



13<sup>TH</sup>

# GRADUATION

Issue 013

19 Dec, 2025

CEREMONY

A Publication from Vice Chancellor's Office



## THEME

*Innovating to Transform: Graduates Shaping Societies.*



Our Website

[www.mmarau.ac.ke](http://www.mmarau.ac.ke)



## INTRODUCTION

Maasai Mara University was chartered on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2013. The University's competitive advantage lies in its strategic location as a gateway to Maasai Mara National Reserve, which is a worldwide renown natural heritage. It is also close to the Mau Forest, one of the most important water towers in the East African region, as well as its location in a major livestock and wheat production area in the country. These intertwined with the rich Maasai culture makes the University the ideal place for studies in science, natural resources, tourism, wildlife, livestock, agriculture, cultural heritage and the social sciences that we have identified as our flagship courses.

## VISION

A university focused on innovation and empowerment for societal transformation

## MISSION

To provide quality university education through teaching, research, innovation and community Outreach

## UNIVERSITY NICHE

Tourism, Environmental Resource Management, Conservation and Sports

## MOTTO

Eng'eno e Puaan

(Knowledge for Prosperity)

## CORE VALUES

Excellence

Innovation

Productivity

Accountability

Collaboration

Equity

## SCHOOLS

School of Education

School of Health Sciences

School of Tourism and Hospitality

School of Business and Economics

School of Pure and Applied Sciences

School of Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences and Creative Industries

School of Natural Resources, Environmental Studies and Agriculture



# MEMBERS OF COUNCIL



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Chairman of the Council



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**THEME:** Innovating to Transform: Graduates Shaping Societies.

## THE CABINET SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



**Hon. Julius Migos Ogamba**  
Cabinet Secretary,  
Ministry of Education

**Ladies and Gentlemen, all protocols observed,**

It is a great pleasure to be here at Maasai Mara University to preside over this graduation ceremony, a defining milestone in the lives of our graduands who, through remarkable resilience, discipline, and perseverance, have made this day possible.

Allow me to highlight a few key areas.

**Staff Participation in Moulding Students**

Through consistent mentorship and academic guidance, the staff of this University have imparted values that anchor deep intellect, sound judgment, and genuine compassion—a rare and powerful combination. These values shape not only families and workplaces, but also the broader fabric of society and education in Kenya and beyond. I sincerely thank the Members of Council, Management, Professors, Lecturers, parents, guardians, and the entire support staff whose collective contribution has produced graduands marked by quiet strength and calm authority. These qualities, which the graduands have demonstrated even during moments of institutional and national challenge, will serve them well long after today's

celebration. Beyond the academic certificates awarded today, these attributes will enable them to contribute to a healthier, more thoughtful, and more peaceful world.

**Innovation at Maasai Mara University**

I commend the University for its deliberate and growing focus on innovation, which is essential for social and economic transformation. Within a relatively short time, students and staff have demonstrated a commendable shift in mind-set, moving from theory to practice and translating ideas into tangible solutions. As a Ministry, we recognize the importance of facilitating environments that support the development of technologies and practices that advance sustainable development. In this regard, Maasai Mara University is making a meaningful contribution through empowerment, self-reliance, and problem-oriented research.

The University's incubation centre, though modest in size, plays a strategic role by offering mentorship, skills development, and a supportive ecosystem for innovation. Such initiatives are critical for nurturing collaboration, strengthening practical competencies, creating employment opportunities, and ultimately generating wealth. I am particularly encouraged that Maasai Mara University students were among the top 11 Kenyan universities recognized for exemplary student-led innovation at the recent CEIL Summit in Mombasa. Their participation in Artificial Intelligence hackathons further reflects a strong institutional culture of creativity, teamwork, and solution-driven thinking.

To the graduands and the wider student community, I urge you to continue drawing knowledge and inspiration from across the world. Nations such as Israel and the United States have demonstrated

that economic strength is built by harnessing global knowledge and local talent. When ideas are shared and skills combined, we lay a solid foundation for national growth and competitiveness.

