



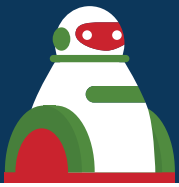
Young
Scientists
Kenya

INSPIRE INFORM EMPOWER



NATIONAL
SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY
EXHIBITION
2026

CONCEPT NOTE



Introduction



Young Scientists Kenya

INSPIRE INFORM EMPOWER

Young Scientists Kenya (YSK) is a STEM initiative committed to inspiring and empowering the next generation of young scientists, innovators, and entrepreneurs. Through STEM education and technology, we equip students with the skills needed to solve real-world challenges, drive innovation, and transform their communities.

Since 2018, we have expanded our reach across all 47 counties of Kenya, engaging over 850 schools, including 21 special needs schools. With the support of 1,000+ teachers and 600+ STEM mentors, our Outreach and Mentorship programs have impacted 250,000+ students, fostering a pipeline of future scientists and problem-solvers. Our National Science and Technology Exhibition has showcased 1,700 student-led projects, leading to 259 award winners, 15 university scholarships, and the launch of student-led businesses and trademarked innovations.

YSK's commitment extends to ensuring equitable access to STEM opportunities through our "Leave No Learner Behind" campaign, which focuses on empowering marginalized and underrepresented students, including those in special needs schools and remote areas. By integrating technology and digital tools, we ensure that all learners - regardless of background - can participate in shaping Kenya's future economy.

About The 2026 National Science and Technology Exhibition

As YSK's flagship event, the National Science and Technology Exhibition provides a dynamic platform for Kenyan youth to demonstrate their scientific talents, research capabilities, and innovative thinking. This year's theme, "**Shaping Kenya's AI Future Using STEM**," aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by encouraging students to develop STEM-based solutions that address environmental, social, and economic challenges, while exploring how artificial intelligence and emerging technologies can enhance, scale, or strengthen their impact.

Now in its 9th edition, the 2026 national exhibition will convene:

 over **1,000 students**

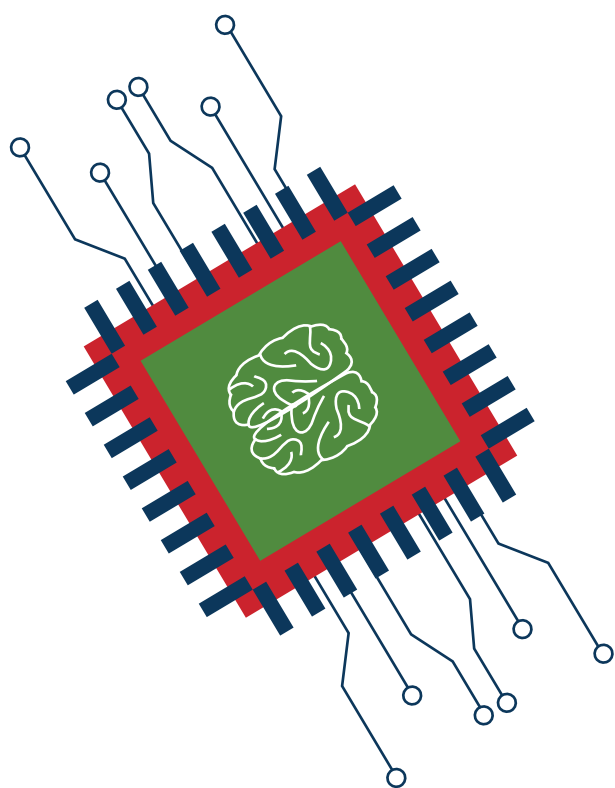
 from all **47 counties**

competing in four core categories

- 01** Technology
- 02** Social and Behavioural Sciences
- 03** Biological and Ecological Sciences
- 04** Chemical, Physical, and Mathematical Sciences

The top 130 finalists will exhibit their projects **in Nairobi from 4 – 8 August 2026**, where 25 outstanding projects will be awarded with the overall winners earning a full university tuition scholarship and a fully paid trip to Ireland in 2027. All the winning innovations will be assessed for potential intellectual property (IP) protection and business development support through the Winners' Business Bootcamp.

