

## M.D. and CEO Donation Warms the Hearts of Samburu Women

**Tax Exemption Status  
Marks Coming of  
Age for KenGen  
Foundation**

**First Evaluation for  
Turkwel GIC Project  
Demonstrates Resilience**

# The Giver

The Giver is a free for distribution publication of the KenGen Foundation.

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The KenGen Foundation was established in the year 2012 to upscale and take charge of KenGen's Corporate Social Investment programs.

Since its establishment, the Foundation has been involved in various activities. These include afforestation programs; expansion of the education program to include mentorship; and the establishment of partnerships and other fundraising activities.

The Giver newsletter is published and distributed by the KenGen Foundation.

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Cover image: Samburu women groups receive a donation on ec0-jikos from the M.D. and C.E.O KenGen PLC.

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## Word from the Editor



Dear Reader,

Welcome to the December issue of the Giver magazine. We hope you are well and safe during this festive season.

This issue comes out at a very sombre time when the whole world is slowly adjusting to the socio-economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The corona virus crisis and the consequent lockdowns have laid bare the fissures that ail the Kenyan society and economy. The heart-rending reports of the devastating impact of the lockdown on the vulnerable continue to this date.

While both the central and county governments and other corporate bodies have provided much needed relief packages, many have pointed out that much more still needs to be done.

KenGen Foundation was recently granted tax exemption status by the Kenya Revenue Authority, and this comes at a very crucial period where the role of Corporate Social Investments in mitigating the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic is becoming more crucial.

With the income tax exemptions, KenGen, through the Foundation is now positioned to deliver much-needed impactful community projects aimed at alleviating social burdens at the

Company's areas of operations and beyond.

The tax exemption makes the Foundation attractive to the national and global philanthropy donor community.

Project sponsors can now be allowed by KRA to claim their donations as an allowable expense during the validity period stated on the exemption certificate. This means that the Foundation will not be liable to pay any taxes from a development partner or government grants thereby improving KenGen's gross financial performance.

The corona pandemic has changed the world fundamentally. The crisis it has brought is unprecedented in scale and need, with the poor and the marginalised reeling under its impact the most. Clearly the situation would have been even worse had not hundreds of NPOs and corporates such as KenGen acted in time to mitigate the effects.

Granting the tax exemption to the Foundation by KRA is a testament of the confidence in the Foundation, and is ultimately a boost of the KenGen brand to potential donors and stakeholders.

Wishing you Happy Holidays and a prosperous 2022. Enjoy the read.



Ernest Nyamasyo, Editor.

# Tax Exemption Status Marks Coming of Age for KenGen Foundation

*Anthony Igecha, Managing Trustee*



*KenGen Foundation's Managing Trustee Mr. Anthony Igecha with KenGen PLC M.D. and C.E.O Mrs. Rebecca Miano*

The KenGen Foundation is proud to announce that it has been granted Tax Exemption Status by the Kenya Revenue Authority. This achievement was confirmed on 13th September 2021 and marks a major milestone for the organization.

Receiving the certificate presented by the Foundation's Managing Trustee Anthony Igecha, the M.D. and C.E.O Mrs Rebecca Miano congratulated the Finance and Foundation teams for a job well done. The tax exemption status raises the profile of the Foundation having joined a very exclusive club of tax exempt Non Profit Organisations in the country

The status sets the Foundation apart from its industry peers in that income received by the organization for Corporate Social Investment activities will not be subject to tax. This means that the income available from CSI can be channeled to do charitable activities increases.

It also means that donations made to the Foundations by KenGen will be deducted against KenGen's income as an expense and hence reduces the tax burden on the Company.

The tax exemption process demanded a separate audit of the Foundation's books of accounts and included interview sessions with the Company's CSI beneficiaries conducted by KRA. Thanks to the dedication and focus of KenGen's Tax and Finance departments, the exercise that has taken eight years has finally bore fruit.

Other benefits from the exemption include increased donor confidence in project funding, which improves KenGen's overall corporate brand. The milestone comes at a crucial time when the Foundation is commencing its consultancy for a 10-year strategic plan that will see it align CSI programs with KenGen strategy.

