degree in Critical Thinking and Communication Skills.

This programme does not only focus on the "glorious past" of the continent. It also deals with the twists and turns of History that have plunged Africa into the current situation of domination, exploitation, and chronic underdevelopment. Hence, the urgency of an African Renaissance to shape a better future. As the great poet Aimé Césaire once said, "*the shortest way to the future is the one that always goes through the deepening of the past*."

Let's briefly recall the history of the African continent from the 8th century AD up to the early 19th century, which calls for a Renaissance. Scholars are still discussing the total population exported from the continent, but they generally agree that slavery and the slave trade caused the most important forcible removal of population from one place to another in human history.

This process started around the 8th century across the Sahara to the Mediterranean Sea, up to Southern Europe, the Red Sea, the Indian Ocean, the Middle East, and parts of Asia. After the arrival of Christopher Columbus in America in 1492, it escalated dramatically: millions of Africans were shipped yearly from the continent to the Americas to be enslaved.

The most visible consequence of these massive deportations has been the drastic decrease of the African population, particularly from the 16th century to the middle of the 20th century AD. For example, the total population of Sub-Saharan Africa, estimated to be around 600 to 800 million at the beginning of the 16th century, was reduced to less than 150 million in the early 1930s.

Recently, a resolution presented to the United Nations by the current President of Ghana, John Dramani Mahama, and adopted by 123 countries, declared Slavery and Slave Trade "*the gravest crime against humanity*", urging for reparatory justice.

Many other acts of genocide and mass killings have been perpetrated on African people during colonization and the subsequent fight for independence, in countries such as Algeria, Angola, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, South Africa, Kenya, and many other places.

In consequence, this resulted in:

- A process of underdevelopment of the continent, both culturally and economically (cf. Walter Rodney, *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa*?);
- The destruction of local cultures, languages, and civilizations;
- The erasure of social, economic, and political structures;
- The introduction of violence and poverty in African societies, etc.

As a result of these historical prejudices and tragedies, the African continent, which has more than 30 million Km^2, is nevertheless presented in modern cartographies as smaller than it actually is. Although it could accommodate the whole of Europe, China, the USA, India, and Japan. Now, in terms of population, it appears that Africa has around 1.5 billion inhabitants, almost the same population as China, which is three times smaller than the continent, but which has the great advantage of being a single political and administrative unit, while Africa is split into fifty-four micro-states.

African Renaissance will require, particularly from younger educated generations, the ability to go beyond these political and geographical boundaries, and think globally, then act as Africans.

Bridging the Lecture Hall and the Workplace: Lessons from Odoo Kenya

As the sun rose on the morning of 14th November 2025, a group of ambitious Dedan Kimathi University of Technology students embarked on a journey that would redefine their perspective on the modern professional landscape. Our destination was the Nairobi headquarters of **Odoo Kenya**, a global leader in open-source business software. As we prepare to celebrate our **20th Graduation Ceremony** this June 2026, reflecting on that industrial visit offers a profound blueprint for the transition from student life to the world of work and entrepreneurship.

For the graduating class of 2026, the parchment you are about to receive is more than a certificate of completion; it is a passport. However, as any seasoned traveller will tell you, a passport is only as useful as the journeys you choose to take. Our visit to Odoo served as a powerful reminder that while the lecture hall provides the foundation, the industry provides the scaffolding for real-world impact.

The Power of Industrial Exposure

Walking through the vibrant, high-energy corridors of Odoo Kenya, our students witnessed first-hand state of the art working environment, the seamless integration of technology and business strategy. They saw young professionals—some not much older than themselves—navigating complex enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems and managing local and regional client relationships, also giving insight to how fluency in a foreign language can help you position yourself for roles in multinational corporations. Switching languages seamlessly based on the client at the other end of the line was marvellous to witness.

The lesson was clear: **Industrial exposure is the bridge between theoretical proficiency and professional mastery.**

- **De-mystifying the Workplace:** Exposure strips away the anxiety of the unknown. It transforms the "corporate world" from a daunting abstract concept into a tangible environment where creativity and technical skills converge.
- **Contextualizing Classroom Theory:** Seeing how programming, database management, key account management, customer relationship management, process engineering, and business logic are applied at a massive scale at Odoo validated the hours our students spent in the labs. It turned "homework" into "solutions."
- **Networking and Mentorship:** Engaging with the Odoo team allowed our students to hear the "unwritten rules" of the industry—the importance of soft skills, the necessity of continuous learning, and the value of a growth mindset.

To the Class of 2026

To our 20th Graduation cohort: as you stand on the precipice of your careers, do not wait for opportunities to find you—seek the "exposure" that sharpens your edge. Whether you are aspiring to be an employee in a blue-chip company or a founder of a Kenyan tech startup, or entrepreneurs in your own right, your success will be determined by how well you understand the pulse of the market.

Entrepreneurship, in particular, thrives on this exposure. By observing how Odoo has revolutionized business efficiency, our students learned that the best businesses are those that solve real-world problems with elegant, scalable solutions. Your degree has given you the tools; industrial exposure gives you the vision to know what and where to build.

Moving Forward with Purpose

The Office of Career Services remains committed to ensuring that every DeKUT student gets a taste of the professional world before they exit our gates. The trip to Odoo Kenya was just one chapter in our mission to create an ecosystem and framework that enables mentoring, career guidance and counselling, and professional development, industrial exposure and linkages, and empowerment of our students to produce graduates who are not just "job seekers," but "solution providers."

As you don your gowns this June, remember the energy of that November day. Let it remind you that the world is ready for your skills, but you must remain curious, adaptable, and perpetually engaged with the industry.

Congratulations to the 20th Graduation Class! Go forth, stay exposed, and transform the world.

DeKUT Office of Career Services

careerservices@dkut.ac.ke

Tel: 0709-202-967

Ext: 1143

Freedom Hall, 2nd Floor



Ten teams gathered at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology to pitch their Earth Observation-powered innovations before a panel of judges from Expertise France and the Kenya Space Agency

The National Earth Observation and Innovation Lab Challenge: Turning Satellite Data into Solutions

By Brian K. Cheruiyot, Kuria B. Thiong'o
The Remote Sensing Research Group

The sky holds more answers than we imagine, and a group of brilliant young minds proved exactly that. The **National Earth Observation and Innovation Lab Challenge** brought together some of Kenya's most innovative university students, united by a single mission: harnessing the power of satellite technology and Artificial Intelligence to drive sustainable development.

The challenge was born from a critical need: to bridge the gap between Earth Observation technology and real-world African challenges, including food security, disaster risk reduction, climate change and environmental conservation. If Africa is to lead its own development story, its youth must be equipped to read, interpret, and act on data from space.

Made possible through a dynamic collaboration between the **Kenya Space Agency (KSA)**, **Expertise France**, and DeKUT's **Center for Spatial Information Science and Systems (CSISS)**, the initiative combined international expertise, institutional support and academic energy into one powerful platform.

The journey began at **Dedan Kimathi University of Technology,** where ten competing teams delivered compelling presentations of their AI-powered, satellite-driven solutions. The top three teams then advanced to the national competitions held at the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD), Nairobi, where their innovations were tested before a distinguished panel of judges.

The emerging champion team earned the ultimate prize: a fully-sponsored trip to **France**, where they represented Kenya on the global stage at the prestigious **ActInSpace International Innovation Contest.**

The University's presence was as both host and trailblazer reaffirming its position as Kenya's premier innovation-driven University.





DeKUT's top three teams take on the national stage at the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD) in Nairobi, competing against university teams from across Kenya, including the University of Nairobi, Taita Taveta University, and Maasai Mara University.

Unlocking Carbon Credits for Kenya's Small Watersheds using Machine and Deep Learning Models: A Case Study of Muringato Basin

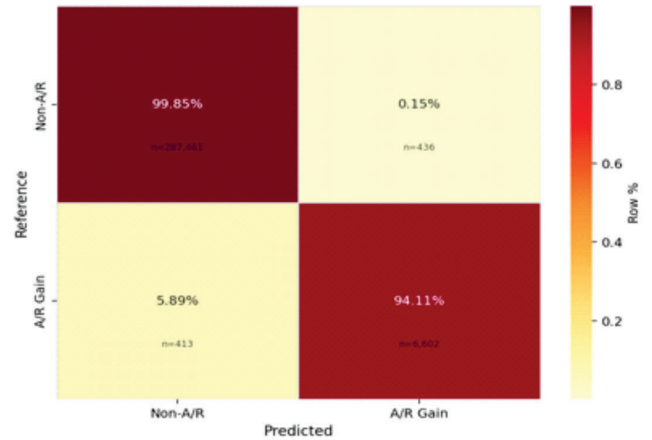
By Dorice Ambunya, Brian Kibet, Ivan Kipruto, Kuria B. Thiong'o

Remote Sensing Research Group (RSRG), Centre for Spatial Information Science and Systems (CSISS), Institute of Geomatics, GIS and Remote Sensing (IGGReS)

Forests are among the most critical terrestrial carbon sinks, yet their capacity to sequester and permanently retain carbon depends directly on canopy health and structural integrity. Small watershed afforestation and reforestation (A/R) projects such as the Muringato Basin in Nyeri County, Kenya, remain largely unrewarded by voluntary carbon markets due to the prohibitive cost of Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) systems.

This study presents an end-to-end deep learning pipeline that fuses freely available Sentinel-1 SAR and Sentinel-2 multispectral time-series (2018–2025) within a multi-task attention U-Net architecture to simultaneously deliver A/R change mapping, forest health classification, above-ground biomass (AGB) estimation, and Random Forest classifier for restoration suitability prediction.

The model detects Afforested/Reforested area with an accuracy of 94.11% (Figure 1). The fusion of radar and optical data proves to perform better than using single sensor satellite data.



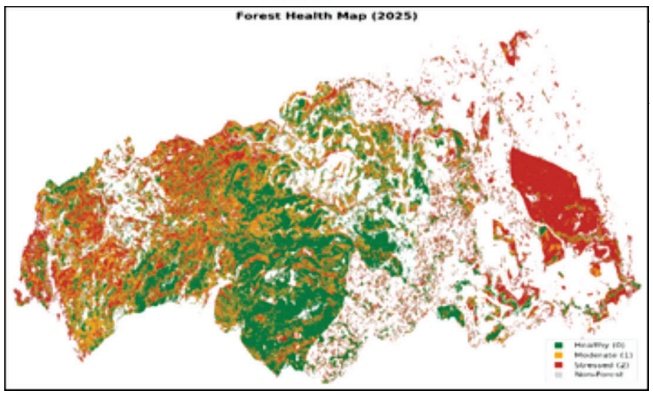


Figure 2: Forest health map

Above Ground biomas (AGB) with an accuracy of 70% was achieved with MAE of 21.20 (Figure 3). This is critical for issuing verifiable carbon-credits meaningful for those working to protect our natural heritage.

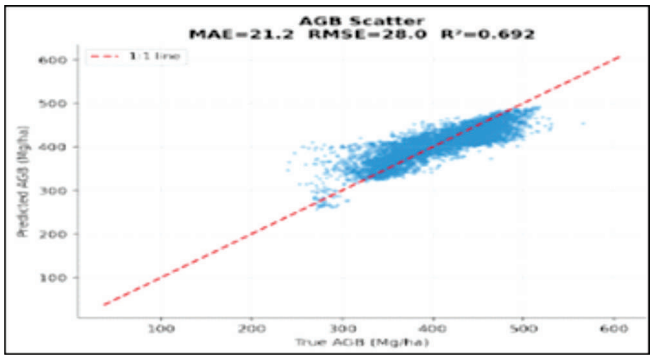


Figure 3: AGB scatter plot

Using Random Forest, the model predicts where future A/R efforts would succeed (80.14% accuracy). Figure 4 shows restoration suitability.