With an expected attendance of 3,000+ participants, the exhibition will bring together a diverse audience, including high school students, teachers, parents, policymakers, industry leaders, universities, researchers, and the general public. This unique convergence of education, industry, and innovation fosters collaboration, knowledge exchange, and opportunities for young innovators to connect with potential mentors, investors, and institutions that can support their growth beyond the exhibition.




Why This Matters?

Investing in STEM education and innovation is critical to Kenya's future. The exhibition bridges the gap between education and industry, fostering:



Workforce Readiness

Equipping students with 21st-century skills for careers in science, technology, and entrepreneurship.



Economic Growth

Encouraging youth-led startups, IP development, and industry-driven innovations.



Sustainability & Social Impact

Encouraging young innovators to develop sustainable solutions for local challenges especially considering clean renewable energy, sustainable agriculture and community health



Diversity & Inclusion: Social Impact

Expanding STEM access to girls, persons with disabilities (PWDs), and students from underprivileged backgrounds.



National & Global Competitiveness

Positioning Kenya as a hub for youth-driven innovation and technological advancement.

Through this initiative, YSK continues to cultivate problem-solvers, future entrepreneurs, and STEM leaders who will drive Kenya towards a sustainable and prosperous future.

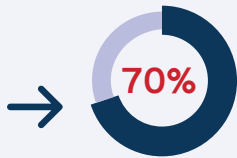


Our Success Stories

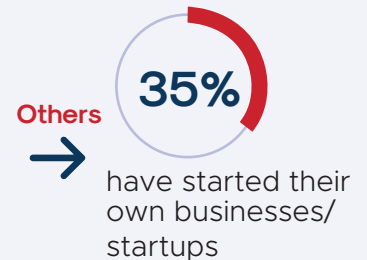
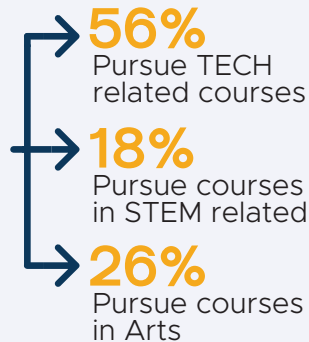
Where are they now?

1000+

Alumni who have completed high school



Qualify to University/ College/ TVET



MAXWELL OPONDO

Founder, Zerobionic 2020 Overall Winner

BSc. Computer Science, Strathmore University

Zerobionic is a robotic assistive tech prosthesis aiming to aid inclusivity in education for people living with hearing disability.

<https://zerobionicafrica.com/>

GHEIDA ABDALLA

Founder, Girls I-Save 2021 SB Category Winner

Bachelor of Technology in ICT, Technical University of Mombasa

Initially conceived as an application for reporting GBV and providing access to counselling, Girls I-Save expanded into a comprehensive mentorship and empowerment program for young girls

<https://www.girlisave.org/>



ISAAC MUENDO

Founder, ArifaLab 2019 TECH Category #2

BSc. Software Engineering, Zetech University

ArifaLab is a tech company specializing in enterprise security software and managed security services for SMEs in the ICT sector.

www.arifalabs.com



BRANICE KAZIRA

Co-Founder, Signvrse 2021 Special Award Winner

BSc. Software Engineering, The Africa Leadership University

Signvrse is an assistive technology social enterprise bridging communication barriers between the hearing and Deaf communities. Through harnessing the power of Artificial Intelligence(AI) and 3D avatars.

