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#### 01. INTRODUCTION



KEPSA Leadership Induction and Retreat on 4th August 2023

enya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) is the umbrella apex body of the private sector in Kenya. It brings together local and foreign business associations, federations, chambers of commerce, professional bodies, corporates including multinationals, large and medium-sized corporates, SMEs, and start-ups from all sectors of the economy, representing over 1 million businesses to enable them to speak with one voice when engaging Government, development partners, and other stakeholders on cross-cutting policy issues affecting private sector development and implements programs that ensure social economic development of the country.

KEPSA also supports businesses with opportunities for training, networking, financial linkages, mentorships & coaching, access to markets, value chains, and investment opportunities with many partners around the world. KEPSA serves as a federation of over 80 Associations and professional bodies including the Kenya Chapter of the ICC.

In the East African Community (EAC) region, KEPSA serves as the national focal point of the East African Business Council and engages closely with peer apex bodies to resolve any emerging business issues as well as to promote trade and investment

#### 02. KEPSA 2022 STRATEGIC FOCUS

In 2023, KEPSA progressed with the six (6) pillars identified in 2021 focusing on building back better in the new world order after the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. These pillars include:

- **1. Public-Private Dialogues**: focused on improving the business environment and global competitiveness
- 2. Policy & Thought Leadership: Focused on the 5 key export competitiveness drivers; White Paper on Export-oriented growth model; Data mining & analytics, archiving; Sectoral Analyses and Briefs
- **3. Consultancy & Technical Services**: Focused on consulting; Member Trainings; Market & Investment Preparedness; Business & Market Intelligence; Project Profiling and Bankability; Business Ethics
- **4. Members' Lounge**: focused on Membership Engagement, Deal Rooms and linkages, Networking, Events, B2Bs, Exclusive Benefits, Membership Retention; Refresh Value Proposition; BMO Development
- **5. KEPSA Global/International:** Focused on Deepening Global presence and Economic Diplomacy in key market destinations in Africa, North America, Europe, Asia etc. Establishing Partnerships with regional, international & multilateral institutions and business apex bodies
- **6. Programs/Projects:** Focused on Implementation of private sector projects & programs. Development and maintenance of partnerships





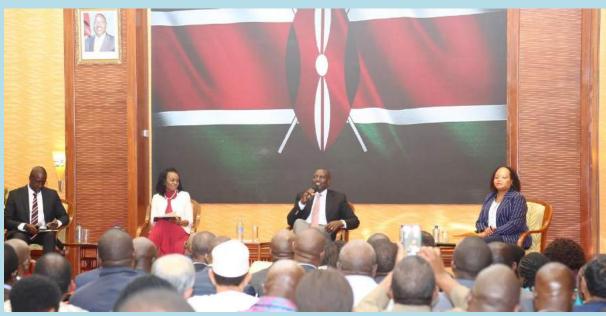








#### 03. 2022 PPD ACHIEVEMENTS



Presidential Economic Dialogue on Value Chains on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023

The KEPSA PPD department is the nerve centre of all KEPSA advocacy initiatives. Through the various PPD Platforms, KEPSA engages with all three arms of the Government of Kenya (Executive, Parliament, and Judiciary) to ensure that there is a favourable environment for doing business in Kenya.

To adequately engage with the Government, KEPSA is organized into various sector boards, which are the primary points of advocacy, at the sectoral level. All KEPSA members are expected to join and participate at least in one of the sector boards, or more as the need may arise. The sector boards operate interdependently, working to ensure that our advocacy work is in sync with our mandate, as the apex private sector body in Kenya.

#### **KEPSA Sector Boards**

The Sector Boards mirror the government of the day for ease of advocacy. The following were the sector boards in the year 2023.

- 1. Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries
- 2. Sports, Arts & Culture
- 3. Education
- 4. Environment, Water & Natural Resources
- 5. Health
- 6. Energy and Extractives Sector Board
- 7. Land, Physical Planning, Housing and Urban Development
- 8. Labour

- 9. ICT and Digital Economy
- 10. Security
- 11. Public Finance
- 12. Transport and Infrastructure
- 13. Trade Industry & Investments
- 14. Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affair
- 15. SME club

The following are the various PPD Platforms:

- 1. Ministerial Stakeholder Forums (MSFs)
- 2. Sector Board Engagements
- 3. Engagement with key state agencies
- 4. Regional Engagements

During the year, ten (10) Ministerial Stakeholder Forums (MSFs), seventy-nine (79) Sector Board Engagements, sixty (60) Engagements with key state agencies and four (4) Regional Engagements were held. All these resulted in major resolutions and decisions to cushion businesses, enhance competitiveness and improve the overall ease of doing business in Kenya.

# Summary of PPD engagements in 2023

PPD Forum	Number of meetings	
Ministerial Stakeholder Forums (MSFs)	10	
Sector Board Engagements	79	
Engagement with key state agencies	60	
Regional Engagements	4	
TOTAL	153	



Energy and Petroleum Ministerial Stakeholders Forum on 23rd February 2023

#### 01.1LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Over the years, we have seen a tremendous transformation in the quality of pieces of legislation as more and more Members of Parliament and County Assembly appreciate the nexus between legislation, business and society.

KEPSA has experienced a mutually beneficial partnership and received substantial support from Parliament, facilitated by the capable guidance of both the Speaker of the National Assembly and the Speaker of the Senate. We anticipate a productive and collaborative engagement throughout the tenure of the 13th Parliament.

The following laws were enacted in 2023 with KEPSA's input and participation:

	LAWS	IMPACT ON THE PRIVATE SECTOR	
	ENACTED		
1	Finance Act,	These amend laws on various taxes and duties, where we give proposals on	
	2023	reduction, re-classification and ideas on widening the tax pool to relieve	
		businesses from over-taxation and double taxation.	
2	The Climate	The Act provide for the regulation of carbon markets and a framework for carbon	
	Change	trading. This will ensure that the regulation of carbon markets is stamped in law	
	(Amendment)	and is part of Kenya's Climate Action initiatives.	
	Act, 2023		
3	The Primary	Private primary care providers may see reduced revenues and profits if more	
	Health Care	patients opt for the more affordable services in the public sector, which may be	
	Act, 2023	subsidized or fully funded by the government.	
4	The Facilities	With increased public/government funding for health facility improvement, private	
	Improvement	healthcare providers may face heightened competition. Public health facilities,	
	Financing	with their improved infrastructure and cheaper services, will draw more patients	
	Act, 2023	away from private healthcare providers.	
5	The Digital	This move away from paper-based storage and retrieval of medical information to	
	Health Act,	digital systems opens the opportunity for new ways of delivering care and a better	
	2023	understanding of the processes and outcomes of the health service. Digital health	
		systems streamline administrative processes such as appointment scheduling,	
		billing, and insurance claims. Digital health systems not only reduce paperwork	
		but also minimize errors, leading to cost savings for healthcare providers and	

		payers. Businesses can benefit from reduced administrative overhead and more efficient operations.
6	The Social	The proposed deductions and reforms will lead to increased business costs, high
	Health	cost of living and unrest in the labour sector.
	Insurance	
	Act, 2023	The mandatory matching contributions will affect all employers which will increase
		the cost of doing business. It will also lead to a heavy reduction in premiums, and
		commissions paid to private insurance agents and generally increase the level of
		unemployment, as employers may prefer casual or contractual employment
		contracts over permanent employment.



KEPSA Roundtable with the Senate Liaison Committee on 28th April 2023

KEPSA is actively involved in reviewing Bills that were previously in progress but lapsed with the conclusion of the 12th Parliament's term. These Bills have since been reintroduced in the 13th Parliament.;

- 1) The National Rating Bill (National Assembly Bills No. 10 of 2022)
- 2) The Start-Up Bill (Senate Bill No. 14 of 2022);
- 3) The Prompt Payment Bill (Senate Bills No. 8 of 2022); -The Bill negative at the second reading stage
- 4) The County Vocational Education and Training Bill (Senate Bills No. 3 of 2022)-The name of the Bill was changed to the Vocational Bill (Senate Bills No. 3 of 2022)
- 5) The County Licensing (Uniform Procedures) Bill (Senate Bills No. 9 of 2022);

- 6) The Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood) Bill (Senate Bills No. 41 of 2023);
- 7) The Mung Beans Bill (Senate Bill No. 13 of 2022)
- 8) The Community Health Services Bill 2023 (Senate Bill No. 24 of 2023)
- 9) The Natural Resources (Benefit Sharing) Bill 2022 (Senate Bills No. 6 of 2022;
- 10) The Public Procurement and Asset Disposal (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 62 of 2022);
- 11) The Parliamentary Powers and Privileges (Amendment) Bill (Senate Bills No. 37 of 2023)
- 12) The National Construction Authority (Amendment) Bill (NA Bill No. 59 of 2022);
- 13) The Employment (Amendment) Bill (Senate Bills No. 11 of 2022);
- 14) The Public Finance Management (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 38 of 2022);
- 15) The Land Control Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 39 of 2023);
- 16) The Higher Education Loans Board (Amendment) Bill, 2023
- 17) The Coffee Bill (Senate Bills No. 10 of 2023)

KEPSA is actively engaged in monitoring the progression of the following newly introduced bills in parliament.

- 1) The Energy (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (Senate Bills No. 42 of 2023)
- 2) The Tea (Amendment) Bill (Senate Bills No. 1 of 2023)
- 3) The Agricultural and Livestock Extension Services Bill (Senate Bills No. 12 of 2022)
- 4) The Real Estate Regulation Bill, 2023 (Senate Bills No. 35 of 2022)
- 5) The Mining (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (National Assembly Bill No. 51 of 2023)

# KEPSA engaged on the below Bills which failed to proceed for the reasons below stated:

- 1. The Prompt Payment Bill (Senate Bills No. 8 of 2022)
- 2. The Konza Technopolis Bill (Senate Bills No. 2 of 2023)

#### **DRAFT BILLS**

KEPSA took part by providing input to the draft Environment and Lands Court Act (Amendment) Bill 2023 that had been developed by the leadership of the Environment and Lands Court before tabling in Parliament.

## **REGULATIONS/GUIDELINES**

KEPSA consistently advocated for the enactment of the Sustainable Waste Management Act and actively contributed to shaping the draft Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) implementation guidelines and regulations pertinent to the private sector. Notably, KEPSA's involvement was prominent in the consultation workshop dedicated to the formulation of the EPR implementation guidelines.

Following the enactment of the Climate Change (Amendment) Act 2022, KEPSA engaged in the consultation workshop convened by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry for the draft Climate Change (Carbon Market) Regulations 2023. This active participation reflects KEPSA's commitment to contributing insights and perspectives within the regulatory framework aimed at addressing climate-related concerns.

#### **01.2SECTOR BOARD ACHIEVEMENTS**

# a) Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries



The 3rd National Agriculture Summit on 4th July 2023

# **Key achievements**

- 1. EABC in collaboration with KEPSA and ASNET organized a National training on Contract Farming & EAC Export procedures on August 22, 2023, where A cohort of 35 participants was upskilled on best practices of Contract Farming across Agri-Value Chains, Producers' proficiency was fortified on both technical and contractual fronts, positioning them favourably within the industry and the groundwork for a regulatory framework conducive to the smooth operation of contract farming activities was laid.
- 2. Water Resource Regulations, 2021 and Water Amendment Bill, 2023. ASNET has appeared in Public Participation For a both in Nakuru and Machakos, to submit recommendations on Water Resources Regulations, 2023. ASNET recommended Kes 2, not Kes 5 for a cubic meter of Domestic, Public and Livestock water extraction and Kes 0.75 and Kes 1 for less than 300 cubic metres and greater than 300 cubic metres for irrigation respectively. ASNET also made recommendations for the issuance and renewal of water extraction permits
- 3. In 2023 ASNET has constituted County ASNET Boards in T/Nithi, Vihiga, T/Nzoia and Kisumu. The launch for Kisumu and Vihiga Boards took place on 16th November in Kisumu. Each County has offices with a Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee Members. The Counties are currently drafting their respective constitutions, Strategic Plans, TORs and recruiting more members. On 16th November, ASNET held the Western Region Agriculture Summit and Expo in Kisumu.
- 4. Representatives of 17-member BMOs have been trained on Policy problem identification and Definition, Data Collection and Research Methods, Policy Analysis Tools and Techniques, Policy implementation and Review, Policy Advocacy and Influence etc. in a 3-day workshop. Since Dec 2022, ASNET has been running trains for members on incorporating Digital and Greentech solutions in Businesses. Topics such as Solar Drying, irrigation, agrivoltaics, international trade, and finance were covered. 33-45 Participants turned up for every training.
- 5. ASNET has developed a road map for advocacy on Agriculture Produce Cess and Other Market Levies. All previous works on APC have been Consolidated and a joint Position Paper developed.
  - ⇒ 50 affected BMOs are on boarded

- ⇒ Legal experts from ASNET, PETS, CoG, IGTRC, MoALD, Trade, Treasury working on the legal framework for Cess administration
- ⇒ High-level Consultative forum scheduled for November 2023
- 6. Technical Barriers to Trade workshop (TBT)- Convened by the State Department for Trade under the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry for the WTO TBT Committee in which ASNET is a member. Participants were exposed to Trade Regulations, development of annual workplan for TBT Committee, Discussion of specific trade concerns, Development of the National Position on WTO TBT Concerns, for onward transmission to Geneva, etc.

# b) Sports, Arts & Culture

The Sector Board participated in the Creative and Cultural Industries (CCI) Workshop in Lagos Nigeria Between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2023 and drafted the comprehensive CCI roadmap for 3 pilot countries- Nigeria, Kenya and South Africa. The roadmap aims to stimulate growth and position the Sector for Opportunities under the AfCFTA.

## c) Education



World Youth Skills Day on 14th July 2023

The Education Sector Board is an enabler of business and trade in providing skills and competencies for competitiveness and sustainable development. The sector boards focus is in the three elements of education namely; BASIC, TVET and University Education. In the year the Education Sector Board has set the goal of Improving public policy, sector governance and regulatory frameworks for development, increased investment and service delivery in the sector. Towards these goals the following are the achievements of the Sector Board thus far:

- 1. Validation of the RPL policy and the National Policy on Co-operative Training (Dual Training).
- 2. KEPSA's recommendations to the Presidential Working Party on Education Reform were adopted as follows:
  - ⇒ Training of Trainers: The Ministry of Education will establish: (i) Kenya School of Teacher and Education Management (KeSTEM) to coordinate In-service training; and (ii) Kenya Teacher Training College (KeTTC) to undertake administration of all Pre-service Teacher Training.
  - ⇒ Resolution of Overlapping Mandate: To resolve the overlapping mandate in Quality Assurance and Standards function in Basic Education, Quality Assurance and Standards functions at TSC will be transferred to the Ministry of Education. In addition, the Directorate of Quality Assurance and Standards at the State Department of Basic Education will be strengthened.
  - ⇒ Domiciling of JSS in primary schools: Ministry of Education shall adopt a Comprehensive School system (PP1 Grade 9) comprising Pre-Primary, Primary school and Junior School managed as one institution. The term "Secondary" be dropped from the current Junior Secondary and Senior Secondary School.
  - ⇒ NEMIS System: Education Management Information System (EMIS) will be renamed to Kenya Education Management Information System (KEMIS). The Ministry of Education in collaboration with the Ministry of Interior and National Administration will integrate registration of births to capture students in tertiary and vocational institutions as well as school-age learners who are out of school.
- 3. In partnership with the State Department for Labour and Skills Development, the sector board has participated in the development of the Kenya Skills Hub- a proposal fronted during the World Youth Skills Day. The hub is a one-stop shop which enables young people to access job opportunities (local and international), free upskilling courses, career guidance services, funding opportunities and loan facilities among others.

