

ENVIRONMENT INSTITUTE OF KENYA 2025 ANNUAL NEWLETTER



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ABOUT US

The Environment Institute of Kenya (EIK) is the professional body for environmental practitioners in Kenya, established in 2014. Our mandate is to register, regulate, promote, and enhance professionalism and ethical standards in the development of environmental professionals in Kenya.

With a growing membership of over 6,000 dedicated professionals, EIK serves as a platform for knowledge exchange, capacity building, and advocacy in sustainable environmental practices. We are committed to fostering excellence, guiding policy, and empowering practitioners to contribute effectively to environmental conservation and sustainable development in Kenya.



MISSION

To empower members and promote professionalism and integrity in environmental governance towards sustainable development in Kenya.



VISION

To be a global leader in empowering environmental professionals and promoting sustainability in development



OBJECTIVES

1. Set, maintain, promote, and improve standards in the conduct of environmental assessment, and other relevant tools in environmental management.
2. Identify and address contemporary environmental challenges.
3. Administer the register of the Institute's membership and establish a panel of specialists to review specific technical issues concerning its mandate.
4. Promote knowledge and skills in environmental management and sustainable development in the public and private sector including but not limited to research and knowledge dissemination.
5. Initiate schemes aimed at improving performance in the industry by recognizing and rewarding those individuals and organizations that attain the highest competitive standards in environmental management and sustainable development.

CHAIRMAN'S FORWARD

As we reflect on the progress of the Environment Institute of Kenya, I am proud of the steady and purposeful journey the Institute has undertaken since its establishment. Over the years, EIK has grown into a respected professional body, providing leadership in environmental governance, ethical practice, and sustainable development in Kenya and beyond. This growth is a testament to the commitment of our members, partners, and stakeholders who continue to believe in the Institute's mission and vision.

One of the most significant milestones in our institutional development has been the advancement of the Environmental Professional Institute of Kenya (EPIK) Bill.

Through technical engagement, the Bill has progressed through key legislative stages and is moving closer to providing a robust regulatory framework for environmental professionals. This achievement reveals EIK's role as the recognized professional body mandated to promote professionalism, accountability, and high ethical standards within the environment professionals.

In parallel, the Institute has focused on strengthening its internal structures to better serve its members. The activation of Technical Working Groups reflects our commitment to harnessing sector-specific expertise and amplifying member participation in policy dialogue and professional development. While progress has been made, we remain focused on fully operationalizing these platforms to ensure inclusive representation across disciplines and regions.

Good governance remains central to our agenda. The development of key institutional policies marks an important step toward strengthening transparency, consistency, and accountability. I encourage all members to actively engage in the consultative process and contribute their perspectives, as these policies will shape the future direction of the Institute.

Looking ahead, EIK remains firmly committed to expanding member services, strengthening its advocacy voice, Continuous Professional development and training, and positioning its flagship Annual International Conference & Expo as a premier platform for knowledge exchange, partnerships, and African-led environmental solutions. These efforts will ensure that the Institute continues to respond effectively to emerging environmental challenges while supporting the professional growth of its members.

The path forward requires collective leadership and shared responsibility. By working together, guided by integrity, professionalism, and a shared commitment to sustainable development, we will continue to strengthen EIK as a trusted institution and a catalyst for positive environmental change. I thank our members, partners, and stakeholders for their continued support and invite you all to remain actively engaged as we advance this important work.

Together, we will build a future where environmental professionalism is synonymous with excellence, integrity, and transformative impact.

As we celebrate the Christmas season, I extend warm festive greetings to all our members, partners, and stakeholders. May this season bring peace, renewal, and joy to you and your families, and may the New Year usher in continued collaboration and shared success in advancing environmental sustainability.

Alex Mugambi
Chairman
Environment Institute of Kenya



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



As we bring 2025 to a close, I reflect with deep appreciation on the journey we have taken together as the Environment Institute of Kenya. This year demanded discipline, patience, and collective resolve. It also reaffirmed an enduring truth: institutions grow and endure when their people remain committed to purpose, integrity, and service.

Together, we advanced the EIK Bill in Parliament, strengthened our policy foundation, expanded our membership, delivered impactful trainings, hosted regular webinars and monthly refresher sessions, and successfully convened the 4th EIK International Environmental Conference in Mombasa. Through these efforts, we positioned the Institute as a credible and respected voice in environmental governance. These achievements were built through steady work, respect for due process, and an unwavering belief in professionalism.

