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This explainer is all about the various functions of KICD and its role in Kenya’s evolving education system. Let’s start with the basics. What is KICD (Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development)? KICD (Formerly KIE -Kenya Institute of Education) is Kenya’s curriculum development hub- they develop syllabuses and approve the curricula for practically everything that’s taught. ... Read more The KICD Act 2013 prescribes the persons authorized to develop curricula and curriculum support materials. KICD develops curriculum using a panel system comprising of practicing teachers, teacher educators, university lecturers, quality assurance and standards officers and curriculum support officers from Teachers Service Commission, among others You can visit or contact the institute and order for the educational materials. You will agree on how they shall be delivered. KICD is centralized in Nairobi. Kindly check through our website, and social media platforms. You can also visit the institute on weekdays or send us an email with the relevant enquiry. The curriculum reform process is being undertaken within the framework of the curriculum development cycle which has nine specific stages namely: Needs Assessment Conceptualization and policy formulation Development of curriculum designs Development of syllabuses and approval Development of curriculum support materials Piloting Teacher preparation National Curriculum Implementation Monitoring and evaluation The review of the current 8-4-4 system of education, done by a team of experts, was informed by a needs assessment conducted countrywide, which indicated that the system had become unpopular, because it was examination oriented at the expense of other education needs. The resounding recommendation was that the country needed a curriculum that would embrace the differences in ability and learning styles of the recipients and ultimately enable each learner to realize success, and fulfillment within their individual capacities. This set the stage for conceptualization of the relevant learning areas that would make these goals a reality. The proposed curriculum basically replaces the current Standard One to Form Four with Grade 1 to Grade 12 and the changes have been captured in the ‘Basic Education Curriculum Framework.’ (BECF) that is available on the KICD website. Besides, early identification and nurturing of talents, it mainly focuses on what the learner can do as opposed to just what one can remember. Parents are required to play a very active role in the growth and development of their children under the new curriculum. They must ensure the child’s learning is well supported both at home and school to help them grow into responsible citizens with the right values. The pilot phase began with an initial meeting with all the head teachers of the selected pilot schools on April 21, 2016 at KICD which was presided over by the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education. The training of Quality Assurance and Standards Officers and Curriculum Support Officers (CSOs) to enable them effectively execute their supervisory role during the pilot has just been concluded. Out of the 470 schools participating in the piloting countrywide, five are pre-primary whereas five others are primary schools in each county and institutions of learners with Special Education needs. Public, private, rural and urban schools are among those selected, which is a representation of the types of schools found in the country. Implementation of the 2-6-3-3 system of education will be undertaken in phases starting with Early Years Education (Pre-primary 1 & 2, and Grade 1, 2 and Grade 1, 2 and 3) The new curriculum, which is competency based emphasizes on utilization of formative assessment as the basis for improvement of teaching and learning. The continuous assessment tests set to replace one off examinations will be standardized and administered at various levels. Kindly channel your feedback and comments and inquiries through: Corporatecommunications@kicd.ac.ke or 254-729-327331. Act: Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development Act, No. 4 of 2013 Formed: 2014 CEO: Prof. Charles Ochieng’ Ong’ondo Facebook X (Twitter) YouTube The Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD) was established in 2014 under the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development Act, No. 4 of 2013. Its primary mandate is to develop, review, and evaluate the national curriculum for education at all levels, from pre-primary to tertiary institutions. KICD ensures that the curriculum aligns with national educational goals and addresses emerging needs. It plays a key role in promoting quality education by designing appropriate learning materials, and supporting the implementation of the competency-based curriculum in Kenya. CEO: Prof. Charles Ochieng’ Ong’ondo Prof. Charles Ochieng’ Ong’ondo is the Director/CEO of the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD). He holds a PhD in English Language Teacher Education from the University of Leeds, UK, and a Postdoctoral Fellowship in Research