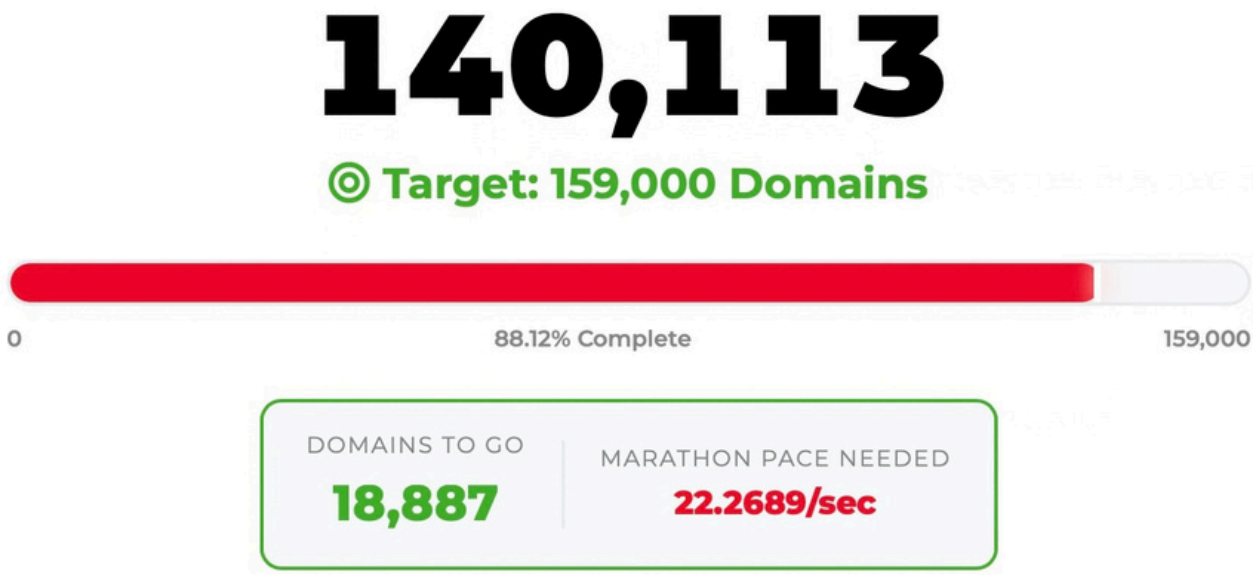
July, August & September 2026

NEWSLETTER

www.kenic.or.ke

KENYA NETWORK INFORMATION CENTRE



STATEMENT FROM THE CEO – UPDATES

As we move through the second half of 2026, our vision, mission and strategic pillars remain unchanged. What defines this period is strategic acceleration, anchored on three things: clarity of direction, extreme focus on high-impact work, and disciplined execution. Direction matters more than speed. Staying busy is not the goal; working on the right initiatives is. Every project must have a clear start and end date, named owners and accountability, because anything without a launch date risks becoming an endless activity loop.

At the heart of this effort is our 159 Programme. It is not just a numerical target. It represents real people, businesses and organisations gaining a digital identity and benefiting from the digital economy. We set out to move from about 128,000 domains to 159,000 by year-end, and we have now reached 84% of that target. About 240 registrations a day will close the remaining gap, and with 263 recorded in a single day recently, I am confident it is within reach. Our Business Starter Pack with the Business Registration Service, growth in the education sector, and our registrar and diaspora campaigns will all play their part.

We have much to celebrate. The ICANN/ccTLD capacity-building programme concluded across three cohorts with strong participation from across Africa, and our registrar engagement was delivered successfully. Registrars are the heart of our business, and the feedback from that engagement will now be acted on across every department. Our ERP, now named K-Connect, is progressing well, and our technology team's auto-refreshing tracker shows how data can drive performance. We have also applied to join ICANN's new gTLD programme, with the backing of our Board and the Government of Kenya.

Finally, resilience matters. Fall seven times, stand up eight. I have great confidence in Kenya and in the energy of its young people.

CEO & .KE Chief Evangelist Andrew Lewela Mwanyota in Internal Townhall Meetings

KENYA'S TRUSTED .KE DOMAIN REGISTRY
— NOW WITH AN APP

THE MyKE APP IS HERE

Search, register and manage your .KE domain — all in one app.

