



MINISTRY OF CO-OPERATIVES AND MICRO,
SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (MSMEs)
DEVELOPMENT
State Department for Micro, Small and Medium
Enterprises (MSMEs) Development

MINISTRY OF CO-OPERATIVES & MICRO, SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISES DEVELOPMENT.

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

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BRIEF ON THE CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP (C4E) PROJECT

The Centre for Entrepreneurship Project is a result of Bilateral Cooperation negotiations between Government of Kenya and Government of Federal Republic of Germany in December 2018. It was agreed that the Promotion of **Entrepreneurship and Employment programme**. (Centre for Entrepreneurship (C4E) Project) would be one of the projects to be implemented under the Germany Development Cooperation (GDC) with Kenya.

It was further agreed that the programme will establish a "**Centre for Entrepreneurship**" (C4E) at **Kenya Industrial Estates (KIE)** Headquarters, Nairobi and five satellite centres at KIE regional offices. The general objective is to enhance employment through self-employment, permanent employment, start-up support or the promotion of a young business with a focus on youth. The **project is expected to increase entrepreneurship and employment opportunities for youth, increase income and wealth creation to the youth.**

The project implementation arrangements include a project steering committee that is chaired by the current Principal Secretary for State Department for MSMEs, with the membership of the MD of Kenya Industrial Estate (the project implementing agency), a representative from the National Treasury and relevant Heads of Departments for technical support.

Further, a Project Implementation Unit (PIU), which oversees day to day operations of the project is in place and is chaired by a project coordinator who is a technical officer from within the State department. The PIU has representation from State Department of TVET, State Department of Industry, Kenya industrial Estate, Kenya National Qualification Authority, and technical support teams from the finance, procurement, planning, ICT and capacity development departments in this case **Kenya Institute of Business Training (KIBT).**

KIBT is not a **semi-autonomous agency**, it's a directorate whose operations resides within the State Department of MSMEs Development to facilitate the realization of one of the state department's mandates on. '**Capacity development for entrepreneurship including access to modern management practices.**' The

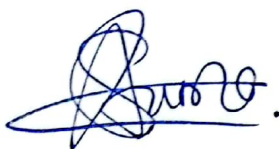
directorate which was established in 1966 under the then Ministry of Economic Planning and Development and later transferred to Ministry of labor, has since been moved under different Executive Orders to several ministries including Commerce and industry, Cooperative and Trade before being moved to the current Ministry of Cooperative and MSMEs Development following the **Executive order no.1 of 2023**. Therefore, the head of KIBT is a member of the C4E Project steering committee and the project Implementation Unit has technical officers drawn from the directorate to guide the implementation.

The Centre for Entrepreneurship is designed to offer the following,

1. **Orientation for youth** through an individual, in-depth screening in relation to talents, motivation, interests and needs for skills development and support services.
2. **Information on training** and business development services providers, programmes and support services for the youth, self - employed and entrepreneurs.
3. Advice and **guidance for voucher** recipients to identify the most suitable training institutions or business service providers.
4. A mobile & online platform that benefits participants by providing information on **learning/training opportunities**, support services and labour market information. The online platform will also provide instruments to **efficiently track clients and Centre operations**, improving service delivery and ensuring effective and robust monitoring and evaluation and linking youth MSMEs to various service providers that are not accredited to the Centre.
5. Establishment of the Makers Space (**Common user facility (CUF)**).

The project's total cost and financing amounts to **Euro 25.9 million** concessional loan from KfW Development Bank from Federal Republic of Germany and a 5% GOK counterpart funding.

The C4E project, will kick off this financial year and aims to reach significant milestones during its implementation through engagement of **youth awareness campaigns**, skills development and creation of **employment opportunities** in line with the Bottom-Up Economic Agenda.



Susan Mang'eni
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY