



MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

NEWSLETTER

"A PUBLICATION FROM THE OFFICE OF THE VICE - CHANCELLOR"



CS of Education, Hon. Julius Migos Ogamba, Education Principal Secretaries, other officials, Deputy Governor of Narok County, Mr. Koech Tamalinye, chair of the university council, the VC and Citizen TV hosts.

TOP NEWS: ELIMU MASHNANI AT MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY, NAROK

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ELIMU MASHNANI AT MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY, NAROK

Maasai MaraUniversity was honoured to host Citizen TV show in partnership with Ministry of Education, Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development and other stakeholders for an "Elimu Mashinani" , a stakeholders driven conversation aimed at highlighting the state of education in Kenya.

The Cabinet Secretary of Education, Mr. Julius Migos Ogamba and three Principal Secretaries in the Ministry : Higher EducationPS, Dr. Beatrice Inyangala, TVET PS Dr. Esther Muoria and Basic Education PS Prof. Julius Bitok were engaged by Citizen TV reporters, Sam Gituku and Mashirima Kapombe on a wide range of education related issues and themes coupled with audience questions and interaction.

Chairman of the University Council, Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei, council members: Dr.Susan Chebet, CPA Dickson Malanga, Ms. Agnes Busienei and the Vice-Chancellor Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho and University staff and students joined parents, trade unions, teachers, County leaders and other education stakeholders for a candid education discussion on a live show on Citizen TV from the university conference hall from 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm.



Convergence of Educationists. The Vice-Chancellor. Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho (Centre) with Chairman of University council Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei (left) hosting Education CS Mr. Julius Ogamba (2nd right), Higher Education PS, Dr. Beatrice Inyangala (2nd left) and PS Basic Education, Prof. Julius Bitok (right) in a discussion.



CS of Education, Hon. Julius Migos Ogamba, Education Principal Secretaries, other officials, Deputy Governor of Narok County, Mr. Koech Tamalinye, chair of the university council, the VC and Citizen TV hosts.



The Vice Chancellor Prof Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho (Centre), Higher Education PS Dr. Beatrice Inyangala (right) and PS Basic Education Prof. Julius Bitok (right) inspecting the event preparation.



A cross-section of guests during the live debate. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho consulting with the Deputy Governor, Narok County



Citizen TV presenter Sam Gituku (right) engaging from left: TVET PS Dr. Esther Muoria, Higher Education PS Dr. Beatrice Inyangala, CS Education, Mr. Julius Ogamba and Basic Education PS Prof. Julius Bitok

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Vice-Chancellor Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho with the Ambassador of Ireland to Kenya, her Excellency Catriona Ingoldsby sharing light moments.

The University hosted the European Film Festival Campus Edition in an event graced by Her Excellency Catriona Ingoldsby, the Ambassador of Ireland to Kenya, Ondrej Simek, the Deputy Ambassador European Union, Eireann O'Sullivan, Deputy Ambassador Ireland Embassy, Naomi Shako Head of Administration, Ireland, Caroline Kithama from the Embassy of Hungary and Hamdi Ahmed Education focal point European through Legacy Arts and Film Hub. The guests were welcomed to Maasai Mara University by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho. Accompanying the VC were the DVC (ASA), Prof. Godrick Bulitia, Acting DVC (RIO), Prof. Francis Mburu, Dean School of Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences and Creative Industries (SAHSSCI), Prof. Benard Kodak, Chair of the Department of Languages, Dr. Lily Koskei, faculty and students of the university.

The event featured film screening of Mrs. Robinson, who was the first female president of the Republic of Ireland. The film basically demonstrated Mrs Robinson leadership journey and resilience. The film was followed by panel discussions and film pitching workshop. Students and staff were also exposed to research opportunities, international exchange programmes and research opportunities including Horizon and Erasmus Mundus for capacity building . The guests also had a candid discussion with the Vice-Chancellor and engaged on public diplomacy ties such as culture , research opportunities that includes Erasmus funds, agriculture, biodiversity, , climate change and community engagement initiatives.



The Vice-Chancellor Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho (left), the Ambassador of Ireland to Kenya, her Excellency Catriona Ingoldsby (right) and the Deputy Ambassador European Union, Ondrej Simek (Centre) during an interview with Citizen TV.

The Ambassador expressed her gratitude for the warm welcome to the university. She urged the students to take advantage of the opportunities for study abroad in European universities. On her part, the Vice-Chancellor shared with the guests about the university roadmap to being an entrepreneurial institution aiming to commercialize research findings, technology transfers, university niche, Governance and community services.

The guests had an opportunity to visit different centers of attraction within the university that included the Mini Mara and the Botanical Garden.



A student contributing during the film festival



A group photo of the visitors and a section of University management present during the event. Standing in the middle is the Vice-Chancellor (White top), on the left is the Deputy Ambassador European Union and on the right is the Ambassador to the Republic of Ireland.

THE LAUNCH OF THE INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (IMS)

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The IMS Consultant, Mr. Martin Nyongesa handing over the documents to the Chairman of Council, Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei and Council member Dr. Susan Chebet

Maasai Mara University launched its Integrated Management System (IMS), which began in January 2025. The event was attended by the University Council Chair, Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei; council member, Dr. Susan Chebet; the Vice Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho; DVCs, members of university management, senators, and student leaders. The occasion also marked the cascading of the performance contract by council to University Management for the year 2025-2026.

The Council Chair, Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei, received the Policy Statement and highlighted the principles of efficiency, effectiveness, and customer service as the university launches the IMS. He underscored the importance of the 2025/2026 Performance Contract as a commitment to accountability and service. Dr. Susan Chebet, a Council Member, stressed that such a milestone should be widely shared with the press, recognizing it as a major achievement. She praised the teams involved in developing the IMS and called for full commitment to its implementation.

