

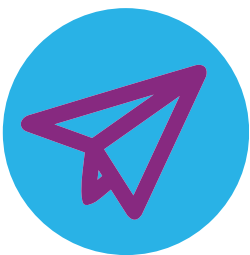


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THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S
INTERNATIONAL AWARD
in Kenya



THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD - KENYA



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LICENSE REVIEW

Enhanced Service Delivery Through License Review

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Emma Morton, Abigael Gyakye Grace Hall in the boardroom with PA-K Senior Programmes & Projects Coordination Officer Christine Chacha.

In the month of November 2023, PA-K was a buzz of anticipation as we awaited the upcoming visit by a team of experts from the International Award Foundation tasked with conducting a comprehensive license review. This visit was crucial for the organization's future prospects, as it seeks to expand its operations and grow the Award programme.

The team was led by Emma Morton, Grace Hall, Abigael Gyakye and were accompanied by International Award Global Operations Director Mr. Edwin Kimani. PA-K CEO Nellie Munala and staff received the guests and were determined to showcase the organization's commitment to compliance and delivery of quality Award.

The team of experts began their review by delving into the intricacies of the Award programme. They meticulously examined the documentation to ensure compliance with the Award requirements.

While giving his opening remarks, Mr. Kimani said countries are given licenses to operate the Award. He said the team would focus on governance, management and delivery when giving the license to ensure the programme remains quality, transforms lives and whoever receives the license must adhere to regulations of the license.

He reiterated that the license review is done every 3 years depending on the country.

“Kenya got a full license in 2020; thus, it met the threshold of what is expected in the standards. It got a 3-year license to allow for more time for the transition phase of being parastatal, therefore the review team is here to know where Kenya stands since 2020,” he noted.

Kimani said, the review process is one of the collaborations where the Foundation works very close with the country to identify areas with gaps and how they can provide support in terms of mitigating those gaps.



The reviewers pose for a photo with Award leaders and Award Holders Alumni at PA-K offices

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At the same time, help PA-K reach its target of getting 1 million participants by 2027.

“This is a transparent process where we put everything on the table and share. There are things that would be best practice from Kenya and other countries and the team will be able to share all that,” he said.

Kimani urged PA-K staff to take advantage of the wealth of experience from the visiting team and share experiences in terms of financial operations, licensing among other areas.

After a few days of intense scrutiny, the team gathered the staff for a debriefing session.

Ms. Morton known for her meticulous approach, commended PA-K on its commitment to quality and adherence to best practices and at the same time proposed areas of improvement to enhance operations.

The team also had a chance to meet with the Board of Trustees and provide recommendations that will steer PA-K to greater heights.

They also met with other stakeholders with representatives from Award leaders, participants, Award Holders Alumni who shared their experiences and challenges in running the Award. CEO Nellie Munala appreciated the constructive feedback and assured the experts that any shortcomings would be addressed promptly.

The atmosphere was collaborative, with both parties working towards a common goal – ensuring delivery of quality award and getting as many young people as possible join the Award programme.

PA-K staff pledged to work closely with International Award to implement the suggested improvements, and review the areas that need improvement.

With the license review successfully completed, the experts bid farewell to PA-K Board, staff and stakeholders, leaving behind an organization that is more resilient and armed with a renewed commitment to compliance, set its sights on the future and confident that it is well-positioned for success in the world of youth empowerment.

The compliance with the licence standards are crucial as it ensures that the quality and consistency of the Award at all levels is upheld globally through continual monitoring of the Operator’s compliance to the set standards.

It also helps the Foundation to address the long-term stability of the Operator, identify areas where support is required and areas that can be shared as best practice throughout the Association.

CHOGORIA GIRLS RISE TO THE CHALLENGE

79 Awardees Earn Bronze Awards



Senior Programmes & Projects Coordination Officer Jinnarius Wambugu presenting a certificate to one of the participants.

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A joyous celebration filled Chogoria Girls High School in Tharaka Nithi County as 79 students received their Bronze Awards from The President's Award-Kenya (PA-K). The ceremony was a testament to the girls' unwavering determination and commitment to personal growth.

