



# KIRDI NEWSLETTER

Volume I, Issue I

Newsletter Date: 1ST JULY, 2020 - 30TH JUNE, 2021

## 2021 KERICHO ENTERPRISE EXPO



### Empowering MSMEs for sustainable economic growth in Kericho County

The expo was held at Moi grounds Kericho Town on 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. The event was organized by the MoITED, its Agencies and the County Government of Kericho, It was graced by Hon. Betty C. Maina EGH, Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Industry, Trade and Enterprise Development and Kericho gov-

ernor Prof. Paul Kiprono Chepkwony.

The CS also launched the Londiani CIDC and commissioned honey processing, milk processing and yoghurt processing machines. KIRDI took part in the event through exhibiting at the grounds and donated the honey and yoghurt processing machines.



**KIRDI Deputy Director Corporate services taking CS Hon. Maina, EGH through the range of successful products**



### Featured

- 2021 Kericho enterprise expo.
- BIAWE.
- CS Betty Maina during the launch of Biashara Centre and Leather Annex in Kisumu.
- Kisumu Biashara Centre.
- CAS Hon. Osiany Visit to KIRDI Kisumu
- MSME Success Story
- ACE II Project Exchange Program.
- GIZ Incubator.
- Research Scientist Joint Sampling Exercise at Lake Bogoria.
- Animal feeds formulation training.
- Kisumu Centre conference facilities.
- Board and management retreat.
- PC Statistics on MSMEs support.
- New technology developed on mycelium based ceiling panels.
- Services Offered to MSMEs

## BUSINESS INCUBATOR FOR AFRICAN WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS (BIAWE)



Business Incubator for African Women Entrepreneurs (BIAWE) a project successfully implemented by KIRDI was aimed at

developing, testing and applying widely in Africa practical approaches and incubator models to economically empower women through enhancing capacities and viability of women managed Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

The programme brought together 41 women from

across the Country. It offered business incubation services to address numerous challenges facing women entrepreneurs in the region. The training was facilitated by trainers from KIRDI, KIBT, KIE, KEBS, MSEA and BrandKE among other partners.

## CABINET SECRETARY HON. BETTY C. MAINA LAUNCHES THE LEATHER ANNEX AND BIASHARA CENTRE AT KIRDI KISUMU



CS Betty Maina during e launch in Kisumu



CS Ministry of Industrialization, Trade and Enterprise Development Hon. Betty C, Maina, EGH, Launched Kisumu Hub Biashara Centre at KIRDI Kisumu Western Region Centre on Friday 19th March, 2021.

The Kisumu hub is the 4th Biashara Centre to be launched in the Country including Kariobangi south housed at MSEA Centre, Eldoret and Mombasa Biashara Centre housed at KEBS premises.

The Centre is a One-Stop-Shop for Micro, Small and Medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) where they will access all Government services.

*“One-Stop-Shop for Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (MSMEs) for access to a variety of Government Services”*

CS Maina also inaugurated the KIRDI MSME Business Park to support the MSMEs as they upgrade their digital skills and grow their businesses.

During the event the CS also launched the KIRDI Leather Annex, a facility for processing hides and skins in the Western Region for support to entrepreneurs in the leather Industry.



Biashara Centre at a glance

KIRDI Kisumu Biashara centre houses various parastatals under the Ministry of Industrialization, Trade and Enterprise Development and other government agencies.

The agencies at the Biashara Centre include; Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute, Kenya Bureau of Standards, Kenya Industrial Property Institute, Kenya Investment

Authority, Micro and Small Enterprise Authority, Kenya Industrial Estate and Kenya National Accreditation Services, Kenya Revenue Authority, and the Kisumu County Government.

The Biashara Centre was supported with computers donated by the Stanbic Bank Foundation in collaboration with MoITED and Microsoft through the Global Skills Initiative Programme.



## HON. DAVID OSIANY, CAS VISIT TO KIRDI KISUMU



KIRDI Kisumu hosted Hon. David Osiany the Chief Administrative Secretary (CAS), Ministry of Industrialization, Trade & Enterprise Development on 2<sup>nd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2021.

