

Newsletter

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Newsletter

Volume 2

ISACA Kenya Chapter

www.isaca.or.ke



ISACA®

Kenya Chapter

Digital Transformation



SheLeads
Tech

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TRULY
BELIEVING?

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Company

News

Conference

SheLeadsTech

Career

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President's NewsByte

*By Mercy Omollo,
ISACA Kenya President.*

Welcome to this edition of the ISACA Kenya Chapter Newsletter. This publication is here to help us interact with our members and provide information about our chapter activities and updates whilst highlighting key leadership insights and contributions from various industry leaders and organisations. It is our delight to share this information with our members and stakeholders.

Looking back this has been an eventful last half of the year.

IGNITE program and AUDA-NEPAD Grant

Starting off with the latest news in the Chapter, ISACA Kenya Chapter, in collaboration with Scratch and Script Company Limited and the Africa Blockchain Institute, proudly announces the acquisition of a competitive grant under the Skills Initiative for Africa (SIFA) program. This grant, supporting the IGNITE Program (Inspiring Growth and Nurturing Innovation through Technology Empowerment), aims to advance technical skills in cybersecurity, privacy, blockchain, and artificial intelligence (AI) across Kenyan TVET institutions. Together with our partners we shall build specific courses for TVETs.

The SIFA Grant, funded by AUDA-NEPAD, the African Union's technical body, with backing from the German Government and the European Union through KfW Development Bank, is valued at EUR 359,640. This is a performance-based grant where the funds are released only after completion of the deliverables assigned to 4 milestones. Once we complete the milestone and have satisfied the performance requirements according to AUDA-NEPAD is when the funds are released.

We are excited to be at the forefront of a transformative project that will shape Kenya's future in the digital economy. Our collaboration with Scratch and Script Company and the Africa Blockchain Institute strengthens our capability to operate in powerful consortiums, paving



the way for future partnerships and growth. The IGNITE Program marks a significant step for ISACA Kenya Chapter in fostering an innovative tech environment and inspiring the next generation of digital professionals. We look forward to your continued support throughout the program.

Chapter Events

The concluded GRC Conference was well attended with insightful thought contributions from industry leaders and positive feedback from the delegates. As always, we strive to ensure you get world class education on various topical discussions relevant to your profession. The dynamic, interactive and forward-thinking workshops were facilitated by industry leading experts. Your professional growth and development are core to our chapter's purpose and we look forward to ensuring you have a good conference experience for future events.

The SheLeadsTech workshop and the inaugural International Men's day conference 2024 were well attended events with highlights provided within this report for the same. We look forward to ensuring our members from both genders thrive in the technology space.

We still have one more training left for the year and I encourage our members to attend the Cybersecurity Hands-on Training in Mombasa between 2nd and 6th December.

ISACA Community Day

Throughout the world, each year in October, ISACA members, staff, their families, and friends joined together to help those less fortunate and to improve their local communities.

CommuniTy Day is evidence of the positive force that people and technology can create when we combine efforts for a common purpose—to help people. We as ISACA Kenya have continually supported the following homes for the past 4 years: Compassionate Hands for the Disabled Foundation (Ruai), Heritage of Faith and Hope Children's Home (Sabaki, Mlolongo), Young Life Africa Children's Home (Ruiru, Kiambu) and Acts of Hope Academy (Vihiga Rd, Kisumu). Thank you for your time spent and contributions to this worthy success. May you be truly rewarded for your efforts and donations in kind and monies. We managed to contribute Ksh.504,113 cumulatively to the various homes we supported.

CEO Emeritus Preston Odera's retirement

After many years of dedicated service, Preston Odera retired from the role of ISACA Kenya CEO in August 2024. Preston, a founding member of ISACA Kenya, has made an incredible impact on ISACA Kenya, and we are deeply grateful for his unwavering commitment, visionary leadership, and tireless efforts through the years. Under his guidance, ISACA Kenya has achieved numerous milestones, and his contributions have set a high standard for excellence. We wish him all the best and extend our heartfelt thanks and best wishes to Preston as he embarks on the next chapter of life. We surely will still lean on him for a lot of guidance going forward.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you members for your continued engagement and encourage you to continue participating in chapter trainings and activities, share your insights, and contribute to the collective success of our Chapter. Thank you as well, to my fellow Board members, chapter committees and the Secretariat staff who volunteer in various capacities for the smooth running of the Chapter.

Enjoy the break as we head towards the close of the year. Be blessed and have a restful break with your families and see you in the next year.

Power of ISACA Membership



Leverage in-demand credentials, certifications, and learning opportunities from industry experts by joining the world's largest association empowering IS/IT professionals. Discover how members in your field benefit from membership. Localize the benefits of joining ISACA Kenya also eg you will be joining a community of over 18000 tech savvy guys from different disciplines such IS audit, IT Risk etc.

Membership Statistics



> 1900 members in good standing



> 180K members globally



72+ FREE CPE CREDITS



> 20%+ SAVINGS ON CERTIFICATION EXAM PREP

Joining ISACA Kenya connects you to a worldwide network, providing access to valuable resources, including the COBIT framework, cutting-edge research, and continuous learning opportunities.

