

INNOVATIONS & INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT E-LEAFLET



MOTTO

Flame of knowledge and innovation.

MISSION

To provide quality education, training, research, and consultancy in Science, Agriculture and Technology to meet the needs and aspirations of a dynamic society

VISION

A premier University that nurtures global leaders and innovators.

INTRODUCTION!

Welcome to the Intellectual Property Management Office (IPMO) at the University of Eldoret. This e-leaflet aims to raise awareness about innovations and intellectual property (IP) issues within our university community. From defining innovations to showcasing success stories and highlighting the role of IPMO in supporting innovators, this leaflet serves as a comprehensive guide to understanding the innovation ecosystem at our university. We encourage you to explore the resources provided and learn more about how IPMO can assist with your innovative ideas. Together, let's nurture a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship at University of Eldoret.

WHAT ARE INNOVATIONS?

☑ Innovations are new ideas, methods, products, or processes that bring about significant improvements or changes to existing practices or create entirely new opportunities.

☑ Innovations may involve modification of an existing product or formulation of an entirely new product that satisfies a newly defined customer want or market niche.

EXAMPLES OF INNOVATIONS

1. Technological Innovations
2. Business Innovations
3. Scientific Innovations
4. Social and Cultural Innovations
5. Environmental Innovations

INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ELDORET

o Annual Innovation Weeks and Public Lectures: The University holds annual innovation weeks to showcase innovations from staff and students

o Innovation Competitions and Challenges: Take part in annual innovation competitions/challenges and get recognition and awards.

HOW TO COME UP WITH INNOVATIONS

☑ Provide solutions to technical, social, or environmental problems

☑ Provide alternative technologies

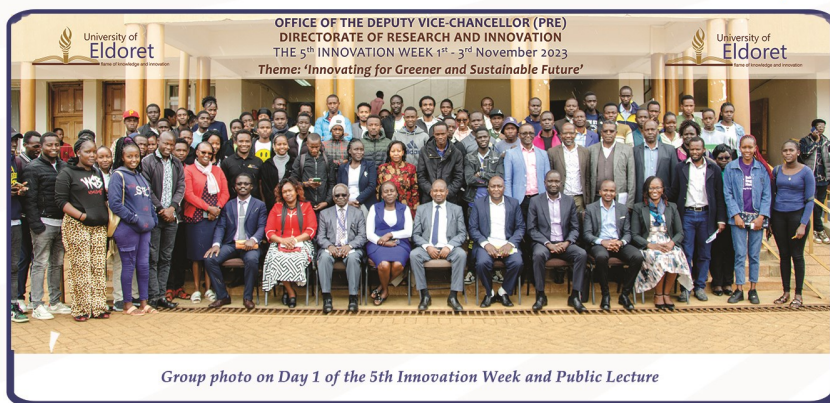
☑ Raise peoples' standard of living, i.e., incomes and consumption, environment, food, medical services and education

☑ Improve social, political and economic systems and institutions

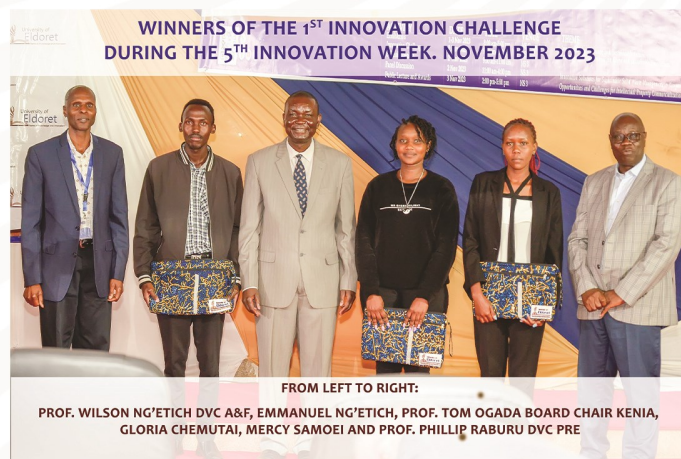
☑ Improve choice variables, e.g. varieties of goods and services.

o Partnerships and Collaborations: The University partners with other institutions such as KENIA, KIPi, NACOSTI, County Governments to enhance capacity for innovation

o Incubation: The University has several incubation programs/centres to nurture innovations.



Group photo on Day 1 of the 5th Innovation Week and Public Lecture



ALUMNI CORNER



1. Sam Okenwa School of Engineering (2016 to 2023)

“University of Eldoret provided a fertile ground where my passion for innovation was advanced. I was equipped the knowledge and skills to navigate the complexities of intellectual property issues. My journey in pioneering environmental tech has been empowered by the invaluable support I received at the university.”



2. Lilian Songok, School of Agriculture and Biotechnology (2012-2021)

“University of Eldoret gave me a ground breaking experience in research from discovery of gluten free flour possibilities with the help of my supervisors from Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. This enabled me to transit post university to becoming a successful business venture that is nurturing innovations through empowering others to becoming ground breakers in agrifood value addition and making a mark in gluten free food industry”



3. Judy Mwendu, School of Agriculture and Biotechnology (2017 - 2022)

“University of Eldoret provided me with access to various resources such as mentors, funding opportunities and also understanding intellectual property laws well. This has helped my company ustawi grow and provide solution to my society”



Seeds of Gold

IN BRIEF

From drought-app that can save lives to the development of new potato varieties, the University of Eldoret is leading the way in agricultural innovation.

The University of Eldoret is a pioneer in agricultural innovation, with a focus on developing drought-app that can save lives to the development of new potato varieties.