The CAS held a meeting with the leadership of the Lake Region Economic Block to discuss trade promotion and investment development with a key focus on Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) support.

The CAS while on his visit, had the opportunity to visit some MSMEs within Kisumu, including:

*“Meeting with the leadership of the Lake Region Economic Block to discuss trade promotion and investment development.”*

Key women Group-Nyahera area, which deals with pottery work, Modesh Bakers - Manyatta area, Mixa Farm - Nyamasaria, Rice Millers & Simaga Feeds in Ahero.



Hon. Osiany with Janet Odeyo an Incubatee at KIRDI dealing with potteries

## MSME SUCCESS STORY - BAKULI FOODS



Bakuli foods Entrepreneur



KIRDI continues to support individuals in their entrepreneurship journeys. Juddie, has vision to be a market leader in natural and good quality snack products in Kenya and beyond. With that, she started Bakuli Foods which is an agribusiness company based in Kenya. They produce

coconut chips by harvesting mature Kenyan coconuts, slicing the meat, and toasting it to perfection. The benefit of this is a gluten free and vegan friendly snack.

She testifies that customers are becoming more health conscious. There is a growing vegan population and increased

healthy snack consumption giving her business a competitive advantage over existing products.

Bakuli Foods growth and development has been made possible by KIRDI which has provided the following support; training and capacity building, access of common manufacturing facilities to undertake production, availability of technical support pre and post production and are assisted during the KEBS certification process.



## KIRDI HOSTS MOI UNIVERSITY LECTURERS UNDER THE ACE II - PTRE PROJECT EXCHANGE PROGRAM FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH

The Africa Higher Learning Centre of Excellence (ACE) is an initiative launched by the World Bank and key regional stakeholders with an aim of establishing and strengthening specialization and collaboration amongst a network of higher education institutions, in order to deliver relevant quality education as well as undertake applied research that addresses key development challenges in Africa.

The first phase of the initiative (ACE I Project), was launched in 2013 for the West and Central African

Region. The second phase of the initiative (ACE II Project) was launched in 2017 in various Countries across the East and Central African Region. ACE II seeks to strengthen 24 competitively selected institutions across 8 Countries to deliver quality post-graduate education and to build collaborative research capacity in five regional priority areas namely; industry, agriculture, education and applied statistics. KIRDI is one of the key partners in the ACE II PTRE Project hosted at Moi University.

Collaborative/ Joint research/exchange for both

students and staff is one of the programs that KIRDI is jointly implementing with Moi University and other project partners. The program seeks to strengthen Research Capacity and Excellence in Phytochemicals, Textile, Industrial Engineering and Renewable Energy. During the Quarter ending 31st March, 2021, the Institute hosted two (2) members of staff from Moi University namely; Dr Phanice Wangila and Dr John Biwot who were attached to the Natural Products Research Division. Many other staff members and students from both institutions are lined up for participation in the program during the implementation period



*Sample Preparation and Laboratory Analysis*

*“ACE II seeks to strengthen 24 competitively selected institutions across 8 countries to deliver quality post-graduate education and to build collaborative research capacity.”*

## GIZ INCUBATOR

Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute (KIRDI) is participating in the Agri-food Incubation Programme in partnership with Agri-jobs 4 Youth Initiative funded by German Development Cooperation and implemented by GIZ. The project aims at enhancing youth employment in Western Kenya by equipping them

with technical and business skills.

KIRDI selected 20 young entrepreneurs under this project from Siaya, Kisumu, Bungoma, Vihiga and Kakamega counties, aged 18-35 years, with preference to women led enterprises. The project prioritizes on the following agro-value

chains: Baking technology, fruit and vegetables value addition, and oilseed crops processing.

The first phase included business skills and was completed successfully between 3rd May to 16th 2021 while second phase entails technical training skills and is expected to end in September, 2021.



*Role play & discussion groups sessions*



*Field visits & practical sessions*

## PROJECT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF MICROBIAL BIOTECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY FROM KENYA'S SODA LAKES IN LINE WITH THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL



Sample and data collection at the Mawe Moto Cluster (Hot Springs/Geysers Point)

The main objective of the project is the utilization of microbial genetic resources within the protected Kenyan Soda Lakes for research, development and commercialization of industrial enzymes and bio-pesticides for improved resource management and livelihoods in compliance with the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing.