#### d) Environment



Africa Climate Summit Opening Ceremony on 4th September 2023

#### **Achievements**

1. The sector board has championed the implementation of the Sustainable Waste Management Act 2022, and supported in development of model legislation for counties on sustainable waste

- management which customizes the Sustainable Waste Management Act 2022 and the draft Extended Producer Responsibility Regulations 2023.
- 2. The sector board has championed the extended producer responsibility (EPR) which is currently being rolled out as a regulation to implement the Sustainable Management Act and which requires producers to be responsible for the products they introduce into the market to the end of life and the consumers to segregate their waste at source.
- 3. The Africa Climate Summit-The sector board actively participated in organizing and executing the Africa Climate Summit/Africa Climate Week which called for urgent climate action and a new financing mechanism to restructure Africa's debt, aiming to promote sustainable development and global decarbonization. The resulting Nairobi Declaration will guide Africa's stance in future climate negotiations. The SB also organized a High-Level Private Sector Post ACS- Pre- COP 28 Summit, on 22nd November 2023, ahead of the 28th Conference of the Parties (COP 28).
- 4. The Sector Board Contributed to the Plastics Treaty Negotiations by giving input and participating in the negotiation process during the Third Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) on Global Plastics Treaty which took place in Kenya between the 13th and the 19th of November 2023 at United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Headquarters in Nairobi.

# CLIMATE BUSINESS INFORMATION NETWORK – KENYA (CBIN-K)

CBIN-K was established as a designated platform to support private sector members to integrate climate and nature-related considerations in their business models in line with the Paris Agreement and Kenya's Green Growth Strategy and Implementation Strategy. Year 2023, has seen more focus on climate change and green growth both for the country, the private sector and the globe. The following is the outlook of key achievements under CBIN-K key pillars for the year 2023:



High-Level Post ACS - Pre COP28 Private Sector Summit on 22nd November 2023

# Major Achievements in Six Key Pillars of CBIN-K

(I) Technical Support: for Adaptation, Mitigation and Green Growth

- (i) The launch of the National Climate Change Action Plan III ( 2023 2027) As members of national coordinating committee, We supported government to develop the National Climate Change Action Plan III ( 2023 2027) and the respective supportive Mitigation Technical Analysis Report, and Adaptation Technical Analysis Report that acknowledges the role of private sector as key actors and implementors of climate change solutions in the third phase in particular mapping of emissions, investing in carbon credits, innovation of technology, circular economy and enhanced adaptation solutions.
- (ii) KEPSA Chair of Environment Sector Board nominated as a member of the National Climate Change Council in line with the National Climate Change Act 2016.
- (iii) As part of National Experts, contributed knowledge expertise to the development of Kenya's National Green Growth Index that highlights the country's strengths in planning and budgeting for a green economy. Kenya scores a moderate index score of 47.95, with the highest score in natural capital protection at 58.16, and the lowest in score of exploitation of Green Economic Opportunities at 26.62. Kenya is the second country after Zambia to develop a national green growth index.
- (iv) Provided technical expertise to government to develop the National Landscape and Restoration Strategy towards the 15 billion tree cover.
  - a) Private sector has designated implementation items as an integral part of the national plan.
  - b) KEPSA is part of the national steering committee of the Landscape restoration strategy.
  - c) Supported coordination of private sector tree growing on the Green Holiday on 13th November 2023.
- (v) Provided technical expertise to the development of Green Fiscal Incentives Policy Framework as part of the National Treasury and Economic Planning Taskforce members, The Policy framework that seeks to provide a coordinated mechanism for providing incentives for climate and green growth solutions as well as spur private sector investments in environmentally friendly goods and services. The policy is currently under consideration at the Cabinet level.
- (vi) Collaborated with UNEP in organizing private sector consultation forums and creating awareness of the global plastics treaty and how to position private sector in the Third Intergovernmental Negotiations Committee (INC) that took place in Nairobi Gigiri from 13th 19th November 2023. Provided technical expertise in development of Kenya's submissions. Kenya took a firm position on the need for mandatory Extended Producer Responsibility at the Third INC.
- (vii) Participated and contributed knowledge for the Development of Kenya's GCF Country Strategy. Three CBIN-K concepts incorporated as part of Kenya GCF Country Strategy project pipeline: Strengthening sustainable agricultural value chains; Commercialization and Sustainable Waste Management that could unlock more than 200 million USD in climate finance for the private sector.

## (II) Climate Reporting and Sustainability

- (i) We had over 10 more companies reporting their progress in 2028 2022 which lead to more recognition of the role of private sector in implementation of climate change in Kenya.
- (ii) Launch of the Taskforce for Nature Related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) Framework- Kenya Consultation Forum on 6th November 2023. KEPSA will cohost the platform alongside KBA to support banks and other non-banking organizations to adopt the framework that integrates

- nature considerations in climate finance and business operations. Kenya became first African country to launch the platform after it was launched in New York.
- (iii) In collaboration with UNEP organized the inaugural Business Climate Champions Award to recognize private sector entities and organizations that have had distinguished strategies, structures and budgets for implementation nature and climate change interventions. Winners included umbrella body leading climate change transitions KEPSA (Gold Award); Safaricom PLC (Corporate) Kenya Bankers of Association (Association Award); ILRI (Research) and Timao (SME Award).
- (iv) CBIN-K was mentioned by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) on its website as part of the Kenya success story in the implementation of climate implementation readiness interventions.



Africa Climate Summit High-Level CEO Roundtable on 31st July 2023

#### (III) Capacity Building, Awareness and Information dissemination

- (i) In partnership with the State Department of Forestry and Intellecap, Organized Webinar on Carbon Trading to support members in understanding how to engage in carbon trading. Provided an opportunity to partner with more stakeholders in climate change matters.
- (ii) Private sector lead associations undertook training on REDD+ training workshop and further secured partnership with Conservation International to train KEPSA environment sector board members on Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and REDD+ (Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation).
- (iii) Partnership with the World Bank in the development of a carbon trading tool kit for the private sector in providing a knowledge tool that provides the global and national frameworks for carbon training, the opportunities, process and dynamics of implementing in carbon markets.
- (iv) In partnership with the National Treasury and Economic Planning and FSD Kenya organized a Virtual Climate Finance for Green Growth aiming at supporting the private sector in refining climate change recommendations, building capabilities, and fostering climate investment opportunities ahead of the Africa Climate Summit.

# (IV) Public - Policy on Climate Change



Presentation of KEPSA Memorandum on Climate Change Amendment Bill 2023 to Parliament on 21st August 2023

- (i) Presented climate change memorandum of amendments to the Climate Change 2023 amendment bill to the National Assembly Environment Forestry and Mining and the Senate Department of Land, Environment and Natural Resources. We recommended key definitions to be reviewed in the amendment especially the provision of products for offsetting emissions and not just consider projects-based approach only in the legal framework the definition amendments were incorporated. The Climate Change Amendment Act 2023 for Carbon Trading was enacted on 1st September 2023 and came into effect on 15th September 2023.
- (ii) Currently regulations are under development and we submitted a memorandum to support the development of a predictable environment for carbon trading in Kenya.
- (iii) Engaged with P.S. foreign affairs on Private Sector participation at the ACS through the Non-State Actors in Climate Change. Positioned the role of private sector in climate finance leading to provision of local private sector participation at the ACS. Resulted in further collaboration in organization of the Post ACS- Pre-CoP 28 Private Sector Summit.
- (iv) Kenya is under review to receive a Resilience and Sustainability Trust facility under the World Bank. The private sector role is recognized in the design and will play a key role including driving doing business reforms if approved.

# (V) Regional and International Engagements for Green Growth and Climate

Climate change and green agenda are both national and regional agenda and international agenda. Local and global connections are critical for sharing learning, strengthening and replicating green business models. In the year 2023, KEPSA set the objective to take this engagement to the regional and international forums in order to amplify the role of private sector in climate action and lead the regional collaboration with African countries in positioning the African Private Sector in climate engagements goings forward at continental level. The following major achievements were realized:

 Africa Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN): KEPSA represented by Chair Environment Water and Natural Resources, Ms Emily Waita and Safaricom Mr Mokaya attended the 19th Africa Ministerial Conference on Environment in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 17th August 2023. The conference aimed to address policies for building robust economies, attracting private investment, and achieving Sustainable Development Goals. KEPSA made input to the session themed," Spearheading Africa's green technology and investment revolution toward new gamechanging, cross-sector partnerships for Africa," and shared some transformations green structural transformation required in Africa and called for the need for regional collaboration of the private sector in spearheading Africa's green technology and investment revolution. Decisions from the conference form Africa's common negotiating positions at the UN Environment Assembly.

- (i) Global Strategy for Big Data Revolution for the Planet: Represented by CBIN-K- KEPSA participated in "The Data for the Environment Alliance", a high-level Experts Meeting, facilitated by the United Nations Science Policy Business Forum (UNSPBF): Development of Global Strategy on the Big Data Revolution for the Planet" from September 11-13, 2023. The group's work supports the UNEA Ministerial Declaration of 2019, which calls for the design of a global environmental data strategy by 2025. KEPSA highlighted the role of the private sector in sustainability reporting and the need to ensure a balance between competitive business data confidentiality and evidence-based decisions for environmental sustainability.
- (ii) Switch Green Africa Regional Engagement; KEPSA participated in the Switch Green Africa Regional Engagement took place in Mauritius and focused on Sharing lessons and experiences, building synergies and working towards complementarity. The Forum developed and released the Africa Regional Forum communique on green growth and circular economy that highlights the insights into the trends and needs for transitional framework to green growth in Africa. The Africa circular economy guidelines were also released. The Switch Green Africa Project impacted over 12,000 jobs in Africa and accelerated transition to circular economy in Africa.
- (iii) **P4G Summit:** KEPSA as a Co-Chair of the Kenya National Platform on Partnering for Green Growth and Global Goals (P4G); presented the role of national platforms in localization locally led market-based solutions for climate during the third P4G Summit that took place in Bogota- Colombia on 22nd -23rd September 2023. The summit brought together representatives from 24 countries. KEPSA Chair Mr Jas Bedi is a member of the Global Advisory Council represented KEPSA as a judge for partnerships that pitched solutions for green growth. He also called for need for institutionalized framework for the platform. The governments of Denmark, the Netherlands and the Republic of Korea, and the World Resources Institute, announced their commitment to support P4G for five more years as it is a critically needed instrument to accelerate climate finance and support in-country transitions in food, water, and energy systems in P4G countries.
- (iv) **National Platforms Gathering:** Kenya represented by KEPSA, the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry also participated in the National Platforms Gathering on 21st September and shared her progress and experience in implementing partnership-oriented market solutions. Kenya has in total nurtured and accelerated a total of 24 partnerships under the P4G since inception in 2018 in food, water, energy, e-mobility and circular economy. All P4G's partner countries showcased over 60 innovative partnerships working on a diverse array of climate solutions such as clean energy systems, sustainable land use practices, and the development of resilient infrastructure.
- (v) Strategic Sector Co-operation between Kenya and Denmark (SSC)- KEPSA as a member of the Strategic Sector Co-operation (SSC) participated in the various partnerships' forums presented by SSC including the delivery of the First Loop Forum organized in collaboration with Denmark and the Kenya Association of Manufacturers. The First Loop Forum took place in February 2023 and brought together diverse stakeholders to share progress of adopting circular economy in Kenya and in the

- region while sharing best practices from the Global North.
- (vi) Green Growth and Circular Economy Training: Five staff trained in Denmark on green and circular economy to enhance KEPSA's capacity to engage with understanding the green agenda. Namely: Extended Producer Responsibility Leadership and dynamics: Green Growth and Circular Economy and Three more staff nominated to undertake training in organizational change management, responsive project management and Data and digital technology as enablers for environmentally sustainable societies

# (VI) KEPSA at the Inaugural Africa Climate Summit

- ⇒ Guided members and Coordinated development of private sector concept notes for side events for the Africa Climate Week and the Africa Climate Summit by CBIN-K members and the wider private sector members involved in climate change. Over 70 members engaged in the process that saw the submission of 35 concept note to the Africa Climate and over 20 concept notes for the Africa Climate Summit.
- ⇒ Organized a high-level CEOs Africa Climate Summit forum on Building Resilience and Green Growth on 31st July 2023 in collaboration with United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) Ministry of Investment Trade and Industry (MITI) and AGRA (Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa. The session attended by over 150 high level CEOs and top management representatives of private sector was graced by the Ms. Elisabeth Mrema, UN Assistant Secretary General, Deputy Executive Director UNEP; Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Environment Climate Change and Forestry, Hon Soipan Tuya and P.S Alfred Kombudo outcome was," Private Sector Communiqué on Building Climate Action for Resilience and Green Growth Towards the Nairobi Declaration for the Africa Climate Summit 2023. The communique outlined private sector priorities including new financial mechanisms, green and circular economy, and transparency in carbon markets and prices, among others.
- ⇒ The Inaugural Africa Climate Summit (ACS) took place 4th 6th September 2023 that was themed "Driving Green Growth and Climate Finance for Africa and the World". The Summit brought together heads of states and governments, the private sector, civil society, youth, women indigenous people among others to deliberate on a common position for Africa ahead of COP28. KEPSA was a member of the ACS technical committee of the summit leading the green industrialization and manufacturing and circular economy pillar. We achieved the following at the Summit:
- ⇒ The KEPSA CEO presented at the Presidential Session- under the First Lady Pavilion Session on," Sustainable Consumption and Investments," and the ACS Ministerial Session on the role of KEPSA in driving green energy for low carbon economies,"
- ⇒ We developed and delivered four main events for the Africa Climate Summit under the green minerals and manufacturing pillar.
- ⇒ Green manufacturing and trade session namely: Unlocking Green Manufacturing Potential Towards a Low Carbon development; moderated by KEPSA and graced by P.S of Trade Mr Alfred Kombudo, KAM CEO Mr Anthony Mwangi, AfDB, Mr Green among others.
- ⇒ Bio-Circular Economy session themed Bio-circular Economy for: transforming pathways to sustainability and climate resilience; Moderated by Alliance for Circular Economy and panellists included KEPSA
- ⇒ Net Zero Commitments for African Corporates: moderated by and panellists included Airtel Africa, EABL, NSE, Africa Business Council.
- ⇒ Leveraging the African Continental Free Trade Area to Promote Green Investments and Sustainable Trade in Africa in collaboration with In-Trade Africa and the AU.

