

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Food Science and Technology Platform of Kenya Conference  
held on 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> October at Qaribu Inn**

**Conference Report**



**By**

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**Organizers of the Conference**

Local organizing committee within FoSTeP-Kenya and partners.

**Partners**

1. Association of Official Analytical Chemistry International
2. Food Science & Technology Platform of Kenya (FoSTeP-K)
3. Ministry of Health
4. Nestle
5. Ministry of Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries
6. Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute (KIRDI)
7. African Journal of Food, Agriculture, Nutrition and Development (AJFAND)
8. Analytical Laboratory (ANALABS)
9. Coca Cola
10. Polucon

**Venue**

Qaribu Inn Hotel, Waiyaki Way, Kangemi Nairobi

**People who attended the Conference**

Around 90 people attended the conference including the invited speakers. The conference was open to students, researchers, and representatives from various organizations like Kenya Bureau of Standard, Nestle, Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization, Ingredient East Africa, Institute of Food Technology-USA, and others.

### Conference Overview

The Food Science and Technology Platform of Kenya held its 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019 in Nairobi. The conference theme was '**Industrial Innovation and Research for Food Safety in Africa**'. This conference brought together stakeholders and specialists in the field of food science and nutrition to share experiences, build networks, and come up with solutions to food safety problems. The theme of the conference was further subdivided into the following subthemes:

1. Current Trends in Food Safety and Quality
2. Food Security and Nutrition
3. Testing Methods Alignment for Food Safety
4. Industrial Research Technologies and Innovations
5. Implications of Food Regulations and Standards on Trade

The first day of the conference began with ISO 22000:2018 Standard Training which was done by an expert in that area. The trainer took the participants through the purpose of ISO 22000:2018, the roles of an auditor, benefits of Food Safety Management Systems (FSMS) and benefits of being certified by FSMS. This was followed by AJFAND training where participants were taken through the various steps a scholarly article goes through before being published.

The second day of the conference was officially opened by Prof. Ciira Kiiyukia, who represented FoSTeP-K patron, Prof. Ruth Oniang'o. Prof Kiiyukia read the speech from the patron which emphasized food production and food safety. For example, he mentioned that government should support food production so that the country can be able to cater for the increasing population. He further noted that food safety is no longer a concern in this country. For example, farmers produce foods that are contaminated with chemicals and sell to consumers, posing danger to their (consumers) health.

Researchers also had short presentations on their work. These presentations related to the conference subthemes with a particular emphasis on food safety. Examples of topics presented by the researchers included: The role Public Health Laboratory in assuring food safety, the trend of food contamination in Kenya, macro-trends impacting the food system and a focus on solutions, and many others. Generally, the conference provided a valuable learning experience. For instance, it was an excellent opportunity to gather together, interact and exchange findings and views during conference sessions, and breaks.

At the end of each day, certificates were awarded to all who attended and participated in the conference. The conference was closed by a vote of thanks from FoSTeP-K chairman, Dr. George Ooko.