GET IT ON Google Play



.ke
Home of Every .KE Domain Name

FOLLOW THE CONVERSATION
KenicTLD

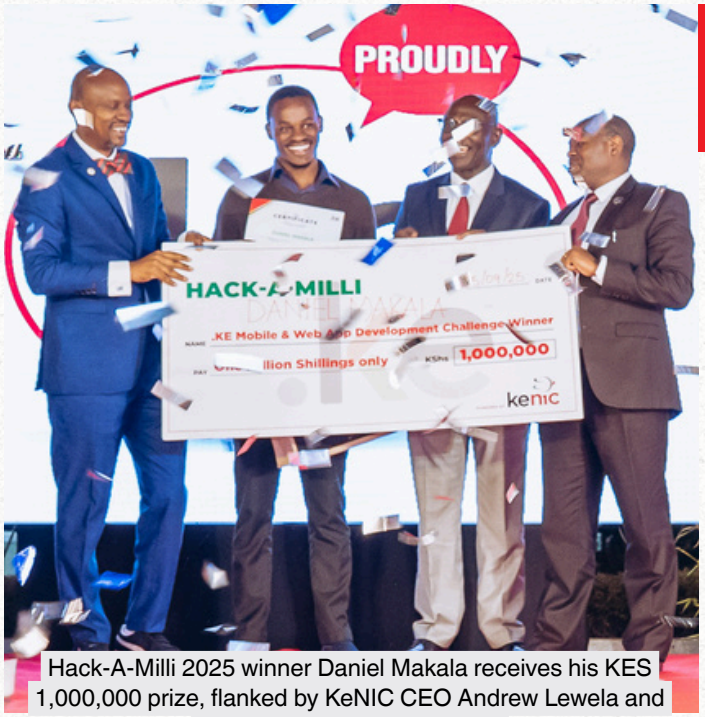
A student's winning idea has become a mobile platform, a home for family memories and a global campaign, lauched 28th September 2026 - Nairobi



KeNIC has launched the **MyKE App,** a mobile platform that lets Kenyans find, compare and register a .KE domain straight from their phones. Unveiled at a live webinar on Monday 28 September 2026, the launch brought together three announcements in one:

- MyKE App, version 1, now available on the Google Play Store.
- Album.KE, a private digital home for family memories, available through the app.
- The Diaspora Campaign, inviting Kenyans in the USA, UK, UAE, Australia and beyond to claim their place online.

Welcoming viewers from across time zones, **KeNIC CEO Andrew Lewela** described the launch as a step toward democratising domains and called it the start of a wider conversation with the .KE community.



Hack-A-Milli 2025 winner Daniel Makala receives his KES 1,000,000 prize, flanked by KeNIC CEO Andrew Lewela and Board members, [Sept 2025]

From a student challenge to a national platform

The MyKE App began in 2025 as Hack-A-Milli, a KeNIC challenge inviting university students to build a mobile app that makes .KE domains easier to find and register. More than 480 students took part, individually and in teams of up to four, producing 50 prototypes.