- ⇒ We had a total of eight Side events under the Kenya Pavilion that included showcasing progress on EPR implementation in Kenya, Carbon Markets, Green Financing, Launch of P4G phase 2 by the Kenya National Platform, Circular economy in Driving Resilience in partnership with NEMA, Greening the Financial Sector, Ending the Open Burning, Climate SMART Agriculture.
- ⇒ Supported our members to secure side events slots at the Kenya House under the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry during the Africa Climate Summit. They covered carbon markets, extended producer responsibility, carbon market tools and renewable energy, and Net Zero Commitments for African countries. The Members included KAM, Intellecap, Rotary Club, PAKRO, Mr Green, EABL, Airtel, and NSE among others.
- ⇒ We had a total of four Side Events at the Africa Climate Week in collaboration with partners and members covering the following themes: climate change and health nexus, climate change and nature, advancing of financial flows to spur green investments, and livelihoods and decent jobs for a just transition.
- ⇒ The Nairobi Leaders Declaration and Call to Action in Driving on Green Growth and Climate Finance Solutions for Africa and World declared on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023, which was later adopted as African Countries position to COP 28 at UNGA in New York, adopted some of the private sector communique recommendations which include:
- ⇒ Development of policies, investments for attracting local, regional and global investments in green and circular economy;
- ⇒ strengthening of continental collaboration in advancing green growth;
- ⇒ Putting in place de-risking measures for private sector capital,
- ⇒ promoting investments for reskilling to unlock human capital potential for the green transition among others.

## (VII) KEPSA at COP 28 (Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC – 28th Session)



Ms Faith Ngige, Climate Business Information Network Coordinator speaking on behalf of KEPSA at a high-level side event during the COP 28 in Dubai.

KEPSA was actively involved in the planning (Road Map to COP 28) and the in-person participation at COP 28. COP 28 provided for a dedicated day on Inaugural Trade and Finance and also had a dedicated pavilion on the private sector and trade agenda under the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) WTO and UNCTAD Trade House. KEPSA coordinated private sector submission of concepts for side events at the Kenya Pavilion. The following are the key achievements of private sector as led by KEPSA before and during COP 28:

- ⇒ Organized the Private Sector Post ACS- Pre COP-28 Summit in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, GIZ and UNEP on 22nd November 2023 at Safari Park. The Pre-COP 28 session was graced by the Principal Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dr Abraham Singoei, CEO Office of the First Lady Dr John Chumo, Head of Country Programs-UNEP Africa Office, Dr Cyrille Lazare and KEPSA CEO. The Pre-Summit meeting reviewed the status of the adoption of Private Sector recommendations in the Nairobi Declaration and Call to action as well as aligned the Africa Private Sector Statement of Commitment to climate action with COP 28 thematic areas. The press release of the Pre-Summit Private Sector Commitment to Climate Action was covered by several local and international media.
- ⇒ **KEPSA at COP 28**: KEPSA, in collaboration with the African Climate Foundation, UNEP, and Africa Business Council, led the Africa Private Sector Commitment to Climate Action and Green Industrialization by signing a statement at COP 28 in Dubai affirming the Africa Private Sector's commitment to scaling up climate action pathways for resilience and green industrialization. A statement signed by more than 20 private sector entities across Africa. The high-level side event at the Africa Union Pavilion brought together umbrella private sector associations from South Africa, Egypt, Nigeria and Kenya and was moderated by Kenya's Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs.
- ⇒ **Side Events at Kenya Pavilion:** Through KEPSA Coordination, a total of 10 side events session at the blue zone, was allocated to Kenya's Private Sector in order to showcase our contribution to climate action and lessons learnt for both adaptation and mitigation outcomes at the Kenya Pavilion as follows:
  - (i) Climate Data, Sustainability Reporting, and the Nexus with ESG Linked Financing in Africa by the UN Global Compact Network Kenya
  - (ii) Leveraging the power of innovation and digital technologies to catalyse climate solutions for sustainable communities by Safaricom. CBIN-K was a panellist in the session sharing insights on the role of KEPSA in driving public-private partnerships' in carbon trading.
  - (iii) Design for Environment Creating Sustainable Plastic Packaging to Reduce Carbon Footprint" by PAKPRO: CBIN-K and SIB-K were panellists sharing various insights on the role of extended producer responsibility consumer education. in climate action and
  - (iv) The Just Transition: How Key Stakeholders Can Support the Path to Green, Resilient and Low Carbon Cities in Africa" by Kenya Green Building Society- KGBS.
  - (v) Showcasing Kenya's Long-Term Low Emissions and Development Strategy and the Third National Climate Change Action Plan (2023-2027): whole of government, whole of society approach. KEPSA was a panellist and shared how the private sector was involved in the development and implementation of climate policies and plans.
  - (vi) The role of local governments in raising climate, carbon and sustainable finance and partnerships for cities with a focus on housing and supporting infrastructure by Kenya Green Building Society Kenya Green Building Society KGBS
  - (vii) Africa Recovery and Resilience Plan Social and economic transformation plan for Africa by Equity Group Holdings.
  - (viii) The new wave: Digitally enabled climate finance in Africa by Airtel Africa, GSMA, KCIC Ltd.
  - (ix) Strengthening Resilience Kenya's Path to Youth-Led, Sustainable Food Systems

- towards a Low Carbon Development Pathway in Africa by Food and Land Use Coalition
  (x) Accelerating Access to Clean Cooking: The Imperatives by BURN Manufacturing and
  Ministry of Energy and Petroleum.
- ⇒ Partner Events at COP28: Participated and shared private sector and Kenya perspective as panellist in three partner events: Circularity in the field at the Rotary Pavilion- Shared Kenya's journey in transitioning from linear economy to circular economy and in particular adoption of extended producer responsibility- role of legal frameworks and at the UCLGA Pavilion showcasing the potential and challenges of private sector involvement in adaptation finance and opportunities for incentives and scaling up investments in adaptation. At the Nigeria Pavilion, shared some of the COP 28 takeaways' and how we private sector can take advantage and invest in them going forward.
- ⇒ Inaugural Trade Day on 4th December 2023: COP 28 for the first time dedicated a Trade Day to amplify the nexus between trade and climate change. The main host of the day was ICC, UNCTAD and WTO at the Trade House. KEPSA participated in two key side events at the Trade House as follows:
  - Trade for People, Planet and Prosperity a session that highlighted some of the barriers companies face in implementing climate change and the Paris Agreement and the changes required at a global scale with respect to energy usage, production infrastructure, and waste management among others.
  - Leveraging sustainable trade and finance to create a sustainable future for all that
    emphasized the importance of global trade for sustainable economies, as it provides
    solutions for adaptation and mitigation. Trade policy directly impacts global supply
    chains, impacting market dynamics. It is crucial for accelerating climate action and
    decarbonization measures, as trade and supply chains contribute to emissions.
  - Shaping international trade and global value chains for MSMES in climate action: The
    session reviewed the role of MSMEs which are mostly agile and flexible than big
    corporates in adapting but lack support and tools for climate mitigation and adaptation.
    It is important to optimize supply chains both upstream and downstream through
    consolidation, leveraging Artificial intelligence on performance metrics and carbon
    reduction, digitization of operations and climate finance support.
  - The Inaugural Trade Day saw the Launch of Principles of Sustainable Trade Wave 2 overview by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) which is aimed at supporting corporates, trade banks, technology players, etc. to increase the role of global trade in helping businesses meet the Paris agreement of limiting the global temperatures increase to 1.50 C above pre-industrial level and to encourage production of sustainable goods through increased access to financing and sustainable trade.

KEPSA and Partnering for Green Growth and Global Goals (P4G) at COP 28



- i. **Kenya National P4G Platform**: KEPSA led the development and delivery of P4G's Kenya National Platform hosted on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023 at the Kenya Pavilion, on "Transforming Economies through Green Business Models and Climate Entrepreneurship, "where the P4G representatives from Kenya, South Africa, The Global Hub, Bangladesh, discussed the importance of P4G National Platforms in localizing climate solutions and driving policy and regulatory reforms to catalyse green market development. Sebastian Groh, SOLShare's Managing Director, highlighted the P4G partnership's value in financing green innovations, while Shameela Soobramoney, CEO of the National Business Initiative in South Africa, emphasized the need for distributive justice in climate solutions.
- ii. Denmark: On 2nd December 2023 at the Denmark Pavilion, P4G discussed promoting climate finance to entrepreneurs at an event hosted by Denmark's State of Green. The panel session included Kenyan National Treasury Secretary Chris Kiptoo, who highlighted that Kenya had developed the green fiscal incentives but still faces a gap in resources and capacity, making P4G's support to mobilize private sector investment in Kenya essential. Panellists highlighted the importance of P4G partnerships and SMEs' risk management.
- iii. South Africa P4G Platform: Side event on 3rd December 2023 focused on, "Unlocking Innovative Inclusive Financing to Support the Africa Agricultural Sector". P4G Supports Climate-Smart Agriculture start-ups by providing early state financing, enabling them to overcome the valley of death phase, and fostering secure climate finance for market access and bankability. The session highlighted Africa's potential to become the world's breadbasket if it improves the agricultural sector, provides adequate financing, empowers farmers, and considers trade policies to enhance competitiveness in the sector.
- iv. Republic of Korea: Side Event on 4th December 2023 focused on Successful Policy Frameworks for Climate Businesses and brought together policymakers and entrepreneurs to discuss lessons

learned and avenues for future collaboration Republic of Korea, shared how P4G embodies the model that aligns with what the Republic of Korea aims to achieve for climate action: driving environmental initiatives through youth and entrepreneurs in developing countries, alongside the private sector.

## **KEPSA** and the UN Global Compact at COP 28

Capitalizing Europe – Africa Partnerships to Accelerate Transition- Blue Zone Side
Event focused on Europe - Africa Partnership through sustainability programs. Collective
Action. Five companies shared how they have partnered across Europe and Africa to drive
sustainable business practices. This included Investment in carbon projects and energy
efficiency, use of PPP models for large projects and training and competency transfer,
transition from plastic to recyclable materials, transition to renewable energy and IoT among
others with the aim of promoting SMEs and promoting social and economic transformation.



Opportunities to contribute to the National Greening, Forest Landscape and Restoration Initiative Towards the 30% Tree Cover By 2032

# **Highlight of Key Outcomes and Negotiation Resolutions for COP 28**

- The UNFCCC Opening Plenary of COP28/CMP18/CMA5 and SBSTA59/SBI59 on Thursday, 30 November, was marked by the unexpected adoption of the decision to operationalize new funding arrangements for responding to loss and damage when over \$85 million was mobilized. Global Climate Finance Framework.
- Global Stock Take was adopted which puts forward a plan to close the gaps to 2030. It calls for parties to transition away from fossil fuel to reach net zero by 2050, and encourages economy-wide nationally determined contribution/national climate plans.
- The UAE consensus also includes a new specific target to triple renewables and double

- energy efficiency by 2030 and builds momentum towards new architecture for climate finance.
- Launch of ALTRERRA, the UAE's \$30 billion catalytic private finance vehicle which seeks to mobilize a total of \$250 for global climate action.
- The COP 28 UAE declaration on Agriculture Food and Climate, embedding sustainable agriculture and food systems in the response to climate change which received endorsement from 158 countries.
- The COP 28 UAE Declaration on Climate and Health, to accelerate the development of climate resilience, sustainable and equitable health systems endorsed by 144 countries.
- The Global Decarbonization Accelerator GDA is a landmark energy initiative across the public and private sectors to speed up the energy transition.
- COP 28 sought to be inclusive by ensuring all voices could participate in the process, it
  provided dedicated days for most left-out groups including the private sector as well as
  institutionalized the role of Youth champion to mainstream youth inclusion in future
  COPS.

### e) Health

# **Engagements held in the Year**

- 15th AGM meeting held on 31st July,2023
- 3 Meetings with the Ministry of Health
- 6 engagements with public and private sector on USAID Private sector program



Kenya Healthcare Federation CEO's Forum met with the Principal Secretary for Medical Services Harry Kimtai

#### **Achievements**

- 1) The Kenya Healthcare Federation (KHF), in collaboration with Medic East Africa, hosted a networking event at the Mercure Hotel in Nairobi Upper Hill on 25th July. This event served as a platform for healthcare leaders, professionals, and experts to convene and envision the future of healthcare delivery in East Africa. Following the success of this gathering, an Expo Medic East Africa and Medlab East Africa 2023 Expo was organized. This premier event provided an excellent opportunity to engage with the healthcare community and explore cutting-edge medical and laboratory technologies.
- 2) KHF joined forces with the Ministry of Health for Mashujaa Day, reinforcing their commitment to Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and advancements in healthcare. This collaboration underscored Kenya's dedication to achieving UHC through strategic focus areas such as Commodity Security, Human Resources for Health, Technology, and Healthcare Finance.
- 3) KHF actively participated in the flag-off ceremony at Afya House on 14th August, led by Health Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Nakhumicha S. Wafula. This event marked the commencement of the National Health Facilities Assessment, a collaborative initiative involving non-state actors aimed at achieving service-based accreditation and enhancing healthcare delivery across the nation.
- 4) KHF took part in a Stakeholder Engagement Breakfast on 15th August, focusing on the ratification of the International Vaccines Institute agreement. The International Vaccines Institute is dedicated to global health improvement through vaccines and vaccination. The ratification of this agreement opened opportunities for Kenya to become self-reliant for its vaccine needs, aligning with the overarching mission of the International Vaccines Institute.
- 5) On 23rd August, KHF hosted a Digital Health Workshop in collaboration with Technology Associates and Huawei. The workshop, themed "Leveraging Technology and Intelligence for the Advancement of Smart Hospitals," provided a platform for in-depth discussions on the intersection of healthcare and technology. Participants gained valuable insights into the transformative potential of digital solutions for the enhancement of healthcare services, particularly in the development and advancement of smart hospitals.
- 6) The Kenya Healthcare Federation (KHF) in partnership with Strathmore Business School, and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundations actively advancing women's empowerment in the health sector through a comprehensive series of sessions, collectively known as the 'Driving Country Level Change Women in Health Leadership Project.' These sessions explored the enablers and barriers influencing the career progression of women within Kenya's health sector.
- 7) Engaging in impactful Public Private Dialogues, for instance, KHF discussed potential strategic partnerships with the Principal Secretary of the Department of Public Health and Professional Standards. The primary objective of these dialogues was to forge collaborative efforts between the public and private sectors, aiming to accelerate progress towards achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in Kenya. The discussions were centred around fostering a robust partnership that expands access to high-quality healthcare services for all Kenyans.
- 8) Furthermore, KHF played an instrumental role in collecting and consolidating valuable input from our members. This input was then channelled into memoranda submitted for consideration in the enactment of pivotal legislative acts, including the Facilities Improvement Financing Act, 2023, the Primary Health Care Act, 2023, Digital Health Act, 2023, and the Social Health Insurance Act, 2023.

- 9) On 31st October, KHF the International Finance Corporation (IFC) launched the Africa Medical Equipment Facility (AMEF) program in partnership with financial institutions and medical equipment manufacturers. The goal is to support small and medium-sized healthcare providers in East and West Africa by enabling access to loans to purchase or lease quality medical equipment.
- 10) KHF facilitated 2 Webinars on effective Social Media Marketing Insights in the Health Value Chain on 12th September, and on Africa Medical Equipment Facility (AMEF) held on 30th October, and on financial management for health small and medium-sized enterprises (HSMEs) in Kenya held on 28th November with an aim for continuous capacity building of the health sector stakeholders
- 11) Kenya Healthcare Federation (KHF) on 13th and 14th November partnered with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) to host the AMEF training event in Eldoret, Kenya. The interactive training equipped participants from various health SMEs with valuable skills to improve how they procure medical equipment. Presentations and hands-on activities covered conducting needs assessments, budget planning, navigating tender processes, understanding financing options, and more relating to medical equipment procurement.

