

YOUNG SCIENTISTS KENYA QUARTELY NEWSLETTER



ABOUT YOUNG SCIENTISTS KENYA

Young Scientists Kenya (YSK) is a unique initiative allowing high school students across Kenya to demonstrate innovation and showcase their scientific talents through a National Science and Technology competition. Our mission is to inspire, inform and empower the next generation of young scientists, innovators, and entrepreneurs to transform their communities through Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)!





YSK IN 2023

In 2023 YSK aims to reach more than 50,000 students in 500 schools from 47 counties, with an increased focus on marginalized areas and special needs schools. YSK's activities will be under the theme "**Developing Sustainable Solutions for Climate Change**," given that climate change is a global issue that affects every corner of the world, and students in every classroom may be witness to some of its effects.



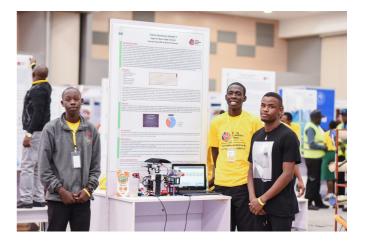
THE YSK 2023 NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION

In preparation for the YSK 2023 National Science and Technology Exhibition scheduled for the **27th to the 30th of November 2023** at the **Sarit Expo Center in Nairobi**, a total of **153 schools** have registered **329 projects** under four categories:

(i) Technology - 95

- (ii) Biological and Ecological Sciences 90
- (iii) Chemical, Physical & Mathematical Sciences 101 (iv) Social and Behavioral Sciences - 43

In the next three months, **June-August 2023**, students from the 153 participating schools are developing their projects with the guidance of their teachers. YSK has also assigned STEM mentors to support the schools, teachers, and students in developing their projects. Under the direction of their dedicated teachers and mentors, these young minds will be preparing to showcase their talent, creativity, and passion for science. The YSK National Science and Technology Exhibition judges will review these projects in **September and October 2023**, and the schools whose projects make it to the **top 80** will receive invitations to exhibit their projects during the National Science and Technology Exhibition in Nairobi later in November. The exhibition will not only be an opportunity to display their projects but also a chance to compete with fellow students from across the country.



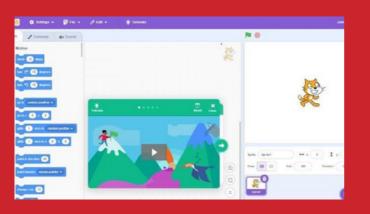


6th YSK National Science & Tech Exhibition



NOVEMBER 2023 | SARIT EXPO CENTER THEME: "DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE" Young Scientists Kenya www.ysk.co.ke | +254 713 681551

YSK Launches Google CS First Project



YSK in partnership with Google Kenya in June launched a project to pilot the "Computer Science (CS) curriculum aimed at introducing coding and computer science to students in a collaborative and creative club environment. CS First club members build projects in Scratch (scratch.mit.edu), a block-based programming language. The Project will reach **1,250 high school students** across **50 schools** in Bungoma, Kakamega, Kisumu, Migori, and Siaya Counties in Kenya.

The project funded by Google Kenya involves a 7-week coursework content where students and teachers can work on different projects on the Scratch software in music, sports, games, storytelling, art, design, and fashion. The program's ultimate goal is to have the learners develop an interest in coding, computer science, and emerging technology trends.

From 10th June to 14th June 2023 - YSK, under its Google CS First Project, conducted coding with Scratch training for **50 teachers** from **50 schools**. The training was delivered by the **Soma Siri Africa Team**, an organization that empowers individuals, teams, and organizations to develop intelligence and scale problem solving across Africa; to ensure the mentors were well equipped to not only deliver the curriculum but also drive impact among teachers and students.

Once trained and equipped with skills, the teachers will facilitate the coding project supporting students to develop different projects on the Scratch software in 50 secondary schools.



YSK assisted in training 50 high school teachers from 50 schools on coding with Scratch



YSK & Raspberry Pi Foundation Partnership

Young Scientists Kenya has partnered with Raspberry Pi Foundation to foster a new era of digital innovation and learning opportunities for young minds. Our collaboration aims to empower students with essential coding skills and ignite their passion for technology. Through this partnership, YSK is working with STEM Hubs, STEM mentors, teachers, and schools to introduce Python, Scratch, HTML, CSS, and JavaScript—the building blocks of modern programming. The project aims to reach 2,400 secondary school students, 80 teachers, and 80 STEM mentors in Mombasa, Kiambu, Machakos, Garissa, Bungoma, Nakuru, Nairobi, and Kisii. By equipping the students with these skills, YSK and its partners are preparing them for the digital world and opening doors to exciting future STEM related career prospects.



2022 Winners STEM Bootcamp

14th August 2023 - 18th August 2023

Young Scientists Kenya is gearing up to host its annual STEM Winners Bootcamp for its 2022 cohort from 14 - 18 August 2023 at the Centre for Mathematics, Science, and Technology Education in (CEMASTEA). year's Africa This Bootcamp will allow the 46 winners of the 2022 YSK Exhibition to participate in a week-long workshop for mentorship and training on commercialisation, enterprise development, Intellectual and Property, trademarking from experts in these fields. YSK is partnering with various organisations, companies, and STEM experts, such as I Choose Life Africa, Liquid Intelligent Technologies, CEMASTEA, and **Kenya** Industrial Property Institute, to offer participating students learning opportunities.

The Bootcamp will also offer industry visits to enable students to learn about the day-to-day application of STEM in industries. YSK has partnered with **Kerry Group**, **Tononoka Group**, **Kevian Kenya**, **ALX**, **UN Headquarters**, and **Isuzu EA** to host the students during the industry visits. The Bootcamp will facilitate linkages for the students with individuals, agencies, and companies from the public and private sectors to progress their scientific ideas into commercially viable businesses or explore opportunities for further research.



YSK Winners Bootcamp at Isuzu EA during an industry visit in 2022



"Forever etched in my memory ... everything about this bootcamp has been a special memory...my knowledge about a lot has been broadened ... and I'm really happy and just can't find the specific words for everything that has happened in this week. I don't know how to tell you guys how happy we have all been ... I could type a lot more. Thank you YSK team♥."

Jamila Mazrui, 2021 Winner - 1st place, Biological Sciences Category Project: Solar Powered Atmospheric Water Harvester

PARTNER WITH US

- Volunteering (as a student mentor, judge or staff volunteer)
- Engaging with YSK on social media @yst_kenya (Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, TikTok)
- Knowledge sharing networks and (STEM ecosystem)
- Program delivery partnership
- Financial and in-kind support

To learn more about YSK visit our website: www.ysk.co.ke

If you have any inquires call us on +254 713 681 551 or email partnerwithus@ysk.co.ke

> Ambasáid na hÉireann Embassy of Ireland

We appreciate in-kind support provided to support the delivery of YSK including:

- Provision of venue
- Provision of computers, technical and laboratory equipment and materials for use by students
- Winners Awards
- Apprenticeship
- **Project incubation for winners**
- Media and Publicity support
- Industry trips •

+254 713 681 551









Sterling Craft (K) Ltd





Science & Exhibition









GMin









KENYA SPACE AGENCY





partnerwithus@ysk.co.ke

Concern Worldwide Offices, Ariel \bigcirc House, Westlands Avenue, Nairobi, Kenya