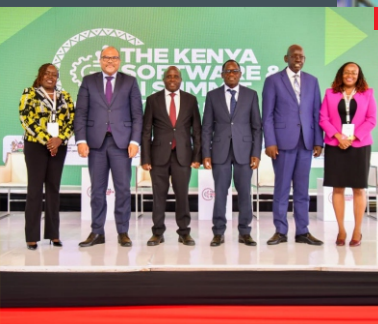


Kenya Deepens EU Research Partnership as Government Opens Horizon Europe Training Workshop

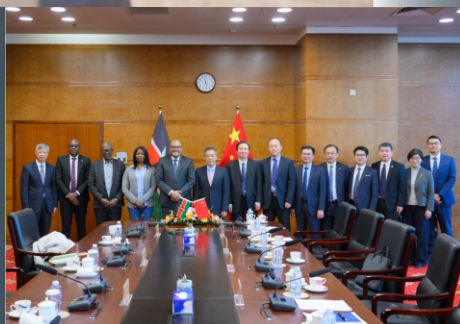
FULL STORY PAGE 3

In this issue



Kenya Urged to Embrace Innovation and AI for Economic Growth

PAGE 4



Kenya Strengthens Nuclear Technology Cooperation with China

PAGE 2



Word from the Principal Secretary

The Science, Research and Innovation for Society November issue which serves as the second publication by the State Department, continues to emphasize on the journey of mainstreaming government projects and activities through communication.

This is a deliberate effort for Kenyans to have a glimpse of the undertakings towards the commitments entrusted to us as government utilising public funds. The State Department continues to be featured on the mainstream media including Television, Radio and Newspapers as well the new media and other emerging communication

channels to enhance government visibility, encourage feedback on how to better our services.

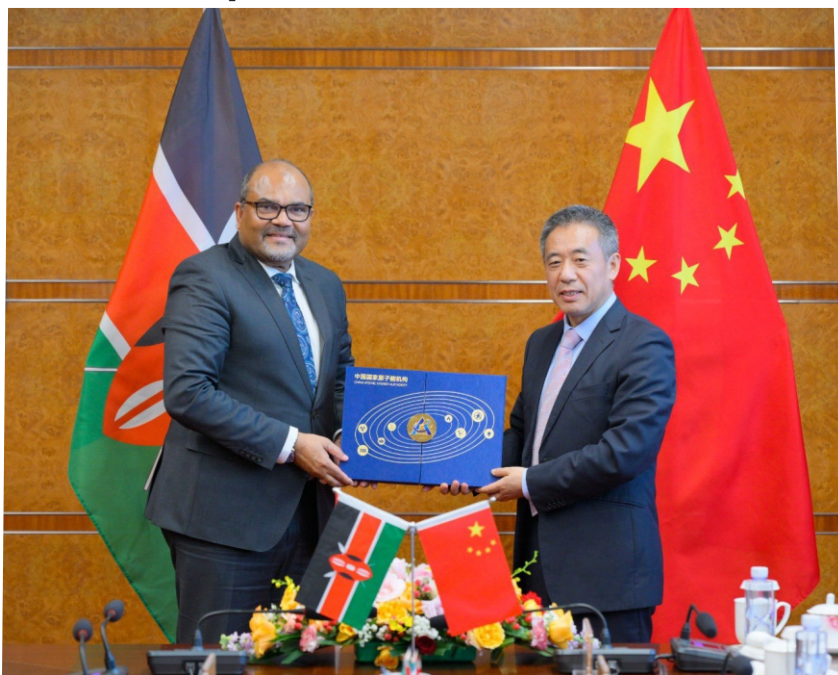
Our Social Media presence on X (formerly twitter) @ScienceRI_Kenya, LinkedIn @Science Research Innovation and Facebook @Science Research Innovation enable us to receive and appreciate compliments and feedback.

Together, we endeavor to elevate Kenya to a developed country in line with the vision of our President Dr. William Samoei Ruto, CGH.

