

KARATINA UNIVERSITY STRENGTHENS GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS WITH CHINA VISIT



Participants during the workshop

Karatina University Vice-Chancellor and CEO, Prof. Linus M. Gitonga, together with Dr. Beatrice Muganda Inyangala, PS, State Department for Higher Education and Research, other Vice-Chancellors, Deans of Schools, and ICT Directors, recently completed a two-week tour in China aimed at strengthening collaboration, partnerships, staff and student mobility, and technology sharing in higher education.

The visit, held from 4th January 2026, took the Vice-Chancellor and Dr. Kennedy Malanga, Dean of the School of Computing and Informatics, to Hangzhou, China, as part of a delegation organised by Hikvision. A key highlight was an official visit to Hikvision Headquarters, focused on advancing partnerships in smart technology to support teaching, learning, research, and innovation at Karatina University. This engagement builds on the existing MoU between Karatina University and Hikvision and comes shortly after the University established the new School of Computing and Informatics and is in the process of building a state-of-the-art Innovation Hub.



The Vice-Chancellor (first left) poses for a photo alongside the PS, State Department for Higher Education and Research, and other Vice-Chancellors during the workshop in Hangzhou, China.

The delegation also participated in the Kenya-China Higher Education Smart Education Exchange Seminar and High-Quality International Student Recruitment Matching Meeting, which brought together university leaders from Kenya and China to discuss education modernization and international cooperation. The programme included official meetings and a courtesy visit to the Vice President of Xidian University, Prof. Zhang Jincheng, where potential collaborations in joint programmes, research, and staff and student exchange were explored.

While at Hikvision, the KarU team also met leaders from the University of Electronic Science and Technology of China, Hangzhou University of Science and Technology, and Zhejiang Normal University. They discussed potential collaborations with Karatina University.

The visit strengthened global networks and provided valuable insights into smart education and university modernization, supporting Karatina University's internationalization agenda.



KARATINA UNIVERSITY POLITICAL SCIENCE STUDENTS VISIT THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN



Dr. Sammy Mwangi giving his remarks during the visit at Ombudsman

On Tuesday, 13th January 2025 over 60 Political Science students from Karatina University, Department of Social Sciences, undertook an educational and academic visit to the Commission on Administrative Justice (Office of the Ombudsman).

The students were led by Dr. Sammy Mwangi Waweru, accompanied by Ms. Carol Gichohi and Ms. Faith Ngari. During the visit, the University delegation was received by the Acting Commission Secretary/CEO, Mr. Dan Karomo; Director, Public Education, Advocacy and Corporate Communications, Mr. Osman Mohamed; and Assistant Director, Complaints, Legal Services and Regional Coordination, Ms. Sarah Muthiga.

The purpose of the visit was to enable students to gain a deeper understanding of the Commission's mandate on administrative justice and access to information. The students participated in experiential learning sessions on complaint-handling mechanisms and the processing and review of access to information requests, facilitated by a team of legal experts from the Commission.

The visit provided students with valuable practical insights into the role of the ombudsman in promoting accountability, transparency, and good governance, and laid a strong foundation for continued col-



The students pose for a group photo after the successful and insightful visit to the ombudsman.

KARATINA UNIVERSITY EMPOWERS MURATA WOMEN GROUP THROUGH COMMUNITY OUTREACH

On Friday, 16th January 2026, the Internal Audit Department conducted a community outreach engagement in Kirinyaga County for the Murata Women Group, held at Mountain Valley, Kimunye. The outreach was led by the Senior Internal Auditor, Ms. Cecily Mukami, with support from officers drawn from Counselling, Admissions, and the Corporate Communications Office, alongside a team from Fortune Sacco.

The engagement, aimed at mentoring and empowering the women through financial literacy, personal development, and mental wellness.



The Senior Internal Auditor addressing the audience during the community outreach activity.

Members of the Murata Women Group participated in structured sessions including **“Know Your Worth,” mental wellness and counseling, table banking and financial management**, and an overview of **academic programmes offered at Karatina University**. The sessions were interactive, with participants engaging in questions and answers with the facilitators.

Speaking during the engagement, the Chairperson of the Group, Ms. Mary Munyi, expressed appreciation to Karatina University for taking time to mentor and empower the women, noting that the knowledge and skills gained would positively impact their personal and economic wellbeing.

The highlight of the outreach was the awarding of certificates, which was met with great excitement, as many members received certificates for the first time.



The Murata Women Group pose for a group photo with the KarU team and Fortune Sacco team after receiving their certificates.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Today, we highlight Ms. Vivian Kinya, a Karatina University alumna, Class of 2024, who currently serves as the Duke of Edinburgh’s International Youth Representative for Africa.

In this role, she has represented the Award at high-level international engagements, including an official event in the United Kingdom where she participated as a guest speaker. Her journey reflects the growing global footprint of Karatina University alumni.



Vivian Kinya 2nd from left poses for a photo with the Duke of Edinburgh during the engagement.