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KONZA

NEWSLETTER



MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS

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- A VISIT TO THWAKE MULTIPURPOSE DAM
- NOL-TURESH WATER TO SERVE RESIDENTS OF KONZA, SAYS GOVERNOR OLE LENKU
- KeNHA TO PARTNER WITH KONZA IN PLANNING THE TECHNOPSIS CONNECTIVITY

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FOREWORD



The last quarter of the year 2020 was just as challenging as most part of the year. This was mainly as a result of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) crisis. Nevertheless, we made great progress towards actualising the Konza Technopolis dream.

We enhanced our stakeholders' engagements, strengthening our relationships and interests in the Technopolis. We were privileged to host a delegation from the State Department for Public Works led by the Principal Secretary, Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Dr. Gordon Kihalangwa and the National Construction Authority (NCA). The delegation had come to inspect the parcel of land which will host NCA's Center for Construction Industry Development (CCID). The centre will support the country's vibrant construction industry.

Officials from the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) led by the Head of Information Technology, Mr. George Muraguri also paid us a visit which saw us discuss future prospects by KRA in utilising the National Data Centre situated at Konza. Similarly, we engaged with officials from the Kenya Pipeline Company on the possibility of setting up a Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) bulk handling facility at Konza for the greater Nairobi region.

Similarly, we continued engaging neighbouring county governments with the aim of solidifying our working relationship and deliberating on possible areas of partnerships. To this end, we hosted officials from Makueni County led by Dr. Naomi Makau, Minister of Education, Youth and ICT who explored opportunities available for the youth and community at Konza. Other teams which visited and with whom we held discussions of mutual interest were; University of Nairobi, the National Lands Commission and South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU).

We were also privileged to host Friends of Konza, whom we shared valuable insight with as well as project status. The delegation was led by our founding Chairman, Mr. John Ngumi.

We also received a delegation from the Kenya National Highways Authority (KeNHA) with whom we discussed areas of partnerships. Kajiado Governor, Mr. Joseph Ole Lenku also paid us a courtesy call. Among discussions we held was the benefit of Nol-turesh Water Project to KoTDA and Kajiado County residents.

As part of our continued engagement with stakeholders from different sectors, we held the "Driving efficiency and competitiveness in manufacturing through technology and innovation" webinar in partnership with the Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM). Through this platform, we discussed the role of innovation and technology in improving the manufacturing sector in the country.

As champions of technology and great supporters of innovation, our Board visited Swahilipot Hub in Mombasa where we discussed areas

of collaboration in growing start-ups in the country.

During the last quarter, we kicked off the development of Konza's furnished apartments. The 4-storey building comprising 28 units of studio, one bedroom and two-bedroom apartments will be completed within the next one year.

Besides that, we also successfully held the 2020 edition of the Konza Golf Day Machakos Country Club and planted a tree at the venue as a way of promoting environmental conservation. Held annually, the event has greatly boosted our relations with our key stakeholders.

This quarter also saw us sponsor the 2020 Lake Basin Innovation and Investment Week as the Media Partner by supporting digital broadcasting of the event.

In fulfilling our Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), we participated in the 2020 Eldama Ravine Half Marathon, a cause we remain committed to.

We also held our Investors Networking Breakfast Meeting in Nairobi to update our stakeholders on the progress of the project and also to showcase available investment opportunities.

It is encouraging that despite the year 2020 being a challenging one, we remained resilient and managed to make major strides.

In the year 2021, our focus is to continue developing Kenya's first smart city while attracting more investors.

On behalf of the Konza Technopolis Development Authority, I wish all of you a happy and fruitful year 2021.

Eng. John Tanui, MBS
KoTDA Chief Executive Officer



KOTDA SETS PACE FOR INVESTORS BY ROLLING OUT A FURNISHED APARTMENTS PROJECT

The official ground-breaking of the Konza Furnished Apartments on 19th November 2020 was a major milestone for the Konza Technopolis Development Authority (KoTDA). The ceremony was convened by members from KoTDA and ICM among other key stakeholders. In his remarks, KoTDA Chairman Dr. Arch. Reuben Mutiso said: "This event is of great importance to Konza as for the first time, we are landing residential



KoTDA CEO, Eng. John Tanui laying a foundation stone of the Konza Furnished Apartments during the ground breaking ceremony.



Team from KoTDA, ICM and Dar Al Handassah pose for a photo during the Konza Furnished Apartments ground-breaking ceremony

accommodation on site. There will be people living in these apartments a time like now next year. I call upon other investors whom we have onboarded to also come and break ground."

In his remarks, KoTDA CEO Eng. John Tanui emphasised that the ground-breaking event was a very important progress to the Konza Technopolis project. He noted that the Konza Complex and the National Data Centre situated at Konza were operational and that the furnished apartments with a capacity of 80 pax will serve KoTDA team and visitors.

He added that the Technopolis anticipates seeing the private sector open up to construction as some designs are already approved for more office spaces, residential, hotels and even manufacturing industries.

The 4-storey building will have 28 units comprised of studio, one bedroom and two-bedroom apartments. The proposed facility also has shared facilities such as Common rooms and Common terraces. Development and management of the furnished apartments will be implemented by ICM contractors and overseen by the Authority.



Dr. Arch. Reuben Mutiso during the Konza furnished apartments ground-breaking ceremony.

A VISIT TO THWAKE MULTIPURPOSE DAM

During the month of November, a team from the Ministry of ICT, innovations and Youth Affairs, Ministry of Water & Sanitation and Irrigation, Government of Makueni County and Konza Technopolis Development Authority visited Thwake Multipurpose Dam. The objective of the visit was for the Board to gain a better understanding of the ongoing construction of the Dam and other related developments, including the water treatment distribution systems.

Speaking during a tour of the project which is jointly funded by the Government of Kenya and the African Development Bank (AfDB), ICT & Innovation PS Jerome Ochieng said the completion of the dam will ensure the Konza Technopolis dream is realised.

