

MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

NEWSLETTER

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



A group photo of a section of participant during the public lecture

TOP NEWS: LINUS KAKAI DELIVERED CAPTIVATING THIRD PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES ON GOVERNANCE, MEDIA, AND ETHICS AT MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

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LINUS KAKAI DELIVERED CAPTIVATING THIRD PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES ON GOVERNANCE, MEDIA, AND ETHICS AT MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

Maasai Mara University proudly hosted a thought-provoking public lecture on governance, media, and ethics, delivered by Mr. Linus Kaikai, Group Editorial Director of Royal Media Services and an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya. This is the third Public Lecture hosted under the office of the Vice-Chancellor. The objective of these lectures is to create a forum for staff and students to engage in academic discourse with experts and industry players. This is the hallmark of any academic institution that values academics.

The session brought together students, faculty, and university leadership for an engaging discussion about journalism's role in shaping accountable societies.



Mr. Linus Kaikai, Group Editorial Director of Royal Media Services and an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya delivering the Public lecture on governance, media, and ethics at Mmara-U

Drawing on his career, Mr. Kaikai highlighted the evolution of Kenya's media landscape and emphasized the importance of integrity, professionalism, and commitment to the public interest. He underscored the media's responsibility to hold governments accountable, a pillar of democracy and transparency. The lecture was attended by key university officials, including Dr. Edward Kateiya, Director of Public Relations, Marketing and Linkages; Dr. Dennis Ikachoi, Chair of the Department of Media, Film and Communication; Dr. Lilly Koske, Chair of the Department of Language, Linguistics and Culture; and Ms. Hilda Muigu, an adjunct lecturer who played a key role in linking the Department of Media, Film and Communication with Mr. Kaikai. Faculty members and students were also present and actively participated in the discussions.

This visit aligns with the University's vision that focuses on innovation and empowerment for societal transformation



University staff and students in attendance during the public lecture.

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GROWING TREES FOR CONSERVATION: THE UNIVERSITY PARTICIPATES IN THE LOITA FOREST TREE PLANTING INITIATIVE

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho, joined the Defence Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Soipan Tuya, the Principal Secretary, Forestry, Hon. Gitonga Mugambi, and other leaders for a tree-planting exercise in Loita Forest, Narok County. This exercise was anchored in the ongoing efforts to support the Government's 15 Billion Tree Growing Initiative. A total of 20,000 indigenous seedlings and 2,500 fruit trees were planted as part of the community resilience and livelihood programme. 250,000 indigenous seedling seed balls were dispersed through aerial seeding by the Kenya Air Force Programme under the National Landscapes and Ecosystem Restoration Strategy.

Participation in the Loita Forest Restoration initiative demonstrates the University's commitment and is a true reflection of our environmental conservation and management efforts, embedded in the 5M pillars. The activity was also aimed at increasing forest cover, enhancing biodiversity, and strengthening climate resilience.



Joint efforts for conservation! The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho (right) joins the Defense Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Soipan Tuya (Centre) is planting seedlings during the event.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho (second row, left), joined the Defense Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Soipan Tuya (2nd left in front) and other dignitaries during the tree planting exercise in Loita forest.

The Vice-Chancellor highlighted that “Maasai Mara University is happy to be part of the Loita Forest conservation efforts. “We continue to adopt and mentor schools in the region and to promote Maa culture, such as the recently concluded Mara Run.” She urged current partners to form a conservation group to harness the power of collaboration. The University donated 2000 tree seedlings.

The Principal Secretary, Mr.Mugambi hailed the Loita community for their conservation efforts and urged them to scale up and surpass the annual target of 50 million seedlings.

Addressing the gathering, the Cabinet Secretary for Defence, Madam Soipan Tuya emphasised continued efforts to preserve the environment and the ecological and cultural significance of Loita Forest, which is a vital water catchment area, a biodiversity hotspot, and a heritage landscape. She acknowledged the efforts by Maasai Mara University towards environmental conservation. The CS also hailed the traditional methods of forest conservation by the Loita community.

The exercise forms part of Kenya’s ambitious 15 Billion Trees Initiative, a programme aligned with the Government’s Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda, which seeks to restore the degraded environment, strengthen climate resilience, and create green jobs.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho, giving her speech during the event

The event brought together a wide range of stakeholders: the KDF, the Kenya Forest Service (led by Board Chairman Mr. Titus Korir), the County Government of Narok, led by the County Secretary, development partners, academic institutions, and civil society organisations.

The University prides itself on such multi-agency collaboration and community involvement in achieving environmental conservation and management, and in the restoration of degraded landscapes.



Off-loading the 2,000 tree seedlings donated by Maasai Mara University



Mr. George Kemboi, Mmara-U tree nursery section, handing over tree seedlings donations.

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LEADERSHIP AT WORK: THE VICE-CHANCELLOR CHAIRS THE SUMMIT PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Vice-Chancellor of Maasai Mara University, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho, chaired the Planning Committee of the 2026 Vice-Chancellors' Committee (VCC) Summit held from 3rd–6th March 2026 at Pridelnn Paradise Beach Resort and Spa, Shanzu, Mombasa. The Summit was officially opened by the Cabinet Secretary for Education, Hon. Julius Migos Ogamba, and brought together Principal Secretaries, Vice-Chancellors, Chief Executive Officers of higher education agencies, development partners, and other key stakeholders in Kenya's university sector. The Cabinet Secretary in his opening remarks challenged universities to enhance research and innovation towards national development.

The Summit featured keynote addresses by Dr. Beatrice Muganda Inyangala, Principal Secretary, Higher Education and Research, Eng. John Tanui, Principal Secretary, ICT and the Digital Economy) and Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak, Principal Secretary, Science, Research and Innovation, alongside distinguished guest speakers from academia, government and industry.



The Vice-chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho giving welcome remarks during the opening of the summit

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Held under the theme “Strengthening Public Universities’ Sustainability, Quality and Innovation for National Development and Global Competitiveness” and the tagline “Positioning Public Universities for Sustainable Growth,” the Summit provided a strategic platform for deliberations on governance, sustainable financing, research and innovation, digital transformation, quality assurance and institutional resilience. Discussions generated practical recommendations aimed at enhancing the sustainability, relevance and global competitiveness of Kenya’s public universities.

As Chair of the Planning Committee, Prof. Aloo-Obudho reaffirmed Maasai Mara University’s commitment to supporting national policy dialogue, advancing innovation, and promoting excellence in teaching, research and community engagement as key drivers of sustainable national development.



A group photo of the Vice-Chancellors and the Principle Secretary for Higher Education, Dr. Beatrice Inyangala (Seated middle) during the 2026 VCs Summit.



The principle Secretary for Higher Education, Dr. Beatrice Inyangala(White trouser suit) with some Vice -Chancellors and industry players. On her right is the Vice-Chancellor of Maasi Mara University, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho

AT LONG LAST! THE CONCLUSION OF THE KUSU MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY CHAPTER 2013/2017 CBA NEGOTIATIONS

Maasai Mara University KUSU Chapter 2013/2017 CBA negotiations were officially concluded at a signing ceremony held at the Mmara-U Main Hall. Officiating over the ceremony, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho, led a cross-section of the University management, Council representative and union officials at the event. The ceremony was a proud and historic moment—a milestone that reflects the shared commitment to fostering a supportive, fair, and progressive working environment for all staff.

The collaboration demonstrated was a testament to the power of dialogue, mutual respect, and partnership in strengthening our institution. The Vice-Chancellor was accompanied by DVC (AF&S) Prof. James Nampushi; Registrar, Administration and Strategy, Samuel Partoip; Finance Officer CPA Skamo Loltianya, among other management members.

The KUSU National Office was led by the Secretary General, Dr. Charles Mukhwaya, together with Eng. James Mogaka and Mr. Ernest Wayaye. The Mmara-U local chapter officials were led by the Chair, Mr. David Kiptum, and the Secretary General, Mr. Galfen Omuse. Other chapter officials were also present to witness the historic moment.

We celebrate this achievement as a step forward in enhancing staff welfare, promoting harmony, and advancing the university's mission and vision to greater heights.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho, signing the KUSU Chapter 2013/2017 CBA.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho (2nd left) and KUSU National Office Secretary General, Dr. Charles Mukhwaya (2nd right) signing the KUSU Chapter 2013/2017 CBA.



