

“Raising the standards of living of disadvantaged young women in the Nairobi slums”



*“Accreditation of the Kibondeni Certificate Course based on the Swiss Dual Training System”*

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## KIBONDENI COLLEGE PROJECT PROPOSAL

### IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF THE TRAINING GIVEN IN THE KIBONDENI CERTIFICATE COURSE

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Kibondeni College of Catering and Hospitality Management is a project of Nurisha Trust- a not for profit organisation committed to the education and welfare of women in Kenya. Its primary aim is to improve the standards of living of young women from low income backgrounds by providing them with the requisite technical skills to enable them to be self-reliant. The College was first of its kind in the country, beginning in the pre independence era as an innovative multi-racial in-service training catering school with nine students. In 1969, it was formally registered as Kibondeni School of Institutional Management and authorized to issue its own certificates. Almost five decades later, the Kibondeni College student body now boasts of over 300 young women each year being equipped with technical skills in the field of hospitality management. Over the years, the training given at the college has changed the lives of thousands of families through the full time technical courses as well as the village outreach programme that offers short courses to village women. These courses are tailor made to their needs and circumstances and include hygiene, nutrition and HIV Aids awareness classes.

Kibondeni is a Swahili word meaning a small fertile valley. It has become an icon of hope fostering youthful dreams whose realization are gradually changing the society of Kenya.

#### **LOCATION**

The East African nation of Kenya has a population estimated at 46.1 million, which increases by an estimated one million a year. Development challenges include poverty, inequality, climate change, and vulnerability of the economy to internal and external shocks.

#### **POLITICAL CONTEXT**

Kenya is scheduled to hold its second election under the new constitution on August 8, 2017. Devolution remains the biggest gain from the August 2010 constitution, which ushered in a new political and economic governance system. It is transformative and has strengthened accountability and public service delivery at local levels. The government's agenda is to deepen the implementation of devolution and strengthen governance institutions, while addressing other challenges including land reforms and security to improve economic and social outcomes, accelerate growth and equity in distribution of resources, reduce extreme poverty, and youth employment.



## ECONOMY

The World Bank's most recent Kenya Economic Update (KEU) October 2016 projected a 5.9% growth in 2016, rising to 6% in 2017. The key drivers for this growth include: a vibrant services sector, enhanced construction, currency stability, low inflation, low fuel prices, a growing middle-class and rising incomes, a surge in remittances, and increased public investment in energy and transportation.

Kenya's economy expanded by 5.7% in the third quarter of 2016 compared to 5.8% in the same period in 2015<sup>1</sup>. The quarterly report says that the economic growth was well spread although most of the sectors of the economy recorded slowed growth. **The tourism and hotel industry, information and communications, and public administration are among the sectors that registered improved growth during the quarter.** Inflation was contained within the Central Bank's target to average at 6.3% compared to an average of 6.14% during the same quarter in 2015. The slight increase in inflation was primarily due to increases in the prices of food and beverages during the period under review.

Kibondeni College is located in the Dagorreti North Constituency in the County of Nairobi, the Capital City of Kenya. The City of Nairobi, as occurs in many a developing country, sports stark differences between the mid-level income earners and the 42% of the population which live under the poverty threshold<sup>2</sup>. Numerous slums mushroom around the City Centre attracting hundreds of poorly paid casual workers and their families. Kibondeni is located between the Waruku, Kangemi and Kawangware slums.

### **Improving the training given to students of the Kibondeni Certificate Short Course.**

## PREAMBLE

In 2013, the Government of Kenya in line with its Vision 2030 announced its intention to stabilize the technical sector in the country. The Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA) a - State Corporation - was thus established under the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Act, 2013. The TVET Authority Board was appointed on 9th May 2014. The mandate of the Authority is to regulate TVET sector through Licensing, Registration and Accreditation of institutions, programs and trainers.

The registration of all technical colleges was consequently considered void pending the vetting and approval of the said Authority. On the 22nd of August 2016, Kibondeni College was among the first colleges in the country to receive the long awaited approval from the Kenya Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority.

This approval enables the College to continue to offer the following core courses:

- Craft Certificate in Catering and Accommodation Management – 3 years
- Diploma Certificate in Catering and Accommodation Management – 2 years

<sup>1</sup> Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) quarterly report 2017

<sup>2</sup> Unicef Social Inequality Overview – Kenya , 2016



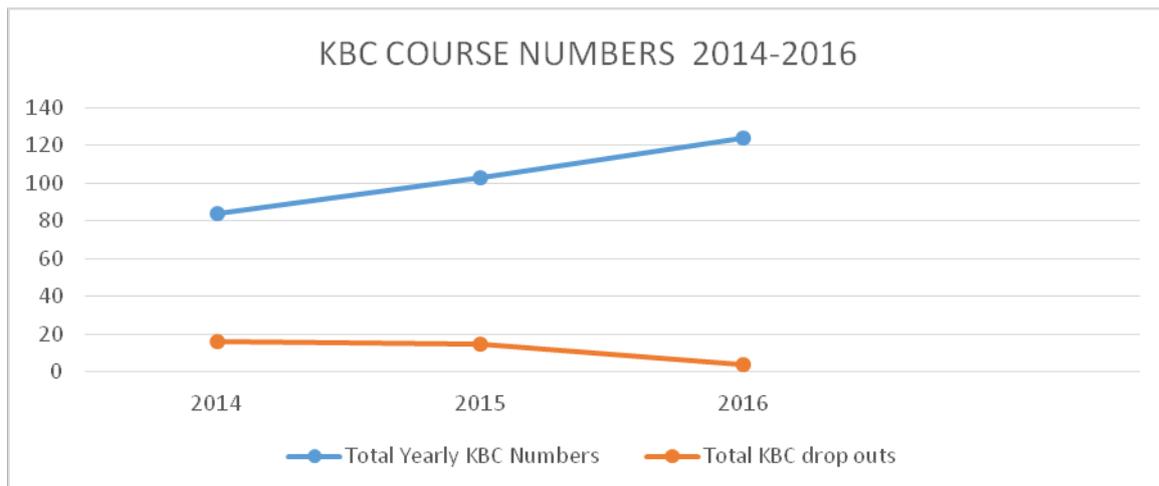
The above are examined at a national level by the Kenya National Examinations Council. They require the achievement of a pre-established minimum grade in the National High School Examination: Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education.

The approval also enables the College to apply for the registration of the one and a half year Kibondeni Certificate Course with an external examiner.

### **THE KIBONDENI CERTIFICATE COURSE**

The Kibondeni Certificate course was tailor made to offer skills intensive operational course to young women who because of the adverse conditions of poverty in which they carried out their secondary school education, did not manage to attain the minimum grade required to register for the Craft and Diploma Courses or whose financial constraints required that they begin to earn an income as soon as possible.

Given the economic spectrum of the country, the number of students registered in this course has increased steadily in the past 3 years.



These students due to the skills intensive nature of their training have attained an 78.5% employment rate after the industrial attachment offered after their course.

As seen in the attached syllabus, the course comprises a three month internal attachment at the industry style College Production Unit where food and service are produced at market rates and a three month external attachment at a hospitality establishment. The TVETA approval has given rise to a comprehensive study of the best suited external examiner for the course that would provide the College with expert advice on Curriculum Development in line with the Country's Vision 2030 and the international hospitality trends.

The College Governing Body has selected the Swiss Dual Training System as a template for its course and proposes the Kulturgemeinschaft Arbor Association to approve its curriculum and certify this course. The Association has been chosen based on its vast experience with the dual training Swiss System.