“Reliable water from the dam will be a key element. As part of a multi-agency approach within the national government, we as Konza City team, came to agree with the technical team over here on logistics and we are looking forward to get the much-needed water from the dam,” he said.

The dam which is at 44 percent completion, is being constructed at the confluence of rivers Thwake and Athi and is one of the standing projects in the country.

Makueni County Governor, Prof. Kivutha Kibwana, who accompanied the PS echoed the same sentiments promising to facilitate smooth implementation of the project. “A big project like this is poised to change cultural orientation of the people. I applaud the progress made so far,” he said.

“We promise to share this water with Konza. I am equally impressed that the government has also set aside about US \$240 million for



Ongoing Construction of Thwake Dam

irrigation component. We hope to see its actualization and concurrent implementation,” said Prof. Kivutha.

“The dam is in the first phase, comprised of construction of an 80.5m

majority of residents in Kitui, Machakos and Makueni counties. The last stage of the project will see development of irrigation works for up to 40,075 hectares of land in Kitui and Makueni counties.



L-R: Government of Makueni County Governor Prof. Kivutha Kibwana, PS State Department of ICT & Innovation, Mr. Jerome Ochieng, KoTDA Chairman, Dr. Arch. Reuben Mutiso, KoTDA CEO Eng. John Tanui, Chief Manager Physical Planning, Design & Compliance Arch. Annah Musyimi and KoTDA Board of Director Mr. Christopher Kariuki

high multi-purpose dam (688 million cubic meter storage capacity) and associated preliminary works needed to enable implementation of other three phases. Phase two of the works will involve construction of hydropower and substation development expected to generate at least 20MW of installed capacity, while the third phase will involve development of water supply system to treat and distribute up to 150,000 cubic metres of treated water per day to the Konza city and to

Thwake Dam is expected to be the main sustainable source of water supply for Konza Technopolis and therefore considered one of the ancillary infrastructure facilities for the overall success of the Konza Technopolis project.

The project will benefit the Counties of Makueni, Kitui, Machakos and Konza Technopolis among others.

KoTDA PARTNERS IN THE LAKE BASIN INNOVATION & INVESTMENT WEEK



During the week, innovators and entrepreneurs showcased their ideas and products, built partnerships, secured funding and found their target customers while creating new products that are geared towards transforming societies and solving certain pressing social challenges.

The event provided a great platform for Konza to have a footprint in the Lake region as the Authority works towards promoting local innovations in the country.

During the month of November, KoTDA participated in the Lake Basin Innovation and Investment Week as a media partner. The annual entrepreneurship and innovation gathering convenes entrepreneurs, innovators, investors, policy makers, government, development agencies and other ecosystem players to spur economic growth of the Lake Victoria Basin through innovative business models, digitization, SME financing and local manufacturing. This year, the forum was held between November 17th and 19th, 2020. It is worth noting that the future of trade in Africa's emerging urban cities is dependent on the aforementioned, and an integrated and collaborative approach with all relevant stakeholders. The forum's target was to address issues along the entrepreneurial value chain of the 14 Lake Region Economic Bloc counties in Kenya.



Speakers during the Lake Basin Innovation & Investment Week Sessions. KoTDA CEO Eng. John Tanui was among the key speakers.

KONZA BUFFERZONE PLANNING FORUM

The Authority held a workshop with key stakeholders on partnership in support of the development of the Konza Technopolis Buffer Zone from 18th - 20th November 2020 at the Kusyombunguo Hotel, Wote in Makueni County.

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The ten (10) Km buffer around Konza Technopolis covers 27,274 Hectares (68,195 acres) situated in the respective counties of Machakos, Makueni and Kajiado. A Physical and Land Use Development Plan was prepared and approved by the Ministry of Lands and Physical Planning in 2013 which should be intergraded with the county spatial plans for the respective counties seamlessly. The objectives of the Plan include enhancing and promoting integrated socio-economic development in Konza Technopolis and its environs, regulating the use of land in the buffer zone and preserving the fragile ecosystem.

It is for this reason that the Konza Technopolis Buffer Local Physical Development Plan (LPDP) has been prepared to provide a framework to ensure harmonious development between the Konza Technopolis and its immediate environs and to protect the integrity of the investments envisaged in the Technopolis.

The Authority held the workshop to:

- Review the draft buffer zone MoU and give recommendations for incorporation.
- Foster a collaborative approach engagement between the stakeholders in planning and development control within the Konza Buffer Zone.



Map: Konza Techno City Buffer Structure Plan

- Set out the basis for cooperation in the execution of activities with various partners in fundamental understanding that they will work together to contribute to the consolidation and harmonization of efforts that

would support the development of the Konza Buffer Zone. This will include implementation of the environmental policies and plans developed by the stakeholders

KeNHA TO PARTNER WITH KONZA IN PLANNING THE TECHNOPOLOIS CONNECTIVITY

The Kenya National Highways Authority (KeNHA) will work closely with Konza Technopolis Development Authority (KoTDA) in planning the connectivity of the city to other areas.

The Konza Technopolis, currently sitting on road A109 Mombasa Road will require a well-connected

road network to serve its target market as well as its key businesses once completed. It will also require elaborate infrastructure that will link to Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) as well as the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) in Nairobi.

Speaking during the visit to Konza, KeNHA Chairman, Eng. Wangai said they had toured the Technopolis to augment the Government's commitment to develop convenient roads for growth and development.

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L-R: KeNHA Director General Eng. Peter Mundia, KeNHA Chairman Eng. Wangai Ndirangu, KoTDA Chairman Dr. Arch. Reuben Mutiso, KoTDA CEO Eng. John Tanui

“As an enabler that helps other sectors achieve the intended objectives, we are here today to see how we can collaborate with Konza and where we can support each other,” said Eng. Ndirangu.

He added: “I’m informed that when this city is established, we shall have about 200,000 individuals flowing daily. This means we have huge traffic flowing between Malili going towards Nairobi and thus we were interested to understand how Konza Technopolis will handle this traffic,”

Eng. Ndirangu revealed that they had discussed areas of collaboration with

Konza in order to establish a smooth road map, especially in regard to government’s efforts towards building road infrastructure.