I thank every member for your trust, participation, and accountability to the ideals upon which this Institute was founded. As we look to 2026, we do so grounded in tradition and confident in our shared future.

As the year comes to an end, I extend my warm season's greetings to you and your families. I wish you a happy, healthy, and prosperous 2026, filled with purpose and continued service to people and planet.

Titus Kilonzo Mutuku
CEO
Environment Institute of Kenya

2.1. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION (STRATEGIC AND INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL AUDITS) REGULATIONS, 2025



EIK Delegation Appearing Before the Senate Committee on Delegated Legislation on 24th and 28th July 2025 to Present the Petition on the EMCA 2025 Regulations

The Environmental Management and Coordination (Strategic and Integrated Environmental Assessments and Environmental Audits) Regulations, 2025 marked a significant milestone in environmental governance. Designed to institutionalize strategic environmental assessments (SEAs) and integrated environmental audits, the Regulations sought to embed environmental considerations into policies, plans, programmes, and projects, ensuring sustainability is considered at every stage of planning and implementation.

The Regulations were first introduced as Legal Notice 52 of 2025 but were soon replaced by Legal Notice 71 of 2025, which refined key procedures related to environmental assessment licences, expert registration, strategic assessments, public participation, and compliance monitoring. Unlike traditional project-level environmental impact assessments, these Regulations aimed to evaluate long-term and cumulative environmental impacts from the outset, promoting proactive environmental stewardship.

Key provisions included mandatory strategic environmental assessments for policies, plans, and programmes; requirements for integrated environmental assessment licences before project implementation;

clearly defined roles, qualifications, and ethical standards for environmental assessment experts; and strengthened public participation and transparency in environmental decision-making.

Despite the progressive intent, the drafting process faced criticism. Stakeholders argued that public participation had been inadequate, and essential professional bodies were not meaningfully engaged. This raised concerns over compliance with statutory and constitutional standards on public participation.

The Environment Institute of Kenya played a critical role during this period. Recognising the Regulations' potential impact on environmental governance and professional practice, EIK submitted a petition to Parliament, urging a thorough legal review. The Institute highlighted procedural shortcomings and recommended suspension or annulment until comprehensive stakeholder engagement and legal scrutiny were conducted.

EIK's interventions prompted rigorous parliamentary review. The Senate Committee on Delegated Legislation ultimately annulled the Regulations, citing procedural flaws and insufficient stakeholder input. Following this, the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry formally withdrew the Regulations on 28 July 2025 to allow for broader consultations.

In the subsequent process, a nationwide public participation exercise was conducted, culminating in a validation workshop at Cooperative University on 11 December 2025. This ensured that the revised Regulations would better reflect professional, societal, and environmental perspectives, reinforcing the foundation for sustainable environmental governance.

ENVIS ROLLOUT: SAFEGUARDING ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE AND PROFESSIONAL INTEGRITY

On 5 September 2025, the Environment Institute of Kenya (EIK) issued a follow-up statement reinforcing its concerns on the transition to the Environmental Information Management System (ENVIS) and its implications for the EIA/EA process under EMCA, 2015. This followed the Institute's August 2025 Advisory Note to the Public, which highlighted system functionality gaps, delays in project approvals and renewals, unlinked facilities, slow regulatory responses, and emerging financial and contractual risks affecting proponents and practitioners.

EIK emphasized that the ongoing challenges continue to disrupt compliance processes, delay project implementation, and undermine confidence in environmental governance. The Institute called for greater transparency and accountability, a temporary reversion to the previous system, and a structured, phased transition that adequately addresses the identified legal, procurement, and technical shortcomings.

EIK remains committed to constructive engagement with NEMA and stakeholders to safeguard professional integrity, protect livelihoods, and strengthen environmental management systems in support of Kenya's sustainable development objectives.



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ENGAGEMENT ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTE OF KENYA (EPIK) BILL

The Environment Institute of Kenya participated in the public hearings on the Environmental Professional Institute of Kenya (EPIK) Bill, convened by the Departmental Committee on Environment and Natural Resources of the National Assembly from 18–20 March 2025. The Bill seeks to establish a comprehensive regulatory framework for environmental professionals in Kenya and to formally recognize EIK as the professional body mandated to regulate, register, and oversee environmental practitioners.

