



OeAD COUNTRY TALK, KENYA

OVERVIEW OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN KENYA

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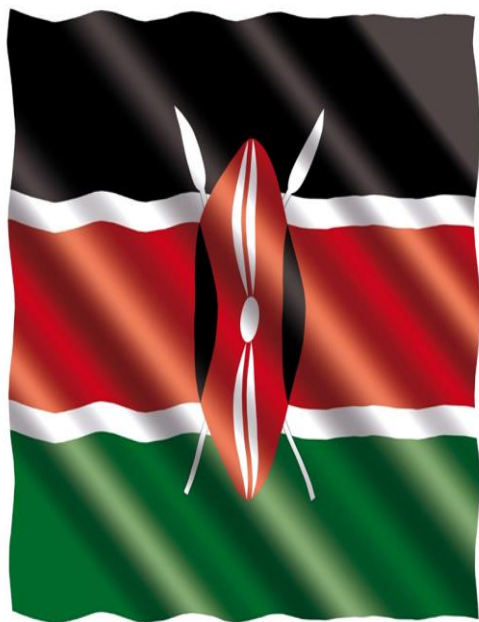
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THE BIG FIVE



Welcome to the fascinating country of Kenya. Visit our coastal area with fine beaches, travel to the Great Rift Valley, move on to Mt. Kenya and experience the Aberdare Ranges, move on to our expansive National Parks to experience **Safari** at the Maasai Mara, the Amboseli, Tsavo East, Lake Nakuru National Park, the Nairobi Park. Visit the second largest fresh water lake in the world (lake Victoria) and the Second largest desert lake in the world (Lake Turkana).





PRESENTATION OUTLINE

Brief introduction about Kenya

- Some facts about geography/main economic activities (such as agriculture, tourism, etc.)
- Brief introduction of the political system
- Diversity of cultures and languages

Some information about the Higher Education Institutions

- Brief overview of the institutions
- National institutions that overlook the development and the quality of the institutions
- Challenges/opportunities



SOME FACTS AND STATISTICS ABOUT KENYA

- Kenya is in East Africa and borders Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania and the Indian Ocean
- The population (2023 estimates) is **50,830,000**.
- The capital of Kenya is **Nairobi**
- Other major towns include Mombasa, Kisumu, Nakuru, Eldoret, Kitale, Naivasha, Nyeri, etc.
- There are about **52 ethnic communities** in Kenya. About 1% of the population is non-African, mostly of Asian and European descent.
- Languages spoken - **Swahili (official and national), English (official)**, and other vernacular languages (about 62 languages).
- Kenya is a **multilingual country** and a good number of Kenyans speak at least three languages in varying degrees (Swahili, English and a vernacular).



SOME FACTS AND STATISTICS ABOUT KENYA cont.,

- Life Expectancy at Birth for Males is **68 years** and for Females is **71.4 years** in 2022
- Urban-Rural Population in 2019 stood at Urban (**32.1%**) and Rural (**67.9%**).
- Basic Economy has relied on **Agriculture** and **Tourism** for a long time.
- **Agriculture:** Exports on coffee, tea, flowers (particularly carnations and Rose flowers) and horticultural products.
- **Tourism:** the beaches and the big Five are readily available:
 - Lions, Leopards, Elephants, Buffalo, Rhino. Other animals include Hippo, Crocodiles and witnessing the Great Wildebeest Migration at the Maasai Mara.



SOME FASCINATING GEOGRAPHICAL SITES

- Kenya straddles the **equator**, covering a total of 224,961 square miles (582,600 square kilometers).
- Wide **white-sandy beaches** on the coast. The coastline on the Indian Ocean is **536 kilometres**. Some of its famous and finest beaches include Diani Beach, Bamburi Beach and Nyali Beach.
- Kenya shares Lake Victoria with Tanzania and Uganda - **largest fresh water lake in Africa**.
- **World's largest desert lake** - Lake Turkana.
- The **Great Rift Valley**: significant feature of Kenyan geography.
- Mount Kenya (5199m); **Africa's second-highest mountain**.
- Over **40 national parks, nature reserves and conservancies** that are dedicated to the conservation of wildlife and the protection of nature



THE POLITICAL SYSTEM

- Kenya gained its independence in 1963 and became a Republic in 1964.
- The country's first multiparty elections in three decades were held in 1992
- A new constitution was promulgated in August 27, 2010. The 2010 constitution provides for a bicameral parliament, consisting of the Senate and National Assembly.
- The country thus enjoys a multiparty democracy.
- Kenya has 47 County Governments (The National Government and County Governments)



THE CULTURE

The spirit of **Ubuntu** (Utu) is a driving force in most African cultures and Kenya is included in this. Ubuntu is loosely translated as:

I am because we are (I am because you are).

