



THE OASIS NEWSLETTER

A Publication from the Office of the Vice-Chancellor



Dr. Solomon Omwoma receives a certificate award of completion of the Accelerated Research to Commercialization programme

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JOOUST ANNOUNCES PRESENCE IN THE ACCELERATED RESEARCH TO COMMERCIALIZATION PROGRAM



The participants take a keen listen during the tour.

Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology (JOOUST) proudly participated in the Accelerated Research to Commercialization program, a collaborative initiative of Victoria Ventures and the Kenya National Innovation Agency. The program spanned from May 2023 to November 2023, providing a platform for groundbreaking projects to transition from research ideas to viable commercial ventures.

Representing JOOUST in this prestigious endeavor was Dr. Solomon Omwoma Lugasi, whose innovative project "SOBs Animal Feeds" traces its roots back to the Chemistry Research Laboratory, where the project gained prominence after it was presented

to the former President, Uhuru Kenyatta, during his tour to JOOUST in 2019.

The crux of the SOBs Animal Feeds project lies in



Demonstrations underway on the functions of the utilities at the centre.

its potential to revolutionize the poultry and aquaculture industries. The highly nutritious fish and chicken feed developed through

meticulous research has the capacity to redefine the taste and nutritional quality of farmed fish.

The scholar behind the project, Dr. Lugasi, stressed the uniqueness of the formulation. "Our feed has the potential to make a fish consumer unable to discern the taste difference between caged and wild fish in Lake Victoria," he stated. This breakthrough addresses a critical aspect of aquaculture, where the taste and nutritional quality of farmed fish often differ from their wild counterparts.

The success of the SOBs Animal Feeds project in this program opens doors for potential partnerships, investment opportunities, and eventual commercialization.



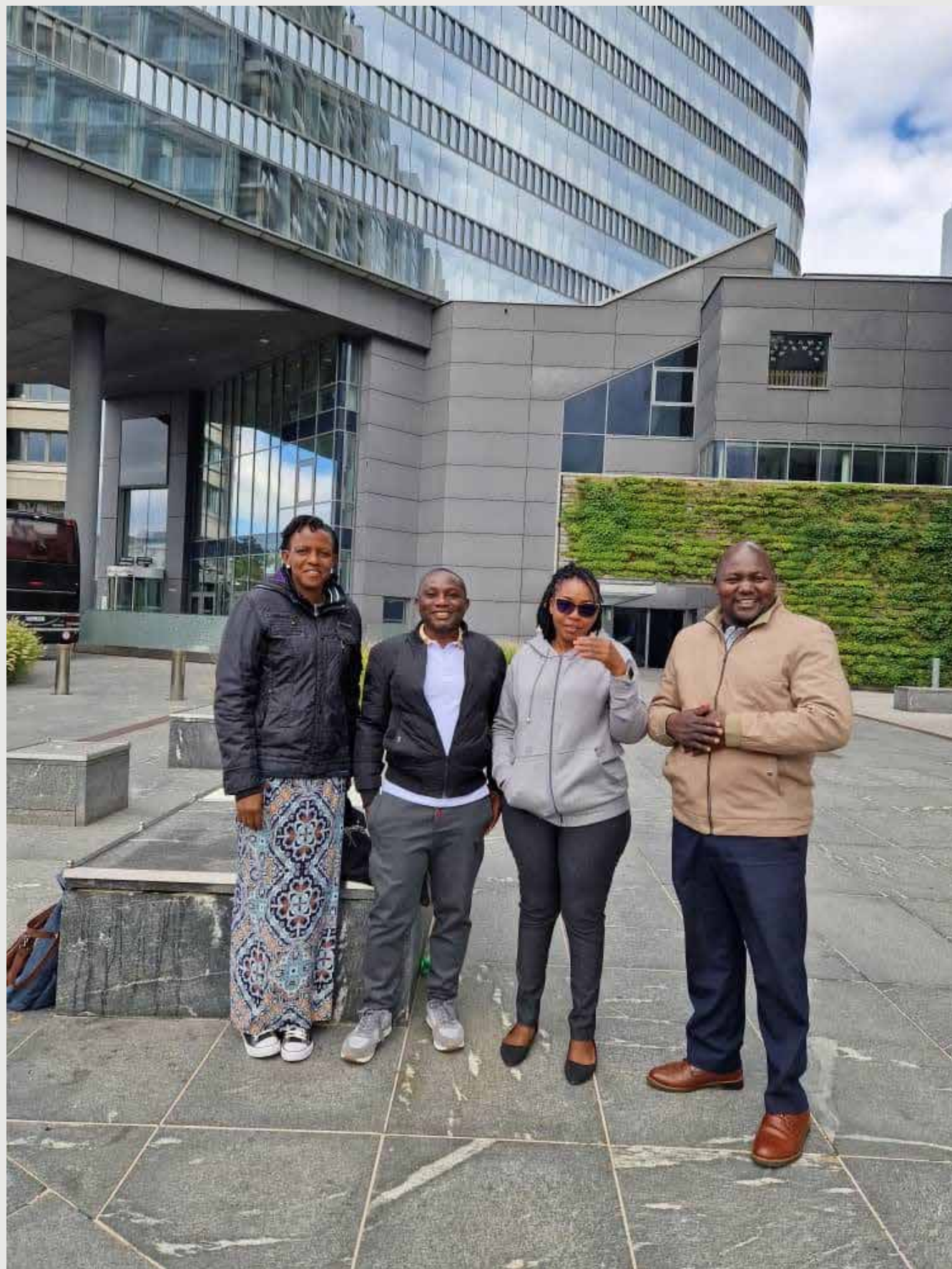
The team converges for a group photo at the end of the programme.