In a significant milestone, the Bill was subsequently presented to the National Assembly for its Second Reading in November 2025, where it was approved. This development marks a critical step toward strengthening professional standards, ethical practice, and accountability within the environmental sector, and reinforces the role of EIK in promoting professionalism and effective environmental governance in Kenya.



ENVIRONMENT INSTITUTE OF KENYA (EIK) & THARAKA UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP DURING WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2025



On April 8, 2025, EIK met with Tharaka University to explore partnerships on World Environment Day celebrations, joint training, and research initiatives to strengthen capacity building for students and environmental professionals.

The Environment Institute of Kenya joined Tharaka University in hosting National World Environment Day 2025, featuring a series of engaging events focused on fostering environmental awareness, promoting sustainable practices, and inspiring the next generation of environmental professionals. The 2025 WED theme, **“Ending Plastic Pollution,”** served as a powerful call to action, emphasizing the urgent need for innovative, sustainable, and inclusive solutions to address the growing plastic crisis in Kenya and beyond.

PRE-WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2025 – CAREER TALK

In collaboration with Tharaka University, the Environment Institute of Kenya hosted a Career Talk as part of the lead-up to World Environment Day 2025. The session offered students and early-career professionals a valuable opportunity to engage with environmental experts, explore diverse career paths, and gain insights into emerging trends and opportunities in the environmental sector.

PRE-WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2025; STAKEHOLDER FORUM

In preparation for World Environment Day 2025, the Environment Institute of Kenya (EIK), in collaboration with Tharaka University, convened a Stakeholder Forum that brought together environmental professionals, academic researchers, students, and community leaders.



The stakeholder forum focused on:

1. Collaborative strategies for tackling plastic pollution
2. Research and innovation initiatives for sustainable waste management
3. Capacity-building programs for students and environmental professionals
4. Community-led and youth-driven innovations transforming plastic waste into valuable resources

The event provided a platform for knowledge sharing, stakeholder reflections, and actionable recommendations, highlighting the importance of a coordinated approach that integrates regulation, innovation, education, and circular economy investments to address plastic pollution effectively.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2025 CELEBRATION AT THARAKA UNIVERSITY

The World Environment Day 2025 celebrations were held at Tharaka University, with a keynote address highlighting Kenya’s significant achievements in plastic management, including the ban on plastic carrier bags and restrictions on single-use plastics in protected areas, while acknowledging ongoing challenges in enforcement, public awareness, and recycling infrastructure.

Stakeholders emphasized the importance of multi-sectoral collaboration and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes to ensure long-term sustainability. The event also celebrated community-driven and youth-led innovations, showcasing Kenya’s potential to transform plastic waste challenges into opportunities for sustainable development.



WORLD WETLANDS DAY 2025; ONDIRI SWAMP, KIAMBU COUNTY

We joined stakeholders in commemorating World Wetlands Day 2025 at Ondiri Swamp, Kiambu County, one of Kenya's critical freshwater ecosystems. The event highlighted the importance of wetlands conservation, sustainable water resource management, and the role of wetlands in supporting biodiversity, climate resilience, and community livelihoods.

Participants engaged in educational activities, guided tours, and community dialogues aimed at raising awareness about the ecological functions of Ondiri Swamp, including its role in groundwater recharge, flood control, and habitat provision for diverse flora and fauna. The event also provided a platform for discussing strategies to mitigate threats such as pollution, encroachment, and unsustainable land use.



EIK PARTICIPATES IN CIRCULAR ECONOMY CONFERENCE | 19 NOVEMBER 2025

The Environment Institute of Kenya was honoured to be represented at the Circular Economy Conference organized by Kepsa-Kyep, marking 10 years of Sustainable Inclusive Business Kenya. Our Chairman, Mr. Alex Mugambi, joined a high-level panel with experts from the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change & Forestry, UNEP, IUCN, the CBD Office, academia, and the private sector.

During the session on “Biodiversity, Business & Society: The Living Economy,” panelists discussed integrating biodiversity stewardship into Kenya's circular economy transition. Mr. Mugambi emphasized the role of businesses in achieving the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) targets through nature-positive practices, highlighting that protecting and restoring nature offers both ecological and economic benefits.

