

The  
**IUCEA**  
**NEWSLETTER**



# The IUCEA 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference concludes in Juba



IUCEA General Assembly elects  
New Members of the Governing  
Board (2024-2026)

EAC Scholarship  
beneficiaries receive their  
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# The IUCEA 15th Annual Meeting and Conference concludes in Juba



His Excellency Hussein Akol, the vice president of South Sudan, Hon. James Hoth Mai, Minister of Labour, Republic of South Sudan, IUCEA Executive Secretary, Prof. Banyankimbona, Undersecretary Ministry of East African Community affairs, Juba and Councils and Commissions representatives from EAC partner State on the 17th of July 2024 at Imperial Plaza, Juba-South Sudan.

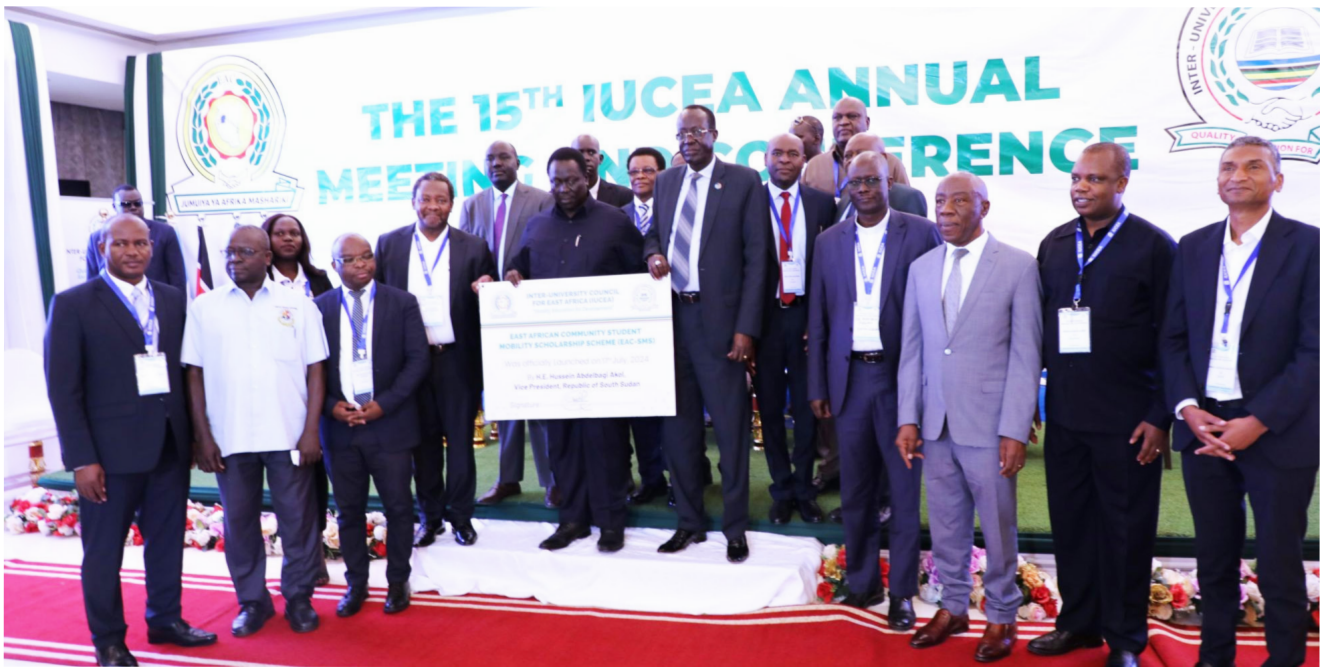
The event, which took place on July 17th-18th, 2024, brought together higher education managers, policymakers, and practitioners from the East African Community (EAC) and beyond. This year's event focused on higher education leadership and governance, essential for achieving the desired East African Community Common Higher Education Area. Discussions were held under the theme "Innovative Leadership and Governance

Approaches in Higher Education: Towards EAC Common Higher Education Area". The conference was attended by University Presidents, Provosts, Rectors, Directors, Director Generals, Vice-Chancellors, EAC government officials, education policymakers, industry representatives, researchers and scholars, higher education experts, innovators, and student representatives.