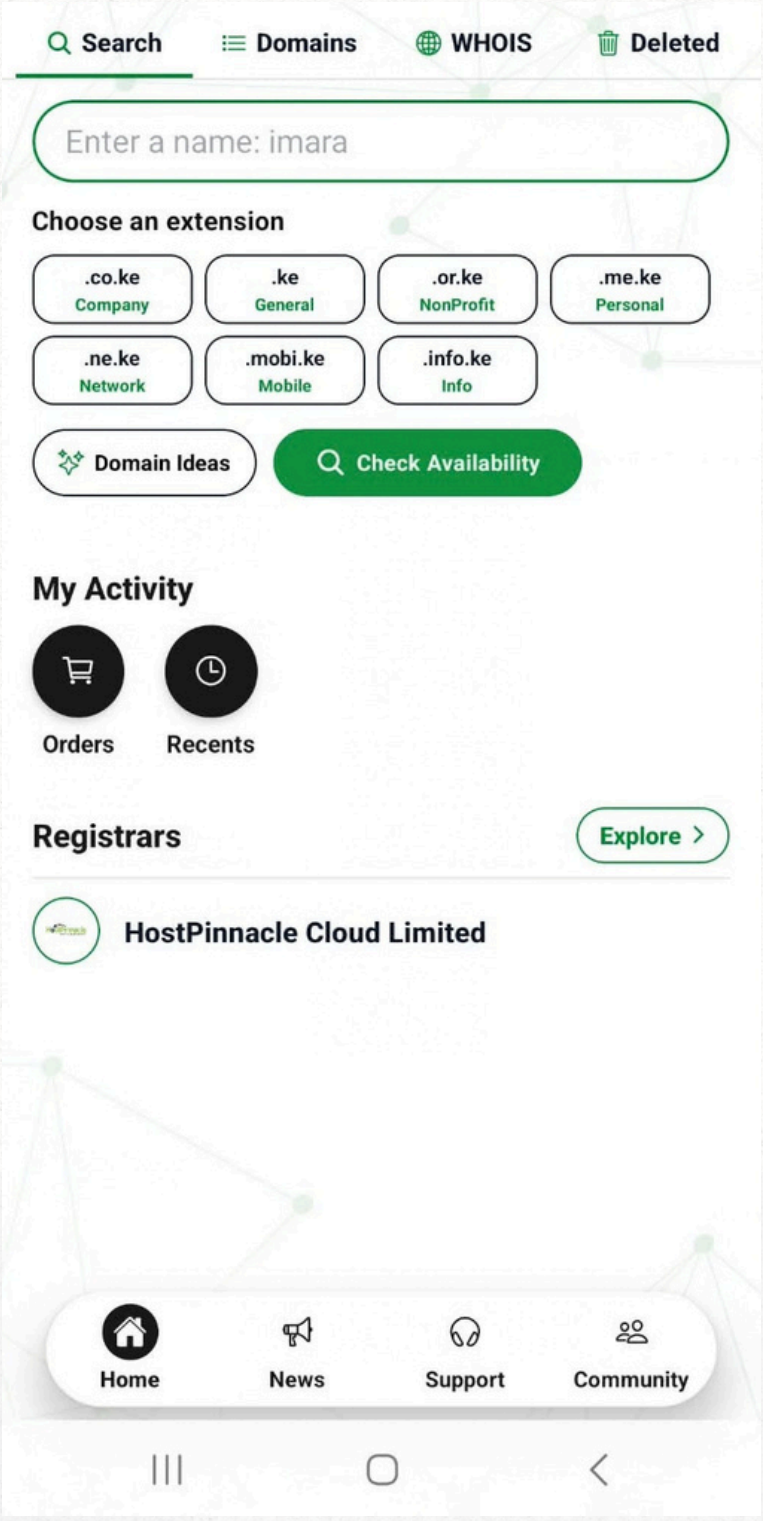
The winning concept came from Daniel Makala, a 24-year-old from Kabianga University who entered alone. His idea did not end with the prize. Over roughly a year of development and refinement, it grew into the app now in the hands of the public.

Speaking at the launch, Daniel said the challenging part was moving from a proof of concept to a product real users can depend on, while also learning how the .KE ecosystem works, from the registry to registrars to registrants. Behind him, KeNIC's technology team built the app on a cross-platform framework designed to run on both Android and iOS, with features that work independently of one another so the app can scale.



Daniel Makala, developer of the MyKE App.

What you can do with the app



- **Discover.** Search for available .KE names yourself, or let AI assistance suggest names that suit you.
- **Compare**. See what KeNIC-listed registrars offer and compare prices openly before you decide.
- **Register and manage.** Start your purchase from your phone and manage the lifecycle of your domain.
- **Stay informed.** The new .KE News portal brings events, internships, careers, tenders and other opportunities from KeNIC and its partners into one feed.

"The idea is simple: less friction between having an idea and owning your digital identity."

Daniel summed up the benefits in three words:

