



UNIVERSITY OF EMBU

SPEECH BY

PROF. DANIEL MUGENDI NJERU,

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OF

EASTERN REGION KENYA SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR,

HELD AT

KANGARU BOYS HIGH SCHOOL,

EMBU COUNTY

ON

THURSDAY, 21ST MARCH, 2019 AT 11.00 A.M.

- His Excellency the Governor of Embu
- County Executive Committee Members
- The County Director of Education
- Teachers Service Commission officials
- Principals of Schools and Colleges
- Teachers
- Students
- Invited guests
- Ladies and gentlemen

Good afternoon,



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I thank you most sincerely for inviting me as the Chief Guest during this Regional Science and Engineering Fair.

I believe all have worked meticulously to have the various projects ready for this Science and Engineering Fair, and I have this to say, **CONGRATULATIONS** to you all.

The objective of Kenya Science and Engineering Fair (KSEF) is to promote Research and Innovation among young people in schools, encourage young scientists to be creators of technology and offer solutions to the problems in the contemporary society. I have noted that you are all committed to achieving this objective.

Ladies and gentlemen;

The Government's commitment to the provision of quality education and training to its citizens at all levels cannot be over emphasized.

As stated in the Kenya Vision 2030 Social Pillar, Education and training sector is expected to provide globally competitive quality education, training and research for sustainable development. This will position Kenya as a regional center for research and development in new technologies. It also singles out education and training as the vehicle that will drive Kenya into becoming a middle-income economy.

Further, Science, Technology and Innovation (ST&I) is considered critical in the achievement of Kenya's Vision 2030. This is the reason why Science, Technology and Innovation should be harnessed through Science and engineering fairs like this one to stimulate industrial initiatives for increased and sustained economic growth. At this point, let me start by appreciating the organizers of this fair for putting up a great event that has attracted quality projects from our students and schools around this region. The students are very knowledgeable and conversant with key science principles and theories.

What this means is that teachers took time to meticulously prepare students to participate in this fair. I also commend the teachers for making sure that each one



of you students succeeds and by extension promotes the success of our country in Science, Technology and Innovation. The Judges, Teachers, Principals, Schools and other mentors deserve credit for giving you a head start, for allowing you to build on what they know.

So let us give them a big round of applause.

I also want to appreciate our parents because they work hard to help you succeed. I am sure they all are really proud of you especially because of the extraordinary skills in science that you possess. The greatest happiness that a parent can have, is to see a son or a daughter who is talented and innovative in life and hence will easily chart their way around life without being over-reliant.

So let us also give our parents a big round of applause.

I know that for each of the projects we have here today, a lot of effort, commitment and hard work has been put in. This is on top of your regular schoolwork, and many other demands that you face as a student. This must be a proud moment for each of you.

I congratulate the participants of this Regional Fair. I am indeed very proud of you because you have emerged the best from competitions conducted at the Sub-County and County Levels. You are great scientists and innovators in the making. Please keep up the exploration and discovery spirit that has begun in you and you will definitely go places. As we all know, Science and Technology drives the world, so keep the fire burning.

From this regional event, I know some of you may even get to win big during the National event and go ahead to represent Kenya at prestigious International Science and Engineering Fairs.

And what if you do not win today? Winning is wonderful but the process leading to where you have reached today is even more important and meaningful. Your



exhibit and project exists, your experience has been learnt and you have gained exposure that many may not have. I am confident that you will have also learnt something about yourself; - how hard you can drive yourself; how well you can troubleshoot and fix problems; how well you receive advice and criticism; how brave you are in the face of challenges among others.

These are the things that should motivate you to work even harder without being discouraged in any way.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The world we live in today is a multi-disciplinary, diversified and a dynamic one, we must embrace knowledge from all fields to better our understanding and make life easier for everyone. To this end, I applaud the Science and Engineering Fair team for the incorporation of two more fields of science namely, Behavioral Science and Robotics.

We must connect with others, create and market our innovations so that they can benefit the society. It is only through reaching out to solve the needs of society that will make us good scientists, good researchers and wealthy in the long run.

And if you keep up the spirit of scientific research and innovation, I am confident that some of you will join us at the University to continue with your journey of scientific discovery.

We, at the University of Embu, will continue to partner with schools and other institutions of research and learning to build the confidence, capacity, knowledge and skills of teachers and students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

To promote science, technology and engineering in our schools; and in recognition of the great efforts by the teams involved, **University of Embu has donated a**



rotational trophy to be awarded annually to the best County in the Eastern Region Kenya Science and Engineering Fair, 2019.

Students, in appreciation of your mentors, you must share your experience and spread that wonderful taste of science with others. Together we can cultivate a vibrant culture of knowledge generation and innovation, a key element for the success of our Country's socio-economic development plan.

With those few remarks,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you so much for listening to me and I wish you God's blessings and every success as you move to the next level - which is the National Science & Engineering Fair.

It is now with great pleasure that I declare the Eastern Regional Science and Engineering Fair - in Embu - Officially Open.

Thank you and God Bless You.

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