



The Bulletin

CUK JOINS THE NATION IN CELEBRATING THE 104TH USHIRIKA DAY

The Co-operative University of Kenya (CUK) joined the nation in celebrating Kenya's rich cooperative heritage and the vital role of co-operatives in driving social and economic transformation. The occasion brought together stakeholders to honour the spirit of unity, innovation and shared prosperity that continues to shape the cooperative movement. [Story on Page 2](#)



CUK Staff and Students join the co-operative movement stakeholders in commemorating the 104th Ushirika Day Celebrations held at Uhuru Park (Nairobi) on Saturday, 4th July 2026.



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CUK Joins the Nation in Celebrating the 104th Ushirika Day



H.E. Prof. Kithure Kindiki, Deputy President of the Republic of Kenya, addresses attendees at the 104th Ushirika Day Celebrations held at Uhuru Park Grounds in Nairobi Kenya on 4th July 2026

By Paul Miracle | 6th July 2026

The Co-operative University of Kenya (CUK) proudly joined cooperators, policymakers, industry leaders, development partners, and thousands of Kenyans at the 104th Ushirika Day Celebrations at Uhuru Park, Nairobi, reaffirming its commitment to advancing the cooperative movement through education, research, innovation, capacity development, and empowering communities.

Held under the theme “Cooperatives for a Peaceful World,” this year’s celebrations underscored the transformative role of cooperative enterprises in fostering peace, economic resilience, social inclusion, and sustainable development. The theme highlighted the ability of cooperatives to strengthen communities by creating economic opportunities, promoting shared responsibility, and empowering citizens to build prosperous and harmonious societies.

As Kenya’s premier institution dedicated to cooperative education and research, CUK’s participation reflected its enduring mission of nurturing competent professionals and thought leaders who continue to strengthen the cooperative sector both nationally and beyond. The University remains at the forefront of developing knowledge, innovation, and practical solutions that support the growth and sustainability of cooperative enterprises.

The celebrations brought together key stakeholders from across the cooperative ecosystem to recognize the sector’s remarkable contribution to Kenya’s socio-economic development.

The event was graced by the Deputy President of the Republic of Kenya, Prof. Kithure Kindiki, who represented President William Samoei Ruto as the Chief Guest. In his address, the Deputy President reaffirmed the Government’s commitment to strengthening the cooperative movement through policy reforms, improved governance, and strategic investments aimed at enhancing competitiveness, innovation, and sustainability across the sector.

He observed that cooperatives remain a critical pillar of Kenya’s economy, contributing significantly to agriculture, manufacturing, housing, transport, trade, and financial services while creating employment and expanding financial inclusion. He further noted that strengthening cooperative institutions would unlock greater investment opportunities and accelerate inclusive economic growth.

Cabinet Secretary for Co-operatives and MSMEs Development, Hon. Wycliffe Oparanya, echoed these sentiments, emphasizing the Government’s resolve to build a modern, accountable, and resilient cooperative sector capable of driving wealth creation, reducing poverty, and

improving livelihoods for millions of Kenyans. Through SACCOs and other cooperative enterprises, millions of Kenyans continue to access affordable financial services, improve household incomes, create employment opportunities, and contribute significantly to national development.

For CUK, the celebrations served as a timely reminder of the University's unique responsibility in shaping the future of the cooperative movement through quality education, impactful research, community engagement, and strategic partnerships. As the sector continues to evolve in response

to emerging economic and social challenges, CUK remains committed to producing graduates, research, and innovations that strengthen cooperative enterprises and contribute to Kenya's sustainable development agenda.

The University is proud to stand alongside the cooperative movement in celebrating more than a century of cooperative excellence while reaffirming its commitment to advancing the values of cooperation, inclusivity, shared prosperity, and peaceful coexistence for generations to come.



CUK Students Choir entertaining attendees during the Ushirika Day Celebrations held at Uhuru Park Grounds in Nairobi Kenya on 4th July 2026



CUK Staff and Students join the co-operative movement stakeholders in commemorating the 104th Ushirika Day Celebrations held at Uhuru Park (Nairobi) on Saturday, 4th July 2026.

CUK Hosts Burieruri Boys School Delegation to Strengthen Governance and Leadership



Prof. Kamau Ngamau (centre), Vice Chancellor, Mr. Chris M. Kathoka (2nd right), Board of Management Chair, Burieruri Boys High School & CUK's Registrar - FPA, Mr. Kairi James Ituru (2nd left), Burieruri Boys High School Principal & BOM Secretary, Student President Rooney Mungathia Gitonga (left), and Mr. Francis Karithi (right) during a courtesy visit to The Co-operative University of Kenya, Karen, Nairobi on Monday, 8th July 2026.