ISACA Kenya is 158th Chapter Globally

Was the 3rd Chapter in Africa After South Africa and Lagos Nigeria

Currently the second largest chapter in Africa after South Africa



Why Choose ISACA Kenya Chapter

Professional Development; Access a range of training, workshops, and seminars on IT governance, risk management, cybersecurity, and data protection.

Certification Support; Get expert assistance for ISACA certifications like CISA, CISM, CRISC, and CDPSE, guiding you through every step to achieve your professional goals.

Networking and Knowledge Sharing; Connect with industry leaders and peers locally and globally through our events and meetings. Share knowledge and collaborate on projects.

Insights from Expert; Stay updated with the latest industry trends and best practices through insights from international thought leaders.

Access to Resources; Utilize both local and global ISACA resources, including popular publications, the COBIT framework, and cutting-edge research.

Advocacy; Join a community that represents IT governance and cybersecurity professionals, influencing the industry on both local and global levels.

Recognition and Impact; Be eligible for awards and contribute to initiatives like She Leads Tech, making a meaningful impact in the industry

Job Opportunities and Webinars; Access job postings and participate in free webinars that offer up to 70 CPE credits annually, helping you stay connected and certified.

Timely renewal means you won't miss any of the resources and opportunities that keep you ahead in a competitive field. It's fast and easy, and we are here to support you throughout!

Here's how to renew successfully:

If paying by **bank transfer**, please include your **ISACA ID and invoice number** so that your funds are matched and allocated promptly. If paying as a group, attach a summary listing all the covered individuals' names, ISACA IDs, invoice numbers, and amounts.

After making the payment, **confirm your membership status in "MY ISACA."** If your status hasn't updated, use the support page to ask for help (attach proof of payment). You can also call Global Representative via **+254 20 3895056 (call from 2pm EAT)**

If you pay through a local chapter and your membership doesn't update, send proof of payment and renewal invoice to **admin@isaca.or.ke** or call **0786 249357 or 0717116518**.

We value your continued commitment to the ISACA community and look forward to another successful year with you!

Steps to Join ISACA Kenya Chapter

1. **Visit the ISACA Global Website** (www.isaca.org). Create an account by clicking "Join".
2. **Choose Your Membership Type:** Select the appropriate membership type (student, recent graduate, or a professional)
3. **Select ISACA Kenya Chapter:** During the registration process, choose ISACA Kenya as your local chapter
4. **Complete the Application Form:** Fill in your personal and professional details as required.
5. **Make Payment:** Choose a payment option.
 - Online Payment: Pay the membership fee online through the available options.
 - Pay Later: You will receive an invoice with details to pay offline.
 - Fees vary depending on the membership type selected.
6. **Receive Confirmation:** After successful payment, you will receive a confirmation email with your membership details, including how to access member resources and benefits.

Membership Fees

Student	Professional	Recent Graduate
Joining Fee	Joining Fee	Joining Fee
\$30	\$185	\$83
Renewal Fee	Renewal Fee	Renewal Fee
\$30	\$165	\$83

REFER and EARN Today!

Take advantage of ISACA's Member Get a Member Program.

[REFER NOW](#)



ISACA® is happy to announce that the Member Get a **Member Program is back!** For a limited time, when you refer new ISACA members, you can earn up to US\$500 in cash rewards!*

Plus, the new members you refer receive the rest of 2023 for FREE when they join—making it a win-win! See for yourself how much you can EARN when you REFER:

1 Member | \$35.00

2-4 Member | \$50.00

5-7 Member | \$200.00

8-10 Member | \$350.00

>10 Member | \$500.00

And there's more!

The **top recruiter** for each month will receive a **FREE ONE-YEAR MEMBERSHIP**, and the **top recruiter** for the **entire campaign** will receive a **FREE LIFETIME PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**.

Leadership Insights



WYCLIFFE MOMANYI
Head Information Risk, KCB Group

Who is Wycliffe Momanyi (in brief)?

Wycliffe Momanyi is a family man and father of three. He has worked at KCB for 29 years and currently serves as the Head of Information

Risk for KCB Group. He is passionate about hockey and holds the position of Secretary General for the Kenya Hockey Union. Additionally, he is an active member of ISACA, showcasing his dedication to Information Risk and governance.

Describe your typical day as Head Information Risk.

As the Head of Information Risk, my typical day involves a blend of incident management, strategic planning, and leadership. I begin by reviewing any security incidents that may have occurred, assessing their impact and determining the necessary course of action. If any incidents need to be escalated, I report them directly to the top of the bank, with whom I maintain an open line of communication for real-time updates on critical issues.

After addressing any immediate concerns, I shift focus to daily tasks, which are typically centered on managing key strategic projects. These include evaluating the status of ongoing initiatives, facilitating project handovers, and guiding my team to ensure alignment with business objectives. A key part of my role involves providing mentorship and oversight to the team, helping them navigate complex challenges while promoting adherence to our risk management framework.

Approximately 60% of my day is spent attending meetings. These are often related to project coordination, change management, and high-level risk governance. I regularly participate in Change Advisory Board meetings, oversee red teaming exercises to test our defenses, and engage with senior leadership to ensure the organization remains resilient against emerging threats.