Negotiation fruition: The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho (2nd left) and KUSU National Office Secretary General, Dr. Charles Mukhwaya (2nd right), displaying the signed 2013/2017 CBA, accompanied by KUSU officials

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE: MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY VICE-CHANCELLOR RECOGNIZED BY NEIL

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudhowas among the university leaders recognized by the Network for Institutional Entrepreneurship Leadership (NEIL). This recognition coordinated by the Kenya National Innovation Agency (KENIA) was due to the strides that Maasai Mara University has made towards becoming an Entrepreneurial University. The University started the journey in November 2023 to become a university of innovations and commercialization. To date the university has promoted entrepreneurship mind-set among students and staff, established the Technology Transfer Office and recognized for one of the best student innovation clubs, among others. Maasai Mara University is coming up as one of the universities in Kenya committed to research, innovation and commercialization. We're proud to have been recognised by NEIL for our unwavering commitment to shaping the future through entrepreneurial education. The University will continue to empower our students to think boldly, innovate fearlessly, and lead with purpose.

At Maasai Mara University, we are nurturing the next generation of creators, problem-solvers, and entrepreneurs, preparing them to make a global impact. Together, we innovate, inspire, and transform the society



Member Recognition

We celebrate **Maasai Mara University** for its growing **commitment to advancing entrepreneurial education and innovation.**

Under the **leadership of Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho**, the university is **supporting student innovation and enterprise development**, Maasai Mara University is **nurturing creative thinkers, problem-solvers, and future entrepreneurs.**

PROF. PENINAH ALOO-OBUDHO
VICE CHANCELLOR MAASAI MARA
UNIVERSITY



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Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho (Centre), Head of Research and Innovation at CUE, Prof. Jackson Too (2nd left), CUE's Acting Head of Corporate Communication and Public Relations, Ms. Everlyn Okewo (left), Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research, Innovation and Outreach, Prof. Francis Mburu (2nd right), alongside University staff and CUE representatives in a group photo.

Commission for University Education paid a courtesy visit to Maasai Mara University, where the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho, welcomed the delegation to her office. During the visit, the university received a donation of 1,500 tree seedlings to support environmental conservation and sustainability efforts. The CUE team was led by Prof. Jackson Too, Head of Research and Innovation, and by the Acting Head of Corporate Communication and Public Relations, Ms. Everlyn Okewo. Other members of the delegation included Andrian Mugambi, Lorna Chelimo, and David Koike.

While welcoming the guests and expressing appreciation for the donation, Prof. Aloo-Obudho reaffirmed the university's commitment to restoring forest cover in Narok County. She emphasized the critical role universities play in environmental conservation, noting that institutions should establish tree nurseries and collaborate closely with surrounding communities, including schools, colleges, and local groups, to scale up tree-planting towards the presidential directive of 15 billion trees by 2032. She further highlighted that Maasai Mara University has already made significant progress in this area and encouraged other institutions of higher learning to benchmark against its model. On his part, Prof. Too who was representing the CEO of the Commission, Prof. Mike Kuria affirmed the commitment of the commission towards environmental conservation. He added that they recognize the role Maasai Mara is playing in environmental conservation hence the donation of the tree seedlings to the university.



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P.Aloo-Obudho (Centre), Head of Research and Innovation at CUE, Prof. Jackson Too (squatting left), CUE's Acting Head of Corporate Communication and Public Relations, Ms. Everlyn Okewo (squatting right), planting one of the donated tree seedlings, symbolizing cooperation and togetherness for conservation and climate mitigation.

A highlight of the visit was the tree-planting exercise at an officially designated area known as the “CUE Corner.” During the activity, students, staff, and CUE representatives planted seedlings across the campus. The establishment of the CUE Corner not only enhances the university’s green spaces but also serves as a lasting symbol of partnership and shared commitment to environmental conservation. This initiative demonstrates how we can work together to address climate change and aligns with the university’s focus on Environmental Management and Conservation.

The Vice-Chancellor was accompanied by Prof. Francis Mburu, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research, Innovation and Outreach, and Mr. Galfen Omuse, Acting Assistant Registrar for the same division, along with a cross-section of staff and students.



Prof. Jackson Too watering his planted tree seedling



Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research, Innovation and Outreach, Prof. Francis Mburu (2nd right), led the CUE delegation on a tour of the University model tree nursery and botanical garden.

VICE-CHANCELLOR LAUNCHES CBET CAPACITY BUILDING FOR ACADEMIC STAFF

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof.P. Aloo-Obudho, officially launched a five-day Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) Capacity-Building Workshop for academic staff at Maasai Mara University. The training on the CBET Delivery Methodology, facilitated by the Kenya School of TVET, took place from March 9th to March 13th, 2026.

The workshop brought together academic staff for a transformative professional development programme designed to prepare the University for Kenya's evolving education system as institutions transition to Competency-Based Education. The Vice-Chancellor emphasised the need to shift from content-based teaching to a learning approach that promotes critical thinking, collaboration, and competence development.

The training focused on key institutional priorities, including realigning degree programmes with CBE competencies, shifting from lecture-heavy teaching to competency-based learning aligned with industry needs, and building faculty capacity to support the transition from the 8-4-4 Education System to a competency-based framework.



The Vice-Chancellor, P. Aloo-Obudho, emphasised a pedagogical shift to conform with modern technology and CBE



A group photo of the participants of the CBET Capacity Building for Academic Staff



The Registrar Academics, Dr. Otieno Fredrick (right), led the staff in attending the training.

STRENGTHENING HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGH ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIP: MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY PARTNERS WITH THE KENYA NATIONAL COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS.



Seated: the Vice-Chancellor Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho (centre), KNCHR Commissioner Dr. Denis Wamalwa (2nd right), Deputy Director Laban Cheruiyot (2nd right), HOD Humanities and Public Administration Dr. Ndungu Kungu (right), and HOD Media, Film and Communication Dr. Denis Ikachoi (right), with members of Mmara-U and KNCHR staff, in a group photo.

Maasai Mara University, under the visionary leadership of the Vice-Chancellor Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho, continues to foster strategic partnerships with relevant stakeholders including the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) that advance academic excellence and societal impact. The initiative was led by the Head of Department, Dr. Ndungu Kungu, alongside committed members of the department, and reflects a shared institutional commitment to advancing human rights education and practice.

The KNCHR delegation was led by Commissioner Dr. Denis Wamalwa and Deputy Director Laban Cheruiyot, alongside other distinguished officials. The engagement provided a platform for meaningful dialogue and knowledge exchange, emphasising the role of academia in shaping a rights-based society.

The Commission expressed strong interest in areas of collaboration, including the establishment and strengthening of student clubs focused on human rights, the promotion of socio-cultural rights, and the advancement of public policy discourse.

This partnership marked a significant step towards empowering students, enhancing civic awareness, and cultivating a generation of leaders committed to justice, equity, and human dignity.



Active engagement during the session.



KNCHR Commissioner Dr. Denis Wamalwa (left) addressing the participants during the event.

INDUCTION SESSION FOR THE SCHOOL OF ARTS, HUMANITIES, SOCIAL SCIENCES AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

The School of Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences and Creative Industries held a successful induction session for 2nd-, 3rd-, and 4th-year students preparing for their attachment between May and August 2026. The session was attended by lecturers, Heads of Departments, and the Dean, Professor Benard Kodak, and aimed to equip students with essential knowledge about what to expect during their attachment period. Key discussions focused on professionalism in the workplace, discipline and respect, proper grooming and attire, effective communication, teamwork, continuous learning, and the importance of maintaining proper documentation, such as logbooks and reports.

The talks also covered etiquette, mannerisms, and expectations during assessments, and encouraged students to embrace new challenges and serve as good ambassadors for the institution. In his address, Professor Kodak emphasised the importance of attachment in shaping students' future careers by helping them gain practical skills, build networks, and unlock opportunities in the professional world. The session concluded with an interactive question-and-answer segment, leaving students better prepared and confident as they embark on their attachment journey.



The Dean School of Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences and Creative Industries Prof. Benard Kodak imparting vital information to the participants.



A prospective attachee contributing during the session



A cross-section of staff in the School of Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences and Creative Industries in a jovial mood during the session.

MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY MEDIA CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Smooth transition and a milestone. The club patron, Dr. Juliet Oduor (right), is receiving the club's constitution from the outgoing Chairperson, John Owuor (Centre), in the company of the new Chairperson, Marleen Jemutai (left).

Maasai Mara University Media Club held a ceremonial Annual General Meeting (AGM) to celebrate its achievements, address challenges, and outline plans for future progress. The event was attended by a representative from the office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research, Mr Marjan; the club patron, Dr Juliet Oduor; the guest, Mr Alex; alumni Edwin George and Noah Esokon and club members.

Key highlights of the AGM included the election and official handover to the new executive team, the adoption of the club's new constitution, the presentation of certificates to members, and a ceremonial cake-cutting.

Outgoing Chairperson John Owuor highlighted the major achievements of his tenure and challenged incoming leadership to build on the progress made. In her remarks, newly elected Chairperson Marleen Jemutai emphasised that she would strengthen the foundation and steer the club towards greater success. Dr. Juliet Oduor reaffirmed her commitment as patron, assuring continued support to ensure the club remains a recognised and vibrant entity within the university.



