



Welcoming remarks
by
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Deputy Vice Chancellor
in charge of
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During the official opening ceremony
Business Development Skills Training Workshop
AICAD
Monday June 13, 2011.

Dr. Kibicho Karanja, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Industrialization
Deputy Vice chancellors,
Ministry of Industrialization officials,
Course Participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are pleased to welcome the Permanent Secretary Dr. Karanja Kibicho for finding time off his busy schedule to join us in this workshop sponsored by his Ministry. I also welcome to JKUAT all the 25 participants who are District Industrialization Officers drawn from various Counties of the country for getting this golden opportunity to undergo a three week training workshop aimed at empowering them to steer Business development services in their respective counties.

It's a great honour for us in JKUAT to be appointed to run the training programme that is definitely going to boost business opportunities for our people majority of them living under the harsh conditions of poverty.

Mr. Permanent Secretary, as you may be aware, we at the JKUAT have been actively involved in applied research aimed at providing immediate solutions to unlock as well as convert the country's immense resources to wealth for our people. This is why our researchers participate in research and innovation that has generated a number of products.

The products mainly in foods, chemicals, agricultural, engineering and beauty inventions have the potential to be industrially processed and produced by our rural people through small scale manufacturing ventures. As people entrusted with the mandate of spearheading industrialization at the grass root, it is your duty to ensure that this kind of information about the immense investment opportunities available in JKUAT is brought to the attention of the people under your jurisdiction. Indeed, our challenge as a university has been on how to proceed to the next stage of mass production which is crucial in the wealth creation agenda for our people.

As a university, we are willing to assist those keen in investing in these kinds of ventures. We can do this by organizing subsidized technology transfer training programmes for communities or groups keen in investing in the small scale production of our products. We are for example currently engaged with the Juja Community, our neighborhood who are now running a soap production plant. In this particular engagement, JKUAT is attempting to instill new and productive ways of empowering majority poor in society who have unfortunately been socialized and hooked to partake unproductive and often treacherous trade of Jua Kali, and hawking leaving the lucrative occupation of industrial production to the elite.

As point men steering industrialization in your various localities, I take this opportunity to invite to make use of JKUAT in this important undertaking. You can do this by making frequent visits here at our Juja campus so that you can find out what the university has for the populations under your authority. We also hold an annual open day in the month of September at our Juja campus as well as participate in the Nairobi International Trade Fair and the Central Agricultural Show central. These are events that you will not afford to miss.

As I conclude, I want to take this opportunity to ounce again sincerely thank the Ministry of Industrialization for the honor of bestowing this very important task to us in JKUAT. We promise to deliver

It is now my pleasure to invite the Permanent Secretary to give his address and officially open the Business Development Skills Training workshop.

I thank you for listening to me.