I also dedicate time to tracking emerging trends in cybersecurity, regulatory changes, and industry best practices. Staying updated on these developments allows me to adjust our risk posture accordingly and anticipate future challenges.

Additionally, when I engage in external consultancy work with Big 4 audit firms and other firms who request for meet ups.

Finally, towards the end of the day, I review the upcoming week's priorities, ensuring a proactive approach to any potential risks or strategic initiatives that need attention.

What motivates you as an Information Risk Professional?

My primary motivations as an Information Risk professional are my family and my faith. My family provides a strong personal drive and sense of purpose, encouraging me

to excel in my career. Additionally, my faith plays a crucial role. I believe that I am a creation of God, who has endowed me with unique qualities and talents. I am motivated by the desire to honor those gifts by performing to the best of my abilities and contributing positively to my field.

What are the key traits you believe every effective leader should possess?

An effective leader must first understand the qualities and capabilities of their team, focusing on the human element of each individual. By doing this, they can identify gaps and provide the necessary guidance and leadership to move forward. A leader should be diligent in understanding what their team members are going through both professionally and personally, and they must perform root cause analysis to address any issues or challenges within the team.

A key trait is the ability to motivate the team by helping them see the value of their work. Leaders should also collaborate with their team to fully grasp challenges and provide support when necessary. At times, a leader needs to be strict and firm, while at other times, showing a softer side by giving the team space and opportunities to perform is essential.

Lastly, effective leaders must continuously update their leadership skills. While past approaches like autocratic leadership may have worked, today's workplace requires adaptability, understanding generational differences, and finding the right approach to navigate these dynamics with the team.

From an Information Risk, What strategies do you use to maintain focus and clarity when leading through uncertainty?

The most important advice I can give to anyone aspiring to be an Information Risk leader is to develop a control mindset. It's about how you perceive things and your attention to detail. I was raised around a security environment, and I learned early on the importance of vigilance. In any security environment, there is always someone at the gate – the first line of defense. They are the first to notice potential threats and alert others. Similarly, in Information Risk, you must be vigilant as the second line of defense.

A control mindset means asking yourself critical questions: Why did I notice what I've seen? What could go wrong with this situation? And, most importantly, how can I ensure it doesn't break? As a security leader, you need to distinguish between your personal views and the needs of the organization, presenting facts clearly and advising where necessary.

Lastly, in your journey, there will be times when things don't go as planned. When you face setbacks, face them with integrity – lose with your head held high, knowing you gave your best effort and made informed decisions.

What legacy do you hope to leave as a leader both professionally and personally?

The team that I lead i believe that as a leader first thing

you have to deal with is the human element. Deal with the people at a human level

Second give the best you can with what God has given you with the best of your ability.

Looking back at your Career Journey, what would you advise someone interested in becoming an Information Risk leader?

The most important advice I can give to anyone aspiring to be an Information Risk leader is to develop a control mindset. It's about how you perceive things and your attention to detail.

A control mindset means asking yourself critical questions: Why did I notice what I've seen? What could go wrong with this situation? And, most importantly, how can I ensure it doesn't break? As a security leader, you need to distinguish between your personal views and the needs of the organization, presenting facts clearly and advising where necessary.

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As an active member of ISACA, how has this played a role in becoming the leader you are?

I have been a member of ISACA since 1999, and it has played a significant role in shaping my career. Each year, I make it a priority to attend the ISACA Kenya Chapter annual conference, which has been invaluable for networking with like-minded professionals and sharing experiences.

I was among those who did the first CISM exam and ISACA has since provided me with direction, professional development, and essential resources. ISACA has helped me grow as a professional by offering valuable materials and opportunities to connect with others in the field.

I hold great respect for Preston Odera, the CEO, and Jonah Owitti. Both Preston and Jonah have been instrumental in the chapter's success and growth, demonstrating a high level of commitment and focus.

Their contributions have made ISACA what it is today, and their impact is evident in the chapter's phenomenal growth. Additionally, ISACA has even given me the opportunity to speak at some of these conferences, further enhancing my professional journey.

Information Risk is considered a major risk to business, what is your main concern with its evolution?

My main concern with the evolution of Information Risk is the lack of sufficient capacity to manage the associated risks. There is a need for a greater number of professionals in the Information Risk field to address these challenges effectively.

Another concern is that currently, the country faces a shortage of local organizations dedicated to providing robust security solutions, which often necessitates outsourcing from other countries. Additionally, it is crucial to foster a culture of continuous improvement and recertification within the field. Regularly updating our skills and knowledge is essential to delivering high-

quality service and keeping pace with the evolving security landscape.

By addressing these issues, we can better manage Information Risk risks and enhance our overall resilience.

How can organizations be resilient, in the face of the growing cybersecurity attacks?

Rigorous Testing: Organizations should establish test environments that closely replicate their actual systems to identify and fix vulnerabilities through consistent assessments and penetration testing.

Effective Monitoring: Continuous real-time monitoring is crucial for early detection of potential security threats and enables swift response before they escalate.

Employee Training: Regular training equips employees to recognize security threats, while also ensuring they remain motivated and engaged in maintaining security best practices.

What Strategies do you use to build resilience in your team during challenging times?