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Research

Pyrethrum varieties developed

The performance of the Kent 1, Kent 2, Kent 3 and Kent 4 varieties in different ecological zones is what sets them apart from the traditional pyrethrum.

By Stanley Kibuka

Pyrethrum is a natural insecticide derived from the flowers of the pyrethrum plant. It is widely used in agriculture to control pests. The University of Eldoret has developed four new varieties of pyrethrum, known as Kent 1, Kent 2, Kent 3, and Kent 4. These varieties are designed to perform well in different ecological zones, making them more versatile for farmers.

The Kent 1 variety is known for its high yield and resistance to pests. The Kent 2 variety is designed for high growth and early maturity. The Kent 3 variety is known for its resistance to diseases. The Kent 4 variety is designed for high yield and resistance to pests.

These new varieties are expected to improve the livelihoods of farmers by providing them with more reliable and effective pest control solutions.

SUCCESS STORIES

Prof. Miriam Kinyua from the School of Agriculture developed three new and improved potato varieties (*Eldo Amani*, *Eldo Bidii*, and *Eldo Fanaka*) with prolonged dormancy, early maturing, and resistant to early and late blight. She has been featured in National televisions and newspapers for this great invention.

The varieties have also been registered by KEPHIS and published in the Kenya Gazette. Apart from the potato varieties, she has also developed new pyrethrum, dolichos, and wheat varieties (*Eldo Maavuno*). She is one of the staff members at University of Eldoret with the most number of innovations whose impacts are already felt by farmers and communities from her technology transfer efforts.

Seed pelleting Machine and novel waste plastic umbrella parts by Eng. Muhamed Swaleh

Eng. Muhamed Swaleh designed and developed several innovative products which includes seed pelleting machine, manual water pumps, biomass stoves among others. He is also a holder of several patents from Kenya, US, and China, among them a novel Biomass Pyrolytic Stove for sustainable bio-energy utilization and Hip Pump Assembly. The lead engineer and his project team are currently working on the development of a production line for mass manufacture of plastic parts from waste plastics. The project is expected to create jobs through, collectors of waste plastics, grinding of waste plastics, and production of umbrella parts from waste plastics, assemblers of umbrella from waste plastic parts and distributors and retailers of Waste Plastic Umbrella.

Eng. Swaleh is passionate about innovation in integrated circular technologies for a sustainable production and efficient utilization resources.

The product is an extruded fortified cereal for making thin porridge (uji pap!) and thick porridge (ugali pap!). Extruded instant fortified porridge flours pass through high heat and are therefore cooked. The instant flour can be formulated using whole grain cereals which include maize, sorghum, finger millet, or blends which are nutritionally enhanced by addition of locally sourced micronutrient-rich plant-based ingredients, including: *Amaranthus L.* (Grain Amaranth), *Ipomoea batatas L.* (Orange Fleshed Sweet Potato-OFSP), *Cucubita pepo* (Orange Flesh Pumpkin-OFPP), *Adansonia digitata* (Baobab), *Moringa oleifera* (Moringa), *Eriobotrya japonica* (Loquat Japanese Plum), *Vigna radiata* (Green Gram or Mung Bean) and *Daucus carota* (Carrot), referred to as Food-to-Food Fortificants

Prof. Violet Mugalavai's Unga Nutritious: Patent #KE 892 of University of Eldoret



Several students participated in a three-week intensive training and competition workshop on the development of mobile apps by the Kenya National Commission for UNESCO from 29th January to 16th February 2024. Students from University of Eldoret scooped the 1st and 3rd positions in the completion. The winning team developed an app called Carbocalc while the 2nd runners up developed an app called *Ustawinest*.

University of Eldoret students win in mobile apps development contest by UNESCO

Intellectual Property Management Office (IPMO)

The IPMO supports innovators and the innovation ecosystem in the University through various mechanisms

- o Mentorship programs
- o Funding opportunities,
- o Access to incubation facilities together with the Outreach Centre
- o Training and capacity building
- o Intellectual Property protection
- o Networking and collaboration opportunities
- o Incubation

IMPACT IN NUMBERS

- ✓ Capacity Building Training Workshops – 10
- ✓ Plant Breeders rights – 8
- ✓ Copyrights -1
- ✓ Trademarks – 1
- ✓ Innovation Weeks – 5
- ✓ Innovations - 359
- ✓ Patent applications in progress – 9

- ✓ Commercialized Innovations – 9
- ✓ Innovation Challenges – 1
- ✓ Startups from Students – 5
- ✓ Startups from Staff – 6
- ✓ Patents – 4

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION

- o Innovations become Intellectual Properties (IPs)
- o IPs are protected through various mechanisms and authorities.

o Forms of IPs:

- Copyrights
- Patents/utility models
- Plant breeder's rights
- Trade Secrets
- Industrial designs
- Geographical Indications
- Trademarks etc.

ROLE OF IPMO IN IP PROTECTION

- o Processing and safeguarding patent and copyright agreements
- o Determining patentability (including receiving patent disclosures, undertaking patent searches and filing patent applications) nationally and internationally
- o Evaluating and identifying the commercial potential of an invention
- o Obtaining appropriate patent protection
- o Locating suitable commercial development partner

Innovation Planning Committee members



Prof. Lizzy Mwamburi



Dr. Grace Mureithi



Dr. Shem Mwasi



Dr. Emily Chemoiwa



Eng. John Langat



Mr. Josam Musambayi



Dr. George Ariya



Dr. Emmy Chepkoech

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY POLICY AND GUIDELINES

- o The University has an Intellectual Property Policy that outlines the protection and revenue sharing from innovations.

- o All students/staff pursuing innovative projects or with innovations should fill an invention disclosure form for filing by IPMO and inventory-keeping



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