The Vice Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho, officially received and launched the IMS, praising the university for adopting internationally recognized ISO standards to improve student satisfaction, security, and quality. She outlined the steps for implementation, including training internal auditors, conducting reviews, and inviting external auditors. She informed the audience that Maasai Mara University will be the first in Kenya to be certified under EOMS and the fourth to implement ISMS (2022). She said that she is committed to positioning the university nationally and globally to enhance its image. She announced the official launch of the IMS, emphasizing the university motto: Engen'o e Puaan (Knowledge for Prosperity).



The Chairman of Council and the Council member receiving the policy statement from the consultant



The Chairman of Council handing over the IMS documents to The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho for implementation. Looking on are the Council member, Dr. Susan Chebet (Next to Chair) and the DVC (RIO), Prof. F. Mburu and DVC (AF&S), Prof. J. Nampushi

PROF. HARMO COURTESY CALL TO THE VICE-CHANCELLOR AND STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AT MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY



"Professors" handshake. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho (right) with Herman Gakobo Kago popularly known on the stage as "Prof. Hamo".

Herman Gakobo Kago popularly known as "Prof. Hamo", a celebrated artist, comedian paid a special courtesy call to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho. The visit highlighted the role of creativity and art in shaping young minds and fostering innovation in higher education. Prof. Hamo made a light moment to the Vice-Chancellor when he said that "Today history is being made because a stage professor is meeting with an academic one, what a day!"

Following the meeting with the Vice-Chancellor, the artist held an engaging session with students, sharing inspiring insights on talent development, creativity, and resilience in the arts. The interactive dialogue motivated students to pursue their passions with courage and to embrace art as a powerful tool for change and community building.

We are grateful for this enriching experience and look forward to more collaborations that nurture talent and inspire excellence.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho, Prof. Hamo, Council member, CPA Malanga and the Dean of Students, Mohammed Abdullahi



The Dean of students Mr. Mohamed Adan (3rd right) with Prof. Hamo (3rd left), and a section of staff and students.



Prof. Hamo (3rd left) with University staff members



A cross section of the participants during the Jukwaa la Wasomi forum.

Maasai Mara University hosted the inaugural Jukwaa la Wasomi forum, organized by the Ministry of Interior and National Administration. The meeting, which focused on improving security in higher education institutions, united five stakeholders: Maasai Mara University, Maasai Mara Vocational Training College, Narok Kenya Medical Training College, Narok West Technical Training College, and Narok Teachers' Training College.

The County Commissioner, who led the county Security and Intelligence Committee, Mr. Reuben Lotiatia, reminded students to maintain good conduct during their stay and emphasized the importance of a good conduct certificate for employment purposes. He also urged students to avoid criminal activities on the institutional premises, report any security issues, identify drugdealers, and report them, while refraining from politics.

The Director of Marketing, Dr. Edward Kateyia, represented the Vice Chancellor, welcomed all stakeholders, and mentioned that there are security-related issues on campus, encouraging all student representatives to share their security concerns openly. The meeting was also attended by the deans of students from the five institutions, led by Adan Mohammed from Maasai Mara University, the acting public relations officer of Maasai Mara University, Anne Keton, Naserian Katampoi, the Huduma Centre manager, along with three students from each student council and security officers.



The Vice-Chancellor Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho (4th right) with students leaders from the University and other institutions who participated in the forum



Participants following the forum proceedings.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho, Ag. DVC (RIO) , Prof. F. Mburu, and the Director of Public Relations and Marketing, Dr. E. Kateiya during the award ceremony. Above is the team receiving the award on behalf of the VC.

The Vice-Chancellor Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho won the Community Development for Managing the Environment Personality of the year trophy at the ETA Awards, Kenya. ETA Awards Kenya identifies, recognises and awards the best in different fields; Entertainment, environmental Conservation, Leadership and Governance, Business and Community Work. The event was held at Machakos International Convention Center, Machakos on the night of 5th September 2025.

The award is as a result of the project on Greening Narok County, which is the brain child of the Vice-Chancellor. It is also a recognition of the commitment of Maasai Mara University to environmental management and conservation. The key component of the project is the establishment of environmental clubs in schools. The university has also established a model tree nursery used for distributing tree seedlings to schools. All these efforts are towards enhancing the forest cover in Narok County.

The vice-chancellor was accompanied by the Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research Innovation and Outreach Prof. Francis Mburu, Dean of Students Mr. Mohamed A. Adan, Director Public Relations, Marketing and Linkages Dr. Edward Kateiya, Coordinator, Centre for Community Outreach Mr. Jackson Ole Masago, Acting Deputy Registrar Research , Innovation and Research Mr. Galfen Omuse, students and university representatives, among others.



Maasai Mara University team receiving the ward on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo- Obudho



Maasai Mara University team with the award during the ETA even



Maasai Mara University team receiving the ward on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo- Obudho



Maasai Mara University team with the award during the ETA even

The Vice-Chancellor receiving her award from Mmarau team





The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho holding her environmental and community conservation award

MAZINGIRA DAY, 2025 CELEBRATED AT HON.OLE NTUTU ARID ZONE PRIMARY SCHOOL, OLOLUNGA

In celebration of Mazingira Day, the University partnered with the Kenya Defence Forces, Narok County Government, NGAO (CC), Kenya Forestry Service, and various other stakeholders and organizations to conduct a tree-planting activity at Ole Ntutu Arid Zone Comprehensive Schools. Hon. Soipan Tuya, EGH, the Cabinet Secretary for Defence, graced the event.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peninah Aloo-Obudho, emphasized that the University has rebranded itself around five key pillars. Mau Forest Rehabilitation, Mara River Conservation, and Mara Game Reserve Conservation aligned with the day. She emphasized the university's focus on Tourism, Environmental Management, and the Conservation of key features in the county.



Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peninah Aloo-Obudho (2nd right), the Dean of Students, Mr. Mohamed Adan (2nd left), and the Dean of the School of Natural Resources, Environmental Studies and Agriculture, Dr. Samson Mabwoga (left), join the chief guest, Hon. Soipan Tuya, EGH, the Cabinet Secretary for Defence (right), in planting a tree in memory of the day.