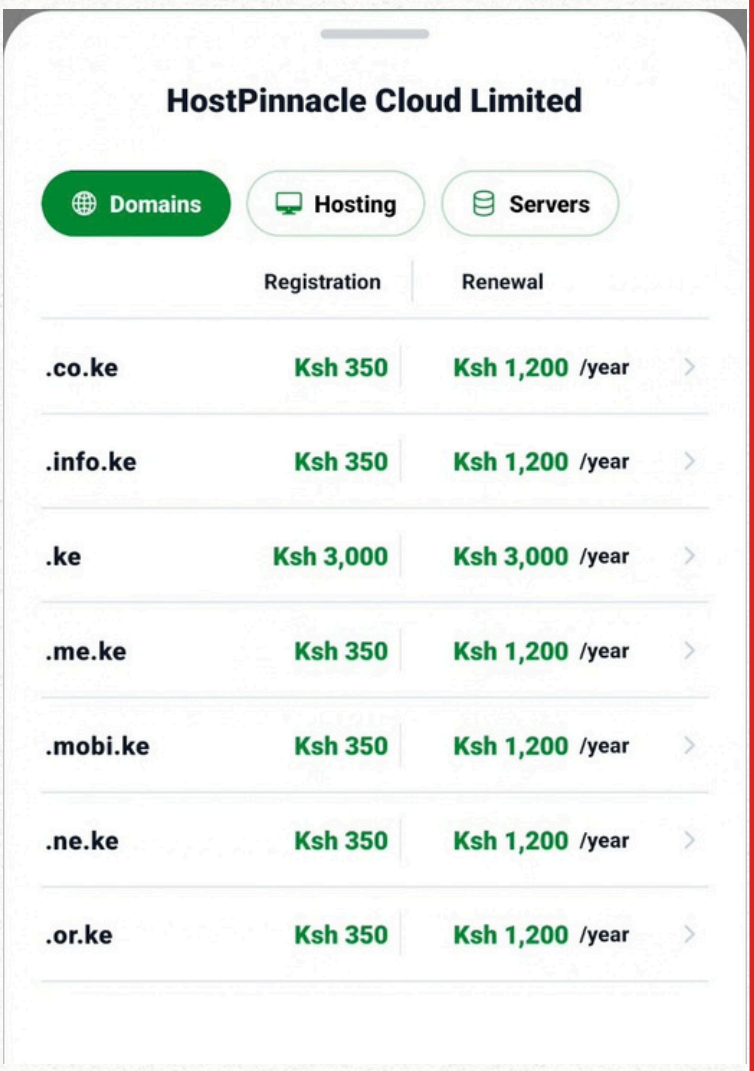
- **trust,**
- **convenience,** and
- **speed**

Users know they are dealing with verified registrars and no middlemen, and in close to a minute they can be online.

Registrars and partners: a bigger ecosystem

Registrars are at the heart of the MyKE App. HostPinnacle Cloud Limited became the first registrar to integrate, proving the model works. Its Director, Brian Njeru, said the app replaces desktop forms, long waits and reliance on an IT contact with four steps: search, register, pay, go live. Registrants can also get professional email, a website and hosting through the registrar.

Tech innovators and hubs are being invited to partner with KeNIC on bundled solutions that speed up .KE uptake, making the app a doorway into the wider ecosystem rather than just a download.




Brian Njeru - CEO, Hostpinnacle Cloud Limited

Why .KE matters to a registrar

- It gives customers a local identity: their users, shops and businesses are all in Kenya.
- It builds trust, because a .KE name is a home in the Kenyan namespace, and it makes it easy to move a brand from WhatsApp, Facebook, Instagram or TikTok to a proper online address.
- The people behind it are easy to reach, since you can call them on a local number.

What HostPinnacle promises customers

- Local support by phone, email and other channels.
- Keeping the domain yours, and compliance with data protection rules.
- Beyond the domain: a professional email address, an easy-to-use website builder and hosting.

Album.KE: where a domain becomes a family home

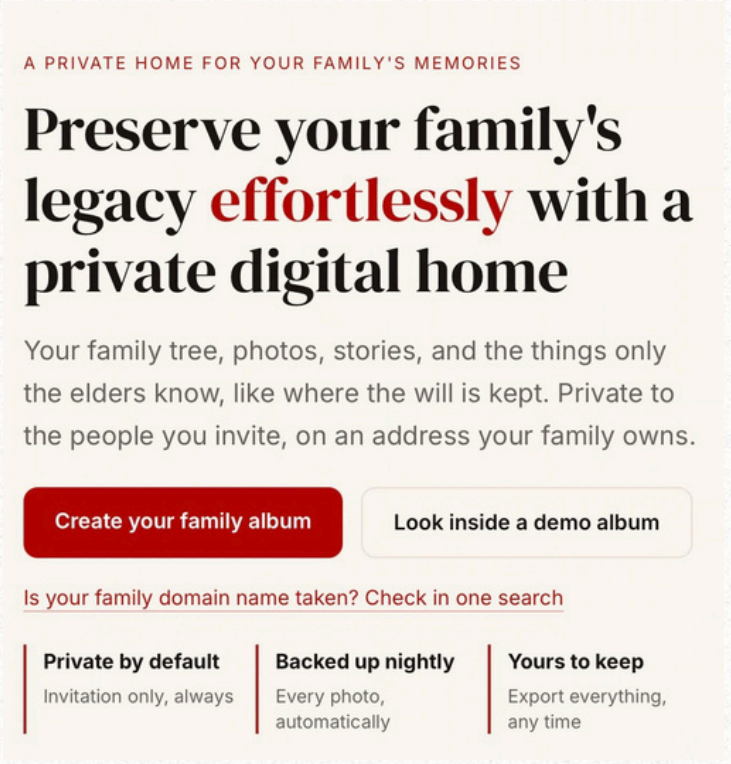
Launching inside the app is **Album.KE (album.ke)**, a private digital home for a family's photographs, stories and family tree, built by **WPFoss.** Its creators began with a picture many Kenyans will recognise: photos scattered across phones and WhatsApp groups, and an old album at a parent's house that no one has opened in years.