He also said he was impressed with the progress made so far at the Technopolis.

“This is a very exciting venture. For many years, we have said that Kenya ought to be at par with the Asian tigers and I can assure you that from what I have seen, we are on the right part. It should be a very exiting dream for every Kenyan in terms of the opportunities it will create for everyone”

During the tour, KeNHA Chairman was accompanied by KeNHA Director General Eng. Peter Mundia, KoTDA CEO Eng. John Tanui and KoTDA Chairman of the Board Dr. Reuben Mutiso.

Dr. Mutiso said that KeNHA visit was instrumental in solving some of the challenges they are identifying at Konza.

“As a smart city, one of the challenges we have identified in Konza is transport to and from Nairobi to Konza. Looking at this kind of situation, we must lay elaborate plans to make it convenient for all our stakeholders,” he added.

Dr. Mutiso indicated that they are partnering with KeNHA, to make access to Konza easy and convenient.

KeNHA also said that they will be partnering with Konza to access other innovation and data services that will help them streamline their operations across the country.

Currently, the project’s Phase One is ongoing with prospects of having well designed roads. The city is 8km from SGR Connecting Nairobi & Port of Mombasa, 40 KM from JKIA and 60 KM from Nairobi City.

NOL – TURESH WATER TO SERVE RESIDENTS OF KONZA, SAYS GOVERNOR OLE LENKU

During the month of November 2020, Kajiado Governor. Hon Joseph Ole Lenku paid a courtesy call to Konza Technopolis.



A team from KoTDA, ICM and the County Government of Kajiado County during a site visit at KT

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During the visit, the Governor was welcomed by a team from Konza lead by KoTDA CEO Eng. John Tanui and the Chairman Dr. Reuben Mutiso.

The team then explored avenues on how residents of Konza Technopolis will benefit from the Nol-Turesh water project once completed.

Speaking during the site visit, Governor Ole Lenku said plans by water resources stakeholders and his county governments are underway to fast-track the project which will pass through Konza Technopolis heading to Athi River.

“There was a huge project that commenced several years ago for our people in this region. The Nol-Turesh, which brings water to Athi River will pass here. At the moment, we are remodelling the current line which will serve as an additional water source to the Konza Technopolis,” the Governor said.

He noted the project will serve Konza quickly compared to Thwake dam which is ongoing.

The Nol-Turesh project, which is currently serving the residents of Kajiado, Makueni and Machakos draws water from Mt. Kilimanjaro. Together with Thwake Dam, the two water projects are expected to serve

30,000 residents in the tech city on a daily basis.

He added: “Considering the fact that Thwake Dam, which is huge, is a long term project, I think the immediate water solution to Konza is the Nol-Turesh pipeline. As a County Government we are happy to share the resource with Konza”

Governor Ole Lenku, while lauding the progress made so far in building the Technopolis, noted that there are many benefits anchored to it. He also indicated that as much as his government will tap into Konza’s innovation opportunities, neighbouring communities will reap from numerous opportunities ranging from employment and infrastructure to business.

“With many technologies innovations and research happening here, our county will reap from this project. Our people will find more market space, sell more goods and get more solutions to better their lives,” he observed.

The Technopolis’s tech offerings, he added, will continue to enhance the country’s knowledge base while growing the economy. Infrastructure development will create more opportunities and also positively

impact individuals living along Mombasa Road and Kajiado County.

During his visit, the Governor was accompanied by his County Executive Committee Members (CECM) for Lands, Housing and Physical Planning, Hamilton Parseina, and Agriculture and Livestock, Jackline Koin as well as Chief Officer of Lands in Kajiado County Douglas Konana.

On his part, the KoTDA CEO Eng. John Tanui said as an authority, they will continue working with all stakeholders to realise the Konza Technopolis dream.

He said as a green city, the provision of more water will be an added advantage to the city life, adding that they will collaborate with Kajiado County and other stakeholders to bring out the best for their people.

“We are glad to have receive Kajiado County Governor and team today. As our mandate remains to make Konza a global leading Innovation hub, we are aware that this will only be achieved if we joint efforts,” said Eng. Tanui.

He stated that the provision of Nol-Turesh water services to Konza is welcomed and they will work with all partners to ensure it comes to fruition.

Under Phase One of the project, Konza has completed construction of operational offices and establishment of the National Data Centre. In the pipeline is the development of the Kenya Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) among others.

Upon its completion, more than 200,000 residents will be living and working in Konza.



Konza Phase One

KONZA NATIONAL DATA CENTER GAINS TRACTION



Ongoing works at Phase II Data Center well on course with installation of IT racks, power modules and AC outdoor units.

KoTDA BOARD VISITS SWAHILI POT HUB



KoTDA board visits Swahili Pot Hub

Konza Technopolis Development Authority board paid a courtesy visit to Swahilipot hub, a premier innovation and creative art hub in Mombasa. The team discussed how to enhance efforts towards increasing collaboration and coordination to uplift the National innovation and startup ecosystem.

**NATIONAL
CONSTRUCTION
AUTHORITY TO
CONSTRUCT A CENTER
OF EXCELLENCE AT
KONZA TECHNOPOLIS**

Plans are underway to set up the Centre for Construction Industry Development (CCID) at the Konza Technopolis. During a visit to the Technopolis, Principal Secretary for State Department of Public Works, Major General (Rtd), Dr. Gordon Kihalangwa said the construction of the centre by the National Construction Authority (NCA) will begin in a year's time.

"By creating such a centre we will ensure that from time to time our people are educated and proper guidelines in the construction industry outlined so that challenges in the construction centre are addressed. We are hoping that within a year or so we should have already begun construction," Major General Kihalangwa said.

Dr. Kihalangwa who led a delegation from the NCA to the Technopolis for a pre-development site visit said they had always wanted to create a Centre of Excellence for the country's vibrant construction industry.

"It is an industry that employs both citizens and foreigners and it is good to ensure that we have a Centre of Excellence where some of the challenges we face are addressed," he added.