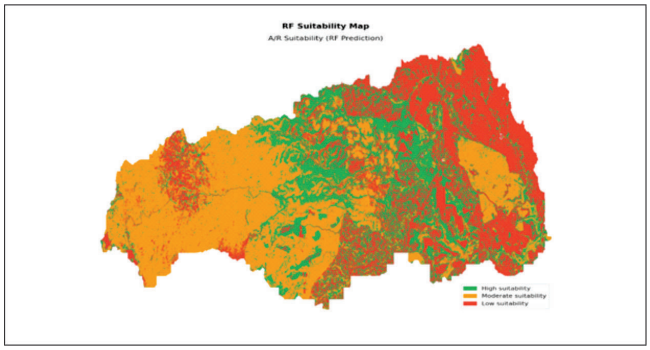


Figure 4: Restoration suitability map

By replacing costly traditional MRV with freely available satellite data and deep learning, this pipeline makes voturary carbon markets accessible to small-scale afforestation/reforestation projects in Kenya and across Sub-Saharan Africa directly benefiting smallholder farmers and watershed communities. The Muringato Basin study demonstrates that rigorous, audit-ready carbon accounting is now within reach at minimal operational cost.

Using SAR Satellites to Monitor Forest Loss in Kenya's Muringato Catchment

By Marius Nickel[1], Ivan Kipruto[2], Kuria B. Thiong'o[2]

[1]University of Augsburg, Germany [2] Remote Sensing Research Group (RSRG), Institute of Geomatics, GIS and Remote Sensing (IGGReS), Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, Kenya

The Muringato Catchment in Nyeri County, Kenya, has lost over 21% of its forest cover since 1990, driven by agricultural encroachment and population growth. It sits on the slopes of the Aberdare Range and drains into the Upper Tana River Basin, a critical water source for the region. Monitoring ongoing forest loss is essential, but challenging: persistent cloud cover reaching 74% monthly renders optical satellite imagery unreliable for continuous near-real-time observation (see Fig. 1).

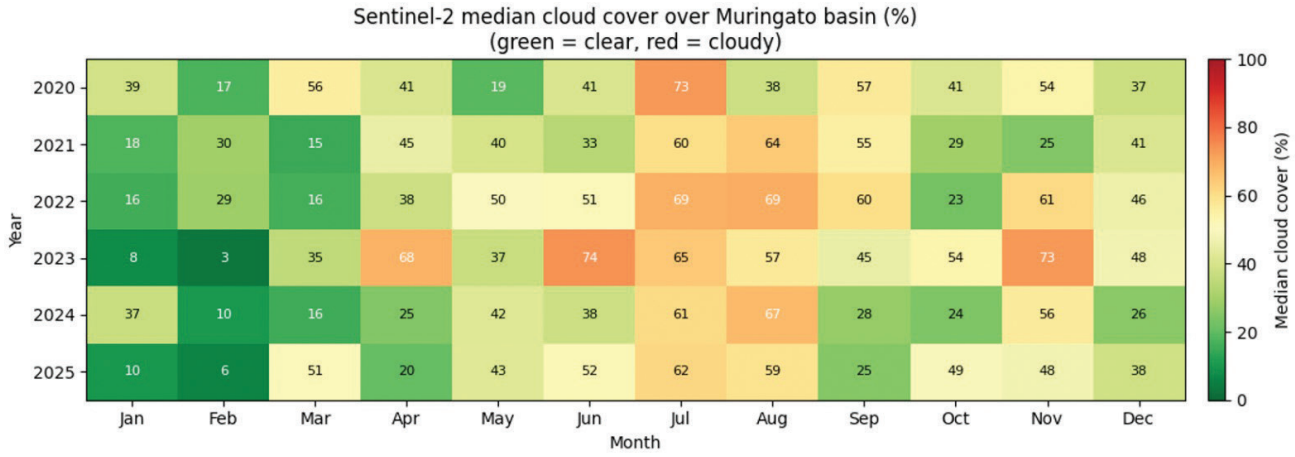


Figure 2: Sentinel-2 median cloud cover over Muringato basin (%) (green = clear, red =cloudy)

This project developed and implemented an automated deforestation detection pipeline based on an established methodology by Bouvet et al. (2018) using Sentinel-1 C-band radar imagery, which penetrates cloud cover because of its microwave wavelength. The method uses the SAR shadow effect: when the forest is cleared, the standing trees at the clearing edge cast a radar shadow. The new appearance can be isolated from normal background variability as a sudden and mostly sustained backscatter drop. By computing the Radar Change Ratio (RCR), which compares a stable pre-event backscatter baseline against a post-event window, newly cleared patches can be identified and assigned a deforestation date. The full time series spans 2019 - 2025 and was processed in Google Earth Engine.

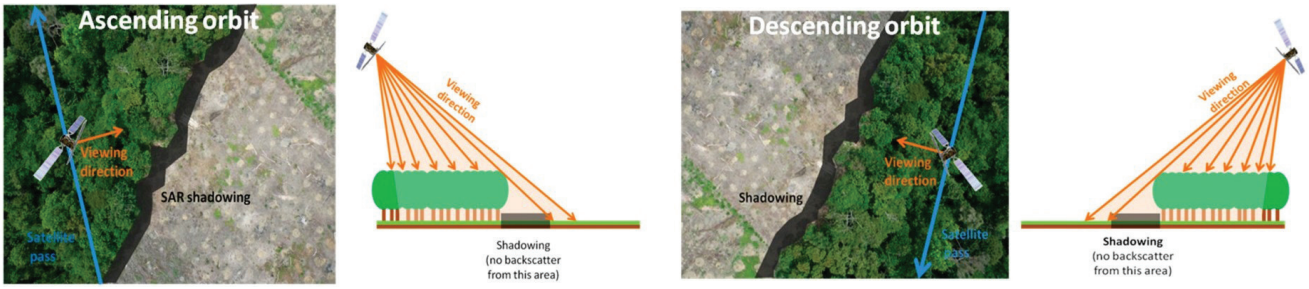


Figure 3: Difference between Descending and Ascending orbit and how shadows occur in SAR backscatter

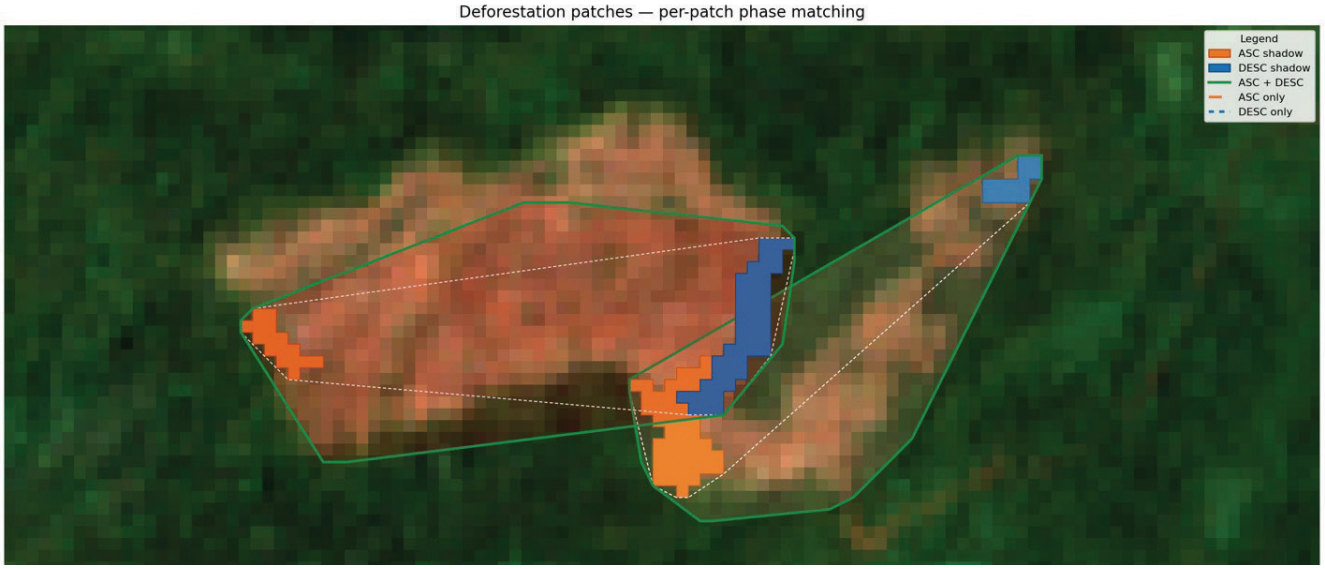


Figure 4: Deforestation patches ~ per-patch phase matching

As in the established method, a cross-orbit shadow matching approach uses both ascending and descending Sentinel-1 passes, which cast shadows in geometrically opposite directions A, to confirm detections and significantly reduce false positives. An added agricultural false-positive filter distinguishes harvest events from deforestation by using the temporal variability of the RCR signal calibrated against 20 reference areas across the catchment (see Fig. 4). A flood-fill clearing delineation step reconstructs the full spatial extent of each detected clearing beyond the shadow footprint. Finally, a spatial deduplication filter ensures each clearing is reported only once across the time series. An example delineation can be seen in Figure 3.

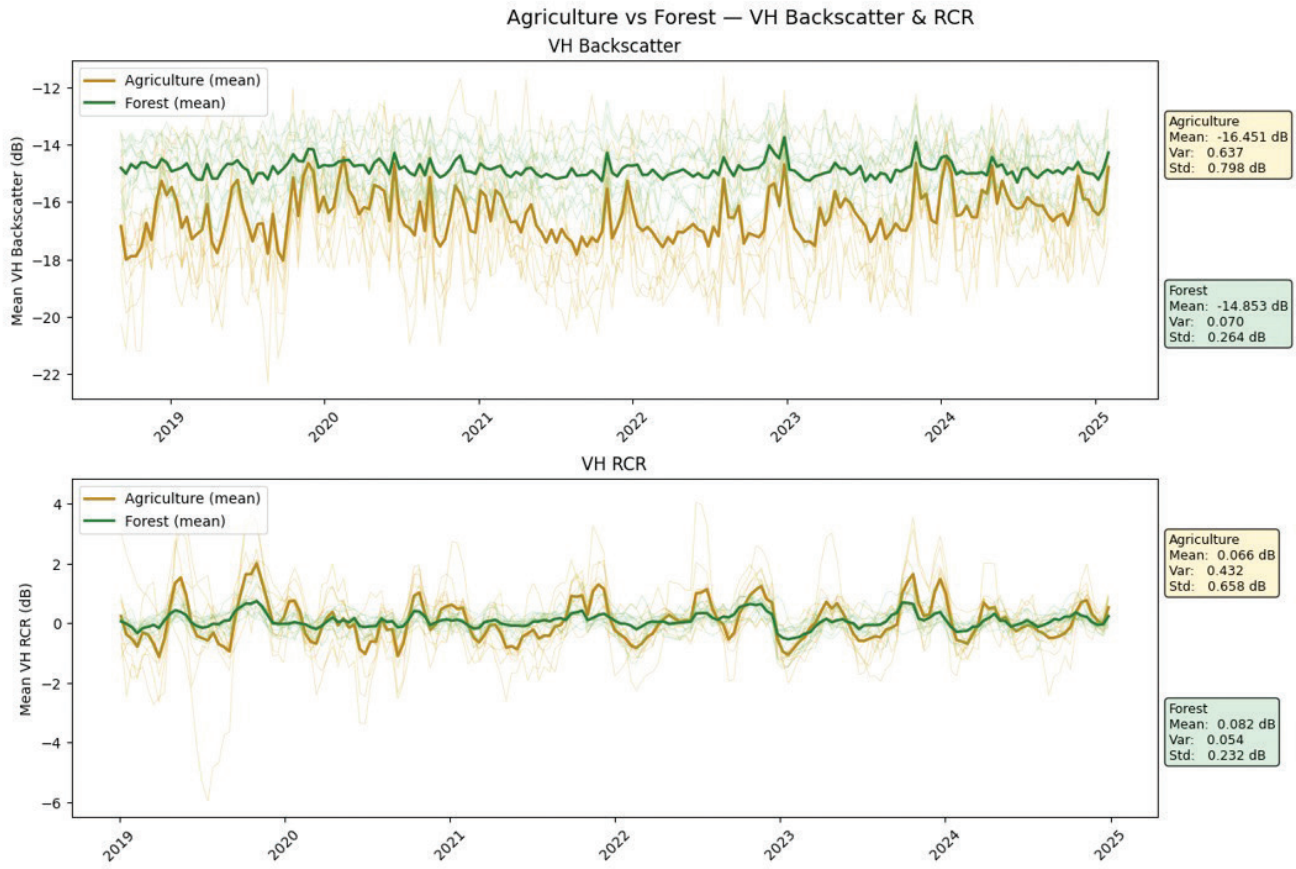


Figure 5: Agriculture vs Forest - VH Backscatter & RCR based on reference areas

One significant challenge was the failure of the Sentinel-1B satellite in December 2021, which eliminated descending orbit coverage over Kenya until May 2025. This created a roughly three-year period in which cross-orbit confirmation was unavailable, significantly affecting detection completeness. Validation was carried out visually against Sentinel-2 optical imagery and quantitatively against the Hansen Global Forest Change dataset.