Methodology from Warwick University, UK. With over 16 years at Moi University, he has expertise in teacher education, curriculum design, and research. Prof. Charles Ochieng’ Ong’ondo Chief Executive Officer/ Director Eunice Gachoka Senior Deputy Director - Educational Media Directorate Jacqueline Onyango Senior Deputy Director - Curriculum and Research Services Prof. Charles O. Ong’ondo CEO/Secretary to the Council Dr. Elyas Abdi Jilloaw Member FCPA Julius Mwatu Co-opted Member Dr. David Njengere Member Curriculum Development: Develop and review curricula for various levels of education, from pre-primary to tertiary institutions. Curriculum Evaluation: Assess the effectiveness and relevance of existing curricula and make necessary improvements. Design Learning Materials: Create and recommend textbooks and other instructional materials for schools and institutions. Support Curriculum Implementation: Provide technical support to educators, schools, and institutions in implementing curricula. Promote Competency-Based Curriculum: Lead the adoption and implementation of the competency-based curriculum (CBC) across Kenya. Educational Research: Conduct research to assess educational needs and develop strategies for curriculum enhancement. Policy Advice: Advise the government on curriculum policies, innovations, and reforms. Capacity Building: Provide training to teachers, administrators, and other education stakeholders on curriculum-related matters. Monitoring and Evaluation: Monitor the implementation of curricula and evaluate their impact on educational outcomes. Public Engagement: Engage with the public, including parents and students, to gather feedback on curriculum issues and improve educational practices. Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development Desai Rd, Off Muranga Rd, Nairobi, Kenya P.O. Box 30231-00100 Nairobi, Kenya info@kicd.ac.ke (+254) 20 3749900 The Public Directory This explainer is all about the various functions of KICD and its role in Kenya’s evolving education system. Let’s start with the basics. What is KICD (Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development)? KICD (Formerly KIE -Kenya Institute of Education) is Kenya’s curriculum development hub- they develop syllabuses and approve the curricula for practically everything that’s taught in Kenya (except Universities). KICD is a state corporation and gets its mandate from the K.I.C.D Act No. 4 (2013) of the Kenyan laws. Besides curriculum development (and review), KICD also researches and develops support materials for the various curricula in addition to coming up with policies and other relevant rules. They also offer consultancy services related to curricula at both the basic and tertiary levels of education and training. But what are the specific functions of KICD? Read on to discover more about what KICD does including challenges facing KICD. Functions of KICD: A complete outline KICD delivers the following services to various parties. 1. Issues advice to the Government on everything relating to curriculum development 2. Evaluates, vets, and approves both local and foreign curricula as well as curriculum support materials for use in Kenya in the various levels of education/training. 3. Implements the relevant policies pertaining to curriculum development at basic and tertiary levels of education and training. 4. Crafts, reviews, and approves curricula, curriculum support materials, and programs that meet relevant international standards for: Early childhood education, care, and development. Pre-primary education. Primary education. Secondary education. Adult, continuing, as well as non-formal education. Teacher education in Kenya and training. Special needs education. TVET (Technical & vocational education and training). 5. Initiates and carries out research to inform all curriculum policies, relevant review, and development. 6. Collects documentation and catalogs information related to curricula, curriculum support, and various innovations to establish a comprehensive data bank of the same and disseminates guiding information to Kenya’s educational institutions, learners/students, and other relevant institutions. 7. Prints, publishes and distributes information/materials relating to the curricula for basic and tertiary training/education. 8. Collaborates with other parties (individuals and institutions) in organizing as well as conducting professional development projects/programs for teachers, trainers, quality assurance (and standards) officers and all other officials involved in the education and training programs on curriculum topics and support materials. 9. Develops, disseminates, and communicates programs and curricula support materials via mass media, e-learning (electronic learning), distance learning, and other applicable modes of delivering educational and training programs/materials 10. Promotes equity and ready access to quality curricula in addition to curriculum support materials. 11. Promotes the appropriate application of technology to enhance innovations and the achievement of a knowledge-based economy 12. Offers consultancy services as needed in basic and tertiary training and education. 