



## FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

### IQSK NEWS

Advocacy and strategic career engagements took center stage in the month of February.

- The Institute left no stone unturned in championing the interests of Quantity Surveyors, proving that when it comes to safeguarding standards, actions speak louder than words.

#### Collaborative Article - February 12th

IQSK pushed the envelope in collaboration with Institute of Engineers Kenya (IEK) and Architectural Association of Kenya (AAK) on a two-Page feature in the DN2 Property section of the daily nation.

The message was served hot and pulled no punches; where QS Input is missing, disputes snowball, claims spiral, projects hit a brick wall and working relations fall through the cracks, moreover, IQSK established that buildings don't fail suddenly; they fail because risks were brushed aside, costs were unchecked and professional eyes were kept off the ball.

#### Early Career Engagement - February 19th

YQSF facilitated a site visit in collaboration with construction student association (CSA) –TUK, arguably the youngest student body this side of the Sahara and Interactive construction management student organization (ICOMSO) –JKUAT. The team rolled up their sleeves, embraced PPEs and toured a site in Sagana. Classroom Knowledge was put to test on a live construction site. Still on career engagement and as the winds of climate reform gather momentum, IQSK through the training committee have been steady at the oars - rowing the profession towards Canaan, the promised land of carbon management, carbon credits and emerging markets.

Oh wait! correction, It's not Canaan, they are steering us towards Singapore and the industry is already there!

Qs are set to reap the finest fruits owing to the launch of the Kenya National Carbon Registry. The Registry now serves as the central engine of Kenya's climate framework. It registers projects, monitors carbon credits among other core functions.

Keep up with the times; stay ahead of the wave.



#### YQSF Webinar - February 27th

YQSF held a webinar on the role of Qs in safeguarding the stability and quality of our buildings. Substantiating, Qs ensure safety measures are implemented on site and never sacrificed at the altar of cost-cutting. Rubber Stamping – In God we trust, all others bring data.

