MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN

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Enhancing Reforestation Efficiency: DeKUT and KeFRI Unveil Pine Cone Tumbler Machine



DeKUT, in collaboration with the Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KeFRI), continues to spearhead innovative solutions in seed extraction, a critical step in advancing reforestation. This partnership has already made significant progress with the successful design and deployment of the Multipurpose Seed Huller Machine.



Pine Cone Tumbler Machine

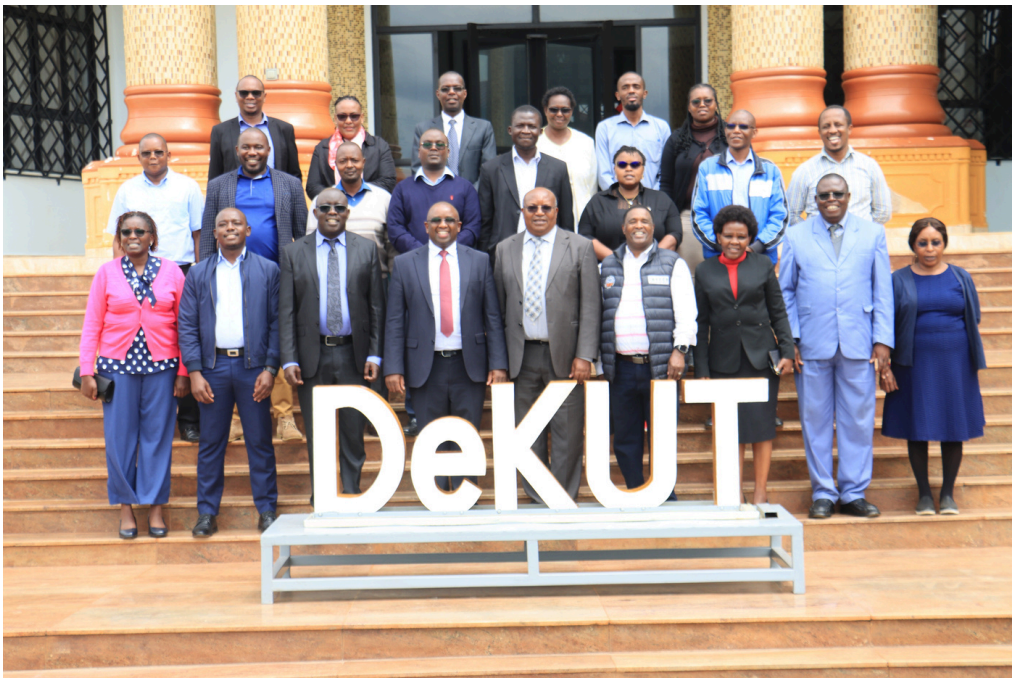
Building on this achievement, the two institutions have developed the Pine Cone Tumbler Machine, designed to enhance the efficiency of pine seed extraction. The first unit was successfully completed and delivered, and recently, a second unit was developed and formally handed over, underscoring the growing impact of this collaboration.



The introduction of the Pine Cone Tumbler Machine is an important breakthrough, as it streamlines the seed extraction process, enabling faster and more effective reforestation efforts. This innovation supports Kenya's broader environmental goals by facilitating the propagation of pine trees, vital for forest regeneration and ecological balance.

Through continued cooperation, DeKUT and KeFRI are setting a strong example of how research and innovation can drive sustainable environmental solutions, contributing to Kenya's commitment to a greener future.





Prof. Eng. P. N. Kioni Awarded Knight in The National Order Of Merit By French Ambassador



We were honored to witness the prestigious 'Knight in the National Order of Merit' award being bestowed upon Prof. Eng. P. Ndirangu Kioni, founding Vice Chancellor of DeKUT, by H.E. Ambassador Arnaud Suquet, the French Ambassador to Kenya. This distinguished recognition celebrates Prof. Kioni's exceptional contributions to academia and his unwavering commitment to strengthening DeKUT's collaborations with French institutions.