Chief Principal Ms. Winnie Wainaina, along with PA-K Programmes and Projects Coordination Officers Cornelius Bruno and Jinnarius Wambugu, presided over the event, praising the awardees for their dedication to the PA-K program. They emphasized the importance of the Bronze Award as a stepping stone on the path to self-discovery, highlighting the skills and experiences gained through physical recreation, skill development, volunteering and adventurous journeys.

The 79 awardees, beaming with pride, represented a diverse range of talents and interests. From mastering a new sport to contributing to community service projects, each girl showcased her unique potential. Their stories resonated with the audience, inspiring others to embark on their own PA-K journeys.

We at PA-K commend the Awardees for their determination and quest to discover their infinite potential. They have embraced the challenges and emerged as stronger and confident individuals ready to make a positive impact on their communities and the world.

The Chogoria Girls High School ceremony served as a powerful reminder of the transformative power of the PA-K program. It is a testament to the unwavering dedication of our educators, volunteers and program staff who guide and support young Kenyans on their paths to self-discovery and leadership.



Participants pose for a photo after the Award ceremony.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Thika Prison Gets a Boost from Award Participants

Award participants from Thika Prison donated four litter bins for use by their fellow inmates. The ceremony, held at the prison grounds, saw the bins handed over to the officer in charge, DPC Mr. Henry Limanye, by PA-K Senior Programmes and Projects Coordination Officer Mr. Jinnarius Wambugu.

This initiative exemplifies the core values of the PA-K service section, which encourages participants to identify impactful opportunities within their communities and contribute meaningfully. The donated bins will not only improve hygiene and sanitation within the prison but also serve as a symbol of hope and positive change.

The Thika Prison donation is a shining example of how the PA-K service section can inspire positive change and foster a sense of community, even in challenging circumstances.

It serves as a reminder that even the smallest acts of service can have a significant impact on the lives of others.

The PA-K is incredibly proud of the service participants at Thika Prison for taking the initiative to make a difference in their environment. The act of service demonstrates their commitment to personal growth and their desire to contribute positively to their community, even within the confines of the prison walls.

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Senior Programmes & Projects Coordination Officer Jinnarius Wambugu hands over donated litter bins to DPC Mr. Henry Limanye at the facility.

EXPANDING HORIZONS

PA-K Takes the Award to Colleges and Institutes of Higher Learning



Programmes & Projects Coordination Officers Jinnarius Wambugu and Bruno Cornelius pose for a photo with the Vice Chancellor Tharaka University Prof. Peter Muriungi.

The President's Award-Kenya (PA-K) is on a mission to ensure that every young person has the opportunity to experience this transformative program. It has embarked on a new initiative focusing on introducing the Award program to colleges and institutes of higher learning across the country in a move to expand its reach and ensure the highest quality implementation.

This proactive approach aims to equip future educators, youth leaders and mentors with a strong understanding of the Award, its core principles and frameworks and their crucial roles in running the program effectively. Through this initiative, PA-K is laying the foundation for a robust network of passionate and knowledgeable individuals who can guide and inspire the next generation of Award participants.

The dedication of PA-K led by respective Programmes and Projects Coordination Officers is evident in the recent induction sessions held at various institutions.



Programmes & Projects Coordination Officers Jinnarius Wambugu and Bruno Cornelius pose for a photo with the Principal Tharaka Technical & Vocational College.



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In the quarter, students from Kenya Medical Training College, Kabarnet eagerly engaged in the program introduction. Volunteers from Machakos University and Heads of institutions from Tharaka University, Tharaka Vocational College, North Horr Technical and Vocational College and Meru National Polytechnic participated in the sessions, demonstrating their commitment to fostering positive development in young people.

This outreach to colleges and institutes of higher learning is a strategic step towards ensuring a brighter future for the PA-K program. With a well-equipped network of individuals committed to its values, the program can reach even more young Kenyans, empowering them to discover their infinite potential and become responsible citizens who contribute positively to their communities and the nation.