The Declaration of EAC as a

Common Higher Education Area by the 18th Ordinary Summit of Heads of State of the East African Community Partner States held on May 20, 2017, in Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania, was a significant milestone in transforming the higher education landscape in the region.

"University leaders should be able to innovate to deal with emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence," said Hussein



His Excellency Hussein Akol, the vice president of South Sudan, Hon. James Hoth Mai, Minister of Labour, Republic of South Sudan, IUCEA Executive Secretary, Prof. Banyankimbona and Vice Chancellors of Universities from IUCEA member Universities on the 17th of July 2024 at Imperial Plaza, Juba-South Sudan.

Abdelbagi Akol, Vice President of the Republic of South Sudan, who was the Chief Guest at the 15th IUCEA Annual Conference.

Additionally, the Deputy Secretary General of Customs, Trade, and Monetary Affairs, East African Community, Ms. Annette Mutaawe Ssemuwemba, recognized the role of IUCEA's staff and student mobility program in facilitating regional integration of EAC. "The IUCEA's Staff and Student Mobility Program has played a significant role in fostering regional integration among higher

education institutions in the EAC," said Annette M. Ssemuwemba.

While speaking during the 15th IUCEA Conference, the Deputy Chairperson of the IUCEA Executive Committee & Vice-Chancellor of Bishop Stuart University, Prof. John Mugisha, emphasized IUCEA's role in building the capacities of universities in EAC. "IUCEA has developed several capacity-building programs in leadership and governance to strengthen higher education institutions in the EAC region."

The Executive Secretary of the Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA), Prof. Gaspard Banyankimbona, also spoke at the conference, highlighting the important role of responsible leadership and innovative technology in shaping the future of higher education. "We must focus on ensuring accountable and responsible leadership and take advantage of emerging technologies to ensure good and all-encompassing governance in higher education institutions in EAC," said Prof. Banyankimbona.

# IUCEA General Assembly elects New Members of the Governing Board (2024-2026)



IUCEA Executive Secretary with the newly elected Executive Committee and the former Executive Committee members on the 18th of July 2024 at Imperial Plaza, Juba-South Sudan.

The 15th General Assembly of the Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA) has elected new members to the IUCEA Governing Board, with Prof. Robert Mayom, Vice Chancellor of the University of Juba, being elected as the Chairperson for the next two years (2024-2026).

During the Annual General Meeting held on 18th July 2024 in Juba, South Sudan, members of IUCEA mandated Prof. Robert Mayom as the chair of the Executive Committee, which is composed of

Vice Chancellors and representatives from member universities. This committee serves as the highest policy-making organ of the council.

The General Assembly, comprising Vice Chancellors, Principals from member universities, representatives of Ministries responsible for Higher Education, and representatives of the Private Sector from EAC Partner States, is the highest policy-making organ of IUCEA.

The IUCEA Governing



IUCEA Executive Secretary, Prof. Banyankimbona with the former Chair of the Executive Committee Prof. Calixte Kabera, newly elected Executive Committee Chair Prof. Robert Mayom, and Deputy Executive Secretary, Prof. Idris Rai on 18th of July 2024 in Imperial Plaza, Juba.

Board is tasked with providing oversight on all operations and activities of IUCEA to ensure the effective execution of its mandate.

The outgoing Executive Committee, led by Prof. Callixte Kabera, handed over its responsibilities to the new Executive Committee headed by Prof. Robert Mayom.

The following individuals were elected to the Executive Committee of the Inter-University Council for East Africa during the annual meeting in Juba, South Sudan. Over the next two years, these newly elected Committee members will lead and supervise the organization's day-to-day operations according to the governing council's directives. This significant development underscores the organization's commitment to fostering collaboration and driving progress within its ranks.