Our successful partnerships with renowned French universities, including UBFC-Besançon, INP Toulouse, UTTOP (formerly ENIT Tarbes), CESI Graduate School, and Institut Pascal, Université Clermont Auvergne, have greatly enriched DeKUT's academic landscape. These collaborations are further strengthened by vibrant staff and student exchange programs, offering invaluable learning opportunities for PhD students from the School of Computer Science and Information Technology (CS&IT) and the School of Engineering. Prof. Kioni's award underscores the growing ties between Kenya and France, promising continued advancements in education, research, and innovation.





Bridging Research and Entrepreneurship: A Talk by Prof. Prabhu Rajagopal



DeKUT had the pleasure of hosting Prof. Prabhu Rajagopal from the Indian Institute of Technology Madras for an insightful lecture on "The Nexus of Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship." An expert in automation and data engineering, Prof. Rajagopal shared his wealth of knowledge and inspired the University community.

Honored with the Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar in the Vigyan Yuva category by the President of India and a recipient of the prestigious Swarnajayanti Fellowship (2020), Prof. Rajagopal is renowned for his pioneering work in ultrasonic sensors, robotic platforms, and secure data management.

During his talk, he highlighted his journey of translating cutting-edge research into real-world impact, showcasing the development of breakthrough technologies and AI-driven startups. His lecture emphasized the powerful role of translational science in fueling entrepreneurship and driving meaningful societal change.



Students during the talk



Prof. Prabhu Rajagopal and DeKUT Vice Chancellor, Prof. Eng. Peter N. Muchiri, EBS



Staff and students during the talk

Growing A Greener Campus: Bamboo Seedlings Tree Planting



The DeKUT Conservancy received 108 bamboo seedlings from the Formidable Green Self-Help Group based in Kiganjo. The seedlings were planted within the University Conservancy as part of an ongoing environmental conservation initiative.

The tree planting ceremony was led by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration & Finance), Prof. Esther Magiri, who praised the group's commitment to environmental sustainability. She also emphasized the University's dedication to promoting green initiatives that contribute to a healthier environment.







Embracing Diversity: DeKUT Fosters Inclusion with Coffee Hour Sessions



The DeKUT International Office organized a Coffee Hour Team Building session for international students at the University Challenge Course. This initiative is part of ongoing efforts to support a smooth transition for international students while celebrating the rich cultural diversity that enhances the University community.

Through these Coffee Hour sessions, students have the opportunity to connect, build friendships, and engage in meaningful conversations in a relaxed and welcoming environment. The sessions also provide valuable information about the support services available on campus, ensuring that every international student feels welcomed, supported, and empowered to thrive in their new surroundings.

By fostering a sense of belonging and community, the DeKUT International Office continues to champion inclusivity and support for all students.





Celebrating Unity in Diversity: DeKUT's 3rd International Day



DeKUT proudly hosted the third International Day, welcoming H.E. Arnaud Suquet, the French Ambassador to Kenya, as a distinguished guest. The event, held under the theme "Celebrating Unity in Diversity," offered students a valuable opportunity to learn about international linkages, explore diverse cultural traditions, and appreciate the benefits of global collaboration.



The celebration featured exhibitions from students representing different countries, showcasing their unique cultures and traditions. Lively performances, including a traditional dance, modelling and music, captivated the audience and highlighted the vibrant diversity of the participants. It also included sharing of personal experiences, allowing both international and Kenyan students to deepen their understanding of one another's heritage.