KIRDI recently participated in a joint sampling exercise at Lake Bogoria National Reserve, Baringo County whose aim is to undertake the systematic discovery of natural products for bio-pesticides and industrial en-

zymes development. Other partners that joined the exercise were Kenya Wildlife Service and Dudutech (K) Ltd.

The sampling exercise was led by the Institute for Biotechnology, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) who are the team leaders in the selection, characterization and deposition of potential isolates producing bioactive secondary metabolites as bio-pesticides for seed and seedling treatment.

*“The project aim’s to undertake the systematic discovery of natural products for bio-pesticides and industrial enzymes development.”*

## KIRDI ANIMAL FEEDS RATION FORMULATION TRAINING

*“The Animal Feeds Ration Formulation Training for 2020-2021 financial year was conducted in November 2020”*

KIRDI offers a training on Animal feeds ration formulation annually. The training is tailored to benefit stakeholders in County Governments, feed manufacturers, community-based organizations (CBOs), farmers, feed suppliers, Universities and researchers. Many stakeholders have benefited from this annual training conducted at the headquarters in South

C. Nutrient, feedstuff, toxic factors, feed analysis and computer based ration formulation among other topics are covered. During the Financial Year 2020-2021 the training was conducted in the month of November 2020 with strict adherence to MoH Protocols on Containment measures.



Training in session

## KISUMU CENTRE CONFERENCE FACILITIES



The four seasons terrace



Round table sitting

Experience our new, progressive approach to meetings that helps you drive better results! Our conference facilities are a prime location for any event, meeting or important business conferences, conveniently situated along Kibos Road opposite BOC gases.

We have a total of 10 rooms that can accommodate a varying number of guests. These include Lamu Conference Hall, Sahara Conference Room, Ololo Board

Room, Alpaca Lounge and Talek Meeting Room. Two of our conference halls can accommodate up to 100 guests each.

However, with the pandemic's presence and until further notice, the capacity of our event spaces has reduced as we continue to follow and adhere to the authorities' guidelines on COVID-19 protocols. Meals and refreshments are served at The Four Seasons Terrace. Additionally, we also have an outdoor garden that is

useful for sharing meals, reading during breaks and meditation.

*“We have a total of 10 rooms that can accommodate a varying number of guests.”*



Conference room

## BOARD AND MANAGEMENT RETREAT AT KISUMU CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF POLICIES

*“The main aim of the retreat was for validation of the developed policies for the Institute.”*

The KIRDI Board of Directors and Senior Management held a retreat at the Institute's Kisumu Centre on 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2021. The main aim of the retreat was for validation of the developed policies for the Institute. This will enhance efficiency of the Institute in achieving its objectives, comply with legal and social environment in which it operates and build goodwill with both

internal and external stakeholders. The policies will provide guidance, consistency, accountability, efficiency and clarity on how an organization operates.



Board members and management retreat at Kisumu Centre

## PERFORMANCE CONTRACT (PC) STATISTICS

KIRDI signed performance contract with the Ministry of Industrialization, Trade and Enterprise Development (MoITED) for the Financial Year 2020/2021. Key annual achievement is as follows;

- 13 new technologies were developed surpassing the target of 7.
- 14 technologies transferred against a target of 10.
- 37 MSMEs products were upgraded against a target of 30.
- 391 MSMEs were supported through CMF and Business Incubation against a target of 330 .

Lastly Training and Capacity Building target was set at 180 MSMEs while 223 MSMEs were supported.

Overall there was a major milestone in respect to the service delivery of the Institute and the MSMEs supported during the period.

KIRDI PROJECTS/PROGRAMS	ACTUAL	TARGET
Number of MSMEs supported under CMF and Business Incubation	391	330
Number of MSMEs supported under Training and Capacity Building	223	180
MSMEs Products Upgraded	37	30
Technologies Transferred	14	10
New Technologies Developed	13	7

## NEW TECHNOLOGY: DEVELOPMENT OF MYCELIUM BASED CEILING PANELS



**Prototypes of Mycelium based Insulation panels**

The invention relates to an organic building material from selected fungus and the process thereof.

The treatment process entails the use of a selected fungus in the formulation and production of organic building material.

The organic building material in the invention has beneficial effects such as affordability, biodegradability, low in weight and also contributes to the

recycling of agricultural products, by-products and the replacement of polyurethane foams which are often petroleum-based.

Mycelium based insulating panels is an emerging category of bio composites relying on the valorization of lignocellulosic wastes using selected fungi.

## SERVICES OFFERED TO MSMEs

KIRDI provides the following services to MSMEs;

### Training and Capacity Building

KIRDI offers practical and industry related training courses that are custom made and focused on the needs of MSMEs. The trainings are undertaken from both within the Institutes premises and at the MSMEs premises where possible.

The training are undertaken in the following areas, but not limited to: Food Technology, Natural Products, Leather and Leather Products, Honey Processing, Textile Technology, Electrical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Industrial Chemistry, Power Resource, Ceramics and Building Materials and Mushroom production.

The training programs usually take a period of one (1) to Three (3) weeks depending on the complexity of the technology. The practicality of the training is emphasized by the one on one interaction between the trainer and the trainee hence ensuring effectiveness of the program.

### Business Incubation

KIRDI runs an incubation program whereby startups are housed within the organization for a specific period of time depending on the client's needs and agreeable terms with the Institute.

The institute also runs on-site service where research scientists support entrepreneurs and industrialists from their establishments. The Incubatees in-house are given technical support in their areas of interest. The incubation programs aims to grow MSME's by supporting and nurturing them to create products that have a market reach and one that is able to compete globally.

### Providing Access to Common Manufacturing Facilities

This is a concept whereby KIRDI provides facilities (space, machine & utilities) for MSMEs to process their products at a fee. Common Manufacturing Facilities are offered in the following area: Food Technology, Natural Products, Leather, Engineering, Textile and Ceramics & Building Materials.

### Product Development

Product development involves modification of an existing product or formulation of an entirely new product that satisfies a newly defined market niche. KIRDI offers its clients an opportunity to develop new products or value add on existing ones to fill a specific gap and meet the MSME's objective in upgrading their products to international standards.

### Quality Assurance and Laboratory Testing

The institute offers laboratory services aimed at enhancing quality of products with a focus on MSMEs to enable them attain and sustain international competitiveness. Our strength lies in the following areas:

- Testing and analysis of water
- Food analysis
- Animal Feeds analysis
- Chemical analysis
- Leather, textiles, minerals and related material testing
- Cook stove testing

### Consultancy

The Institute offers consultancy services in industrial technology, development and application.



Juice processing training

*"The training programs usually take place between one (1) to Three (3) weeks depending on the complexity of the technology."*



An SME seeking a service under Business Incubation



Laboratory testing



SMEs packing sanitizers under Common Manufacturing Facility



Packaging and labeling of products

2020/2021

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**KIRDI NAIROBI HEADQUARTERS**



**KIRDI KISUMU CENTRE**

**VISION**

*“A world class centre of excellence in Industrial Research, Technology and Innovation”*

**MISSION**

*“To undertake Industrial Research and Transfer Innovative Technologies for Socio-Economic Development”*

**CORE VALUES**

In the endeavor to realize its vision and mission, KIRDI upholds the following core values:

**Customer Focus:**

KIRDI will not only meet but exceed customers’ expectations.

**Integrity & Accountability:**

The Board and Staff of the Institute will uphold integrity and accountability while discharging their duties and responsibilities.

**Professionalism:**

The Board of Directors and staff of the Institute will exercise professionalism in all their operations.

**Creativity & Innovativeness:**

KIRDI is a learning organization that embraces creativity and innovativeness in responding to changes in the operating environment.

**Teamwork:**

KIRDI Board of Directors and staff work together, as one team, towards the realization of the Institute’s mandate.

**Environmental Sustainability:**

The Institute commits to protect the environment as it implements its programmes.