The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peninah Aloo-Obudho (2nd left), and the Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research, Innovation, and Outreach, Professor Francis Mburu, are watering a tree seedling as a symbol of their joint effort in environmental management and conservation.

While encouraging everyone to make Narok County green again, she emphasized the university's dedication to environmental conservation through various initiatives, including:

- Establishing environmental clubs in primary schools, in collaboration with the county government and the Ministry of Education in Narok, to instill environmental values in young children and empower them to protect and conserve their surroundings.
- Creating a model tree nursery from which the university donates tree seedlings to schools, women's groups, and youth organizations.
- Bringing together various stakeholders to enhance environmental conditions both within the university and the surrounding communities.

The university donated 2,000 seedlings towards the exercise.

The Vice-Chancellor was accompanied by the Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research, Innovation, and Outreach, Professor Francis Mburu; the Director of Public Relations, Marketing and Linkages Dr. Edward Kateyia; the Dean of Students Mr. Mohamed Adan, Dean of the School of Natural Resources, Environmental Studies and Agriculture Dr. Samson Mabwoga; a cross section of university staff, Student Council representatives lead by the Chairperson Mr. Victor Muema, among others.



Representatives of the University staff and students with tree seedlings, ready to plant during the event.

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University management led by Acting DVC Research, innovation and outreach, Prof. Francis Mburu (standing 3rd right) and the DVC Administration, Finance and Strategy, Prof. James Nampushi (standing 3rd left) in a group photo with chief guest at Mwalimu Nyerere University of Agriculture and Technology (MNUAT).

Being true to its 5M pillars vision Maasai Mara University actively organised, planned and participated in the 14th MARA DAY CELEBRATIONS. The celebrations were held in Butiama District, Mara Region, Tanzania from 12th – 15th September 2025. It was anchored by a scientific conference on 14th September 2025 at Mwalimu Nyerere University of Agriculture and Technology (MNUAT).

The event was organized by the Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) who were the main coordinating body under the East African Community (EAC) in partnership with Mwalimu Nyerere University of Agriculture and Technology, Maasai Mara University, and the Inter – University Council of East Africa which brought together government officials, researchers, community leaders, conservation NGOs and cross-border stakeholders to highlight urgent threats to the Mara River basin and to agree on practical conservation actions. The University was represented by a strong team led by Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research Innovation and Outreach, Prof. Francis Mburu and the Deputy Vice-chancellor, Administration, Finance and Strategy, Prof. James Nampushi.



P.S for Water, Tanzania Eng. Mwajuma Wazir, (2nd left) accompanied by University staff: Director public relations, marketing and linkages Dr. Edward Kateiya (4th left), Acting deputy registrar research innovation and outreach Mr. Galfen Omuse (3rd left) at the University booth, Mwenge grounds, Butiama listening to Mr. Nicholas Abele, (right) explaining his innovation

The theme of the 14th annual Mara Day celebrations of “Protect Mara River: Preserve Life” was chosen to reflect the urgent need to safeguard the Mara River which sustains the surrounding ecosystems and human livelihood across Kenya and Tanzania. Some of the highlighted activities included presentation of papers by University staff and students, Innovations and Technological exhibitions, Marketing academic programme, networking, collaboration and internationalisation thus enhancing the visibility and image of the university. The celebration brought together diverse partners, scientists, opinion leaders, researchers, policy makers, donors and conservation experts, who developed eleven (11) key recommendations for both governments. The presence of the university and work was evidenced, a testimony to its international efforts and commitment to realization of its niche and the 5M pillars.



Maasai Mara University staff planting tree seedlings at the banks of River Mara, Kirumi village, Tarime Tanzania during the 14th Mara Day Celebration.



Flying the University colours high during the event held at Mwenge grounds, Butiama Tanzania



A group photo of University management present during the discussion and the visitors.

The University hosted a delegation from the University of Tsukuba for collaboration meeting.

Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor , Research, Innovation and Outreach Prof. Francis Mburu and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Administration, Finance and Strategy Prof. James Nampushi led the University team in the meeting. Deputy Registrar Resource Mobilization Mr. Lankeu Reson coordinated the meeting. The University of Tsukuba team comprised of two faculty members from sports department and several post graduate students. Kenyatta University was also represented by two members of staff from the Sports department.