www.signvrse.com



GEORGE NJARAMBA

Njaramba Sax 2019 BE Category Winner

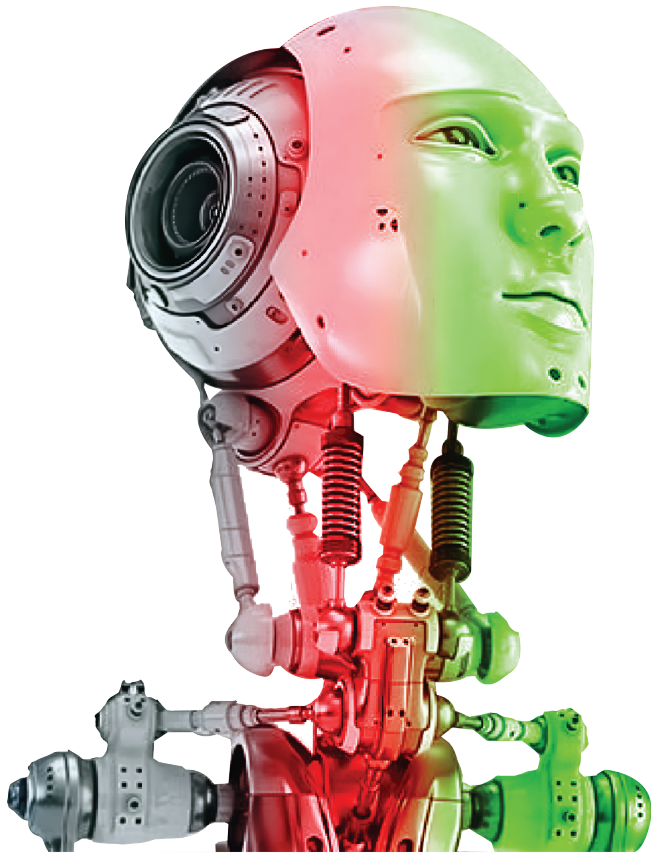
Film & Media, Africa Digital Media Institute

Although his early achievements were rooted in science, Njaramba's true passion lies in the creative realm. Today, he channels his creativity through soulful saxophone performances and innovative filmmaking, to craft compelling artistic narratives.



This year's theme,

Shaping Kenya's AI Future Using STEM



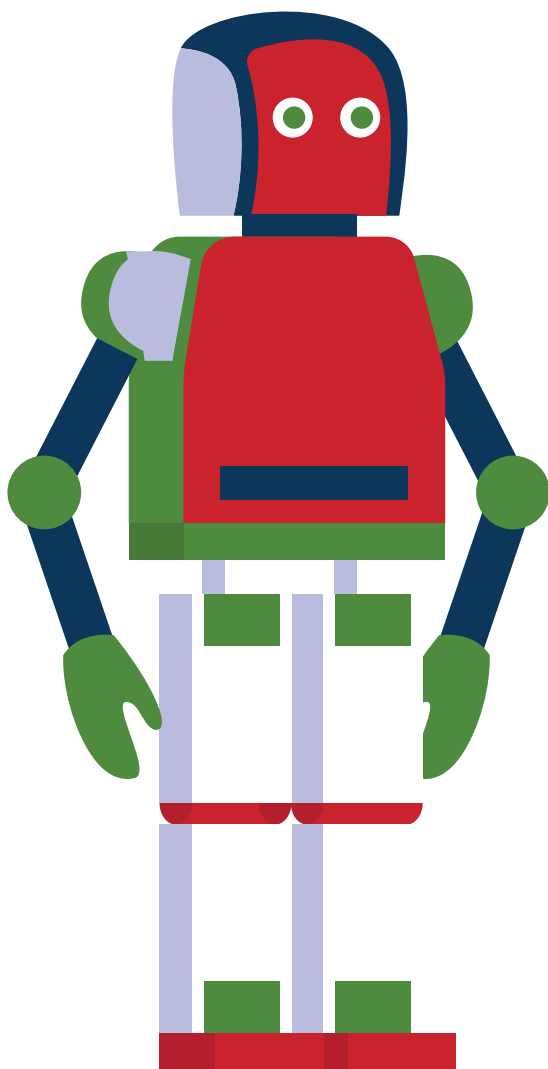
invites students in both junior secondary and senior school to explore how Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) can prepare Kenya for an increasingly AI-driven world. Students are encouraged to develop innovative solutions to real-world challenges across sectors such as agriculture, health, climate resilience, education, manufacturing, and community development - while considering how artificial intelligence can enhance, scale, or strengthen their ideas.