The panel further stressed the importance of multi-stakeholder collaboration, digital tools, innovative financing models, and supportive policy frameworks in tracking biodiversity outcomes and guiding strategic action. Circular economy approaches such as waste reduction, regenerative production, and innovation were highlighted as central to building resilience and fostering sustainable growth in Kenya.



PARTNERSHIPS AND ENGAGEMENTS



On 10 October 2025 EIK in partnership with Mwiki Secondary School, commemorated Mazingira Day through interactive sessions on environmental career pathways, sustainability, and practical conservation, culminating the day with a tree planting exercise under the Greening Schools Initiative to inspire young environmental champions.



On 14 May 2025, the Environment Institute of Kenya participated in a stakeholder engagement at the Boma Hotel, Nairobi, to review the integrated EIA/EA curriculum, ensuring alignment with current environmental policies, legal requirements, and industry needs for future professionals.



On 23 April 2025, EIK participated in a stakeholder consultation on the proposed Nairobi–Mombasa Expressway at Trisan Resident Hotel, Nairobi, contributing to discussions on project scope, environmental and social safeguards, and long-term sustainability for this transformative national infrastructure project.

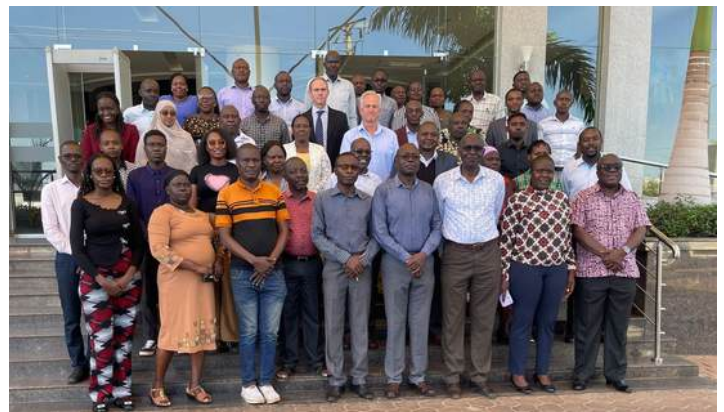
PARTNERSHIPS AND ENGAGEMENTS



On 17–19 June 2025 EIK, represented by its Chairman, Mr. Alex Mugambi, participated in the 2nd Kenya Urban Forum Conference held at Lake Naivasha Resort. Under the theme **“The Future of Urban: Driving Kenya’s Vision for Urban Transformation,”** the forum convened key stakeholders to advance nature-based, climate-resilient, and inclusive urban development.



On 14 May 2025, The Institute joined @EPRA_Ke at the National Stakeholders Conference to support the second phase of the #KaaSafeMtaani campaign, reinforcing collective action on electrical and petroleum safety, and promoting safety, compliance, and accountability in sustainable development.



EIK Western Region joined the public participation on the draft National Guidelines on Environmental Deposit Bonds and Participatory Environmental Monitoring, organized by PTC, UNDP, and WWF-K, promoting environmental and social responsibility to guide miners toward safe, compliant, and sustainable operations.

PARTNERSHIPS AND ENGAGEMENTS



Launch of the Climate Change Handbook for Beginners on 31 October, developed collaboratively by participants of the Climate Change and Carbon Trading training programme.



Signing of Memorandum of Understanding between the Environment Institute of Kenya (EIK) and the Rwanda Association of Professional Environmental Practitioners (RAPEP), marking a strategic partnership to enhance collaboration in environmental management and professional development



During the ESG Training Programme, the Environment Institute of Kenya collaborated with institutions and organizations to develop their ESG policies, supporting the adoption of sustainable, responsible, and governance-focused practices."

CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In 2025, the Institute has implemented programs to uphold Objective 2.3 of the EIK Constitution 2018: *“To promote, maintain and advance the highest professional standards and best practice in the field of environment for sustainable development and public good.”* Through training programs, workshops, short courses, and conferences, EIK equips members with up-to-date knowledge, practical skills, and best practices, ensuring they remain competent, ethical, and responsive to evolving environmental policies, regulations, and industry needs, thereby advancing sustainable development and serving the public interest.