**Curriculum and the Future of Work**

As industries rapidly evolve through automation, digitization, and changing economic demands, universities must take proactive steps to prepare graduates for the future of work. Employment trends increasingly favour skilled professionals with post-secondary and specialized education. I am pleased to note that Maasai Mara University has begun aligning its curriculum to these realities, particularly as it prepares to receive Competency-Based Education graduates in the coming years.

Global projections indicate that a majority of quality jobs in the near future will require at least a bachelor's degree, complemented by practical skills, critical thinking, and real-world experience. Academic excellence alone is no longer sufficient. Universities must therefore adopt holistic approaches that integrate experiential learning, technology-enabled instruction, industry partnerships, and career development support. The incubation centre at this University stands as a strong example of this forward-looking approach.

In closing, to the graduating class, remember this timeless truth: today, well lived, makes yesterday a dream of happiness and tomorrow a vision of hope. Continue to exercise the quiet strength, discipline, and calm authority you have cultivated during your years at Maasai Mara University, and you will navigate life with confidence, purpose, and resilience. I congratulate you most sincerely on this outstanding achievement. The journey has not been easy, but you have prevailed.



**Dr. Vimal Shah, CBS  
Chancellor**

#### All protocols observed.

Vice-Chancellor, Chair of Council, Members of Council and Senate, Distinguished Guests, Members of Staff, Parents and Guardians, Ladies and Gentlemen — and most importantly, our **Graduands**. Today is a proud day: a proud day for Maasai Mara University; proud day for our families and a proud day for Kenya — because every graduating class represents renewed hope for our nation and for our planet.

I stand before you not only as your Chancellor, but as someone who deeply believes that **education anchored in values, purpose, and relevance can change the world**.

#### A UNIVERSITY WITH A SENSE OF PLACE AND PURPOSE

Maasai Mara University is not just another university on the map. It is **strategically located at the entrance of one of the world's greatest natural wonders — the Maasai Mara National Reserve**.

That is not an accident of geography; it is a responsibility of destiny.

When you study **tourism** here, you are learning next to living ecosystems. When you study **conservation** and **natural resource management**, you are

#### THE CHANCELLOR

surrounded by biodiversity that the world is struggling to protect. When you study **sustainability and climate action**, you do so in a region that reminds us daily that **human progress must respect nature**.

Our University motto — ***Eng'eno e Puaan: Knowledge for Prosperity*** — is not about prosperity for self alone. It is prosperity for **community, country, and the planet**.

#### ROOTED IN MAASAI HERITAGE, RELEVANT TO THE WORLD

This University draws strength from the **Maasai community** — a people who have lived sustainably with nature long before sustainability became a global slogan. The Maasai teach us something profound. There is a saying among the Maasai:

**"The earth is not inherited from our parents; it is borrowed from our children."**

That wisdom could not be more relevant today.

Another Maasai proverb reminds us:

**"A community thrives when each person plays their role."**

This is the spirit that Maasai Mara University carries — collective responsibility, shared progress, and stewardship of nature.

As graduates of Maasai Mara University, your education is rooted in cultural wisdom and elevated by modern science. That combination is powerful.

**"A great tree does not fall alone — it affects everything around it."**

Your **actions**, your **ethics**, and your **leadership** will have ripple effects far beyond yourselves.

The future will not belong to those who know the most facts. It will belong to those who can **blend knowledge, ethics, and courage**, and those who execute on the ground and are decisive and bold enough to take the right actions when they act.

and implement any projects or policies.

#### INNOVATION THAT SOLVES REAL PROBLEMS

This year's graduation theme — **"Innovating to Transform: Graduates Shaping Societies"** — speaks directly to our time.

I was particularly proud to see Maasai Mara University shine at the **JKUAT AI Hackathon** in November 2025. Out of over **300 teams**, only 53 reached the pitching stage — and **three teams came from this university**. One team, **Ecosphere Researchers & Innovators**, emerged winners in the Health category, demonstrating that innovation from Narok can compete nationally and globally.