The theme aligns closely with Kenya's digital transformation agenda and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), by inspiring young innovators to harness STEM knowledge to solve environmental, social, and economic challenges. Through hands-on projects, research, and practical solutions, students will contribute to: Students do not need to build complex AI systems to participate. Projects may focus on core STEM disciplines, with thoughtful recommendations on how tools such as artificial intelligence, data analytics, coding, robotics, or digital platforms could enhance their impact. This ensures that learners from all backgrounds can participate meaningfully while contributing ideas toward shaping Kenya's AI-enabled future.



Objectives of the Exhibition

- Showcase student-led innovations in STEM fields
- Inspire students to pursue careers in science, technology, and innovation
- Foster collaboration between students, industry leaders, and academia
- Provide a platform for exhibitors to showcase cutting-edge innovations
- Engage policymakers in discussions about STEM education and innovation policy



Key Activities and Highlights



Student Innovation Showcase

130 innovative projects from junior and senior school students nationwide



Workshops and Masterclasses

Hands-on sessions on coding, robotics, AI, and entrepreneurship



Industry Exhibitions

Leading organizations and startups showcasing new technologies



Panel Discussions and Talks

Experts discussing STEM, sustainability, and the future of innovation



People's Choice Award

Public voting for the most impactful student project



Awards Ceremony

Public voting for the most impactful student project



Why Partner with us?

- 01 » Impact:**
Empower young innovators and invest in the future workforce

- 02 » Visibility:**
Gain national exposure through media and branding at the event

- 03 » Networking:**
Connect with policymakers, educators, and industry leaders in YSK's extensive stakeholder network

- 04 » CSR & Brand Alignment:**
Support STEM education and sustainability initiatives



Some of our Proud Partners!



Fawzia Ali-Kimanthi,
Chief Consumer Business Officer, Safaricom PLC

At Safaricom, we believe in the power of innovation to transform lives. We recognize that in today's world, science has helped us solve some of the most monumental societal challenges while creating opportunities that were unimaginable a few years ago. Our partnership with YSK, which started in 2017, has seen us help our young people tap into the transformative power of technology by making STEM courses more attractive. We are even more excited by the increasing number of young girls who are choosing STEM subjects, demonstrating that our partnership is generating the outcomes we aspired to deliver.

H. E. Caitriona Ingoldsby
Ambassador, Embassy of Ireland to Kenya

Ireland fully supports YSK's mission to inspire and empower young minds in Kenya, particularly in its efforts to reach the furthest behind, ensuring that marginalised learners from arid and semi-arid areas, special needs schools, and refugee communities are included. By investing in the youth and their scientific pursuits, we can collectively address global challenges and drive sustainable development.



Dr. Eng. Julius Butime
Dean School of Computing and Engineering Sciences,
Strathmore University

Nurturing talent in STEAM is an effort requiring various stakeholders. For many who follow this path, it will begin with a word of encouragement from a parent, a teacher, a mentor or a friend. Strathmore University is proud to be associated with the YSK to make this a reality for many young upcoming students, with untapped potential. Join us in this effort.

Partnership and Sponsorship Opportunities

We invite you to partner with us to help deliver another successful exhibition, ensuring all students, particularly those living in disadvantaged areas and young people with special needs, can benefit from our comprehensive program.