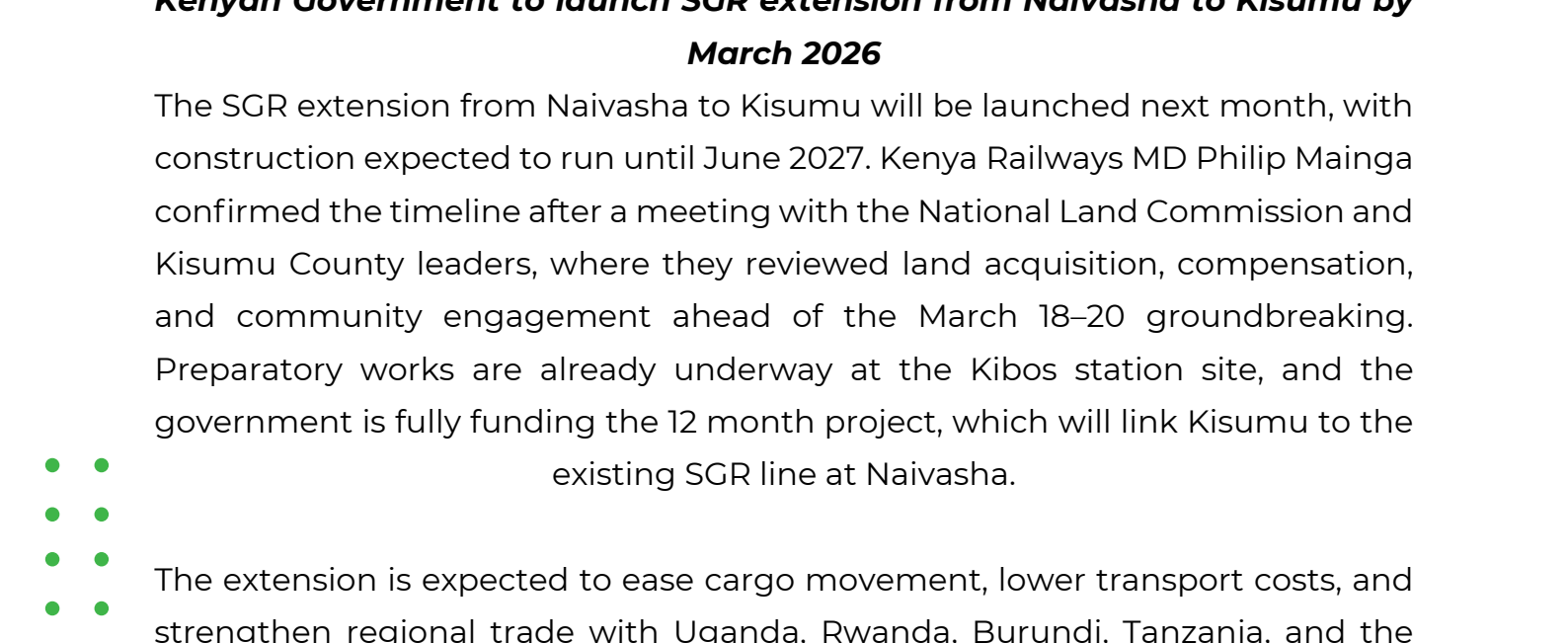
### INDUSTRY NEWS

#### Kenyan Government to launch SGR extension from Naivasha to Kisumu by March 2026

The SGR extension from Naivasha to Kisumu will be launched next month, with construction expected to run until June 2027. Kenya Railways MD Philip Mainga confirmed the timeline after a meeting with the National Land Commission and Kisumu County leaders, where they reviewed land acquisition, compensation, and community engagement ahead of the March 18–20 groundbreaking. Preparatory works are already underway at the Kibos station site, and the government is fully funding the 12 month project, which will link Kisumu to the existing SGR line at Naivasha.

The extension is expected to ease cargo movement, lower transport costs, and strengthen regional trade with Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, and the DRC. Designed for future electrification, the line will require national power upgrades before electric trains can operate. Kisumu Governor Anyang' Nyong'o welcomed the project as historic step toward connecting the coast to Lake Victoria and emphasized transparency, public participation, and timely compensation to avoid disputes that have slowed past infrastructure projects.

The SGR Naivasha–Kisumu extension will stimulate new building construction and commercial expansion around stations, logistics hubs, and rapidly developing urban nodes such as Kibos—where preparatory works for the main station are already underway. As connectivity improves and Kisumu positions itself as a major logistics and trade hub for the region, county leaders expect increased investment, business growth, and supporting infrastructure such as warehouses, retail centers, housing, and industrial facilities. For Quantity Surveyors, this creates opportunities in cost planning, feasibility studies, contract administration, and development support for new commercial, residential, and industrial projects emerging along the rail corridor. To maximize benefits, QS professionals should build expertise in transit-oriented development, engage early with developers and county authorities, and position themselves as key advisors for investors responding to the expanded economic activity triggered by the railway.



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#### Real Estate Firm Breaks Ground On A New Ksh. 400 Million Mall In Eastlands Nairobi