This is proof that innovation is not about where you come from — it is about how you think.

As Chancellor, I want to say this clearly:

**Africa does not lack talent. Africa lacks platforms.**

Maasai Mara University is becoming such a platform.

#### GROWTH, SCALE, AND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

This year alone, the University welcomed over **3,100 first-year students** under the new government funding model, bringing the total student population to over **12,000 learners**. This is not just growth — it is trust placed in this institution by the people of Kenya.

The University has also expanded its global footprint through strategic partnerships — with the **National Museums of Kenya**, **Vaal University of Technology in South Africa**, and the **Sino-Africa Joint Research Centre of the Chinese Academy of Sciences**. These collaborations open doors for research, exchange, and **global relevance**.

In today's world, universities must not operate in isolation. Knowledge grows faster when it travels. And in today's Digital and AI enabled world the pace and

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speed is definitely faster than before and going forward it will become even faster as you all step into the future world.

### FROM CLASSROOM TO REAL LIFE

I am encouraged by the University's strong emphasis on industrial attachments, field courses, and industry engagement.

Education that does not prepare students for real life is incomplete.

The shift toward **Competency-Based Learning** ensures that graduates are not only knowledgeable but capable — able to solve problems, work in teams, and adapt in a fast-changing world.

### INVESTING IN INFRASTRUCTURE AND INNOVATION

A university's physical environment matters.

I commend the progress on infrastructure development, including the new **1200 person capacity student hostel** supported by the State Department for Housing and the plans for a **modern library**. These investments reflect confidence in the future of this institution.

I also applaud the University's recognition by the Kenya National Innovation Agency (**KeNIA**) as one of the institutions with an active student-led innovation ecosystem.

Innovation is not an event — it is a culture. And culture is built daily.

### A PERSONAL MESSAGE TO THE GRADUANDS



**Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei**  
Chairman of the Council

Graduates of 2025, allow me to speak to you directly.

You are graduating at a time of great opportunities — and great uncertainties.

Technology is advancing fast. Climate change is real. Jobs are evolving. Nations are being tested.

**"Education is an ocean; it has no end."**

What you receive today is not the end of learning — it is the beginning of responsibility.

My advice to you is simple and timeless:

**Stay curious.** Because those who know how to ask the right questions go far.

**Stay ethical.** Integrity is not something you acquire later; it must guide you from day one.

**Stay useful.** The world ultimately rewards those who solve real problems.

**Stay connected to your roots.** Those who remember where they come from know where they are going.

Remember this truth:

*The measure of your education is not your certificate — it is your contribution.*

**"The future belongs to those who prepare for it."**

### ALUMNI AS AMBASSADORS

As you leave these gates, you do not leave this University behind.

### THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COUNCIL

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I feel honoured to stand before you today at Maasai Mara University, a world-class institution located in one of the world's most extraordinary ecosystems and rising as a centre of knowledge, resilience, and transformation in Kenya. Today we gather to celebrate academic achievement and to honour perseverance, sacrifice, and the quiet but powerful determination that carried each graduate to this moment. To the Class of 2025, I offer my heartfelt congratulations. This is your day.

You become its **ambassadors, mentors, supporters, and partners**.

Return with ideas. Return with opportunities. Return with pride. Learning never stops and keep UnLearning and ReLearning as you go forward and keep the value of LifeLong Learning as a basic tenet of what you got from Maasai Mara University.

Your success will be the strongest advertisement for Maasai Mara University.

### CLOSING

In closing, let me leave you with one final truth:

**"Respect is not measured by position, but by contribution."**

**"May God guide your path."**

Class of 2025, go forth with confidence. Protect what matters. Innovate with purpose. Lead with humility.

May you always remember that **knowledge, when guided by values, can transform societies**.

I congratulate you all The Class of 2025 for your academic achievements and wish you all well as the Maasai Mara University ambassadors, and especially as this is your **alma mater. Cherish it always and take ownership as Alumni.**

I wish you every success as proud graduates of Maasai Mara University.