PROF. SHAUKAT ABDULRAZAK, EBS
PS. Science, Research and Innovation



Kenya Strengthens Nuclear Technology Cooperation with China

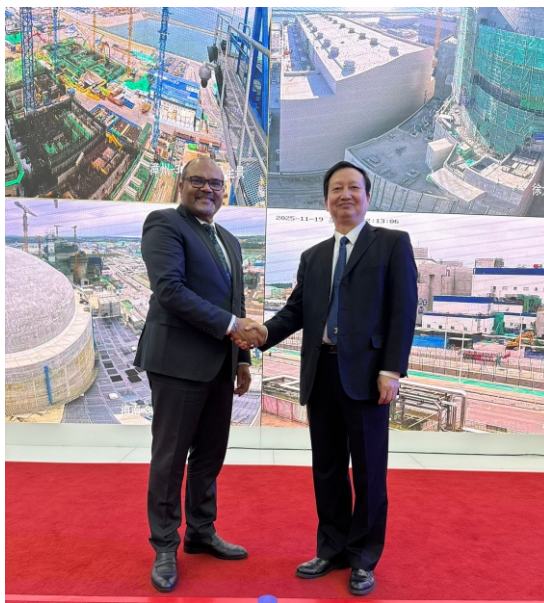


Professor Shaukat Abdulrazak, Principal Secretary for Science, Research and Innovation with Liu Jing Vice Chairman, China Atomic Energy Authority (CAEA), Beijing, China

Professor Shaukat Abdulrazak, EBS, Principal Secretary for the State Department of Science, Research and Innovation, held high-level engagements with Chinese counterparts ahead of the 2025 China-Africa Innovation Cooperation and Development Forum in Wuhan.

The PS met with Liu Jing, Vice Chairman of the China Atomic Energy Authority (CAEA), to discuss deepening Kenya-China collaboration on the country's nuclear power programme. Key focus areas included capacity building, technology transfer, and peaceful applications of nuclear science. The Chinese side pledged support for the establishment of Kenya's first nuclear engineering academic programme in partnership with Tsinghua University and the University of Nairobi. Discussions also explored collaboration in radiation medicine, food security, water technologies, and the establishment of the Kenya Atomic Energy Agency. Both sides agreed to co-host

a China-Africa event in 2026 on peaceful uses of nuclear science, involving the African Union and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).



Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak during a technical visit to the China Nuclear Power Engineering Corporation (CNPE), Beijing, China.

Later, PS Abdulrazak visited the China Nuclear Power Engineering Corporation (CNPE), where he inspected the Hualong One (HPR1000) nuclear reactor model and observed AI-integrated real-time construction monitoring. He also briefed the University of Nairobi delegation ahead of their academic mission to Tsinghua University.

By Denis Yegon

Kenya Strengthens Research Collaboration with Sino-Africa Joint Research Centre



PS Shaukat with Prof. Wang Qingfeng, Director General and Co-Director of SAJOREC, during the visit to the Wuhan Botanical Garden, CAS

Kenya's Principal Secretary for the State Department of Science, Research, and Innovation, Professor Shaukat Abdulrazak, concluded a landmark visit to the Sino-Africa Joint Research Centre (SAJOREC) at the Wuhan Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS).

The 200-acre facility is home to over 11,000 plant species, including 800 medicinal plants and more than 70 kiwifruit germplasm varieties. Employing around 300 researchers, including 80 professors, SAJOREC is a leading hub for research in biodiversity, medicinal plants, traditional Chinese medicine, and climate resilience.

During a 2.5-hour guided tour led by Professor Wang Qingfeng, Director of the Wuhan Botanical Garden and Co-Director of SAJOREC, the PS observed firsthand the Centre's extensive research capabilities. He highlighted the dual role of the botanical garden as both a conservation hub and a public education centre, welcoming over one million visitors annually.

"The visit underscores the importance of international research collaboration in addressing global challenges, from climate resilience to sustainable agriculture and healthcare innovation," Professor Shaukat remarked.

The engagement with SAJOREC reinforces Kenya's commitment to deepening scientific partnerships and knowledge exchange, particularly in areas of biodiversity conservation, climate-smart agriculture, and traditional medicine research.

By Denis Yegon



[From left-right] Dr. David Ngigi Ag. DG NACOSTI, Amb. Henriette Geiger, E.U. Ambassador to Kenya, Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak, PS. Science, Research and Innovation, Prof. Margaret J. esang Hutchinson, Ag. Vice Chancellor, University of Nairobi, and Dr. BOCHEREAU Laurent, EU Scientific Counsellor to the African Union.