By Meshack M. Ngangi, MPRSK
| 8th July 2026

On 8 July 2026, [The Co-operative University of Kenya](#) (CUK) hosted a delegation from [Burieruri Boys Senior School](#) in a courtesy call chaired by Vice Chancellor [Prof. Kamau Ngamau](#). The delegation, led by Board of Management [Chair Mr. Chris Kathoka](#) (also CUK's Registrar, Finance, Planning and Administration), included Principal Mr. Kairi James Ituru (BOM Secretary), Student President Mr. Rooney Mungathia Gitonga, and Mr. Francis Karithi. The meeting highlighted the university's role in fostering good governance and leadership development across education levels. As noted by Prof. Ngamau, the session "underscored the University's critical role in championing positive governance and nurturing effective leadership at all levels of education in Kenya".

The courtesy visit reinforced the

synergy between higher and secondary education in nurturing future leaders in the spirit of the University's charter provisions that espouse a Student Governing Council (SGC). This encounter confirmed that efficient governance at The Co-operative University of Kenya is essential for delivering high-quality educational services and that the university's structure, leadership, and administration significantly influence overall institutional effectiveness.

Speaking at the occasion, Board of Management [Chair Mr. Chris Kathoka](#) highlighted that the University's engagement with the [Burieruri Boys Senior School](#) exemplifies an approach that aligns teaching, research, and community outreach with stakeholder needs. These principles resonate with President Ruto's address at the Burieruri Boys High School's 60th anniversary, where he stressed that "education is not merely about

passing examinations but about shaping responsible citizens".

Following the 60th anniversary milestone event held at Mutuatine in Meru County, President William Ruto reinforced the importance of values-based education. He warned that Kenya does not merely need educated young people; it needs disciplined ones, and that talent without discipline is wasted. Addressing the function at Burieruri Boys, the Head of State and Government also appealed for communal support of youth, stating: "Let us recover the wisdom of African parenting, where no child belonged to one household alone, but to the whole community".

Briefing the Vice Chancellor, Principal Mr. Kairi James Ituru, enlisted the tangible transformative projects President Ruto announced in support of Burieruri Boys High School and the Igembe community at large. Mr. Ituru said that President Ruto had pledged that he and his colleagues would raise KSh 40 million to build 30 modern classrooms for the school and directed KSh. 70 million for the construction of a multipurpose hall as the school is elevated towards national status. As [CUK](#) hosted the Burieruri Boys High School delegation, the courtesy call reflected that the University's mission aligns teaching, research and outreach to its motto of empowering communities.

Zimbabwean Delegation Benchmarks CUK's Co-operative Education & Research Excellence

By Meshack M. Ngangi | 10th July 2026

The Co-operative University of Kenya (CUK) recently hosted a high-level delegation from the Republic of Zimbabwe led by [Hon. Kiven Mutimbanyoka](#), Deputy Minister in charge of [Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprises Development](#), in a benchmark visit aimed at learning from the success of Kenya's co-operative movement. The delegation, accompanied by senior officials from Kenya's [State Department for Co-operatives](#), visited the University as part of the Government of Zimbabwe's broader initiative to strengthen its co-operative sector through policy reforms, institutional development, and capacity-building programmes.

The visit underscored the growing recognition of [The Co-operative University of Kenya](#) as a premier institution dedicated to advancing co-operative education, research,

innovation, and community empowerment. As the only university in the region established with a specialized mandate to support the co-operative movement, CUK continues to play a strategic role in developing skilled professionals, generating evidence-based research, and providing technical support that contributes to the growth and sustainability of co-operative enterprises across Kenya and beyond.

Representing the Vice-Chancellor, [Prof. Esther N. Gicheru](#), Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Finance, Planning and Administration), welcomed the delegation and highlighted the significance of the visit in strengthening regional collaboration. She noted that the benchmark engagement provided an important platform for the University to showcase its achievements while fostering meaningful partnerships that advance the co-operative agenda across Africa. [Prof. Gicheru](#) reaffirmed the University's commitment to positioning itself as a continental

centre of excellence in co-operative education, research, innovation, and capacity development through strategic collaborations with governments, industry, and development partners.

