



SPEECH BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR- PROF. P.N. KIONI

ON FRIDAY, 8TH NOVEMBER, 2013

GIS DAY WELCOME REMARKS

The Deputy Vice Chancellor, Administration & Finance- Prof. Moses Gachari

The Deputy Vice Chancellor, RTMCL- Prof. Eng. Paul Wambua

Members of the Management Board

Academic and Administrative Staff

Teachers and Students present

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good afternoon!

This year GIS Day is celebrated today, and we at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology want to be part of the celebration. DeKUT IGGRoS team is host a GIS Day event for GIS co-workers, at our university, or for your community at large. This is your opportunity to demonstrate how you use GIS in your daily work, and how this powerful technology plays a role in making our world a better place!

The Institute of Geomatics, GIS and Remote Sensing (IGGReS) is one of the Institutes recently established in the University. It hosts the department of Geomatics and Geospatial Information Science (GeGIS) and two research units: the Remote Sensing Unit (RSU) and the Spatial Information Science and Systems Unit (SISSU).

Through the GeGIS department, the University offers two undergraduate programs: Bachelor of Science in Geomatic Engineering and Geospatial Information System and Bachelor of Science in Geospatial Information Science and two postgraduate programmes namely: Master of Science in Geospatial Information Systems and Remote Sensing, and Doctor of Philosophy in Geomatics.

In Kenya's quest to be a globally competitive and prosperous nation with a high quality of life by 2030, applied technology will be a key component. Both geomatic engineering and geospatial information science are technologies that can be applied to support a variety of aspects that support the vision 2030 such as tourism, agriculture, and the protection and preservation of the environment, thereby enhancing the quality of life. These technologies will go a long way in supporting a national spatial data infrastructure which will be crucial in the national land policy as outlined in the constitution of Kenya and

in the draft national land policy. It is thus prudent why DeKUT has to host such a department that teaches these fields within one institute that is directly accessible to other departments. The mandate of such an institute is to coordinate both the intra-institute (departmental) research and the multidisciplinary research through the technology.

In Kenya, the GeGIS programmes are currently recognized by the Institution of Surveyors of Kenya and the Land Surveyors Board (LSB).

As we celebrate GIS Day, DeKUT is joining the global community to provide an international forum for users of geospatial information systems (GIS) technology to demonstrate real-world applications that are making a difference in our society.

In conclusion, GIS Day is a good initiative for people to learn about the uses of GIS, benefits of GIS and build and nurture the GIS community.

GIS Day is One Fun Day but remember DeKUT is a unique and valuable university. And our programmes are quality, unique and valuable subjects.



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