



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
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BUILDING CLIMATE RESILIENCE THROUGH TVET.

The world is engaged in one of the most consequential transitions in human history. Nations are working to limit global temperature rise and build resilient economies capable of sustaining future generations. The scientific consensus is clear: climate change is no longer a future threat. Its impacts are already being felt through extreme weather events, biodiversity loss, changing rainfall patterns, and growing pressure on natural resources.

Recognizing these challenges, countries across the globe, including Kenya, have committed to climate action through their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Achieving these commitments, however, will require more than policy declarations and technological innovation. It will require people equipped with the skills, competencies, and values needed to drive sustainable development.

This is where Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) has a critical role to play.

As the sector responsible for developing the skilled workforce that powers the economy, TVET sits at the intersection of climate action, industrial transformation, and human capital development. Whether in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, water management, green construction, waste management, circular economy practices, or climate-smart manufacturing, the transition to a sustainable future will depend significantly on the availability of appropriately skilled personnel.

The message emerging from the TVET sector is therefore clear: climate action is a shared responsibility, and skills development is one of the most powerful tools available to advance that agenda.

During the World Environment Day 2026 commemorations, the emphasis on integrating green skills into TVET programmes reflected a growing recognition that sustainability should be treated as an integral component of how institutions train, innovate, and operate.

This is why greening TVET goes beyond curriculum reform. It requires a holistic transformation of institutional culture, infrastructure, and mindset. It involves equipping learners not only with technical competencies but also with an appreciation of sustainable resource utilization, environmental stewardship, and responsible production and consumption practices.

Encouragingly, many TVET institutions are already taking steps in this direction. Efforts to improve water management, promote energy efficiency, adopt renewable energy technologies, reduce dependence on fossil-fuel-powered systems, and create income-generating opportunities are demonstrating how institutions can serve as living laboratories for sustainability while enhancing institutional resilience.

As the world transitions toward greener economies, the future of work will increasingly demand competencies that support environmental sustainability, resource efficiency, and climate resilience. TVET institutions therefore have a responsibility not only to respond to change, but also to prepare learners to lead it.

Tree growing and ecosystem restoration efforts within TVET institutions form another important part of this journey. Beyond contributing to national tree-growing targets, such initiatives help create greener learning environments, improve microclimates, provide shade, and foster environmental responsibility among learners. As the effects of rising temperatures and heat stress become more evident, these actions will increasingly contribute to creating safe and conducive spaces for training and learning.

Importantly, the transition towards a green economy cannot be achieved by institutions acting in isolation. Collaboration remains essential. Partnerships between government agencies, industry, development partners, communities, and educational institutions will be critical in accelerating the development and deployment of green skills.

The ongoing collaboration between the TVET sector and National Government Administration Officers to encourage greater youth participation in technical training demonstrates how partnerships can support broader national development objectives. Expanding access to quality technical training ensures that more young people are equipped with competencies relevant to emerging labour market opportunities while contributing to climate resilience and sustainable development.

The experience at Sabatia Technical and Vocational College during its graduation ceremony served as a reminder that sustainability is ultimately about people. Infrastructure, technology, and policy frameworks are important, but lasting transformation depends on individuals who possess the knowledge, skills, and commitment required to build a better future.

As Kenya advances its climate commitments and sustainable development aspirations, the role of TVET will continue to grow in importance. The sector is not only preparing learners for jobs; it is preparing citizens to contribute meaningfully to national resilience, environmental stewardship, and economic transformation.

"A sustainable future will not be built by technology alone. It will be built by skilled hands, informed minds, and responsible citizens empowered through quality technical and vocational education and training."
— Dr. Esther Ithara Mutoria, CBS, Principal Secretary, State Department for Technical and Vocational Education and Training

THIS WEEK IN TVET.

World Environment Day 2026: Advancing Climate Action Through Skills Development

The global observance of World Environment Day 2026 renewed calls for collective action to address climate change and accelerate the transition towards sustainable development. As nations seek to limit global temperature rise and build climate-resilient economies, the role of skills development continues to gain prominence.

The TVET sector joined the global community in commemorating the day through initiatives that demonstrate the practical contribution of technical and vocational education to environmental sustainability.

At Belgut Technical Training Institute, the Principal Secretary for Technical and Vocational Education and Training, Dr. Esther Thaara Muoria, led stakeholders in marking the occasion and acknowledged the institution's progress in adopting renewable energy solutions through solarization.