From DeKUT to the World: A Journey of Curiosity and Impact

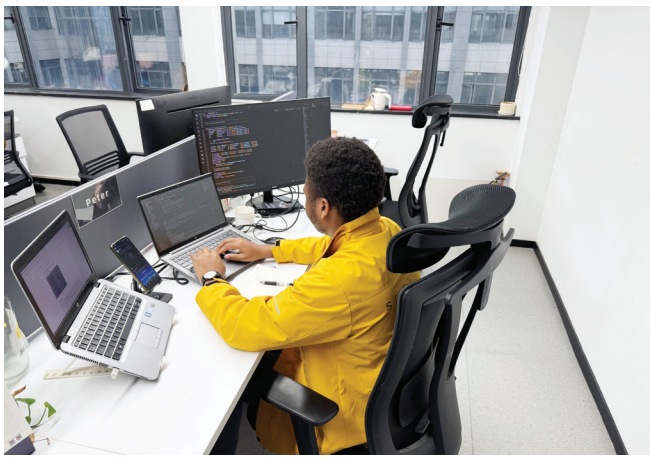
By Peter Ndiritu Thuku,
DeKUT Alumni

My fascination with Geography started in high school - staring at topographical maps that revealed stories of cities, and changing landscapes. I had no idea then that this curiosity would lead me from Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) into a career I genuinely love – space technology & AI, working across continents.

At DeKUT, I pursued Geospatial Information Science and Remote Sensing - a program that gave me hands-on grounding in Remote Sensing, GIS, and artificial intelligence applied to satellite data. I graduated with First Class Honors on May 2025, but more than the grade, it was the depth of learning and the doors it opened that stayed with me. Through the Institute of Geomatics, GIS and Remote Sensing (IGGReS) and the Remote Sensing Research Group (RSRG), I collaborated with the Kenya Space Agency on real-world research projects – Murang'a Small-Scale Crop Mapping using AI/ML Phase II (SSCM-II).

My final-year project under the **MC2FM Project** titled **"Participatory approach to Climate Change Mitigation and Forest Restoration in the Muringato Catchment"**, a collaboration between DeKUT and Ruhr University Bochum (RUB), and funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) – (Grant no. 01DG24001), became a turning point - it sharpened my technical abilities and earned a nomination for the ESRI Eastern Africa 2025 Young Scholars Award. Beyond academics, the DeKUT Geospatial Developers Club (G-DEV) taught me leadership and project management.

From an Internship to a Professional Role



A partnership between the Kenya Space Agency and DeKUT opened an unexpected door: the "SpaceBorne AI Rideshare Algorithm Program" with STAR.VISION Aerospace. It led to a global space internship at their headquarters in Hangzhou, China - an experience that became the turning point of my early career.

It has been an equally exciting experience. I have worked on multiple international Remote Sensing AI and machine learning projects including Mapping informal settlements in Namibia, Crop Mapping in Uzbekistan, and Illegal Monitoring in Zambia. Alongside the technical work, I have contributed to business development of producing newsletters, supporting digital marketing, and presenting solutions to global clients.

Beyond the R & D and marketing, this internship was also a cultural adventure. Living in China allowed me to immerse myself in the local culture, meet people from all over the world, and even learn how to speak Chinese – a skill I am very proud of. Weekends became opportunities to explore the beauty of China. I visited Yiwu, Hefei, Shanghai, and Shuoxian, where the breathtaking landscapes, skyscrapers, and China's high-speed train felt like something out of a postcard.

As someone who has always dreamed of travelling and global exploration, the cities and streets of Hangzhou with my growing Chinese vocabulary felt surreal. It was the perfect blend of learning, fun, and adventure.



Final Thoughts

Looking back, I realize that joining DeKUT did not just give me a university education, and for that, I am truly grateful. It gave me foundation, exposure, opportunities, and for that, I am truly grateful.

To current students - join the clubs. Say yes to the research opportunities. Build real relationships with your lecturers and peers, because those connections often become the unexpected bridges to your next chapter.

To the graduates - congratulations! Carry this foundation proudly. We come from a place that believed in us, and now it's our turn to pass that forward. Go confidently.

DeKUT Corporate Social Responsibility-Kenya Counsellors and Psychological Association (KCPA) Mental Health Walk

By Pst. Christopher Githae,
Senior Students counselor, KCPA/1467/11, Associate Supervisor, C&P/P/1584/2024

The Kenya Counselors and Psychological Association (KCPA) Nyeri Chapter organized a mental health awareness walk in collaboration with Dedan Kimathi University of Technology. This was part of the service of the University to the society which is referred to as University Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). CSR is often referred to as University social Responsibility (USR), and is crucial for transforming a higher education institution from an isolated knowledge hub into an active institution contributing to the welfare of members of society. By engaging in the societal, environmental, and ethical initiatives, DeKUT enhances her relevance, strengthening the community bonds, and fostering civic duty among her students and staff.

The walk was a powerful public initiative aimed at advancing mental health awareness and promoting suicide prevention. In the recent years, Kenya has witnessed growing concern over mental health challenges, including depression, anxiety, and rising suicide rates. Against this backdrop, the walk served as both a symbolic and practical response—bringing the community together to confront stigma, share knowledge, and inspire. By gathering participants from diverse backgrounds—students, professionals, families, and policymakers—the event created a visible platform for open dialogue.

DeKUT played a key role in the mental health walk by planning, advertising, and mobilizing students and staff to actively participate and support the awareness initiative. More than sixty students and five staff participated in the walk. The event took place on Saturday so that the staff and students would participate in the event. The walk was flagged off by the Archbishop of the Catholic Archdiocese of Nyeri, Most Rev. Anthony Muheria at Kamukunji Grounds. Participants moved through Lower, Middle, and Upper stages, then proceeded to Nyeri Postal Offices and the newly established Nyeri Open Air Market. The route continued along the Nyeri–Nairobi Highway before looping back to Kamukunji Market.

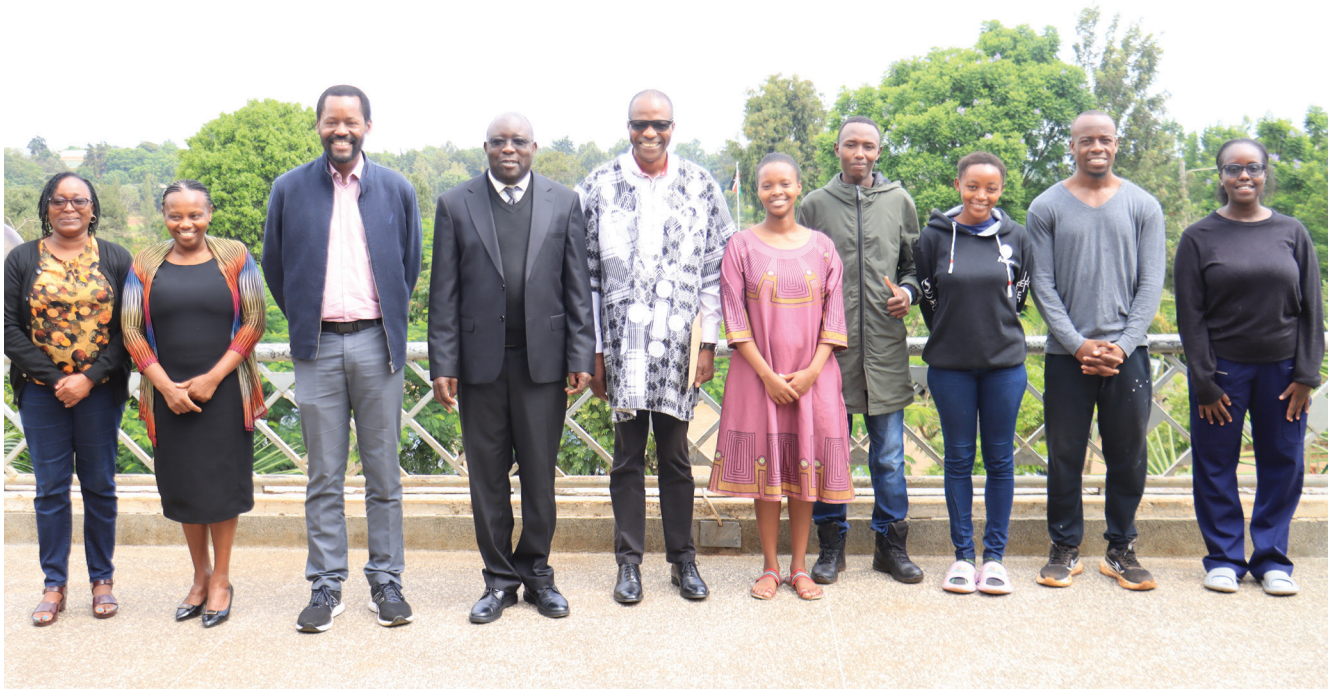
The day featured diverse activities aimed at promoting mental wellbeing and awareness. Officials from KCPA gave informative talks, alongside DeKUT staff, church leaders, and recovering addicts who shared personal experiences to inspire hope. The participants carried messages of hope, wore themed attire, and engaged in conversations that challenged long-standing misconceptions about mental illness. This visibility was crucial in a society where stigma and silence have historically prevented many from seeking help. After the walk, the participants had group exercises to encourage physical fitness. The event also offered free counseling services to members of the public, providing professional support and guidance, and creating a safe space for individuals to openly discuss mental health challenges and seek help.

> *"By engaging in societal, environmental, and ethical initiatives, DeKUT transforms from a knowledge hub into an active institution contributing to the welfare of society."*

In summary, DeKUT's participation in the mental health awareness walk actively improved lives, strengthened the community, and reinforced the University's role as a driver of positive social change.

DeKUT University Library Champions Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

By Lydia Muriithi



Despite rapid technological advancements, libraries across the globe continue to be guided by the Five Laws of Library Science formulated in 1931 by S. R. Ranganathan: (1) Books are for use, (2) Every reader his or her book, (3) Every book its reader, (4) Save the time of the reader, and (5) The library is a growing organism. In 2026, the DeKUT University Library demonstrated a strong commitment to these principles after receiving a substantial donation of books from China.

The donation, led by Professor Yoropeka Somet of the Institute of General Studies, inspired the library to actively uphold the first two laws, ensuring that books are used and that every reader can access suitable materials. Rather than leaving surplus books unused on shelves, the library redistributed them to institutions where they would be more impactful. This approach ensures that valuable resources reach a wider audience, particularly in areas with limited access to academic materials.

The consignment from the People's Republic of China consisted of brand-new books spanning fields such as governance, humanities, and Chinese language and culture. Feedback from recipient institutions, especially universities, highlighted the books' relevance in supporting courses in law, social studies, and general education. Institutions hosting Confucius Institutes also noted the importance of the materials in strengthening their collections on Chinese studies.