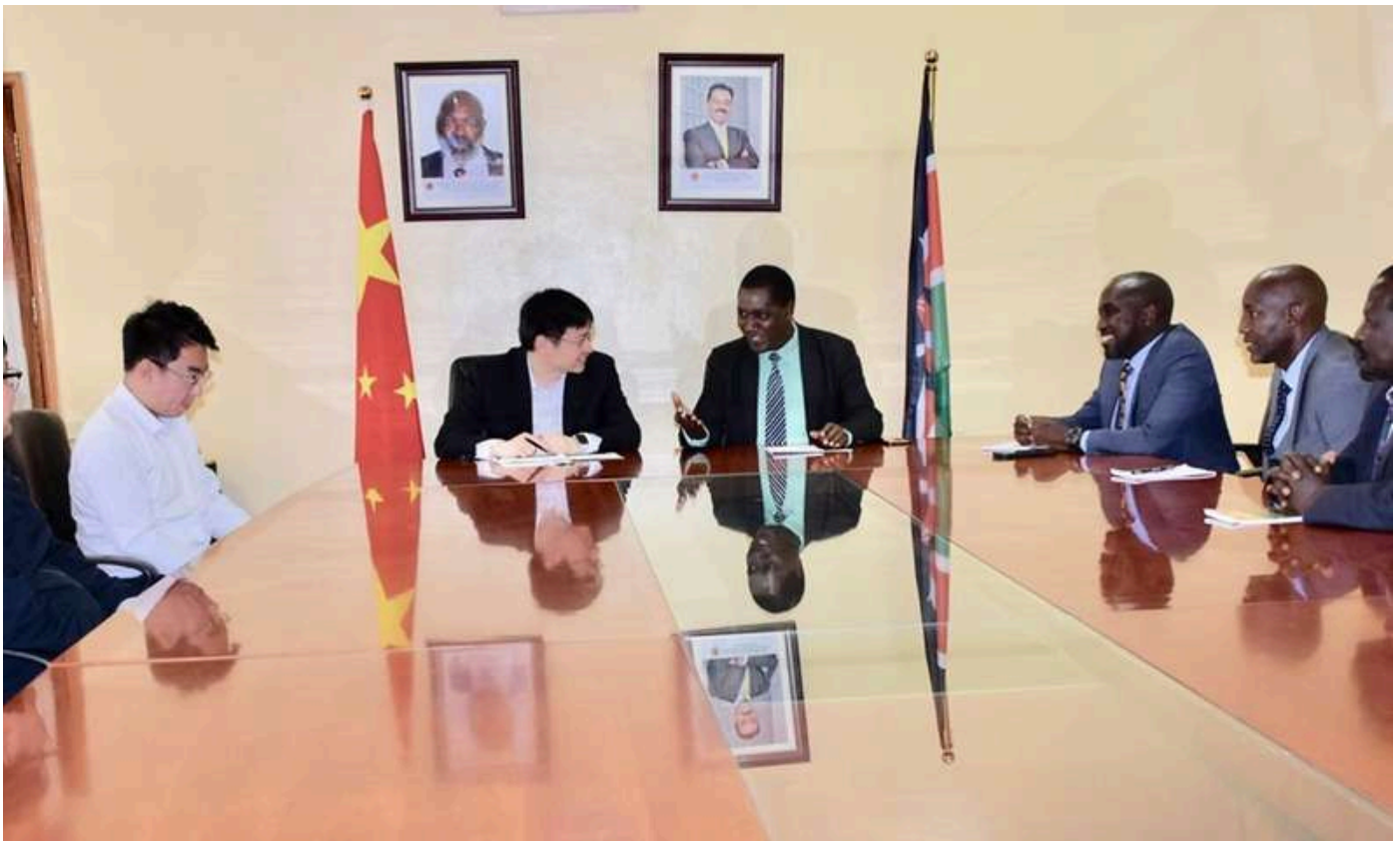
The University of Tsukuba is ranked among Japan's top 10 universities and is well known for producing top athletes: students and graduates have garnered over 140 Olympic and Paralympic medals and three Nobel Prize-winning scientists. The meeting explored areas of collaboration in diverse disciplines more specifically sports sciences, health, sports tourism, students and staff exchange programme and other areas of mutual interest.



Deputy Registrar Resource Mobilisation Mr. Lankeu Reson (standing) leading the discussion during the session between the two institutions



Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor , Research, Innovation and Outreach Prof. Francis Mburu (Centre) and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Administration, Finance and Strategy Prof. James Nampushi receiving information gift pack from the University of Tsukuba representative



Representatives of the two institutions in the meeting with the Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (RIO) Prof. Francis Mburu representing the Vice-Chancellor

The University hosted a high-level collaboration meeting with a team from the Chinese Mission , UNEP that comprised of Zhou Juan, Le Le and Li Haoyuaa. The engagement aimed at exploring joint collaboration opportunities in environmental management, urban planning, water, pollution, noise and soil management, climate change and biodiversity, and ecological a production among others.

The two institutions shared about their history, background and their future and agreed to work together to build research capacity, harness indigenous knowledge in conservation, exchange of staff and students and connect cultural links. The meeting marked a significant step toward international academic cooperation, knowledge exchange, and joint efforts.

Maasai Mara University was represented by Acting DVC Research innovation and outreach Prof. Francis Mburu, Director Public Relations, Marketing and Linkages (PRM&L), Dr. Edward Kateiya, Registrar Strategy Mr. Samuel Partoip, Deputy Registrar Resource Mobilisation Mr. Lankeu Reson.



Chinese Mission , UNEP Mr. Zhou Juan (left) presenting information pack to Acting DVC Research innovation and outreach Prof. Francis Mburu representing the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho.



Chinese Mission , UNEP Mr. Zhou Juan (Centre) with University representatives in the meeting: Acting DVC Research innovation and outreach Prof. Francis Mburu (2nd right), Director Public Relations, Marketing and Linkages (PRM&L), Dr. Edward Kateiya (right) Registrar Strategy Mr. Samuel Partoip (left) and Deputy Registrar Resource Mobilisation Mr. Lankeu Reson (2nd left).

NACOSTI COURTESY CALL TO THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

The National Commission for Science, Technology, and Innovation (NACOSTI), led by Ms. Christine Apakoreng, Deputy Director at NACOSTI, paid a courtesy visit to Professor Peninah Aloo-Obudho, the Vice-Chancellor.

During the visit, Ms. Apakoreng briefed the Vice-Chancellor on the purpose of their meeting, which was to evaluate the Institutional Scientific and Ethics Review (ISERC) team and assess the university's readiness for accreditation.

The Vice-Chancellor warmly welcomed the NACOSTI team and reiterated the university's key focus areas: Tourism, Environmental Resource Management, Conservation, and Sports. She emphasised the importance of accreditation, highlighting that it is essential for the university's mission to support high-quality research.

Ms. Christine Apakoreng was accompanied by Prof. Vasey Mwaja, the editor-in-Chief of the Kenya Academy of Sciences (KNAS) and 1st Vice Chair of the African Scientific Research and Innovation Council (ASRIC); Ms. Evelyn Mbaabu, Principal Scientist; Ms. Carolyne Nekesa, Principal Officer; and Mr. Steven A. Indimuli, Research Quality Assurance Officer, all representing NACOSTI.

Prof. Francis Mburu, the Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research, Innovation, and Outreach, and Marjana Abdallah, Research and Innovation Assistant, were also present from the university.