A group photo of the club members



The guest, Mr. Alex (right), joins the club patron and officials in cutting the celebration cake.

PARTICIPATION IN THE AFRICA URBAN FORUM

The Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academics, Professor Godrick Bulitia Matthews, led staff and students from the Department of Environmental Studies, Geography, and Planning to the Africa Urban Forum at KICC. The event was a valuable opportunity to connect and engage with current trends in regional and urban planning



Students from the Department of Environmental Studies, Geography, and Planning who attended the Africa Urban Forum at KICC.



The Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academics, Professor Godrick Bulitia Matthews (left), with the students from the Department of Environmental Studies, Geography, and Planning at the Africa Urban Forum, KICC

MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY LAUNCHES FLAGSHIP RUN TO PROMOTE TOURISM, CULTURE AND CONSERVATION

Maasai Mara University launched the Maasai Mara University Run in a colorful ceremony held at the University's Main Campus in Narok Town. The event marked a major step towards establishing a premier annual run to promote tourism, environmental conservation and cultural heritage.

The launch was graced by Hon. Johnson Saruni Sipitiek, the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Education, Sports, Gender and Social Services, Narok County, who served as the Chief Guest. In his remarks, Hon. Sipitiek commended the University for spearheading an initiative that aligns with the County Government's agenda of promoting sports development, youth empowerment, and sustainable socio-economic growth.

The event brought together a wide range of stakeholders, including representatives from the County Government of Narok, the University Council, University Management, sponsors, partners, the County Security Team, staff, students, and other key stakeholders. The strong turnout underscored the broad-based support and the initiative's strategic importance.

Several sponsors and partners attended the launch and reaffirmed their commitment to supporting the event. These included KCB Bank, KenGen, Absa Bank, Citizen TV, Medicatia Hospital, Olive Hotel, Jajamelo, and the Kenya Red Cross.



Hon. Johnson Saruni Sipitiek, the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Education, Sports, Gender and Social Services, Narok County (centre), signing the visitors' book, accompanied by the A.g DVC RIO Prof. Francis Mburu



Partnership for promotion of Tourism, Culture and Conservation, university representatives receiving a cheque from KCB

Other partners who have already supported the initiative but were unable to attend apologized and expressed continued support. These include Pride Inn Mara, Narok Water and Sewerage Services Limited (NAWASSCO), Zebu Hotel, Lynson Hotel, Octagon Africa, GenAfrica Asset Managers, and Coca-Cola Beverages Africa (East Africa). Speaking during the launch, University leadership led by Dr. Susan Chebet, Chair of Academic, Sealing and Honorary Degree committee of Council and the Ag. Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis Mburu emphasized the importance of partnerships in driving impactful initiatives, noting that the run will serve as a unifying platform for academia, government, industry and the community. The successful launch set the stage for the main event planned for 5 April 2026, which is expected to attract wide participation from across the country and beyond.

Maasai Mara University extends its sincere appreciation to all sponsors, partners and stakeholders for their invaluable support and looks forward to continued collaboration to make the Maasai Mara University Run a flagship event of national and international significance.

THE KENYA ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF FRENCH (KATF) MEETING

Maasai Mara University had the pleasure of hosting leaders of the Kenya Association of Teachers of French (KATF) for a meeting to discuss various issues affecting its membership.

The leaders were drawn from across the country, and during the meeting, they received reports from the different regions. They also discussed strategies for strengthening the teaching and promotion of French in the country.

The leaders also attended training sessions on leadership, writing and editing, digital resources, and proposal writing. The sessions were led by Dr. Koske Lily, Erick Opon, and Dr. Leonora Mugalla. The meeting was productive and enriching.



Leaders of the Kenya Association of Teachers of French (KATF) who attended the meeting held at Mmara-U.



On-going session during the meeting



Members of the Association in a light moment



Members of the Wildlife and Environmental Club (MMUWEC) at Mount Longonot National Park.

The Maasai Mara University Wildlife and Environmental Club (MMUWEC) successfully organized an educational and recreational trip to Mount Longonot National Park. The main activity was a hike to the crater rim, where members experienced both the physical challenge of the climb and the breathtaking natural scenery. The team also engaged in wildlife viewing, observing various animal species in their natural habitat, which deepened their understanding of biodiversity and conservation.

After the park visit, the group proceeded to Karagita Beach in Lake Naivasha, where members relaxed and interacted, making the trip enjoyable and memorable. Overall, the trip provided valuable insights into nature, environmental conservation, and teamwork. The club encourages more students to join wildlife and environmental initiatives to gain such experiences and to contribute actively to conservation for a sustainable future.



The MMUWEC members enjoying a boat ride at Karagita Beach



Members of MMUWEC at the summit of Longot

COLLABORATION IN STUDENT SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT WITH THE KCB FOUNDATION

Maasai Mara University hosted a delegation from the KCB Foundation for an introductory visit to strengthen collaboration on student support and development.

The delegation was received by the Registrar (Academics), Dr. Fredrick Otieno, who represented the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho. The KCB Foundation team was led by Mr Stephen Matee, Senior Program Manager for Education.

The discussions focused on the Foundation's ongoing support for the University, including its sponsorship of eleven financially disadvantaged students. Building on this partnership, the two teams explored opportunities to expand collaboration to directly enhance student outcomes. These included internship and industrial placement opportunities, mentorship programmes, financial literacy and entrepreneurship training, and participation in community initiatives.

Further discussions centred on strengthening collaboration in career services and bursary support. The University's bursary fund, managed by the Office of the Dean of Students within its corporate social responsibility framework, was highlighted as a key area for potential support.

Other members of the KCB Foundation present were Mr Benson Masero, Mr Arnold Kerei, and Ms Hellen Siameto, all from the Narok Branch. The University team comprised the Dean of Students, Mohamed Adan; the Deputy Finance Officer, Ms Gorett Clement; and Ms Lucy Nkonge, Personal Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor.

The visit marked an important step towards deepening collaboration between the University and its partners, in line with its vision to promote innovation and empowerment for societal transformation. It also reflects the University's continued commitment to positioning itself as a hub for impactful partnerships that benefit both students and the wider community.



Registrar (Academics), Dr. Fredrick Otieno (2nd left), who represented the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho and Mr. Stephen Matee (Centre), Senior Program Manager for Education with the University and KCB representatives, in a group photo.



"That was a great conversation", Deputy Finance Officer, Ms. Gorett Clement (right) seemed to be telling one of the KCB Foundation representatives.



Registrar Academics Dr. Fredrick Otieno (left), Dean of Students Mr. Mohamed Adan (Centre), with KCB Foundation Ms. Hellen Siameto in a side chat.



Acting deputy vice-chancellor, Research, innovation and outreach, Prof. Francis Mburu, (2nd left) with one of the laptops donated by Dr. Benjamin Karume (left). They were accompanied by Marjan Hamisi (right) and Sylvia Rono (2nd right) from the DVC RIO's office.

Dr. Benjamin Karume was appointed as the Independent Verification Agent for the World Bank-funded Kenya Devolution Support Programme (KDSP) Annual Performance Assessment II, which was conducted between October and November 2025.

As part of this process, Maasai Mara University, through the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research, Innovation, and Outreach), supported his consultancy bid. In appreciation of this support, Dr. Karume has donated two laptops previously used during the programme, as part of his equipment costs, to the University.

This contribution aims to strengthen the Research and Consultancy function at Maasai Mara University, thereby enhancing capacity and supporting ongoing academic and professional activities.

THE MARA RUN ROAD SHOW

Maasai Mara University organized an energetic roadshow around Narok Town and nearby areas to promote the University Run scheduled for 5th April 2026. The initiative helped raise awareness about the event and encouraged many people to sign up for the race. The event attracted a large number of runners and sponsors, demonstrating strong community support.



The University bus trekking on Narok roads promoting the Mmara-U run



University cultural group on stage, creating awareness and promoting the run in Narok streets



Conservation jig: University marketing and cultural ambassadors aggressively marketing the run using participatory theatre as a tool for awareness creation.

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MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY HELD THE FIRST RUN FOR TOURISM, ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND CULTURAL PRESERVATION OF

On April 5th, 2026, Maasai Mara University successfully hosted its inaugural University Run, themed '*To promote tourism, preserve culture, conserve the natural environment, and advance climate action*'. The event attracted strong participation from sponsors, university management, staff, students, and the local community. Key sponsors included KCB, KenGen, Pridelnn Hotels, Masai Camp Mara, GenAfrica, Athletics Kenya, Kenya Red Cross Society, Olive Hotel, Medicatia Hospital, Lynson Hotel, Maasai Mara University SACCO, NARWASCO, Octagon, and UASU.