## f) Land, Physical Planning, Housing and Urban Development



KEPSA Engagement with the Kiambu County Land, Housing, Physical Planning, Municipal Administration & Urban Development Department on 6th April 2023.

In the year 2023, the Sector Board engaged as follows;

- Eleven (11) Sector Board Meetings
- One (1) Engagement with CEC Lands Kiambu County

#### **Achievements**

Through collaborative efforts with the National Construction Authority, the KEPSA Land Sector Board played a pivotal role in the development of the National Building Code Regulations. This regulatory framework has brought about a transformative impact on the construction industry by enabling the

- integration of new technologies in the supervision and inspection of construction projects, thereby mitigating the rising incidence of structural collapses.
- 2) In conjunction with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Ministry, the National Land Commission (NLC), and the Council of Governors (CoG), KEPSA established the Digital Land Governance Program. This initiative, aligned with Vision 2030, seeks to enhance food and nutrition security, livelihoods, and sustainable development in Kenya. The program aims to achieve these objectives through the promotion of equitable and secure access to and management of land resources
- 3) KEPSA is represented in the taskforce on Re-engineering and Transformation of Urban Development towards the establishment and funding of smart urban areas and cities.
- 4) The Sector Board provided input on the ongoing process of establishment of the Nairobi City Council Boroughs. The establishment of the boroughs is aimed at bringing services closer to the Nairobi County residents. A cluster is envisaged to consist of three or more sub-counties and the process of formulating the boroughs will include public participation sessions to seek views of the residents of Nairobi on how they will want their boroughs to be governed.

## g) Energy

In the year 2023, the Sector Board engaged as follows;

- Twelve (12) Sector Board Meetings
- One (1) engagement with the Ministry of Energy



Energy and Petroleum Ministerial Stakeholders Forum on 23rd February 2023

#### **Achievements**

- 1. KEPSA conducted a consultative workshop in collaboration with the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA) and Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) to discuss the retail tariff application for the next five years. Subsequently, EPRA officially Gazetted and implemented the agreed-upon tariff changes on June 1, 2023. This strategic collaboration resulted in a substantial reduction in costs for major electricity consumers.
- 2. The KEPSA Energy and Petroleum Sector Board consistently engaged with the Ministry, advocating for reforms within the private sector to enhance and elevate the energy sector. These efforts culminated in the removal of the moratorium on Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs), marking a significant milestone in fostering a more conducive environment for private sector participation.
- 3. Commissioning of the new Geothermal Energy 86MW Olkaria I Additional Unit (AU) 6, will ensure a reliable supply of clean energy. Due to the low short-run marginal costs of geothermal power plants compared to thermal power plants, geothermal is being used more as base load and subsequent reduction of cost of power.
- 4. The Sector Members gave input on the regulatory impact assessment study undertaken by EPRA as required by the Energy Act, 2019. The assessment is meant to evaluate the possible social, environmental, and economic impacts of the regulations thus carried out to assess the potential impacts of system operations regulations in Kenya.

# h) Information, Communications and Technology (ICT)

- ⇒ In the year 2023, the ICT Sector Board engaged as follows:
- ⇒ Four (4) Sector Board meetings
- ⇒ One (1) meeting with the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner.
- ⇒ One (1) Meeting with Konza Technopolis
- ⇒ Two (2) Sector Board leadership meetings



KEPSA visit to Konza city on 6th October 2023

#### **Achievements**

The ICT Sector Board has partnered with the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) to train KEPSA members on Data Protection in their respective sectors. This training, which will be sector-specific, will begin in 2024 with the goal being to prepare each and every sector for compliance with the technical and organizational measures required under the ACT and Regulations.

# i) Trade & Industry



14th AU High-Level Private Sector Forum on 10th July 2023

Towards enhancing market access the Sector Board participated the development of the National position on the EAC Tariff offer to the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). The position was then presented to a regional Private Sector Consultative Meeting on EAC Tariff.

In the national position 68 tariff lines were considered in Category B and 104 tariff lines to be considered in Category C. In a situation where EAC's intra-Africa import value exceeds 10 percent for excluded tariff lines, such products could be among those moved to Category B. The agreed tariff lines by EAC Partner States in Category C already account for 7.7 percent of EAC's intra-Africa imports. This leaves a balance of 2.3 percent of EAC's intra-Africa imports implying that the EAC requires agreeing on additional 50 tariff lines for Category C.

The Sector Board held a webinar on the impact of the Trade Facilitation Agreement on import and export businesses. The Webinar was held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The webinar shed light on the different articles of the Trade Facilitation Agreement it also addressed the opportunities for businesses in line with international trade operations to reduce costs and boost business's bottom line.

#### j) Transport Sector

Through continued advocacy, some taxes were removed in the aviation sector through the Finance Act 2023 These include exemption from IDF and RDL for all aircraft, spacecraft, and parts.

The operations on the clearance of goods at the port of Mombasa have been streamlined. Through engagements with KPA, the liability of the delays in the clearance of cargo caused by government inefficiencies will be borne by the government agency. The private sector operators are being granted

waiver letters to facilitate clearance as opposed to when the operators used to bear the government liability.

To address the prevailing high cost of destination charges at the port of Mombasa and improve the ease of doing business. The following have been agreed;

Terminal Handling Charge (THC) raised as a destination charge to be stopped with immediate effect. Any recovery of all KPA services to shipping lines to be factored in the ocean freight;

Manifest Amendment Fee to be capped at a maximum of \$30 inclusive of KRA penalty;

The following destination charges raised at the port of Mombasa to be stopped with immediate effect: a. X-border fee; b. Equipment management/monitoring fee; c. Late documentation fee; d. Container protection essential; e. Depot charges at drop-off points; f. Logistics fee; g. Import documentation fee h. Transit corridor fees; i. Administration charge; j. Regional Cost Recovery charge; k. Other charges.

Free period for discharged containers to be pegged at a minimum of 12 days for local, 30 days for Uganda and 45 days for DRC/South Sudan traffic;

Demurrfage rates to be pegged as tabulated below;

Demurrage Rates	20'	40'
First 7 days	\$10	\$20
8 to 14 days	\$15	\$30
After 14 days	\$30	\$60

Returned empty containers be fully certified as clean by the receiving depot and cleaning charges, raised by the deport to apply only to dirty containers as jointly inspected and verified by the clearing agent and the receiving depot.



KEPSA Transport Ministerial Stakeholder Forum on 8th May 2023

# k) Public Finance



The National Treasury and Economic Planning and KEPSA Leadership Meeting on 22nd February 2023

The Sector Board discussed and orally presented the KEPSA memorandum on the Finance Bill 2023 to the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning.

Some of the proposals that were successful in the Finance Act include;

- The deposit of an amount equal to twenty per cent of the disputed tax or security with the Commissioner before appealing a disputed tax decision.
- Amendment of the VAT Act to put exported services as zero-rated.
- Removal of the proposed increase of taxation to the gaming sector causing an unstable business environment.

The Sector board submitted a memorandum to the National Assembly Committee on Finance and National Planning Departmental Committee.

The second draft included input from the KEPSA memorandum which included;

- The entrenchment of the roles of policy formulation solely under the National Treasury, with the revenue authority being an implementer of the taxation policy and laws.
- Provision of Establishment of a Special Tax Court- Judges with specialized training in tax law would preside over the special tax court.

#### I) Security

In the year 2023, the KEPSA Security Sector Board engaged as follows:

- 1. Twelve (12) Sector Board meetings
- 2. Two (2) Meetings with the Data Protection Commissioner
- 3. Two (2) Meetings with the Anticounterfeit Authority
- 4. One (1) Meeting with Kenya Revenue Authority
- 5. Five (5) Meetings with the National Counter Terrorism Center
- 6. Four (4) Meetings with the Connecting Business Initiative

7. Seven (7) webinar forums were held to address different key areas and they are; El-Nino preparedness, Cyber Security, Data Protection, Fighting crime through partnerships, the Role of NCTC in Countering Violence Extremism, Insights from Montreux and ICoCa and A webinar on Global peace index.



KEPSA submissions to the Police Reforms Taskforce on 1st February 2023

#### **Achievements**

- KEPSA and The National Counter Terrorism Center (NCTC) renewed and signed an MOU which saw over 8000 private sector members trained in counter-terrorism. One of the objectives of the MOU includes training KEPSA members on Counter Terrorism as well as penetration testing in the respective physical locations.
- 2. Various webinars were held during the year on Data Protection where the security sector practitioners have been trained on the importance of complying with the set regulations which helped sensitize them, especially in their capacity as data handlers. On cyber–security awareness, members were taken through the cyber security regulations as well as being trained on the importance of staying vigilant in the digital era to avoid risks such as cyberbullying, Scams among others.
- 3. The Security Sector Board also held a webinar focusing on El Nino preparedness whereby the focus was to borrow lessons learnt from various disasters and how through those lessons, we can plan better. Various partnerships have been born as a result, most notably with Connecting Business Initiative (CBI) which added KEPSA to its member network. CBI will build KEPSA members' capacity and skills in disaster risk management and amplify KEPSA's leadership on the same.

## m) Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs

The Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs Sector Board in the year 2023 engaged as follows;

- 2 Sector Board Meetings
- 1 Engagement with Special Envoy & Advisor to the Office of the President on Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs, Ambassador Nancy Karigithu.

#### **Achievements**

- 1) Lobbying: The Sector Board proactively engaged in advocating for the lifting of the Mining Moratorium, implemented by the government on December 3, 2019. The partial lifting of the Moratorium on October 3, 2023, is significant progress, as it is set to foster increased investments and elevate the sector's GDP contribution, marking a notable milestone for economic growth.
- 2) Awareness Creation: The Sector Board through an engagement with the Special Envoy & Advisor to the Office of the President on Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs, Ambassador Nancy Karigithu explored opportunities for quality employment for the youth. Consequently, KEPSA through Base Titanium, sponsored 214 youth to the Bandari Maritime Academy assuring them of high-quality jobs at sea.

#### 04. POLICY RESEARCH & ANALYSIS (PRA)

# a) The Business Strategy

As part of the long-term private sector engagement in enhancing the ease of doing business in Kenya, and to better achieve the Simba Era Vision for KEPSA, the Policy Research and Analysis department took the lead in the development of the KEPSA Business Strategy (2023-2027) which offers a strategic and intentional focus on high-impact reforms that are prioritized by the business community. The strategy factors in the changing nature of businesses and proposes changes that will enable KEPSA to adapt and thrive.



KEPSA Meeting UNDP Representatives on 16th August 2023

#### b) Doing Business 2023 Action Plan

The department took the lead in organizing the Presidential Economic Dialogue with Private Sector Stakeholders on value chains, in June this year. The dialogue sets forth a strategic and intentional framework with a primary focus on high-impact reforms that are prioritized in collaboration with the business community.

The dialogue encompasses the fixation of Naivasha and Dongo Kundu as top priorities, along with initiatives to systematically reduce the cost of raw materials. Advocating for county marketing strategies to fortify the value chain of agricultural produce, operationalizing both the Kenanie Leather Park and the Karioko Common User Facility, and improving the quality of hides and skins are integral components of this comprehensive plan.

Additionally, there was a concerted effort to encourage local value addition in the leather sector, promote pyrethrum exports by facilitating farmers' access to seedlings, and provide incentives to local manufacturers. Harmonizing the Crops Act 2013 and Pyrethrum 2013 is identified as a critical regulatory measure.

## c) The National Business Agenda IV

Currently, the development of the NBA IV which will steer the private sector as well as national economic development from 2023 through to 2027 is underway. Apart from fronting the private sector development agenda, NBA IV will correspond to the government's fourth medium-term plan towards Vision 2030 and the SDGs.

## d) Pilot Survey on the Cost of Political Disruption on Businesses in Kenya

To sustain KEPSA's position as the apex body of the private sector in Kenya, the department rolled out a pilot survey in August to assess the cost implications of political disruption on businesses in Kenya, aiming to formulate recommendations for interventions by both the government and the opposition to address the situation in future.

#### e) The Survey on KEPSA trade and investment opportunities

The department undertook a study survey and developed a report on KEPSA trade and investment opportunities feedback survey. Through this survey, KEPSA aimed to help SMEs create jobs and

increase the overall contribution to the National Output. The report contains findings, conclusions and recommendations on how KEPSA can make SMEs thrive.

# f) Digitization of Questionnaires

The lead in digitizing KEPSA questionnaires from various departments, which spared KEPSA the cost and time of printing hardcopies and conducting in-person data collection as well as streamlining data collection processes from our members, facilitating informed business decisions and advocacy for the interests of our members.

# g) KEPSA's Collaborative and Partnership Strategies

The department led in engaging potential partners including, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Safaricom, PFMR secretariat, World Data Lab (WDL, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and CUTS International among others focusing on exploring avenues for addressing the evolving needs of our members and pitching KEPSA's image at both national and global stage.

## h) KEPSA Data Management

The PRA team updated the Key Business Environment Indicators and Macro-Economics Database ensuring data at our disposal is current and reflective of the dynamic economic landscape.

# i) Boosting Communication and Strategic Insights

The Policy Research and Analysis team supported the executive office, and all departments in KEPSA, including the KEPSA Foundation and Climate Business Information Network (CBIN) in the development of discussion points, keynote speeches, presentations and other required relevant materials.

## j) KEPSA Magazine Article Submissions

The department developed content for the CEO's foreword and chair's remarks published in KEPSA September 2023 Edition of Kenya Business Channel Magazine, focusing on how SMEs can benefit from AfCFTA opportunities.

#### 05. BUSINESS HUB

The global partnerships team organized a total of 47 business-related forums during 2023. Invitations to these forums were shared with KEPSA members for them to participate and explore opportunities for business growth, as well as update themselves with the latest developments in various sectors across the world.

The trade missions provided an avenue for KEPSA members to expand market reach and forge strategic alliances with international partners. These missions were orchestrated by businesses to explore new markets, understand local dynamics, and establish direct connections with potential clients, suppliers, or collaborators in foreign territories. Participating in expos and trade missions allowed companies to showcase their products or services, negotiate deals, and build rapport with key stakeholders, thereby paving the way for future business ventures. These missions also provided a platform for private enterprises to gain insights into global trends, adapt to diverse market conditions, and tailor their strategies to meet the demands of specific regions or countries, fostering organic growth by cultivating robust global partnerships.

Notably, these forums and conferences were instrumental in not only expanding market reach but also in fostering long-term, mutually beneficial partnerships which is a driver for sustainable business growth in a global landscape.



KEPSA CEO Ms Carole Kariuki and Mr Egon Zorad, Director of Foreign Trade Department at SARIO signing an MOU during the EU Business Forum on 21st February 2023.

# Out of these 44 endeavours, KEPSA has achieved the following:

a) KEPSA has established partnerships by signing 2 memorandums of understanding and actualized 2 of these MOUs to organize a trade mission and establish business partnerships

during the year in focus. Additionally, KEPSA has initiated the process of creating an SME trade platform by leveraging them. These MOUs include:

- KEPSA and Slovak Investment and Trade Development Agency (SARIO)
- KEPSA and Confederation of Economic Associations of Mozambique.
- b) Members have secured local and international partnerships and received financial investment from investors, with documented success stories.