Kenya has reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening global scientific collaboration with the European Union following the official opening of the Horizon Europe Training and Sensitisation Workshop at the University of Nairobi on Monday, 3rd November 2025. The event was presided over by Professor Shaukat Abdulrazak, Principal Secretary for the State Department for Science, Research and Innovation, alongside Amb. Henriette Geiger, the EU Ambassador to Kenya.

Prof. Abdulrazak described the workshop as a major step in deepening Kenya–EU cooperation in science, research, and innovation. He commended the EU for

long-standing support through FP7, Horizon 2020, and now Horizon Europe—programmes under which Kenyan universities and research institutions have joined multiple international consortia and secured more than ten EU-funded research projects.

With a budget exceeding €95 billion, Horizon Europe is among the world's most ambitious research and innovation frameworks, offering opportunities in climate action, clean energy, agriculture, digital transformation, health, and industrial sustainability. The Principal Secretary noted that Kenya is strengthening connections between academia, research institutions, and industry to enhance technology transfer, commercialization, and evidence-based policymaking, key priorities that closely align with Horizon Europe's thematic pillars.

Prof. Abdulrazak highlighted Kenya's progress in developing a competitive research ecosystem through increased investment by the National Research Fund, expanded research infrastructure, the growth of startup and innovation ecosystems under KeNIA, and active participation in initiatives such as LEAP-RE and ARISE. He stressed that research in Kenya must now move beyond “publish or perish” to focus on innovation, patents, and real-world impact.

He further announced government efforts to develop coordinated research clusters and comprehensive databases to link Kenyan researchers with international partners, calling for deeper collaboration to enhance competitiveness in Horizon Europe calls. Kenya's partnership with the EU, he noted, also advances the broader Africa–EU Innovation Agenda aimed at expanding Africa's role in global research networks.

Declaring the workshop officially open, Prof. Abdulrazak urged researchers, universities, and industry stakeholders to seize the opportunity to build strong consortia, secure Horizon Europe funding, and contribute scientific solutions that will drive Kenya's transformation into a knowledge-based, innovation-led economy.

By Dr. Stephen Situma

Kenya Hosts 8th ASRIC Congress, Calls for Community-Driven Innovation to Power Africa's Prosperity



Group photo during the the 8th Congress of the African Scientific, Research and Innovation Council (ASRIC)

Kenya has renewed its call for African nations to invest boldly in science, technology, and innovation (STI) as engines of economic transformation, as the country hosted the 8th Congress of the African Scientific, Research and Innovation Council (ASRIC) on Tuesday, 4th November 2025. Delivering the keynote address, Professor Shaukat Abdulrazak, Principal Secretary for the State Department for Science, Research and Innovation, underscored the urgent need for inclusive, community-based innovation to advance the continent's development agenda.

Speaking on behalf of the Government of Kenya, Prof. Abdulrazak emphasized that innovation must move beyond academic institutions and laboratories to directly benefit communities — including smallholder farmers, coastal fisherfolk, youth innovators, and women-led enterprises. He noted that the Congress theme, “Inclusive and Community-Based Innovation for STI-Driven Prosperity in Africa,” aligns

squarely with Agenda 2063 and STISA-2030, both of which position STI as the backbone of Africa's economic transformation.

The Principal Secretary highlighted global and African success stories — from South Korea and Singapore to Rwanda and South Africa — as proof that visionary leadership, strong governance, and strategic investment in research can transform national fortunes. He noted that Africa still invests less than 1% of its GDP in research and development, urging countries to shift from policy commitments to sustained financial investment. Kenya, he said, is already strengthening its STI ecosystem through new institutional reforms, including the establishment of the State Department for Science, Research and Innovation, the National Research Fund, and innovation clusters across key sectors.

Prof. Abdulrazak outlined four priority pathways for Africa's STI-driven growth: localizing innovation ecosystems, empowering youth and women through STEM and digital skills, linking research to markets under AfCFTA, and strengthening continental collaboration and scientific leadership. He underscored ASRIC's central role in advancing shared research platforms, diaspora engagement, and monitoring progress under Agenda 2063.