The installation of solar energy systems reflects a growing commitment within TVET institutions to integrate sustainability into both learning and operations. Beyond reducing carbon emissions and supporting Kenya's transition towards cleaner energy sources, such investments provide valuable hands-on learning opportunities for trainees pursuing competencies in renewable energy technologies.

The initiative also demonstrates how sustainability can contribute to institutional resilience. By reducing energy costs, renewable energy systems support more efficient utilization of resources while creating opportunities for practical training, innovation, and enterprise development.

The message emerging from the TVET sector is clear: climate action is not solely a policy aspiration but a practical responsibility that can be advanced through skills development, innovation, and collective action.



World Environment Day 2026 provides a timely reminder that climate action and sustainable development will depend on the skills and competencies developed through TVET

IMPACT SPOTLIGHT.

Sabatia TVC Demonstrates the Link Between Skills Development and Sustainability

The graduation ceremony held on 5 June 2026 at Sabatia Technical and Vocational College provided a powerful illustration of how TVET institutions are contributing to Kenya's sustainable development agenda.

Held under the theme of green energy and zero-waste practices, the event highlighted the institution's ongoing efforts to integrate sustainability principles within training, operations, and institutional culture.

A key feature of the occasion was the demonstration of the institution's transition towards renewable energy through solarization initiatives that now support several operational functions, including digital learning facilities and training activities.

While the graduation celebrated the achievements of the graduands, it also reflected a broader transformation taking place across the TVET sector. Increasingly, learners are being equipped with both technical competencies and mindset required to address contemporary development challenges.

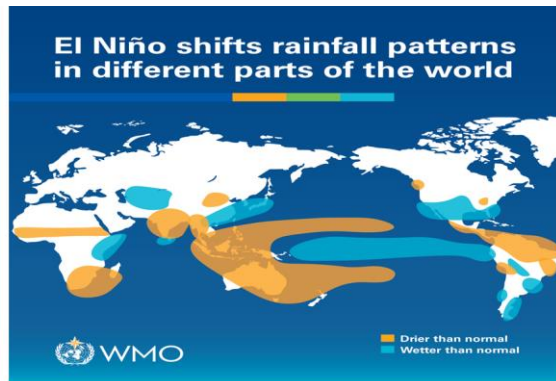
The integration of sustainability concepts within Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) ensures that graduates enter the labour market with an appreciation of environmental stewardship, resource efficiency, innovation, and responsible production practices.

As the demand for green jobs and sustainable solutions continues to grow, institutions such as Sabatia TVC demonstrate how TVET can serve as a catalyst for developing a workforce capable of supporting Kenya's green transition and long-term economic resilience.



Principal Secretary Dr. Esther Thaara Muoria during the graduation ceremony at Sabatia Technical and Vocational College on 5 June 2026. The occasion underscored the transformative role of TVET in advancing sustainable development, innovation, and economic resilience.

FOCUS ON THE FUTURE.



The science is clear: El Niño is arriving on our doorstep in the coming months with 90% certainty. The world must treat it as the urgent climate warning it is. El Niño conditions will pour fuel on the fire of a warming world.
UN Secretary-General António Guterres

Strengthening Climate Preparedness Through Skills Anticipation

Recent climate forecasts pointing to a possible El Niño phenomenon have renewed attention on the need for preparedness and resilience planning.

Extreme weather events such as floods, droughts, and heatwaves have historically resulted in damage to roads, bridges, water systems, schools, agricultural production systems, and other critical infrastructure. The economic and social costs associated with recovery often exceed the investments required for prevention and preparedness.

This presents an opportunity for the TVET sector to contribute proactively to national resilience efforts.

TVET institutions possess a wide range of technical competencies in construction, plumbing, electrical installation, renewable energy, water management, agriculture, and infrastructure maintenance. These capabilities can support efforts to identify vulnerabilities, strengthen preparedness measures, and contribute to rehabilitation and restoration initiatives where necessary.

Looking ahead, there is need to strengthen skills anticipation by aligning training programmes with emerging climate realities. This includes building competencies in climate-smart agriculture, renewable energy technologies, water conservation, resilient infrastructure development, and disaster risk reduction.

Equally important is the need for enhanced collaboration among government agencies, training institutions, industry, county governments, development partners, and local communities to mobilize resources and coordinate responses effectively.

As climate-related risks continue to evolve, preparedness will depend on infrastructure, financing and the availability of skilled and adaptable human capital. Investing in relevant skills today may prove to be one of the most effective strategies for building resilience tomorrow.