Volunteers from Machakos University going through an induction of the Award programme.



Students from Kenya Medical Training College Kabarnet going through an induction of the Award programme.

The enthusiasm of PA-K resonates with the organization's unwavering commitment to ensure that every young person experiences this prestigious life changing programme. Through this proactive initiative, PA-K's transformative impact continues to touch the lives of countless young Kenyans and the generations to come.

GREENING KENYA, ONE TREE AT A TIME

PA-K Celebrates National Tree Planting Day

The President's Award-Kenya (PA-K) joined hands with the nation on November 13, 2023, to celebrate National Tree Planting Day in a vibrant display of environmental passion.

PA-K staff enthusiastically embraced the opportunity to take action for the planet guided by the belief that "One tree, big impact.". Their dedication to environmental sustainability is woven into the very fabric of the program, with participants actively encouraged to develop their skills and knowledge in biodiversity and environmental conservation.

The team, led by PA-K Chief Executive Officer Nellie Munala, rolled up their sleeves and got to work at the Ngong Road Forest in collaboration with the Kenya Forest Service (KFS). The air buzzed with purpose as they carefully planted each sapling, nurturing not just trees but also hope for a greener future.



PA-K staff after planting trees

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The enthusiasm was palpable as PA-K participants, alongside esteemed leaders like Esther Passaris and Isaac Mwaura, rolled up their sleeves and got to work. Together, they planted countless trees, contributing to a greener and healthier future for Kenya.

PA-K's commitment to environmental action extends beyond symbolic gestures. The program encourages participants to integrate environmental consciousness into their Award journeys, whether through choosing eco-friendly activities for their Skills or Service sections or advocating for sustainable practices within their communities.

The day served as a powerful reminder of the collective responsibility we share towards protecting our planet. By nurturing a generation of environmentally conscious young leaders, PA-K is playing a crucial role in ensuring a sustainable future for Kenya.

In the upcoming National Tree Planting Day and other tree planting exercises, let us all draw inspiration from PA-K's passion and take action in our own ways. Whether it's planting a tree, reducing our carbon footprint, or simply raising awareness, every effort counts. Together, we can build a greener, healthier planet for generations to come.



CEO Nellie Munala leading staff to the tree planting location at the Ngong Road Forest.

Tree Planting in Pictures



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NURTURING FUTURE AWARD LEADERS

The President's Award-Kenya Empowered 40+ Students in Machakos County



Participants during the New Award Leaders training in Machakos.

The President's Award-Kenya (PA-K) is investing in its future! Over 40 enthusiastic students from five Kenya Medical Training Colleges (Mwingi, Kagundo, Kitui, Makindu and Makueni) embarked on a journey to become the next generation of Award Leaders.

This intensive training program equips aspiring leaders with the knowledge, skills and passion to guide young people through the transformative PA-K experience. From understanding the program's core values to navigating the intricacies of each Award section, these future mentors are receiving the tools they need to empower others.

At the heart of PA-K's mission lies a powerful ambition: to touch the lives of all young people between the ages of 14-24. By investing in Award Leaders who can effectively connect with diverse communities and backgrounds, PA-K is taking a vital step towards making this dream a reality.

The training program is a testament to the power of collaboration. Bringing together future leaders from different medical training colleges fosters a vibrant exchange of ideas and experiences. As they learn from each other and PA-K experts, these students are forging a strong network of support that will extend far beyond the training room.

With every new generation of Award Leaders, PA-K expands its reach and impact. These passionate individuals play a crucial role in guiding thousands of young Kenyans on their own journeys of self-discovery and growth. They become catalysts for positive change, not just within their communities but also within the entire nation.



EQUIPPING CHAMPIONS

PA-K Assessors Gear Up for Award Excellence

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*Principal Programmes & Projects Coordination Officer
Harrat Malenya having a word with the aspiring Assessors
during a training held in Machakos university.*

In a spirited weekend session in Machakos County, the President's Award-Kenya (PA-K) sharpened the skills of 20 Assessors hailing from Western, Eastern, Nairobi and Nyanza regions. This intensive training focused on honing their expertise in key areas to ensure a rich and rewarding Award experience for participants aged 14-24.