He concluded with a call for actionable commitments from the Congress, including establishing community innovation networks, enhancing open science, launching joint research programs, and building leadership academies for future STI policymakers. “Leadership is the engine; governance is the steering wheel; and collaboration is the road we must travel,” he said, urging African nations to unify around a shared vision of an innovative and prosperous continent.

By Dr. Stephen Situma

Kenya Urged to Embrace Innovation and AI for Economic Growth



High Delegates during the Kenya Software & AI Summit 2025, held at Moi University's Annex Campus in Eldoret, Kenya.

South Korea, Israel, and Singapore, whose investments in research and development have propelled them into technology leadership. He noted Kenya's achievements, including the widespread adoption of mobile money via M-Pesa and the rapid growth of the local tech sector, contributing over 9% of GDP.

The Principal Secretary emphasized the transformative role of emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, robotics, blockchain, and biotechnology. "Software is no longer just a tool. Software is the economy," he said, pointing to applications in agriculture, fintech, and healthcare that are already improving efficiency, productivity, and market access.

Professor Abdulrazak underscored the importance of a collaborative "triple helix" model involving government, universities, and industry. He cited the success of the KeNIA initiative, which has supported 25 projects, trained 500 innovators, and mobilized over KSh 100 million for commercialization. He also stressed that citizens' adoption of digital solutions is critical for sustained innovation.

In conclusion, he called on all stakeholders to act boldly: private sector to invest in local talent, universities to turn research into solutions, and innovators to scale their technologies across Africa. "Innovation is the engine. Emerging technologies are the fuel. Our people are the drivers. The time is now," he said.

By Joseph Mutua

Africa's Nuclear Future in Youth Hands, Says Kenya's PS Shaukat Abdulrazak



PS Shaukat Abdulrazak delivering his keynote address virtually during the African Youth Nuclear Summit

Africa's nuclear transformation will be driven by its youth, said Professor Shaukat Abdulrazak, Principal Secretary, State Department for Science, Research & Innovation, during his keynote address at the African Youth Nuclear Summit, held virtually under the theme "From Atoms to Impact."

Addressing young scientists, engineers, and innovators, Professor Abdulrazak highlighted the central role of nuclear science and technology in advancing Africa's clean energy, healthcare, food security, climate resilience, and industrial growth. He emphasized that Africa's most

valuable nuclear resource is its youth.

"Africa's greatest nuclear asset is not uranium, not reactors, not laboratories—it is our young people. You are no longer observers of the nuclear conversation; you are its authors, its ambassadors, and its future leaders," he said.

Professor Abdulrazak outlined opportunities across the continent's nuclear sector, from energy planning and nuclear medicine to AI-driven safety systems and regulatory frameworks. He encouraged young Africans to pursue global fellowships and leadership programs, pointing to initiatives such as the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship and the Lise Meitner Programme as gateways to international expertise and leadership.

Reflecting on his tenure at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), he stressed

the importance of regional collaboration. Platforms like the African Young Generation in Nuclear (AYGN), AFCONE, WIN, and AFRA enable countries to share systems, knowledge, and success. AYGN has grown from national chapters in Kenya, South Africa, and Nigeria into a continental movement spanning more than 25 countries, showcasing the transformative potential of youth leadership.

He urged Africa to focus on three key priorities: train and empower a new generation of nuclear scientists, engineers, and innovators; strengthen regional collaboration through shared knowledge, systems, and regulations; and embrace advanced technologies, including Small Modular Reactors (SMRs), digital twins, and AI-enhanced safety systems, to achieve global competitiveness.

Addressing the youth directly,

he inspired them to seize the opportunities ahead:

"Africa's nuclear future will not be built in conference halls or policy documents. It will be built by your hands, shaped by your ideas, driven by your leadership, and inspired by your courage."

Concluding his address, Professor Abdulrazak reaffirmed that governments, academia, industry, and international partners remain committed to supporting Africa's youth. Yet, the responsibility to turn vision into reality rests with the next generation of nuclear leaders. The African Youth Nuclear Summit continues to serve as a platform for emerging leaders to engage with cutting-edge nuclear innovations, capacity-building initiatives, and policy developments that will define Africa's scientific and industrial future.

