



Kenya National Drama & Film Festival

Workshop
Report

23rd - 27th Nov, 2024

Introduction

In collaboration with Climate Story Lab Africa (CSL Africa), Tunga Afrika partnered with the National Planning Committee for the Kenya National Drama and Film Festival (KNDFF). This committee includes officials from the Ministry of Education and the Kenya Film Commission. Together, they co-curated the annual KNDFF workshop held in Nakuru City at Afraha High School from 23rd to 27th November. The workshop was attended by over 2,500 teachers, including drama and film patrons from learning institutions across all 47 counties in Kenya.

The Kenya National Drama and Film Festival (KNDFF) is an annual event that fosters the artistic talents of students and educators in drama, film, and music. It serves as a national platform for nurturing creativity, building values, and shaping cultural narratives while also addressing key social and economic issues.

The 2024/2025 theme, Leveraging Technology to Nurture Talent While Inculcating National Values for Socio-Economic Prosperity, emphasised the integration of digital tools in storytelling to reflect the evolving realities of Kenyan society.

KNDFF's vision extends beyond entertainment. It aims to inspire Kenyan youth to embrace values that promote unity, innovation, and resilience. Its workshops play a vital role in equipping educators with the skills and resources needed to guide students in creating impactful content.



For 2024/2025, Tunga Afrika and CSL Africa introduced an initiative dubbed **Climate Storytelling**. Launched during the KNDFW workshop, this program empowers Kenyan high school students to transform their experiences with climate change into impactful stories. It encourages the youth to creatively engage with climate challenges and become ambassadors of local solutions through storytelling.



This immersive program combines climate science and storytelling to enhance understanding and inspire change. High school and tertiary students are invited to submit short films reflecting their unique climate-change perspectives, providing them with a platform to highlight community-specific impacts and propose actionable solutions grounded in African realities.

Workshop Activities

Several activities were conducted during the five-day workshop:

- Launch of the Climate Storytelling project at the plenary session.
- Film industry talks.
- Training and capacity building.
- Registration of teachers on the Tunga Afrika platform.
- Enrolment in the Climate Storytelling competition.
- Short film production, and film screenings.
- Partnerships for collaborations.

Climate Storytelling *Launch*

The Climate Storytelling Project was launched during the plenary session on Day 2 of the workshop. Tunga Afrika's Founder and the Project Lead addressed over 2,500 participants, including Early Childhood Development (ECD), primary, junior, and senior school educators, as well as Kenya Ministry of Education officials. Key highlights of the launch included:

1. Introduction of Tunga Afrika, CSL Africa, and the Climate Storytelling Project:

An explanation of how teachers can enroll on the platform and use African films, lesson guides, and other learning resources in the classroom.

2. Climate Storytelling Benefits

School film clubs and patrons were informed about the benefits, including cash prizes (Impact Grants) to fund film screenings in communities, Sunbox (a solar-powered mobile cinema), and a distribution deal on the Tunga Afrika platform.

3. Guidelines and Capacity Building

Teachers were informed about how to participate in the Climate Storytelling competition. Twenty-eight teachers enrolled to take part in the competition for KNDFE 2025.

4. Call to Action

Emphasis was placed on the power of storytelling to shape minds, build bridges, and influence change.



Film Industry *Sharing Sessions*

As part of the workshop, Tunga Afrika invited four award-winning film industry experts to share their insights with 350 film patrons. These sessions, spread across three days, included cinematography, film & Impact distribution, editing, and production techniques. The experts included:



Makandi Cindy

Founder of Tunga Afrika, who shared experiences in film distribution, impact, and exhibition, focusing on the global and Kenyan film markets.



Reuben Odanga

Executive Producer, Writer, Director, and Set-up Creative Director, who discussed production techniques in renowned TV shows and films.



Timothy Mwaura

Kenyan Cinematographer and Director, who focused on the art and technology of visual storytelling, including camera techniques.



Mkaiwawi Mwakaba

A seasoned film professional with expertise in post-production, who discussed different story formats and genres.

Film experts during different training sessions at the KNDFE Film Workshop



Film Impact Screening

In partnership with Docubox – East Africa Film Documentary Fund, the Kenya Film Commission, Tunga Afrika, and CSL Africa, climate-centric films were screened during the workshop. Over 1,245 participants attended the screenings, which included:

- **Day 3:** Screening of *Mikoko and Our Planet, Our Future* films.
- **Day 4:** Screening of *Our Land, Our Freedom*, a film about Kenyan women addressing atrocities of British colonial rule.
- **Day 5:** Screening of *Get Reel Films, including Jimbi, Before 16, 1992,* and *Sukari*, as well as *The Forest Guardian* and *River of Brown Waters*.

Due to time constraints, teachers were directed to the Tunga Afrika platform for further access to films and learning resources.