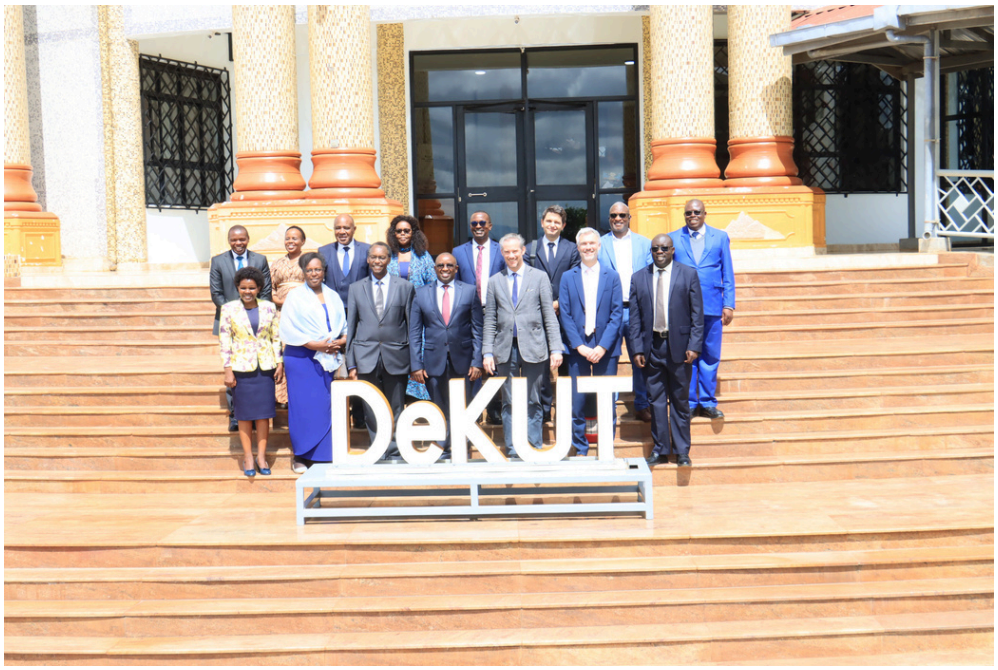




This dynamic event provided a platform for international students to showcase their cultures while gaining deeper insights into Kenyan culture, fostering mutual respect and appreciation. Beyond cultural exchange, the International Day served as an informative forum where students learned about various exchange programs, inspiring many to consider participation. More than a celebration of diversity, the 3rd International Day at DeKUT successfully promoted international connections and cultivated an open-minded, inclusive community.







DeFTeNSA holds Inaugural AGM



The DeKUT Food Technology and Nutrition Students Association (DeFTeNSA) successfully convened its inaugural Annual General Meeting (AGM), bringing together enthusiastic students, faculty advisors, and industry representatives from Highlands Drinks Ltd and Outspan Hospital for a dynamic and productive session.

The AGM provided a vital platform for members to review the association's achievements since inception, discuss upcoming initiatives, and elect new leadership. This gathering fostered a strong spirit of collaboration and reinforced the association's commitment to advancing knowledge and innovation in food science and nutrition within the DeKUT community.





Attendees participated in enlightening discussions, exchanging viewpoints on the latest trends and challenges within the industry. The meeting showcased innovative techniques and research findings, enabling students to connect with professionals and establishing a foundation for future collaborations. The success of this Annual General Meeting (AGM) represented a significant advancement for DeFTeNSA, solidifying its position as a crucial hub for aspiring food technologists and nutritionists at DeKUT.



AFSA-DeKUT hosts KASNEB Workshop



The Accounting and Finance Students' Association (AFSA) at DeKUT hosted an Accounting and Finance Summit aimed at providing students with valuable corporate exposure. The event featured distinguished guests from the Kenya Accountants and Secretaries National Examinations Board (KASNEB), who engaged students in insightful discussions on a variety of relevant topics.

Key focus areas included the professional courses offered by KASNEB, essential life skills such as financial management and budgeting, personal branding and confidence building, and the growing impact of digitization within the Accounting and Finance sector.

Students also explored the significance of corporate governance and gained a deeper appreciation for global orientation as a vital factor in shaping their career trajectories.

The summit served as a pivotal platform, equipping future professionals with knowledge, inspiration, and a forward-looking perspective essential for success in the dynamic industry.



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