**Thank you, and may God bless you all.**

This year's graduation theme is Innovating to Transform: Graduates Shaping Societies, which captures the magnitude of the journey you are about to begin. It is more than a ceremonial phrase; it is a declaration of our purpose and a challenge to your generation. Most Universities are now embracing innovation, entrepreneurship, and strategic partnerships to survive. Innovation is the engine of national progress, and transformation and the measure by which societies develop. Our graduates today stand at the centre of

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this defining moment. You are not just stepping into the future; you are shaping it, crafting it, and in many ways creating and recreating it.

Kenya's youthful population, at over 70%, is not just a demographic detail but a reservoir of immense potential. Your innovativeness and creativity are reshaping entire sectors. Moreover, your digital agility is revolutionizing how we communicate, trade, and learn. Indeed, your resilience is renewing the hope of a nation determined to rise. Young Kenyans are leading groundbreaking fintech solutions, building climate-conscious enterprises, expanding the creative economy, and generating ideas previously unimaginable. Your strength lies not only in your numbers but in your imagination and readiness to forge new paths.

Maasai Mara University has been a model of impactful research, producing knowledge that addresses Kenya's fundamental challenges, as reflected in

our niche areas: Tourism, Environmental Resource Management, and Conservation. As you leave Maasai Mara University today, I urge you not to let your research sit quietly on the shelves. Instead, turn academic insights into economic and social impact by transforming your projects into solutions and your findings into enterprises. Notably, every challenge in Kenya, such as climate action, public health, sustainable tourism, agricultural innovation, or digital transformation, provides an opportunity for those who dare to soldier on boldly.

This moment is not a destination but a beginning. The job market you are being ushered into is undergoing a reinvention.

At this point in our country's history, it is clear that conventional jobs alone cannot absorb the number of graduates our country produces each year. However, entrepreneurship, powered by innovation and technology, opens limitless possibilities.

The University Council of Maasai Mara University remains committed to supporting this shift: expanding innovation hubs, strengthening university-industry collaboration, increasing access to start-up capital, and nurturing graduates who create jobs rather than merely seek them. Ideally, real innovation is not driven by profit but by the purpose of solving problems, uplifting communities, and building systems that endure. The Council continues to support ongoing initiatives at the university.

Maasai Mara University, through the Directorate of Quality Assurance, regularly ensures that all academic programmes are not only accredited by the Commission for University Education (CUE) but also adopt the latest techniques relevant to learners, equipping them to serve in their respective specializations. In addition, academic staff engage in a curriculum review cycle every four years, during which stakeholders, including academic staff, students, and industry professionals, provide input to shape the educational programmes.

Kenya's transition to Competency-Based Education marks a profound shift in how we prepare future generations. As CBE learners rise through the education system, Maasai Mara University is called upon to champion learning that prioritizes mastery over memorization, creativity over conformity, and application over abstraction. Henceforth, graduates must

be multi-skilled, adaptable, and ready to thrive in an increasingly interdisciplinary global economy. This transformation ensures that Kenya will not only participate in the future but actively lead it.

Moving forward, your work, your choices, and your innovations will also define Kenya's contribution to the global community by ensuring quality education for all, fostering decent work and economic growth, building resilient industries and infrastructure, or confronting the urgent realities of climate change. Your generation stands at the very heart of this global mission.

To the parents and guardians, we thank you for your sacrifice, which laid the foundation on which these graduates now stand. To the University Management Board, Senate, Faculty, and all staff, thank you for shaping minds and nurturing potential. To the community of Narok County, thank you for your support and for enriching this institution. To the national government, we are grateful for the continued support that the university has received. We look forward to additional funds to complete our ultra-modern library.

As the Class of 2025, step out boldly, innovate with intention, transform with integrity, and build solutions that uplift not just yourselves but entire communities. Utilize your knowledge not as a badge of honour but as a tool for service. You are the architects of Kenya's next chapter, the generation that will shape the future of our nation for posterity.