During the official handover ceremony, Professor Somet emphasized that the donation reflects ongoing efforts to enhance educational collaboration between China and universities globally. He encouraged students to take full advantage of the resources to expand their knowledge and global outlook. In addition, he contributed five books of his own authorship to the collection.

To date, over 3,500 books have been distributed to numerous institutions, including Garissa University, Karatina University, Kabarak University, Meru University of Science and Technology, Pwani University, Technical University of Mombasa, Kisii University, Mount Kenya University, Tharaka University, Taita Taveta University, Turkana University College, Multimedia University of Kenya, and Catholic University of Eastern Africa, among others. The initiative has been widely appreciated, reflecting the library's commitment to knowledge sharing and social responsibility.

Embracing Ability Beyond Disability



By Charles Mbogo

Living with a disability is not merely about physical limitation—it is about facing a world that often notices your difference before it notices your humanity. For much of my life, I struggled with the reality of living with a neck disability.

There were many things I wished I could do the way others did—play football freely, run without limitation or feeling different. Watching others enjoy what seemed effortless often reminded me of what my body could not do. But beyond the physical limitations came an even heavier burden: the social and emotional struggle.

The stares.

The whispers.

Children pointing and shouting in public.

People looking at me with curiosity rather than understanding.

Over time, those experiences slowly broke my confidence. I began to undermine myself. I wore hoodies constantly to hide my disability. I avoided being seen. I spent most of my time indoors, trying to shield myself from a world that felt unkind and judgmental.

I was surviving—but I was not living.

Then one Friday, everything began to change.

As I walked through the paths of **Dedan Kimathi University of Technology**, covered in my hoodie and hiding from the world, I met a man who would alter my perspective forever—**THE STUDENT'S COUNSELOR.**



He did not just see my appearance; he saw my pain. He spoke to me about purpose. About life. About value. He reminded me that my disability did not reduce my worth.

Through him, I was introduced to the Student Welfare Office and the PWD Office, where I met **THE ADMINISTRATOR IN GENDER AND MAINSTREAMING OFFICE**, a fellow person living with disability who leads with strength and confidence. Meeting someone who understood my journey firsthand gave me hope that acceptance was possible.

These individuals became instrumental in helping me embrace who I truly am.

Because of the support from the Student Welfare Office, I now live in free accommodation till I complete my university studies—an opportunity that has greatly eased my journey, given the condition at home.

I also remember something Pastor Christopher gave me during my first visit to his office: an article written by persons with disabilities from Kenyatta University. One line from that article struck me deeply:

"Why do people with disabilities end up in streets begging?"

That question challenged me. It forced me to think beyond my pain and ask myself whether I would allow society's perception to define my future—or whether I would rise above it.

Through the support of the student counsellor, I was also privileged to attend this year's **Nyeri Annual Prayer Breakfast**, where I met reputable leaders and individuals of influence. That experience opened my eyes to the truth that disability does not disqualify destiny.

Today, I stand not as someone ashamed of his condition, but as someone learning to walk boldly in his truth.

To anyone living with a disability—or any form of difference—that has made you question your worth:

Do not diminish yourself because others fail to understand you.

Do not hide because the world stares.

Do not shrink because life has made your journey different.

Your condition is part of your story, not the end of it.

Accept yourself.

Believe in yourself.

Walk proudly in who you are.

Because disability does not mean inability.

Sometimes, the greatest limitation is not in the body—but in the mind that has been convinced it is less.

I have learned that self-acceptance is the first step toward freedom. And if my story reaches even one person who feels unseen, ashamed, or broken, then let this be my message to you:

You are enough.

You are capable.

And your life still carries purpose.



From the Dry Lands of Samburu to the Frontier of Tech: A Journey of Resilience

By Regina Rio

Coming from the heart of Samburu County, my story begins in a landscape defined by a beautiful but harsh reality. In Northern Kenya, resilience isn't a choice; it's a way of life. Growing up in an environment marked by communal insecurity and food scarcity, the odds were often stacked against the dreams of a young girl. In a culture where it can be difficult for women to break through traditional barriers, I chose to lean into the strength of my roots to become independent, focused, and relentless.

Finding My Place at DeKUT

Arriving at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology was the first major realization of a dream I once thought was out of reach. Transitioning from the dry lands to a fast-paced center of innovation was a challenge I met with the same grit I learned back home. At the University, I haven't just been a student; I've been an explorer of my own potential. My time here has been defined by:

- **Academic Dedication:** Mastering complex subjects and proving that your background does not define your intellectual capacity;
- **Leadership & Advocacy:** Using my platform to represent the strength of women from marginalized areas;
- **A Dual Identity:** Balancing the rigor of technical studies with a creative professional path, showing that versatility is a superpower.

Engineering and the Crown

When I joined Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, my path took a transformative turn when I was crowned Miss DeKUT. That platform was the

> *"When I joined Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, my path took a transformative turn when I was crowned Miss DeKUT. That platform was the key that opened doors I never knew existed."*

key that opened doors I never knew existed. Becoming Miss DeKUT didn't just give me a title; it shaped the woman I am today. It introduced me to a world of influential and inspiring people—mentors who saw my potential and pushed me to improve. I met leaders who gave me the instruments to sharpen my skills and the encouragement to believe that I could do even better. These opportunities turned a girl from the dry lands into a woman of substance and vision.

With the support of the University, I represented DeKUT on the national stage at the Mr. and Miss Universities Kenya pageant, where I won the title of ***Miss Culture Universities Kenya***. For me, '*Culture'* isn't just about an outfit; it's about the culture of character—standing strong, breathing confidence, and showing kindness to everyone you meet.

From the Crown of Culture to the Face of Africa: A Global Vision

My journey didn't stop at the national level. After being crowned Miss Culture Universities Kenya, I set my sights on a broader horizon: Miss Face of Africa. This was a top-tier, diverse platform that brought together models from across the continent. It wasn't just a competition; it was an international meeting of minds, cultures, and ambitions.

The Face of Africa Experience

Auditioning for Face of Africa was a step into a world of high standards and professional excellence. The process was rigorous, but my foundation of resilience carried me through.

The Journey: I successfully navigated the auditions and made it to the semi-finals.

The Power of Community: Following an intense voting process, I was humbled to be ranked in the Top 3, a testament to the incredible support system behind me.

The Finale: Reaching the event as a Face of Africa Finalist was a defining moment.

This platform set the bar high for what I expect from the modeling industry and from myself. It provided me with fresh skills, international friends, and the kind of experience that only comes from competing at the highest level. It strengthened my resolve to keep improving and to never stop refining my craft.

My goal is to show that these two worlds—Engineering and Modeling—don't just coexist; they strengthen one another.

The Engineer in me brings logic and precision to my career.

The Model in me brings the confidence and the voice to lead.

Together, they make me a woman of resilience who is no longer just surviving, but thriving.

My story is proof that you do not have to limit yourself to one field. You can be a serious engineering student and a top-tier international model. You can come from a background of hardship and stand as a symbol of elegance and strength

To every person out there with a dream that feels "too big" for your circumstances: focus on your many fields, stay serious in your efforts, and let your happiness guide your hustle. You are the best, and there is no one else like you. Believe in yourself, because your resilience is your greatest superpower.

A Legacy of Versatility

My ultimate goal is to live my dream by empowering others through kind leadership and unapologetic versatility. I want to prove that you don't have to choose between education and talent; you can master the technical world of engineering while commanding the spotlight as a professional model.

> ***"I am the daughter of the North, the precision of an engineer, and the voice of a new generation. My name is Regina Rio, my story is a reminder that you can be everything you ever dared to dream and a proof that resilience has no limits."***



From Pavement to Purpose: A Journey of Grace, Grit, and Growth

By Michael Odhiambo

The Breaking Point That Built Me

Adversity often lays the foundation for purpose.

There are moments in life when everything seems to fall apart at once—yet, in that breaking, something stronger is quietly being built. My name is Michael Odhiambo, a third-year student pursuing a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting option), and my journey reflects not just survival, but purpose shaped through adversity.

Roots of Responsibility and Purpose

Leadership begins where responsibility is first learned.

As the second born in a family of six, I grew up learning responsibility early. This background nurtured in me a deep passion for leadership—not just to lead, but to listen, understand, and respond to issues affecting many. I am driven by a commitment to ensure that those around me are mentally, socially, and spiritually well. To me, leadership is service grounded in empathy.

Humble Beginnings, Bold Dreams

Every great journey starts with a step taken in uncertainty.

"From grass to grace" best defines my journey. After

> *"Sometimes, the lowest moments introduce us to our greatest strength."*

> *Your beginning does not define your ending—your persistence does.*

completing secondary school, I worked in a pavement and road construction company in Taita Taveta to raise funds for university. Through guidance from engineers I worked with, I chose to join Dedan Kimathi University of Technology—a decision that once felt overwhelming, yet life-changing.

Loss, Pain, and the Turning Point

Sometimes, the lowest moments introduce us to our greatest strength.

My transition into university life was not easy. I faced financial challenges and deep emotional pain following the illness and eventual loss of my only parent just two weeks after joining. The weight of grief and uncertainty was immense.

During registration, I was referred to the student welfare office. What began as a routine step became a turning point in my life. Through counseling, I found healing, strength, and clarity. This experience reshaped my perspective and reignited my passion for leadership.

Rising Through Engagement and Leadership

Growth begins when we step out and connect.

I began engaging in student life through clubs and societies under the Directorate of Student Welfare. These platforms helped me reconnect, build networks, and grow. I was elected Chairperson of Peer Counselors and Peer Educators (2025/2026), developing skills in emotional support, communication, and conflict resolution. As Organizing Secretary for Alcohol, Drug, and Substance Abuse Peer Educators, I contributed to awareness and prevention initiatives. As a Gender and Equity Champion, I advocate for inclusivity, while as Chairperson of Mental Health Champions, I promote mental wellness and open dialogue.

Service Beyond Self

True leadership is measured by impact on others.

Beyond campus, I actively participated in community service through charity engagements in children's homes and special schools such as Mweiga Special School and Little Angels Home. These experiences strengthened my compassion and reinforced my belief that leadership must extend beyond personal success to uplifting others.

I also participated in the Endowment Fund "Climb to Educate" initiative to Mount Kenya—an experience that symbolized resilience and hope. This initiative ensures that students continue their education without interruption due to financial challenges. As both a participant and beneficiary, I proudly represent students whose academic journeys have been sustained through this program.

Expanding Horizons and Recognition

Opportunities grow where effort is consistently applied.

My leadership journey has extended to broader platforms, including attending the 2025 County Breakfast in Nyeri, interacting with key leaders, and serving as team leader during the 18th and 19th graduation ceremonies. I also led the "Touch A Child's Heart" initiative.

In recognition of my efforts, I received the 2025 "All-Rounded Co-Curricular Award"—a reminder that: "Through every trial, I chose to rise; Through every fall, I claimed my prize."

Resilience Through Hustle and Determination

Survival taught me strategy; struggle built my strength.

Through the work-study program, I worked at the University mess from my first semester, earning meals, accommodation support, and partial fees. Later, I worked as a butchery attendant, secured opportunities at Highlands Drinks Company, and gained marketing experience with Toyota by CFAO. Each step strengthened my independence and resilience.

The Lesson and Legacy

Your beginning does not define your ending—your persistence does.

Through it all, one truth stands out: growth begins when we refuse to remain silent. Networking, faith, and resilience carried me through challenges I once thought impossible. I chose not to be defined by my beginnings, but to be driven by purpose.

Today, I stand not just as a student, but as a testament to growth, resilience, and transformation. And if there is one lesson I would share, it is this: no matter where you begin, with courage, consistency, and faith, grace will always find you.



My Journey of Growth, Faith, and Engineering at DeKUT

By Briton Kamau
BSc Telecommunication & Information Engineering (Year 3.1)

When I joined Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, I came with dreams, curiosity, and a desire to build a meaningful future. Being featured in the 20th Graduation Ceremony Magazine is both an honor and a reminder that the journey is not only about reaching the finish line, but about the impact created along the way.