Branding & Visibility

Tunga Afrika and CSL Africa's branding materials, including pull-up banners, were displayed in the main hall throughout the five days. The Tunga Afrika team wore branded T-shirts for easy identification, and 150 participants received branded notebooks and pens.

Short Films Development

Through the capacity-building sessions, five films were developed, including one climate documentary and one climate-centric advertisement. These films were showcased at the closing ceremony, where Equity Bank pledged support to the creative industry for the production of impactful stories for the 2025 KNDFE.

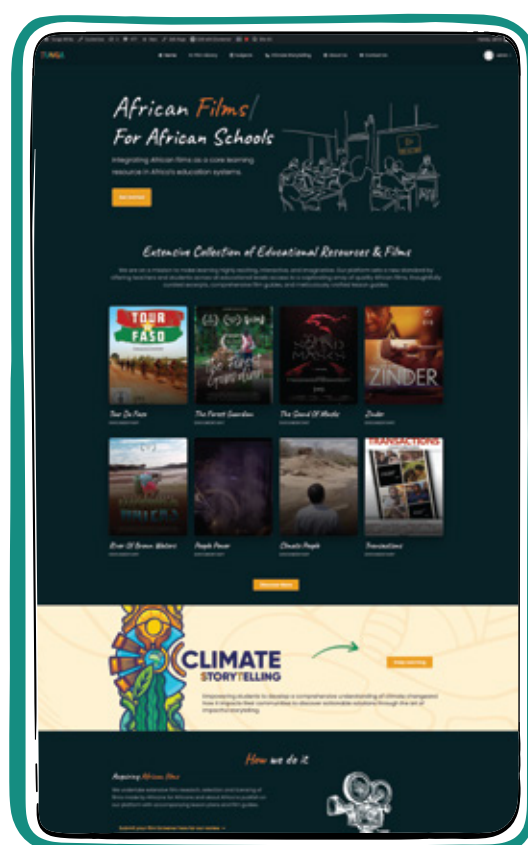
National Committee Affirmative Action

The KNDFE National Planning Committee, led by Chairperson Prof. CJ, pledged to ensure that climate films will be produced at regional and national levels. This initiative will culminate in an awards ceremony for the top three climate films in both the Junior School and High School categories.

Enrolment to the Tunga Afrika Platform

110 teachers registered on the Tunga Afrika platform during the workshop. Making it a total of **278 teachers enrolled** so far as shown in the achievement section.

This gives them access to various learning resources, including authentic African films, lesson guides, and climate change reports.



Achievements

2500

PARTICIPANTS

Engaged at the Workshop



110

TEACHERS

Enrolled on Tunga



278

INSTITUTIONS

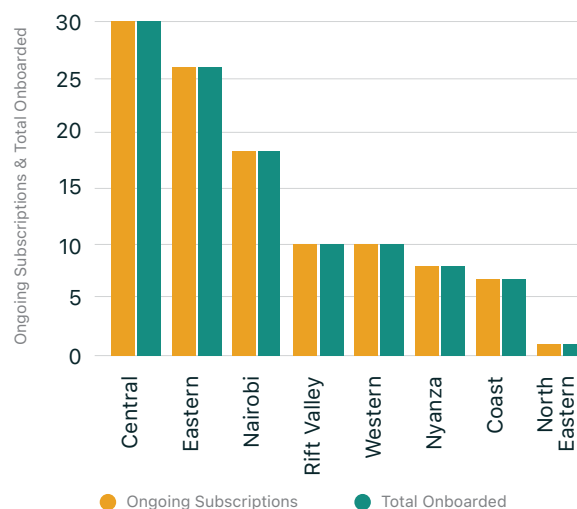
Enrolled on Tunga



Teachers Enrolled per Region

REGION	ONGOING	ONBOARDED
Central	30	30
Eastern	26	26
Nairobi	18	18
Rift Valley	10	10
Western	10	10
Nyanza	8	8
Coast	7	7
North Eastern	1	1
TOTAL	110	110

Progress of the onboarding of teachers and schools



145

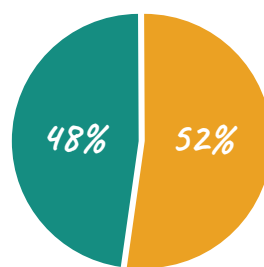
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Registered

133

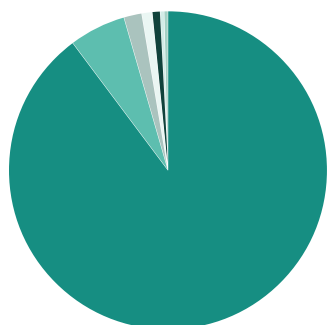
PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Registered



Public & Private Schools Registered

- Public Schools
- Private Schools



Percentage of Learning Institutions Registered

- High School - 90%
- Junior Secondary - 6%
- Technical Training Institute - 2%
- Primary School - 1%
- International School - 1%
- Public Library - 0.4%
- University - 0.4%