Already, three parcels of land have been earmarked for the development of the CCID.

Present during the visit were Board Chairman of the NCA, David

Gaitho, Executive Director of NCA, Eng. Maurice Akech and Chief Executive Office of Konza Technopolis Development Authority (KoTDA), Eng. John Tanui.

Dr. Kihalangwa said they were happy with the progress made on the horizontal infrastructure at the Technopolis which has taken into account aspects such as drainage, water and roads.

"The ministry of Information Communication and Technology (ICT) is doing a commendable job and this will be a game changer. I'm happy to be associated with the project,"he added.

He also urged Government agencies to utilize the capacity within the department of public works, pointing out that KoTDA was already doing so.

we have over 40 % of these parcels already taken up," he said.

Investors at the Konza Technopolis, the CEO further said, are drawn from both public sector and private entities. The investors include a South African specialized hospital, an American Hospital, Software development companies, Real estate developers including offices, hotel and residential houses.

He also said that Konza was working with the State department of urban development and the director of physical planning in collaboration with the counties of Kajiado, Machakos and Makueni, to have a joint team to guide developments within the 10Km buffer zone at the Technopolis.

"It is very important for us to see that



A team from NCA and KoTDA during at Konza Technopolis during the parcels handover for the construction of the Center for Construction Industry Development by NCA.

While speaking during the visit, KoTDA CEO, Eng Tanui said more than 40 % of the 145 parcels under Phase One of the project had already been taken up.

"Phase One of the Technopolis has spaces of about 145 parcels available for development. As of now

we add value to this 10km buffer zone by outlining one thing that will work to ensure approval is aligned to the Master Plan of the Konza Technopolis and planning of the three counties, for the mutual benefit of all," he said.



PS Public Works Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Dr. Gordon Kihalangwa plants a tree in Konza



From left: PS Public Works Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Dr. Gordon Kihalangwa, KoTDA Board Member Mr. Ismail Dhora and KoTDA CEO Eng. John Tanui

KoTDA HOSTS WEBINAR ON MANUFACTURING

The Konza Technopolis Development Authority (KoTDA) in conjunction with the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) and the Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) held a webinar on 27th October 2020 to discuss the role of innovation and technology in improving the manufacturing sector.

The webinar themed **“Driving efficiency and competitiveness in manufacturing through technology and innovation”** attracted stakeholders from the manufacturing sector. In attendance were Principal Secretary in the Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs

Jerome Ochieng, Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Industry, Trade & Cooperatives Dr Francis Owino, Executive Director of Gearbox, Dr. Kamau Gachigi, Deputy CEO of the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) Eng. Martha Cheruto, and a Director at the Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) Mr. Linus Gitahi, among others.

During the discussions, panelists were unanimous that technological innovations form a key part to the development of the manufacturing sector.

Speaking during the event, ICT, Innovation & Youth Affairs Principal Secretary, Jerome Ochieng who delivered the keynote address noted that despite the milestones that have been achieved in the manufacturing sector over the years, there is still room for improvement in the sector, adding that technological innovations play a critical role in catapulting the country’s manufacturing sector to greater heights.

“As a country, we must put every effort into becoming an industrial powerhouse, seek an enabling policy and legal environment to encourage investment in the sector. Technology & innovation will be critical in breaking the barriers to entry in this sector. Coupled with a rapidly evolving and increasingly skilled workforce, technology & manufacturing can become a dominant force of our social-economic development as a country,” he said.

Mr. Ochieng added that the government is keen on promoting the use of technology in the manufacturing sector, further noting that Konza Technopolis has a Manufacturing Strategy that aims at leveraging on technologies coming from there to boost manufacturing business in the city.

“The government has always been keen to promote and encourage the use of technology in the industry. As outlined in Konza’s Manufacturing Strategy, the technopolis will leverage on technology and innovation to drive manufacturing activities. This we hope will be key to attracting investors in the manufacturing sector into the city,” added Ochieng.

While giving his remarks, Dr. Owino said that technology has proven to be one of the most important tools for the growth and stability of the economy especially during the current Covid-19 crisis.

“Imagine if we didn’t have M-PESA to propel the digital economy during this pandemic. ICT is a great contributor to the economy in Kenya and has enabled us to drive through these hardships,” said Owino.

He added that the government was keen on transforming the manufacturing business in the country through the application of technology. “As a ministry, we are tracking the four aspirations of manufacturing which include raising the sector’s contribution to GDP to 15%. Practical steps have included the modernization of Rivatex & cotton development,” he added.

KRA VISIT KONZA NATIONAL DATA CENTER

Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) has in the past implemented a number of enterprise systems that are critical for revenue collection, facilitation of irate and provision of taxpayer services. These systems are core to government

On her part, Eng. Cheruto said that it is important for manufacturing sector to be fully promoted as it plays a crucial role in the country’s socio-economic well-being.

“The sustained growth of the manufacturing sector is vital for providing incomes and employment for Kenya’s rapidly growing population, increasing exports, and stimulating other sectors,” she said.

“Crisis gives us an opportunity to grow and an opportunity to stay where we are. As a country looking to grow its economy in double digits, we need to be very innovative and use technology to advance all our operations,” she added.

Manufacturing is a major component of Kenya’s economy which currently contributes 9.2% of the GDP as it also provides numerous job opportunities.

The sector has been earmarked under the Government’s Big Four Agenda with the others being affordable housing, affordable healthcare and food security. The government aims to increase the sector’s contribution to the country’s GDP to 20% by the year 2022 from the current 9.2%.

operations and hence their availability and reliability is critical.

In this regard, KRA visited the Konza National Data Centre with a view to establish how best they can leverage on this as a co-location facility.

MEETING BETWEEN KENYA PIPELINE COMPANY & KoTDA



Officials from Kenya Pipeline Company (KPC) visited Konza Technopolis on Friday, 16th October 2020 to explore possible opportunities for collaboration.

KPC commercialized its Fibre Optic Cable (FOC) in 2018 with the Company obtaining a Tier 2 Network Infrastructure License from Communications Authority of Kenya (CAK) to sell excess fibre-optic cable capacity along the pipeline.