NO.	COUNTRY	NAME	INSTITUTION
1	RWANDA	MR. CHARLES KARAKYE	PERMANENT SECRETARY MINISTRY OF EDUCATION KIGALI – RWANDA
2		FR. DR. MUNANA GILBERT	VICE CHANCELLOR UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY AND ARTS OF BYUMBA REPUBLIC OF RWANDA
3		DR. DIDAS KAYIHURA MUGANGA	AG. VICE CHANCELLOR UNIVERSITY OF RWANDA KIGALI – RWANDA
4	BURUNDI	PROF. FREDERIC BANGIRINAMA	PERMANENT SECRETARY MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH BUJUMBURA-BURUNDI
5		PROF. AUDACE MANIRABONA	VICE CHANCELLOR UNIVERSITY OF BURUNDI BUJUMBURA-BURUNDI
6		DR. DAVID NIYONZIMA	VICE CHANCELLOR INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP UNIVERSITY BUJUMBURA-BURUNDI

7	UGANDA	MS. KATE LAMARO	PERMANENT SECRETARY MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SPORTS
8		PROF. PAUL WAAKO	VICE CHANCELLOR BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY TORORO – UGANDA
9		ASSOC. PROF. CLARKE ROSE NANYONGA	VICE CHANCELLOR CLARKE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY KAMPALA-UGANDA
10	TANZANIA	PROF. CAROLYNE IGNATIUS COMBO	PERMANENT SECRETARY MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DODOMA- TANZANIA
11		PROF. LUGHANO JEREMY KUSILUKA	VICE CHANCELLOR UNIVERSITY OF DODOMA TANZANIA
12		PROF. COSTA RICKY MUHALU	VICE CHANCELLOR ST. AUGUSTINE UNIVERSITY IN TANZANIA (SAUT)
13	KENYA	DR. BEATRICE MUGANDA INYANGALA	PRINCIPAL SECRETARY STATE DEPARTMENT FOR UNIVERSITY EDUCATION AND RESEARCH MINISTRY OF EDUCATION NAIROBI-KENYA
14		PROF. ENG. DOUGLAS SHITANDA	VICE CHANCELLOR SOUTHEASTERN KENYA UNIVERSITY KIRUI – KENYA
15		PROF. ISAIAH I.C WAKINDIKI	VICE CHANCELLOR KCA UNIVERSITY

16		DR. ADIL ATHANAZIOU SURUR	UNDER SECRETARY MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
	SOUTH SUDAN	FR. MATHEW PAGAN DANIEL PADIET	VICE CHANCELLOR CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF S. SUDAN JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN
17		PROF. ROBERT MAYOM KUOIROT DENG	VICE CHANCELLOR UNIVERSITY OF JUBA JUBA-SOUTH SUDAN
18		MR. PACIFICQUE ILOSYO IMONANO	SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL MINISTÈRE DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT SUPERIEURET UNIVERSITAIRE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO
19	DRC	PROF. KAYEMBE NTUMBA JEAN MARIE	RECTOR UNIVERSITÉ DE KINSHASA KINSHASA -DRC
20		PROF. JOSEPH WASSO MISONA	UNIVERSITE LIBRE DES PAYS DES GRANDS LACS GOMA – DRC
21.	SOMALIA	MR. HASSAN MOHAMED ALI	PERMANENT SECRETARY MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND HIGHER EDUCATION SOMALIA
22.		DR. NAJMA ABDIRISAK HUSSEIN	RECTOR UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES SOMALIA
23.		H.E VERONICA M. NDUVA	SECRETARY-GENERAL EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY ARUSHA – TANZANIA
24.		MR. ADRIAN RAPHAEL NJAU	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EAST AFRICAN BUSINESS COUNCIL ARUSHA-TANZANIA

# Consultation to establish PAQAA Concludes in Juba



IUCEA Executive Secretary, Prof. Banyankimbona, Secretary General of Association of African Universities (AAU) and a representative of OBREAL global on 19th of July 2024 at Imperia Plaza Hotel, Juba-south Sudan.