An added bonus of the exemption is the increase of the CSI kitty thus improving the overall impact of the Company's social programmes. ■

## KenGen PLC Brand Ambassador

KenGen PLC recognised Ernest Nyamasyo, the Foundation's Communication Officer as part of the KenGen Brand Ambassador initiative.

Ernest was feted together with 83 other company staff for his efforts in highlighting the company's Corporate Social Investment activities.

Kudos Ernest!  
- Anthony Igecha, Managing Trustee



# Early Christmas as KenGen's Turkwel Givers Donate 400 Eco Jikos

About 400 households from Turkwel and West Pokot counties were the beneficiaries of eco-jikos donated by the KenGen Employee Giver Initiative as part of KenGen Foundation's Corporate Social Investment from 6 – 10 December 2021.

The Foundation's managing Trustee Anthony Igecha kicked off the exercise by handing over the timely Christmas gifts to the first ten households.

"The eco-jikos are one of the measures KenGen is taking to conserve the

environment, and is part of the company's strategy in empowering communities address the effects of climate change", he said.

Turkana and West Pokot counties are majorly semi arid, with the communities practicing cultural nomadism and depending on firewood and traditional jikos for cooking. This has had an adverse overall effect the county's population's health and environmental sustainability.

Through KenGen PLC, the adoption of energy saving cooking stoves (or eco-jikos), which burn firewood more efficiently than traditional open fire of a three-stone stove, is taking shape.

While Kenya has seen a steady advancement in its efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; deforestation; and the protection of ecosystems, climate change continues to be a key issue in national development and sustainability goals.

The project was an initiative of the Turkwel Power Station employee Givers and aligns to KenGen PLC's objective in addressing socio-economic challenges faced by communities neighboring its power stations. The jikos, which were distributed



**“** KenGen Foundation Managing Trustee Anthony Igecha gives out an eco-jiko to the West Pokot community.

**The eco-jikos are one of the measures KenGen is taking to conserve the environment.**

through the KenGen Foundation, aim to bridge the gap on access to innovations that significantly contribute to the nation's climate carbon emission reduction.

While receiving the stoves, the beneficiaries appreciated the donations and the positive impacts anticipated especially during the dry season. According to the residents, the stoves are a timely surprise for community when they need them the most.

The use of wood fuel is predominant in rural areas, with about 95% of the households relying on it. Wood fuel consumption remains one of the major factors for degradation of Kenya's forest resources; with estimates showing that 92% of wood fuel consumption in the country is non-renewable thus leading to increased net Green House Gas emissions.

With seventy-five percent of households in Kenya relying mainly on firewood and charcoal as the primary source of fuel for

cooking and heating, KenGen PLC is at the forefront in mitigating climate change in line with Kenya's commitment to reduce (GHG) emission by about 32 per cent by 2030.

The KenGen Employee Giver Initiative is a platform for KenGen PLC staff to participate and contribute in the company's corporate social responsibility activities. In a country where an estimated 93 percent of Kenyans still use fuels such as charcoal, firewood or paraffin for cooking, such efforts go a long way in reducing greenhouse gas emissions while helping reduce deforestation.

The exercise was also part of the global #GivingTuesday movement that encourages corporates and individuals to participate in charitable activities during the festive season. ■

# Turkwel #GivingTuesday



# Addressing Climate Change through Eco-jikos.

**T**hirty households in Kihara sub-location, Nyandarua County are the recent beneficiaries of energy saving jikos courtesy of KenGen PLC's Managing Director and CEO Mrs. Rebecca Miano on 29th October. The donations are part of the Company's Corporate Social Responsibility in empowering communities to address climate change.

The jikos, which were distributed through the KenGen Foundation, aim to bridge the gap on access to innovations that

significantly contribute to the nation's climate carbon emission reduction.

While Kenya has seen a steady advancement in its efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; deforestation; and the protection of ecosystems, climate change continues to be a key issue in national development and sustainability goals. The project also aims to protect trees through less demand for wood for cooking.