KPC has since approached KoTDA for the opportunity to terminate the 96-core FOC at the upcoming Konza Smart City for use by businesses that will collocate their server systems at the Konza National Data Centre facility that KoTDA hosts.

KoTDA is implementing a National Tier III Data Center in two Phases. The Phase I DC has been completed and Phase II expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2021. The data center will act as National Digital Platform that will support government computing requirements, business enterprises and hosting of Konza smart city facilities/services.

Another area of possible collaboration was noted as the establishment of a Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) bulk handling facility at Konza for the Nairobi region and its environs.



Aerial view of the Phase 1 Data Center

MAKUENI COUNTY VISIT



Government of Makueni County team during a visit to Konza Complex recently.

The Government of Makueni County has initiated programmes geared towards empowering youth in the county economically and socially. To this end, use of technology is envisaged as a critical driver in

enabling transformations. A team led by Dr. Naomi N Makau, Minister of Education, Youth and ICT Makueni County visited Konza to leverage on their preparedness in exploiting the opportunities that Konza will offer to

the youth and the community. Various areas of collaboration were discussed, including the County's proposal to take up space at the Konza Complex and partnerships in the Konza Innovation Ecosystem Initiative.

KoTDA CEO PARTICIPATES AS A SPEAKER AT THE AIM DIGITAL 2020



The Digital Edition of Annual Investment Meeting 2020 took place from 20 – 22 October 2020 on the virtual platform Events10x. The first ever Digital Edition was graced by the global investment community with 15,770 participants including 43 High level dignitaries from more than 155 countries. Eng. John Tanui spoke about IoT and Interoperability: Unlocking limitless potential within Smart Cities.

AIM Digital is the largest deal-making virtual platform for the global investment community launched by the UAE Ministry of Economy and the Annual Investment Meeting. With the theme "Reimagining Economies: The Move Towards a Digital, Sustainable and Resilient Future.

The Annual Investment Meeting utilised virtual technology to generate, showcase, and facilitate the most attractive and secure investment projects and opportunities for investors

from different parts of the world, providing boundless possibilities across diverse sectors leading towards economic recovery, transformation, and sustainability.

The Annual Investment Meeting (AIM) is an initiative of the UAE Ministry of Economy, held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE, and Ruler of Dubai.

FRIENDS OF KONZA VISIT

The Friends of Konza is a group that was formed in 2016 under the patronage of Mr. John Ngumi, the former KoTDA Board Chairman. Other members are Prof. Bitange Ndemo - Chairman, Distributed Ledgers & AI – Kenya, Mr. Julius Kipngetich - CEO, Jubilee Holdings, Mr. Richard Bell and Dr. Joseph Sevilla - Director, iLab Africa - Strathmore University. The team toured Konza Technopolis on Saturday 24th October 2020 to learn more about the Konza project, the status update and the opportunities available. KoTDA team received valuable insights ranging from project marketing & communications, potential partnerships and activities to fast track development of the Technopolis.



From left: Founding Chairman of KoTDA Mr. John Ngumi, KoTDA CEO Eng. John Tanui, KoTDA Chairman Dr. Arch. Reuben Mutiso.

KONZA TECHNOPOLIS WOO INVESTORS, OUTLINES PROJECT PROGRESS

The 400 acres of Phase One of the Konza Technopolis project has attracted over 40% uptake by investors. This comes at a time when the infrastructure currently being undertaken by the Government is set to be completed by end of 2021.

At the same time, the project's anchor investor Kenya Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) will begin work earnest in early 2021 following identification of a contractor and approval. The graduate school will focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).



This was revealed during a networking breakfast organised by the Konza Technopolis Development Authority (KoTDA) in the month of December. The meeting brought together investors who have already signed up to take space within the Technopolis.

While speaking during the event, Principal Secretary ICT, Innovation & Youth Affairs, Mr. Jerome Ochieng said: "So far, we are happy to note that the project has realised more than 40% uptake, some of the investors expected to break ground include hospitals, real-estate developers and institutions of higher

learning, government agencies such as National Construction Authority and KETRACO (Kenya Electricity Transmission Company) among others."



The National Construction Authority (NCA) is also in the process of setting up a Centre of Excellence for the country's construction industry and the construction of the project will soon kick off, the PS added.

Speaking at the same event, Sosian Energy Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Shaun Nzambuni said the company, which is one of the pioneer investors in Konza is providing solar power and waste power which will lower cost of power and cost of doing business at Konza Technopolis.

"Konza is going to lead ICT development. It is going to be a centre of expertise in the decades to come. The initiative taken by the Government some years ago is an excellent development for the country and we are proud Sosian is part of it. We are confident we will be able to provide significant energy savings for the people who invest in Konza City," Mr Nzambuni.

On his part, CEO of GS1 Kenya, Mr. Peter Otieno which offers globally acceptable numbers for barcodes said the organization plans to set up at Konza Technopolis in 2021. He lauded the project, terming it a thoughtful and great innovation.

PS Ochieng' urged investors from

both the private and the public sector to consider taking up the investment opportunities early enough, adding that partnering with investors will boost the country's efforts towards realization of the Konza dream.

He mentioned that some opportunities that are available for investment at the Technopolis include Smart Manufacturing, Light Industry Logistics, Smart Agriculture, Property development, ICT & IT Enabled services, Pharmaceutical services, Education & training institutions, Hotels & Convention Centres, Entertainment, recreation and sports facilities, Business enterprises among others.

KoTDA CEO, Eng. John Tanui indicated that the development of the infrastructure is on course. This includes street-scape and sub-surface utilities, drainage facilities, water supply distribution system, waste water collection and reclamation facilities, electrical power supply, public parks, and public facilities.



KONZA CEO HOLDS A ROUNDTABLE MEETING WITH MEDIA TO HIGHLIGHT PROGRESS STATUS



As the year 2020 came to a close, Konza Technopolis Development Authority (KoTDA) Chief Executive Officer, Eng John Tanui held Roundtable Meeting with the media where he highlighted the progress of the project.