The Consultation of East African countries to establish a Pan African Quality Assurance and Accreditation Agency (PAQAA) concluded in Juba, South Sudan, on July 19th, 2024. This initiative falls under the Harmonization, Quality Assurance, and Accreditation in Africa (HAQAA3) framework, funded by the European Union Commission and coordinated by OBREAL Global in collaboration with the Association of African Universities (AAU), the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), and the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA). Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA) is a strategic

partner and a member of its Steering Committee.

The event aligns with the African Union's objective to form a Pan-African quality assurance agency as an overarching body for national and regional quality assurance systems in Africa.

The current discussions center on the potential governance structure of PAQAA and its functions. They build upon the four-step approach initiated in 2021 for the agency's creation, the phased implementation of its functions, and the prospective governing bodies.

The HAQAA3 will provide technical support for



Higher education representatives from Partner states of the East African Community (EAC) at the consultative meeting in Juba on the 19th of July 2024 at Imperial Plaza, Juba-South Sudan.

PAQAA's governance structure in 2024/25, focusing on further consultation and consensus building. The participants, key among them are PS and COEs of National Commissions and Councils for Higher Education, voiced their concern over the legal mandate of PAQAA to accredit national councils/commissions

and institutions in Africa. They noted that these national authorities have been established by respective national laws and therefore cannot be subjected to external accreditation. But the participants welcomed the idea of agency reviews and continental registration of all national regulatory agencies.

# EASTRIP Conducts Training to Ensure Accurate Data Collection



■ Participants during the training workshop in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA), the Regional Facilitation Unit for The East Africa Skills for Transformation and Regional Integration Project (EASTRIP) held a capacity-building workshop in preparation for the 5th round independent verification of EASTRIP results. The training, held in Addis Ababa from August 1st to 3rd, was facilitated by PriceWater Coopers (PwC), the Independent Verification Agent (IVA) for the project. It aimed to equip participants with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively collect and report data for the 5th round of Data on Learning

Indicators (DLIs)/Results (Rs) verification. Speaking at the opening session of the workshop, the Regional Project Coordinator for EASTRIP, Dr. Cosam Joseph, said: “This training is vital for ensuring the successful completion of the final verification phase. The training will provide tools and knowledge we need to collect accurate and reliable data, which is essential for demonstrating the project’s achievements.” The training focused on enhancing the participants’ understanding of data collection methodologies, data quality assurance, and reporting procedures.

Participants engaged in hands-on exercises and case studies, building their confidence and competence in conducting data collection activities that meet the stringent standards of the IVA. The successful completion of the verification process depends on the ability of the RFTIs to provide accurate and comprehensive data. The training provided the M&E officers and project coordinators with the confidence and expertise to meet this challenge.

By Godwin Bonge Muhwezi,  
Project Communication Officer  
for EASTRIP at IUCEA

# EAC Scholarship Beneficiaries Receive their Degrees

During the graduation ceremony on July 19th, 2024, at Kenyatta University in Kenya, three students sponsored through the EAC Scholarship Programme received their Master's degrees. The graduates included Samuel Hakizimana from Rwanda, who obtained a Master of Science in Entrepreneurship; Kipolelo Aziz Mohamed from Tanzania, who achieved a Master of Science in Applied Mathematics; and Nungula Emmanuely Zephahine, also from Tanzania, who earned a Master of Science in Integrated Soil Fertility Management.

**"I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the whole IUCEA and KfW for funding my studies. Without this fund, I could not have achieved this. This achievement is the fruit of your continuing effort to support students from poor families with the best academic achievement,"**

Samuel Hakizimana was part of the EAC Scholarship Programme (EACSP) 2nd cohort that started in 2021, while Kipolelo Aziz Mohamed and Nungula Emmanuely Zephahine were part of the 3rd cohort that commenced in 2022.