Addressing the recipients during the

distribution exercise, area Chief Ann Muringi Mbogo urged the women groups to adopt the new jikos and do away with the traditional three-stone fireplaces.

"Stakeholders across the country are currently trying to increase the amount of forest cover from 6.9 percent to 10 percent in order to protect water supplies and biodiversity. Through these jikos, the recipients will boost the efforts in conserving the environment and mitigating climate change," she noted.

Tests show that the jikos consume over 60% less firewood compared to the traditional open fire stoves. Whereas open fire stoves use approximately 15kg of fuel wood to bring 30 liters of water to boil, the energy saving jikos only used 5kg! The energy saving jikos also take a shorter time to bring water to boil, and produce less smoke.

In a country where an estimated 93 percent of Kenyans still use fuels such as charcoal, firewood or paraffin for cooking, such efforts go a long way in reducing greenhouse gas emissions while helping reduce deforestation. ■



## M.D. and CEO Donation Warms the Hearts of Samburu Women

**T**he Managing Director and CEO of KenGen PLC Mrs. Rebecca Miano donated 35 energy-saving jikos through the KenGen Foundation to women groups in Poro Ward, Samburu West Constituency, Samburu County on 29 September.

Speaking during the event, the KenGen Foundation's Managing Trustee Anthony Igecha said that the donation is one of the measures KenGen is taking to conserve the environment and is part of the company's strategy in supporting communities in addressing climate change.

Samburu County is primarily semi arid, with the communities practicing cultural nomadism while depending on firewood and traditional jikos for cooking. This has

had an adverse overall effect the county's population's health and environmental sustainability.

Addressing the women during the distribution exercise, nominated MCA Ms. Doris Lengerasi urged the group to adopt the new jikos and do away with the traditional three-stone fireplaces that were synonymous with the Samburu culture.

"The environmental-friendly jikos use less firewood compared to the local jikos hence will boost efforts in conserving the environment," she noted.

The energy-saving jikos produce less smoke, are efficient in firewood consumption, and are durable and affordable. The jikos use 2-3 firewood instead of the traditional cookers that use

a lot of wood fuel.

With seventy-five percent of households in Kenya relying mainly on firewood and charcoal as the primary source of fuel for cooking and heating, KenGen PLC is at the forefront in mitigating climate change in line with Kenya's commitment to reduce (GHG) emission by about 32 per cent by 2030.

Ms. Lengerasi observed that women and girls usually spend long hours fetching firewood and cooking over smoky-flames placing them at a higher risk of developing health complications.

She said that the energy saving jikos were of immense benefit to the residents and will simultaneously improve the quality of the environment and the associated health problems. ■

*Pictorial on pg. 11*



# Community Eco-jikos Donation



# First Evaluation for Turkwel GIC Project Demonstrates Resilience



**A**fter a year of competition, the KenGen Foundation undertook the first monitoring and evaluation exercise of the Turkwel GIC project to assess the progress of the afforestation project by visiting different participating schools within the counties of Turkana and West Pokot, 6th – 9th December.

The team comprising of Elishibah Msengeti, Ernest Nyamasyo and Ambrose Njagi visited participating schools who showcased their progress in nurturing the tree seedlings after they were distributed. The exercise, facilitated by the project sponsors assessed, the gains the schools have so far made, and the challenges facing them in the management and execution of the tree-planting competition.

The pilot GIC Turkwel project involves participating schools compete in planting and nurturing drought resistant *Terminalia brownie*, *Senna siamea* and *Melia volkensi* tree species in 0.5 acre woodlots in their school compounds.

“Despite challenges such as water shortage and plant diseases, the GIC project has been highly accepted by both the students and teachers”, said Monitoring & Evaluation Officer Celestine P’Kemoi.

The sustainable management of the schools’ tree nurseries and woodlots will provide them with a renewable source of wood fuel thus reducing pressure

on surrounding vegetation and forest resources. It also accords the schools an opportunity to diversify their income through the sale of timber & non-timber products.

The afforestation project is designed as a challenge mainly due to the dry weather conditions in the areas, with prizes awarded based on the highest survival rate of seedlings and use of innovation in growing the trees.