By Denis Yegon

Kenyan Universities Must Shift from 'Papers to Production,' Says PS Abdulrazak Nairobi, Kenya

At the 4th KCA University Innovation Week & Industry Summit, Professor Shaukat Abdulrazak, Principal Secretary for the State Department for Science, Research & Innovation, urged Kenyan universities to focus on economic production and commercialization rather than only academic publications. Highlighting the country's impressive research output—top three in Africa—he noted that less than 10% of research is commercialized, emphasizing the urgent need to transform ideas into market-ready solutions.

PS Abdulrazak praised KCA University for its 11 registered patents and pioneering role in the Research to Commercialization (R2C) Accelerator Program and the Entrepreneurship Leadership Programme. He called for universities to emulate KCA's Technology Transfer Office model, which links research with practical enterprise creation.

Describing innovation as a “team sport,” he stressed the importance



Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak, PS, Science, Research and Innovation with Prof. Isaiah I.C. Wakindiki, the Vice Chancellor & CEO of KCA University during the KCA University 3rd Innovation Week & Industry Summit 2025 in Nairobi

of the Triple Helix model—collaboration between academia, industry, and government—to elevate ideas into viable businesses, create jobs, and stimulate economic growth.

He concluded with a call to action: universities must measure success in problems solved, patents commercialized, and enterprises created; industry must co-develop with academia; and students must be bold, persistent, and globally minded. Echoing an African adage, he reminded attendees: “Knowledge that does not create value remains a story untold.”

Kenya Reaffirms Commitment to Research as Key Driver of National Transformation



Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak PS, Science, Research and Innovation presents registration certificates to representatives of newly registered research institutions at the Kenya School of Monetary Studies.

Kenya's Principal Secretary for the State Department for Science, Research and Innovation, Professor Shaukat Abdulrazak, has emphasized that research and innovation are critical engines of the country's economic growth and social development. Speaking at the Kenya School of Monetary Studies during a meeting

with representatives of 46 public and private research institutions, he highlighted the role of research in creating jobs, improving livelihoods, and driving evidence-based policymaking.

During the engagement, certificates were awarded to 13 newly registered institutions that were audited and recommended to NACOSTI. Professor Abdulrazak reminded stakeholders that operating without registration under the Science, Technology and Innovation Act, 2013 is illegal, underscoring the importance of compliance, ethical standards, and robust reporting to strengthen accountability and data-driven decision-making.

The Principal Secretary called for stronger collaboration through the

“Quadruple Helix Model,” linking government, academia, industry, and society, and urged institutions to leverage research clusters to share infrastructure, avoid duplication, and align with national priorities. He also announced the development of a National Research Master Plan to guide research investments, capacity building, and alignment with Vision 2030 and the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA).

Professor Abdulrazak concluded by stressing that Kenya has the potential to leapfrog into a knowledge-driven, first-world economy through research, innovation, and ethical excellence, urging stakeholders to embrace collaboration, mentorship, and resource mobilization to realize the nation's transformative goals.

By Joseph Mutua

2025 China-Africa Innovation Cooperation and Development Forum



PS Shaukat Abdulrazak delivering his keynote during the 2025 China-Africa Innovation Cooperation and Development Forum at the Wuhan, China

Wuhan, China – 20 November 2025: Kenya's Principal Secretary for the State Department of Science, Research and Innovation, Professor Shaukat Abdulrazak, led the Kenyan delegation at the 2025 China-Africa Innovation Cooperation and Development Forum in Wuhan. The forum, attended by 800 guests from 43 countries, focused on industrial cooperation, technological innovation, modern agriculture, public health, and sustainable development.

PS Abdulrazak delivered a keynote address on “China-Africa Science and Technology Cooperation for Sustainable Development,” emphasizing the need for a robust Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) ecosystem to address climate change, food security, and health challenges. He called for increasing Research and Development funding to at least 1% of GDP, promoting joint research programs, and accelerating commercialization through public-private partnerships.



Participants during 2025 China-Africa Innovation Cooperation and Development Forum

Highlighting Kenya's green technology initiatives, the PS shared best practices in renewable energy mini-grids, climate-smart precision agriculture, and circular economy approaches for reducing post-harvest losses. He also outlined next steps, including scaling pilot corridors coordinated by the Sino-Africa Joint Research Center (SAJOREC) and mobilizing blended finance for green technology commercialization.