During the virtual meeting, held on December 16th, 2020, Eng. Tanui mentioned key developments such the completion of Konza Complex Office, Phase I of the National Data Centre One and the Kenya Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) design.

He also indicated that access roads, electricity, water and key Information Communication and Technology (ICT) amenities have been established at Technopolis, even as the authority continues to woo investors.

The CEO added that with over 40 percent of the land parcels already taken up by investors, the Authority continues to work towards completion of the horizontal infrastructure at the Technopolis.

Some of the investors already onboard include Ministry of Education which will be developing a Science Technology Park (STP), Kenya Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) which will be



constructing a graduate school, National Construction Authority (NCA) which will put up Offices and a Training facility and Kenya Electricity Transmission Company (KETRACO) which will build a Power Substation. Konza is also putting up residential units for Staff.

“This year, we have made tremendous progress in our Phase One. By shifting our offices to Konza Technopolis, we have seen good progress in different areas of our developments and we are satisfied with this,” said Eng. Tanui.

The CEO said Konza was keen on leveraging innovation and technology to create more employment opportunities in the country.

“Konza Technopolis is keen on contributing towards the country’s growth by building on innovation, technology and knowledge economy. With this being the uniqueness of our project, we shall endeavour to deliver,” he said.

In 2020, the CEO said Konza participated in innovation-driven

programmes which contributed towards the growth of a vibrant innovation ecosystem in the country.

“Through the Great COVID-19 Innovation Challenge, we interacted with more than 80 innovation hubs across the country. This continues to form a strong base for our operations,” he said.

He also noted that during the year, the Authority impacted different lives through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities including donation of water tanks and soap to Malili residents and supporting the setting up of COVID-19 Contact Centre at the Kenyatta National Hospital grounds. The centre is currently helping frontline workers to cope with psychological challenges brought about by the Coronavirus Disease.

The organization’s activities, he continued, have progressed well due to the authority’s strict adherence to guidelines issues by Ministry of Health.

KONZA TECHNOPOLIS GOLF DAY GETS BIGGER & BETTER



A strong field of 132 golfers took the par 72 Machakos Golf Club course for the fourth annual Konza Golf Day, on Saturday 14th November 2020. The Konza Golf Day was preceded by a golf clinic at the same venue, featuring junior golfers who were taken through lessons on how to improve their games.

The field led by last year's overall winner and lady's winner Ben Mumo and Jane Kiiti tee off at 6:32AM, with the last putt being at 5:00PM.

Speaking at the tournament, Konza Technopolis Development Authority (KoTDA) CEO Eng. John Tanui expressed delight in being able to host the tournament this year.

"It gives us great pleasure to host the tournament this year, given the challenges we have faced with the Covid-19 pandemic. I want to thank the management of Machakos Golf club for hosting us in strict adherence to the set health protocols. We look forward to a great day of golf," he said.

Speaking after the tournament, Konza Technopolis Development Authority (KoTDA) Board Chairman Dr. Reuben Mutiso thanked all the golfers who participated in the tournament and the Machakos Golf Club, for hosting the tournament amidst challenges of

a global pandemic.

Dr. Mutiso also gave an update on the progress at the Konza Technopolis, while urging investors to take up the investment opportunities that the smart city offers.

"We are currently on track with phase one of our plan, that will see a total built up area of 1.5 Million M2 and 30,000 residents. Over 40% of the 145 parcels available



KoTDA CEO, Eng. John Tanui gets his round underway at the Machakos Golf Club.



A young golfer calculates her swing at the Konza kids golf clinic at Machakos Golf Club

under this phase have been taken up. Among the investors that have taken up parcels include; a South African specialized hospital, an American Hospital, Software development companies, Real estate developers including offices, hotels and residential houses. As you can see, the future is bright for Konza, I want to urge you all to join us on this journey towards building a global technology and innovation hub," he concluded.

The Authority also held a tree planting session at the club as a way of not only implementing the greening initiative in Konza Technopolis but also within the neighboring communities.



KoTDA & Machakos Golf Club Management team plant a tree during the 4th Annual KT Golf Tournament.

VISITS TO KONZA



Visit by University of Nairobi

During the month of November 2020, a team from the University of Nairobi visited the National Data Centre situated at Konza Technopolis on Thursday 25th November 2020. The purpose of the visit was to explore possibilities of how the Ministry of Health (MOH) Information Eco-system which they are supporting jointly and on behalf of MOH currently hosted at UON, can benefit from GOK investments, and also how students can learn and engage.



Visit by National Lands Commission

A team from National Lands Commission visited the National Data Centre situated at Konza Data on Tuesday 24th November 2020 to explore opportunities available that they can tap into at Center. The team comprised of four technical officials from MoICT and National Lands Commission respectively.



Visit by South Eastern Kenya University

During the same month, a team from South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU) visited the National Data Centre situated at Konza on Thursday 26th November 2020 to explore the opportunities they can tap into at the Center.

KoTDA PARTICIPATES IN THE 7TH ANNUAL ELDAMA RAVINE HALF MARATHON



KoTDA team pose for a photo after the Marathon

During the month, the Authority sponsored and participated in the Eldama Ravine Half Marathon (formerly Chemususu Half Marathon) which is a charity event managed by the Eldama Ravine Half Marathon Community Based Organization (CBO). The 2020 and 7th edition of the Eldama Ravine Half Marathon which was held on Saturday, October 17, 2020 was the first major road

race to take place in Kenya since the COVID 19 pandemic struck.

Over the years, the Authority has embraced Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) as an integral part of its culture and the Konza Greening Initiative is among the key activities. This year, the Authority is targeting to plant at least 10,000 trees at KT, its environs and areas





KoTDA team during a tree planting session at Uzalendo School



of high conservation value E.g. the Chemususu dam. Some of the activities undertaken during the financial year include greening of Konza Technopolis (KT), participation in Eldama Ravine Half Marathon in support of conservation efforts and supporting the needs of vulnerable communities within the area. The Technopolis also took part in tree planting activities at City Park and the Machakos Golf Club. The goal of Konza Greening Program is to provide a healthy city environment that promotes an improved overall quality of life and experience for residents and the neighbouring communities. The program also targets to make Konza Technopolis the leading green city in Africa and provide a model for greening cities and urban areas in the region.