ECSDEVELOP COGITATES ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION

The partners of the Environmental Chemistry for Sustainable Development (ECSDevelop) project held a five-days meeting from 16th -20th October in Vienna, punctuated with field visits, to discuss environmental conservation. JOOUST is a member partner and was represented by Dr. Solomon Omwoma.

The five-day workshop included mutual collaboration, a series of presentations by faculty professors, ECSDevelop masters and PhD students, field visits to the wastewater treatment plant in Tulln, Wien Energie – Austria's largest energy provider in Vienna, the BOKU River Lab, and a meeting with officials of the BOKU International Relations.

On 16th October, the research team was hosted at the Institute of Chemistry of Renewable Resources, BOKU in Tulln. While in Tulln, MSc and PhD students presented their research results and a presentation by Prof. Ines Fritz introduced the consortium to biodegradable plastics. The team was also given a two-hour tour of



Dr. Solomon Omwoma (JOOUST-right) representing Kenya, Ms. Emily Ngeno (KAFU) together with her Ugandan counterparts Dr. Partick Ssebugere and Dr. Christine Nagawa (both from Makerere University) in Vienna during the field visits

the laboratory facilities in Tulln, and the day ended with an informal interaction with the research groups of Prof. Thomas Rosenau and Dr. Stefan Böhmendorfer.

On 17th October 2023, the team visited the wastewater treatment plant in Tulln and later had an interactive

meeting with the BOKU International Relations in Vienna, hosted by Dr. Margarita Calderón-Peter, followed by a guided tour of the BOKU campus in Vienna. On 18th October, the team attended a lecture by Prof. Ursula Nopp-Mayer on microplastics in wild animals at BOKU

(Muthgasse) in Vienna. Later, the team visited the river lab of BOKU in Vienna, where the team had very interactive sessions.

On 19th October, the team attended lectures by Prof. Maria Fürhacker and Prof.

Christian Zafiu, which focused on microplastic analysis, environmental contamination and problems of data interpretation. Later, the team made a field visit to Wien Energie's Simmering power plant in Vienna. On 20th October,

the research consortium had an open discussion on science and microplastics and reflected on the overall milestones of the ECSDevelop project.



The team poses for a lively group photo outdoor.

EXPLORING THE TAPESTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TOURISM

BY BECKON WAFULA, STUDENT SIIS

At the helm of International Tourism Association of Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology's (ITAJU) ambitious global odyssey in international tourism is the dynamic duo of Executive Chairperson and his deputy Brian Oloo and Brenda Khasandi respectively. Their visionary leadership has propelled the university's tourism association into new heights, steering it towards a holistic exploration of the vibrant tapestry of global travel.

Mr. Oloo, with his strategic foresight, perceives the association as a catalyst for change in the tourism landscape. Under his guidance, JOOUST's tourism program has evolved beyond traditional classroom boundaries. He emphasizes the importance of practical experience in shaping well-rounded professionals and advocates for a curriculum that seamlessly blends academic rigor with

hands-on learning.

Complementing Oloo's vision is the insightful leadership of Ms. Khasandi who brings on board a passion for sustainable tourism to the forefront, emphasizing the association's commitment to responsible travel practices. Her advocacy extends beyond the classroom, encouraging students to actively engage in initiatives that contribute to the well-being of the destinations they explore.

The association's activities serve as a testament to its commitment to community and environmental

stewardship characterized by dynamic team-building exercises that foster collaboration among students to beach cleaning initiatives that promote environmental sustainability. The University's tourism association is more than an academic entity - it's a force for positive change.

Amidst its diverse activities, bird watching emerges as a unique thread in the association's narrative. This seemingly simple activity becomes a lens through which students explore the biodiversity of destinations, emphasizing the importance



ITAJU Club members clean Usenge beach.

of preserving natural ecosystems for future generations.

In the tapestry of JOOUST's global odyssey, Brian Oloo and Brenda Khasandi, along with a coterie of dedicated students, weave together a story of education, exploration, and responsibility. As they embark on journeys that transcend borders, the association's impact extends far beyond the university grounds, leaving an enduring mark on the international tourism landscape.



ITAJU club members during their bird watching session.



ITAJU Students inspire environs with the beach cleaning initiative.

The Oasis

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