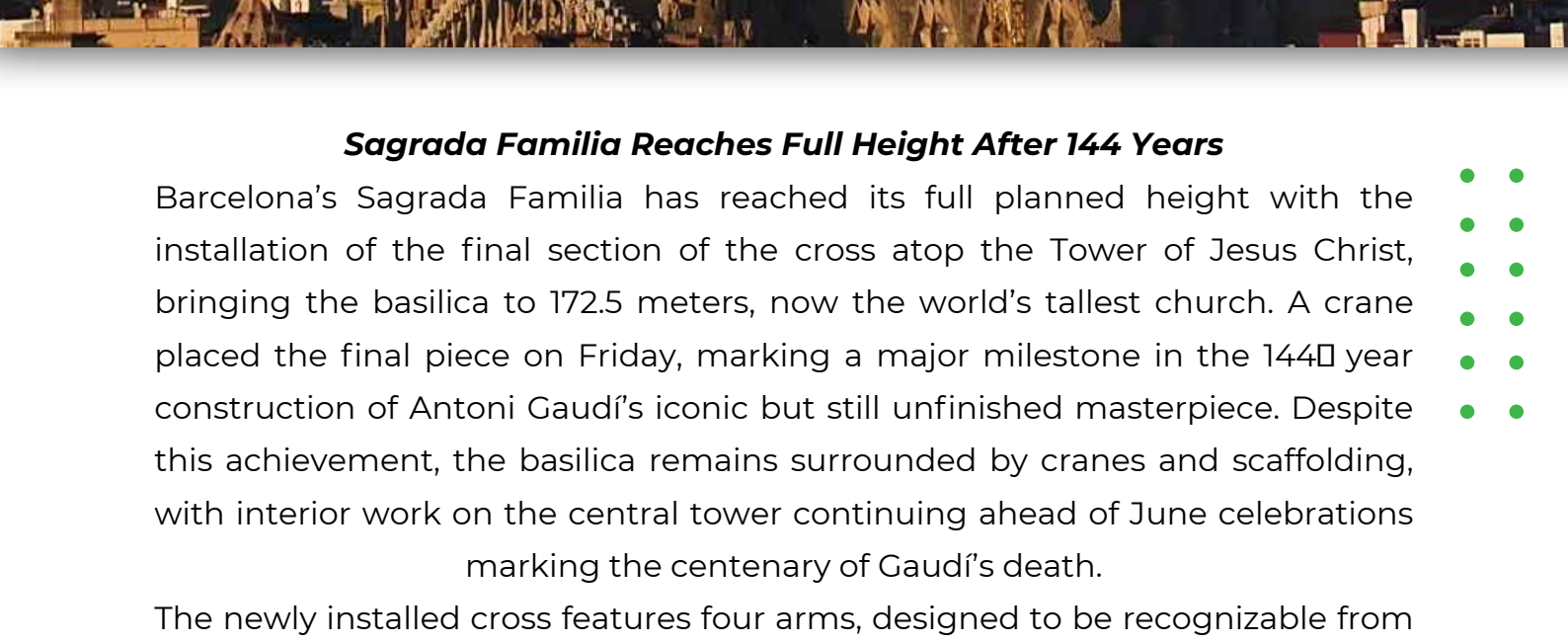
MRE Real Estate has begun construction on a ksh 400 million mixed-use commercial mall in Eastlands, Nairobi, targeting the growing demand for modern retail infrastructure in high-density neighborhoods.

The development, Manyanja Mall, will host a supermarket, petrol station, healthcare services, food and beverage outlets, SME retail spaces, and family recreation areas, with confirmed ANHE tenants.

Leaders from both the private and public sectors welcomed the project, highlighting its role in improving access to essential services, supporting organized retail, and strengthening community infrastructure.

The mall has already achieved 80% pre-leasing, with completion expected in August 2026 and opening in September. The project is positioned to stimulate economic growth across Eastlands by creating jobs, supporting SMEs, boosting consumer spending, and raising property values. Stakeholders emphasize that the integrated retail model will drive consistent foot traffic, enhance tenant viability, and contribute to long-term urban transformation in one of Nairobi's fastest-growing corridors.

As the mall is already 80% pre-leased and expected to spur economic activity, job creation, and rising property values in Eastlands, QS professionals can position themselves by offering end-to-end cost advisory, value engineering, lifecycle costing, and tenant-fit-out cost management to both the developer and incoming businesses. They can also leverage the area's expected urban transformation to support developers, SMEs, and investors with accurate cost forecasts, due-diligence assessments, and expansion planning as Eastlands attracts more structured retail and supporting infrastructure.



