







WOMEN IN SPACE
KENYA

AFRICA'S WOMEN IN SPACE

CONFERENCE REPORT

2025

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AWISC 2025: REACHING FOR THE STARS FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT

The Africa's Women In Space Conference (AWiSC) 2025, hosted at Strathmore University, Nairobi, Kenya, successfully brought together over 500 delegates from across the country and the continent, including virtual participation .

It was held on November 27th and 28th, 2025, the conference focused on the central theme: *Reaching for the stars for Africa's Development.*



The 2025 Africa's Women In Space Conference (AWiSC) served as a critical platform to foster dialogue, showcase innovation, and champion the role of women in the burgeoning African space economy.

The two-day program was strategically designed to cover the critical pillars of the space sector: Space Technology, Career Progression, Research, Space Entrepreneurship, Women in Space, Policy, and Governance.

OPENING HIGHLIGHTS

The conference was officially opened with a powerful session setting the tone for Africa's space future.





Brig. Hillary B. Kipkosgey
Director General & CEO Kenya Space Agency

The Director General, Kenya Space Agency (KSA): Delivered the welcome address, emphasizing the national commitment to space development and the critical role of gender equity in the sector.

Aaarti Holla-Maini
Director, UN Office for Outer Space Affairs

UNOOSA Space4Women - Remarks: A representative highlighted the global commitment to gender equality in space and encouraged leveraging the Space4Women initiative for mentorship and capacity building.



"Africa's journey to the stars is illuminating the path for women, reinforcing that every girl looking at the night sky should know she has her place in space too."



DAY 1 & 2 PROGRAMME

Day 1: Space Technology, Career Progression, Research & Space Entrepreneurship (*27th Nov 2025*)

Time	Session Title	Focus
09:35 AM - 10:45 AM	Keynote & High-Level Panel Discussion	"Reaching for the stars for Africa's development"
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	The Innovation Track	"From satellites to solutions..." & "Igniting Africa's Digital Transformation"
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	Panel Discussion: Level Up	"Careers, Research & the Skills the Future Wants"
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Space Immersion Experience	Hands-on activities (Planetarium, Drone Shows, VR Demos, Rocket Launch, Speed Mentorship).

Day 2: Women in Space, Policy & Governance (*28th Nov 2025*)

Time	Session Title	Focus
09:00 AM - 09:30 AM	Keynote	"The Future is Inclusive: Women Shaping Africa's Space Agenda"
09:45 AM - 10:45 AM	Breaking Gravity Panel	Dedicated discussion on "Women Rising in Africa's Space Industry".
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM	Emerging Voices	Fireside Chat featuring innovative startups and young researchers.
11:45 AM - 12:30 PM	Policy & Governance Keynote	Focus on international treaties and national space legislation.

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

Pauline Okeyo

Senior Solution Engineer ESRI

"Startups are the engine for Space Innovation in Africa. Inclusion needs to be intentional and not assumed."





Mr. David Kasibante

Space Law and Policy Specialist

"Africa is not late to space activities, but is late to space governance. Prioritize space governance and eliminate the gender blind-spot."

Dr. Shikoh Gitau

Founder & CEO - Qhala

"Women must be leaders and architects in Africa's space future, not just participants."





Eng. Enjy Salah

Chairman at Geomakani

"Keen empowering clients with innovative geospatial solutions."

Joan Chesoni

Space Policy, Governance and Law Expert

"An African future built without women is fundamentally incomplete; when women are empowered, the continent's space community will be unstoppable."



PANEL DISCUSSIONS

The discussions covered the space ecosystem from commercial lense, careers and innovation to gender inclusion and policy levels, highlighting both current progress and future opportunities.











UPCOMING MAJOR EVENTS

Building on the success of AWiSC 2025, the organizers announced a commitment to two key future events designed to further nurture the space ecosystem and support human capital development in Africa:

1. **Space Entrepreneurship Bootcamp**: Scheduled for **August 19th-21st, 2026.** This intensive program will focus on commercializing space technologies and supporting the next generation of African space startups.

2. **AWISC Conference 2027:** The next major conference is planned for **March 4th-5th, 2027,** promising to be an even larger platform for policy, technology, and inclusion in the African space domain.

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Penda KUJUA

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LEADERSHIP & ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT

The success of the AWiSC 2025 was a testament to the dedication and collaboration of the AWiSC Organizing Secretariat, working tirelessly with Strathmore University and various partners to deliver a world-class event. Their commitment ensured seamless logistics and a program aligned with Africa's strategic space ambitions, creating a nurturing environment for learning, networking, and high-level strategic exchange.







Conclusion

The Africa's Women In Space Conference 2025 successfully illuminated the vast potential of the continent's space industry, particularly through the lens of gender inclusivity and innovation. The event fostered critical conversations and provided valuable networking and mentorship opportunities, solidifying the role of AWiSC as a premier catalyst for a sustainable and equitable space ecosystem in Africa.





thank you

Your support means the world to us.

With heartfelt appreciation, we extend a special thank you to all our esteemed partners and participants for making this event possible. We appreciate the enthusiastic support and involvement. We look forward to further engagement and future partnerships.