I employ several strategies to build resilience in my team, one of them red teaming, where I bring in external consultants to simulate attacks and identify weaknesses. I also focus on noticing even minor changes in the system, as early detection can prevent larger issues. Also try to foster a culture of transparency and open dialogue, Keeping my team informed about challenges and solutions which encourages trust and collaboration. I always try to provide mentorship and emotional support during difficult times to my team. I believe that leader who supports their team's well-being can help them navigate stress more effectively.

Most organizations lack skilled personnel to secure their information systems. How do we close the skills gap in this sector?

To close the skills gap, we need to foster a culture of continuous recertification and encourage professionals to pursue relevant certifications. Additionally, organizations should provide opportunities for experts to share knowledge through presentations and hands-on experience in their field. True expertise comes from consistently applying skills and knowledge—repetition and practice are key to mastering any discipline. As the saying goes, if you do something 10,000 times, you become an expert

Your parting shot?

If you're in the control space, integrity is non-negotiable—you must always speak the truth, no matter the circumstances. Remember that your family looks up to you, so when you leave home, stay true to the promises you've made to them without fear. It's also crucial to invest wisely for the future and teach your children the value of money. Learn how to build wealth so that after your career, your investments can support you—this earns you respect from your peers. Lastly, never stop learning; continual growth is key to success.

Certifications

Boost your career with an ISACA Certification—while you gain recognition and credibility.

Credentialing isn't just a way to showcase your worth. It's a way to validate your knowledge and expansive IT skills that are key to advancing digital trust for all. Our certifications—whether CISA, CISM, CRISC and more—prove your understanding of what is needed in today's modern enterprise.



Key Areas

Audit, control, monitor and assess IT and business systems using a risk-based approach

Typical Job Titles for Certification Holders

- IT Auditor
- Compliance Analyst/Program Manager
- Risk Analyst/Program Manager
- IT Consultant



Key Areas

Deployment and management of enterprise IT risk and controls

Typical Job Titles for Certification Holders

- Risk and Security Manager
- IS or Business Analyst
- IS Manager
- Operations Manager
- Information Control Manager
- Chief Information Security or Compliance Officer



Key Areas

Information security governance, managing risk, programs and incidents

Typical Job Titles for Certification Holders

- IT Architect
- Security Analyst
- Data Security Manager
- Security and Compliance Director
- VP/AVP Information Security
- CIO/CISO/CTO



Key Areas

Creating and implementing technical privacy-by-design solutions

Typical Job Titles for Certification Holders

- Data Analyst
- Privacy Engineer
- Privacy Solutions Architect
- Lead Privacy Manager
- IT Consultant



Key Areas

Framework-agnostic governance, risk/benefit optimization

Typical Job Titles for Certification Holders

- CIO, CTO, CISO
- Senior IT Internal Auditor,
- Cybersecurity and Compliance
- Lead Analyst - IT Governance, Risk and Compliance
- Security Risk and Compliance Specialist
- Information Security Compliance Manager
- Governance Risk Consultant



Key Areas

Technical skills to evaluate threats, identify vulnerabilities and recommend counter measures to prevent cyber incidents

Typical Job Titles for Certification Holders

- Cybersecurity analyst
- Information security analyst
- SOC analyst
- Vulnerability analyst
- Incident response analyst



Key Areas

Comprised of stackable certificates

Typical Job Titles for Certification Holders

- Applications Developer
- Systems Engineer
- Database Administrator
- Software Developer
- Computer Operator
- Technical Support Specialist
- PC Technician
- Help Desk Analyst



Key Areas

Comprised of stackable certificates

Typical Job Titles for Certification Holders

- Emerging Technology Specialist
- Cloud Architect or Engineer
- Blockchain Analyst or Developer
- IoT Architect or Engineer
- Software Engineer
- AI Integration Architect
- AI Success Manager



Key Areas

Security functions and cybersecurity tasks.

Typical Job Titles for Certification Holders

- Technology companies
- Governments agencies
- Financial institutions

New Certifications

Gain technical ability to match your technical knowledge

ISACA's Certified Cybersecurity Operations Analyst™ (CCOA™) certification focuses on the technical skills to evaluate threats, identify vulnerabilities, and recommend countermeasures to prevent cyber incidents. As emerging technologies like automated systems using AI evolve, the role of the cyber analyst will only become more critical in protecting digital ecosystems. Analysts specialize in understanding the what, where and how behind cybersecurity incidents. By identifying patterns, anomalies and indicators of compromise, you become the eyes and ears of your organization's defense.

<https://www.isaca.org/credentialing/ccoa>

Top Scorers



Ms. Chelangat Scholastica CISA

Mr. Joseph Onjira CISA

Mr. Habakuk Omurwa CISM



Ms. Florence Kimani CRISC

Mr. Kennedy Kibet CRISC

Mr. Eliud Choge CISA, CISM, CRISC



Mr. Habakuk Omurwa CISM

Mr. Rajesh Kumar Rout CISM

Trevor Kaon CISM



Mr. Bonface ASILIGWA CGEIT, CISA, CRISC, CISM, CDPSE

Millicent Kithinji CDPSE

Highlights

SIFA Ignite Launch

ISACA Kenya Chapter Secures the Prestigious SIFA Grant from AU-DA-NEPAD to Boost Tech Skills in TVETs.