University staff representative and a team from NACOSTI in front of the R&I office



A group photo of MmaraU and NACOSTI team with the Vice-Chancellor (Seated middle)

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The coordinator, centre for career and placement services Dr. Patrick Gudda, left with a section of Journalism Students Association.

On Saturday, 13th September 2025, Maasai Mara University proudly hosted the Journalism Students Association of Kenya (JSAK) Bootcamp, led by the chapter representative George Edwin, with the support of the Centre for Students' Careers and Placement Services under Dr. Patrick Gudda.

The bootcamp brought together passionate media enthusiasts, including representatives from Zetech University, Ruiru Campus for a day of learning, collaboration, and transformation. The facilitators; Dimlis Africa, Baraza Media Lab, and Africa Check, delivered eye-opening sessions on how students can thrive in today's digital age where information, misinformation, and disinformation collide. They also shared timely insights on the constructive use of Artificial Intelligence in media and practical skills to verify content authenticity.

Highlights from the Sessions

Dimlis Africa (Joel Nakitare) — unpacked the meaning of DIMLIS (Data, Information, Media, Literacy Institute, Solutions) and their role in empowering society.

Baraza Media Lab — inspired the students on networking & collaboration, experimentation & innovation, knowledge-sharing, incubation, and evidence-based insights. Their presence through the Fumbua Initiative reminded us that media thrives in shared spaces.

Africa Check — Africa's first independent, non-profit fact-checking organization, walked participants through fact-checking tools, the dangers of disinformation, and how to combat falsehoods. From reverse image searches (Tineye, Yandex, Google) to video verification tools (InVID), they equipped students with the skills to guard truth fearlessly.

The students were challenged, inspired, and empowered to be custodians of truth, storytellers who use resilience, literacy, and courage to shape narratives that protect democracy and peace. At Maasai Mara University, we believe the future of media is not tomorrow; it is now and our students are boldly rising to take their place as fearless, fact-driven communicators.



Members of the Journalism Students Association following the proceedings



A group photo of the organising teams members and the facilitators.



Director PRM&L Dr. Edward Kateiya and Nickson Magak , PRM&L with some of the pupils

The Directorate of Public Relations , Marketing and Linkages (DPRM&L) coordinated a marketing and mentorship initiative in the community through visits to a series of schools: Salabani Comprehensive, Messori, Ngambo, Iingarua, Eldume, Kiserrian, Sokotei, Lorrak, Loitip the climax was meeting a Mukutani Comprehensive school.

The Director PRM&L Dr. Edward Kateiya led the team that comprised of Coordinator, Centre for Community Outreach Mr. Jackson Masago, Mr. Dickson Mwanik, Admission, Nickson Magak, PRM&L, Felista Maitano School of Education and University students from the local community.

The team mentored the students, gave motivation talks, career options and responded to questions. The pupils were inspired, motivated and mentored. It was more fulfilling having their own success stories going back to their roots and inculcating hope.

“This is a relief, renewed hope. I can’t hide my joy. Once a compound ridden by bullets now is dotted with faces of hope,” said a teacher. Gun shots have been replaced by lesson bells and the University is playing a part. The journey through Meandering maze of web of mountains and valleys needed tough hearts, Zeal and resilient determination. Indeed, it was.

Once again, the University role in education and community service stood out. The future of the students reached looks lucid in the fecund land. “ I will come to Maasai Mara University for my degree. Thanks, you for coming , “ said a pupil.

Special thanks to the Kenya Defence Force (KDF), Mukutani base camp for the invaluable services in terms of transport in the rough terrain, guidance, health matters and security.



Director PRM&L Dr. Edward Kateiya addressing the session.



BEAUTIFUL BURDENS BOOK LAUNCH

The launch of David Ole Munke's novel, "Beautiful Burdens," took place at Maasai Mara University, with Professor Peninah Aloo-Obudho, the Vice-Chancellor, serving as the Chief Guest.

She congratulated Munke and highlighted the university's dedication to preserving Maasai culture through various initiatives, including introducing indigenous languages, starting with the Maa language, and promoting wearing traditional Maasai attire every Friday.

Professor Aloo-Obudho reaffirmed the five pillars that the university takes pride in: Mau Forest, Mara River, Maasai Mara Game Reserve, Maasai Culture, and Maombi kwa Wote. The university collaborates with the University of Oxford's Pitt Rivers Museum to create a cultural center for Maasai artifacts and actively supports local writers.

The Vice-Chancellor encouraged the Maasai community to share their stories through various media, noting that the university's Creative Writing program helps students enhance their skills. She also requested the literature department to review Munke's novel for potential inclusion in African and East African literature.



A gift of knowledge. Mr. David Ole Munke's novel "Beautiful Burdens" for the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho.

The Narok County Woman Representative, Hon. Rebecca Tonkei, through Ms. Nadupoi Kishoyian, purchased ten copies for the university library.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho, warmly accepted the donation. Nominated MCA Narok Town Ward, M/s Christine Lemein, also graced the event and promised twenty copies of the book to be donated to selected schools in Narok.

Other notable guests at the event included the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Administration, Finance and Strategy, Prof. James Nampushi, the Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research, Innovation & Outreach, Prof. Francis Mburu, the Acting DVC ASA, the Acting Dean of the School of Arts, the Director of Public Relations, Marketing and Linkages, and several distinguished attendees.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho, during the launch of Mr. David Ole Munke's novel "Beautiful Burdens".

STATE DEPARTMENT OF DIASPORA AFFAIRS ENGAGES MMARAU STUDENTS

The State Department of Diaspora Affairs, one of the two departments within the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, engaged students from Maasai Mara University in discussions about opportunities available in the diaspora, including Kazi Majuu, internships, diplomacy, and other prospects. The delegation was led by Dr. David Katiambo, Director of Skills and Expertise; Felix M. Mbuvi, Second Secretary for Liaison and Partnerships; and Jose Kiarie, Third Secretary.