# 2023 Business Forums

The 2023 business forums and exhibitions are as follows:

BUSINESS FORUM	Dates	
Japan-Kenya Urban Development &Transport		
Symposium, Nairobi	24 <sup>th</sup> January	
Russia Open Africa Business Forum (AFROCOM),	2 <sup>nd</sup> February	
Russia	Z. I ebluary	
The Slovakian Evening Networking Event, Nairobi	21st February	
The EU Kenya Business Forum, Nairobi	21 <sup>st</sup> - 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	
The 2nd Healthcare and Engineering Show in Pakistan	23 <sup>rd</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup> February	
Libya Industries Fair	25 <sup>th</sup> February - 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	
Israel Pavilion at Mobile World Congress in Barcelona,		
Spain	27 <sup>th</sup> February - 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	
Kalachi Exhibition in Pakistan	3 <sup>rd</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> March	
24th Edition of the International Agro-industrial Food		
Fair	20 <sup>th</sup> - 26 <sup>th</sup> March	
High-level visit to Germany	27 <sup>th</sup> March	
53rd General Assembly of the World Trade Centre's		
Association, Accra, Ghana	23 <sup>rd</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup> April	
The Kenya - Spain High-Level Business Forum, Real	07/L A . II	
Madrid, Spain	27 <sup>th</sup> April	
5th Export Potential Exhibition of the Islamic Republic	7th 40th 14-	
of Iran	7 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup> May	
Swedish East Africa Chamber of Commerce Business	Oth 11th May	
Forum, Uppsala, Sweden	9th - 11th May	
The Turkish Automotive Parts B2B Meeting, Nairobi	9 <sup>th</sup> May	
Ethio- International Expo 2023, Addis Ababa	17 <sup>th</sup> May - 17 <sup>th</sup> June 22 <sup>nd</sup> - 27 <sup>th</sup> May	
The One Africa Expo, Addis Ababa	,	
The Kenya - Ghana Business Forum, Nairobi	24 <sup>th</sup> May	
The Kenya International Investment Conference,	29 <sup>th</sup> - 31 <sup>st</sup> May	
1.13.11.0.0.1	30th May	
SME Impact Day in partnership with Deloitte, Nairobi	<b>J</b>	
Turkiye Retail & B2B Days, Istanbul, Turkiye  Deloitte Entrepreneurship Summit	31st May - 1st June 27th July	
	10 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> July	
14th AU EAC Private Sector Forum at the KICC The East Africa COMPLAST Plastics Exhibition	11th - 13th July	
	10th - 11th August	
The Intra-African Trade Fair, Nairobi	10" - 11" August	

Kenya - Mozambique Business Forum, Maputo		
Mozambique	30 <sup>th</sup> August	
U.S Trade and Investment Roadshow, New York	25th - 27th August	
Kenya Trade Mission to Slovakia, Slovakia	17th - 21st September	
The India B20 Summit, New Delhi, India	13 <sup>th</sup> - 15 <sup>th</sup> September	
Indo Africa B2B Trade Expo, Nairobi	5th - 22nd September	
Corporate Council on Africa Roundtable, New York	18th September	
Global Africa Business Initiatives (GABI) Unstoppable Africa, New York	21st September	
Fourth Turkiye Africa Business and Economic Forum (TABEF), Istanbul, Turkiye	12 <sup>th</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup> October	
Manufacturing Indaba Conference, Johannesburg,		
South Africa	20th - 26th October	
UAE Business and Economic Forum	6 <sup>th</sup> November	
Czech - Kenya Business Forum and B2B Meeting	6 <sup>th</sup> November	
Tunisia - Kenya Business Forum	16 <sup>th</sup> November	
India - Kenya Business Forum, Nairobi	22 <sup>nd</sup> November	
India Textile Machinery Engineering Africa & Middle		
East Exhibition, Nairobi	30 <sup>th</sup> November - 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	
Polish - Kenya Business Forum, Nairobi	1 <sup>st</sup> December	
Presidential Visit to India for the India – Kenya Business		
Forum, New Delhi, India	4 <sup>th</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup> December	

# **Success story**

During 2023, Ruth Karambu attended the Entrepreneurship Summit, Sensitization workshop for SMEs and women on AfCFTA protocols, and the Agri-business Advance and Thrive program.

Ruth attended the Forums with the expectations to be equipped, to learn, and to secure funding, from interested investors. She also aspired to venture and network with other agripreneurs, to learn, and understand the markets nationally and internationally, and to connect with key stakeholders of her business. With little information in her envisioned field, the forums proved beneficial in her business operations. Further, from the Tunisia – Kenya Business forum, she learned about the new formulation, production, and modern embracing of branding, the value addition of Shea butter, argan oil, mint with avocado oil for cosmetics or olive oil, avocado oil, and garlic oil for food grade from the Tunisian oil investors.

Her key takeaways from the forums are; learning how to raise capital through these opportunities and currently she is in discussion with private equity investors whom she got through the Entrepreneurship Summit and loved her avocado oil food grade and avocado seed flour products, pharmaceutical product. She is awaiting the signing of an M.O.U, which will take place at the end of the year.

#### 06. KEPSA MEMBERSHIP

#### 1. New Members

69 members joined in the year in the following categories

Membership Category	No
Business Membership Organizations	5
Platinum	2
Diamond	0
Gold	6
Silver	15
SMEs	24
Start-ups	17
Total	69

# 2. Members' Activities

- a) **New Members Inductions** one induction was conducted virtually on 19th October 2023. Participating members were introduced to the KEPSA structure in order to assist them identify areas of engagement and partnership.
- b) Know your customer initiative (KYC) this is an initiative to have one-on-one meetings with members to understand their operations and how KEPSA can serve them better. This is an on-going initiative and discussions also touch on how members can actively participate in their respective sector boards, synergies with KEPSA in relation to climate change and sustainability as well as how members can partner with KEPSA on the various projects. Herewith some of the members visited:



Ms Carole Kariuki -KEPSA CEO, during the meeting with Mr Benson Okumu - Managing Director, Bata Shoe Kenya

# 3. Support to Members

Publicized members' activities by sharing of information through the various KEPSA communication platforms to ensure good participation. This support was extended to both direct and indirect members.

Member	Event	Month
DP World	Invitation to a Virtual Webinar on Facilitating Trade and Providing Market Access Between Kenya and UAE	February, 2023
PriceWater Coopers	Invitation to A Webinar: Deep Dive into The Finance Bill 2023	May, 2023
Cellulant	Invitation to A Webinar on Driving Down Operational Costs for Marketplaces Through Optimization of Digital Payments	June, 2023
Kenya Property Developers Association (KPDA)	Invitation to KPDA Mid-Year Corporate Networking Koroga Event	June, 2023
PriceWater Coopers	Invitation to Kenya's 2023/24 National Budget – Insight and Analysis	June, 2023
She Phoebe	Invitation to Free SME Export and Investment Readiness Session	June, 2023
The Karen Hospital	Call for Sponsorship Support to The Heart-To- Heart Annual Fundraising Walk/Run	June, 2023
The Association for Women in Energy and Extractives in Kenya (AWEIK) in partnership with the Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs and the Kenya Chamber of Mines (KCM).	Invitation to The Kenya Mining Week: Expo and Conference	July, 2023
Kenya Property Developers Association (KPDA)	Invitation to The KPDA CEO Breakfast Forum	August, 2023
Welkom, Microsoft, and Institute of Human Resource Management	Invitation to The Welkom Nairobi Conference 2023	August, 2023
Agema Analysts	Panel Discussion: Key Aspects to Consider When Scaling Up Your Business	September, 2023
Fresh Life/ Sanergy Limited	Fresh Life Climate Smart Sanitation Tour	September, 2023
KPMG East Africa Limited	Simple Analytics and Automation to Drive Efficiency for SMES And Family Businesses	September, 2023
PriceWater Coopers	Invitation to A Webinar on Vat in The Digital Economy	September, 2023
Ronald Lip	Finance Act 2023 & NSSF Act Challenges and Opportunities	September, 2023
The Delegation of German Industry and Commerce for Eastern Africa	Invitation to The Conference on Renewable Energy for Captive Use in Industry and Commerce in Kenya	September, 2023

The Nation Media Group	Invitation to The Mental Wellness and Counselling Conference	September, 2023
Ronald Lip	Invitation to An Exclusive 4-Day CFO Training Seminar	October, 2023
She Phoebe	Invitation: Webinar on How to Grow Business with Global Trade	October, 2023
Standard Chartered	Invitation to Participate in The Standard Chartered Nairobi Marathon	October, 2023
The Environment Institute of Kenya (EIK)	Support Toward the Environment Institute of Kenya (EIK) – National Environmental Conference and Exhibition	October, 2023
Agema Analysts	Enterprise Risk Management Seminar	November, 2023
Kenya International Freight & Warehousing Association (KIFWA)	Launching The 4th Global Logistics Convention	November, 2023
KPMG East Africa Limited	Request to Share Views and Experiences on The Impact of Legacy in Family Businesses	November, 2023
KPMG East Africa Limited	The Launch of the 2023 KPMG East Africa CEO Outlook Report	November, 2023
Umsizi Llp	Invitation to IFRS S1 And IFRS S2 Workshop	November, 2023
Workpay	Employee of The Year Awards 2023 Nominations	December, 2023

# 4. Partnerships

Started exploring partnerships with various organizations on mutually beneficial areas of collaboration in training, networking, and mentorship programs. The partners included Minet Kenya Insurance Brokers, Agema Analysts and Konza Technopolis, among others.

# 5. Exhibitions

Participated in the following exhibitions:

- a) 11th annual SME conference & expo Strathmore University Business School
- b) 14th AU-EAC Private Sector Forum
- c) Melt Water Business Breakfast Themed "State of Social Media in Kenya 2023". The business breakfast aimed at discussing the role of social media in the business community.
- d) The Complete Plastics Exhibition (COMPLAST)

# 6. SUPPORT TO BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS (BMOs)

#### **ICC KENYA**

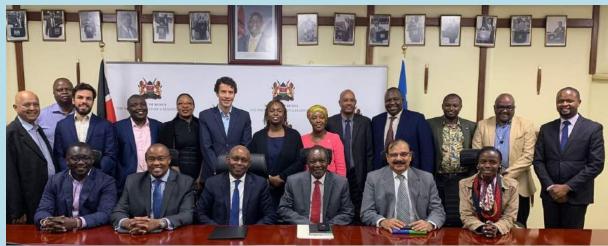
This has been an eventful year for ICC Kenya.

- Membership growth was highest in the individual category with a registration of 45 members.
   This was followed by the corporate category with 11 members. The BMO category was at 8 members.
- Organized an international conference along with workshops and training sessions covering
  diverse topics for the benefit of members across various professions. Topics included the East
  Africa banking sector's role in financing regional business development under the Africa
  Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), countering trade-based money laundering, Digital Trade
  focusing on cross-border e-commerce and customs regulations, and the convergence of banking
  and innovation in the fintech era. Additionally, addressed Green Financing, ESG reporting, and
  Carbon markets.



ICC Kenya 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Banking Conference held on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Partnerships with international and local organizations in hosting events, under the 4 established commissions. Through these events members had the opportunity to network as well as input into advocacy areas being championed by the commissions. Through the Environment and Energy Commission, ICC Kenya submitted proposals on E-mobility proposals to the Finance National Planning Committee for inclusion in the Finance Bill, 2023. The key highlight in the proposals was getting the same tax treatment with normal bicycles which don't attract excise duty.



ICC Kenya Environment and Energy Commission E-Mobility Team Meeting with The Cabinet Secretary the National Treasury & Economic Planning Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u

# 07. PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS

The Communication department has continued to execute the KEPSA communication plan in line with the 2023-2027 Business Strategy Focus Pillars to effectively communicate and advance the visibility of the KEPSA brand. This was achieved through the existing communication platforms such as epublications including KEPSA magazine, weekly bulletin, daily media watch, emails, telephone calls, and social media platforms i.e. Facebook, X, LinkedIn, YouTube and WhatsApp.

# 1. Media Relations

On media engagement, the department has continued to engage the media on different occasions to ensure that the media reports the right information on matters concerning the KEPSA brand and its partners. See below the cumulative metrics of media coverage out of the media engagements with the media:

#### Print media

Name of Newspaper	Number of Articles
Daily Nation	20
The Standard	38
Business Daily	16
The Star	39
The East African	12
People Daily	8
Online sites	213
Total	346

# **Radio Coverage**

Radio Stations	Number of Mentions
Capital FM	4
East FM	5
Homeboyz Radio	2
Kiss FM	3
Hope FM	2
Spice FM	1
Classic FM	5
Musyi FM	1
Radio Jambo	5
Egesa FM	1
Hot 96	1
Radio Maisha	1
Total	31

# **Television Coverage**

Name of the Channel	Frequency of Coverage
Citizen TV	7
NTV	3
KTN News	3
K24	5
KBC	5
Ramogi TV	4
Business Day TV	2
Inooro TV	1
Kenya Digital News	1
TV47	2
DW	1
TOTAL	34

#### 2. Press Releases

# A total of 14 press releases were issued this year;

- 1. Boycott Calls Undermine Peace, Stability and Economic Growth. (23/3/2023)
- 2. KEPSA Members Once Again Condemn Attack on Business Premises. (28/3/2023)
- 3. Mkenya Daima Initiative Condemns Violence and Calls for Peace. (28/3/2023)
- 4. KEPSA hosts the Senate Liaison Committee Roundtable on achieving global competitiveness for economic turnaround and inclusive prosperity. (28/4/2023)
- 5. KEPSA applauds the president on the commitment to combating corruption and urges its members to continue upholding ethical business practices. (22/5/2023)
- 6. KEPSA unveils new leadership during its 19th AGM. (15/6/2023)
- 7. World Youth Skills Day. (14/7/2023)
- 8. Kenya's Private Sector Leaders Pledge Increased Investment in Climate Action and Green Growth Ahead of the Africa Climate Summit. (01/8/2023)
- 9. Private sector joins other stakeholders and developmental partners to explore available work opportunities for youth and solutions for businesses in green. (11/8/2023)
- 10. Kenya Plastics Pact Commits to Combat Plastic Pollution and Support the Implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility in Kenya. (21/8/2023)
- 11. Digital transformation at counties enhancing creation of jobs for young people and the growth of businesses and economy. (20/9/2023)
- 12. Leaving no one behind through the adaption of digital transformation in counties while enhancing job creation and growth of businesses. (21/9/2023)
- 13. The Government commends the private sector's role in bolstering Kenya's sustainability position. (10/11/2023)
- 14. KEPSA commits to lead the Africa private sector to scale up pathways for investment required to accelerate climate action and green growth ahead of COP28. (22/11/2023)

# 3. Social Media Engagement

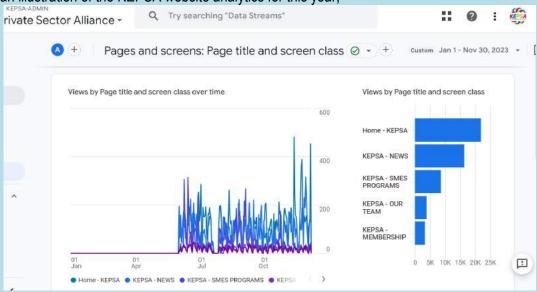
The department remains committed to engage the KEPSA publics through the KEPSA social media platforms by pushing content to inform stakeholders and solidify the visibility of the KEPSA brand. For the past 11 months, the KEPSA;

- a) X platform generated over **565,700** impressions and **6148** new followers.
- b) Facebook Page had a 427,963 reach and 3,397 new followers.
- c) LinkedIn amassed 10,363 new followers.
- d) YouTube channel gained 218 new subscribers.