ISACA Kenya Chapter and our implementing partners are one of the 18 recipients in Africa to secure the Prestigious SIFA Grant to Boost Tech Skills in TVET Institutions. ISACA Kenya Chapter, in collaboration with Scratch and Script Company Limited and the Africa Blockchain Institute, proudly announces the acquisition of a competitive grant under the Skills Initiative for Africa (SIFA) program. This grant, supporting the IGNITE Program (Inspiring Growth and Nurturing Innovation through Technology Empowerment), aims to advance technical skills in cybersecurity, privacy, blockchain, and artificial intelligence (AI) across Kenyan TVET institutions.

The IGNITE Program, a comprehensive 18-month initiative, will work with three Kenyan TVET institutions to develop and implement courses

We are excited to be at the forefront of a transformative project that will shape Kenya's future in the digital economy.

Mercy Omollo, President of ISACA Kenya Chapter.

in cybersecurity, privacy, blockchain, and AI. This effort is a major step in building a tech-savvy, employable workforce and reinforcing ISACA Kenya Chapter's dedication to digital trust, governance, and security in Kenya and beyond. By collaborating with institutions of higher learning, particularly TVETs, ISACA Kenya aims to broaden its outreach and positively impact students entering a rapidly evolving digital economy.



The SIFA Grant, funded by AUDA-NEPAD, the African Union's technical body, with backing from the German Government and the European Union through KfW Development Bank, is valued at EUR 359,640. This is a performance-based grant where the funds are released only after completion of the deliverables assigned to 4 milestones. Once we complete the milestone and have satisfied the performance requirements according to AUDA-NEPAD is when the funds are released.

The official launch of the IGNITE program was held on Friday 15 November 2024 at KICD and some photos are attached alongside to showcase

the successful event.

We are excited to be at the forefront of a transformative project that will shape Kenya's future in the digital economy," stated Mercy Omollo, President of ISACA Kenya Chapter. "Our collaboration with Scratch and Script Company and the Africa Blockchain Institute strengthens our capability to operate in powerful consortiums, paving the way for future partnerships and growth."

The IGNITE Program marks a significant step for ISACA Kenya Chapter in fostering an innovative tech environment and inspiring the next generation of digital professionals.

GRC Update



Preface

The ISACA Kenya Chapter GRC Annual Conference 2024, hosted at the Lake Naivasha Resort in Naivasha centered on the timely and impactful theme, "Future-proofing your business: The role of GRC in the Age of Disruption." This theme highlighted the essential role that Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC) plays in navigating the complexities and challenges of a rapidly evolving business landscape. As organizations face unprecedented disruption driven by technology, regulatory changes, and global uncertainties, GRC frameworks have become indispensable in ensuring resilience, agility, and sustainable growth.

Conference highlights

The event featured a variety of sessions and workshops designed to provide deep dives into valuable insights into how businesses can leverage GRC practices to proactively manage risks, ensure compliance, and safeguard long-term success in an ever-changing environment. Experts delivered actionable insights and strategies for navigating through the complexities of disruptions that affect business objectives. The workshops consisted of the following tracks:

Governance: Led by Edward Wafula on a discussion Identifying & Assessing Disruption-related Risks. This workshop explored how to identify the key risks that stand out as potential disruptors, capable of impacting your operations on a much larger scale and strategies to address them.

Cybersecurity: Dr. Katherine Getao handled the topic Effective Cybersecurity Metrics and Reporting to Management and Boards. She equipped the delegates on how well to communicate cybersecurity matters to the board and senior management while striking the right balance between technical detail and business language.

Data Protection: Musa Wesusta discussed on how to Build Data Protection Programs to support and guide organizations in effectively ensuring execution and compliance to Data privacy laws.

In addition to the pre-conference workshops, the main conference included numerous plenaries, a regulator round table, a SheLeads panel discussion and breakout sessions delivered by 12 esteemed speakers. These sessions covered a wide range of topics, providing attendees with diverse insights into the various topics.



Chief Guest's Address and Keynote Speakers

The Director Cybersecurity State Department for ICT and Digital Economy, Ministry of Information Communications & Digital Economy, Mr. Yunis Omar, delivered a compelling chief guest's address speech by Dr. Margret Ndungu, current Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Information, Communications, and the Digital Economy. The speech read, "The Government of Kenya is diligently building its digital superhighway, set for completion by 2027. Alongside this, it is advancing the digitization of government services with a strong focus on data protection, recognizing it as a core component in the digital transformation process. Given this, GRC considerations are essential, which is why the Kenyan government is committed to collaborating with organizations like ISACA to strengthen governance frameworks." Insights were also shared by Lucas John Omollo, HSC Chief Manager, ICT & Smart City Solutions. Their contributions underscored the collaborative effort needed to enhance governance in a disruptive era.

Our Chief Trainer-Mzee Jona Owitti touched on the topic "GRC-The family perspective" where he dived deeper into ways everyone can apply GRC in Family management/ Relationships.

My Glue App and MENTI

The utilization of My Glue App at the conference significantly enhanced the attendee's experience by facilitating robust engagement and providing seamless access to content, programs and making it a critical tool for interaction among participants.