In her welcoming remarks, Vice-Chancellor Peninah Aloo-Obudho emphasized that Maasai Mara University is the first to partner with the State Department of Diaspora Affairs, expressing gratitude for the department's openness to collaborate with students and provide them with various opportunities in the diaspora.

The highly engaging event was attended by Prof. Francis Mburu, the acting Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research, Innovation, and Outreach; Dean of Students, Mr. Mohamed A. Adan; Dr. Edward Katei, Director of Public Relations, Marketing, and Linkages; Dr. Wesley Nyaigoti, Director of Endowment; senior faculty members, staff, and students.



A group photo of the university management present and the team from the State Department of Diaspora Affairs



The Vice-Chancellor Peninah Aloo-Obudho (standing) is opening the event. On-looking: Dr. David Katiambo, (left) Director of Skills and Expertise, and Prof. Francis Mburu, the acting Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research, Innovation, and Outreach.



The Vice-Chancellor Peninah Aloo-Obudho (standing) is opening the event. On-looking: Dr. David Katiambo, (left) Director of Skills and Expertise, and Prof. Francis Mburu, the acting Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research, Innovation, and Outreach.



The Dean of Students, Mr. Mohamed A. Adan facilitating the proceedings

KENYA ACCREDITATION SERVICE (KENAS) COLLABORATION VISIT

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Maasai Mara University hosted a team from the Kenya Accreditation Service (KENAS), led by the CEO, Dr. Walter Ongeti, who was accompanied by the Manager of Calibration Laboratories, Mr. Stanslaus Alwyn Masinza. During the visit, the team paid a courtesy call on the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho, laying the foundation for a strategic collaboration between the two institutions.

The team also visited the state-of-the-art testing laboratories at Maasai Mara University. Prof. Aloo-Obudho emphasized the University's strong commitment to ensuring that its laboratories meet international standards through formal accreditation, which is vital for enhancing the credibility, reliability, and global recognition of the University's scientific outputs.

Dr. Ongeti commended the University's investment in laboratory infrastructure and reiterated KENAS's readiness to support institutions seeking accreditation to uphold quality and competence in testing services across Kenya.

The partnership will go beyond laboratory accreditation to explore capacity building, training, and research opportunities to strengthen Kenya's quality infrastructure and contribute to global best practices. This collaboration marks a significant step towards advancing Maasai Mara University's role in high-quality research and community service.



The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho (seated 2nd right), hosted a team from Kenya Accreditation Service (KENAS), led by the CEO, Dr. Walter Ongeti, with members of the two institutions who participated in the meeting.



A tour of the Chemistry lab

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KENYA NATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES DELEGATION AND PAILCA REPRESENTATIVE COURTESY CALL TO THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

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The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho, hosted separately a delegation from the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industries (KNCCI) led by the South Rift Director, Mr. David Mbatiany, and the Executive Director of Pan African Living Culture Alliance (PAILCA), Mr. Samwel Nangira, for a courtesy visit.

The KNCCI visit to the University is anchored in the KNCCI and the University MoU, which highlights Research and Innovation, entrepreneurship, Incubation and Business Growth, Training and Capacity Building, Internships and Job Attachments, Sustainable Development, and Environmental Conservation.

Mr. Samwel Nangira from PAILCA represented the University of Oxford for a follow-up meeting. Maasai Mara University and the University of Oxford are discussing forging a partnership with a shared mission of preserving, promoting, and celebrating the rich cultural heritage of the Maa people.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho, hosted a delegation from KNCCI for a meeting

The Vice-Chancellor led Director Public Relations, Marketing and Linkages, Dr. Edward Kateiya, and the Coordinator Centre for Community Outreach, Mr. Jackson Masago, in engaging Mr. Nangira to explore ways to strengthen the collaboration with the University of Oxford. The Maa culture, unique customs, and deep-rooted connection to their land and environment, representing one of Africa's most iconic cultural identities, still standing, were the Centre of the discussion.

The Vice-Chancellor mentioned plans to establish a Centre for Cultural Studies to offer indigenous language lessons and a cultural Museum for Maa artifacts. This is in line with the current CBE.



The Vice-Chancellor Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho (3rd left) with a section of the KNCCI delegation in her office



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho, with the Director of Public Relations, Marketing, and Linkages, Dr. Edward Kateiya (left), and the Coordinator of the Centre for Community Outreach, Mr. Jackson Masago (2nd right), engage Mr. Samwel Nangira (right) from PAILCA.

The discussion also touched on preparations for the Upcoming Maa Culture week and partnering to document Maa culture, among other issues. As a university, we remain steadfast in our mission to foster meaningful partnerships that contribute not only to academic advancement but also to the empowerment of our communities and the preservation of our shared human heritage.

TASTES, TUNES AND TRADITIONS: MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES CULTURE WEEK 2025 IN STYLE

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The annual Maasai Mara University cultural week was pomp and glamour. The University Council led by the Chair Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei, Dr. Susan Chebet, Ms. Agnes Busienei, Ms. Elizabeth Ayoo, CPA. Dickson Malanga , Mr. Mulatya Nzumbi and the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho joined to celebrate creativity, honor tradition, and embraced the cultural mosaic that makes our University truly unique!

The Vice-Chancellor Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho officially opened the event themed “Unity in diversity: Culture for peace, innovation and national cohesion”.

From the vibrant beats of traditional drums and dances to the elegance of cultural attire, the environment was filled with pride and unity.

The chief guest Hon. Silverse Anami reiterated that Kenya is blessed and is a multicultural society with diverse variations to be embraced. “ There is no need for barriers, God did not create us as boys and girls for nothing. We must embrace interfaces.”

He said that culture is a living heritage that should be talked about as it is , but not as it was. He also mentioned that culture is a source of identity.



A section of the University Council; Ms. Elizabeth Ayoo (right), CPA. Dickson Malanga (2nd left) and the V.C Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho (3rd right) joined Samburu cultural group in a dance.