May God bless you, May God bless Maasai Mara University

## THE VICE-CHANCELLOR



**Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho,  
PhD, EBS**  
Vice Chancellor

The Chancellor of Maasai Mara University, Dr. Vimal Shah, Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Migos Ogamba, HE the Governor of Narok, Patrick Ole Ntutu, All County Leaders present, Council Chair of Maasai Mara University, Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei, Council Members, Management, Senate, Staff and Students, Guardians and parents, all protocols observed,

It is with immense pride that I welcome you all to Maasai Mara University. Today, we gather not just to witness the conferment of degrees but also to celebrate the resilience and achievements of the graduands. Congratulations to you all!

Chancellor Sir, the cohort seated before you today is a product of a rigorous academic environment. Our graduation theme, "Innovating to Transform: Graduates Shaping Societies," is both a challenge and roadmap. In the context of Maasai Mara University, innovation is about adaptability and the development of new ideas. We are neighbours to one of the world's greatest ecosystems, where the Wildebeest Migration teaches us a profound lesson of survival. When the season comes, the herds do not move randomly; they move with purpose, adapting to the changing rains and the shifting grass. They teach us that survival requires agility, adaptability, purpose and resilience. This is exactly what is required of us in this rapidly changing world. Today

we are releasing over 2,000 graduates into the job market including postgraduates, bachelors and diplomas.

Our University faculty have been working tirelessly to ensure the quality of the education we offer to our students remain world-class. In pursuit of this, I am proud to report that this year, we achieved a historic milestone with the implementation of an Integrated Management System. We have successfully brought together ISO 9001 for Quality Management, ISO 21001 for Educational Organizations, and ISO 27001 for Information Security. By consolidating these global standards, Maasai Mara University is now among the first universities in Kenya to simultaneously strengthen service delivery, data protection, and academic excellence. This ensures that an international quality system backs the degrees that the Chancellor will confer today because quality is about a product being fit for purpose.

In addition, the university is preparing for the future in several ways: For example, one month ago, the entire Maasai Mara community was trained for two weeks on Artificial Intelligence. This was based on the realization that AI is here to stay, so we either change with change or wait for it to change us. We chose the former to be ready for the future ahead. We are all aware that AI is revolutionizing the world and Maasai Mara University cannot afford to be left behind. Secondly, we are on course in implementing our niche on Tourism and Environmental management and Conservation through our 5Ms which I have defined here before. We believe that our strategic location between the Mau and Mara Ecosystems clearly define who we are and what is expected of us.

Mr. Chancellor Sir, allow me to speak to the most important people in this ceremony—our parents and guardians. The Swahili say, "Mkono mmoja haulei mwana." In the context of the achievements we are celebrating today, you have been that second hand, that support system. You have done more than nurture; you have sacrificed. I know the story of the Kenyan parent. I know

that for many of you to be here today, land was sold, SACCO loans were taken, and Harambees were held. You denied yourselves comfort so that these young men and women could wear these gowns today. We honor you, and we thank you for trusting us with your children.

To the graduands of 2025, let me give you some wise counsel. You are graduating into a dynamic and sometimes challenging economy. The transition from student to employee is not always immediate. However, as a graduate of the Maasai Mara University, you are well prepared. As you wait for that formal employment, use this transition period to develop new ideas or start a business. If you studied Tourism, do not wait to be hired; consider how you can reinvent the safari experience through digital platforms. If you studied Agriculture, look at how you can solve food security in arid areas like here in our county. Do not despise small beginnings, for the biggest companies in Kenya started as small ideas.

As you go out there, never forget where you came from. You carry the seal of this institution. We are unique because we sit at the intersection of modern science and rich indigenous heritage. Our motto, "Eng'eno e puuan", reminds us that Knowledge is Prosperity. Note that it does not say knowledge is just employment but Prosperity. This encompasses wealth, well-being, peace, and community impact.

