

PRESS RELEASE

Media Contact

Jerry Abuga | Lorine Achieng

Media Council of Kenya

Tel: +254-20-2737058 | +254-723 99 91 58 | +254-723 795020

Email: communications@mediacouncil.or.ke

Thursday, 15th July 2021.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA COUNCIL EXTENDS 371 REPORTING GRANTS TO JOURNALISTS

NAIROBI, 15th July 2021 – The Media Council of Kenya (MCK) has awarded 371 journalists grants to support reporting on climate change, gender-based violence and constitutional/legislative development in the country.

The journalists will each receive grants of up to KShs 10,000 as support for travel, communication and meals during data collection and story writing. Out of the 371, 162 beneficiaries will report on climate change, 150 on gender-based violence and 59 on constitutional/legislative development. The mixed grant which was unveiled in June is the first of its kind offered by the Council in a bid to develop a pool of journalists versed in various key public interest issues.

Beneficiaries will be mentored on how to advance their journalism skills on interrogation, interviewing sources, framing, unpacking and simplifying and interpreting complex data.

“The high number of applications received for these grants is an indication that journalists are keen on gaining skills in different areas of reporting. There is a great need for specialised reporting in the country to ensure that journalists have vast knowledge on various topical issues, and which can be relayed accurately to the audiences”, noted MCK Chief Executive Officer Mr David Omwoyo.

“This is the largest number of beneficiaries awarded since the beginning of the grants programme. Our aim is to create an impact and a shift on how some of these stories are covered and reported”, said Mr Omwoyo.

“We hope to see more stories in the above areas that will not only communicate but also which play a key role in provoking action”, he said.

About the MCK Africa Media Academy

The Media Council of Kenya (MCK) is mandated to set media standards and ensure compliance with those standards as set out in Article 34(5) of the Constitution and for connected purposes. In this regard the Council seeks ways to encourage and increase professional journalism in Kenya. The MCK Grants Project is run under Africa Media Academy which focuses on development of training standards, building capacity of journalists and ensuring professional journalism practice.