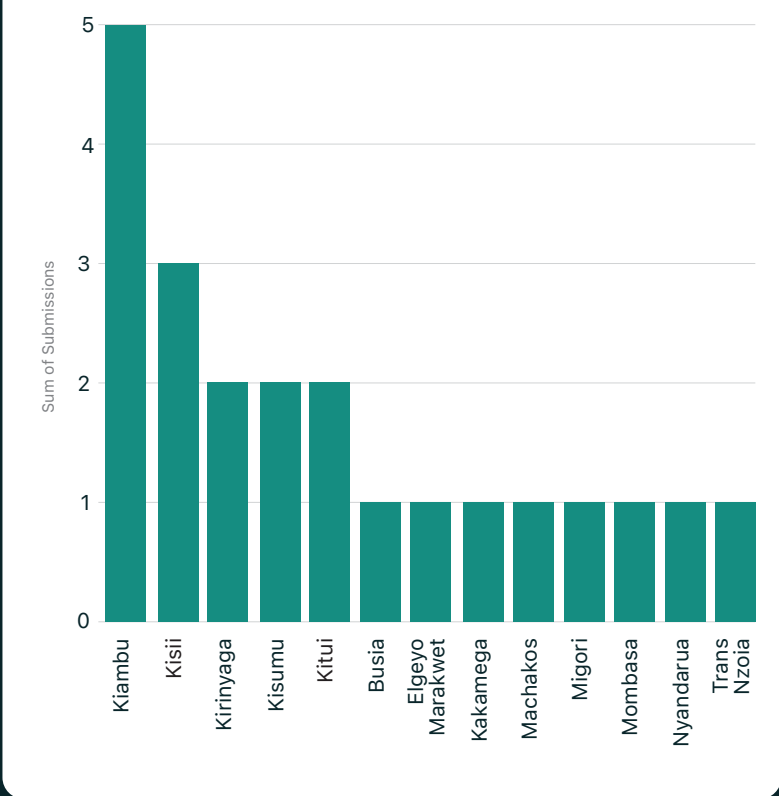
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Number of teachers who expressed interest in participating in the Climate Storytelling competition from across the country.

Teachers Registered for the Climate Storytelling Competition

COUNTY	SUBMISSIONS
Busia	1
Elgeyo Marakwet	1
Kakamega	1
Kiambu	5
Kirinyaga	2
Kisii	3
Kisumu	2
Kitui	2
Machakos	1
Migori	1
Nyandarua	1
Trans Nzoia	1
TOTAL	22

Number of teachers registered for the climate storytelling competition



6

Number of institutions (Five Technical training institutes and 1 university) that showed interest in collaborating with Tunga Afrika on film production.

Institutions subscribed to the Tunga Afrika Platform

INSTITUTION	TOTAL
High School	248
International Schools	2
Junior Secondary	16
Primary	3
Public Library	1
Technical Training Institute	5
University	1
TOTAL	276

KNDFP committed to including Climate Storytelling in regional and national festivals in 2025.



5 *Films were Produced*
As a result of the training sessions.



7 *Films were Screened*
Attracting an audience of **1,245 people.**

Challenges



1. Program Scheduling

A mix-up in the workshop schedule resulted in the loss of one and a half days of training for film patrons.



2. Weather Challenges

Heavy rains disrupted film screenings, leading to lower-than-expected attendance.



3. Technological Barriers

Registration challenges were faced due to technological issues, limiting the number of teachers enrolling on the platforms.



4. Budget Constraints

The Climate Storytelling project was limited to Junior and High School categories, excluding ECD, Lower Primary, and Tertiary institutions.



4. Time Constraints

Film training sessions were compressed due to limited time, hindering optimal learning outcomes.

Recommendations



1. Early Involvement in Planning

The Tunga Afrika team should be involved early in the planning and programming stages of KNDFE events.



2. Increase Team Capacity

Additional team members should be included to manage large participant registrations efficiently.



3. Improved Scheduling

A more flexible and well-planned schedule is needed to allow adequate time for each film training session.



4. Increased Budget for Inclusivity

Allocate more resources to expand the Climate Storytelling project across all school categories.



5. Technology Support

Provide better technological support to ensure smooth registration and participation, particularly in remote areas.

Conclusion

The KNDFW Workshop 2024 successfully engaged teachers, students, and film professionals in a meaningful exploration of climate storytelling and its potential impact. Despite the challenges faced, including weather disruptions and technological issues, the event achieved significant milestones, including increased enrollment in the Tunga Afrika platform and the launch of the Climate Storytelling initiative.

Addressing the identified challenges and incorporating the recommendations will ensure even greater success in future workshops and competitions, ultimately contributing to developing a strong climate-conscious storytelling culture in Kenya.



P.O. Box 14822-00800, Lavington, Nairobi, Kenya
+254 725 034 334
info@tunga.africa