13. Incorporates national values, leadership values, and talent in curriculum development 14. Receives, considers, improves, and reviews any curriculum proposals. KICD management and KICD organizational structure This section looks at the organizational structure of KICD and the management, as headed by the KICD chairperson. The institute headed by a governing council. Their work is to offer strategic direction and to supervise the management team. The latter, led by the director/CEO steers the day-to-day operations at KICD. One of their most important duties is to develop guidelines on critical issues such as the curation of online curriculum content and any other areas touching on the KICD curriculum development model. Challenges faced by KICD Having looked at the structure of KICD, let’s now look at the problems that the organization grapples with in the process of implementing the aforementioned functions of KICD. Overall, KICD faces the following difficulties: Late disbursement of funds Lack of an elaborate planning policy Problems in implementing the published schemes of service for the staff. Inadequate financing. Sometimes they’re unable to retain talented staff. Failure to meet the commitments specified in their client service charter. Insufficient infrastructure (tools & equipment’s). Poor and/or inadequate continuous monitoring of the curriculum delivery. Failure to monitor & evaluate the various KICD policies. Lack of an elaborate communication policy as well as a marketing strategy. Slow and cumbersome procurement procedures. Lack of a clear succession planning policy. There could be other issues but these are the most dominant. Functions of KICD: Frequently asked questions(FAQs) Is KICD a parastatal? Of course, yes. KICD is a state corporation charged with the responsibility of driving the curriculum development process in Kenya and managing the curriculum review process in Kenya among other functions. It gets its authority from a host of laws, legal, and policy documents including: The Constitution of Kenya(2010) The KICD No. 4 (2013) The Basic Education Act (2013) The Copyright Act 2011 The Education Act (Cap. 211) The KNEC act (Cap 225 A) of 2013 The TSC act 2012 – article 237 of the Kenyan constitution The Technical & Vocational Education & Training Act 2013 The State Corporations Act- Cap 446 Various Education Sector Reports Sessional paper 14 (2012) Kenya Vision 2030 - MTP 2 NESP (National Education Sector Plan) 2013-2018 Legal notices: 105 (1976) 144 (1980) 126 (1984) 125 (2004) 55 (2007) 18 (2010) 120 (2010) Also important for internal control and engagement with various stakeholders are the published KICD regulations and ethics. These are developed internally and include regulations on: Accreditation of institutions in Kenya 2. Developing, Evaluation, and Vetting and eventually the Approval of Non-Formal and Informal Learning Programs 3. Quality Assurance and standards KICD direction and Contacts Offices: Desai Road, Off Muranga Road, Nairobi, Kenya. (Take any Mat applying Thika road and request to alight at KICD) Telephone: 020 3749900-9 / 020 3749900-3 / 0729 327 334 /0787 883 311 Email: info@kicd.ac.ke Website: Wrapping it up As you have seen, among the core functions of KICD is overseeing all the stages of curriculum development in Kenya and conducting continuous curriculum development research. That means KICD is the right body to channel any questions on CBC curriculum together with stakeholders like the ministry of education and the active examination bodies in Kenya. They also disseminate information about all matters relating to curriculum research, development, and support materials through online and electronic media such as the KICD Edu channel. The Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development is mandated to perform some of the following functions: Advises the Government on matters pertaining to curriculum development Evaluate, vet and approve, for application in Kenya, any local and foreign curricula and curriculum support materials in relation to the levels of education and training” referred to in bullet (4) Implement the policies relating to curriculum development in basic and tertiary education and training; Develop, review and approve programs, curricula and curriculum support materials that meet international standards for— Early childhood care, development and education; Pre-primary education; Primary education; Secondary education; Adult, continuing and non-formal education; Teacher education and training; Special needs education; and Technical and vocational education and training. Initiate and conduct research to inform curriculum policies, review and development. Collect document and catalogue information on curricula, curriculum support materials and innovations to create a data bank and disseminate the information to educational institutions, learners and other relevant organizations Print, publish and disseminate information relating to curricula for basic and tertiary education and training Collaborate with other individuals and institutions in organizing and conducting professional development programs for teachers, teacher trainers, quality assurance and standards officers and other officers involved in education and training on curriculum programs and materials. Develop disseminate and transmit programs and curriculum support materials through mass media, electronic learning, distance learning and any other mode of delivering education and training 13. Receive, consider, develop and review curriculum proposals. 