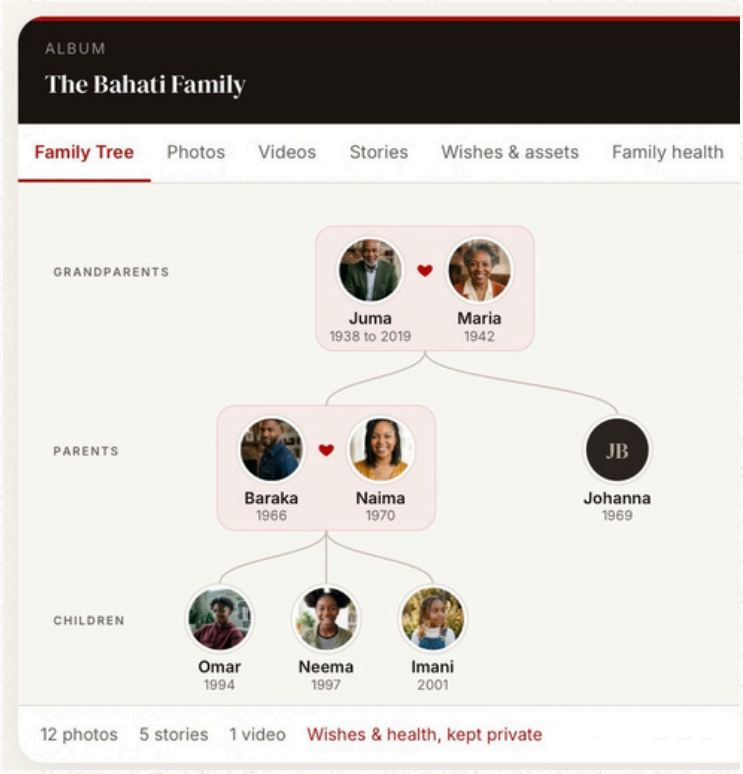
Each album lives at a family's own .KE name, for example *thebahatis.ke*, and includes:

- Family tree spanning generations, where tapping a person shows every photograph they appear in.
- Photographs, videos and stories that capture who was there and why it mattered.
- Tribute pages written by the whole family, plus private spaces for wishes, assets and family health.
- Real privacy: invitation only, never public, never searchable, backed up nightly and exportable at any time.



Harry Atulah – Chief Executive Officer (CEO, WPfoss)





What WPfoss promises customers

- Privacy by default. Every request is checked against the list of people you invited. Albums are never public and never indexed by search engines.
- Nightly backups. Every photograph is copied to separate storage each night, so a mistake can be undone.
- Yours to keep. Families can export everything at any time, and photographs are stored at full quality, exactly as taken.
- Your own .KE name. Each album comes with a registered yourname.ke or yourname.co.ke, not a borrowed address on someone else's domain.
- Easy for everyone. Sign in with a link or code sent by email, with no password to remember. Invite as many relatives as you like at no charge per person, and choose who can add photographs and who can only look.

Diaspora Campaign: Be Kenyan. Digitally. Globally. With .KE.



The launch also introduced a 90-second thematic video, now running across KeNIC's social platforms, aimed at Kenyans abroad. It opens with a familiar journey (London, Sydney, Dubai, Qatar, Dallas) and lands on the same idea: wherever life takes us, home stays with us. Its message is a warning as much as an invitation: once a name is taken, it is gone forever.



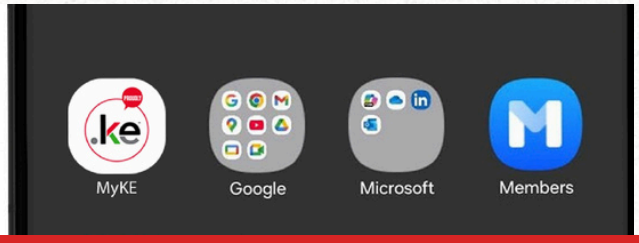
The campaign is built around names that mean something. Think mwangi.ke, otieno.ke, sokoni.ke or nyumbani.ke. A name may be common, but a domain is unique.