The chief guest Hon. Silverse Anami and the V.C Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho walking a cultural guard of honour to the event venue



Chairman of Council, Dr. K. Ole Kerei addressing the students

The Vice-Chancellor shared similar sentiments and outlined that the University has mainstreamed culture in its strategic outlook and is committed to this heritage.

The V.C highlighted that the University is in the process of establishing a cultural Centre. “ This cultural week is an opportunity to cultivate mutual respect and initiate collaborations”. She urged students to embrace the opportunity of being in the University to interact and learn from each other.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic and Student Affairs Prof. Bulitia G. Mathews said that unity is strength , diversity and is a source of peace. He mentioned that culture builds bridges instead of walls. “Culture is a catalyst of innovations, the beautiful attires, songs, dances depicted by the performing groups portrays this dynamism,” he said.

The acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and innovation Prof. Francis Mburu urged the participants to reflect on who they are and encouraged the University choir to incorporate sports in the niche song. He talked about cultural diversity and its place in contemporary society.

The event was coordinated by the Directorate of Gender, Culture and equity lead by the Director Dr.Onyiko Kennedy and Nadupoyi Kishoyian and the office of the Dean of Students. Different groups showcased: popular cultures from different regions in Kenya, folk songs and cultural dances, solo performances and speakers. In addition, the event also had food festival, interdenominational prayers, and beauty pageantry.

The performances echoed the heartbeat of our community, while cultural exhibitions painted a portrait of who we are and who we aspire to be.



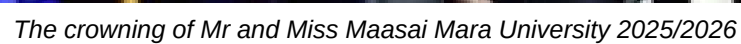
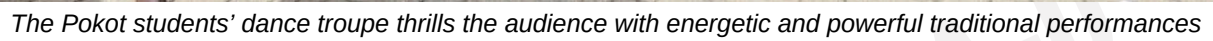
Council members introducing themselves to the students in a cultural way. R to L: Mr. Nzumbi Mulatya Dr. Ole Kerei (Chair of Council), Dr. Susan Chebet, Ms. Agnes Busienei, Ms Elizabeth Ayoo, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho (VC)



The Council Chairman and Vice Chancellor, accompanied by council members are escorted to the main dais by the Samburu, Kisii, and Pokot student dance troupes, together with the Kagan Kochia Dancers.



The Vice Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho tastes the Swahili cuisine prepared by the Mijikenda students during the 2025 Maasai Mara University Culture Week



IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MOU BETWEEN KENYA FOREST SERVICES AND MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

Maasai Mara University, in partnership with the Kenya Forest Service (KFS), held a meeting to discuss the implementation work plan for the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two institutions. The engagement focused on translating the MoU's objectives into tangible actions that advance environmental conservation and sustainable natural resource management.

The session was graced by the Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research, Innovation, and Outreach Professor Francis Mburu, who emphasized the need to prioritize the Quick Wins outlined in the MoU to ensure that its vision is achieved. He highlighted the importance of collaboration in transforming the environment and proposed the student exchange program between Londiani Kenya Forest College (KFC) and Maasai Mara University to enhance practical learning and skill development in forestry and environmental conservation.



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho, warmly welcomed KFS's Mr. Ambrose Genga during a courtesy visit to the V.C.'s office.

Professor Mburu also appealed to the Kenya Forest Service to support the upgrade of the university's tree nursery into a modern facility, capable of producing high-quality seedlings for both academic and conservation purposes.

Representing KFS, Mr. Francis Kariuki underscored the value of partnerships anchored on shared interests and actionable goals, noting that such collaborations yield meaningful and long-lasting impact. Other distinguished participants included Mr. John Ochieng, Deputy Principal at Kenya Forest College; Mr. Patrick Wazike, County Forest Conservator, Narok County; Mr. Ambrose Genga from KFS; Other Mmaarau representatives included: Dr. Edward Kateyia, Director of Public Relations, Marketing and Linkages; Dr. Daniel Oyier, Chair, Department of Environmental Management; Mr. Marjan Khamis from the office of the DVC Research Innovation and Outreach; Jackson Ole Masago, Centre for Community Outreach, and Ms. Catherine Kamwaro from the Directorate of Public Relations and Linkages.

The meeting reviewed the MoU's work plan, focusing on its key objectives and actionable strategies for timely implementation. Participants discussed various approaches, including student immersion programs, which will allow students to gain hands-on experience in environmental conservation while contributing to the MOU's success.

Additionally, both institutions agreed to undertake benchmarking initiatives, with the first exercise scheduled to take place at Kenya Forest College, renowned for its forestry and environmental conservation expertise. Plans are underway to establish tree nurseries at Ilchamus land, owned by Maasai Mara University, within the next month.

This collaboration marks a significant milestone in strengthening institutional partnerships toward achieving Kenya's environmental sustainability agenda and the university's 5M Pillars, which emphasize conservation and restoration of key ecosystems.



Tree-planting tradition is ingrained in the university's culture and practices. This initiative accompanies all visitors and activities.



section of the University team and the KFS team at the botanical garden

KENYA YEAR BOOK EDITORIAL BOARD, KY WORKSHOP HOSTED AT THE UNIVERSITY



Kenya Year Book Editorial Board at the University

The University was honoured to host the Kenya Year Book Editorial Board team from 22nd to 26th September, 2025, for a focused and productive workshop on HRIS-Ke.

The Board, a State Corporation under the Ministry of Information, Communications, and the Digital Economy, is responsible for compiling, editing, and publishing the annual Kenya Year Book, highlighting Kenya's achievements, government programs, and resources.

During the workshop, the Editorial Board utilized the University's facilities to conduct a comprehensive conference to enhance national documentation and communication.

Maasai Mara University reaffirms its commitment to supporting initiatives that promote Kenya's socio-economic development and warmly thanks the Kenya Year Book Editorial Board for choosing our university as the venue for this significant event. We look forward to continued collaboration in the future.