"I would like to express my deep and sincere gratitude to the Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA) for the invaluable financial support, love, encouragement, and endurance throughout my studies," said Mohamed.

"I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the whole IUCEA and KfW for funding my studies. Without this fund, I could not have achieved this. This achievement is the fruit of your continuing effort to support students from poor families with the best academic achievement," said Kipolelo.

Hakizimana also appreciated the EAC Scholarship Programme for supporting his education in a



■ Photos of EAC Students Aziz Mohamed Kipolelo & Emmanuely Zephahine Nungula who recently graduated in Kenya .



foreign country. "I wish you well and hope you have more programs to support poor families like me in accessing education," said Hakizimana.

The EAC Scholarship Programme is an initiative of the East African Community (EAC) and the Federal Republic of Germany. The project began in 2018 when the EAC Secretariat and Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA) signed a financing agreement with KfW (German Development Bank) geared towards the training of students within the EAC Region.

**This Project aims at creating future change agents, who identify themselves with the integration agenda of the EAC and are willing to share economic and development-oriented expert knowledge.**

This initiative aims at creating future change agents, who identify themselves with the integration agenda of the EAC and are willing to share economic and development-oriented expert knowledge.

This initiative aims to contribute towards training leaders that will foster the EAC Regional integration. This goal will be partly achieved through encouraging students to study in a country other than their own.

To achieve this and other objectives, the project offers a comprehensive package including scholarships for master's programmes, mentoring and networking events. The Programme focuses on i) Mathematics, ii) Engineering, iii) Informatics, iv) Science, v) Technology and vi) Business Science programmes.

# Ethiopia's commitment to sustainable transportation takes shape with EV training



■ FTVTI Director General, Dr. Brook Kedir (2nd Left) and Founder and CEO of EV Ethiopia, Mr. Yishak Kedir (2nd Right) during the signing of cooperation agreement.

The Federal Technical and Vocational Training Institute (FTVTI) in Ethiopia is promoting capacity building in electric vehicle (EV) technology. A group of trainers from FTVTI recently traveled to Xuchang Vocational Technical College in Henan, China, to participate in a capacity-building training programme in EV technology.

The 21-day comprehensive training programme included both theory and practice, aimed at equipping participants with the skills needed for the growing EV sector. Throughout

the training, participants gained hands-on experience in areas such as circuitry, high voltage safety, charging technology, battery management systems, drive motor control, powertrain structure, air conditioning, and heating systems.

Participants gained proficiency in tools, software, and techniques relevant to EV technology and honed their problem-solving abilities through practical applications. The collaborative nature of the program also fostered teamwork and mutual support.

As part of building its capacity in EV technology, FTVTI signed a memorandum of understanding EV Ethiopia, an Ethiopian company, focusing on training, research, and technology transfer in the field of electric vehicles.

Speaking after signing the agreement, FTVTI Director General, Dr. Brook Kedir, said the collaboration will play a crucial role in advancing Ethiopia's EV infrastructure and creating a skilled workforce capable of meeting the growing demand for electric vehicles. "There are many initiatives that we are working on

as an institution to respond to the growing demand of electric cars as a country,” Dr. Kedir said. The two institutions will work together to convert existing cars to electric vehicles, conduct training to fill skills gaps in the EV sector, establish smart automotive garages, and

increase capacity for installing and manufacturing electric cars. The Founder and CEO of EV Ethiopia, Mr. Yishak Kedir said the cooperation will change the way electric cars are produced in Ethiopia.

The two organisations are

expected to collaborate build relevant infrastructure and start producing electric cars within 18 months which reflects the country’s commitment to accelerate transition towards a greener future.