The benchmark programme featured two presentations designed to provide the delegation with a comprehensive understanding of the University's contribution to the co-operative sector. [Prof. Esther N. Gicheru](#) presented the journey and mandate of [CUK](#), tracing its evolution into a chartered institution with a unique responsibility of supporting the co-operative movement through quality teaching, training, research, and community outreach. She outlined the University's strategic priorities, academic programmes, and institutional milestones that continue to reinforce its relevance within Kenya's socio-economic development agenda.

The second presentation was delivered by [Prof. Wycliffe A. Oboka](#), the acting Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic, Co-operative Development, Research and Innovation), who showcased the University's research portfolio and extensive engagement with the co-operative movement. He highlighted the institution's collaborative research initiatives, policy support, innovation programmes, and partnerships with co-operative societies, government agencies, development organizations, and international institutions. These initiatives continue to generate practical solutions that strengthen governance, enterprise development, financial inclusion, and sustainable livelihoods within the co-operative sector.



Prof. Esther N. Gicheru (centre), Deputy Vice-Chancellor - FPA, flanked Hon. Kiven Mutimbanyoka (3rd left), Zimbabwe's Deputy Minister in charge of Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprises Development, and Delegations from Zimbabwe, State Department for Co-operatives, and The Co-operative University of Kenya during a benchmark visit at our Main Campus, Karen (Nairobi) on Friday, 10th July 2026.

Marketing Activations: CUK Participates in Mang'u Girls' Career Fair



Ms. Lilian Nkatha, the University's Marketing Officer, engages form-four students and offers career guidance during a marketing presentation at St. Francis Mang'u Girls' Career Fair held on Friday, 10th July 2026, in Kiambu County.

By Meshack M. Ngangi, MPRSK | 10th July 2026

On Friday, 10th June 2026, as [The Co-operative University of Kenya](#) (CUK), we had the privilege of engaging with students at St. Francis Mang'u Girls High School, a prestigious girls' boarding school in Kiambu County. Founded in 1944 by [Franciscan Missionary Sisters](#), St. Francis Girls' High School (Mang'u) is widely regarded as one of the top extra-county girls' schools in the Kiambu region. The school has a strong tradition of equipping young girls with both academic knowledge and extracurricular skills. Under the committed leadership of Mrs. A. Mbugua and Catholic heritage, Mang'u Girls has cultivated a disciplined environment that prepares students to excel in national examinations and beyond.

Our marketing team, led by [Ms. Lilian Nkatha](#), participated in the St. Francis Mang'u Girls High School Career Fair, which brought together over 1,600 attendees from Mang'u and nearby institutions, including St. Joseph the Worker and Gikindu Girls' High School. At the fair, we engaged directly with Form Four students exploring their future academic options. We explained how The Co-operative University of Kenya's programmes are industry-driven and aligned with market needs. Our team emphasized that we offer 4 certificate and 32 diploma programs through

the [Institute of Technical and Vocational Education and Training](#) (I-TVET), as well as 37 bachelor's degree programs across our Schools of [Co-operative & Community Development](#), [Business & Economics](#), and [Computing & Mathematics](#). These offerings demonstrate our University's commitment to providing a range of career pathways for prospective students.

In addition to academics, we highlighted the University's modern facilities and support services. Students were informed about available funding avenues, from government sponsorships to scholarships and self-sponsored options, to make higher education accessible. The University representatives also presented our [Institute of Open, Distance, and e-Learning](#) (IODeL), which allows flexible online and blended learning.

Our participation at the Mang'u Girls Career Fair underscored [CUK's](#) commitment to empowering the next generation of Kenyan leaders in the spirit of enhancing brand visibility and positioning, which is the 5th key result area of the 2022-2027 Strategic Plan. By partnering with respected schools like St. Francis Mang'u Girls' (Mang'u) with a track record of high academic performance and holistic development, CUK deliberately commits to strengthening the education pipeline in our community.

CUK Explores Strategic Partnership with CPF Financial Services to Advance Innovation, Research and Student Development



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kamau Ngamau (4th left), Head of Taifa Pension Fund at CPF Group, Ms. Caroline Kodo (3rd Left), together with delegations from CPF and CUK at the sidelines of the consultative meeting between the two organizations at our Main Campus in Karen, Nairobi on 22nd July 2026.