The department is also happy to announce the new WhatsApp Channel which was unveiled on 3rd October 2023, and currently has 178 followers.

#### 4. KEPSA Website

The communications department has been keen on the development and enhancement of the website to keep users informed by regular updates as per the user needs and requirements. KEPSA through the Ajira Team developed a transformative website which was launched early this year. It includes all the aspects relevant to the needs and with close attention to the dynamism of technology. Please see below an illustration of the KEPSA website analytics for this year;

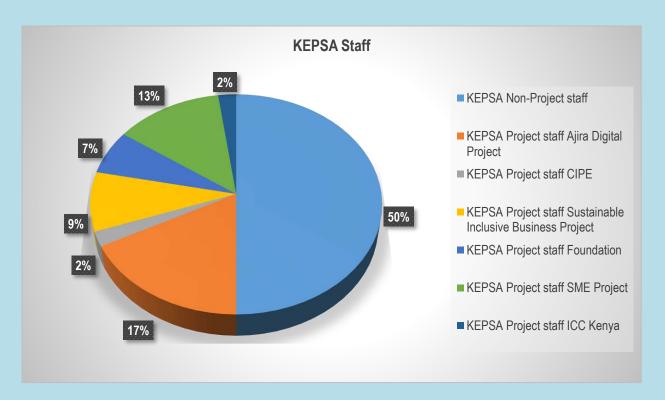


#### 08. ADMINISTRATION & HUMAN RESOURCES

# 1. KEPSA Staff

KEPSA has a total of 66 members of staff as shown below

Staff	KEPSA		KEPS/	A Project staff				Total
Category	Non- Project staff	Ajira Digital Project	CIPE	Sustainable Inclusive Business Project	Foundation	SME Project	ICC Kenya	
Regular	23	8	1	4	3	6	1	46
Consultants	3	1	0	3	0	0	0	7
Interns	8	2	0	1	0	0	1	12
Volunteers	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	35	11	1	8	3	6	2	66



# 2. Staff training and development

We continue with professional development for our members of staff to ensure that they are better able to do their work efficiently and well when prepared with the right skills and knowledge.

Our members of staff had opportunities to attend training and development courses within and outside the country supported by our partners. Some of the courses took place in South Korea, the USA, Denmark, South Africa, Ethiopia, Egypt, Austria and India.

# 3. Implementation of the Business Strategy

Members of staff had four insightful sessions designed to provide them with the guidance and resources necessary to undergo a successful Strategy Implementation roadmap. A transformation team has been formed to facilitate the change management process.

# 4. Staff Sports and Fun Day

We held a sports and fun day on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at Windsor Hotel and Country Club to advance team bonding, collective celebration and entertainment to ensure that our staff stay focused, healthy and productive.





# 5. Staff excellence awards - 2023



# 6. Recruitment and Selection

We continue to source, attract and identify suitable candidates for open positions to contribute to achieving the set goals and objectives. During the course of this year, we were able to recruit 9 (nine) candidates the following departments staff in the following departments; Finance, Policy Research, Public-Private dialogue, Membership and Marketing, Sustainable Inclusive Business-Kenya, Ajira Digital Project and KEPSA Foundation.

#### 09. FINANCE



# **INCOME**

Our income comprises membership subscriptions, public-private dialogue (PPD) funds, administrative fees earned from project funds and other income such as bank interest and sponsorships. Total revenue for the 9 months to September 2023 amounted to KES.143.2 million with a further KES. 16.6 million expected in the last quarter of the year. Compared to income of 157 million in 2022, income has grown by 20%. The growth in 2023 income can largely be attributed to the realization of COVID funds donation of 40 million as income in 2023.

Membership subscription receipts at KES 69 million are below last year's amount of KES 71 million due to a harsh business environment as the Kenyan economy continues to take a hit. The current year's PPD revenue is below last year's KES 66 million due to the completion of the TMEA project. Other income in 2023 will close more or less at par with that of 2022.

#### **EXPENDITURE**

Our expenditure includes; direct project activity costs, public-private dialogue (PPD) activity costs and overheads of the organization. Generally, expenses during the year have been contained within the revenues earned. The total expenses incurred during the period were KES 96 million. An additional KES 54 million is expected to be spent in the last quarter of the year, bringing the total expenses to KES 150 million by the end of the year. Compared to 2022 expenditure of KES 175 million, expenditure was reduced by 17%. PPD costs were among the costs that reduced because a number of PPD activities were shelved and others like the Senate Speaker's Roundtable postponed to next year. During the year, the company also postponed filling some positions to a later date when funds become available. This led to a decrease in payroll costs.

After the change of leadership in 2023, there was overspending on AGM expenses due to board and Governing Council inductions. The rent and service charge expenses significantly increased in the last quarter of the year due to an additional service charge of KES. 2.4 million for the period October 2021 to September 2023 that was invoiced in October 2023. Additionally, the office relocation costs are estimated at KES. 5 million. Despite these expenses, we expect to close the year with a surplus of KES. 9.1 million, which is an increase from the deficit last year of almost 2022.

#### **BALANCE SHEET**

The general fund balance increased by KES. 47 million from last year's closing balance as we posted a surplus for the first nine months of the year. This profit was largely due to the realization of the COVID-19 vaccine donation income of KES. 40 million in September 2023.

KEPSA members continued to support KEPSA's vision for having their own offices, resulting in the growth of the office building levy from KES. 1.5 million at the start of 2023 and is expected to close at KES. 11.9 million in December 2023.

As our projects continue to expand within their budgets, our short-term investments and deferred income decreased. In October 2023, there was a significant reduction as we returned unused funds of KES. 155M to the Rockefeller Foundation project grant due to delay in procurement occasioned by change of government. We were to get 10% management fees from this amount which was approximately KES. 10M. However, we were able to negotiate to retain the interest the funds had earned of KES. 3.150.000

Despite anticipating a positive cash position at the end of the year, management is putting more effort to generate additional revenue to ensure that the liquidity position remains strong. There is increase fundraising efforts and we are closing in on relatively large grants hence more revenue from projects.

Many thanks to KEPSA members and partners for the commitment towards helping KEPSA achieve its goals and objectives in the year 2023; we couldn't have done it without your financial support. We look forward to a better 2024 as we count on your continued commitment.

#### 10. KEPSA FOUNDATION

# **KEPSA Foundation Projects**

#### A. GOVERNANCE

1. Mkenya Daima Initiative: a non-partisan Multi-stakeholder platform with the primary purpose of inspiring peaceful elections and a peaceful transition since 2012. The Foundation has proposed a five-year electoral cycle conversation between Mkenya Daima and peace and governance stakeholders in Kenya. With the guidance of the steering committee under Muchai Kunyiha the Foundation Consolidated and submitted a Memorandum of issues that concerned the private sector to the National Dialogue Committee. The proposals presented were taken up by the committee and incorporated into the final report.



Mkenya Daima Steering Committee submitting a memorandum of issues that concerned the private sector to the National Dialogue Committee

- 2. Improving Info-space Integrity in the private sector: This project is undertaken by KEPSA Foundation in partnership with The Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE) and aims to mobilize the private sector to be champions of improving the information space in Kenya and to develop a private sector policy framework on information integrity in Kenya.
  - The Foundation disseminated results of the study on Info-space Integrity to businesses, raised awareness on the cost implications of information malpractice on businesses and the importance of a Fact Check Unit, and consolidated proposals on the development of a policy framework for the establishment of a Fact-Check Unit.
  - An 11-member steering committee to steer the development of the framework was
    established with membership drawn from KEPSA Members such as Safaricom PLC, Karen
    Hospital; East African Breweries Limited (EABL), PLC, among others. CIPE continued to
    demonstrate confidence in KEPSA Foundation in implementing recommendations of the
    survey on improving info-space integrity in the private sector.
  - Phase II of the project will be implemented in 2024 with the aim of developing a Policy Framework to guide the Establishment of a Fact-Check Unit.
- 3. Digital Economy Dialogue: This project is undertaken by KEPSA Foundation in partnership with CIPE to empower private sector leadership in Digital Economic Transformation. The process of disseminating of research findings of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Participation in the Digital Economy for policy recommendations to enhance the accountability of the Government on progress made on the Digital Economy commitments and the ICT masterplan is underway. KEPSA Foundation is among the stakeholders in the Working Group to provide input on the matrix design and guide the indexing scorecard process to determine Kenya's digital economy transformation. An initial workshop was held to build up from phase 1 which entailed research on MSME participation in Kenya's Digital Economy. KEPSA Foundation is committed to integrating this project into its existing policy advocacy efforts.



KEPSA foundation and CIPE launch of The Bribery Act Quick Guide Booklet on 7th December 2023.

4. Operationalization of the Bribery Act, 2016: This initiative aims at operationalizing the Bribery Act, 2016 through sensitization of the private sector to be champions for ethics. KEPSA Foundation in partnership with CIPE has developed a Quick Guide Booklet for the simplified version of the Bribery Act, 2016, Bribery Regulations and Guidelines, and four educative videos for sensitization and awareness creation for dissemination to members. These were launched on 7th December at Serena Hotel.

#### B. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

# Kenya Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship Accelerator Program (KYEAAP)

The program is designed to ignite the growth of small enterprises by providing support in the form of financing, market access, coaching, and supply chain opportunities. It aims to facilitate the digital transformation of small businesses, create job opportunities in the digital sector, aid in the digitalization efforts of the public sector, and enhance market-oriented skills. Presently, KYEEAP oversees four ongoing programs, namely: the Twende Digital project, Digital Skills and Employment Advancement Program (DSEAP), Digital Explorer Project, and Ajira Digital program.

# 1. Twende Digital project:

The Twende Digital Project, a collaborative effort led by KEPSA and supported by consortium partner - Twiva, funded by the Challenge Fund for Youth Employment (CFYE) with the goal of creating employment opportunities for young people by July 2025. This project primarily focuses on empowering Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) across key regions in Kenya.

KEPSA, as the lead implementer, is tasked with the coordination of all project activities. Twiva, on the other hand, lends its social commerce platform expertise to augment the project's influence.

- At its core, the Twende Digital Project aims to fuel youth employment by empowering Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). With an ambitious goal of generating 3,046 employment opportunities for young people, the project also seeks to elevate the income, profitability, and productivity of 400 SMEs.
- In doing so, the project contributes to economic growth and cultivates a vibrant and inclusive social commerce ecosystem.

# **Key achievements of the Twende Digital Project include:**

- ⇒ Successful inception of the project on July 1, 2023, guided by a robust monitoring and evaluation system developed in collaboration with CFYE's technical team.
- ⇒ Development of essential policies adhering to KEPSA's Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) standards, including the Child Protection Policy, Human Trafficking/Modern Slavery Policy, and Data Protection Policy.

# 2. Digital Skills and Employment Advancement Program

The Digital Skills and Employment Advancement Program (DSEAP), a collaborative effort between The Kenya Private Sector Alliance and Microsoft Philanthropies, is designed to enhance the digital proficiency of Kenyan youth aged 18-35 and link them with digital industry internships and job opportunities.

Utilizing the Microsoft Community Training (MCT) platform, the program surpassed its initial goals during the pilot phase, training 15,000 youth, a 50% increase over the target of 10,000. It also provided labor market information to over 200,000 individuals and facilitated approximately 1,300 internships. This phase showcased the program's effectiveness in boosting digital work readiness among young individuals, laying the groundwork for its ongoing success.

Given the success of the pilot phase, the project has received additional funding for an extension of one year, with a focus on further skill development in areas such as AI, Cyber Security, and Sustainability Skills. Phase 2 aims to create a lasting impact on Kenya's digital landscape by skilling and certifying 50,000 individuals, raising awareness about key digital fields, enhancing employability, and promoting inclusivity. Scheduled to conclude by November 2024, this phase embodies a sustained commitment to shaping a future where digital empowerment drives socioeconomic progress, contributing to the evolution of a vibrant and inclusive digital ecosystem in Kenya.



K-YEEAP and Microsoft Philanthropies Leaders Roundtable on 25th April 2023 on Digital Skills and Youth Employment.

# 3. GIZ Promoting Youth Employment Dual TVET Project

The GIZ Promoting Youth Employment Dual TVET Project stands as a pivotal one-year collaboration between GIZ and the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA), generously funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. This transformative initiative is strategically designed to catalyze a significant impact on the Kenyan youth employment landscape by fostering the dual Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) approach, seamlessly blending theoretical knowledge with practical training experiences. With a targeted goal of empowering 1000 Youth, the project encompasses a multifaceted approach as highlighted below:

- ⇒ Advocating for the integration of the dual TVET approach into national policies.
- ⇒ Enticing active corporate participation in dual TVET programs, facilitating student placements within these partner companies,
- ⇒ Strategically engaging industries for technical training and youth employment initiatives.

By addressing these four pillars, the project aims to elevate the overall quality and relevance of TVET, thereby substantially enhancing the employability prospects of the Kenyan youth. This initiative underscores a commitment to advancing sustainable economic development in Kenya, aligning with the broader mission of KEPSA and GIZ to empower and uplift the nation's youth.

#### 4. Ajira Digital Program

The Ajira Digital Program (Ajira) is the brainchild of the Government of Kenya through the Ministry of Information, Communication and Digital Economy. Ajira (which means "work" in Kiswahili) aims to empower over one million young people to access digital job opportunities. The program seeks to position

Kenya as a choice labour destination for multinational companies and encourage local companies and the public sector to create digital work.

The Ajira Digital program is part of a broader strategy by the Government of Kenya to harness the potential of Information Communication Technologies (ICT) to increase efficiencies, improve competitiveness and create jobs. Open to individuals aged 18 to 35, the program requires participants to register on the Ajira Digital website (www.ajiradigital.go.ke) to access its services and embark on their journey toward becoming accomplished digital freelancers.

# **Supply Side Interventions: Training and Mentorship:**

These focuses on providing youth with access to training and mentorship that would better position them to secure work and earn a living. The supply side of the program is twofold.

Firstly, it emphasizes the creation and management of Ajira Youth Empowerment Centres (AYECs) and collaborators, which serve as physical hubs for training and supporting young individuals in digital work. With a network of 101 AYECs, the program has positively impacted over 115,000 young people, half of whom are female. These centres are instrumental resources, providing free skills training, mentorship, and coaching, thereby reducing youth unemployment and offering a platform for showcasing digital talents.

Secondly, the program extends its influence to universities and technical institutes, where it has established 20 clubs, empowering over 219,000 individuals, 51% of whom are female, with advanced digital skills. This holistic approach encompasses both face-to-face and online training options, mentorship, job resources, and connections to opportunities in the digital job market.

The ultimate goal is to integrate the Ajira curriculum and clubs into higher education institutions seamlessly, creating sustainable income avenues for students. Since its launch, the program has successfully trained over 334,000 youth, with females making up 52% of the trained.