The run featured various race categories to accommodate different fitness levels, including 10 km, 6 km, 4 km, and 2 km races, as well as a children's fun run. Morans' participation added a distinct cultural element, highlighting the richness of Maa heritage. This is the first ever such event to be organized by the university and it brought traffic in Narok to a standstill for several hours.

The 10 km race was flagged off by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor P. Aloo-Obudho, in the presence of University Council members Dr. Susan Chebet and Dr. Agnes Busienei, and representatives from key sponsor organisations, including KCB, KenGen, Pridelnn Hotels, Kenya Red Cross Society, GenAfrica, Athletics Kenya, Medicatia Hospital, Olive Hotel, Lynson Hotel, Maasai Mara University SACCO, NARWASCO, Octagon, and UASU, demonstrating strong institutional and stakeholder support. The 6 km race was flagged off by KCB Narok Branch Manager Mr. Stanley Kirui, alongside Ms. Jemutai Ellsie, Communication Officer at KenGen. The event concluded with remarks from representatives of partner organisations, who reaffirmed their commitment to supporting future editions of the run.



The Vice-Chancellor, Professor P. Aloo-Obudho, participated in the 2 km race, emerging the winner, demonstrating leadership in promoting sports and wellness. Following closely are the two council members, The KCB Branch Manager, Mr. Stanley Kirui, the DVCs and other staff.



The Vice-Chancellor, Professor P. Aloo-Obudho, flagging off the 10km race at Motonyi



Maa culture at the centre of conservation. The race was laced with cultural infusion. Maasai morans actively took part in the race.



The Vice-Chancellor, presenting trophies to the winners.

Top performers across all race categories were recognised, with participants ranked from first to tenth receiving awards. The top three finishers received gold, silver, and bronze medals, while the first male and female winners in the 10 km race were awarded a complimentary two-night stay at Pridelnn Hotels, along with cash prizes.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor P. Aloo-Obudho, also took part in the 2 km race and emerged as the winner, demonstrating leadership in promoting sport and wellbeing. The VC was followed closely by Dr. Susan Chebet and Ms. Agnes Busienei. The DVCs Prof. James Nampushi and Francis Mburu were not left behind in this historic event. A tree-planting exercise was held as part of the event, reinforcing the commitment to environmental conservation and climate action.

Overall, the Maasai Mara University Run successfully brought together stakeholders to promote fitness, cultural heritage, environmental awareness, and community engagement, thereby laying a strong foundation for future editions.



The young and the old were not left behind: an ambivalent, holistic participation as a demonstration of the power of togetherness toward a common goal

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STUDENTS CHAMPION ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION THROUGH UNIVERSITY CLEAN-UP INITIATIVE



Maasai Mara University Students Championing Environmental Conservation

Maasai Mara University students demonstrated their commitment to environmental conservation and community responsibility through a joint clean-up organized by the Wildlife and Environmental Club and the Equity Club.

Held under the theme **“Our Environment, Our Responsibility: Clean Today, Green Tomorrow,”** the initiative brought together students from several university clubs, including the Debate Club, Animal Health Club, Innovation Club, and Tourism Club. The collaboration reflected a shared commitment among students to promote sustainability and environmental stewardship within the University community.

The clean-up exercise focused on maintaining a cleaner, healthier campus environment while raising awareness of the importance of proper waste management and environmental protection. Participants actively collected litter across various sections of the University, demonstrating the impact of collective action in creating positive environmental change.

Beyond the physical clean up, the activity served as a platform to promote environmental awareness and inspire students to adopt sustainable practices in their daily lives. The event highlighted the role of young people as key drivers of environmental protection and community engagement. The initiative also showcased the strength of teamwork and collaboration among student organisations, reinforcing the idea that environmental conservation is a shared responsibility requiring collective participation.

Aligned with the University’s niche in environmental conservation, the activity reflected Maasai Mara University’s continued commitment to promoting sustainability, environmental awareness, and responsible citizenship among students. Through such initiatives, the university continues to nurture a culture of environmental responsibility while empowering students to actively contribute to building a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable future.



We are committed to a clean environment: Students collecting gabbage within the university

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Voting during the KUSU Elections at Maasai Mara University

Democracy was vibrant and fully on display at Maasai Mara University, as staff turned out in large numbers to participate in the Kenya University Staff Union (KUSU) branch elections. The exercise reflected not only the spirit of democratic participation but also staff members' commitment to shaping the future of leadership, welfare, and representation within the University community.

The atmosphere throughout the election exercise was marked by excitement, hope, and meaningful discussions about staff unity, professional growth, and the importance of collective representation. Beyond casting ballots, staff actively demonstrated their belief in participatory leadership and accountability within the institutional structures.

At the conclusion of the exercise, the Labour Officer overseeing the elections announced the newly elected leaders of the KUSU Maasai Mara University Branch as follows: Mr. Galfen Omuse was elected Secretary, while Mr. David Kiptum was elected Chairperson; Mr. Ezekiel Kaaria was elected Treasurer, Mr. Patrick Lumumba was elected Deputy Treasurer. Other elected officials included Mr Hassan Mapesa as Trustee, Sharon Kiptum as Women Representative, Mr Mike Nchoshi as Organising Secretary, Mr Peter Marwa as Deputy Branch Chairperson, and Ms Agnes Naanyu Sadera as Deputy Branch Secretary.



Joyful newly elected KUSU officials.

The elections served as a powerful reminder that labour unions are more than administrative structures—they are platforms for staff voices to be heard and collective interests to be advanced. Through the electoral process, members reaffirmed their commitment to advocating for fair working conditions, professional respect, staff welfare, and institutional progress.

The exercise also highlighted the courage and dedication of all candidates who stepped forward for leadership positions. Regardless of the outcome, their willingness to serve demonstrated the values of accountability, dialogue, and commitment to the staff community.

As the newly elected leaders assume office, expectations remain high for inclusive leadership, integrity, and active representation of members' interests. The elections marked not only the end of a democratic exercise but also the beginning of a new chapter focused on strengthening staff unity and advancing collective goals.

Through such participatory processes, Maasai Mara University continues to cultivate a culture of democratic engagement, dialogue and institutional cohesion among its workforce.

MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY MARKS INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE DAY 2026 WITH CALL FOR CONSERVATION ACTION

Maasai Mara University joined the global community on March 3, 2026, to commemorate International Wildlife Day, an annual observance established by the United Nations to promote awareness of the conservation of wild flora and fauna and the importance of protecting biodiversity for future generations.

The event was organised by the Wildlife and Environmental Club in collaboration with the Animal Welfare Club, bringing together students, faculty, and invited guests for engaging discussions on wildlife conservation, environmental stewardship, and animal welfare.

A major highlight of the commemoration was a keynote presentation by Neema Mwangi from the Department of Animal Health within the School of Natural Resources, Environmental Studies and Agriculture. In her address, she emphasized the ethical responsibility to ensure the humane treatment of animals and underscored the critical role of veterinary and animal health professionals in wildlife conservation efforts.

The discussions also explored the growing need for sustainable coexistence between communities and wildlife, particularly in regions neighbouring conservation areas, such as the Maasai Mara ecosystem. Other speakers, including Jamlick Lepaa and Barack Peter, encouraged students to take an active role in conservation initiatives and environmental advocacy. Barack Peter challenged students to embrace environmental stewardship and to recognise the unique responsibility that comes with studying at a university near one of the world's most renowned wildlife conservation areas.



Commemoration of International Wildlife Day.



Wildlife and Environmental Club, in collaboration with the Animal Welfare Club, during International Wildlife Day.

Jamlick Lepaa highlighted practical approaches to addressing human-wildlife conflict, including community-based conservation programmes, early warning systems, and compensation mechanisms to reduce tensions between local communities and wildlife populations. Throughout the event, participants reflected on the importance of collective action to protect wildlife and preserve ecosystems for future generations. The discussions reinforced the idea that conservation is not solely the responsibility of governments and organisations, but also of individuals and communities.

The commemoration concluded with students reaffirming their commitment to championing wildlife conservation, promoting animal welfare, and supporting sustainable environmental practices. By participating in the International Wildlife Day activities, Maasai Mara University continues to strengthen its position as a centre for environmental education, conservation advocacy, and sustainable development in the region.

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF MEDIA: COMMUNICATION STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM TRANSFORMATIVE MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Maasai Mara University, through the Media, Film and Communication (MFC) Department, in partnership with the Media Council of Kenya (MCK), successfully hosted a mentorship programme for communication students.

The MCK team, led by Joseph Mecha, engaged students in an insightful session on media ethics, highlighting key principles from the Code of Conduct for Media Practice and emphasising the importance of professionalism in today's dynamic media landscape. He also guided students on how to apply for attachment and internship opportunities offered by MCK, opening doors for career growth.