By Corporate Communications & Marketing | 23rd July 2026

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kamau Ngamau, welcomed a delegation from CPF Financial Services, led by Ms. Caroline Kodo, Head of Taifa Pension Fund at CPF Group, to the University's Main Campus in Karen for discussions to establish a mutually beneficial partnership between the two institutions.

The engagement provided a platform for both institutions to share their respective strengths, exchange ideas, and deliberate on areas of mutual interest that will ultimately form the basis of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

The proposed partnership is expected to foster meaningful collaboration in several strategic areas, including student internships and industrial attachments, collaborative research, innovation and entrepreneurship, professional development, financial literacy programmes, and capacity-building initiatives for both students and staff.

By combining academic excellence with industry expertise, the collaboration seeks to equip the university fraternity with practical knowledge, professional competencies, and the skills required to thrive in today's dynamic labour market.



Head of Taifa Pension Fund at CPF Group, Ms. Caroline Kodo (centre), during the courtesy visit at the Main Campus, Karen on 22nd July 2026.

CUK, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences Explore Collaboration Towards Establishment of the Africa Horticulture Centre



Seated: Deputy Vice-Chancellor (ACDRI) Prof. Isaac Nyamongo (Centre), Deputy Vice-Chancellor FPA, Prof Esther Gicheru OGW (3rd Right), CAAS Head of Delegation Dr. Zhang Shuai (3rd Left), poses for a group photo flanked by other officials from CUK and CAAS at the sidelines of the meeting.

By Corporate Communications & Marketing | 24th July 2026

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Academics, Co-operative Development Research and Innovation Division (ACDRI), Prof. Isaac Nyamongo, hosted a high-level delegation from the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) for a strategic consultative meeting focused on exploring avenues of collaboration in support of the Africa Horticulture Centre (AHC) currently in the process of being incubated at the University.

The engagement brought together senior officials and researchers from both institutions to deliberate on how CAAS can contribute its extensive expertise in agricultural research, innovation, technology transfer, and capacity development toward the successful establishment and

operationalization of the proposed continental centre of excellence in horticulture.

Discussions centered on the vision of the Africa Horticulture Centre as a transformative platform for advancing horticultural research, climate-smart agriculture, sustainable food systems, value addition, agribusiness development, and youth and women empowerment across the African continent. The Centre is envisioned as a regional hub that will foster innovation, strengthen agricultural resilience, and enhance productivity through collaborative research and knowledge exchange.

Prof. Nyamongo welcomed the CAAS delegation and reaffirmed CUK's commitment to forging impactful international partnerships that support the University's strategic agenda in

research, innovation, and community engagement. He noted that the Africa Horticulture Centre presents a unique opportunity to position Kenya as a regional leader in horticultural research and agribusiness innovation while creating practical solutions to challenges facing farmers and agricultural value chains across Africa.

The CAAS delegation led by Dr. Zhang Shuai expressed strong interest in supporting the initiative through collaborative research programmes, technical expertise, scientist and student exchange opportunities, training and capacity-building initiatives, joint innovation projects, and the development of modern horticultural technologies tailored to African agricultural contexts. The delegation also highlighted CAAS's longstanding experience in agricultural transformation,

germplasm development, smart farming technologies, and international agricultural cooperation, particularly in developing-country partnerships.

Both institutions acknowledged the importance of building strategic partnerships that bridge research, policy, industry, and farming communities to accelerate agricultural transformation and food security across the continent. The meeting further explored opportunities for joint grant mobilization, establishment of demonstration and innovation farms, digital agriculture initiatives, and collaborative programmes that would support smallholder farmers and emerging agribusiness enterprises.

The consultative engagement marked an important step toward developing a structured framework for collaboration between CUK and CAAS, with both parties agreeing to continue technical discussions that will inform future cooperation and the eventual formalization of a partnership to support the Africa Horticulture Centre initiative.

The proposed Africa Horticulture Centre is expected to catalyze regional research collaboration, technology commercialization, skills development, and sustainable horticultural growth, reinforcing CUK's role as a leading institution in cooperative development, agricultural innovation, and community-centered research in Africa.

I-TVET Academic Clinic Restores Confidence and Clears Academic Pathways for Hundreds of Students

By I-TVET Department | 27th July, 2026

The I-TVET Department has reaffirmed its commitment to student success through a comprehensive Academic Clinic that provided timely solutions to hundreds of learners facing outstanding academic challenges.