TITLE SPONSORSHIPS	 Diamond Sponsorship 30,000 USD	 GOLD Sponsorship 20,000 USD	 SILVER Sponsorship 10,000 USD	 BRONZE Sponsorship 5,000 USD
Speaking slot at the opening and awards ceremony	✓			
Large exhibition pavilion display at strategic location	✓			
3m by 6m sponsorship booth at strategic location		✓	✓	
3m by 3m sponsorship booth at strategic location				✓
1 sponsor managed panel session	✓			
Presentation of category awards	✓			
Exhibition Guide Full Page Ad	✓			
1 co-created side session	✓	✓		
Plenary session enagement with students	✓	✓		
Project actualisation and incubation opportunity	✓	✓		
Branding during opening and closing sessions	✓	✓	✓	
Feature in YSK editorials and website	✓	✓		
Opportunity to present special award			✓	✓
Logo on YSK marketing materials and website	✓	✓		✓
Speaking opportunity during student plenary sessions				✓

Students Sponsorships

Team Sponsor KES 70,000

Opportunity to sponsor any team to attend the exhibition.

- Acknowledgment as team sponsor
- Photo opportunity with team(s)
- Logo on YSK website, social media pages & marketing materials
- Mentorship/support opportunity

Inclusivity Sponsor KES 85,000

Opportunity to sponsor any of the PWDs/ refugee teams

- Inclusivity sponsor acknowledgement
- Opportunity to present award
- Opportunity to incubate project
- Logo on YSK website, social media pages & marketing materials

Special Award Sponsor KES 200,000

Opportunity to sponsor any of the special awards

- Award sponsor acknowledgement
- Opportunity to present award
- Complimentary exhibition booth
- Opportunity to incubate project
- Logo on YSK website, social media pages & marketing materials

Leading Sponsorships

Side Event Sponsor KES 350,000

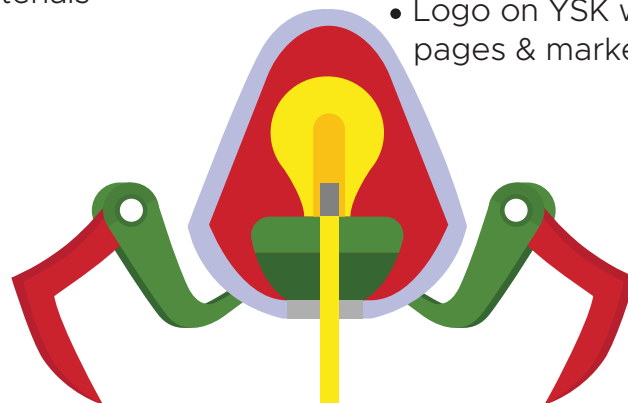
Dedicated 1 -2 hr workshop/mini hackathon with the students/teachers during the exhibition week.

- Sponsorship acknowledgement
- Significant branding during side event
- Opportunity to award attendees certificates
- Complimentary exhibition booth
- Logo on YSK website, social media pages & marketing materials

Digital & Amplification Sponsor KES 550,000

opportunity to support either livestream production or student innovation profiling, and/or social media campaigns for the exhibition.

- Branding on all digital
- Sponsorship acknowledgement
- Complimentary exhibition booth
- Feature in YSK editorials & website
- Logo on YSK website, social media pages & marketing materials.



The YSK Exhibition STEM Village welcomes organizations, institutions, and innovators passionate about showcasing advancements in STEM, education, technology, and innovation. Whether you're a research institution, a tech company, a startup, an NGO, or an academic institution, this is your opportunity to connect with young innovators, educators, parents and industry leaders.



Exhibitor Package KES 150,000

- **A 3x3m booth** in the STEM Village, inclusive of space for two representatives
- **Your logo featured on the YSK website and YSK Booklet**
- **A medium virtual banner**, including 1 promotional videos, 2 images, 1 downloadable PDF/document
- **Feature in the Exhibition Booklet**, highlighting your participation and impact