Now in my third year, I can confidently say the journey is shaping me into more than just an engineer—it is shaping my character, faith, leadership, and purpose.

My Academic Journey

Engineering has challenged me in ways I never imagined. From understanding complex electrical concepts to exploring communication systems, every step has required dedication and resilience.

There have been moments of pressure and uncertainty, but they have taught me one important truth:

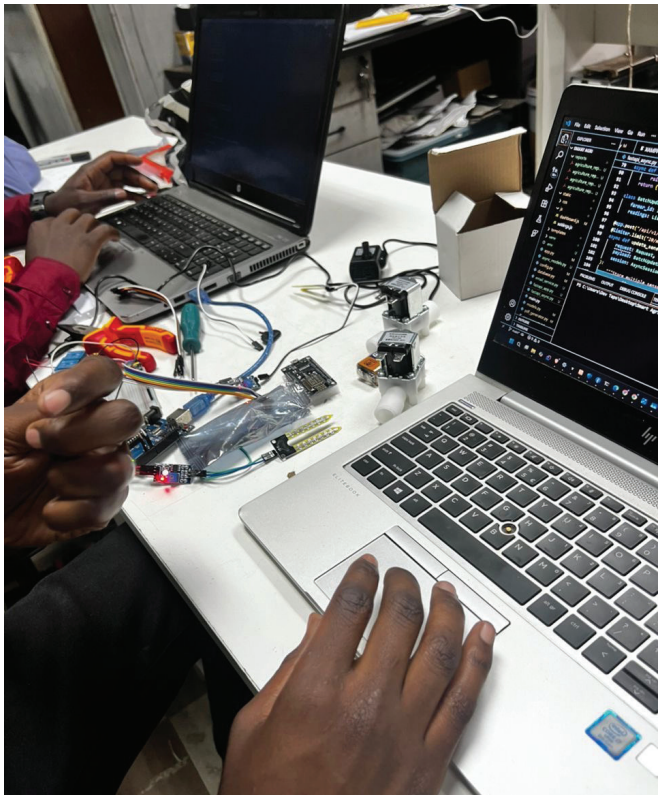
"Growth happens when you refuse to give up."

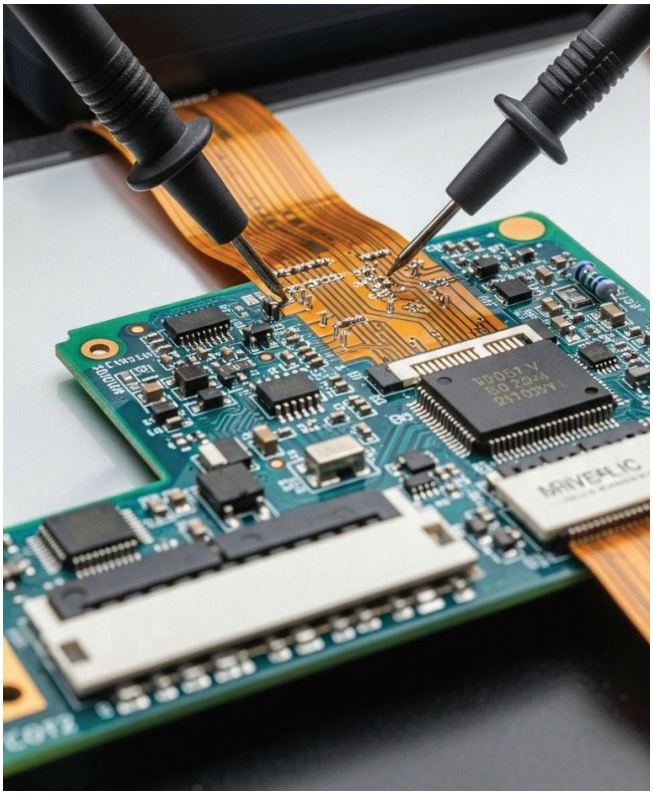
Leadership and Service

Serving as Vice Secretary in the Christian Union, Publicity Manager in DESA and Secretary General in KIRIKUSA has given me the opportunity to grow, serve others, and make meaningful impact.

Beyond these roles, I have actively participated in key University and external engagements, including the KCPA Walk, serving as an usher during a Career Talk, and taking part in an industrial visit to Odoo Company. These experiences have expanded my exposure, professionalism, and understanding of real-world environments. I am also involved in several clubs such

> *"Being featured in the 20th Graduation Ceremony Magazine is both an honor and a reminder that the journey is not only about reaching the finish line, but about the impact created along the way."*





as DeFTeNSA, Peer Counselors, ADA and GTM, where I continue to learn, collaborate, and grow.

"Leadership is not about being in charge, but about taking care of those in your charge."

Mental Health Awareness Initiative

In June last year, I had the opportunity to contribute to mental health awareness through the Directorate of Students Welfare by creating a video aimed at educating and encouraging students.

This initiative was driven by a simple but powerful goal—to start conversations that many are afraid to have. Through creativity and storytelling, I highlighted the importance of mental well-being, the reality of silent struggles among students, and the need to seek help. This experience taught me that impact is not only measured in grades or achievements, but in the lives we touch and the conversations we spark.

"Your voice can be someone else's hope."

Faith and Personal Growth

My faith in Jesus Christ has been my foundation throughout this journey.

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." — Philippians 4:13

Faith has not removed challenges, but it has given me the strength to overcome them.

Achievements and Recognition

One of my proudest moments was receiving the Extra-Mile Recognition Award (2025) in the Co-curriculum Category. This recognition affirmed my commitment to going beyond academics and making meaningful contributions in different spaces.

These experiences continue to motivate me to pursue excellence, serve diligently, and remain consistent in every opportunity I am given.

Lessons I Am Learning

1. Discipline is more powerful than motivation
2. The journey matters as much as the destination
3. "You don't become great overnight—you grow into it."
4. Growth takes time and patience
5. Purpose is built daily

As I continue with my studies, I look forward to deepening my knowledge in engineering, growing as a leader, and expanding my creativity through KABAS Designs.

Conclusion

Being featured in this 20th Graduation Ceremony Magazine reminds me that growth is not only about completion, but about contribution.

My journey is still in progress, and that is what makes it meaningful. Every lesson, challenge, and opportunity to serve is shaping me into the person I am becoming.

"Being in progress is not a weakness—it is a sign of growth."

I remain committed to learning, leading, and creating impact—both within and beyond DeKUT.



A Journey of Service, Culture, and Dedication

By John Muchai
DeKUTSO Sports, Entertainment & Security Secretary

Serving as the Sports, Entertainment, and Security Secretary has been one of the most defining experiences of my time here. This role has not only shaped my leadership but also challenged me to go beyond limits in ensuring that student life remained vibrant, engaging, and safe.

One of the most memorable highlights was the recent Cultural Week, where I had the honor of handing over the Culture Crown. It symbolized not just celebration, but unity, diversity, and the pride we all share in our heritage. Being part of that moment was truly fulfilling.

Behind the scenes, however, the journey has required tireless effort. From organizing events to coordinating security and ensuring smooth execution, the responsibility often demanded more than expected. At times, it meant overworking—but always with the goal of delivering the best for everyone.

As I reflect on this journey, I take pride in the impact made and the experiences gained. Leadership is not just about titles, but about service, commitment, and the difference one leaves behind. I hope my contribution has added value to our shared experience, and I remain grateful for the opportunity to serve.

Thank you.

“One of the most memorable highlights was the recent Cultural Week, where I had the honor of handing over the Culture Crown. It symbolized not just celebration, but unity, diversity, and the pride we all share in our heritage. Being part of that moment was truly fulfilling.”

Beyond the Degree: The Power of Purpose in University Life

By Muthoni Muhindi
Empowered Flow



After years of lectures, assignments, sleepless nights, and countless examinations, graduation is often seen as the ultimate reward of university life. A degree becomes a symbol of success; a testament to resilience, discipline, and determination. Yet, even as students work towards that milestone, a deeper question often lingers quietly within: *is a degree alone enough?* University education is frequently perceived as a structured path: attend classes, pass exams, graduate, and transition into the workforce. However, the lived experience of many students reveals a different reality. The journey is rarely linear. It is marked by moments of uncertainty, self-doubt, comparison, and the constant pressure to define one's future.

Beyond the lecture halls and academic schedules lies a more profound journey: the journey of self-discovery. It is within this space that students begin to understand not only what they are studying, but who they are becoming. In this process, one truth becomes evident: while a degree equips us with knowledge and technical skills, purpose gives that knowledge direction and meaning.

My time at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology has extended far beyond academic learning. DeKUT has given us wide platforms to explore beyond our studies from academic trips for Tourism students that expose us to real-world experiences, to educational clubs that nurture our talents and leadership skills. Opportunities such as *Climb to Educate*, where students get the chance to climb Mount Kenya for a cause, as well as various webinars and innovation forums, have created spaces for growth, exposure, and impact. These platforms remind us that university life is not limited to the classroom, but is a holistic journey of learning, exploration, and transformation.

A defining part of my journey has been my involvement in Empowerment Flow with Muthoni (EFM) — an initiative dedicated to mentorship and community support. Through this platform, I have had the privilege of working with young students, providing essential items such as sanitary pads, socks, and learning materials, while also offering guidance and encouragement. What began as a simple act of giving has evolved into a purpose-driven mission. More importantly, it has transformed me. It has taught me that true impact is not measured by the resources we possess, but by our willingness to serve, to show up, and to make a difference in the lives of others. These experiences have reshaped my understanding of success. Success is not solely defined by academic achievements or career aspirations. It is equally reflected in the lives we touch, the communities we uplift, and the values we uphold. Leadership, in this context, is not about titles or recognition, but about service, empathy, and consistency.

As students at different stages of this journey, we are all in a season of becoming. A season that calls for more than academic excellence; it calls for intentional growth, self-awareness, and purpose. While the knowledge acquired in classrooms is essential, it is the application of that knowledge beyond the classroom that ultimately defines our impact. To every student whether at the beginning of this journey or approaching graduation, I offer this reflection: look beyond the degree you are working towards. Ask yourself, *what difference do I want to make? What kind of person do I want to become?* Let your university experience not only prepare you for a profession, but also shape you into an individual who contributes meaningfully to society.

As we move forward, and as some step into the next chapter beyond university, may we carry more than academic qualifications. May we carry purpose, compassion, and the courage to create change wherever we go. Because in the end, a degree may define what we have studied but purpose defines who we become.

From Silence to Symphony: How the DeKUT Band is Redefining Student Expression

By Grace Ngina
Treasurer, DeKUT Band

On an ordinary evening at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, in a quiet room at the School of Business, something extraordinary began to take shape. What started as a small gathering of students with individual instruments and a shared love for music has grown into a bold and unified voice now known as The DeKUT Band.

This was not just the formation of another student group. It was the birth of a vision.

The idea was simple but powerful: to create a space where students from different disciplines could come together, not as programmers, engineers, or scientists, but as creators. Armed with trumpets, saxophones, guitars, violins, drums, and raw talent, the founding members, guided by a committed leadership team under the stewardship of **Antony Wangai**, the President, transformed their passion into purpose.

Founding members

Drawn from diverse academic backgrounds including Computer Science, Information Technology, Engineering, and Nursing, the band reflects a shared language of rhythm. In a university known for technical excellence, it introduces a creative pulse that complements academic rigor with artistic expression.

Like any meaningful journey, it began with challenges like coordination, learning curves, and long hours of practice. Over time, rehearsals brought refinement, confidence, and cohesion, shaping individual efforts into one unified sound.

"We don't just play music – we ignite moments that refuse to fade."

The turning point came with preparations for major University events. The band has since performed at key institutional functions including the **International Day celebrations, the 19th Graduation Ceremony, Academic Open Day** and **2025 Freshers' Night**, delivering memorable performances that energized audiences and strengthened school spirit. These moments demanded precision, discipline, and unity. They were more than performances; they were statements of presence.