EMobilis training session on transcription

# **Demand Side: Job Linkages:**

These focused on connecting youth to work in both the public and private sectors. These objectives were pursued under two programs:

The e-government initiative launched a transcription and digitization program in collaboration with the judiciary, showcasing the potential of government outsourcing as a means of creating jobs for the youth. The Judiciary Pilot project, which concluded in April 2023, had a profound impact on government decision-making regarding e-government and youth employment opportunities in the digital sector.

The project, which covered 492 courts nationwide, aimed to enhance the Judiciary's effectiveness and provide employment opportunities for young people. The impact of this digitization project was significant.

Following the completion of the Judiciary project, the Ajira Digital program continued to support the Judiciary upscaling project, leading to the creation of 893 new digital job opportunities. This was achieved by setting up 11 centers and 30 court stations, primarily aimed at preparing existing agents for the digital economy.

By successfully adopting the Ajira model and National Transcription Strategy, a total of 2,608 digital work opportunities have been created to date. This approach has proven the viability and benefits of transitioning towards a digital economy.



Government MDAs digitalization conference at Villa Rosa Kempinski - Nairobi

The Ajira Digital Program through private sector engagement has made substantial strides in fostering digital opportunities and empowering youth across the country. By forging strategic partnerships with private sector entities, the program has successfully channeled over 52,000 digital work opportunities to

youth in 2023. This brings the total number of job linkages facilitated by the program since its inception to over 132,000, demonstrating its remarkable impact on youth employment.

Beyond job creation, the Ajira Digital Program has also nurtured a vibrant ecosystem of knowledge sharing, networking, capacity building, and innovation. Through various engagement forums, the program has fostered awareness of digital opportunities, promoted business growth, and enhanced operational efficiency. The Ajira Digital portal, a central hub for labor information and e-learning materials, has attracted over 420,000 digitally skilled individuals from all Kenyan counties. This expansive reach underscores the program's strategic shift towards serving a broader and more diverse audience, thereby amplifying youth empowerment through digital avenues.



SMEs Digital Transformation sensitization forum in Makueni county, the event was graced by the Deputy Governor Makueni in September 2023.

To amplify its visibility and thought leadership, the Ajira Digital Program adopted a comprehensive marketing and communication strategy. By actively participating in major government forums and events, conducting on-the-ground activation and mobilization activities, engaging in exhibitions, and launching media campaigns, the program has successfully transformed the perception of digital work opportunities among various stakeholders. As a result, over 1.5M people have become aware of the Ajira Digital program and its transformative role in empowering Kenyan youth.

In conclusion, the Ajira Digital Program stands as a testament to the power of digital technology to drive youth employment and economic growth. Through its multifaceted approach, the program has successfully created a thriving digital ecosystem that empowers young Kenyans to harness their skills, secure meaningful employment, and contribute to the nation's economic prosperity.

#### C. WOMEN EMPOWERMENT. LEADERSHIP & CHILDREN

Better Business Practices for Children (BBPC) Initiative: This initiative was launched in 2010
when KEPSA signed a statement of commitment on behalf of businesses to promote work
policies that create a conducive environment for breastfeeding employees. This initiative was
implemented in partnership through KEPSA Foundation in partnership with UNICEF in 3 phases
(2012-2013, 2016-2018, and 2019-2021) targeting the private sector in a bid to advocate for the

creation of a conducive environment supportive of breastfeeding within private sector workplaces.

- a. The Foundation held a meeting with the UNICEF Chief of Nutrition in June 2023 intended to bolster the collaboration with UNICEF. The Foundation Executive Director provided a broad overview of the BBPC project and achievements that have been realized so far. The UNICEF leadership was happy to extend the program to the next phase. A proposal for next phase funding was developed and submitted, and is currently undergoing review by UNICEF.
- b. Further, the Foundation took part in a joint stakeholder planning for commemorating this year's World Breastfeeding Week (WBW) from 1st to 7th August 2023 to create awareness and garner support for the protection, promotion and support for breastfeeding and health nutrition for children. The Foundation participated in various sessions with an aim to showcase the Foundation's role of complementing the efforts of government through the Better Business Practices for Children (BBPC) initiative among the private sector. For instance, Mabati Rolling Mills (MRM) was featured by NTV as an organization with best practices for supporting lactating employees.



KEPSA Foundation and UN Women Corporate Gala Dinner on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment held on 30th November 2023 at Emara Ole Sereni Hotel.

2. The Foundation initiated conversations with the UN Women to explore areas of collaboration to undertake interventions towards gender equality and women empowerment in the country. An inaugural meeting was held on 5th October 2023 where the Foundation also shared an implementation framework for the private sector gender mainstreaming policy with the UN Women. Following this, the Foundation and UN Women co-hosted an inaugural corporate gala dinner on 30th November 2023 at Emara Ole Sereni. The event showcased the private sector's contribution to women's empowerment and served as a platform to promote gender equality, raise awareness about women's issues, and highlight the importance of empowering women in the private sector.

3. KEPSA Foundation signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Office of the First Lady, 'MaMa Doing Good', in July 2023 with an aim of co-creating proposals to raise resources for projects that are aligned to the priority areas under the strategic focus of the two organizations. Through this partnership, an initiative on breast and cervical cancer screening was initiated targeting screening of women in over 13000 women groups in the country over the next 3 years. This will promote early detection and management thus improving quality of life. Women leaders in the private sector industry will be targeted as champions of this initiative to raise awareness and destigmatize the screening process.



MOU signing between KEPSA and Mama Doing Good on 21st July 2023

- 4. The Foundation aims to empower 100 women to move from mid-level to executive and senior leadership levels through training, mentorship, coaching, confidence building and exposure. In line with this, KEPSA Foundation facilitated a staff to attend a capacity building training program Women's Economic Empowerment Policy Makers held in the Republic of Korea from 14th to 25th October 2023.
- 5. The Foundation and OXFAM GB have drafted an MOU on the potential partnership towards undertaking initiatives that respond to Governance and Accountability, Gender Justice and Women's Empowerment, Natural Resources and Humanitarian Systems Strengthening through; Programming on Care Work, SME Programs, Tax Justice, and Youth Programs. The review of the MOU is currently ongoing.
- 6. KEPSA Foundation aims to build the capacity of Women Entrepreneurs Associations (WEAs) to effectively support their members by identifying and supporting 15 WEAs and 10 products to the last mile through products value chains analysis, and Quality product development and marketing for Export readiness. Through the WEAS value chain analysis women will be educated in operating businesses in different positions of these value chains to avoid obvious social conflicts.

For example, women can market, package and get involved in distribution rather than concentrate on production.



Women's Economic Empowerment Policy Makers Training held in the Republic of Korea

### D. SUSTAINABILITY/CLIMATE CHANGE/KNOWLEDGE CENTRE

Among the key Principles of Responsible Investments is to promote greater environmental responsibility under this, KEPSA Foundation under its pillar on Climate Change, Resilience & Sustainability;

- 1. The Foundation launched the Climate Resilience Farming Practices 'Kijani Program for Planting Orchards in Schools' in 2018 which was spearheaded by the Foundation Trustees and included the partnership of other KEPSA Members to undertake Climate Action and Resilience in Mang'u High and Lenana Schools through establishing orchards and planting of indigenous trees. Trees planted not only serve to protect the environment but also become a source of nutrition to the learners and staff and serve as an alternative source of income to the schools thus contributing to food security. The Foundation thus seeks to enhance this initiative to a national-wide program through establishing of indigenous and fruit tree seedlings in schools.
- 2. KEPSA Foundation is curating drought resilience initiatives with an aim to reach the vulnerable drought-affected families through County green growth initiatives to enhance access to lifesaving and life-sustaining food, nutrition and basic needs. This is following the successful implementation of the drought emergency response project that the Foundation undertook in Mbeere Embu County in June 2023. To escalate this initiative, Arid and Semi-

Arid counties such as Embu, Nyeri, Tharaka Nithi, Elgeyo Marakwet, Kajiado, Taita Taveta, and Nairobi will be targeted.

# Sustainable Inclusive Business - Kenya



Annual Circular Economy Conference held on 9th November 2023

Sustainable Inclusive Business – Kenya (SIB-K), operating under the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA), has evolved into a dynamic program, strategically expanding its scope to actively contribute to the private sector's embrace of sustainable business practices. This transformative shift was motivated by the recognition that the private sector is pivotal in propelling the nation's economy and is a key advocate for the sustainability agenda. SIB-K remains committed to knowledge curation, conducting insightful studies within four thematic areas: Circular Economy, Climate Change, People Power, and Redefining Business Values. These studies generate valuable insights and expertise, forming the foundation for evidence-based advocacy. SIB-K effectively influences policies that champion sustainable practices within the private sector through this approach.

An outstanding achievement for SIB-K is the establishment of the Kenya Plastics Pact. This ground-breaking, multi-stakeholder platform unites businesses, government entities, research institutions, citizens, and civil society organizations throughout the plastics value chain. This pioneering initiative seeks to cultivate collaboration and unified efforts toward realizing a circular economy for plastics in Kenya. Functioning as a catalyst, the Kenya Plastics Pact inspires organizations nationwide to collectively pursue a shared vision of a circular economy for plastics. Signatories commit to ambitious and time-bound targets, propelling transformative change by 2030.

This annual report celebrates SIB-K's dedication to fostering sustainability, driving impactful change, and inspiring collaborative efforts towards a resilient and circular future for Kenya's business landscape.



Annual Circular Economy Conference held on 9th November 2023

# Below is the Impact of SIB-K within the reporting period;

Themes	Impact
Circular Economy	SIB-K held the Circular Economy Conference, bringing together more than 300 stakeholders with the opportunity to showcase innovations, benchmark, and interact with diverse groups to foster partnerships. The conference brought together different partners who led conversations on regenerative agriculture, ICT as an enabler, and the EPR scheme. The partners included the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, and Forestry; USAID; FCDO through the SMEP Program; Strathmore University; TetraPak; and Takataka Solutions. The event attracted more than 15 journalists from countries across Africa.
	<ul> <li>SIB-K achieved the acquisition of two projects: the Plastic Producer Responsibility Project, supported by USAID through the African Trade Investment initiative and valued at USD 199,997, alongside a Pre-Feasibility Study exploring the practicality of a Biogas and Waste Water Plant for a Fish Farm, funded by FCDO through the SMEP program, with a financial value of GBP 100,000.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>KEPSA, through its knowledge centre (SIB-K) in collaboration with TradeMark Africa, joined forces to evaluate the progress towards a circular economy in Kenya. This partnership aims to identify and examine the barriers and challenges hindering the transition to a circular economy. By working together, the partners aim to develop a comprehensive policy brief that provides recommendations on addressing these bottlenecks and maximizing opportunities for private sector compliance, thereby facilitating a smooth and effective transition to a circular economy. The policy brief will serve as a valuable resource for</li> </ul>

policymakers, highlighting key focus areas and providing actionable recommendations to drive the adoption of circularity principles among businesses. Through this initiative, KEPSA and TradeMark Africa envision creating a robust framework that supports and encourages sustainable practices within the private sector. By addressing the identified bottlenecks and enhancing compliance within the private sector, the partnership aims to foster a circular economy that promotes resource efficiency, minimizes waste generation, and creates new avenues for economic growth and job creation. The collaboration between KEPSA and TradeMark Africa demonstrates a collective commitment to sustainable development and catalyzes positive change in Kenya's business landscape.

# **Climate Change**

- SIB-K published a report dubbed "Change the Story: Developing a Local Carbon Market in Kenya" through its project Change the Story. It describes the current situation and reflects on the opportunities for a Kenyan carbon market. It highlights the role of the Kenyan private sector in the voluntary carbon market (VCM) with a focus on nature-based solutions (NBS) in addressing global warming, biodiversity loss, and deforestation, as the government firmly favors an active role of the private sector in reforestation and afforestation initiatives.
- The team played an instrumental role in the Technical Working Group established by the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, and Forestry, contributing to developing a robust legal framework for implementing Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. By facilitating the smooth operation of Article 6, the legal framework aims to enhance global efforts in combating climate change and achieving sustainable development goals. This framework can potentially significantly impact by providing the necessary guidelines and mechanisms to promote international cooperation, carbon market mechanisms, and the transfer of mitigation outcomes.

# **Redefining Business Values**

In collaboration with the EU, SIB-K successfully organized the EU-Kenya Business Forum event held on February 21st and 22nd of February, 2023. The forum brought together approximately 800 people to discuss business opportunities in water, construction, renewable energy, logistics, mobility, urban infrastructure, finance for investments and business, and circular economy. The event created a platform for fruitful dialogue and exchange of ideas between European investors, Kenyan business leaders, and government representatives through panel discussions, presentations, and networking sessions. The forum significantly promoted Kenya as an

attractive business destination, highlighting its potential for sustainable and diversified growth.

The strategic vision of the EU and its Member States as key partners was reflected in their commitment to supporting the formulation and implementation of reforms that contribute to the sustainable economic diversification of Kenva. The forum discussed and explored initiatives that align with this vision. aiming to enhance job creation, economic stability, and longterm prosperity. The EU-Kenya Business Forum event proved valuable for fostering collaboration and partnership between European and Kenyan stakeholders. The forum played a crucial role in strengthening economic ties and promoting mutually beneficial relationships by facilitating trade and investment opportunities. The EU-Kenya Business Forum event marked a significant milestone in fostering European trade and investment in Kenya. It contributed to the ongoing efforts to drive sustainable economic growth and development in the country.

# **People Power**

SIB-K took the initiative to launch a comprehensive campaign named #BINITRIGHT, with a strong focus on promoting sustainable plastics waste management. The main objective of this campaign was to impart knowledge and awareness to school-going children about their responsibility in efficiently managing waste. A vital element of the campaign was the installation of a designated receptacle at the primary school, facilitating the proper disposal and collection of plastic waste. During the launch, the pupils were actively engaged and encouraged to embrace their role as stewards of the environment by ensuring the correct disposal of all plastic materials. Through #BINITRIGHT, SIB-K sought to foster a deep sense of responsibility and environmental consciousness among the young generation, promoting sustainable waste management practices. This campaign aimed to raise awareness about the importance of separating waste at the source and embracing the waste-to-value emphasizing the value derived from recyclable materials. By instilling these principles early on, SIB-K aimed to cultivate a culture of sustainable practices and responsible waste management among the school community and beyond.



# E. COMMUNITY OUTREACH/PARTNERSHIPS & NETWORKS

The Foundation aims at securing strategic partnerships through the KEPSA members and other development partners in undertaking grassroots community outreach activities for social investments. For instance;





KEPSA Foundation visit to Kenyatta National Hospital on 19th April 2023

1. KEPSA Foundation recognized the role of young women in their reproductive stage by visiting women in the KNH maternity wing on 19th April 2023. The women were given assorted household items, toiletries, and flower bouquets courtesy of BIDCO Africa Ltd, Elgon Kenya, Optiven Foundation, and Oliver K. Further, a tree planting session in line with the hospital initiative of planting a tree for every child born in the facility was undertaken.