The best performing schools stand a chance of winning education scholarships, school trips, infrastructural developments and cash awards.

Innovations are highly encouraged to ensure the sustainable survival of the young trees, with a section of the participating schools having set up drip irrigation systems, mulching farm yard manure to improve water retention and improve the organic matter content in the soil.

The GIC aims to raise the awareness and participation of school children in environmental conservation activities, and develop a culture of tree planting within communities. ■



# GIC Turkwel Project Evaluation





## 1st Capacity Building for Green Teachers in Phase VII of Tree planting Competition.

The scorching October sun was a stark reminder for 148 'green' teachers, including school principals, on the need to embrace environmental conservation in the semi-arid counties of Kitui, Embu, and Machakos. The teachers were attending a three-day capacity building workshop courtesy of the Schools' Green Initiative Challenge from October 13 – 15.

The workshop saw the registration of 93 new schools to the afforestation competition as the project, a partnership between the KenGen Foundation, KenGen PLC, Bamburi Cement Ltd, and Better Globe Forestry, expands into Phase VII.

The KenGen Foundation team and their counter part from KenGen PLC and Better Globe Forestry delivered a series of lectures touching on the need to take up the project, the challenges, and the overall benefits of environmental conservation.

The training aimed at empowering the new 'green' teachers with technical knowledge on good tree nursery management, planting methods and seedling nurturing

practices. They will in turn transfer the skills to the students involved in the afforestation competition.

The 100 new GIC schools will compete in nurturing drought resistant Terminalia brownie, Senna siamea and Melia volkensi tree species in 0.5 acre plots at their institutions. The project aims at greening over 500 acres of the semi-arid counties of Embu, Kitui, and Machakos.

Apart from gaining in-depth knowledge of the characteristics of the GIC tree and fruit species, participants also learnt various nursery management practices including weeding, seed propagation, pest and disease control, and best practices in sustainable water harvesting.

At the end of the competition, the best performing schools stand to benefit from education scholarships, infrastructural developments, educational tours, water tanks, rainwater-harvesting structures, and cash awards.

Launched in 2013, the GIC is structured as a competition for participating schools to encourage environmental conservation.

The Ksh. 120 million partnership encourages schools to establish small forests within their compounds for both wood fuel and commercial purposes. It also aims at enlightening school growing children and youth on the importance of planting trees and protecting the environment.

Currently in Phase VI, the GIC has so far greened over 400 acres in more than 500 schools as a way of mitigating climate change, and involved over 12,000 pupils.

Outstanding 'green' teachers from the three counties also stand to win prizes including sponsored trips, cash prizes, shopping vouchers and certificates.

The GIC is the Foundation's flagship environment project, managed and implemented in collaboration with Bamburi Cement Ltd., and Better Globe Forestry. ■

# GIC VII Capacity Building



# First Class Graduant Celebrates KenGen Education Scholarship



*Kenga Ketsao*

I take this opportunity to thank the Almighty God who has been my guide in all circumstances throughout my university life. To the noble KenGen Foundation fraternity I find no better language with the correct words to express my sincere gratitude for being so mindful of me in my realms of academic dreams.

I am so thankful for the financial support, the mentorship programs in which I learned a lot. You made sure that I succeed not only in papers but also holistically from the heights of my academics to the breadth of my relevance in the society to the width of my balanced life in all endeavors - for lack of better terms.

You've given my feet new strength to scale the heights of excellence which I'm sure by the help of God I can reach the epic of my dreams.

Space and time will not allow me to say everything. My Bachelor of Science in Chemistry journey ended on 17th December 2021 at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology.

To the continuing students, I wish you all the best.

*Kahindi Kenga Ketsao*

## Schools Infrastructure Support Projects

The Foundation, through the Schools Green Initiative Challenge, grants best schools in the afforestation competition with a construction project as part of the project awards.

KwaWanzilu Secondary School, Machakos County School benefits from the construction of a new classroom to ease congestion. The school emerged second runner up in GIC Phase III.