Behind the scenes, the band has steadily built structure and sustainability. With a defined leadership team, a formal constitution, and a growing membership, The DeKUT Band is establishing itself as an institution in the making. Regular practice sessions, strategic planning, and mentorship from their founding patron, **Miss Christine Auma**, a French Lecturer in IToHM, continue to shape its growth and identity.

Beyond music, the band is building community, creating a space for expression, collaboration, and growth





Founding members



beyond academic boundaries. It reflects a broader truth: innovation at DeKUT does not only happen in lecture halls, but also in rhythm and creativity.

Looking ahead, the band envisions collaborations, mentorship opportunities, inter-university engagements, and partnerships with the Nyeri County Government, all aimed at elevating DeKUT's identity through music.

A key part of the DeKUT Band's identity is its warm and inclusive approach to new members. Whether one already plays an instrument or not, everyone is welcomed and given a chance to grow.

Experienced members join directly into rehearsals and performances, while those without instruments or prior musical experience are guided through mentorship, basic musical training, and hands-on practice. This supportive system allows members to learn at their own pace while still contributing to the group.

As a result, the band continues to grow not only in numbers but also in diversity, creativity, and shared purpose—building a community where everyone has a place in the music.

"Viva DeKUT Band, Viva la musique."



Beyond the Textbook

By Mark Kinyingi

We spend a lot of time in lecture halls staring at slides, waiting for "real life" to begin. But what if I told you that the most significant growth of your university career can happen in a land far from home? Over the past couple of years, being an undergraduate and now a master's student at DeKUT, I've navigated three different countries, three different academic systems, and three very different cultures. From the meticulous precision of Japan to the industrial grit of Germany and now the high-stakes professional world of Switzerland, my time abroad has been more than a line on a CV—it's been a total change of perspective of life. As some people say, "You dream according to the limit of your exposure."

My journey began in Gifu back in December 2022 as an undergraduate, where I learned that technical skills are nothing without discipline. At the University of Gifu, the lab culture is built on a foundation of respect and extreme attention to detail. I witnessed the concept of Kaizen (the art of continuous improvement) firsthand. It's not just about taking big steps on a project; it's about the small but sure steps, in every line of code, and every measurement. Outside the lab, my problem-solving skills were tested when I tried to navigate a Japanese grocery store with zero Kanji knowledge. Japan taught me humility. It taught me how to listen more than I speak and how to find comfort in being an outsider. More on my experiences in Japan can be

> *"My journey began in Gifu back in December 2022 as an undergraduate, where I learned that technical skills are nothing without discipline."*



found in DeKUT's YouTube channel via https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QVcReTQcKfw.

If Japan was a lesson in precision, Germany was a lesson in structural thinking and independence. Spending a semester in Siegen allowed me to move past the "tourist" phase and integrate into the German way of life. Other than technical laboratory stuff, I learnt persistence hands-on—quitting is not an option after getting undesired experimental results. Outside the lab, I explored German tourist destinations such as the gothic Cologne Cathedral that has been built for 632 years, experiencing the Schwebebahn ("inverted train") in Wuppertal and visiting the stadium of the iconic Borussia Dortmund (BVB) team amongst others. Having a German visa opened the Schengen region for free travel which I leveraged to visit the famous Eiffel Tower in Paris, France.

Currently, I am in Switzerland on an IAESTE internship. The experience is the bridge between being a student and being a professional. Working in Switzerland is like watching a Swiss watch: everything is synchronized. Through IAESTE, I've been thrown into a high-level professional environment where the expectations are sky-high, but the support is world-class. I'm learning how to integrate with my colleagues towards a common company goal. Switzerland is a lesson in balance. On Friday, you solve complex technical problems; on Saturday, you are standing on top of Mt. Pilatus. It's teaching me that your career should fuel your life, not consume it.

What does abroad offer?

The major advantages of going abroad as a student are:

1. A Global Network: I now have friends and mentors in three different countries.
2. Radical Adaptability: You learn to thrive in any environment quickly, whether it's a quiet office in Gifu or a bustling firm in Zurich.
3. Confidence: Once you've lived abroad alone, the "real world" back home doesn't seem so intimidating anymore.

If you are on the fence about applying for an exchange or an IAESTE placement, consider this: The discomfort of navigating a new culture is where your greatest growth is hiding. My time in Gifu, Siegen, and Zurich hasn't just made me a better student; it's made me a more capable, resilient, and open-minded human being. The world is waiting for you to stop reading about it and start working in it.

Go apply. Your future self will thank you.

PS: Many thanks to the International Office at DeKUT for making such opportunities easily accessible.



France Internship Experience

By Emma Askari

Beautiful country, definitely nothing I have ever seen before. Would I go back? People keep asking me. I think that is not just a yes or no question at the moment though I am getting a little desperate or maybe just impatient so who knows guys.

To paint a picture, I think going abroad taught me very quickly that life is not linear. I know some people learn that as children through different experiences, but for me, I think I truly learnt it then. Somehow, my parents had managed to protect me from life up until that point. You know — you're born, you go to primary school, then secondary school, then university. The signs were always there, but they became more real when I arrived at France.

People have asked me, and still ask me, what my experience there was like. I can always see their eyes light up because I'm expected to talk about the good parts. And to be fair, there were many.

Flying for the first time was one of the greatest feelings ever. I genuinely think everyone should experience it, no matter where they are going. Navigating through airports gives you an incredible sense of confidence. I don't think I had ever experienced a feeling quite like that before.

The country itself was also incredibly developed. I mean, it makes sense — they've had years of advancement long before we even knew what colonization was. It was crazy seeing how accessible everything was. Things I had only seen on TV suddenly became real: football matches, beautiful streets, and even the Eiffel Tower. Sometimes we would just look at each other and ask, "How did this even happen? I remember having conversations with my friends back in Kenya about all the holidays we celebrate because of freedom from colonial rule, and there I was, seated next to a white person in France. It felt strange sometimes — almost ironic.

There were also conversations where people were surprised that we could speak English. At first, it felt offensive, but then again, English is not even our language honestly, so there wasn't much pride attached to it.

I visited museums too, and something that stayed with me was seeing so many artifacts and findings from African countries displayed there. At some point, I kept asking myself: why are these tools and stories not back home where they belong?



Sometimes I would sit in certain spaces and realize I could barely see anyone who looked like me. There were moments I genuinely felt tears in my eyes. There's a joke that when someone abroad calls you, just know the conversation will be long — and honestly, I understand why now. There is such a deep longing for community when you are away from home.

To everyone who has experienced that feeling before — cheers to you. I have a lot to say, but if I had to conclude, I'd say this: First, life is not linear. There will be highs and lows, and honestly, I don't think anyone ever promised us an uphill journey all the way.

Secondly, never limit yourself. Human beings are incredibly capable, and you can achieve things you once thought were impossible. If someone else has already done it, then you are not an exception either.

Thirdly, you will never fully be ready for anything. Before going to France, I had heard countless stories from people abroad. I thought I had prepared myself for every emotion, every experience, even the loneliness — but I wasn't fully ready. Everyone's story is somehow different and similar at the same time. So whatever season you are in, keep an open mind. Even in your next chapter in life, don't try to control everything. Do your best, and leave room for some magic.

Finally, I think everyone should experience being away from what they are used to at least once in their life. I won't lie — some nights you may cry yourself to sleep — but personally, I wouldn't change the experience. And as we all go our separate ways, and some of us end up abroad, please always remember to come back home. There is truly no place like home.

We are the pioneers of our own systems, just like Dedan Kimathi fought for our freedom. Fight for your identity as a Kenyan, as an African. Tell stories of home, and most importantly, document them for generations to come. One hundred years from now, our great-grandchildren will search, ask questions, and want to know who we were. Make sure you leave them something to find.

Thank you for your time. And a quote, just for the plot:

"Courage is not the absence of fear; it is doing it despite being afraid."

Poland ZUT Internship Experience

By Stephanie Nyambura Kinyanjui

Can a few months in another country shape your future? Absolutely!! Hear me out, my time in Szczecin, Poland for three months really did transform me in literally so many perspectives, from coming out of my comfort zone to appreciating the different cultures. I had an amazing opportunity to experience life as an intern in the West Pomerenian University of Technology (ZUT), Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Mechatronics. As a Chemistry Major, this was slightly out of my norm; learning new concepts from a physics perspective continued to clarify how sciences are actually inseparable. I was able to engage directly with the interdisciplinary nature of materials science. I gained hands-on experience with thin-film deposition and characterization techniques, particularly Plasma Electron Deposition (PED) and optical microscopy among other characterization techniques. This immensely deepened my understanding of how chemical composition, structure, and processing influence material properties in practical research applications.

Being in Poland was exciting, learning Polish was my unexpected side quest. It started as a survival skill figuring out greetings, reading signs, navigating shops but slowly became part of the adventure. There were plenty of failed pronunciations but I did pull off learning the most important word such as Dziękuję (thank you), Przepraszam (Excuse me) and Dzien dobry (Hello). I also had the chance to explore a variety of local dishes from Pierogi (filled dumplings) to Gołąbki (stuffed cabbage rolls), zapiekanki (toasted open-faced sandwich), among so many others.

Poland gave me work experience, but also random life lessons like how serious as well as fun winter actually is. At first, it was just me losing battles against the cold and layering up like an onion because what were those temperatures? (-10^{o}C) mind you, this is barely winter core (lol) which can get to -24^{o}C, but it slowly became ice skating, snow slides, making snow angels and learning there's magic hidden in subzero temperatures.

One of the best moments of living in Poland was how Europe is amazingly accessible. A train ride could take me to Kraków, a weekend could lead to Berlin and many other cities I got to explore. My first solo trip to Prague during Christmas was peak main-character energy, Christmas markets, experiencing Prague's Castle, Charles bridge had me realizing I could actually do this on my own, well, props to google maps too!

Beyond the travel and fun, one of the most profound parts of living in Poland was learning the culture through people and memory. Celebrating All Saints' Day and seeing cemeteries illuminated by thousands



of candles was one of the most moving traditions. I witnessed an entire culture honoring remembrance so beautifully and intentionally.

Walking through the central cemetery in Szczecin, among the largest in the world, seeing military graves and memorials to soldiers and world war victims, made European history feel suddenly close. The legacy of war was no longer something distant from textbooks or the internet, but something etched into landscapes, memory, and even everyday life of the people. Often, where those world wars can often feel geographically and emotionally far removed, this felt different, more immediate, more tangible. History didn't feel like the past; it felt present in how people remember, commemorate, and carry identity.

Looking back, living this experience was genuinely exciting in a way I can't fully put into words. It was not just about working abroad, but about growing through everything around it: the cultures, the cities, the people, the history, even the small everyday moments that slowly shape who you become. I strongly believe experiences like this are something everyone should strive for at least once in their lifetime. Not necessarily because it's easy, but because it stretches you in ways comfort never will. You learn, you unlearn, you adapt, and you start seeing the world and yourself differently.

In all, honestly, a big part of making this possible was the support behind the scenes. I am entirely indebted to the DeKUT International Office, and programmes like IAESTE and West pomerenian University of Technology (host) that made this possible. What once felt like a distant dream becomes something real, accessible, and achievable. It's proof that with the right opportunities, these experiences aren't just fantasies, they can also become your reality too!!



DeKUT Cultural Week: Where Identity Met Innovation and The University Found Its Rhythm

By the Office of Sports, Security and Entertainment – John Muchai



In every institution, there are events that fill the calendar, and then there are those that define it. The recently concluded Cultural Week at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology firmly belongs to the latter.

What unfolded over the course of the week was not merely a celebration of culture, but a carefully orchestrated convergence of identity, creativity, and modern student expression. From the onset, the objective was clear: to create an experience that would not only engage students, but resonate with them long after the final curtain call. The result was an event that transformed the campus atmosphere, drawing participation, conversation, and admiration from across the University.