The training equipped Assessors with the know-how to manage Adventurous Journeys and Residential Projects with exceptional skills in navigating logistics, ensuring safety and providing participants with valuable feedback. Participants also learned effective mentorship techniques, fostering a supportive environment that encourages growth and accomplishment.





The Assessors in action honing their creativity skills in different sections.

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The digital age permeated the training as Assessors deepened their understanding of the Online Record Book (ORB). This valuable platform allows them to efficiently record, track and analyze participant activities, providing a comprehensive overview of their progress and achievements.

With their enhanced skills and dedication, these well-trained Assessors will play a crucial role in upholding PA-K's high standards. They will act as guardians of the program's principles, ensuring that every participant embarks on a seamless and enriching Award journey.



This training is a testament to PA-K's unwavering commitment to investing in its human capital. By equipping Assessors with the necessary tools and knowledge, the program lays the foundation for a continuous cycle of excellence.

STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT

PA-K and Ministry of Youth Affairs Forge Path for Young Kenyans



CEO Nellie Munala making a presentation to the Principal Secretary Youth Affairs and Creative Economy, Ismail Maalim when he hosted PA-K in his office.

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The President's Award-Kenya (PA-K) team, led by CEO Ms. Nellie Munala, held a productive consultative meeting with PS Youth Affairs and Creative Economy, Ismail Maalim in a promising step towards amplifying youth development efforts. The two entities delved into key areas of mutual interest, exploring ways to synergistically support and empower young Kenyans. The discussion focused on crucial aspects including leadership development, service, talent development and sports & recreation.

This collaborative dialogue marked a significant step towards strengthening the link between PA-K's transformative program and the Ministry's strategic vision for youth development. By aligning efforts and resources, both entities can significantly amplify their impact on the lives of young Kenyans.

This strategic engagement between PA-K and the Ministry of Youth Affairs is a beacon of hope for the future of Kenya's youth. It signifies a renewed commitment to investing in their potential, fostering their talents and equipping them to become responsible and engaged citizens.



Principal Secretary Youth Affairs and Creative Economy, Ismail Maalim listening keenly to the presentation.



CEO accompanied by senior staff during the meeting.



A GATHERING OF GRATITUDE

PA-K Celebrates Journey and Renews Commitment

The President's Award-Kenya (PA-K) family and the International Award regional office recently joined hands for a heartwarming prayer day marking the end of a successful 2023. Led by the inspiring words of Pastor Israel Robert Burale, the event was a poignant moment of reflection, unity and appreciation for the shared journey and collective triumphs.

The air crackled with palpable gratitude as the PA-K community, from dedicated staff to passionate participants, remembered the challenges overcome and the milestones achieved. Words of affirmation and appreciation resonated, acknowledging the transformative power of the Award program and its impact on countless young minds.

This wasn't just a celebration of the past; it was a powerful rededication to the future. As Pastor Burale's words resonated, the PA-K family reaffirmed its unwavering commitment to empowering young people on their journeys of personal growth and self-discovery.

This gathering of gratitude serves as a beautiful reminder of the strength that lies in community. It underscores the importance of recognizing achievements, acknowledging challenges and reaffirming our shared purpose. Moving forward, the PA-K family is fueled by renewed motivation and a stronger sense of unity, ready to guide countless young Kenyans on their own transformative Award journeys.



Pastor Israel Robert Burale pose for a photo with CEO Nellie Munala and International Award Global Operations Director Mr. Edwin Kimani at PA-K offices.

IMPACT STORIES

From University to Village: Egerton Award Unit Builds Hope in Mashuuru

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A remarkable story of youth leadership and community service unfolds in the heart of Mashuuru, Kajiado County. A team from the President's Award Egerton University Unit, driven by the program's values, has spearheaded the establishment of Duker's Emboloi Education Centre, a beacon of hope for underprivileged children in the area.