14. Incorporate national values, talent development and leadership values in curriculum development. Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD) was established by an Act of Parliament (The Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development Act 2013) under the Ministry of Education. It was the predecessor of the Kenya Institute of Education (KIE). The institute is mandated to deal with the matter of curriculum from early child education through primary, secondary, and TVET institutions. This means the only education sector not under the KICD is the university curriculum. However, through the TVET Act, the TVET institute curriculums have also been moved from the KICD to TVET CDACC. KICD’s headquarters is located in Nairobi along Muranga Road. KICD functions and rolesKICD curriculum design cycle As per the KICD Act of 2013, these are the functions that the institute is mandated to carry out in Kenya. Advises the Government on matters pertaining to curriculum development. Evaluate, vet, and approve, for application in Kenya, any local and foreign curricula and curriculum support materials in relation to the levels of education and training” referred to in (4 below). Implement the policies relating to curriculum development in basic and tertiary education and training. Develop, review, and approve programs, curricula, and curriculum support materials that meet international standards for: Early childhood care, development and education. Pre-primary education. Primary education. Secondary education. Adult, continuing, and non-formal education. Teacher education and training. Special needs education. Technical and vocational education and training. Initiate and conduct research to inform curriculum policies, review, and development. 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Promote appropriate utilization of technology to enhance innovations and achievement of a knowledge-based economy. Offer consultancy services in basic and tertiary education and training. Incorporate national values, talent development, and leadership values in curriculum development. Receive, consider, develop, and review curriculum proposals. Perform such other function as may be assigned to it under this Act or any other written law. One of the key functions of the institute is to design a new curriculum and evaluate the effectiveness of the current then advise the government on the same. Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development has a development cycle of 8 steps that they use. The 8 steps include: The institute carries out a needs assessment to determine if there is a need for a review of the current curriculum. For example, in the new CBC curriculum being implemented, there was an assessment that resulted in the overhaul of the old 8-4-4 to the CBC. At this level, the institute involves the general public and education stakeholders for their views on the need for change. After the need for change has been determined they advise the government of the day to align the national education goals with the new need. This makes the changes to the government agenda to ensure it will be funded and to legalize the changes. With the policy in place now the design can start by determining the scope, general objective of the subjects, and topics for each subject. After determining what should be in each level, subject, and topic the syllabi are then developed. With the syllabi now the materials that will be used to implement the curriculum are developed. These can include learner and teacher guides, subject textbooks, and learning manuals among other relevant materials for implementation. With syllabi and materials for training ready, the next step is to train those who will implement the curriculum. This includes training the classroom teacher, the school management, the quality check officer, and other education stakeholders for a smooth transition. The training can go together with syllabi and material development by involving the same group of people to develop. Before the new system can be implemented on a large scale it is first tested in a few selected schools. This helps the government and KICD to identify teething issues and rectify them before it is rolled out country-wide. The pilot schools should be sampled to represent all areas and diversity within the country. Any issues that arise are addressed at this level and in case of any change in the syllabi, training materials are sorted. After the pilot phase is done successfully and any arising issues are dealt with the curriculum can be rolled out to all schools. Before this public and all education stakeholders are sensitized to the new changes to reduce resistance. The syllabi and learning materials are distributed to schools for implementation. Classroom