#### Sagrada Familia Reaches Full Height After 144 Years

Barcelona's Sagrada Familia has reached its full planned height with the installation of the final section of the cross atop the Tower of Jesus Christ, bringing the basilica to 172.5 meters, now the world's tallest church. A crane placed the final piece on Friday, marking a major milestone in the 144-year construction of Antoni Gaudí's iconic but still incomplete masterpiece. Despite this achievement, the basilica remains surrounded by cranes and scaffolding, with interior work on the central tower continuing ahead of June celebrations marking the centenary of Gaudí's death.

The newly installed cross features four arms, designed to be recognizable from any direction, and may eventually include light beams if approved by city authorities. Millions of tourists continue to fund construction through entrance fees, and several events are planned this year to honor Gaudí's legacy. The Sagrada Familia surpassed Germany's Ulmer Münster last October to become the world's tallest church, and scaffolding around the central tower is expected to be removed by June for its official inauguration.

This project demonstrates the importance of long-term cost planning, phased construction management, risk control, and budgeting for complex landmark projects, all these, are skills increasingly needed as Kenya pursues ambitious developments like malls, transport infrastructure, and cultural facilities. The basilica's 144-year evolution, ongoing interior works, and reliance on sustained funding from millions of tourists show how QSs must manage changing designs, extended timelines, and evolving cost structures in high-impact projects. These lessons help QSs strengthen expertise in lifecycle costing, value engineering, and stakeholder coordination, making them better prepared for similarly complex, iconic, or tourism-driven developments locally.

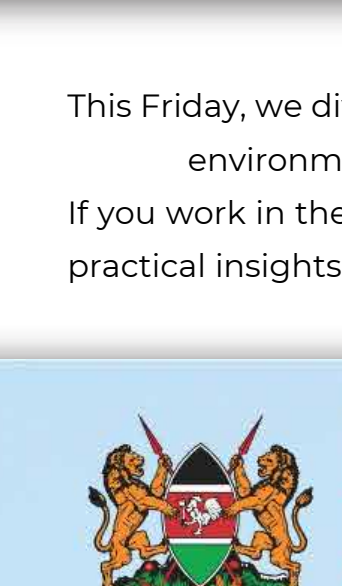
### UPCOMING EVENTS



## MASTERCLASS WEBINAR

THEME: DEMYSTIFYING CARBON MANAGEMENT , CARBON CREDITS & MARKETS: EMERGING PRACTICES IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT.

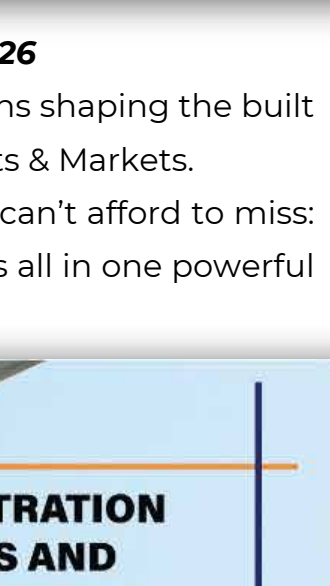
### Speakers



Eng. Stephen Nzioka  
(P.Eng.Tech), HSC Energy and  
Climate Change Policy Expert



Arch. Mugure Njundu  
Former President - AAK,  
Africa Program Lead - Global  
Buildings Performance Network



Stanley Kirakou  
Climate Change Analyst  
and Carbon Markets Specialist



STANDARD KSH 2500  
STUDENTS KSH 1000

5th  
MARCH  
2026

9AM-12:30PM

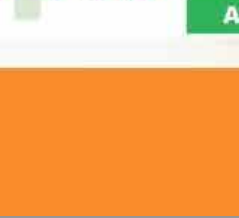


2.5 POINTS  
SCAN TO REGISTER

#### IQSK Masterclass Webinar 5th March 2026

This Friday, we dive into one of the most critical conversations shaping the built environment — Carbon Management, Carbon Credits & Markets.

