



Introducing the YSK 2023 Exhibition Winners from Turkana County

In case you missed it!

Victor Ekai and Vincent Lomor, two brilliant minds from **St. Kevin's Secondary School in Turkana County**, demonstrated exceptional talent and dedication emerging victorious at the prestigious Young Scientists Kenya (YSK) 2023 National Science and Technology Exhibition for their project, **'Avocado-Based Shoe Polish'**.

YSK held the hybrid 2023 National Science and Technology Exhibition (NSTE) from November 27th – 29th, at the Edge Convention Center, Nairobi, in partnership with the Kenya Innovation Week (KIW) - a flagship forum held in Kenya, organized by the Government of Kenya through the Kenya National Innovation Agency (KENIA).

With the guidance of their supervising teacher, **Mr. Duncan Kemboi**, the duo presented a solution that promises to revolutionize the

footwear industry by providing a sustainable and environmentally friendly alternative to footwear care, aligning with YSK's 2023 theme on climate change. Hailing from the arid and semi-arid land region of Turkana, they experienced firsthand the challenges posed by dust and its effect on footwear. This prompted them to test their hypothesis, assisting their schoolmates in obtaining affordable shoe polish to prolong the lifespan of their shoes.

Walking away with Ksh. 100,000 as a result of their victory at YSK 2023 Exhibition, the duo also received 2 trophies, certificates, and a full STEM scholarship at Strathmore University.

Victor and Vincent remain committed to furthering their research, exploring new frontiers, and making a positive impact on the world.

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2022 Winners' Trip to BTYSE in Ireland

Our 2022 Winning Team from Chala Secondary School - Diana Wambugha, Brian Mwaghogho and Mr. John Kamau - and YSK's Ms. Bakari Batuli, embarked on an exciting trip to Dublin, Ireland, to participate in the 60th British Telecom Young Scientists & Technology Exhibition (BTYSTE) from January 9 - 14 2024.

Diana and Brian showcased their winning project - Smart Fingerprint Ballot Box - to esteemed guests, government officials, industry leaders and other students and teachers.

The Embassy of Kenya in Ireland's Deputy Head of Mission, Ms. Joan Muchoki, gave the team a Kenyan welcome at the embassy praising them on their accomplishments. The team also got a chance to visit Google Ireland, Dogpatch Labs, and the Trinity College.

After the closing ceremony, they met with the 2024 BTYST Exhibition overall winner, Seán O'sullivan, congratulating him for his project, *VerifyMe: A new approach to authorship attribution in the post-ChatGPT era*.



YSK's National Director

We're thrilled to introduce our new National Director, **Dr. Eng. Victor Mwongera!**

With a distinguished background as an aeronautical engineer and 13+ years of experience in advancing organizations dedicated to supporting Kenyan youth, we believe he will lead us in unlocking the potential in the next generation of young scientists!

Join us in welcoming him onboard!



Raspberry Pi
Foundation

Partner Spotlight

The **Raspberry Pi Foundation (RPF)** is a UK charity with the mission to enable young people to realise their full potential through the power of computing and digital technologies.

YSK's partnership with RPF will impact 2,400 students by creating 80 code clubs in 80 schools across 8 regions in Kenya. Students will receive training in Scratch, Python programming language, Web design and physical computing.

Thank you, RPF!

2024 STEM Outreach Highlights



2024 OUTREACH PICTORIAL

YSK successfully launched the 2024 YSK activities on January 27, 2024 at Moi Girls High School, Nairobi. To date, we have visited 4 counties: Nairobi, Garissa, Bungoma and Machakos.

Here is our reach so far:



3,100
students



90
teachers



70
schools



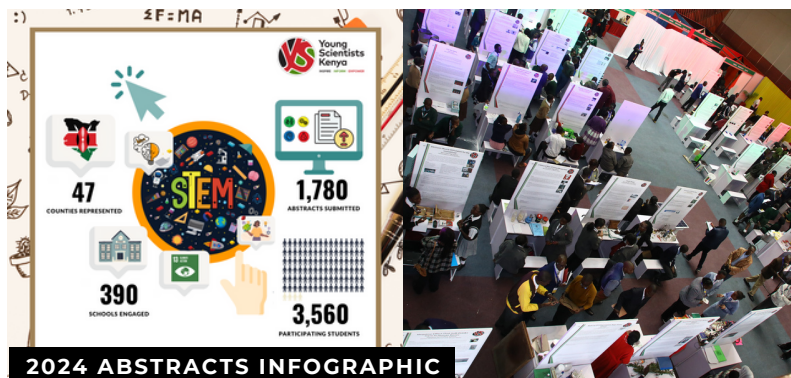
45
mentors

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to our esteemed partners, including Angaza Elimu, Africa Schools Outreach Program, Chipu Robo, Kenya Girl Guides Association, Mtoto News, Creptie School, NieHub, Garissa University, and the Raspberry Pi Foundation, for their invaluable contributions to the outreach program.

Together, we strive to ensure that no learner is left behind in the journey towards *Making STEM Accessible to ALL*.



2024 Exhibition Abstract Submissions



2024 ABSTRACTS INFOGRAPHIC

As we gear up for the 7th Annual National Science and Technology Exhibition scheduled to take place in August 2024, we continue to focus on SDG 13 Climate Action.

This year, we have received a total of 1,780 Project Abstracts received from 390 schools across all 47 counties - a 138% increase in the submissions.

To ensure fairness and rigor in the evaluation process, we've enlisted judges from academia and both the public and private sector. The evaluation is set to be completed by 10 May 2024.

To all participating students, we wish you the very best as you embark on this exciting and transformative journey.

Event News

- STEM Outreach and Mentorship Program will continue in the second term of the secondary schools calendar from **May - July 2024**.
- Raspberry Pi Foundation Coding program will commence in **May 2024** targeting 2,400 students from 80 schools across the 8 regions in Kenya.
- 7th National Science and Technology Exhibition is scheduled to take place in **August 2024** - dates TBC.



**GHEIDA ABDALA
FOUNDER, GIRLS I-SAVE
2022 SOCIAL SCIENCE CATEGORY WINNER**

From Idea to Business: Gheida's YSK Journey

Gheida's journey with Young Scientists Kenya (YSK) began in 2020 during the COVID19 pandemic as YSK adapted to the new normal.

As a form 2 student at Matuga Girls High School, Gheida submitted a project in the Chemistry category and although she didn't qualify as a finalist, the experience provided valuable exposure to the joy of building projects.

Proving persistence is key, Gheida participated again in form 4 submitting a web application project - **Girls I-Save** - aimed at connecting and enabling young girls and women in the community to report issues and get assistance.

This project won first place in the Social and Behavioral Sciences category and was the beginning of Gheida's journey. This success boosted her confidence and motivation towards innovating for social good leading her to start her company, Girls I-Save.

As a Premchandbhai Foundation scholar at the Technical University of Mombasa, Gheida balances her time between studying her Bachelor of Technology in Information Technology (BTIT) undergraduate course, and running her newly founded company.

When she's not busy at school or with her company, not only does Gheida give back to YSK by volunteering her time as a mentor and judge, but also moderates and public speaks during youth events.

Notably, Gheida has received a few recognitions for her great work including the Rising Star Award during the Pwani Women Awards in 2023.

To get realtime updates and how you can support Gheida and the girls she impacts, you can follow her LinkedIn page here:



Thank you for reading!

<p>YOUNG SCIENTISTS KENYA</p>	<p>FOLLOW US</p>
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