At the heart of this success was a deliberate shift in approach. Cultural Week was not treated as a routine event, but as a brand. Every detail, from partnerships to publicity, was aligned with this vision. Strategic collaborations with Pace Setters, Pepsi, Darling Kenya, AA Driving School, and the Marketing Students Association of DeKUT elevated both the scale and credibility of the event. These partnerships were not symbolic, they were functional, amplifying reach, enhancing experience, and reinforcing the event's stature as a flagship University activity.

One of the most defining features of this year's edition was its ability to bridge tradition and modernity. While cultural showcases and performances remained central, the introduction of Esports and the eFootball tournament marked a significant evolution in programming. This was not an addition made for novelty, but a recognition of shifting student interests and the growing legitimacy of digital competition as a form of sport and entertainment.

The tournaments quickly became focal points of excitement. Participation levels exceeded expectations, and the competitive intensity demonstrated that Esports is no longer peripheral, it is embedded within student culture. The finals delivered moments of precision, strategy, and high stakes decision making, with deserving winners crowned and awarded in a finale that captured the attention of the wider campus community.

However, the visible success of Cultural Week was built on an often overlooked foundation: communication. Engagement at this scale does not occur spontaneously. It is engineered through consistent, strategic, and visually compelling messaging. The visibility of the event across campus platforms, the anticipation it generated, and the sustained turnout throughout the week were all outcomes of a deliberate publicity framework.

In this regard, the office extends its recognition to Lazarus Nyaata, whose role in marketing and publicity significantly shaped the event's reach and perception. Through the design of all official posters and banners, the production of video advertisements, and the structured promotion of both Cultural Week and the Esports and eFootball tournaments, he contributed to building a cohesive and recognizable event identity. His work ensured that Cultural Week was not just attended, but anticipated.

This highlights a broader truth: events of this magnitude succeed not only through planning, but through how effectively they are communicated. Visibility drives participation, and participation defines impact.

As the University reflects on this year's Cultural Week, it is evident that a new benchmark has been established. The event demonstrated that when creativity is matched with strategy, and when tradition is allowed to evolve alongside innovation, the result is not just a successful program, but a defining institutional experience.

Cultural Week did not simply happen. It was built, shaped, and delivered with intention. And in doing so, it has set a precedent for what student driven events at DeKUT can and should become.



Controllers, Courage and Campus Glory: DeKUT's eFootball Tournament That Changed the Game

By Collins Kirimi

BSc. Mechatronics Engineering, Year 2



When 200 students picked up their phones and entered the DeKUT eFootball Mini-Tournament, they weren't just playing football — they were proving that the next great competitive arena sits right here on campus.

When Gaming Became Serious Business

Not long ago, telling someone you spent your evenings playing football on a phone screen would earn you a polite but unconvinced smile. Today, it might just earn you a trophy — and a cheque. Esports has quietly exploded into a multi-billion dollar global industry complete with professional teams, sold-out arenas, lucrative brand sponsorships, and streaming audiences that dwarf traditional sports broadcasts. While the grandest stages might be in Seoul, Los Angeles, or Dubai, something equally electrifying was unfolding right here in Nyeri. This is the story of the DeKUT eFootball Mini-Tournament: a grassroot, student-powered competition that handed 200 players the rare opportunity to feel, even briefly, what it means to compete like professionals.

The Tournament That Took Campus by Storm

Organised by the DeKUT Student Council (DeKUTSO) through the Office of Sports, Security, and Entertainment, the tournament was far more structured than its "mini" label dared to suggest. Two hundred students were drawn into twelve fiercely competitive groups and set to work building their Dream Teams on their mobile phones.

Each group stage match featured separate Home and Away fixtures — a dual-legged structure meaning a player had to earn their wins from both sides of the tie. Behind the scenes, committed moderators kept everything honest, handling group administration and resolving disputes with the precision of a well-drilled defence.

Group Stage: 12 groups · Home & Away fixtures · Played on mobile (eFootball) · Moderator-managed

Knockout Stage: 32-player bracket · Best of 3 per round · Best of 5 Grand Finale

Group Stage Matches: Played online — accessible to every player regardless of location on campus

Physical Showdown: Round of 16 onwards played on campus · Students on Industrial Attachment played from their work locations

One of the tournament's most thoughtful decisions was its hybrid structure. Group stage matches were played online, keeping participation open and flexible. But once the field was whittled to 32, the competition went live on campus. Students on Industrial Attachment were permitted to continue remotely so that geography never became a reason to miss out.

"The Home and Away format was brutal — you couldn't just scrape through one leg and breathe easy. But when the knockout stage went physical and the crowd showed up? That was a different kind of pressure altogether. I loved

every second of it." — Levyne Gatheru, DeKUT student participant · eFootball mini-tournament 2026

The Stakes and The Sponsor

Great tournaments need great prizes, and this one delivered. The total prize pool sat at Ksh 15,000, divided across the top three finishers:

1st Place: Ksh 7,000 (carrascomessi10)

2nd Place: Ksh 5,000 (dynamic)

3rd Place: Ksh 3,000 (mr. m)

Proudly sponsored by Carry1st — supporting campus gaming communities across Africa.

The backing of Carry1st — one of Africa's most respected mobile gaming platforms — as tournament sponsor was a statement far louder than the prize money alone. It announced that the industry is watching. When a serious pan-African gaming company invests in a university tournament, it signals something the community has long known: young campus talent is exactly where the next wave of esports growth will come from.

Behind the Scenes: The People Who Made It Work

Every great competition is only as good as the team holding it together off the pitch. While players focused on tactics and Dream Team selections, DeKUTSO's moderators worked tirelessly in the background — the unsung architects of a tournament that ran cleanly, fairly, and with genuine professionalism.

And then there were the players themselves — not merely competitors, but managers of their own digital franchises. Choosing formations, assembling squads, studying opponents, and navigating the psychological demands of a two-legged tie. Whether they realised it or not, they were practising skills that reach well beyond the final whistle.

"We didn't just want to put on a tournament. We wanted to show that DeKUT students are ready for the competitive digital world — that we can organise at a professional level and deliver something the whole campus can be proud of." — John Muchai, DeKUTSO Organiser · Office of Sports, Security and Entertainment

Esports Is Not One Career — It's an Entire Industry

Here is what the DeKUT tournament illustrates so vividly: esports is not a single road. It is a sprawling, interconnected ecosystem — and every corner of it needs people with skills, ambition, and creativity. Consider what it took to run this one campus event alone: organisation, logistics, communication, moderation, strategy, and sponsorship relations. Scale that up to the global stage and the opportunities multiply without limit.

Career paths within esports include: Event Management, Game Development, Content Creation and Streaming, Sports Psychology, Data and Performance Analysis, Digital Marketing, Broadcast and Commentary, Sponsorship and Brand Partnerships, Network Engineering, Journalism and Storytelling, UI/UX Design, and Team Management and Coaching.

Kenya's esports scene is accelerating. Local tournaments, gaming festivals, and platforms like Carry1st are steadily building the infrastructure for a legitimate industry. A digitally native generation is coming of age — and the graduates stepping out of DeKUT in 2026 are precisely the kind of people who can turn that potential into a profession.

More Than a Game: What This Tournament Really Taught

Ask anyone who made it deep into the bracket what the tournament truly demanded, and "just good gameplay" will not be the answer. Navigating a structured group stage required discipline and consistency. Regrouping after a difficult Home leg required strategic clarity and mental resilience. Walking into a physical knockout round with your peers watching required composure that no lecture can fully teach.

DeKUTSO, in organising this event, demonstrated something equally important: that students at this University can conceive, coordinate, and execute a competition of real professional caliber. That is not a small thing. That is a portfolio entry, a story worth telling, and proof of a generation ready to take on whatever comes next.

The Final Whistle — and What Comes Next

When the Grand Finale's Best of 5 reached its conclusion and a champion emerged from those 200 contenders, something bigger than a campus tournament had been validated. At a University that carries the name and spirit of a man who refused to accept limits, students had shown that they could organise, compete, adapt, and thrive in a format that mirrors the professional esports world in almost every meaningful way.

The global esports industry is still finding its ceiling — and it has not found it yet. Universities across the world are only beginning to formalise their place within competitive gaming. DeKUT's Class of 2026 is graduating at the most interesting possible moment. The digital economy is expanding. The African gaming market is rising. And the skills forged here — in lecture theatres, in student residences, and yes, across tournament brackets played on mobile screens — are exactly what this new world is hungry for.

The tournament is over. The degree is in hand. But the arena — bigger than any bracket, louder than any campus crowd — is just getting started. Class of 2026, it is your turn to press play.



DeKUT Stunners: Rising Force in Competitive Hockey

The DeKUT Stunners continue to establish themselves as a formidable side in Kenya's hockey scene, combining discipline, tactical awareness, and a growing winning mentality. Under the guidance of coach Kelvin Mureithi, the team has shown steady progress, translating hard work in training into strong performances across major competitions. Led by captain Shem Ogutu, the squad features key players such as Harun Mnjau (CB), Marvin Gitari (CMF), Brian Iraki (CF), and Ogutu himself anchoring the midfield. This balance allows the team to remain compact defensively while posing a constant attacking threat.

Tournament Performance

The Stunners' biggest achievement came during the CEHOTA Tournament February 2026 held at Kaaga Grounds, where they were crowned champions after an impressive run. They booked their place in the final with a dominant 3–0 victory over Embu Hockey Team in the semi-finals, showcasing attacking quality and defensive discipline. In the final, DeKUT edged past Veterans Hockey Team with a hard-fought 1–0 win to lift the title.

At the Kenyatta University Opens April 2026—a highly competitive open tournament featuring both university and club teams—the Stunners advanced to the Round of 16, proving their ability to compete beyond university-level opposition.

During the University Nationals March 2026 at Catholic University of Eastern Africa, the team faced a challenging group stage, including a solid 1–1 draw against Kenyatta University Hockey Team.

Key Highlights

One of the standout performances of the season came in the KUSA Central fixtures, where DeKUT secured a hard-fought 1–0 victory over Chuka University Hockey Team. The decisive goal was scored by Marvin Gitari. Captain Shem Ogutu also stood out individually, finishing as the team's top scorer at the Nationals with two goals.

Team Identity and Ambition

Beyond the results, the DeKUT Stunners are defined by unity, resilience, and ambition. The squad continues to grow in confidence, taking on tougher opponents and gaining valuable experience with every competition.

"We are focused on consistency, growth, and competing at the highest level. Every tournament is a step forward for us," said captain Shem Ogutu.

With a tournament title secured and strong performances across multiple competitions, the DeKUT Stunners are clearly a team on the rise—ready



More Than a Game

By Sirucha Newton Chesoli,
Mechatronics Engineering Student



Nickname: Omwami CF

Reg No: E022-01-1417/2021

Position: CAM, LW

Foot: Right Foot

Jersey No: 16

When I joined the University team, I never imagined how much the pitch would shape my journey here. Football quickly became more than a sport; it became a place where I learned discipline, teamwork, and the power of showing up every single day.

Representing the University in the Kenya University Sports Association (KUSA) games has been one of my biggest highlights. Wearing the school colours and fighting for every ball taught me to value effort as much as talent. Taking that same spirit beyond campus, I've also had the honour of representing Nyeri County in the National Inter-County Games an experience that pushed me to grow even more as a player.

Football has given me a story worth telling: early trainings, unforgettable matches, and the pride of carrying my team and county on my shoulders. And this is just the beginning. I'm still chasing the ball, still chasing bigger dreams.

Celebrating Identity and Purpose in Faith Communities

By Rev. Fr. Dr. Vincent Wambugu-Head of Chaplaincy, Mr. Charles Obonyo (FOCUS, Kenya), Dennis Kamau (Chaplaincy) and Faith Group Leaders

DeKUT is a multi-religious community. Both staff and students belong to many different Faiths and religious professions. The staff generally receives pastoral care outside the University. However, the University takes special care of students by providing them with an environment conducive to their religious services.