During the forum, 39 cooperation agreements were signed, and 23 service platforms established, reinforcing China-Africa collaboration in innovation and sustainable development.

By Denis Yegon.



Professor Shaukat Abdulrazak, Principal Secretary for Science, Research and Innovation, welcomes Ms. Kumiko Tansho, Head of International Research Cooperation, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), accompanied by Dr. Yumi Yamane, Director JSPS Nairobi. The meeting was held for the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote closer scientific collaboration between Kenya and Japan, supporting joint research across the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences.



PS Shaukat during a Bilateral Meeting with Prof. WANG Qingfeng, Director of Wuhan Botanical Garden, CAS, Co-Director, SAJOREC; Prof. Yan Xue, Executive Director, SAJOREC at the Wuhan Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS).



(From left) Hon. Jared Kagwana, Chancellor, TUK; Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak, Principal Secretary, State Department for Science, Research and Innovation; Hon. Julius Migos Ogamba, Cabinet Secretary for Education; Dr. and Dr. Idle Omar Farah, Chairman of TUK at the TUK 14th Graduation Ceremony.



Professor Shaukat Abdulrazak, PS. Science, Research and Innovation alongside valued partners from the British High Commission in Kenya and British Council in Kenya after a productive collaborative meeting.



Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak, PS. Science, Research and Innovation welcomed Amb. Sultan Hajivey at his office where they held very fruitful discussions on partnership between Kenya & Azerbaijan especially in areas of Higher Education, Science and Technology. Emphasizing on creating a strong partnership in innovation ecosystem to address the challenges of the society.



Professor Shaukat Abdulrazak, PS. Science, Research and Innovation, with Chinese Ambassador to Kenya, H.E. Guo Haiyan, Egerton VC Prof. Isaac Kibwage, and NAU Vice President Dr. Wu Rongshun, touring facilities aimed at enhancing food safety, security, and sovereignty at Egerton University.



Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak, Principal Secretary, Science, Research and Innovation, welcomes the KYGN officials at his office. He was briefed on their activities in promoting peaceful uses of NST among the youth in Kenya.



Professor Shaukat Abdulrazak, Principal Secretary for Science, Research and Innovation with SCOKA officials at his office



Professor Shaukat Abdulrazak PS. Science, Research and Innovation joins participants for a group photo following his keynote address—the Prof. Karama Memorial Lecture—at the 7th KAMMP KENYA Conference.



Professor Shaukat Abdulrazak, PS for Science, Research and Innovation, receives an Award of Honor during the 7th KAMMP conference Scientific conference in Mombasa.



PS Shaukat pose for a picture with Kenya students in China during the visit to China.

COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

KeNIA and NEIL co-host two-week Entrepreneurial Leadership Training Programme (ELTP) – DVC Edition



Group Photo - Source- KeNIA

KeNIA in partnership with NEIL hosted a two-week Entrepreneurial Leadership Training Programme (ELTP) – DVC Edition brought together 11 Deputy Vice Chancellors from universities across Kenya for an engaging and practical learning experience designed to strengthen leadership for innovation and commercialisation within higher education institutions.

The training

Set the stage for entrepreneurial leadership, focusing on mapping the innovation ecosystem, forming long-term corporate partnerships, and mastering negotiation strategies; highlighting the need for ecosystem thinking, strategic collaboration, and advocacy for supportive national policies that enable entrepreneurial transformation in academia.

Delved into inclusion, innovation funding, and entrepreneurial leadership; exploring how to embed Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) in innovation processes and were challenged to adopt

sustainable funding strategies through alumni engagement, steering committees, and industry partnerships.

Focused on sustainability through commercialization, guiding DVCs on how universities can create new revenue streams from research and innovation, and champion collaborations and partnerships as a means for resource mobilisation

Across all sessions, a clear theme emerged — Kenya's universities must reimagine themselves as innovation-driven institutions that champion inclusivity, strengthen funding structures, and commercialize research for national growth.

Together, KeNIA and NEIL Africa continue to empower higher education leaders to drive this transformation and position universities at the heart of Kenya's innovation ecosystem.

By George Masila

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