Held between 6th and 10th July 2026, the initiative was designed as a one-stop academic support exercise to address issues that had hindered students' progression, including missing examination marks and discrepancies within the student portal. Originally scheduled to conclude on 7th July, the clinic was extended by three additional days following an overwhelming response from students seeking assistance. More than 500 I-TVET students turned up for the exercise, reflecting both the need for such interventions and the confidence students have in the department's commitment to responsive service delivery. Throughout the five-day exercise, departmental staff and lecturers worked collaboratively to ensure that every case received the attention it deserved.

The Academic Clinic adopted

a structured, student-centred approach that ensured efficiency and accountability at every stage. Students first verified their academic records before formally documenting any missing marks or inconsistencies. Lecturers then traced the missing assessment records from departmental archives and verified the results, after which Departmental Chairs updated the student portals by uploading the relevant units. This coordinated process ensured that each student's academic records accurately reflected their performance and eligibility for progression.

Beyond resolving administrative challenges, the clinic restored certainty and peace of mind to students whose academic journeys had been interrupted by unresolved records. Many participants left the exercise with corrected academic profiles and renewed confidence as they prepared for the next phase of their studies. The success of the Academic Clinic underscores The CUK's unwavering dedication to continuous improvement of institutional processes. Through proactive interventions such as this, the University continues to foster a supportive learning environment where students are empowered to overcome challenges and achieve their academic goals.

As higher education institutions increasingly embrace student-centred service delivery, the I-TVET Academic Clinic stands out as a model initiative that demonstrates how collaboration, efficiency, and responsiveness can transform student experiences while

CUK Showcases Excellence at the 2026 ASK Kisumu National Show

By Meshack M. Ngangi, MPRSK | 27th July 2026

[The Co-operative University of Kenya](#) (CUK) participated in the Kisumu National Show organized by the [Agricultural Society of Kenya](#) (ASK), Kisumu Branch, and scheduled to run from 22nd to 26th July 2026 at the Mamboleo Showground. Held under the theme “Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture and Trade Initiatives for Sustainable Economic Growth,” this year’s edition has been elevated to national status, drawing exhibitors and visitors from across the Lake Region and beyond. The theme resonates strongly with the University’s academic identity, given its foundational commitment to cooperative enterprise, sustainable development, and community-driven economic transformation.

According to ASK’s Kisumu Branch report, the Kisumu National Show has grown considerably in recent years, with organisers reporting a record turnout of exhibitors this year, the highest number recorded in recent history. Approximately 50,000 visitors streamed through the showground over the five-day event, drawn by exhibitions spanning agriculture, innovation, technology, trade, and public service, with [The Co-operative University of Kenya](#) showcasing the superiority of its brand in higher education. For the University, this scale of engagement presents a rare and strategic platform to market its academic programmes, research output, and consultancy services to a wide and diverse audience.

Participation in the Kisumu show offered the University a direct opportunity to engage prospective students, industry stakeholders, and the wider public, while deepening existing partnerships across the region. This approach has previously yielded tangible results; during the University’s participation in the 2026 Meru National Trade Fair, fourteen prospective students applied for various academic programmes through the exhibition stand, underscoring the value of face-to-face engagement in student recruitment.

Kisumu County itself is a natural fit for this outreach. As a key



Ms. Lilian Nkatha, the University’s Marketing Officer, engages form-four students during a marketing activation at the Kisumu National ASK Show on Saturday, 26th July 2026, at Mamboleo Showground in Kisumu County.

cooperative and commercial hub within the Lake Region, the county hosts numerous savings and credit cooperative societies (SACCOs), agribusinesses, and public institutions that together form a strategic market for the University’s undergraduate, postgraduate, and professional programmes. SACCOs and cooperative societies drawn from Kisumu and the neighbouring counties consistently featured among the exhibitors at the show, reflecting the deep-rooted cooperative movement that defines the region’s economy and reinforcing the natural alignment between the University’s mandate and the communities the show brings together. This cooperative character of Kisumu made the University’s participation not merely promotional but also mission-aligned, given its history as an institution built to serve and strengthen the cooperative movement in Kenya.

For [The Co-operative University of Kenya](#), participation in the 2026 ASK Kisumu National Show supported student recruitment and enhanced the institution’s visibility across the Lake Region, and directly fulfilled Key Result Area 5 of the University [Strategic Plan 2022–2027](#), which centres on Customer Centricity and Brand Visibility. As the show draws to a close each year, the University’s presence stands as a reaffirmation of its commitment to cooperative values, innovation, and sustainable economic growth, both in Kisumu and across the country.



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