Menti.com was used for Q&A sessions just to ensure that members asked questions to all speakers

Delegate's feedback

From the feedback survey, the delegates were empowered by the topics designed and the delivery of content by the various speakers and delighted by the speed networking session which was a key highlight from the conference.

We are looking forward to serving



our members even much better in the coming conferences

Sponsorship and committee

The conference was supported by Kingdom Bank Limited, we extend our gratitude for their support, which was instrumental in the success of the event.

It is important to recognize and deeply appreciate the tireless efforts of the Education Committee members: Stephen Muasya, Damaris Maina, Josphat Kamunya, Gloria Nyamosi and Paul Musimba. Special thanks to the Chief Trainer Jona Owitti, the ISACA Kenya Secretariat Professional Development Lead Anne Macharia, and the entire secretariat team. We also acknowledge the support of the Communications committee team, Lorna, George and Anthony, and the ISACA Kenya Chapter Board and other committees for their invaluable support in helping the Education Committee deliver on its mandate.

We also extend a heartfelt appreciation to the members who attended the conference for the entire week. Their active participation and engagement were crucial to the dynamic exchange of ideas and the overall success of the conference.

Learnings for future events

To enhance future conferences, we plan to have prior briefs when utilizing new service providers i.e., venues, MCs, etc, and enhance better time management skills.

The 2024 GRC Conference set a new benchmark for professional gatherings within GRC, reflecting the committee's commitment to advancing knowledge and skills in the age of disruption. The insights gained and the professional dialogue fostered at this event will inform the design and execution of future ISACA Kenya Chapter events, ensuring that the Chapter continuously meets the evolving needs of its members.

Pictorials







Joint SheLeadsTech Webinar by ISACA Kenya and Harare Chapters 26th September, 2024 Platform: Zoom

The joint webinar, titled "Leadership Resilience: Building Grit and Grace in Advancing Your Career," brought together 189 participants from 12 countries. Attendees joined from Kenya, Zimbabwe, United Kingdom, Ethiopia, United States, South Africa, Algeria, Somalia, Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, Chile, and Spain, showcasing the global appeal of the event. The event focused on resilience and persistence in leadership and career advancement.

Key Highlights:

- Chervonne Risinamhodzi – Founder & President, Reantose Organization & Dusted Paths
- Chervonne delivered a profound keynote on leadership as a journey of continuous growth and self-improvement. She described leadership as "a functional vehicle that smoothen the rough path to an end, sharpening both the traveller and the system."
- She emphasized creating a lasting legacy with three key characteristics: it must be non-geographical, non-cultural, and non-racial, ensuring its impact transcends boundaries.
- Dorcas Njuguna – Lead HR Consultant, IHR Solutions; Founder, Women in HR Kenya
- Dorcas inspired the audience with actionable strategies for cultivating grit and persistence in fast-paced environments.
- Quoting Sheryl Sandberg, she highlighted that "Leadership is about making others better and ensuring the impact lasts in your absence."
- Her session underscored the importance of maintaining a growth mindset to overcome challenges and build resilience.
- This collaborative effort highlighted ISACA's commitment to cross-border engagement, leadership development, and diversity.

Dada STEM 2024 Annual Women in STEM Conference

September 7th, 2024

Venue: The Orient Hotel, Marima, Tharaka Nithi County

Under the theme "Pathways to Progress: Empowering Women in STEM," this conference brought together professionals, students, and enthusiasts to discuss barriers and opportunities for women in STEM. The Chapter was represented by Faith Wawira Nyaga – SheLeadsTech Liaison and Kevin Tuei – Students Coordinator

Key Highlights:

Faith Wawira Nyaga – SheLeadsTech Liaison, ISACA Kenya Chapter

Faith delivered an inspiring keynote address, emphasizing the importance of technology as a tool for empowering women in STEM. She shared practical strategies for overcoming challenges, leveraging mentorship, and utilizing initiatives like SheLeadsTech to advance careers. Her insights on fostering resilience and promoting inclusivity resonated strongly with the audience, encouraging women to embrace leadership roles in STEM.

Kevin Tuei – Student Coordinator, ISACA Kenya Chapter

Kevin participated in a panel discussion addressing "Empowering the Next Generation of STEM Leaders." Alongside other industry experts, he shared valuable insights on the importance of mentorship, community-driven initiatives, and creating networks that bridge the gap between academia and industry. Kevin highlighted ISACA's role in nurturing young talent and providing opportunities for students to gain industry-relevant skills. His contributions added depth to the discussion, emphasizing the collaborative effort needed to build a robust pipeline of future STEM leaders.

ISACA Kenya Chapter was a proud sponsor of the event, accentuating its dedication to fostering diversity, inclusion, and equitable opportunities in technology.



SheLeadsTech Kenya Workshop

November 15th, 2024

Venue: Radisson Blu Arboretum, Nairobi

The workshop, themed "Leading Beyond Limits," featured a stellar lineup of speakers and panellists who shared insights on leadership, resilience, and inclusivity.