KEPSA Foundation and Embu County Drive on Resilience Against Drought on 30th June 2023

- 2. On 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023, KEPSA Foundation in partnership with Embu County leadership, stepped out in the countryside for a drive centered on resilience against the backdrop of drought challenges plaguing parts of Embu County. This drive assisted over 600 residents of Makima Ward in Embu County with food and cash. The group included the sick, people living with disability and the aged.
  - a. The food distribution drive reached 600 persons directly and impacted over 3,000 members of the Mbeere Embu County with cash transfers disbursed to 200 targeted beneficiaries. The visit was in response to the situation in the community where residents did not have enough harvest due to the failed rainy season.
  - b. KEPSA Foundation and ChildFund are in the process of formalizing their partnership which would pave the way for further collaboration. Towards this, a meeting with the ChildFund Regional Director, and Kenya Country Director was held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2023 to explore possible areas of collaboration.
- 3. The Foundation, as part of identifying and mapping out strategic partners in the counties paid a courtesy visit to the Embu County leadership led by the Governor H.E. Hon Cecily Mbarire on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023. The Foundation briefed Hon. Mbarire on the drought response initiative held in Makima Ward. Part of the discussions included the proposals for initiating a County Green Growth initiative targeting vulnerable youth and women among other areas of collaboration.



KEPSA Foundation Meeting with Embu Governor on 21st November 2023

# KEPSA SME DEVELOPMENT ACHIEVEMENTS

# **FOCUS AREAS**

**01**Funding
Linkages

Market Access 03 Capacity Building

Innovation & Incubation

05 Policy Issues



# **PARTNERSHIPS**

#### Main partnership

This year, the Jiinue Growth Program (JGP) was rolled out. The 5-year Program seeks to address the funding gap for young women and young men-owned/led MSMEs by pairing up financial support with well-tailored technical assistance, and a hands-on coordination strategy between various players in the eco-system. JGP is an initiative of the Mastercard Foundation in partnership with a 7-member consortium

















#### Other partners:



















# **ACCESS TO FINANCE**

Through the Jiinue Growth Program, we rolled out a pilot phase in September/October 2023 funding opportunities for SMEs with the following details.

# **Loan Application Status – Pilot Phase**

- √ 72 MSEs applied for short and mediumterm loans
- √ 18 are in the process of disbursement. Average loan size Kshs.1.64M
- ✓ 20 are in other various stages of evaluation
- √ 34 failed credit checks and KYC

Micro and Asset Financing Loans KES 5,000 to KES 200,000 60 or 90 days - Loan Tenure

> Application Ongoing https://shorturl.at/JMVZ5

Short-term Working Capital Loans

KES 200,000 to KES 3,000,000 3-month Tenure

Application for pilot phase closed

Medium-term Working Capital Loans

KES 200,000 to KES 14,000,000 6-24 months Tenure

Application for pilot phase closed

Competitive interest rates of < 10% p.a and Flexible collateral requirements



#### 1. Innovation Excellence Awards



293 entries made

#### Best Overall Business Innovation Awards

#### Cash Prizes to be won

Winner: **Ksh. 200,000** 1<sup>st</sup> Runners up: **Ksh. 100,000** 2<sup>nd</sup> Runners up: **Ksh. 50,000** 

#### Best Women-led Business Innovation Awards

#### Cash Prizes to be won

Winner: **Ksh. 150,000** 1<sup>st</sup> Runners up: **Ksh. 75,000** 2<sup>nd</sup> Runners up: **Ksh. 50,000** 

# Best Youth-led Business Innovation Awards

#### Cash Prizes to be won

Winner: **Ksh. 150,000** 1<sup>st</sup> Runners up: **Ksh. 75,000** 2<sup>nd</sup> Runners up: **Ksh. 50,000** 

# 2. SME Enablers of the Year Awards



183 entries made

# SME Enabler of the Year Target: Institutions dedicated to

**Target:** Institutions dedicated to fostering SME growth and success

#### **Inclusion and Diversity SME Enabler**

**Target:** Institutions promoting equal opportunities for led/owned by young people, women enterprises and individuals with disabilities



#### CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVES

During the year we implemented targeted training programs, workshops, and webinars specifically designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of SME owners and their employees.

#### Thematic areas of training include;

- · Financial literacy
- Branding
- Digital marketing strategies
- Customer experience
- Compliance with employee laws and legal frameworks.

# Successfully trained over > 600 SMEs



# DEEPENING GENDER LENS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR

We established a KEPSA Gender Champion Network and **34 Gender Champions** (30 female and 4 male) were Identified

Co-created a Supplier Diversity program with **5 Corporates** 



# THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

#### 2 Publications

<u>Kenya Business Channel – Pg 8</u> <u>Business Daily, October 12 – Pg 11 (i)</u>

#### 3 Media Interviews

The Situation Room - Spice FM Nation Leadership Forum KBC News (ii)

Participated in 6 forums

Our posts on socials



ദ്ര Reached 152,389 People

X Generated 19,874 impression

Kenya Business Channel – Pg 8 Business Daily, October 12 – Pg 11 (i)

<u>The Situation Room - Spice FM\_Nation Leadership Forum\_KBC News\_(ii)</u>

# **APPENDIX 1: KEPSA MEMBERS 2023**

# **BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS**

1	Africa E Mobility Alliance
1 2	Africa E-Mobility Alliance Agricultural Employers' Association
3	Agrochemicals Association of Kenya
	Association of Consulting Engineers of Kenya
4	Association of Gaming Operators of Kenya
5	Association of Kenya Insurers
6	Association of Women in Energy and Extractives
7	British Business Association of Kenya
8	Business Ireland Kenya Association
9	Business Processes Outsourcing Association of Kenya
10	Car Importers Association of Kenya
11	Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
12	
13	Delegation of German Industry and Commerce of Kenya  East Africa Venture Capital Association
14	East African Tea Trade Association
15	
16	Electricity Sector Association of Kenya
17	Environment Institute of Kenya  Events Managers Association of Kenya
18	•
19	Federation of Kenya Employers
20	Federation of Public Transport Sector Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya
21	•
22	Institution of Engineers of Kenya
23	Institution of Surveyors of Kenya
24	Kenya Association of Air Operators
25	Kenya Association of Independent Schools
26	Kenya Association of Manufacturers
27	Kenya Association of Pharmaceutical Industry
28	Kenya Association of Travel Agents
29	Kenya Association of Women Business Owners
30	Kenya Auto Bazaar Association
31	Kenya Bankers Association
32	Kenya Forex & Remittance Association
33	Kenya Green Building Society
34	Kenya Healthcare Federation
35	Kenya Institute of Supplies Management
36	Kenya Oil & Gas Association
37	Kenya Private Schools Association
38	Kenya Property Developers Association
39	Kenya Renewable Energy Association

40	Kenya Ships Agents Association
41	Kenya Tea Growers Association
42	Kenya Tourism Federation
43	Kenya Transport Association of Kenya
44	Law Society of Kenya
45	Leasing Association of Kenya
46	Marketing Society of Kenya
47	Medical Technology Association of Kenya
48	National Association of Private Universities in Kenya
49	Oil and Gas Contractors Association
50	Petroleum Outlets Association of Kenya (POAK)
51	Pharmaceuticals Society of Kenya
52	Protective Security Industry Association
53	Retail Traders Association of Kenya
54	Rural Private Hospitals Associations of Kenya
55	Safaricom Dealers Association
56	Seed Trade Association of Kenya
57	Shippers Council of Eastern Africa
58	Technology Service Providers of Kenya
59	The Architectural Association of Kenya
60	The Institute of Human Resource Management
61	The Kenya Flower Council
62	Town and County Planners Association of Kenya
63	United Business Association
64	Water Service Providers Association

# **CORPORATE MEMBERS**

1	Actis Kenya Limited
2	Adept Technologies Limited
3	Africa Digital Media Institute Limited
4	Africa Health Business Limited
5	Africa Practice East Africa Limited
6	Africa Risk Management and compliance Partners Limited
7	Agema Analysts Limited
8	Agri Experience
9	AIG Kenya Limited
10	Airtel Networks
11	Alternatives Africa Limited
12	AMG Realtors Limited
13	Amitruck Limited

14	Apec Consortium Limited
15	Arati and Company Advocates
16	Associated Battery Manufacturers (E.A) Limited
17	Astral Aviation Limited
18	B. Braun Medical (K) Limited
19	B2B Africa Limited
20	Bamburi Cement Plc
21	Base Titanium Limited
22	Bata Shoe Company
23	Bayer East Africa
24	Bedi Investments
25	Benchmark Distributors Limited
26	Bidco Africa Limited
27	Biogas Power Holdings E.A Limited
28	BOC Kenya PLC
29	Bollore Transport & Logistics (K) Limited
30	Bolt Support Kenya Limited
31	Boston Petroleum Limited
32	Bowmans Coulson Harney Ilp
33	Bridge International Academies
34	Bright Vision Media Limited
35	British American Tobacco Plc
36	Brookside Dairy Limited
37	Built For Good Africa
38	Burn Manufacturing USA LLC
39	Career Options Africa
40	Carepay Limited
41	Cellulant Kenya Limited
42	Centum Investment Company Limited
43	Cerberrus Engineering Limited
44	Chandaria Group
45	Chepkuto Advocates
46	CIM Credit Kenya Limited
47	Citadel Africa Family Business
48	Citibank N.A
49	CKL Africa Limited (Formerly Cooper-K Brand Limited)
50	Cloudpay Limited
51	CM Advocates LLP
52	CMA CGM Kenya Limited
53	Coeffice Brothers Limited
54	Confee Brothers Limited
55	Content Provider Services Africa Limited
56	CPF Group Crown Solutions Limited
57	Crown Solutions Limited

58 Crown Solutions Limited (Crown Healthcare) 59 DalbergGlobal Development Advisors 60 Dance Unite Africa 61 Data Alma 62 Davis & Shirtliff Limited 63 Deloitte & Touche LLP 64 DHL Worldwide Express Kenya Limited 65 Dorion Africa Limited 66 Dow Chemical East Africa Limited 67 Drop Access Limited 68 East Africa Breweries Limited 69 E-Cart Services Limited (Jumia Ltd) 70 Ecobank Kenya Limited 71 Ecoener Ingenieria Kenya Limited 72 Elecster Kenya Limited 73 Elgon Kenya Limited 74 Elimu Holdings 75 Eminence Global Communication 76 Emma's Knoll Logistics & supplies Limited 77 English Press Limited 80 Express Communication 81 Facebook 82 Farm Africa 83 Fortescue Future Industries Kenya Limited 84 Fourth Generation Capital Limited 85 Freight Forwarders Kenya Limited 86 Fruitss Leadership Africa 87 G4S Security Services Limited 88 Galana Oil Kenya Limited 89 Ganatra Plant Equipments Limited
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146	Larsen and Toubro Limited
147	Lawyers Hub Kenya
148	Leapfrog Advisory Limited
149	Liaison Group (I.B) Limited
150	Light for the world
151	Lineplast Group Limited
152	Liquid Telecommunication Kenya
153	Liyona Traders Limited
154	LPC Global Logistics Limited
155	Lukenya Academy
156	Lupat Cleaning Services Limited
157	Mabati Rolling Mills Limited
158	Mars Wringley Confectionery
159	Marubeni Corporation
160	Medilink Lab & Surgical Limited
161	Melvin Marsh
162	Microsoft East Africa
163	Minet Kenya Insurance Brokers Limited
164	MMW Advocates IIp
165	Moringa School Limited
166	Motivate Africa Limited
167	Musty Distribution Limited
168	Mwakawa Investments Limed
169	Nairobi Bottlers Limited
170	Nairobi Securities Exchange Plc
171	Namanga Kidz Zone
172	Nation Media Group
173	NCBA Bank Kenya PLC
	Nedbank Limited
175	Nitram Accountants Africa Ilp
176	Nova Gardens Limited
177	Nurisha Trust Kibondeni College
178	Oakar Services Limited
179	OBG Company Limited
180	OCP Kenya Limited
181	Octavia Carbon CO
182	Ogilvy Public Relations
183	Oliver K Limited
184	One Acre Fund
185	Optiven Enterprises Limited
186	Osho Chemical IndustriesLimited
187	Panafrican Equipment (Kenya) Limited
188	Peach Tech Limited
189	Phasian Consulting Limited

190	Phindor Limited
191	Planon Solutions Limited
192	Poa Internet Kenya Limited
193	Polucon services
194	Practical Action
195	Pricewaterhouse Coopers Limited
196	PrideInn Group
197	Prime Health Pharma Limited
198	Priori Technologies Limited
199	Progreen Innovations Limited
200	PTG Travel Limited
201	Quickmart Limited
202	Red August Group
203	Rentco Africa Limited
204	Rentworks East Africa Limited
205	Rift Valley Highway Limited
206	Riley Falcon Securities
207	Riverside Water Deflouridation Consultants Limited
208	Ronalds Limited Liability Partnership
209	Roofings Kenya Limited
210	Royal Floral Holland Kenya Ltd
211	Royal Tots Daycare and Nursery Kiembeni Limited
212	RSM Eastern Africa LLP
213	Rubis Energy Kenya Public Limited Company
214	Safaricom Limited
215	Sanergy Limited
216	SAP East Africa Limited
217	Sapient Consulting Group Limited
218	Sarai Afrique Limited
219	Sarova Hotels Limited
220	Sayani Investments Limited
221	Seeds of Change
222	Seko Minayo & Company Advocates
223	Senaca East Africa Limited
224	Sendy Kenya Marketplace Limited
225	Senses Hub Limited
226	Separ International
227	Sewe International Limited
228	SGS Kenya Limited
229	Sharlton Security & Private Investigation Service
230	She Phoebe Global
231	Sheth Naturals Limited
232	Shiprazor Limited
233	ShopIT Limited

234	Skiga Group Limited
235	Sojitz East Africa Limited
236	Songa Capital Limted
237	South- End Tech Limited
238	SOWITEC Kenya Limited
239	SP Advisory
240	Spearhead Africa Limited
241	Spurking Holdings Limited
242	St Bakhita School Limited
243	St. Nicholas Juniour School
244	Standard Chartered Bank Kenya Limited
245	STIHL East Africa Limited
246	SUADEO Technologies Limited
247	Sunculture Kenya Limited
248	Suni Smart Energy Limited
249	Sunripe (1976) Limited
250	Synergetic Development Investment
251	Tata Chemicals Magadi Limited
252	Telenor Services Limited
253	Tetra Pak Limited
254	The Alternative Accommodation Network
255	The Boston Consulting Group
256	The Karen Hospital Limited
257	The Riara Group of School
258	The Youth Cafe Limited
259	Tibu Health
260	Toner World Limited
261	Torrent East Africa Limited
262	Trinity Energy Limited
263	Trinity Magnolia Printer Limited
264	Tullow Kenya B.V. Kenya Branch
265	Uber Kenya Limited
266	Ultravetis E.A. Limited
267	Umsizi Llp
268	Unicorn Valley Technologies
269	Van Woustraat Limited
270	Victory Farms
271	Visiondrill Technology
272	Viva Africa Consulting LLP
273	Vivo Energy Kenya Limited
274	Wells Fargo Limited
275	Wema House School Limited
276	Western seed Company Limited
277	Winnies Pure Health Products Limited

278	WISEe Cooperative Society Limited
279	Woolworths (K) PTY LTD
280	Zandaux Kenya Limited
281	Zawadi Brand Solutions Limited
282	Zenka Digital Limited
283	Zydii Limited