As I conclude, Mr. Chancellor Sir, I wish to assure you that these young men and women ready to graduate today are well prepared and fully skilled. We have equipped them not just with degrees, but with integrity and the skills to enable them transform the world.

To the Comrades of Class 2025: Go forth, transform the world, and shape your future.

Thank you very much

God Bless You all, God Bless Maasai Mara University, and God Bless Kenya.

I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous 2026!

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# MEMBERS OF UNIVERSITY MANAGEMENT



**Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho**  
Vice Chancellor



**Prof. Bulitia Godrick Mathews**  
Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic & Student Affairs)



**Prof. James Nampushi**  
Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration, Finance & Strategy)



**Prof. Francis Mburu**  
Ag. Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research, Innovation, And Outreach)



**Dr. Otieno Fredrick Onyango**  
Registrar (Academic Affairs)



**CHRP Samuel K. Partoip**  
Registrar (Administration & Strategy)



**Dr. Nancy Kimile**  
University Librarian



**CPA Skamo Loltianya**  
Finance Officer



**Ms. Mercylene Njoroge**  
Chief Legal Officer



**Dr. Sammy K. Maina**  
Head Health Services



**Mr. Mohamed A. Adan**  
Dean of Students



**CPSP-K Julius Oyamo**  
Chief Procurement Officer

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# DIRECTORS OF CENTRES & DIRECTORATES



**Prof. Ratemo Makiya Cyprian, PhD**  
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Director, Postgraduate Studies

**Prof. Aloys Osano, PhD**  
Director, Research, Innovation & Outreach



**Dr. W. Nyaiigoti Omwoyo, PhD**  
Director, Endowment fund and Resource Mobilization

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**Dr. Edward Kateiya**  
Director, PR, Marketing & Linkages



**Dr. Kennedy Karani Onyiko, PhD**  
Director, Gender, Equity, and Culture

**Prof. Justus Simiyu**  
Director, University Industry Linkages & Consultancy

**Prof. Stella Kirui Chelagat**  
Director- Principal, University TVET Institute

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## THE DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR (ACADEMICS & STUDENT AFFAIRS)



**Prof. Bulitia Godrick Mathews,  
PhD.**  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic  
and Student Affairs)

It is with profound gratification that I celebrate our competent graduands, who have demonstrated exceptional dedication in acquiring job-ready skills and knowledge. This achievement reflects the high standards of teaching, learning, and mentorship upheld by the Academic Division. Under this year's theme, "**Innovating to Transform: Graduates Shaping Societies**," we affirm that innovation goes beyond creativity; it is the deliberate and courageous application of knowledge to solve real-world problems, uplift communities, and expand possibilities. As you graduate today, you carry forward this spirit of innovation as a defining hallmark of your training and character.

Your commitment to academic excellence has culminated in success that is evident not only in your qualifications, but also in your adherence to professional, ethical, and legal standards. These milestones are inseparable from the distinct academic brand and identity of Maasai Mara University, which prides itself on nurturing graduates

who are competent, responsible, and prepared to make meaningful contributions to society at local, national, and global levels.

The Academic Division remains steadfast in advancing the University's vision of delivering quality education through teaching, research, innovation, and community engagement. We continue to strengthen international collaborations that enrich our academic programs, research output, and societal impact. Notable among these is our strategic partnership with Tianjian Company, UN-Habitat, and Tongji University in China, which culminated in the construction and installation of a Ceramic Membrane Plant for drinking water production—an exemplary model of innovation that integrates technology, practical skills, and social development.

Maasai Mara University continues to be a highly sought-after institution, recognized for producing skilled and career-ready graduates. The Academic Division has recorded steady growth in both undergraduate and postgraduate enrolments, supported by reliable, flexible, non-discriminatory, and efficient admission processes. Our learner-centred mentorship, coaching, and counselling initiatives have enhanced student retention and completion rates, ensuring that every graduate is well prepared for the next stage of life.