Key Highlights:

- Keynote Speaker: Akofa Dakwa, Deputy Managing Director, Bank of Africa Kenya Ltd.
- Dr. Paula Musuva – Assistant Professor, USIU
- Lillian Ngala – HR Director, Diamond Trust Bank
- Veronica Rose, CISA, CDPSE – Board Director, ISA-CA Foundation
- Mshai Msafari – Senior Consultant, Business Continuity & Resilience, NTT DATA
- Olive M. Gitau – Head of Internal Audit, Kenya Mortgage Refinance Company
- Faith Gathungu, MMPDM (Wits) – CEO, Young Engineers Kenya
- MC: Lorna Abaki – ISACA, Membership Committee

This workshop energized participants to embrace leadership opportunities, further advancing ISACA Kenya Chapter's mission of empowering women in tech.

ISACA Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC) Conference

Date: October 28 - November 1, 2024

Venue: Lake Naivasha Resort, Naivasha, Kenya

The conference, themed "The Role of GRC in the Age of Disruption," showcased the ISACA Kenya Chapter's dedication to advancing women in governance, risk, and compliance (GRC) by offering the SheLeadTech an opportunity to hold a inspiring panel discussion themed "Empowering Women to Leverage Disruption for Growth and Resilience" This panel discussion was Moderated by the SheLeadsTech Liaison – Faith Wawira and it included the following industry experts; who shared valuable insights on how women are harnessing disruption to drive growth and meaningful change in rapidly evolving industries;

- **Tony Muiyuro** – Immediate Past President – ISACA Kenya Chapter
- **Esther Katiba**, - Certified Human Resources Practitioner, Trainer, Author & Motivational Speaker
- **Brenda Azangi** – ICT Manager WASREB
- **Brencil Kaimba** – Founder Scratch and Script & Cyber Security Professional



Interactive discussions emphasized resilience, purpose-driven leadership, and mental wellness. Attendees not only gained valuable insights but also strengthened their networks and earned 2 CPE hours.

International Men's Day 2024

November 22, 2024

Venue: Romo House, Westlands, Nairobi



The International Men's Day event celebrated the theme "Healthy Minds, Empowered Lives: Men Leading with Purpose." This evening provided an opportunity to reflect on the contributions of men as leaders, mentors, and advocates for mental health and well-being.

Our inspiring guest speakers included:

- **Jacob Aliet Ondiek** – Author, Unplugged
- **Dr. Akinyemi Wale** – Author, Consultant, and Trainer
- **Eric Latiff** – Journalist and Communications Professional
- **MC – Paul Musimba** – Professional Development Committee

Interactive discussions emphasized resilience, purpose-driven leadership, and mental wellness.

Student groups



Currently, we have 16 fully established ISACA Student Groups (ISGs)

Recent Recognitions

The University of Nairobi | Moi University | UMMA university | Multimedia University MMU

St. Pauls University ISG Event - *"Navigating information system landscape"*

"Navigating information system landscape" event for St Paul's University ISACA student group where we explored various scholarships, how stand out as an individual and internship opportunities, as well as ISACA Group student programs. It was an insightful session with speakers Kevin Tuei, Faith Wawira Nyaga, CISM Maryanne Mwai, Maryam Wangeshi who gave practical advice on how to get started and excel in these programs.

Scratch & Script Partnership for Hackathons at TUM and Pwani University



ISACA Kenya Chapter President, Mercy Omollo with the ISG Presidents of Pwani University, Juma Emiri and Technical University of Mombasa, Samuel Gabriel during the ISACA Kenya Chapter Annual Conference held in Mombasa earlier in the year.

Community Day

Community Day 2024 Updates



The ISACA Kenya Chapter was joined by members, family, and friends on 5th October 2024 for the annual ISACA Community Day activities. The event was highly successful, highlighting our dedication to corporate social responsibility and community involvement. The event centred on visiting and donating to four exceptional children's homes within Nairobi environs and Kisumu, demonstrating ISACA's commitment to positively impacting the lives of those in need.

The homes visited are:

1. **Heritage of Faith and Hope Children's Home** – Saba-ki, Mlolongo
2. **Young Life Africa Children's Home** – Ruiru, Kiambu
3. **Compassionate Hands for the Disabled Foundation** – Ruai, Nairobi
4. **Acts of Hope Academy** – Vihiga Rd, Kisumu



IS SEEING TRULY

BELIEVING?

The rise of deepfakes and the future of trust



Years ago, when deepfake technology was in its infancy, it was possible to quickly identify fake videos and images visually. As the technology continues to mature, this has become extremely difficult, and technology-based solutions are now the favoured option to ascertain the integrity of images, videos, and audio files.

By: Raymond Musumba, CFE

At one time or another, you have probably heard or used the saying “seeing is believing”, which is widely used to express the notion that sight is the most reliable sense, and that people are more likely to believe what they see themselves. Present day technological advancements, particularly in the fields of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (AI/ML), have led to the exponential growth and proliferation of deepfakes – a threat that continues to warp the fabric of reality and what we can believe to be true, and one that is difficult to ignore.

Simply put, deepfakes (a portmanteau of “deep learning” and “fake”) are synthetic media – audio-visual, visual only, or audio only – generated using deep learning approaches characteristic of the machine learning subset of artificial intelligence. According to Jafar et al. (2020), anyone with basic technical skills can create and share deepfakes on the internet. This capability is further accelerated by the significantly lower cost of computing and availability of smaller but powerful devices, including smartphones and laptops.