By FTVTI Team

## Meru National Polytechnic showcases latest agricultural innovation

The Meru National Polytechnic has established Giaki farm as a research and demonstration centre for agricultural production and innovation for both students and the community. The farm regularly hosts agricultural shows where locals and visitors witness the latest advancements in farming techniques. These events showcase sustainable practices, advanced crop management, and innovative solutions that address real-world challenges faced by farmers today. As part of these experiences, students have the opportunity to demonstrate their skills, engage with experts, and contribute to meaningful discussions on the future of agriculture. The farm is equipped with latest farm machinery and technology to facilitate



■ Instructors and students at Giaki Agricultural research and Demonstration Centre

practical skills training in modern agricultural practices. On the farm, students gain first hand practical application and hands-on experience that prepares them to excel in the agriculture field.

The agriculture and

environment curriculum is designed to foster creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills, and trainers focus on encouraging students to explore the vast possibilities within the agricultural sector. The hands-on training offered at the Giaki farm

ensures that our trainees are well-prepared to tackle the challenges of modern agriculture with confidence and competence.

By David Maingi, Communication Officer, National Polytechnic College.

# KenGen's Geothermal Training Centre to Enhance Regional Expertise in Clean Energy



■ A cross-section of the KenGen Geothermal Training Centre currently under construction in Naivasha, Kenya.

The Kenya Electricity Generating Company (KenGen) is on the verge of completing its state-of-the-art geothermal training centre, a facility poised to become the Regional Flagship TVET Institute (RFTI) in Geothermal Training. This new centre, located near KenGen's Olkaria geothermal power plants in Naivasha, Kenya is set to enhance the region's capacity for geothermal energy development, a crucial step towards sustainable energy solutions.

Under the East African Skills for Transformation and Regional Integration Project (EASTRIP) project, KenGen GTC was selected as the Regional Flagship TVET Institute for Skills Development

in the power and energy sector. EASTRIP is an initiative of the World Bank and African Governments to enhance technical and vocational education and training (TVET) in East Africa. The GTC focuses on geothermal energy, reflecting Kenya's leadership in this renewable energy sector.

The construction of the KenGen Geothermal Training Centre, which is approximately 75% complete, represents a significant investment in the future of renewable energy in Kenya and the broader East African region. The facility is designed to offer comprehensive training programs tailored to various aspects of geothermal energy, including

exploration, drilling, plant operation, and maintenance. The training centre boasts of modern classrooms, laboratories, and simulation rooms equipped with the latest technology. These facilities will provide hands-on training and practical experience to participants, ensuring they are well-prepared to tackle the challenges of geothermal energy production. Additionally, the centre includes accommodation for trainees, a library stocked with relevant literature, and spaces for conferences and workshops. These amenities are aimed at fostering a conducive learning environment and encouraging collaboration among energy

professionals from different countries.

