



CLOSING SPEECH BY THE AG. VICE-CHANCELLOR

ENVIRONMENT IMPACT
ASSESSMENT/ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT
TRAINING OCTOBER 2018

2ND NOVEMBER, 2018

AT THE TOWN CAMPUS

Ladies and Gentlemen

I take this opportunity to sincerely thank the County Government of Trans Nzoia for trusting the University of Eldoret to train your officers in Environmental Impact Assessment/Environmental Audit. The University considers the County governments as partners in development in terms of technology and human resource. Therefore, we value the confidence you have accorded us to participate in the training of your staff.

I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate you the participants for successful completion of the three (3) weeks EIA/EA training course. I am aware, the course commenced on 15th October 2018 and it is ending today 2nd November 2018. Experienced and dedicated staff were undertaking the training and therefore, I have no doubt that in these three weeks you have been exposed to new skills and exciting field adventures.

The university considers the EIA/EA course mounted by the School of Environmental Studies as one of our flagship need-based training programmes besides agri-business that is offered to farmers by the School of Agriculture and Biotechnology. I

want to point out that the EIA/EA programme that you have gone through is approved by the University and the curriculum is also NEMA approved. Therefore, the skills acquired and certificate you will receive today, will not only enable you to serve your County in environmental assessment related assignments, but it will also enable you to be registered with NEMA as Lead Experts or Associate Experts depending on your experience. Moreover, it will enable you be able to serve as environmental consultants hence leading to individual economic gains.

The importance of Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Audit processes in the life cycle of all development proposals and projects in the Counties and in the country at large cannot be over emphasized. This is because, these processes are inclined towards the achievement of the Vision 2030 through the 'Big Four Agenda' of Manufacturing, Universal healthcare, affordable housing and food security.

Indeed EIA and EA are key tools/instruments that NEMA uses for making decisions that balances implementation of development projects and conservation of the environment. This is stipulated under the Kenyan Constitution 2010 section 42 – the

right to a clean and healthy environment; and EMCA (1999) CAP 387 and the Environmental Impact (Assessment and Auditing) Regulations 2003 sections 58-69 - the need for carrying out EIA/EA on development projects that are likely to be harmful to the environment.

As you come to the end of the training I wish to thank all of you; the participants, EIA coordinating committee lead by Dr Job Ng'etich, the resource persons, and the entire School of Environmental Studies for the successful completion of the EIA/EA training course. I also wish to take this opportunity to thank NEMA for having recognized the School of

Environmental Studies as an EIA/EA training centre and for partnering with us towards building capacity for environmental experts in the country and the region.

University of Eldoret is ISO 9001: 2015 certified and in line with our Vision and Mission, quality service and customer satisfaction is part of our core values. I have no doubt my team of facilitators were on the spot and did not disappoint.

Therefore, my challenge to you as upcoming experts and stakeholders in development and in environmental management is that: utilize the skills within the code of ethics,

the standards and acceptable best practices and make the world more habitable by embracing and promoting sustainable development. Make sure that in your endeavours be the advocates of the ideals of NEMA and the ambassadors of University of Eldoret and Kenya in general in issues environmental conservation.

Once again I want to appreciate in a special way the participants and the County Government of Trans Nzoia for choosing University of Eldoret as an ideal training institution on Environmental Impact Assessment/ Environmental Audit.

With these remarks Ladies and Gentlemen, I declare the 2018
October - November EIA/EA training closed.

Thank you

Prof. Phillip Raburu
Ag. Vice-Chancellor