The team was warmly received on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor by Prof. Francis Mburu, Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research, Innovation and Outreach). In his remarks, he encouraged ongoing collaboration between academia and industry and stressed the importance of practical exposure in shaping competent media professionals. The MFC Department, led by Dr. Denis Ikachoi, was commended for organising such impactful engagements that bridge classroom learning and real-world experience. This mentorship programme marks another step towards preparing students to thrive in the ever-evolving media industry.



Maasai Mara University and Kenya Forest Services representatives in a group photo at the Mau Forest.



Nurturing and shaping a journalist! HOD media, film and communication, Dr. Denis Ikachoi, engaging the participants during the Mentorship Program.



Mr. Joseph Mecha led the MCK team during the event

BRIDGING STUDENTS WITH INDUSTRY: MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS GAIN VALUABLE CAREER INSIGHTS AT ODOO KENYA TRAINING



Coordinator of CSC&PS, Prof. Patrick Gudda, together with the Odoo team and Maasai Mara University students, after an insightful training at Odoo Kenya

Through the office of the Centre for Students' Careers and Placement Services (CSC&PS), a section of Maasai Mara Students benefited from a training facilitated by Odoo Offices in Nairobi City on Friday, 27th March 2026.

The initiative led by Coordinator, CSC&PS, Prof. Patrick Gudda, included a workshop and interactive sessions highlighting Odoo's impact, mission and the solutions it provides.

The students present had a chance to interact with professionals across different departments, gaining insight into the skills they might need to develop forthwith in the changing world of work. Through gamified experiences, students learnt how easy it can be to formalise and streamline business processes.

Special thanks to Odoo Kenya, Prof. Patrick Gudda and Ummekulsum Bohari, who were key partners in ensuring the success of this event.



Coordinator of CSC&PS, Prof. Patrick Gudda (Centre), Ummekulsum Bohari (Right), Odoo Kenya and student Emmanuel Kansai (left) at the event.

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MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY STRENGTHENS GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS THROUGH INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION VISIT

Maasai Mara University hosted a distinguished delegation comprising representatives from Neighbours Abroad (USA), Olive Seed Foundation, and the Narok County Government. The team was received on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor by Prof. Francis Mburu, Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research, Innovation and Outreach).

Prof. Mburu highlighted the University's niche in Tourism, Environmental Conservation, and Management, emphasising its role in research, innovation, and community engagement.

The delegation, led by Ms. Sarah Burgess (President of Neighbors Abroad), Ms. Barb Mackerraz (Founder and Executive Director of OliveSeed Foundation), Samuel Ndorko, Chief Officer for Tourism, Wildlife and Culture of Narok County Government, and Mr. Amos Kipeen (CEO of Olive Seed Foundation, Narok), expressed appreciation for the warm reception and identified opportunities for collaboration, including staff and student exchange programmes, environmental sustainability initiatives, cultural exchanges, and educational partnerships. The visit demonstrates Maasai Mara University's strong commitment to fostering collaborations and strategic partnerships. The visit was facilitated by the University through Samuel Ndorko, the Chief Officer for Tourism, Wildlife, and Culture, and Mr. Samson Shakai, Assistant Registrar (Admissions).



A group photo of the university staff and the visitors.



The delegation and their flag, flanked by a section of Mmara-U, at the ambience of the Botanical Garden

Also present were : Prof. Ratemo Makiya Cyprian, Director of the Centre for ICT and E-Learning; Dr Edward Kateiya, Director of Marketing and Public Relations; Dr Samson Mabwoga, Dean of the School of Natural Resources, Environmental Studies and Agriculture; and Dr Judy Kibe, Dean of the School of Tourism and Hospitality.



Mr. Lankeu Reson (standing Centre), Deputy Registrar for Resource Mobilization, facilitating the meeting

EMPOWERING INDEPENDENCE THROUGH TECHNOLOGY: ORBIT READER TRAINING OPENS NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

Maasai Mara University, School of Education, Department of Special Needs and Early Childhood Education, in partnership with Kilimanjaro Blind Trust Africa, organized a one-week training from 23rd to 27th April, 2026, on the use of Orbit Reader devices for visually impaired individuals. The training aimed to equip participants with essential digital literacy skills, enabling them to access information, education, and communication tools more easily and with greater confidence.

Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs, Prof. Alloys Osano, officially opened the training. He was accompanied by the Dean of the School of Education, Prof. Edward Tanui, CODs: Special Needs and Early Childhood Education, Dr. Naftali Rop, Education Communication, Technology and Curriculum Studies, Dr. Alexander Rono, faculty members from the School of Education, and students.

The Kilimanjaro Blind Trust Africa team was led by the Regional Head of Technical Services, Mr. William Gichia, and Carolyne Musyoki, among others. Trainees benefited from Orbit Reader skills, a refreshable braille device that opens up a world of opportunities, from reading digital books to navigating documents and connecting with modern technology.

The hands-on sessions foster not only technical skills but also confidence, independence, and inclusion. This collaboration highlights the importance of accessible technology in breaking barriers and creating equal opportunities for all. Together, we are building a more inclusive future where visual impairment is not a limitation but a different way of experiencing the world.



The place of technology cannot be ignored in modern-day learning. A section of staff and students displaying the Orbit Reader devices used during the training.



Dr. Mary Shinali (3rd left) with a cross section of Special Needs and Early Childhood Education students during the one-week Orbit Reader training facilitated by Kilimanjaro Blind Trust Africa

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MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONS ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION DURING INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE FOREST 2026 CELEBRATIONS

Maasai Mara University played a leading role in commemorating International Day of the Forest in Narok County by hosting a successful tree-planting and environmental awareness event at Empaash Comprehensive School. The initiative brought together a wide range of stakeholders committed to environmental conservation, including the Kenya Defence Forces, the Kenya Forest Service, the Kenya Medical Training College (Narok Campus), the National Administration, community members, and learners from 10 neighbouring schools.

As part of its commitment to sustainability, Maasai Mara University donated 4,000 tree seedlings to Empaash Comprehensive School. This effort was complemented by a further 1,000 seedlings from the Kenya Forest Service, which were distributed to the school and surrounding community members to promote widespread tree planting.

Speaking on behalf of the University, the Deputy Registrar for Research, Innovation, and Community Outreach, Dr. Galfen Omuse, emphasised the institution's strong commitment to environmental conservation. He highlighted the University's strategy of adopting schools as hubs for environmental stewardship, an initiative championed by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo Obudho. As part of this programme, Maasai Mara University will adopt Empaash Comprehensive School for six months to monitor and support the growth and protection of the planted trees.



Together for conservation. Joint forces planting a seedling symbolising a united front towards environmental conservation and negative climate change mitigation.



Mr. Galfen Omuse, Deputy Registrar for Research, Innovation, and Community Outreach speaking on behalf of Maasai Mara University during International Day of the Forest Celebrations.

Mr. Omuse further announced the University's plans to provide water tanks for rainwater harvesting, aimed at supporting irrigation and ensuring the seedlings' survival. This initiative aligns with the University's green cover agenda and contributes to the national goal of planting 15 billion trees by 2032.

Representing the Kenya Forest Service, the County Conservator, Mr. Patrick Wasike Simiyu, emphasised the importance of environmental conservation through tree planting and nurturing trees to maturity, while also highlighting the economic benefits communities can derive from well-managed tree resources.

The Chief Guest, Deputy County Commissioner Mr. Musa Salat, cautioned against environmental destruction, particularly the indiscriminate cutting of trees, and reaffirmed the National Administration's commitment to supporting Empaash Comprehensive School in protecting the newly planted trees.

In his remarks, the Headteacher of Empaash Comprehensive School, Mr. Silas Tunai, expressed gratitude to Maasai Mara University and all participating stakeholders for selecting the school as the event's host, and assured them of the school's dedication to nurturing the trees and promoting environmental conservation.

The Kenya Defence Forces delegation was led by Captain Abdinasir Ahmed, while the team from the Kenya Medical Training College (Narok Campus) was led by Mr Geoffrey Chalulot.

CAREER AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN GERMANY

The University, through the School of Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences and Creative Industries (SAHSSCI), Department of Languages, Linguistics and Culture, in collaboration with the Goethe Institute, hosted a Career and Job Opportunities in Germany event.

The Dean of SAHSSCI, Prof. Bernard Kodak, representing the Vice-Chancellor, officially opened the event that was nothing short of inspiring. From exploring pathways to learning German to gaining practical insights on working and relocating abroad, attendees walked away empowered and informed.