The Authority sponsored and participated in the marathon whose proceeds will go towards:

- i. Mass testing and provision of masks and sanitizers
- ii. Conservation of Chemususu dam catchment area
- iii. Infrastructure support to Uzalendo school, a school that caters for the secondary education of students from poor economic background, modelled along the Starehe Boy's and Girl's Schools
- iv. Establishment of a police post and construction of a perimeter wall around the dam to provide safety
- v. Construction of an information centre around the dam

Besides participating in the marathon as a CSR, the fun environment provided a platform for interacting with potential investors in a relaxed setting thus establishing linkages and potential leads.



PHOTO ROUNDUP OF THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2020



Schneider Electric team during a courtesy visit to Konza Technopolis



Canon County Manager, Valentine Cherotich and Zaffar Latif during a courtesy visit to Konza Technopolis. The company is keen on establishing a partnership with Konza in digital media and other digital surveillance technologies including IoT facilities.



Joint (KoTDA & SDOPW) inspection of Konza Complex for purposes of processing the occupation certificate



A visit to the KT site by the KAIST project Contractor, Bomi E and C led by Mr. Seo JH to assess the KAIST project site

BEAUTIFUL SITES OF KONZA TECHNOPOLIS



Sunset at Konza Technopolis



Wildlife at the Technopolis

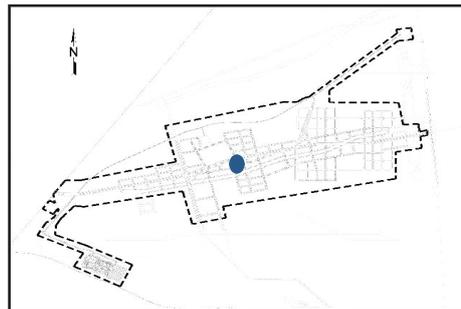


An aerial view of Konza Technopolis captured from an aeroplane

SITE PROGRESS



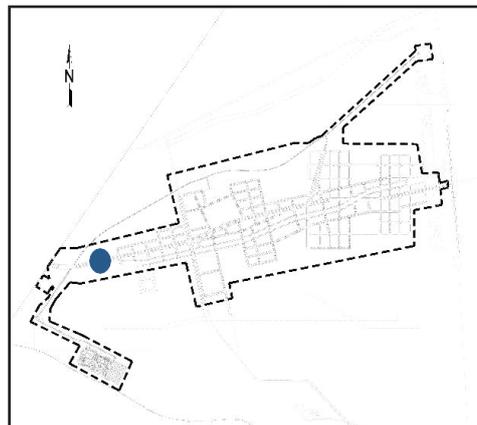
Trench backfilling and compaction along Auto Boulevard



#2- Location: Streetscape 1A – Foul Sewer



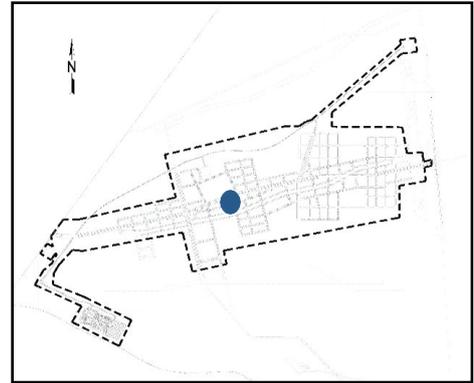
Top slab concreting –at Auto boulevard



#3 – Location: Streetscape 1A – Utility Tunnel



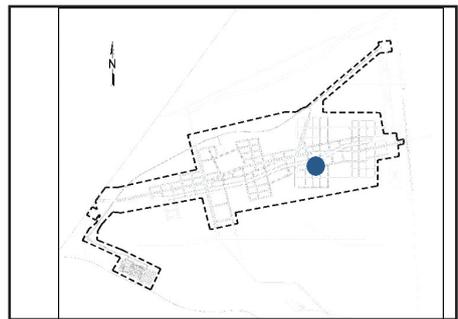
Tunnel backfilling and compaction – at Auto Boulevard



#2– Location: Streetscape 1A – Foul Sewer



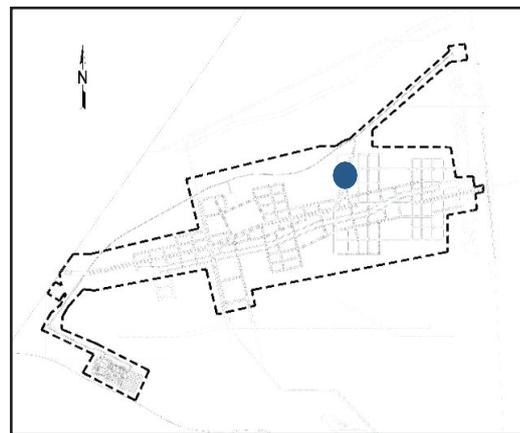
HDPE Pipe Butt fusion Jointing and installation along LR14



#5– Location: Streetscape 1A – Water Supply



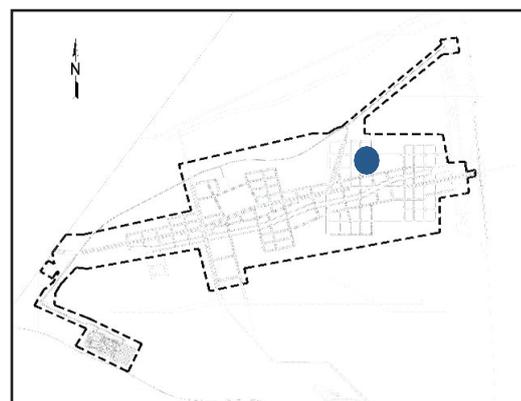
Trench sand bedding, precast pipe spacers and pipe installation -along LR04