Call to Action

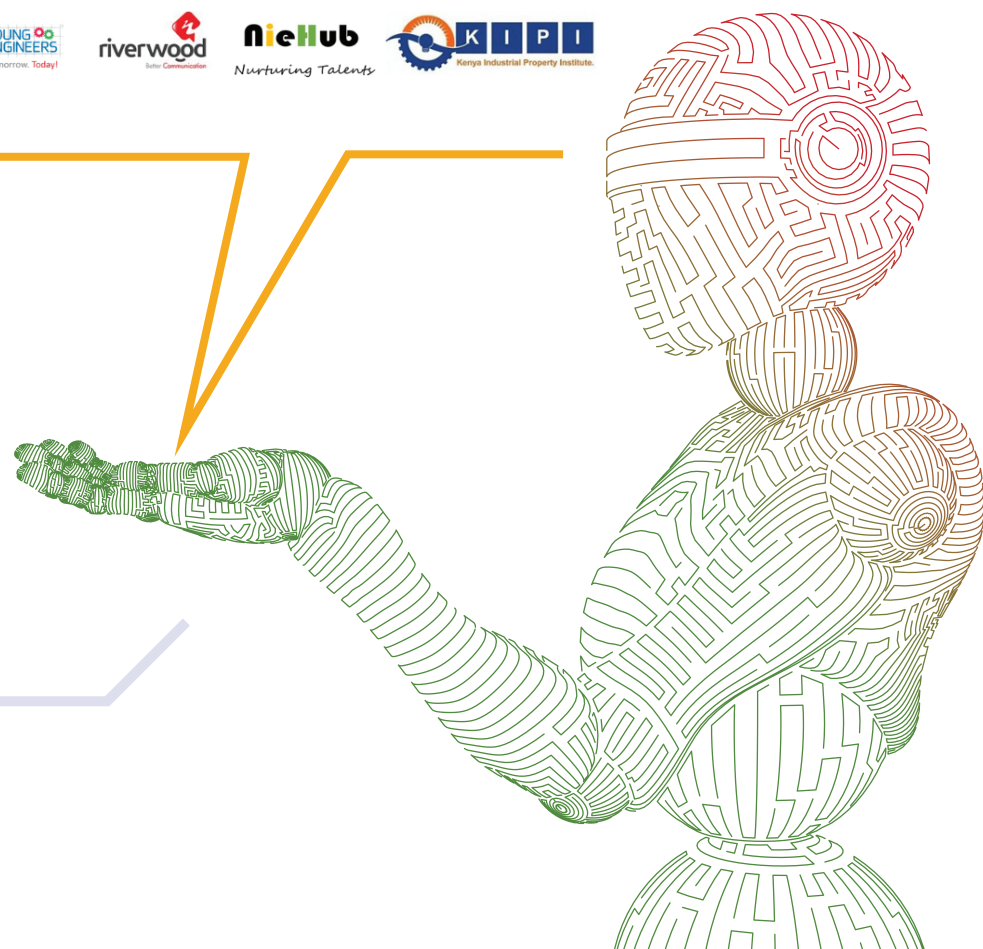
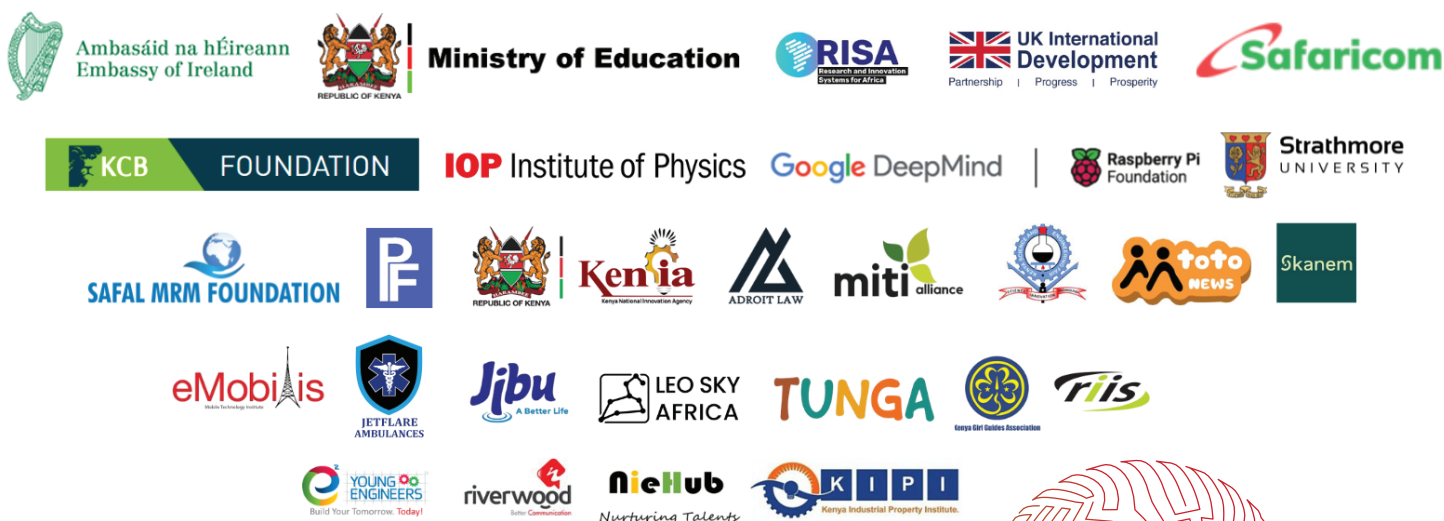
You can partner with us in the following ways