teachers are continuously trained and upcoming challenges are handled as the implementation continues. The implementation is monitored to ensure it meets the national education goals as per the policy. Any issues that need to be dealt with are recorded and factored in the review of syllabi. The monitoring and evaluation continue through the period the curriculum is implemented to meet emerging trends in the world. Conference & Accommodation Away from the hustle and bustle of the city center is Nacee Resource Center (NRC), a center with accommodation and conferencing facilities located at the art of the Kenya Institute of curriculum Development (KICD). The center offers an ideal and serene environment suitable for meetings and conferences. It offers a wide range of services which... more Print & Publications The Print and Publications Section at KICD focuses on developing quality print and publication works which is in tandem with the Institute’s quality policy of “providing quality curricula and curriculum support materials responsive to the needs of the society”. The section does the print and publications work for the Institute’s departments as well as other... more Library Services Library Services Both libraries have a combined stock of over 40,000 information resources and the emphasis of the collection is placed on education with a special bias towards curriculum development and research. Opening Hours The libraries are opened from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm from Monday to Friday. The Libraries remain closed over the... more Curriculum & Research The Institute’s core function is to conduct research and develop curricula for all levels of education below the university.The Institute also develops print and electronic curriculum support materials,initiates and conducts curriculum based research organizing and conducting in-service and orientation programmes for curriculum implementers. Curriculum and research is a core department in the Institute with the... more Last updated on February 24th, 2025 at 03:45 amThis explainer is all about the various functions of KICD and its role in Kenya’s evolving education system.Let’s start with the basics.What is KICD (Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development)? 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Are you looking for the best courses, top colleges and universities, career guidance, and exciting scholarship opportunities in Kenya? Look no further! Join our Facebook page to stay up-to-date with all the latest information and insights on these topics.So Please follow Kenya Education Guide on Facebook here for more updates about best courses in Kenya, best colleges and Universities in Kenya, Career choice options, Scholarships in Kenya, etc Thanks. Now proceed reading below. KICD management and KICD organisational structureThis section looks at the organizational structure of KICD and the management, as headed by the KICD chairperson.The institute headed by a governing council. Their work is to offer strategic direction and to supervise the management team. The latter, led by the director/CEO steers the day-to-day operations at KICD.One of their most important duties is to develop guidelines on critical issues such as the curation of online curriculum content and any other areas touching on the KICD curriculum development model.Challenges faced by KICDHaving looked at the structure of KICD, let’s now look at the problems that the organization grapples with in the process of implementing the aforementioned functions of KICD.Overall, KICD faces the following difficulties:Late disbursement of fundsLack of an elaborate planning policyProblems in implementing the published schemes of service for the staff.Inadequate financing.Sometimes they’re unable to retain talented staff.Failure to meet the commitments specified in their client service charter.Insufficient infrastructure (tools & equipment’s).Poor and/or inadequate continuous monitoring of the curriculum delivery.Failure to monitor & evaluate the various KICD policies.Lack of an elaborate communication policy as well as a marketing strategy.Slow and cumbersome procurement procedures.Lack of a clear succession planning policy.There could be other issues but these are the most dominant.Functions of KICD: Frequently asked questions(FAQs)Is KICD a parastatal?Of course, yes. 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(Take any Matat plying Thika road and request to alight at KICD)Telephone: 020 3749900-3 / 020 3749900-3 /0729 327 334 /0787 883 311Email: Website: it upAs you have seen, among the core functions of KICD is overseeing all the stages of curriculum development in Kenya and conducting continuous curriculum development research.That means KICD is the right body to channel any questions on CBC curriculum together with stakeholders like the ministry of education and the active examination bodies in Kenya.They also disseminate information about all matters relating to curriculum research, development, and support materials through online and electronic media such as the KICD Edu channel.ALSO READ:TSC current news in Kenya [Latest Updates]