EIK MONTHLY REFRESHER TRAINING

In 2025, the Environment Institute of Kenya conducted a series of monthly refresher trainings to strengthen the capacity of environmental professionals. The sessions covered key and emerging areas in environmental practice, including:



Gender Mainstreaming in the ESIA Process



GHG Emission Assessment & Reporting in ESIA



Asbestos Waste Management



Unpacking the Draft Climate Change (Carbon Trading) Regulation 2025



Emerging Issues and Trends in the ESIA Process

These trainings have reinforced the technical skills, ethical standards, and practical expertise of EIK members, supporting their continued professional development and alignment them with evolving environmental policies and industry needs.

EIK PROFESSIONAL TRAINING COURSE

The Environment Institute of Kenya is committed to building the capacity of environmental professionals to respond effectively to evolving environmental issues and concerns. Our three-weeks professional training courses equip Environmental professionals and practitioners with knowledge, practical skills, and ethical grounding to address emerging challenges in environmental management, climate action, and sustainable development.

In 2025, EIK conducted the following three-weeks professional training courses;

Climate Change and Carbon Trading Training



Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Training



For more information on our EIK Training, visit: <https://www.eik.co.ke/trainings/short-courses>

EIK TRAINING PICTORIAL



GREEN OPPORTUNITIES & ENVIRONMENTAL CAREER FORUM



The Environment Institute of Kenya in partnership with the Kenyatta University Green Education Hub and the School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, successfully hosted the Environmental Careers and Green Opportunities Forum on 25 April 2025 at Kenyatta University. The forum convened students, young professionals, academics, and industry stakeholders to explore diverse career pathways and emerging opportunities within Kenya's green economy.

The initiative aimed to bridge the gap between academia and industry, equipping participants with practical knowledge, essential skills, and mentorship to thrive in the country's evolving environmental sector. Through structured panel discussions, interactive Q&A sessions, and experience-sharing opportunities, attendees gained insights into renewable energy, climate adaptation, sustainable agriculture, environmental education, conservation, and climate policy. Additional sessions on research, proposal writing, professional branding, and networking further enhanced participants' capacity to succeed in competitive environmental careers.

The forum fostered engagement with key partners, including the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, the African Development Bank, Equity Bank, Safaricom, Nairobi City County, NEMA, Africa Nazarene University, and Mount Kenya University. Their contributions enriched discussions and provided participants with valuable exposure to real-world environmental practice.



EIK ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025



The Institute successfully held its 10th Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 31 May 2025, marking a significant milestone in the Institute's growth and institutional maturity. The AGM provided a vital platform for members to reflect on achievements, review governance processes, and chart a clear strategic direction for the coming term.

The meeting convened together EIK members of good standing from across the country in a forum characterized by meaningful participation, constructive dialogue, and shared purpose. Members actively engaged in reviewing institutional performance and priority areas, reaffirming their collective commitment to accountability, integrity, and professional excellence.



A key highlight of the AGM was the keynote address by Prof. Kivutha Kibwana, who offered strategic insights drawn from his extensive experience in public service and environmental governance.

He emphasized the importance of sustained collaboration with government institutions, cohesive internal leadership, and deliberate partnerships with academia, civil society, and the private sector. His reflections aligned closely with EIK's long-term vision of strengthening institutional credibility and influencing environmental policy.

The AGM addressed critical governance and institutional matters. Members deliberated on and adopted key resolutions aimed at enhancing transparency, accountability, and operational efficiency, reinforcing the Institute's commitment to member-driven governance and sound institutional practices.



Professional development and capacity building featured prominently in the discussions. Members reaffirmed the importance of Continuous Professional Development (CPD), structured mentorship for early-career professionals, and the delivery of high-quality training programmes responsive to emerging environmental challenges. Ongoing training initiatives implemented in 2025 demonstrate EIK's continued investment in building competent, ethical, and globally competitive environmental professionals.

A significant outcome of the AGM was the strengthening of Thematic Working Groups (TWGs) as platforms for thought leadership, peer learning, research, and policy engagement. Members were encouraged to actively participate in TWGs to generate practical outputs and contribute meaningfully to national and sector-specific environmental discourse.




4TH EIK INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE & EXPO 2025 PICTORIAL





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