We maintain full compliance with the Commission for University Education (CUE) and the Integrated Management System (IMS) requirements. All academic programs are fully accredited by CUE, while

new programs are developed strictly in line with these standards. Furthermore, all functional areas operate in accordance with internationally recognized management system standards, including ISO 9001:2015(E) Quality Management System (QMS), ISO/IEC 27001:2022(E) Information Security Management System (ISMS), and ISO 21001:2018(E) Educational Organization Management System (EOMS). ISO 21001:2018, in particular, ensures that our educational processes are student-centered, outcome-focused, and continuously improving—strengthening teaching quality, learning effectiveness, and graduate competencies. This guarantees that every graduate leaves Maasai Mara University equipped not only with knowledge but with practical skills, critical thinking, and the confidence to excel in a competitive world.

As you step into a dynamic and competitive job market, I urge you to uphold the highest standards of professionalism. Be bold in applying your knowledge and skills to develop innovative solutions to society's most pressing challenges. Embrace your responsibility as changemakers, and actively transform ideas into actions that positively shape society.

Congratulations, graduands. You are not merely recipients of education; you are ambassadors of excellence and architects of a brighter, more innovative, and globally competent future. Go forth and shape our societies with integrity, competence, creativity, and purpose.

## THE DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR (ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE &amp; STRATEGY)



**Prof. James Simiren Nampushi,  
PhD, MKM  
DVC (Administration, Finance &  
Strategy)**

The **Division of Administration, Finance, and Strategy** continues to play a pivotal role in ensuring efficient management, prudent financial stewardship, and strategic development at Maasai Mara University. As we celebrate the 13th Graduation Ceremony, we take immense pride in the Division's significant contributions toward sustaining operational excellence and supporting the University's core mission of teaching, research, innovation, and community engagement.

Over the past year, the Division has spearheaded several transformative initiatives aimed at enhancing administrative efficiency and strengthening institutional systems. Through prudent financial management, innovative resource mobilization, and optimal utilization of resources, the University has maintained fiscal stability while simultaneously supporting academic excellence and infrastructural growth. A notable milestone is the near completion of the **Electronic Government Procurement (e-GP)**

**Kenya System**, which will fully automate procurement processes, minimize human intervention, and enhance operational transparency. This achievement underscores the University's unwavering commitment to **efficiency, accountability, and integrity** in the management of public resources, setting a standard for excellence in higher education administration.

Strategically, the Division continues to provide guidance on the implementation of key institutional priorities that align with both national and global higher education goals. Particular emphasis has been placed on **digital transformation, sustainability, and the continuous improvement of governance structures**, all designed to enhance efficiency, accountability, and institutional resilience. In parallel, the Division has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to **staff welfare and professional development**, implementing comprehensive training programs, motivation initiatives, and performance management systems. This reflects the recognition that **human capital is central to the long-term success** of any institution and that empowered, skilled staff are instrumental in driving the University's vision forward.

As our graduands step into the world beyond Maasai Mara University, it is important to acknowledge that the employment landscape in Kenya and globally is increasingly competitive, with formal employment opportunities often limited. In this evolving context, success depends not only on academic credentials but also on

**creativity, adaptability, resilience, and innovation**. I therefore urge our graduates to embrace **entrepreneurship, agribusiness, research, and innovative ventures** as viable pathways for creating their own opportunities. The knowledge, skills, and competencies you have acquired at Maasai Mara University should empower you to **be job creators, not just job seekers**, and more importantly, to become leaders who transform challenges into opportunities, driving meaningful socio-economic impact in Kenya and beyond.

As Maasai Mara University marks this significant milestone, the **Division of Administration, Finance, and Strategy** reaffirms its commitment to fostering excellence, integrity, and sustainable growth across all aspects of the institution. We remain devoted to providing robust administrative and financial systems, strategic guidance, and innovative solutions that strengthen the University's capacity to deliver quality education and produce graduates who are well-prepared to shape the future.