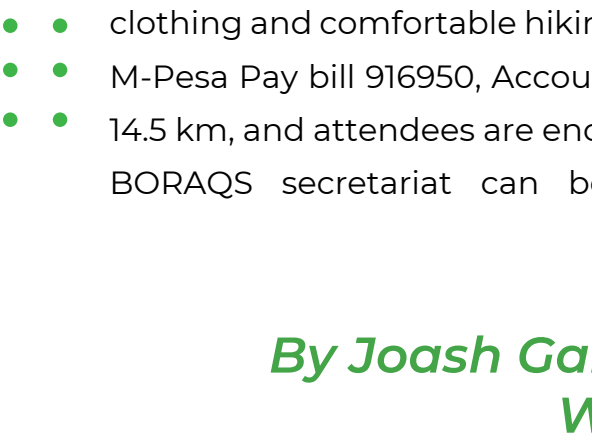
If you work in the built environment, this is knowledge you can't afford to miss: practical insights, policy direction, and market opportunities all in one powerful session.



BOARD OF REGISTRATION  
OF ARCHITECTS AND  
QUANTITY SURVEYORS

## NGONG HILLS Hike

Date: 7th March 2026  
Time: 8:00 a.m



**Our package includes:**

- Entry fees
- Light lunch
- 1 Bottled water
- Photography
- BORAQS branded T-shirt
- Glucose
- First Aid Services

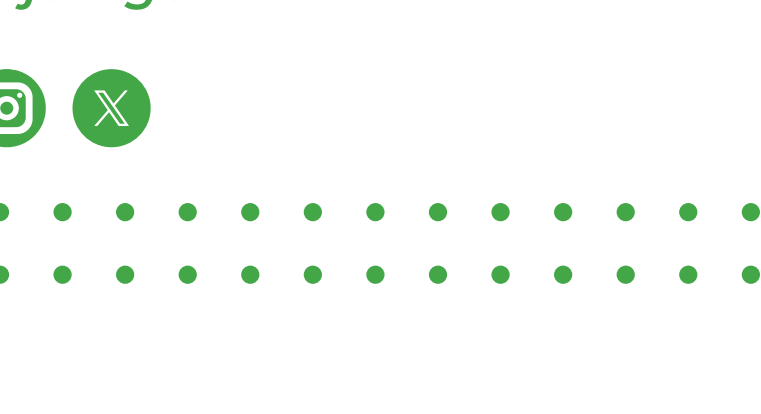
**What to carry:**

- National ID
- Extra water
- Walking stick
- Power bank
- Binculars (optional)
- Changing clothes (optional)

**Dress Code:**

- Comfortable hiking shoes
- Warm clothing

Registration fees  
shs. 3,000.00



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ACCOUNT Your two names

For inquiries, please contact the secretariat on:  
Telephone Numbers 0726243005/0780496558;  
Email: info@boraqs.or.ke.

#### BORAQS Ngong Hills Hike 7th March 2026

The Board of Registration of Architects and Quantity Surveyors (BORAQS) is organizing a Ngong Hills Hike and Tree Planting event on 7th March 2026 at 8:00 a.m. The package includes entry fees, a light lunch, bottled water, photography, a branded T-shirt, glucose, and first aid services. Participants are advised to carry their national ID, extra water, a walking stick, power bank, and optional items such as binoculars or a change of clothes, and to dress in warm clothing and comfortable hiking shoes. Registration costs KSh 3,000, payable via M-Pesa Pay bill 916950, Account: NGONG HILLS. The hike covers approximately 14.5 km, and attendees are encouraged to prepare adequately. For inquiries, the BORAQS secretariat can be reached at 0726243005 / 0780496588 or info@boraqs.or.ke.

By Joash Gamba, Winfred Murugi & Wahu Njroge