- Financial support
- Exhibition Logistics
- Knowledge networks and sharing (STEM ecosystem)
- Volunteering (as a student mentor, judge, or staff volunteer)
- In kind support provided to support the delivery of YSK including provision of venue, materials for use by students, winner's awards, apprenticeships



Program Partners & Supporters

Young Scientists Kenya is Powered by a strong network of partners who share our commitment to inspiring the next generation of innovators. Their support- through funding, mentorship, technology, infrastructure, and capacity building - has enabled us to reach more schools, empower more teachers, and open new opportunities for learners across Kenya. We are grateful for their continued collaboration in advancing STEM, research, and innovation for all.





CLICK TO WATCH

YSK Winners Bootcamp 2025

<https://tinyurl.com/43xntkk8>



CLICK TO WATCH

#YSK2025 #InnovationForChange

<https://tinyurl.com/4yxjdnsx>



CLICK TO WATCH

YSK Exhibition 2025

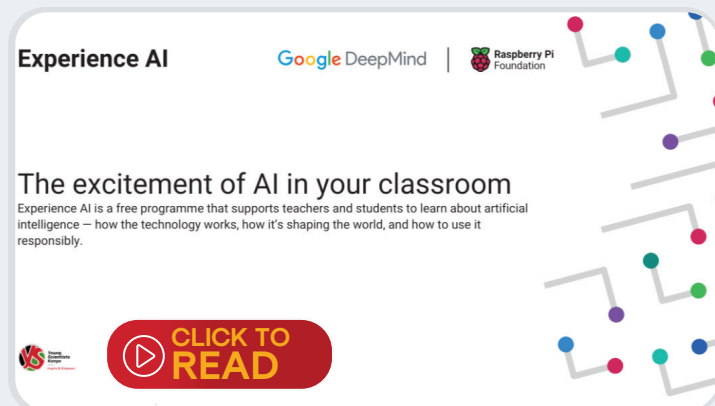
<https://tinyurl.com/58ff3ftk>



CLICK TO WATCH

STEM for Every Student

<https://tinyurl.com/4b34s6zc>



CLICK TO READ

YSK Partnership with Raspberry Pi Foundation

<https://tinyurl.com/bddrtw98>

Scan to: Partner with us





Young
Scientists
Kenya

INSPIRE INFORM EMPOWER

For partnership
opportunities,
please contact:

Ms. Vanessa Inziani

Head of Programs and Partnerships

✉ partnerwithus@ysk.co.ke

☎ +254705100156

🌐 www.ysk.co.ke