Today, as we celebrate the achievements of the **graduating class of 2025**, we extend our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes. May you carry forward the values, skills, and vision instilled in you here to excel in your careers, lead with integrity, innovate boldly, and contribute meaningfully to society. Your journey is just beginning, and we are confident that you will make a lasting difference in the world.

## THE AG. DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR (RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND OUTREACH)



**Prof. Francis Mburu, PhD**  
Ag. DVC (Research, Innovation and Outreach)

It is with immense pride that we highlight the achievements of the **Research, Innovation & Outreach Division** for the 2024/2025 financial year. Our Division has made remarkable strides in advancing the University's research capacity, fostering a vibrant culture of innovation, and strengthening meaningful community engagement. Through strategic partnerships, high-impact conferences, and innovative commercialization initiatives, Maasai Mara University continues to assert itself as a national and regional champion in research and innovation, guided by its vision: "A University focused on innovation and empowerment for societal transformation."

Over the past year, the Division has provided robust support to researchers, enabling them to secure substantial funding that underpins high-quality scholarship and innovation. This financial backing has been pivotal in advancing cutting-edge research and addressing societal challenges:

- **Total Research Grants Secured:** Ksh. 121,600,000

In addition to resource mobilization, the Division has played a central role in organizing and participating in landmark conferences that have enhanced research visibility, fostered collaboration, and strengthened academic networks:

**1. The Inaugural National Biennial Postgraduate Students Conference, 2025**

In partnership with the **National Research Fund (NRF)**, Maasai Mara University successfully hosted the **Inaugural National Biennial Postgraduate Students Conference**—a landmark event dedicated to fostering academic excellence, innovation, and collaboration among postgraduate scholars across Kenya. The conference brought together NRF-funded students, other development partners, and self-financed scholars, providing a dynamic platform for the presentation and peer review of research findings.

By enabling the NRF to evaluate the quality and progress of research funded under various programs, the conference played a critical role in **monitoring, evaluation, and impact reporting** for postgraduate research in Kenya. Through keynote addresses, panel discussions, and interactive sessions, participants explored emerging trends, challenges, and opportunities in academia and research. The event effectively bridged theory and practice, inspiring **innovative solutions for societal transformation and national development** while fostering networks for collaboration across disciplines and institutions.

**2. Stakeholders Workshop on Environment and Human-Wildlife Conflicts (HWC) in the Greater Maasai Mara Ecosystem (GMME)**

The Division also successfully convened a **landmark workshop addressing Environment and Human-Wildlife Conflicts** in the GMME, held both at the University and across six conservancies in Narok County. Facilitated by **Prof. Cedric Gaucharel** from the French National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and the Environment (INRAE), the workshop brought together over 15 key

organizations engaged in HWC mitigation in Kenya.

This collaborative platform enabled **knowledge sharing, policy dialogue, and the co-creation of strategies** to sustainably manage wildlife interactions, promoting both conservation and community well-being. Participants developed actionable recommendations aimed at balancing ecological sustainability with the livelihoods of local communities, showcasing the University's role as a **thought leader in research-informed solutions for pressing societal challenges**.

Through these initiatives, the Research, Innovation & Outreach Division has not only strengthened Maasai Mara University's research ecosystem but has also amplified its role as a hub for **innovation, knowledge dissemination, and societal impact**.

By enabling researchers, students, and stakeholders to collaborate across disciplines and sectors, the Division has fostered an environment where transformative ideas can thrive.

Our work continues to inspire **innovative solutions, empower communities, and elevate Kenya's position in the global knowledge economy**, demonstrating that research and innovation are powerful drivers of development, equity, and societal transformation. The achievements of this Division over the past year reaffirm our commitment to **excellence, relevance, and impact**, positioning Maasai Mara University as a center of innovation that is both nationally significant and globally competitive.



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**VISION**

A University focused on innovation and empowerment for societal transformation.

**MISSION**

To provide quality education through teaching, research, innovation and community outreach.

**CORE VALUES**

Excellence, Innovation, Productivity, Accountability, Collaboration, Equity

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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