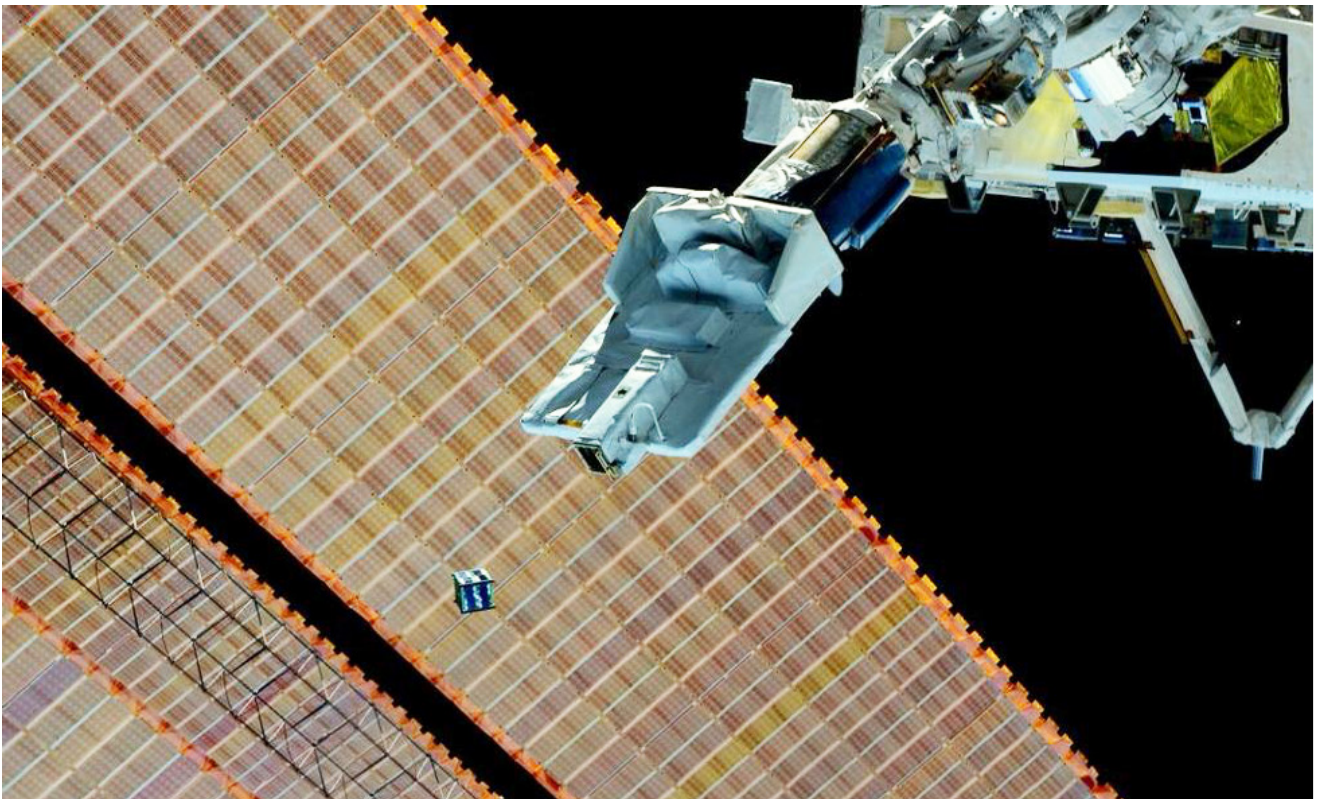
The KenGen Geothermal Training Centre (GTC) will significantly benefit the region by building local expertise in geothermal energy, reducing reliance on foreign experts, and creating job opportunities. It will foster

regional cooperation by hosting trainees from across East Africa, promoting knowledge sharing and collaboration. The Centre's focus on geothermal energy aligns with global sustainability goals, offering a reliable, eco-friendly alternative to fossil fuels. As the demand for clean and

sustainable energy sources continues to grow, the training centre will be instrumental in ensuring that the region has a skilled workforce capable of meeting future energy needs.

By Anne Sunkuyia, Senior Information Officer, KenGen Geothermal Training Centre.

## DIT advances space technology in Tanzania



■ Deployment of a CubeSat from the ISS. Photo: NASA/JAXA

The Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT) has been selected as a joint winner of the 8th round of the KiboCUBE programme, a collaboration

between the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA). It is a significant milestone as DIT strives

to become a Regional Flagship TVET institute in Information and Communication Technology.

In a press statement issued by the UNOOSA, the global body

notes that DIT, along with the Institut National Polytechnique Félix Houphouët Boigny (INP-HB) in Côte d'Ivoire, will deploy their own CubeSat from the International Space Station (ISS). According to the press release, it is the first time Tanzania

will deploy a satellite, further broadening the reach of space technology to emerging nations. The KiboCUBE programme has already been enabled in Kenya, Guatemala, Mauritius, Moldova, and Indonesia. The DIT Team is expected to use

CubeSat to track GPS boundary beacons in game reserves and gather environmental data through sensors. This is expected to contribute to biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation efforts.



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