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# MksU Connect NewsLetter 2026



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# Machakos University Boosts Practical Agricultural Training with New Tractor

Machakos University has strengthened practical agricultural training and food production following the acquisition of a Massey Ferguson 290 XTRA tractor, officially handed over on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026. The ceremony was presided over by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Joyce Agalo, and attended by University Management Board, Dr. Julius Nzeve, Dean School of Agriculture, Environment and Health Sciences; Ms. Alice Njeri, Head of Supply Chain Management; as well as a section of the student leadership and students from the School of Agriculture Environment and Health Sciences.

Manufactured in India and delivering approximately 82 horsepower, the tractor is designed to support hands on student training, research and income-generating agricultural activities for the University. Speaking during the handover, the Vice-Chancellor emphasized that the equipment will play a critical role in enhancing experiential learning, boosting food production and promoting innovation among students.



Vice-Chancellor Prof. Joyce Agalo conducts a brief test drive of the newly acquired tractor after the official flag-off



Senior University Management and students during the tractor handover ceremony.

She noted that a driver orientation session would be conducted immediately with a comprehensive performance and utilization report planned by the fourth month following the acquisition of all necessary attachments. The Vice Chancellor encouraged students to take an active role in learning how to operate and manage the equipment, highlighting its importance in building professional skills, fostering innovation and advancing social empowerment.

Following the official flag-off, the tractor was taken for a brief test drive. In her closing remarks, the Vice-Chancellor urged that the equipment be used with clarity of purpose, noting that future income generated from its use could support the wider University community, including the supply of foodstuffs to the University restaurant, which will rely on staff and student commitment, creativity and drive.

# Machakos University TVET Institute: Shaping Skilled Professionals for the Future



Mr. Nicholus Mwunda, Director -TVET

Machakos University TVET Institute offers a wide range of diploma programmes in Engineering, Institutional Management, and Business Studies, designed to meet the demands of today's dynamic job market. The Institute is committed to equipping learners with hands-on, practical skills that prepare them not only for employment but also for entrepreneurship and self-reliance.

The Institute boasts a team of highly competent staff, supported by well-equipped workshops and modern laboratories that provide an ideal environment for skills acquisition and experiential learning. These facilities ensure that students gain relevant, industry-ready competencies aligned with national and global standards.

In a major milestone, Machakos University has partnered with the M-Pesa Foundation to construct and equip a Smart TVET Centre. This state-of-the-art facility will significantly enhance training capacity and position the University as a centre of excellence in technical and vocational education.

All diploma programmes at the TVET Institute are examined by the Kenya National Examinations Council (KNEC). The Institute admits students twice a year, in January and September. While the January intake has concluded, applications are now open for the September intake, and 2025 KCSE candidates are encouraged to apply.

👉 A full list of TVET programmes offered is provided on page 12.

# MksU Students Depart for Latvia Under ERASMUS+ International Mobility Programme

Machakos University continues to expand its international footprint through the Erasmus+ Mobility Programme, which provides students and staff with valuable opportunities for academic exchange and cross-cultural learning.



Prof. Makindi (r) and Prof. Mulwa (l) with the departing students

On Wednesday, 14th January 2026, the 4th cohort of nine students from the University, Daniel Mwololo, Michael Ombasa, Mercy Ndeto, Stanley Mwaniki, Cynthia Ngaruiya, Evan Ngundi, John Ogutu, Emmanuel Omondi, and Bradstone Mabeya (on her second semester), departed for Riga Technical University (RTU) in Riga, Latvia, through Cairo, Egypt for visa processing at the Embassy of Latvia (hosted by Jacinta Muvevi, Courtesy of the Kenyan Consulate in Egypt). The students will spend a full semester abroad, with an option for extension to a second semester.

The students were formally bid farewell by the University leadership through the Coordinator of the Programme, Prof. Stanley Makindi, and Prof. David Mulwa, the Acting Registrar (Research, innovation and Linkages). Prof. Makindi inducted the students on academic expectations at RTU, cultural norms, student life in Latvia, weather considerations, and practical guidance on adapting to life in a new country. He inspired the students to be good ambassadors of Machakos University and Kenya, and to make the most of this time in by focusing on academic excellence, cultural exchange, and personal growth, noting that international exposure plays a critical role in shaping globally competent graduates.



The students in Cairo, Egypt

Latvia Under ERASMUS+ International Mobility Programme During the same period, the University also warmly welcomed back the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cohort of students, Joseph Ababu, Meshack Kitum, and Aaron Kipkoech, who had successfully completed two semesters at RTU. The returning students were commended for their resilience and adaptability, and encouraged to share their experiences with fellow students to inspire greater participation in international programmes.

## SAMU Champions University Community Spirit Through Daycare Donations

As the month of January drew to a close, the Students Association of Machakos University (SAMU) demonstrated their unwavering commitment to social impact. On Friday, 30th January 2026, CRESHE received a generous donation of personal essentials destined for the University Day Care Centre.

This initiative is a centerpiece of SAMU's ongoing Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) project. The current SAMU leadership is the second administration to spearhead such community-focused activities, building upon the foundations laid by their predecessors.



Dean of Students Dr. James Karau (l) alongside SAMU officials presents donations to the crèche coordinators.

Secretary General Jacob Chege noted that the association's reach extends across the campus, highlighting that the recent installation of university gazebos is also a vital branch of this broader project.

*"The door is open for any well-wishers or sponsors."*  
Faith and Mary, Day Care Centre Coordinators

The momentum for community engagement continues into February. On 13th February the university will host the Governor and Deputy Governor of Machakos. During this high-profile visit, the Governor is expected to provide toys to the creche as part of the ongoing support for the facility.

Alongside the visit, the University amphitheatre will play host to a ladies' empowerment event, further cementing SAMU's goal of supporting both the university and the wider community

Through these actions, the SAMU administration is upholding its vision that promises long-term benefits for the entire Machakos University community.

# SPORTS SECTION

01

## ⚽ Football

The men suffered a tight 1–0 win, as the ladies cruised to an impressive 2–0 clean-sheet win against CUEA



Men Football

02

## 🏐 Handball

The men delivered a dominant performance to overcome MMU 22–18, while the ladies overwhelmed CUEA with a commanding 39–8 victory.



Ladies Handball

03

## 🏃 Athletics

Athletics saw ten students compete at the AK/University Cross-Country event at SEKU Ithookwe Stadium in Kitui.

04

## 🏐 Volleyball

Showing resilience and control, both the ladies and men rebounded to defeat UMMA 3–0.

05

## Upcoming Events

KUSF 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Beach Games  
Venue: Buntwani Beach, Malindi  
Dates: 6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> February 2026  
Host: Technical University of Mombasa

NaSoKUSF Conference Indoor Games  
Venue: CUEA  
Dates: 7<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> February 2026



# MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

Excellence in Transformative Scholarship and Community Service

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS AND PAPERS

### 7<sup>TH</sup> MksU INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

**THEME: LEVERAGING 5<sup>TH</sup> INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION (5IR) IN RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**VENUE: UNIVERSITY AMPHITHEATRE/VIRTUAL PLATFORM**

**DATES: 18<sup>TH</sup> – 19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2026**

## SUB-THEMES

### Transformative Learning and Pedagogy

- Digital transformation in education
- Student-centered learning approaches
- Quality assurance and academic excellence
- Lifelong learning and skills development
- Regional Integration and Global Partnerships in Higher Education

### Research, Science and Technology Transfer for Sustainable Development

- Bridging the gap between academia and industry
- Emerging technologies and their applications
- Intellectual property and commercialization
- Research funding Challenges and Opportunities
- Technological innovations and inventions

### Technology for Environmental Sustainability, Food Systems and One Health

- Climate Action and Environmental Sustainability
- Agroecology for Food Sovereignty
- One Health and Nutrition for Human Wellbeing
- Tourism Resilience in the Era of Disruptions
- AI Application in Food Systems
- Agribusiness and Value Chain Development