#6 – Location: Streetscape 1A – MV Network



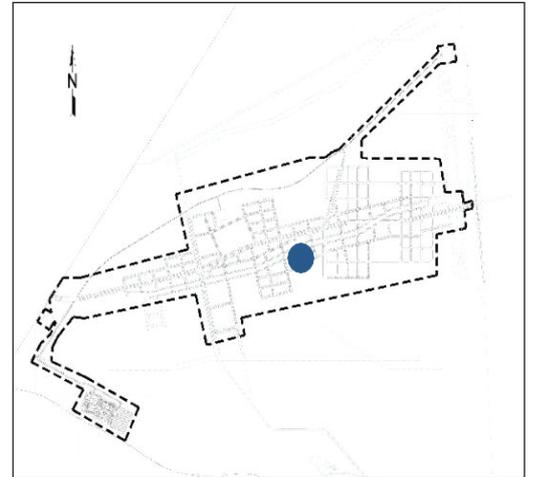
Laying Sub Base and compaction – at LR02



#7– Location: Streetscape 1A – Road Works



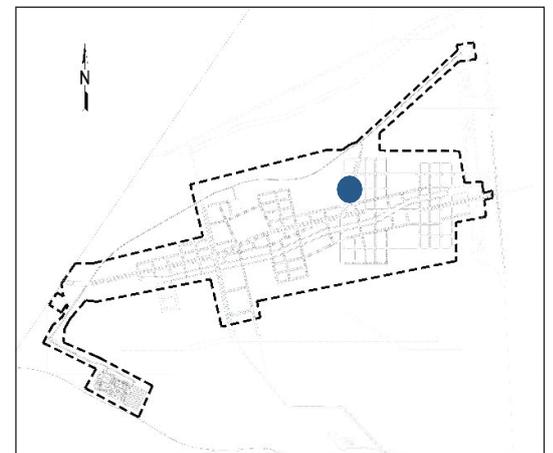
Trench sand bedding, precast pipe spacers and pipe installation -along LR04



#8 – Location: Streetscape 1B – Storm Water



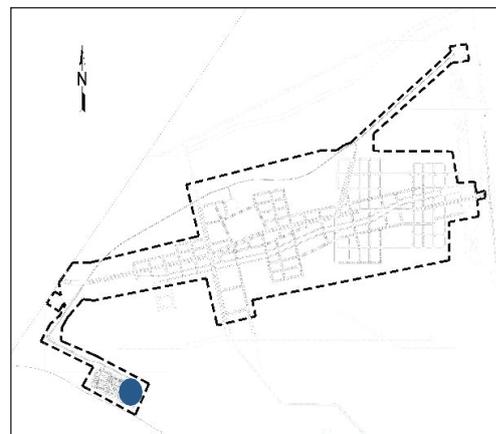
Water Supply Butt fusion jointing and installation – at Technology Boulevard



#9 – Location: Streetscape 1A – Utility tunnel



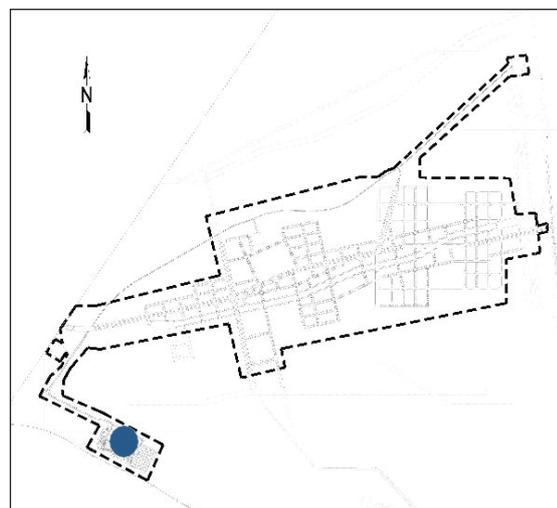
Walling steel reinforcement and Formwork – at Clarifiers



#10 – Location: Streetscape 1A - WRF



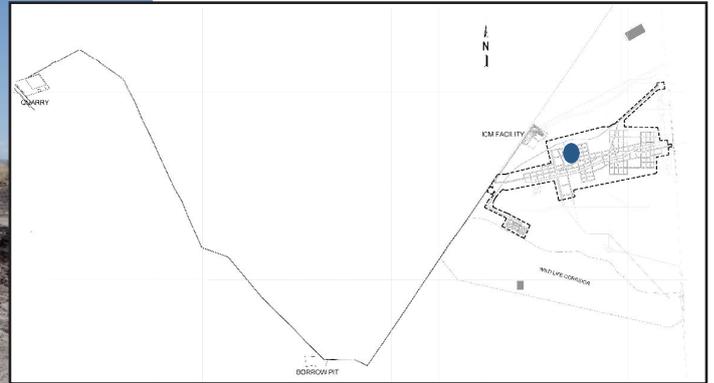
Walls Concreting – at MBBR tank



#11 – Location: Streetscape 1A - WRF



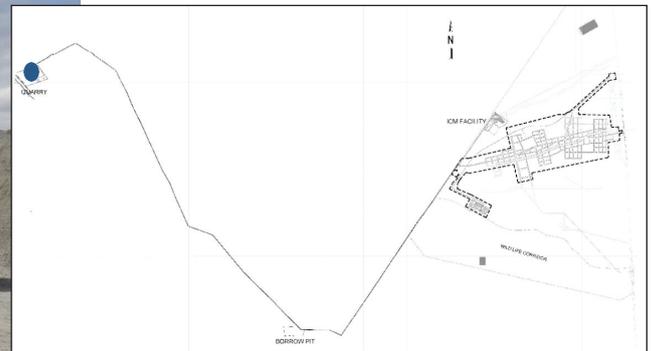
Foundation Excavation – DS#2



12 – Location: Electric Sub Station – 1B



Crushing of aggregates at the crushing plant



#13 – Location: Crusher -1A&B



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