COD Languages, Linguistics and Culture Dr. Lily Koske and a cross-section of members of the department actively participated. Guest speakers: Nicholas Ndege, Anne Eboso, Esther King'oo, Charles Alexander and Diana Doreen Ochieng shared their expertise and real-world experiences. The insights into career growth, pre-integration programmes, and opportunities in Germany were impactful.

To everyone who attended, engaged, and asked thoughtful questions—this was for you. Your enthusiasm made the event a success. Missed it? Stay tuned for more opportunities, workshops, and global career conversations coming your way! The good news is that Maasai Mara University has launched a training on German language. If you wish to pursue career in Germany, the course is for you so Join Now!



Maasai Mara University staff and students during the exhibitions at the KICC



The Dean of SAHSSCI, Prof. Bernard Kodak, opened the event

Mr. Omuse further announced the University's plans to provide water tanks for rainwater harvesting, aimed at supporting irrigation and ensuring the seedlings' survival. This initiative aligns with the University's green cover agenda and contributes to the national goal of planting 15 billion trees by 2032.

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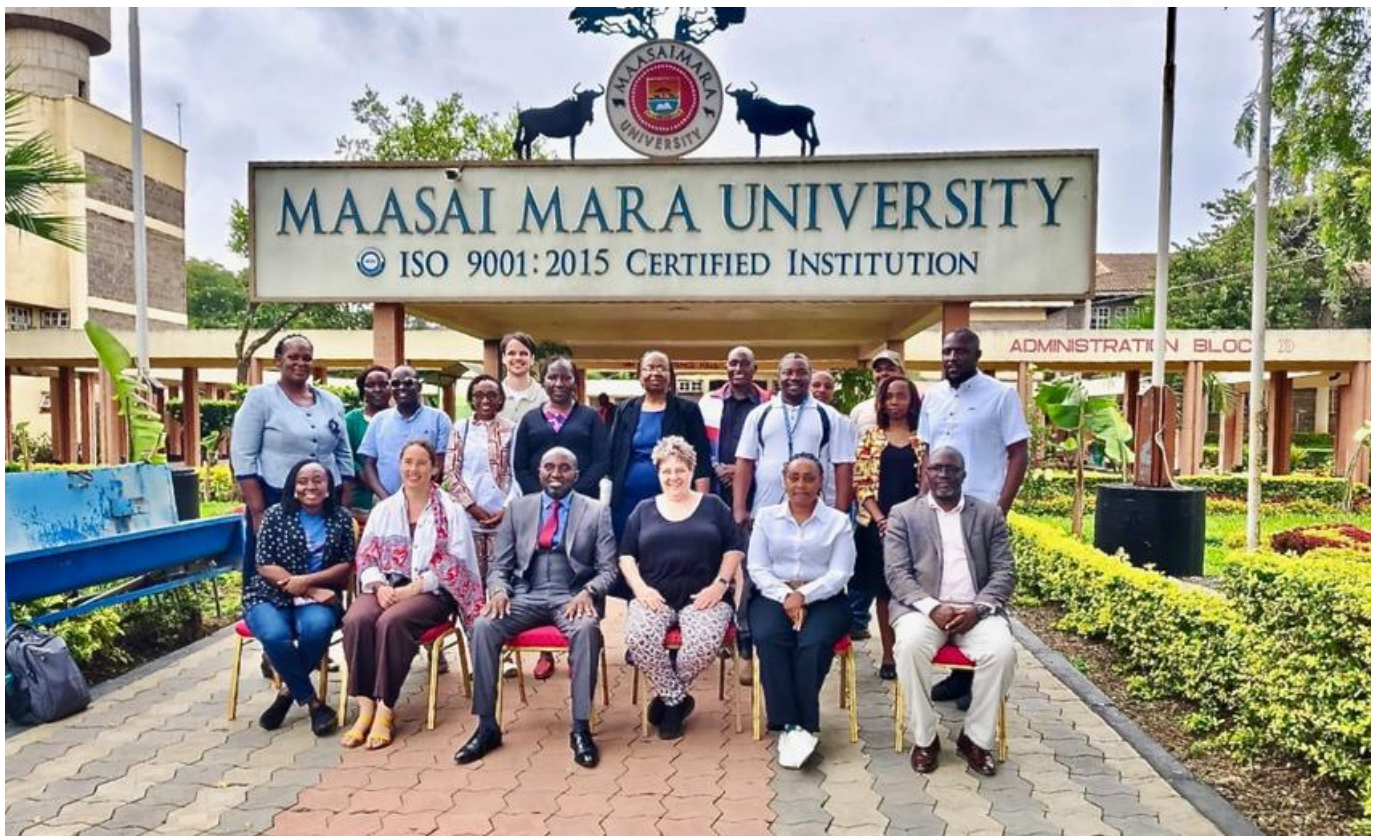
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THE LEARNING MINDSET SMALL GRANTS WORKSHOP

The University hosted the Mindset Small Grants Workshop on 18 March 2026 at the Main Conference Hall. The workshop was organised by Dr. Jedida Nankaya and Dr. Mukolwe Asakhulu, in collaboration with the Learning Mindset team, led by Professor Caroline.

The event brought together educators and researchers to explore innovative tools and practices to improve learning in higher education. Key focus areas included autonomous learning, game-based learning, and the ethical integration of AI in education. Participants were also introduced to opportunities for small research grants to support projects that enhance student engagement and self-directed learning.

The workshop further outlined a capacity-building programme to equip participants with skills in designing, implementing, and evaluating educational interventions, as well as in conducting and publishing impactful research. Overall, the session provided a valuable platform for collaboration and for advancing learner-centred practices within the university.



A group photo of the workshop participants

RIFT VALLEY REGION CAMPUS NETBALL AND HANDBALL GAMES

Maasai Mara University successfully hosted the second leg of the Rift Valley Region Campus Netball and Handball Games, which brought together teams from Kabarak University, Egerton University, the University of Eldoret, Koitalel Samoei University College, Laikipia University, Bomet University, and the host institution. The competition saw teams battle for top honours, with the final standings determined by the average points accumulated across both legs of the tournament.

In ladies' handball, Egerton University emerged champions, with the University of Eldoret in second place and Maasai Mara University third. In the men's handball category, the University of Eldoret claimed the title, Kabarak University finished second, and Egerton University secured third place. The top three teams in handball were awarded trophies in recognition of their performance.

In the netball competition, the University of Eldoret dominated both the men's and women's categories, emerging as champions, with Egerton University finishing as runners-up in both divisions. In recognition of their outstanding performances, both the winners and runners-up in netball were awarded trophies.



Mmara-U Sports Officer Mwaniki Kabue handing over a trophy to the Mmara-U ladies handball team



Fan and pomp filled the field as different cheer groups urged their teams and celebrated every moment



Maasai Mara University, with its third-place trophy in the ladies' handball category

CAREER, BUSINESS, INNOVATION SUMMIT 2026

The Career, Business, Innovation Summit 2026 was a remarkable success, convening students, industry professionals, innovators, and thought leaders for a week of learning, inspiration, and collaboration.

Throughout the event, participants engaged in insightful keynote sessions, career mentorship forums, panel discussions, and innovation showcases, all designed to equip students with practical knowledge and real-world perspectives. The summit provided a valuable platform for students to connect with professionals, explore emerging career paths, and present innovative ideas.

Highlights of the week included dynamic discussions with industry experts, interactive workshops focused on skills development, and student-led innovation presentations showcasing creativity and problem-solving across various fields. The Dean of the School of Business and Economics at Zetech University, Prof. Peter Berachesebe Kibas, Prof. Peter Wanzala, and Dr. Naikuni Nchorira were among the speakers.

The event was organised by the Student Careers and Placement Services (CS&PS), led by the Coordinator, Prof. Patrick Gudda. As we reflect on this year's summit's success, we look forward to creating even stronger opportunities for students to learn, innovate, and lead in the future.



A cross-section of participants, staff, and students led by the Coordinator of Careers and Placement Services (CS&PS), Prof. Patrick Gudda (front right), followed the proceedings.



The Dean of the School of Business and Economics, Zetech University, Prof. Peter Berachesebe Kibas, planting a memorial tree during the event



TOURISM TECH INNOVATION CHALLENGE

The three-day, 72-Hour Tourism Tech Innovation Challenge, full of creativity and problem-solving ideas, was opened and closed by the Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research, Innovation, and Outreach, Prof. Francis Mburu, representing the Vice-Chancellor.

The teams pitched their innovative solutions to a panel of expert judges. Each group demonstrated the journey from the Discovery phase to the development of functional Prototypes, focusing on delivering unique customer value and addressing real-world gaps in the tourism and conservation sectors.

The competition was fierce, showcasing a wide range of "Winning Features" that proved these students are not just studying the industry but are ready to redefine it through sustainable, scalable technology.