Thua Primary School, Kitui County, will soon have a new chain link fence and gate house, courtesy of the tree planting competition.

They emerged top in GIC Phase II.



*New classroom block at KwaWanzilu Secondary School, Machakos County.*



*New chainlink fence at Thua Primary School, Kitui County.*

# Impact of Employee Giver Initiative to Communities



*Community Water Tanks distribution, Sondu Miriu*



*Amani Primary School, Mombasa County - ongoing renovations*

While the global corona pandemic has led businesses to pledge to step up as good corporate citizens like never before, this shift has long been happening at KenGen PLC through the Employee Giver Initiative. With the inclusion of social sustainability in the overall corporate strategic plans, engaging employees in participating in Corporate Social Investment programs has become a critical success factor for the company.

Through the KenGen Foundation, the company's Givers responded to a call for proposals through their area champions earlier in the year. The framework agreed upon was focused on maximising the social impact of the projects anchored on the Foundation three pillars of sustainability namely Education, Environment, Water & Sanitation.

The team from Sondu Miriu opted to

address acute water shortages experienced by the community through the donation of 1000l. water tanks, especially for single-mother households. The Givers gave out 70 tanks over the 2020-21 period and pledged to increase the number of households in the next phase.

As a way of controlling soil erosion and educating the next generation on the importance of environmental conservation, Upper Tana Givers planted

trees within four school compounds as their contribution to the initiative. A total of 4,000 trees were planted.

2,250 students of Amani Primary School are set to benefit from the renovation of their ablution block, courtesy of Kipevu Givers. The project, currently underway, is set for completion

before schools open for the next term.

Communities living around KenGen's geothermal power station will benefit from solid

waste management courtesy of Olkaria Givers. The timely project will benefit the overall Naivasha environment, and specifically the Kwa Muhia area which is suffering from pollution.

Set up in 2015, the KenGen Employee Giver Initiative is instrumental in executing KenGen CSI activities at the company's areas of operations. The initiative was specifically formed to enable KenGen staff donate their skills, expertise, and monetary contributions towards community and environment projects. ■



*Tree planting in schools, Upper Tana with Givers*



*300 (1,000 l) water tanks set for distribution across Nakuru County*

# Beyond The Classroom: Join Us for the Annual KenGen Book Drive

**K**enGen PLC Employee Giver Initiative is making a difference this holiday season by collecting books for donation to the needy members of our societies. Staff are encouraged to drop off their donations at set collection points at the

power stations. From there, the books will be distributed to the students through the KenGen Foundation network of Givers.

The program is especially looking for primary and secondary school course books, university and college technical

course books. Novels and other interesting reading materials that target primary, secondary and tertiary levels students are also needed. Collection points at all KenGen Power Stations.



*Books collections currently on-going at all KenGen PLC power stations*



*Foundation's Managing Trustee Anthony Igecha with Retirement Benefit Scheme Trust Secretary Josphat Muriuki during the launch.*



*Foundation's Managing Trustee Anthony Igecha with KenGen PLC HR Manager Jennifer Mbugua during the launch.*







# BOOK Drive

Help us promote education among underprivileged students by donating books!

We're looking for:

- Secondary School course books
- University Technical course books
- Novels

Donated books can be dropped off at your station's collection point.