KeNIC's Global Brand Ambassador, Thomas Kwaka Omolo, popularly known as ***Big Ted***, urged Kenyans abroad to register now, from wherever they are, through KeNIC's registrars. He noted that the diaspora now spans third and fourth generations, and that Album.KE gives them a way to keep hold of where they come from. He announced that he would be taking the message to New York and the US West Coast the following week. The call is not only for the diaspora. Speaking at the launch, KeNIC framed a domain as digital real estate. Just as many wish they had bought a plot in Runda when it was cheap, a Kenyan name secured today is one nobody else can take tomorrow.

GET IT ON Google Play

1. Open Play Store
2. Type MyKE
3. Install and Open

JOIN THE CONVERSATION KenicTLD



JULY – SEPTEMBER 2026 EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS

1. KeNIC Holds 23rd Annual General Meeting

July: KeNIC's Board of Directors and Senior Leadership Team came together for the 23rd Annual General Meeting to reflect on the organisation's landmark 2025 performance and chart the way forward as it enters the final year of its 2024–2026 Strategic Plan.





2. KeNIC closed a Landmark Chapter in Africa's ccTLD Capacity Building

July: Cohort 3 graduated, closing the Capacity Building in ccTLD Management Across Africa programme. Delivered by KeNIC TLD, AFRALTI and ICANN, the programme trained 183 professionals from 32 African countries across 3 cohorts from Feb - July, supported by 9 specialised trainers.

3. KeNIC Participates in KeNOG Conference 2026

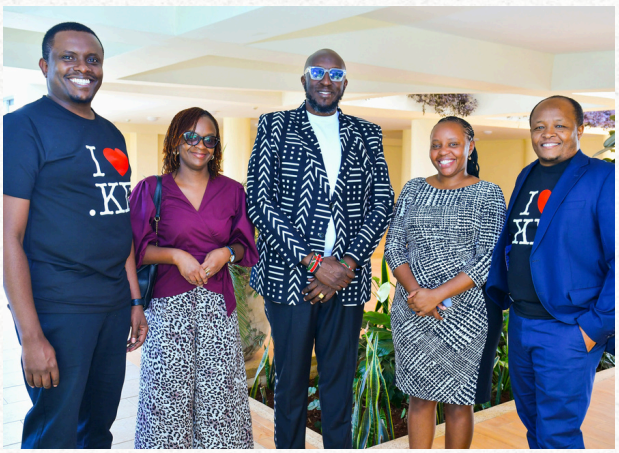
August: KeNIC sponsored the KeNOG Conference 2026, bringing together industry professionals to discuss network engineering, Internet infrastructure, cloud services, and connectivity. The event provided a platform for knowledgesharing, technical discussions, and industry networking.



4. KeNIC Strengthens Partnerships with .KE Registrars

August: KeNIC brought together its accredited .KE registrars for the 2026 Registrar Engagement Meeting, providing an opportunity to share updates, gather feedback and strengthen collaboration with registrar partners across the .KE ecosystem.

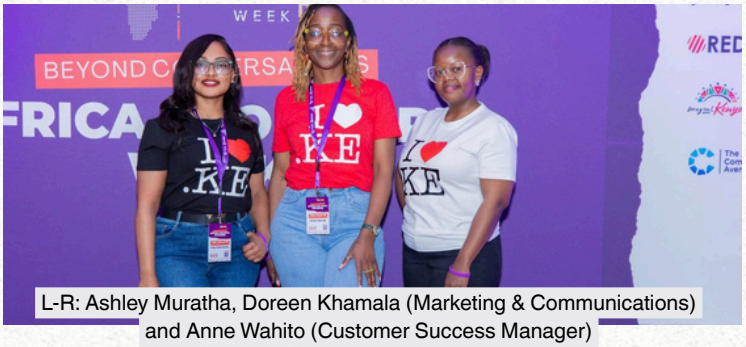




The engagement also provided an opportunity to introduce Amb. Thomas Kwaka, HSC, to the KeNIC Senior Leadership Team and .KE registrars as the inaugural .KE Global Brand Ambassador.

5. KeNIC Participates in Africa Global PR Week 2026

August: KeNIC joined communications leaders, government officials and storytellers at Africa Global PR Week 2026 in Nairobi, held from 26–28 August under the theme "Redefining Africa: Africa as a Brand."