The sense of 'humanity towards others, a sense of sharing that connects all humanity.

- **Ubuntu** is a philosophy that supports collectivism over individualism and thus gives a sense of egalitarianism.
- **Religions** - Christianity, African religions, Islam, Buddhism and others.
- Kenya is home to world record breakers in athletics (the Marathon)
- A lot of **daily activities are fused with song and dance.**

Cuisine

- Corn (or maize) is the staple food of most Kenyans.
- It is taken as **Ugali** and eaten with any form of stew (meat stew, vegetable stew or fish). It is also taken as porridge, as boiled maize, in a mixture of beans and maize (**Githeri**), mixture of peas, potatoes and maize (**Irio/mukimo**)
- Other foods include: milk, cooked bananas, groundnut sauce, **Chapati**, Rice. Kenyans also relish **Nyama choma** (Roast meat).



EDUCATION AND THE SCHOOL SYSTEM IN KENYA

- With the East African Community formed in 1967 by Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, the three countries adopted the same system of education, the **7-4-2-3**, (3 to 5 years of university education depending on the university programme).
- Since 1985, the **8-4-4** system (four years of university but 5 or 6 depending on the university programme).
- Under the Competency Based Curriculum (CBC) (CBE), the **2-6-3-3** (and 3 years in university but will be more depending on the university programme).



HIGHER EDUCATION IN KENYA

According to the most recent census conducted in Kenya in 2019 (<https://www.statista.com>):

- **3.5 percent** of the country's population had a university degree as the highest level completed.
- **7 percent** of the population completed a middle level or technical and vocational training (TVET) after the secondary school level.
- We are thus talking of **10.5 percent** of the population having completed post-secondary education in tertiary and university education.



NUMBER OF INSTITUTION (UNIVERSITY EDUCATION)

The university subsector in Kenya has expanded rapidly over the last three decades.

- In 1970, there was a **single public university** (the University of Nairobi) and a **single private university** (the USIU).
- By 2012, the total number of fully-fledged universities increased to **33** (7 public and 26 private) universities and **24** university constituent colleges.
- By 2018, Kenya's university education sector comprised a total of **74 institutions**



Growth in the number of public and private universities in Kenya has witnessed corresponding growth in student enrolment from **3,000 in 1970** to more than **563,000 in 2022/2023** academic year.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT IN THE UNIVERSITY

1	1970	3,000
2	1989/1990	20,000
3	1998/1999	40,020
4	2003/2004	67,558
5	2010/2011	181,000
6	2011/2012	240,201
7	2012/2013	276,349
8	2013/2014	443,783
9	2014/2015	470,152
10	2020/2021	546,699
11	2021/2022	562,066
12	2022/2023	563, 000



REGULATING THE UNIVERSITIES

Some legal frameworks and policy documents that have influenced university education in Kenya are:

- The **Universities Act No. 42 of 2012**, revised 2018{2016}
- Recent education reforms (**Presidential Working Party on Education Reforms**) & **CBC** having an **impact on higher education**.
- Commission for University Education (**CUE**) regulates and accredits universities and their programmes to ensure quality university education.
- Kenya Universities and Colleges Central Placement Service (**KUCCPS**) places students to universities and TVET institutions across the country.
- Higher Education Loans Board (**HELB**) provides loans and bursaries to students in TVET Colleges and Universities.



HIGHER EDUCATION FUND

- **A New Financing Model[NFM]** (May 2023) to address the challenges facing public universities and TVET colleges attributed to massive enrolment and inadequate funding.
- Model is student centred: Loans and bursaries to be apportioned to students based on their assessed level of need.
- Funding to students combines **grants/scholarship, loans and household contributions** on a graduated scale as determined by a Means Testing Instrument [MTI].
- Model is expected to address equitable access and inclusion in education.
- Students to be categorized as: **Vulnerable; Extremely needy; Needy; and Less Needy** to enjoy certain percentages of scholarships and loans in a graduated manner.



Key Players in the New Funding Model

- **HELB:** For Provision of Loans and Bursaries to students enrolled in TVET Colleges and Universities [Public and Private]
- **Universities Fund Board:** Provision of undergraduate scholarship to government sponsored students enrolled in public universities
- **KUCCPS:** For placement of students in their desired and qualified courses upon application
- **State Department of Technical Education:** Provision of TVET scholarships
- **Higher Learning Institutions:** The recipients of loans and scholarships awarded to students in the form of fees
- **Parents:** To support household's contributions.
- **General Public** for awareness and even sensitization of the model



***THANK YOU
FOR LISTENING
TO ME!***