



Embassy of Finland
Nairobi

PRESS RELEASE - Finland at Nairobi Innovation Week 2019

Finland is a strategic partner of **Nairobi Innovation Week (NIW)**, organized on 10-14 June 2019, and is strongly engaged with a variety of events over the week.

Ambassador of Finland, **Mr. Erik Lundberg** says: "We are once again proud to play an integral role in Nairobi Innovation Week. The Finnish innovation environment and climate are among the strongest in the world. We think a strong innovation ecosystem will provide a cornerstone also for finding new, sustainable solutions in Kenya and the wider region. As a long-term partner of Kenya, we stand ready to share our own experiences."

A delegation of over 70 Finns will attend Nairobi Innovation Week, representing actors ranging from investors to startups and academia.

On Monday 10 June, the Embassy will host two events. **Press breakfast meeting** with Ambassador Erik Lundberg will kick off the week. Starting at 7.30 am at Norfolk Hotel journalists will have an opportunity to hear about Finland's role in Nairobi Innovation Week as well as about Finland's innovations and startup ecosystem. To confirm your participation, kindly see the contacts at the end of this page.

The second event of the day is a **Doing Business with Finland** seminar, which will be attended by Finnish and Kenyan companies from a wide range of sectors, with a particular focus on health. The seminar aims at creating future possibilities and partnerships between the two countries. The event is co-hosted by the Embassy of Finland, KEPSA and the Kenya Healthcare Federation.

Additionally on Monday, Finland will take part in the **Urban Mobility Summit**. A success story from NIW 2017 **Nopia**, offering zero-emission electric vehicle ride service, will be present in the summit.

On Tuesday 11 June **Save the Children** and **Business Finland** are organizing **Innovation for Development and Crisis Workshop**. This shared value workshop will bring together experts, companies and educational institutions from Finland and East Africa trying to find solutions through a facilitated co-creation process to pre-selected challenges. Finland's Innovation Ambassador Mr. Jarmo Sareva will be speaking and presenting Finland's successful startup models at the **Startup Ecosystem Forum**.

The **Official Opening** of Nairobi Innovation Week is on Wednesday 12 June. During the opening, **UNICEF** and **Nokia** are launching their new education project. The Finnish umbrella organization for NGOs **Fingo** will organize two workshops on **Digital Development Principles and Contextual Design**. **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)** and **Embassy of Finland** are hosting a High Level Event on **Innovations for Health: Bridging the Gender Divide**. Various high-level speakers, such as the UN Resident Coordinator, the CEO of KEPSA, Cabinet Secretaries of Gender and Health, and many other inspiring people will be participating at this event. **Lunette**, a Finnish company specializing in women's health, is returning to NIW for the third time with their own workshop.

Finland will be present at **Nairobi Innovation Week Exhibition area** on Wednesday and Thursday where interested parties can meet Finnish businesses and institutions, and learn more about our country and innovation environment.

For more information and interview requests, please contact:
Ms. Fanni Mäkinen, Embassy of Finland, fanni.makinen@formin.fi, 0722616380.