### Governance and Institutional Transformation

- Strategic leadership in higher education
- Evidence based policy making
- Digital transformation and E-governance
- Diversity, equity and inclusion in governance
- Youth and Civic engagement
- Policy responses to social justice

### Business, Entrepreneurship, Employability and Economic Resilience

- Entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystems
- Enhancement of Youth Employability
- Building a Strong Economic Resilience in the Era of Disruptions
- Business incubation and start ups
- Digitalization and green manufacturing
- Industry- University partnerships for business development

### Language, culture, and technology

- Language documentation and revitalization
- Ethnography of communication in digital spaces
- Technology and language teaching
- Digital genres and sustainability
- Computational approaches to linguistic research

### Empowering Youth and Communities in an Inclusive Digital Era

- Technology and Digital Sociology
- AI and Methodological Advances in Social Sciences
- Gender, Equity and Inclusion
- Emerging Issues/skills in 21st Century
- Youth and innovative Economy/Content Creation
- Cultural Diversity and Social Cohesion

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. Abstracts of 250-300 words\* should be emailed to: [mksuconference@mksu.ac.ke](mailto:mksuconference@mksu.ac.ke)  
\*clearly indicate subtheme and whether oral or poster presentation;
2. Abstracts should be in one continuous paragraph and include up to 6 keywords for online indexing;
3. Abstracts should include the names of the author(s), affiliations, postal, email and telephone contacts, with the corresponding author indicated in a footnote;
4. The full paper should be 3000-8000 words (6-16 pages) prepared in Times New Roman, size 12 font, spacing of 1.5 and in editable text format;
5. All references cited in the papers should follow *the APA 6th Edition Citation Style*;
6. The full paper should be emailed to: [mksuconference@mksu.ac.ke](mailto:mksuconference@mksu.ac.ke)

Abstracts and papers can be submitted/presented either in English or Kiswahili depending on discipline.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- All submitted papers will be peer reviewed.
- All presented papers will be published in the conference proceedings and will also be placed in an open-access online conference archive

## REGISTRATION FEE

	Description	Early Registration	Normal Registration	Late Registration
1	Scholars from the East Africa Community	KES5,000	KES6,000	KES7,000
2	International Participants	US\$55	US\$65	US\$75
3	Postgraduate Students	KES2,000	KES2,500	KES3,000
4	Conference Exhibitors	KES10,000	KES15,000	KES20,000



Luban Workshop

## PAYMENT DETAILS

Fees MUST be deposited in the following Account:

Account Name: **Machakos University**  
Bank: **National Bank of Kenya (Machakos Branch)**  
Account No. **01020078499401**  
Bank Code: **12 Branch code: 048**  
Swift Code: **NBKEKENX**

Mpesa Paybill: **625625 Account No. 01020078499401**  
Kindly forward your payment message to +254727 211 619

## IMPORTANT DATES

a) Submission of abstracts	20 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
b) Notification of acceptance	3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2026
c) Deadline for submission of full papers	24 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
d) Early registration deadline	10 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
e) Normal registration deadline	24 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
f) Late registration	15 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
g) Exhibition registration deadline	15 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
h) Conference dates	18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> June 2026

For registration and more information, contact

Conference Secretariat  
Machakos University  
P.O. Box 136-90100, Machakos, Kenya  
Email: [mksuconference@mksu.ac.ke](mailto:mksuconference@mksu.ac.ke)  
Tel: +254727 211 619 OR +254717 949 880



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# TVET COURSES

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Diploma in Building Technology

Diploma in Civil Engineering

Diploma in Electrical and Electronic Engineering (Power Option)

Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (Plant Option)

Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (Production Option)

Diploma in Automotive Engineering

Diploma in Catering and Accommodation Management

Diploma in Food and Beverage Management

Diploma in Fashion Design and Clothing Technology

Diploma in Business Management

Diploma in Information Communication Technology

Diploma in Supply Chain Management

# CONTACT US



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