L-R: Ashley Muratha, Doreen Khamala (Marketing & Communications) and Anne Wahito (Customer Success Manager)

6. KeNIC at the 2nd Africa HR Summit in Arusha

August: KeNIC's People and Administrative Manager, Fiona Ongeso, represented KeNIC at the 2nd Africa HR Summit (AHRS 2026) in Arusha, Tanzania, from 19 to 22 August 2026. The summit was hosted by the Tanzania HR and Administration Professionals Association (THRAPA) and powered by the Africa HR Confederation (AHRC) under the theme "Transforming Africa's Workforce for the Future." It drew HR leaders and policymakers from 54 African nations. Participation in forums like AHRS 2026 keeps KeNIC connected to emerging trends in work and talent, and the insights gained will help inform how we support and develop our people.





7. KeNIC Team Builds Stronger Connections in Voi

September: From 4–6 September, the KeNIC team stepped away from the office for a team-building experience at Voi Wildlife Lodge.The experience reinforced the connections and team spirit that drive us forward as one KeNIC family.

8. KeNIC Bids Farewell to Former Board Chairman

September: KeNIC Board members, staff and committee members gathered to honour Mr. Paul Ndungu Kariuki, former Board Chairman, celebrating his tenure and contribution to the growth of the .KE registry. The farewell recognised his leadership and service to the organisation.



L-R: Thomas Odhiambo - KeNIC Board Chairman and Paul Ndungu Kariuki - Former Board Chairman



9. Amb. Thomas Kwaka Commissioned as Inaugural .KE Global Brand Ambassador

September: KeNIC officially commissioned Amb. Thomas Kwaka, HSC, as the inaugural .KE Global Brand Ambassador during a Meet & Greet with the KeNIC CEO, Board and Committee members at Pan Pacific, GTC. The appointment marks a new chapter in championing Kenya's digital identity and promoting .KE globally.

10. KeNIC Senior Leadership Team Development Training

September: Our Senior Leadership Team recently completed a three-day Strategic Leadership, Governance and Digital Transformation Programme with SBD Institute. The training focused on future-ready leadership, strategic execution, AI adoption and high-performance collaboration, equipping our leaders to drive KeNIC forward.





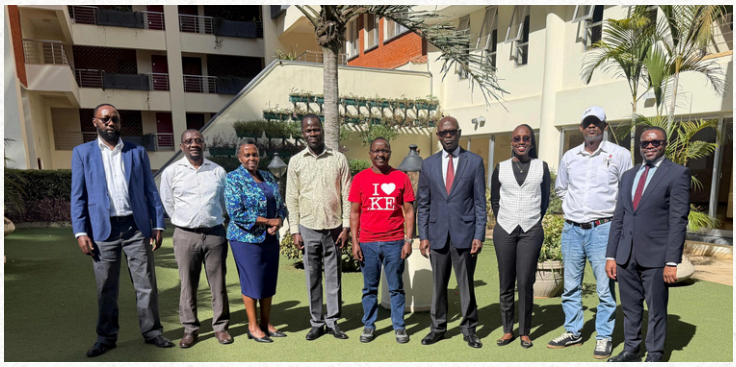
11. KeNIC Reviews 2024-2026 Strategic Plan

September: Our Senior Leadership team also held a two-day review of the 2024-2026 Strategic Plan, facilitated by Visionary Professional Management Consultants Ltd (VPMC). The review assessed our progress and sharpened our priorities to guide the path ahead.

12. Corporate Social Investment: KeNIC Visits Kivuli Centre

September: As part of KeNIC's Corporate Social Investment (CSI) efforts, the team visited Kivuli Centre in Kabiria, supporting vulnerable boys through education, rehabilitation and life skills training.
The team toured the centre, interacted with the boys and experienced their creativity through art and hands-on crafts.