Their recent visit from November 10th to 12th, 2023, wasn't just about checking boxes; it was a testament to their exceptional dedication and unwavering compassion. Despite facing logistical challenges, including a treacherous river crossing due to the lack of a bridge, the team's commitment to **#nokidathome** and community service shone through.



Their mission? To ensure every child in Emboloi has access to quality education. This meant getting their hands dirty, literally. The team dug a dust pit, a seemingly small but crucial act that promotes hygiene and sanitation in the school environment. They also brought the gift of knowledge, donating essential stationery supplies to empower the students' learning journey.

But their impact extended beyond material contributions. The Egerton Unit actively engaged with the teachers and the wider community, conducting meetings to discuss challenges, share ideas and collaborate on ways to improve the school's efficiency and effectiveness. This open dialogue fostered a sense of ownership and responsibility, paving the way for sustainable progress.



The story of the Egerton Award Unit in Emboloi isn't just about one team's achievements; it's a powerful reminder of the transformative potential of youth leadership. Their dedication to the Award's values – self-discovery, service, and adventure – has made a tangible difference in the lives of children in Mashuru. They crossed rivers, not just physical ones, but also bridges of apathy and indifference, proving that even the most challenging circumstances cannot deter a determined spirit.

This heartwarming tale is a call to action for all of us. Let's celebrate the Egerton Award Unit's inspiring work and be inspired to follow in their footsteps. Whether it's volunteering our time, donating resources, or simply raising awareness, we can all play a part in ensuring that every child, no matter where they live or what their background is, has the opportunity to learn and thrive.

Together, we can build a future where every village school becomes a center of hope and opportunity, just like Duker's Emboloi Education Centre in Mashuru.



Award participants taking part in various activities during their visit at the Duker's Emboloi Education Centre

PERSONAL JOURNEYS

Embracing Leadership: My Journey with the Award Program

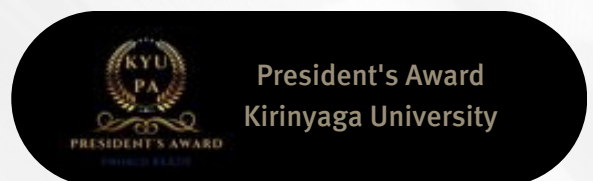


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My name is Jimmy Githegi, and I am a student at Kirinyaga University. My journey with the award began in high school at St Joseph's High School Githunguri in 2017. Our practice journey in Machakos was particularly challenging as a form one student. I distinctly recall feeling that it would be my last expedition. Despite this, I persevered and was eventually awarded the Gold Award in 2019. Subsequently, I took on various roles within the award program, including serving as the chair for the 2018/19 term and acting as a group leader, PR representative, and navigator during our Adventure Journeys.

Upon joining Kirinyaga University, I was eager to continue participating in the award. However, the club was in its infancy stage and had a limited number of members, primarily being that our coordinator was also the patron of the martial arts clubs. Despite encountering challenges locating information about the award, I eventually discovered its presence within the institution. After meeting with the coordinator, I embarked on my journey with the program.

One of the main obstacles I faced was the lack of prior experience among the members and our coordinator, who was also new to the award. In 2021, during my first year, I took on a mentorship role for the members and our coordinator.





That same year, I was elected as the chairperson, a role that has presented its fair share of challenges. Enrolling members in the award has been difficult and is often met with resistance when explaining the benefits and opportunities the award provides. However, with the support of my fellow award leader, we have successfully registered a team of 27 members with the Online Record Book (ORB) and additional 50 members joining after the September intake. We are currently in the process of planning an Adventure Journey early in the semester.

The award taught me invaluable leadership, patience, courage, and teamwork lessons. Its impact on my life has been profound and I am immensely grateful for the experience. I can confidently say that I am #WORLDREADY.

My Story





Chief Principal Chogoria Girls High School Ms. Winne Wainaina presenting a certificate to one of the students.



Staff led by CEO Nellie Munala during the Thanksgiving Day.



Programmes & Projects Coordination Officer Evans Burichani while training New Award leaders in Machakos.



Principal Programmes & Projects Coordination Officer Joram Otieno in a session with the Assessors during training.



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