To facilitate pastoral care to students, the University has four Faith groups duly registered and operational in the University. These groups play a critical role in giving students a sense of belonging since once they join DeKUT, they have to adjust to a new, fast-paced environment that blends academic, religious, and social life. The Faith groups are home for students to interact over common religious values, worship, prayer, charity, and many other related activities.

The University Chaplaincy department coordinates the spiritual, pastoral, and moral guidance for the students. The department collaborates with patrons and matrons of various Faith groups. The four Faith groups are:

- **DeKUT Seventh Day Adventists- DeKUTSDA**
- **DeKUT Catholic Students-DeKUTCS**
- **DeKUT Christian Union-DeKUTCU**
- **DeKUT Answar Muslims-AMDeKUT**

DeKUT Christian Union-DeKUTCU



DeKUTCU is the umbrella body for the Protestants, Evangelical, Pentecostal, and many other faiths present among students in DeKUT. It is here that students from these different religious professions find a spiritual home. In this home, they receive personalized pastoral and spiritual care.

DeKUTCU continues to be vibrant in faith-based initiatives such as worship nights, fellowships, outreach charity, and other activities in and beyond the university. As depicted below:



DeKUT Christian Union during a service.

DeKUT Catholic Students-DeKUTCS

DeKUTCS comprises students affiliated with the Catholic Church. They engage in both faith and community-based initiatives as depicted below:

Way of the Cross on Good Friday



DeKUTCS during one of their environmental cleanup exercises at Gate B on the road heading to Nyeri view

DeKUT Seventh-Day Adventists- DeKUTSDA

The Seventh Day Adventist students engage in spiritually nourishing activities, community-based initiatives, and social bonding activities. Some of the activities they have engaged themselves in are;



They also held a music sabbath that aimed at enhancing their spiritual nourishment.



Social Sunday hike

DeKUT Answar Muslims-AMDeKUT

Muslim students come together for prayers, fasting, community engagements, discussions, and social events. They continue to actively participate in Muslim celebrations like Ramadhan and Eid al Adha. Additionally, they also take part in mosque cleaning activities, especially in the one located in Mweiga.



DEKUT ENTERPRISES COMPANY

NYERI – MWEIGA ROAD, PRIVATE BAG – DEDAN KIMATHI, NYERI, KENYA

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OFFICE OF THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

Delivering Enterprise, Innovation, and Real-World Impact

Bridging knowledge with industry and opportunity

Introduction

As Dedan Kimathi University of Technology marks its 20th Graduation Ceremony, DeKUT Enterprises Company (DeKUTES) continues to play a vital role in advancing the University's vision through enterprise, innovation, and the practical application of knowledge. As the commercial arm of the University, it extends institutional impact beyond the classroom by delivering solutions, building capacity, and supporting industry and community development.

Message from Dr. Paul Tanui, the Managing Director, DeKUTES

On behalf of DeKUTES, I extend my warmest congratulations to the graduating Class of 2026. As you step into the professional world, remember that innovation, resilience, and integrity are key to success. The skills and knowledge you have gained at DeKUT place you in a strong position to create impact, drive enterprise, and contribute meaningfully to society. I encourage you to remain connected with the University and DeKUTES as partners in growth, entrepreneurship, and opportunity. Wishing you success in your future endeavors.



Featured Products: A Commitment to Quality and Consistency

DeKUT Premium Coffee

A key pillar of DeKUTES operations remains the production of high-quality value-added products, notably DeKUT Premium Coffee and yoghurt. These products reflect a sustained commitment to excellence, consistency, and innovation. DeKUT Premium Coffee is produced from 100% Arabica beans sourced exclusively from the University farm. Through in-house roasting, grinding, and packaging, the coffee is carefully processed to preserve its rich aroma, distinct floral fragrance, and subtle berry undertones, resulting in a smooth, pleasant aftertaste. Available in 30g, 100g, 250g, and 1kg packages, the coffee continues to enjoy strong and consistent demand, a testament to its quality and market acceptance.



DeKUT Yoghurt is produced from carefully selected ingredients and contains no synthetic additives. Available in coffee, vanilla, strawberry, and vanilla-chia flavours, and packaged in 250ml, 500ml, and 1-litre options, the yoghurt is crafted with a focus on freshness, safety, and nutritional value. Each batch is processed under strict standards to maintain consistency in taste and texture, ensuring a wholesome and enjoyable product for consumers.

Research, Innovation, and Market Expansion

DeKUTES continues to explore opportunities beyond local markets by positioning its products within

regional and international spaces. This ecosystem supports innovation in product development and value addition, with ongoing efforts focused on commercialization, scaling, and positioning DeKUT innovations within competitive regional and global markets. Notably, DeKUT Premium Coffee stands out for its distinctive quality and unique flavour profile, positioning it as a specialty product with a strong identity in the global coffee market.

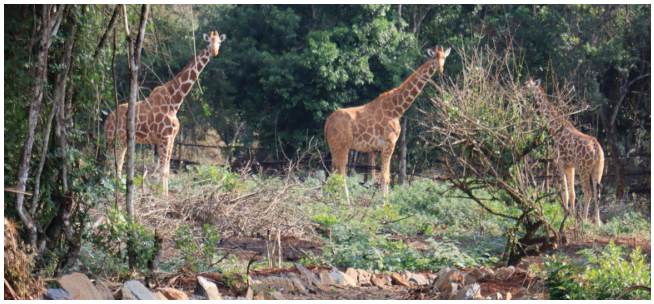
Short Courses: Targeted Capacity Building

Recognizing the growing importance of continuous learning and professional development, DeKUTES facilitates short courses designed to equip individuals and organizations with practical, industry-relevant skills.



Recently, the Company supported a specialized training programme delivered in collaboration with the Centre for Food Safety and Naturopathy (CeFoNa). The training focused on Food Safety Management Systems, covering key areas such as Prerequisite Programmes (ISO/TS 22000-1), Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP), and ISO 22000:2018 standards. This initiative reflects DeKUTES' commitment to delivering targeted and impactful learning opportunities aligned with current industry and regulatory requirements.

DeKUT Conservancy: Expanding Nature, Experience and Engagement





DeKUTES continues to support the growth of the DeKUT Conservancy as a distinctive hub for conservation, recreation, and experiential learning. The Conservancy hosts diverse wildlife, including giraffes, zebras, impalas, llamas, waterbucks, and warthogs, offering visitors a serene nature experience. Initiatives are in progress to enhance the facility through the introduction of additional species, a dedicated giraffe center, and a DeKUTES outlet for visitors. These developments aim to enrich the visitor experience while meeting the expectations of both internal and external audiences.

The Conservancy is positioned to provide guided tours, nature walks, educational visits, team-building activities, and outdoor events, strengthening its role as an emerging destination for eco-tourism and community engagement.

Industry Collaboration and Strategic Partnerships

A key area of growth for DeKUTES is strategic industry collaboration that supports the practical application of University-driven innovation. By working closely with partners, the Company provides a platform for the deployment of technologies developed within the University, bridging the gap between research and real-world implementation.

A key milestone in this direction is the ongoing collaboration with Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) for the supply and delivery of Printed Circuit Boards (PCBs) and related accessories for the implementation of an Internet of Things (IoT) research project. This engagement demonstrates the Company's capacity to participate in large-scale, technology-driven initiatives.

Through Government-to-Government (G-to-G) collaboration frameworks, DeKUTES continues to position itself as a reliable partner for National and County Government institutions. The Company welcomes opportunities to work with public sector agencies in delivering innovative solutions, capacity building, and enterprise-driven services that contribute to national development.

Looking Ahead

As the University marks this significant milestone, DeKUTES remains committed to sustaining quality, strengthening service delivery, and enhancing its contribution to the University and the broader community. Through its products, services, and engagement platforms, the Company remains committed to scaling impact, strengthening partnerships, and expanding enterprise-driven solutions that contribute to national and global development.

Congratulations Class of 2026!

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PROGRAMMES OFFERED AT DeKUT

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

- Ph.D. In Mechanical Engineering
- Ph.D. In Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Ph.D. In Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Master of Science in Telecommunication Engineering
- Master of Science in Civil Engineering
- Master of Science in Advanced Manufacturing and Automation Engineering
- Master of Science in Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Master of Science in Industrial Engineering and Management
- Master of Science in Machine Tools Design and Manufacturing
- Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering
- Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering
- Post Graduate Diploma in Technical and Vocational Education
- Bachelor of Science in Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Mechatronic Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Telecommunication Information Engineering
- Bachelor of Education in Technology (Civil Engineering)
- Bachelor of Education in Technology (Electrical and Electronic Engineering)
- Bachelor of Education in Technology (Mechanical Engineering)
- Bachelor of Technology in Building Construction

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND ECONOMICS

- PhD In Business Administration & Management
- Post Graduate Diploma in Project Management
- Master of Business Administration
- Master in Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- Master of Science in Business Analytics
- Master in Supply Chain Management
- Master In Economics
- Master of Science in Project Management
- Bachelor of Purchasing and Supplies Management (BPSM)
- Bachelor of Commerce (BCOM)
- Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)
- Diploma in Business Administration (DBA)
- Diploma of Purchasing and Supplies Management (DPSM)

SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- PhD In Computer Science
- Master of Science in Computer Science
- Master of Science in Cyber Security
- Master of Science in Data Science
- Post Graduate Diploma in Animation and Visual Effects
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science
- Bachelor of Business Information Technology (BBIT)
- Bachelor of Science in Information Technology (IT)
- Bachelor of Science in Data Science & Analytics
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Security & Forensics

SCHOOL OF NURSING

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Direct Entry)
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Upgrading)

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE

- PhD In Chemistry
- Master of Science in Applied Statistics
- Master of Science in Leather Technology
- Master of Science in Chemistry
- Master of Science in Industrial Biochemistry
- Bachelor of Science in Industrial Chemistry
- Bachelor of Science in Leather Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science
- Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Modeling Processes
- Bachelor of Science in Polymer Chemistry
- Diploma in Leather Technology

INSTITUTE OF TOURISM HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT

- PhD in Sustainable Tourism and Hospitality management
- Master of Science in Sustainable Tourism and Hospitality Management
- Bachelor in Sustainable Tourism and Hospitality Management
- Diploma in Sustainable Tourism and Hospitality Management
- Certificate in Institutional Accommodation and Catering Operations
- Certificate In German Language
- Mountaineering and Outdoor Expeditions Guiding

INSTITUTE OF FOOD BIORESOURCE TECHNOLOGY

- PhD In Food Science and Technology
- Master of Science in Food Science and Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics
- Diploma in Food Science and Technology
- Diploma in Coffee Technology and Cupping
- Certificate in Coffee Technology and Quality Management

GEOTHERMAL ENERGY TRAINING AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE (GETRI)

- Master of Science in Geothermal Energy Technology
- Post Graduate Diploma in Geothermal Energy Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Geology

INSTITUTE OF GEOMATICS, GIS & REMOTE SENSING (IGGReS)

- PhD In Geomatics and Geospatial Information Science
- Master of Science in Geospatial Information Systems and Remote Sensing
- Bachelor of Science in Geomatics Engineering and Geospatial Information systems
- Bachelor of Science in Geospatial Information Science and Remote Sensing

INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY, FORENSICS AND SECURITY STUDIES (ICFoSS)

- Master of Science in Forensic and Security Management
- Bachelor of Science in Criminology and Security Management
- Diploma in Security Management

INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES (ITPS)

- Diploma in Information Technology
- Diploma in Building Technology
- Diploma in Fashion Design & Interior Decoration
- Diploma in Electrical & Electronics Engineering (Power Option)
- Certificate in Building Technology
- Certificate in Fashion Design and Interior Decoration
- Certificate in Electrical and Electronics Engineering (Power Option).
- Certificate in Mastery in ArchiCAD

CERTIFICATIONS

- Siemens Certified Mechatronic Systems Assistants (Level 1-3)
- Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA 1-3)

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