13. KeNIC Leadership Sharpens Its Strategy with ICANN

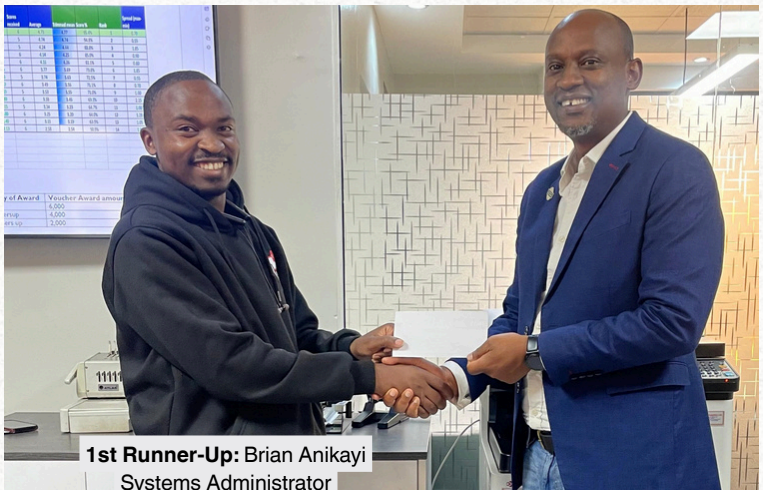
September: KeNIC Board Members and the CEO participated in a Strategy and Sensitization Workshop facilitated by ICANN aimed at understanding the evolving global domain name ecosystem and market as well as strengthening governance and strategic leadership in Kenya's domain name ecosystem.

14. KeNIC Recognizes Staff for Results-Oriented Performance and Service Milestones

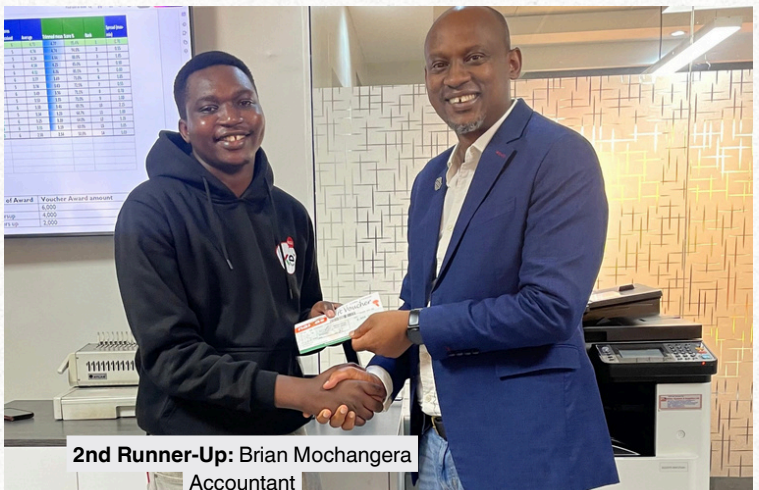
September: KeNIC's Reward and Recognition Committee recognised the staff member who best lived the Results-Oriented competency in Q2 2026, by focusing on achieving measurable outcomes linked to the company's strategic goals. The awardee was presented with a gift voucher in appreciation of their outstanding contribution, reflecting KeNIC's culture of recognising and rewarding excellence.



Winner: Emmanuel Mutinda,
CyberSecurity and Application Analyst



1st Runner-Up: Brian Anikayi
Systems Administrator



2nd Runner-Up: Brian Mochangera
Accountant

UPCOMING EVENT



Domain Summit Africa made its debut in Nairobi on 23-24 February 2026 at the Villa Rosa Kempinski, co-hosted by KeNIC. It was at that first summit that the deal to bring the 2027 edition to Kenya was sealed.

KeNIC will be the ccTLD Home Host of Domain Summit Africa 2027, a business-first event for the global domain industry, taking place on the Kenyan coast. The summit welcomes domain name registries, registrars, hosting companies, security experts, lawyers and domain investors, and is built around meaningful exchange between people who understand the value of time and trust. Registries and regional partners supporting the event include Registry.Africa, RICTA (.rw) and ZARC (.za).

Attendance is limited to 200 participants. The event is mostly by invitation and free for invited guests, and others can attend with a ticket at USD 500.

INTERESTED IN ATTENDING?

Read more information:

https://kenic.or.ke/events/

Don't miss it. See you all in Diani

Domain Summit
2,722 followers
7mo ·

#BreakingNews

Domain Summit Africa 2027 is heading to Diani Beach, Kenya.

We're also delighted to share two major partnership updates from the KeNIC office reception:

- Team Internet has confirmed as our Global Partner
- Open-Xchange has also pledged its support

Big thanks to KeNIC for the warm welcome and to our partners for backing the next chapter of Domain Summit Africa. More details on dates, venue, and sponsorship opportunities coming soon.

#DomainSummit #DomainSummitAfrica #Kenya #DianiBeach #KeNIC #Domai





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FINANCE SUPPORT: **billing@kenic.or.ke**
TECHNICAL SUPPORT: **support@kenic.or.ke**

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