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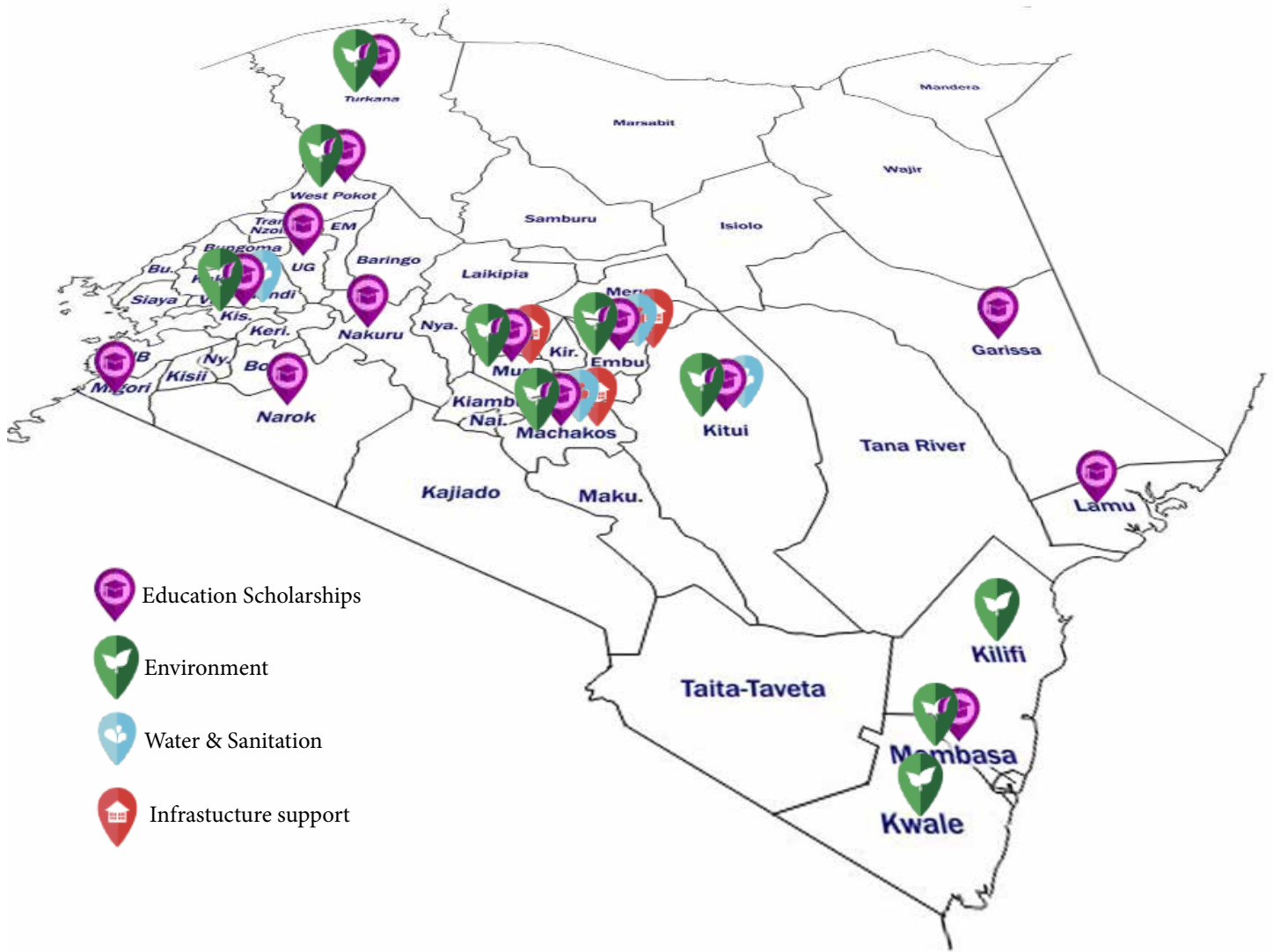
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### KenGen

Energy for the nation.

# Our journey so far...



## Partnerships

The Foundation has worked with strategic partners to source resources for bigger and far-reaching programmes.

These partnerships draw on the strengths of the different organisations in addressing pressing community and development issues through pooled resources.

The Foundation has signed a corporation agreement with The Wellbeing Institute.

The partnerships that aims addressing teenage developmental issues across the country, with the pilot project set for early next year.

Kenya Forest Service joins us in our efforts in rehabilitating major forest blocks within the country, and especially where KenGen PLC operates. The partnership will also focus on building the capacity of adjacent forest communities to be able to conserve their forests as well as strengthen our flagship

environment project, the Green Initiative Challenge (GIC).

AAR Healthcare (K) Ltd. comes onboard to provide a framework for joint activities related to environmental conservation.

The Foundation has also renewed the partnership with Tullow Oil for the Turkwel Green Initiative Challenge in Turkana and West Pokot counties. ■

# Our Partners



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