Meeting session

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NAROK COUNTY MEMBER OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY IN CHARGE OF ROADS VISITS THE UNIVERSITY



The Roads CEC, Mr. Gatua (2nd) right, the Vice- Chancellor, Registrar (AS), Mr. Samwel Partoip and the Roads Engineer.

The County Executive Committee member Mr Gatua visited the University to discuss development issues with the Vice-Chancellor. The purpose of the visit was to assess the roads within the university especially the student walkways with the view of tarmacking the same. Mr. Gatua informed the Vice-Chancellor that the County government is committed to supporting the university. He added that the county is looking for all possibilities to uplift the roads as had been requested by the Vice-Chancellor.

On her part, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho thanked the CEC in advance and appreciated the support the university is receiving from the county government. She said that she is looking forward to the tarmacking of the selected roads within the university. The VC added that the university is committed to addressing societal challenges facing the communities including impacts of climate change . She informed the CEC about the greening Narok County which the University is undertaking.

COLLABORATION VISIT BY HUBEI UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS, CHINA

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Hubei University of Economics, China, visited Maasai Mara University. The President Prof. FANG Jie, led the delegation that included Prof. DAI Huayong, Dean of Academic Affairs, Prof. MAO Yan, Dean, School of Tourism and Hospitality Management, and Ms. PING Yi, Associate Dean, Frostburg Institute of Carbon Economics and Data Science.

The teams discussed the specifics of establishing a Confucius Institute in partnership, including site construction, teacher deployment, and curriculum implementation with Maasai Mara University. They also explored exchange mechanisms in Tourism Management, Carbon Economics, and Data Science, and promoted student/faculty exchanges.

While welcoming the delegation, Vice Chancellor Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho appreciated the kind gesture of collaboration and reiterated her full support for the partnership to succeed.



The Vice Chancellor Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho (left) receiving a gift from the President Hubei University of Economics, China, Prof. FANG Jie



Representatives from the university and the delegation from Hubei University of Economics are in a group photo.



Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic and Student Affairs (A&SA) Prof. Bulitia Godrick Mathews (2nd left), accompanied by a section of university management, receiving a gift from the President of Hubei University of Economics, China, Prof. FANG Jie, after the meeting.

CASCADING PERFORMANCE CONTRACT TO DIRECTORS AND DEANS



PC signing ceremony for the deans of schools and Directors

After signing the Performance Contract with the Vice-Chancellor, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs Prof. Bulitia Godrick Mathews led the performance contract cascading ceremony with Deans of Schools and Directors in the DVC's office.

The exercise reinforces our shared commitment to institutional goals continuous improvement and alignment with the University's strategic plan. The DVC will now hold the Deans and Directors responsible for the targets assigned to them.



DVC, A&SA Prof. Bulitia Godrick Mathews leading a P.C. signing meeting with the Deans and Directors

STUDENTS CLUBS JOINS OTHER KENYANS IN CELEBRATING MAZINGIRA DAY, 2025

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Combined effort! Members of the Media Club, the African Youth Leadership Forum Club, Ajira Club, Debate Club, and the Kenya Model United Nations Maasai Mara University Chapter during the Mazingira Day celebration

Maasai Mara University Media Club, in partnership with the African Youth Leadership Forum Club, Ajira Club, Debate Club, and the Kenya Model United Nations Maasai Mara University Chapter, celebrated Mazingira Day through a meaningful tree planting activity.

The event brought together members from various clubs who actively participated in planting over 50 tree seedlings in different parts of the university under the theme #MazingiraJukumuLetu.

This was a contribution to the 5M pillars, the University niche, and the lifelong mission of promoting a healthier environment that ensures clean air, combats climate change, and fosters a green and sustainable future for the Maasai Mara University community.

Special thanks go to the University Administration, led by Vice-Chancellor Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho, for her ongoing dedication to environmental conservation through the 5Ms Initiative. The initiative highlights the significance of the Mau Forest and serves as a powerful reminder of our responsibility to conserve and protect nature, with tree planting as a key action.

The clubs also thank the Botanical Gardens Management for their invaluable support in providing seedlings and designated planting areas, which made this event successful.

The team encouraged fellow students and all Kenyans to participate in protecting our environment and building climate resilience within our communities.

CREATIVITY AT WORK : THE CASE OF BEDSITTER FM

While many students are unsure of what to do during the University staff's ongoing strike, Ezekiel Wayumba, Ebrahim Joab, Grace Atieno, and Emmanuel Kirui, third-year students in the Bachelor of Arts Communication and Journalism program at Maasai Mara University, are hitting the airwaves in the cube.

The “Bedsiter FM” initiative is a brilliant example of thinking outside the box and a powerful message to fellow youth: One doesn’t need a corner office to make an impact.

Transforming a simple bedsitter into a platform for sharing news and empowering voices demonstrates how media can be reimagined in the most accessible and meaningful ways. The segments Rauka, Kazi ni Kazi, Drive Show, and Usiku Sacco showcase thoughtful programming designed to inform, inspire, and entertain. The efforts are paving the way for a new era of grassroots media in Kenya and beyond.

The initiative aligns with Maasai Mara University's vision, "A University focused on innovation and empowerment for societal transformation."



Founders of the “Bed Sitter FM”.



Pupils from Ololotto Comprehensive School and Pulunga Primary School during their visit

Maasai Mara University had the pleasure of hosting pupils from Ololotto Comprehensive School and Pulunga Primary School for an exciting educational tour of our campus. The visit gave the young learners a glimpse into university life — from our lecture halls and library to student hostels and the botanical garden. They also interacted with our staff and students, learning about the university's academic programs, scholarships, and career opportunities. Our students shared their personal journeys and success stories, inspiring the visitors to dream big and stay focused on their studies. The day ended with motivational talks from university officials, who reminded the pupils that they can achieve anything with hard work, discipline, and passion!

Maasai Mara University remains committed to nurturing young minds and building a culture of academic ambition and excellence across the region.



A cross section of the pupils having a feel of the lecture theater



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