After a rigorous evaluation of their Minimum Viable Products (MVPs) and strategic roadmaps, five exceptional teams were selected to advance to the next stage of incubation and development. The Terapath team won the challenge, followed by Mara Pass. Third place went to Safari Sink, Safari Mind AI came fourth, and Miselium Mesh finished fifth.

These teams represent the pinnacle of student innovation at Maasai Mara University, and we look forward to supporting them as they turn their winning ideas into impactful tourism tech enterprises.



The Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research, Innovation, and Outreach, Prof. Francis Mburu, opened and closed the challenge.



A group photo of the challenge participants



Judges at the event

MEDIA STUDIES ACCREDITATION

The Media Council of Kenya paid a courtesy visit to Maasai Mara University as part of the accreditation process for the university's media studies programme. The visit aimed to assess and recognise the programme against the standards set by the national regulatory body for journalists.

During the exercise, media students turned up in large numbers to apply for new press cards and renew those that had expired. The process gave students the opportunity to be formally registered and recognised as trainee journalists by the council.

The accreditation exercise is a significant step for the university's media programme, as recognition by the Media Council of Kenya strengthens the course's credibility and ensures that students are trained in line with professional journalism standards in Kenya. It also enables students to obtain official press credentials, allowing them to practise and gain field experience while still pursuing their studies.



Some of the students who sought information and press cards during the process

CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Maasai Mara University joined the Narok County Government and other stakeholders to celebrate International Women's Day on 11 March 2026 at Oloshapani Technical College in Ololulunga Ward, Narok South Constituency. The event, hosted by the Nampayio Koriata Fistula Organisation, was held under the global theme emphasising Justice, Rights, and Action for women and girls.

The Deputy County Commissioner for Narok South, Mr George Omollo, who attended as the Chief Guest, called for stronger collaboration among government, community leaders, and organisations to protect the dignity and rights of women and girls.

Speakers highlighted key challenges facing the community, including gender-based violence (GBV), teenage pregnancy, and child marriage, and called for collective action to protect girls and create safe environments for women. Women were encouraged to report incidents of violence, and authorities assured the community of legal protection for victims.

The event brought together women community groups, development partners, and organisations working on gender equality and community empowerment, including Kenya Red Cross Society, Population Council, NACOSTI, COVAW, Hand in Hand East Africa, and WeWorld.

Maasai Mara University was represented by Ms. Ruth W. Sipitiek, responsible for Psychological Counseling and HTS in the Health Department, and Ms. Nadupoi Kishoyian, Gender Officer from the Directorate of Gender Equality and Culture. They reaffirmed the university's commitment to promoting gender equality, social justice, and community empowerment



Matching for women! International Women's Day procession



Mmara-U representatives: Ms. Ruth W. Sipitiek, in charge of Psychological Counseling and HTS in the Health Department (Centre) and Ms. Nadupoi Kishoyian, Gender Officer from the Directorate of Gender Equality and Culture (left)

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STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Farming Systems Kenya and Maasai Mara University held a collaborative meeting to explore strategic areas of partnership to advance sustainable agriculture, research, and community development.

The University team comprised: Dean, School of Natural Resources, Environmental Studies and Agriculture, Dr. Samson Mabwoga; COD Animal Health and Production, Dr. Patrick Kamundia; Director, Public Relations, Marketing and Linkages, Dr. Edward Kateiya; Dr. Obiero and Nickson Magak. FSK included: Executive Director Kenneth Wamuya, Samuel Chege, Dr. Olwichi Mustafa, John Maina and Charles Gichovi.

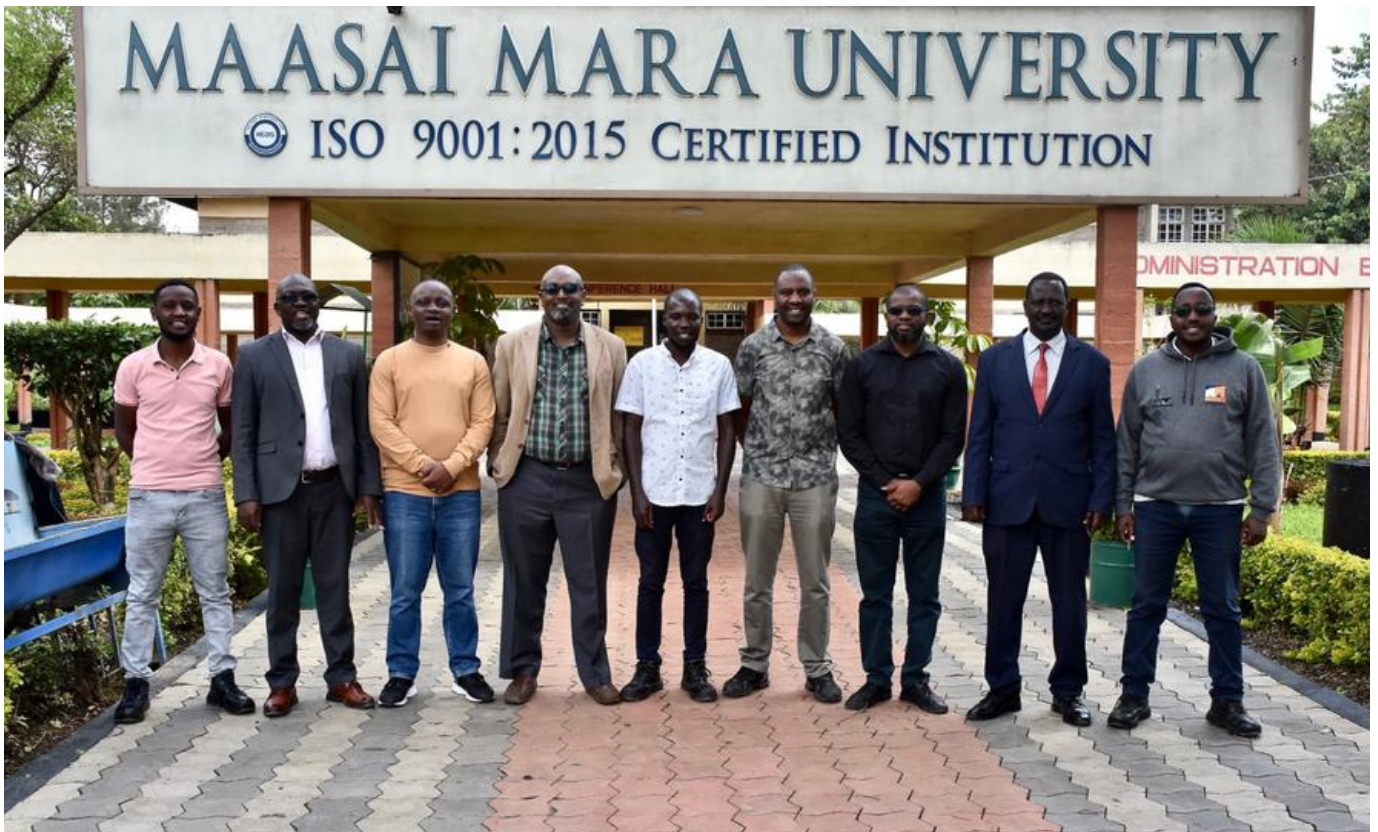
The discussions focused on key areas of collaboration, including:

1. Joint research and innovation in sustainable farming systems
2. Capacity building and student engagement through internships and field attachments
3. Knowledge exchange between researchers, farmers, and extension practitioners
4. Community outreach programs to support climate-smart agriculture in local farming communities

The meeting also discussed the draft MOU, which will be signed to formalize both institutions' commitment to working together to drive impactful agricultural solutions and strengthen the link between academia and practical farming systems.

This partnership represents a shared vision of promoting resilient agricultural practices, empowering communities, and nurturing the next generation of agricultural professionals.

We look forward to a productive collaboration that will create a meaningful impact for farmers, students, and the broader agricultural community.



Mmara-U and FSK team members



Ongoing meeting session

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CAREER, BUSINESS, INNOVATION AND LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

The future belongs to those who innovate, lead, and create opportunities. The three-day Career, Business, Innovation and Leadership Summit brought together visiting secondary schools, Maasai Mara University staff, students and entrepreneurs. The event organised by the Centre Career Services and Placement Services (CS & PS) took place between 11th to 13th March in a powerful platform designed to inspire the next generation of change-makers.

The event included a guided tour of the University's environment and infrastructure, a career pathways clinic, and a mentorship session with various guests and speakers.

The summit was part of the university's Career Week and Innovation Summit, an initiative that equips students with the skills, networks, and mindset needed to succeed in a dynamic global economy. Maasai Mara University continues to champion innovation, entrepreneurship, and leadership as key drivers of societal transformation.

Through conversations on innovation, business development, and leadership, participants were encouraged to move beyond job-seeking and embrace job creation, creativity, and problem-solving to address societal challenges.

Events like this reinforce the university's commitment to nurturing future-ready graduates who are innovative, entrepreneurial, and impactful leaders.

Together, we are shaping a generation ready to drive change and build sustainable solutions for tomorrow.



The Co-ordinator Centre Career Services and Placement Services (CS & PS) Prof. Patrick Gudda engaging visiting schools during the career week.



A cross-section of visiting schools at the Botanical Garden.

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A PUBLIC LECTURE BY PROF. DABALEN WAS HELD SUCCESSFULLY AT MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

Maasai Mara University, in collaboration with the World Bank, hosted a public lecture on the theme “Africa’s Poverty Amid Plenty: The Role of Research and Universities in Poverty Reduction.”

The lecture was delivered by Prof. Andrew Dabalen, the World Bank’s Africa Region Chief Economist, who joined the audience live via Zoom from Washington, DC. Prof. Dabalen shared valuable insights into the persistent challenge of poverty in Africa, despite the continent’s vast resources, and highlighted the critical role universities and research institutions play in generating evidence-based solutions for sustainable development.

The engaging session brought together students, faculty, and stakeholders, who actively discussed how academic research, policy engagement, and innovation can contribute to poverty reduction across Africa. Maasai Mara University appreciates the partnership with the World Bank and thanks everyone who attended and contributed to the success of this important academic dialogue. Among the participants was the CEO ILEPA, Mr. Stanley Kimaren Ole Riamit.



Guest speaker Prof. Andrew Dabalen, online, listening to a contribution from Mr. Job Ogada (left), HOD Economics



Staff and students following the public lecture

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CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT

Prof. Francis Mburu, the Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research, Innovation and Outreach, representing the Vice-Chancellor, officially opened a two-day capacity-building workshop on implementing the Access to Information Act and effectively handling public complaints at the University Hall.

The workshop was organised by the Department of Public Complaints in partnership with the Office of the Commission on Administrative Justice. The training aimed to enhance the implementation of the Access to Information Act by equipping staff with the knowledge and skills needed to promote transparency, accountability, and timely public access to information. It also sought to strengthen the effective handling of public complaints by guiding staff on the proper procedures for receiving, recording, documenting, and forwarding them to the relevant offices for appropriate action.

Additionally, the workshop was designed to promote professionalism and responsiveness in public service delivery, ensuring that complaints and information requests are handled efficiently and in line with legal and institutional guidelines.

The training was facilitated by Victor Elikana Ongaya, Strategy and Compliance Officer and Kipkogei Koech, Public Education and Advocacy Officer from the office of the Commission on Administrative Justice.



A group photo of participants during the Capacity-Building Workshop on the Implementation of the Access to Information Act



An ongoing session led by Victor Elikana Ongaya, Strategy and Compliance Officer, Department of Public Complaints.

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From 5th to 7th March, Maasai Mara University partnered with DOCUBOX – The East African Documentary Film Fund to host film screenings at selected high schools and in the surrounding community. DOCUBOX supports independent filmmakers across the East African region and occasionally from the wider Pan-African region.

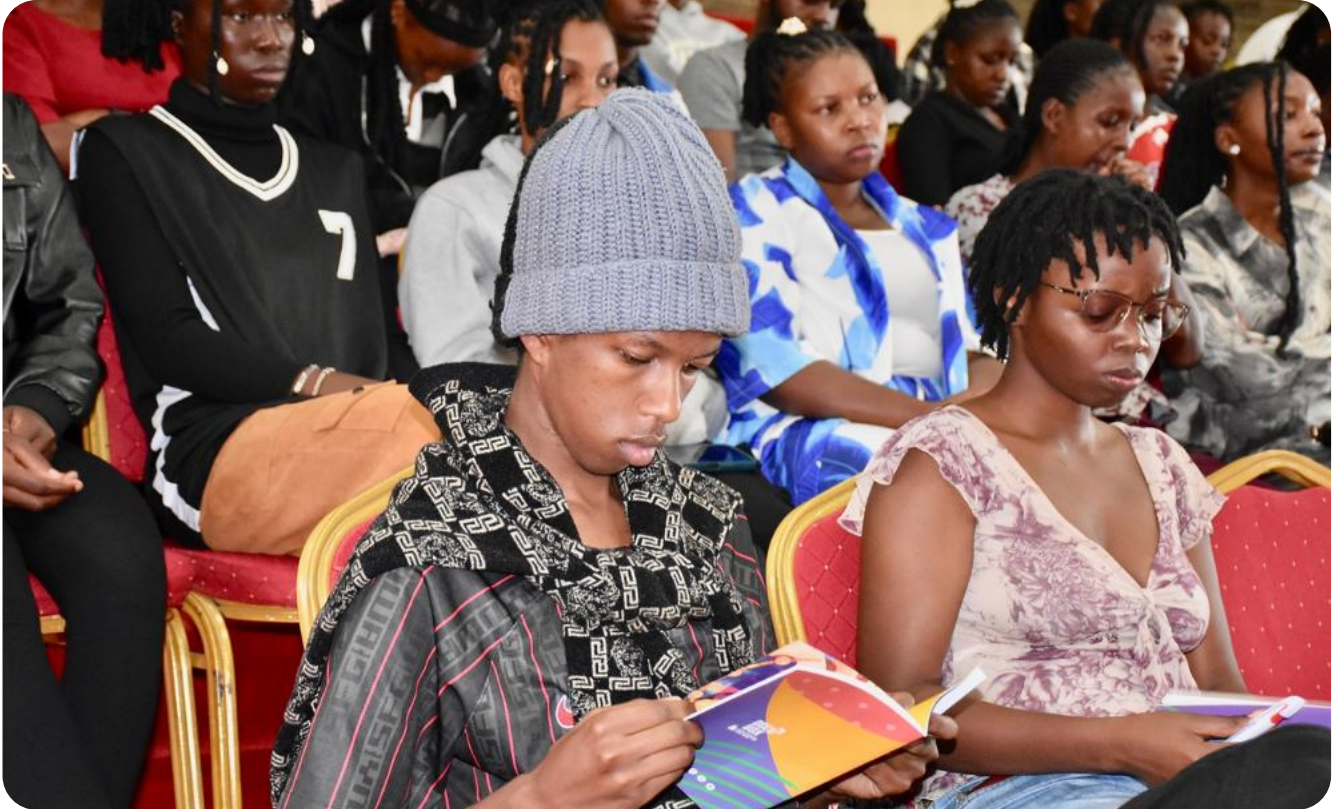
One of the major highlights of the event was a Master Class on Wildlife and Conservation Storytelling. The Wildlife and Conservation Storytelling Master Class was designed to enable students of Literature, Theatre and Film to understand key aspects of film production, including identifying story ideas, sourcing stories, packaging them effectively, and developing compelling ways to tell them through film. The discussion was anchored in the five pillars of Maasai Mara University, demonstrating how film can effectively tell stories that connect education, community engagement, research, environmental stewardship, and cultural heritage.

The event also gave students the opportunity to interact with experienced filmmakers and producers. Participants were introduced to grant-writing skills, film discussions, and practical insights into various aspects of filmmaking.

The initiative was graciously supported by DOCUBOX, following outreach by Anne Keton and Prof. Benard Kodak to DOCUBOX Executive Director Susan Mbogo. The DOCUBOX team was represented by Njonjo Kiroga, Operations and Programs Director; Wambui Gathee, Screenings Manager and Film Curator; Mungai Kiroja, Internal Producer; and Ronald Owen, Office Assistant.



Eric Mangi, Cinematographer, Editor and Director, exploring the intersection of filmmaking and conservation, using short clips and real-world project insights to demonstrate how storytelling can serve as a tool for environmental awareness and advocacy for budding Mmara-U Literature, Theatre and Film students.



Literature, Theatre and Film Students following the Wildlife and Conservation Storytelling Master Class by DOCUBOX

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ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN-UP

The Maasai Mara University Wildlife and Environmental Club and the Equity Club organised a joint clean-up on campus. The activity brought together members of the Debate Club, Animal Health Club, Innovation Club, and Tourism Club under the theme “Our Environment, Our Responsibility – Clean Today, Green Tomorrow.”

The initiative aimed to promote environmental conservation and community responsibility among students. Participants worked together to collect litter and raise awareness of the need to keep the university clean and sustainable. The event demonstrated the power of teamwork and highlighted the importance of protecting the environment for present and future generations.

This event aligned well with the university's niche of environmental conservation.



The Wildlife and Environmental Club and the Equity Club joined efforts in cleaning the University compound



Better future today! Environmental conservation ensures that generations to come enjoy a conducive atmosphere and sustainable livelihoods.

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