To fully appreciate how deepfakes are shaping how we process and gauge the credibility of digital information, we will explore some associated risks, the state of detection and awareness, and regulatory frameworks.

Threats Posed by Deepfakes

It is worth noting that deepfakes have legitimate and practical applications in areas such as entertainment, digital marketing, data privacy, education, and health. In one instance, Buo (2020) notes that the World Health

Organization (WHO) leveraged an AI solution to help individuals overcome tobacco addiction and create a plan to quit smoking. While these uses are actually legal and beneficial to the public, we have already seen deepfakes being abused by malicious actors for a variety of nefarious reasons that threaten judicial systems, political environments, and businesses.

With continued digital transformation, electronic evidence continues to play critical role in establishing facts during cybercrime investigations, therefore its integrity must be maintained for it to be credible in any court of law. According to Buo (2020), evidence tampering or fabrication threatens judicial processes. In 2020, for instance, a woman in the United Kingdom (UK) by presented a falsified audio recording as evidence in a custody case in an attempt to make the father sound like he was threatening her to paint him as violent. Further investigation revealed that she used online deepfake tutorials to learn how to create the fake recording. Similarly, increased internet adoption and virtually unrestricted access to information make it difficult to ignore the growing threat of misinformation, which can be weaponized using targeted disinformation and malinformation for divisive politics that can destabilize political environments through dissemination of propaganda. Such misinformation can take a variety of forms, including fake news, conspiracy theories, and clickbait. Santos-d'Amorim & Miranda (2021) notes that misinformation – manipulated information – is harmful to the society, whether disseminated consciously with intention to deceive or otherwise. In the United States (US), for instance, there have already been cases where deepfakes have been used to make high-ranking politicians say and do things they never actually did. In one case, Donald Trump shared a fake video of former Speaker of the US House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi,

Articles

that made her appear drunk to sway public perception of his critic. The video was shared over 2.5 million times within a short time and caused public outrage, indicating the reach that the post had.

Businesses are also not spared as they continue to face new and unfamiliar fraud risks that lead to heavy financial losses fueled by deepfake-related social engineering attacks. Emerging technologies have completely changed how we think about elaborate schemes such as Business Email Compromise (BEC) attacks, where senior company officials and executives are impersonated by scammers motivated by financial gain or unauthorized access to sensitive information that can be sold on the dark web or used as leverage to extort an extravagant ransom from affected businesses. In 2020, for instance, deepfake technology was used in BEC where the CEO of a firm based in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) had his voice cloned in an impersonation attack that led to the fraudulent transfer of USD 35 million. More recently in 2024, a junior employee at a multinational firm in Hong Kong was tricked into transferring a total of \$200 million Hong Kong dollars (about USD 25.6 million) after fraudsters used deepfake technology to impersonate the firm's Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and other employees in a video call using publicly available video and other footage.

Advancements in Detection and Awareness

Years ago, when deepfake technology was in its infancy, it was possible to quickly identify fake videos and images visually. As the technology continues to mature, this has become extremely difficult, and technology-based solutions are now the favoured option to ascertain the integrity of images, videos, and audio files. In the recent years, numerous researchers have proposed various methods to facilitate the detection of deepfakes, with a lot of solutions essentially using AI in a "fight fire with fire" approach. Even traditional forensic tools have widely adopted various AI-driven models to try and give investigators the edge that they need to distinguish deepfakes from genuine media. Organizations such as Reality Defender, for instance, have dedicated specialized research resources to the detection of deepfakes, and their results are promising.

Unfortunately, even though there is a lot of advancement and promising research around the detection of deepfakes, a lot of the solutions are too technical and often require more expertise than the average person has. Additionally, the awareness of deepfakes and the harm that can arise from their abuse is still not widespread knowledge among the public, even though researchers have argued that awareness of the technology could



serve as a proactive countermeasure and mitigate some of the risks posed by deepfakes.

Regulating Artificial Intelligence

Ahmed et al. (2021) notes that besides widespread unawareness of deepfake technology, a greater concern is that developing countries have little to nonexistent countermeasures against deepfakes, in contrast to developed countries. In many countries around the world instance, there is a lack of proactive detection strategies that leverage AI and ML, as well as regulatory frameworks that govern the acceptable use of AI. However, there have been some positive regulatory advancements in the field of artificial intelligence, as is evident from European Union (EU) countries recently enacting the EU AI Act (2024). With a lot recent focus being on AI, this new regulation is set to shape Europe's digital future, as it sets the tone for the acceptable use of AI and the mitigation of risks arising from the adoption of the technology. Similar to the EU's General Data Protection Act (GDPR), it would also not be a surprise for the EU AI Act to serve as a blueprint for the rest of the world as a means to manage the harmful impact of deepfake technology.

In conclusion, having explored some legitimate applications of deepfake technology, it is clear that deepfakes are not entirely negative. However, deepfakes can and have been abused on numerous occasions. Such abuse will likely continue well into the future in the face of exponential technological advancement, inevitably shaping how we discriminate the credibility of information we interact with daily. Further, it is critical to promote general awareness of deepfake technology and its associated risks, coupled with the ongoing research in deepfake detection. Ultimately, regulatory frameworks will become increasingly essential in ensuring AI technology is not abused.

UPCOMING EVENTS 2025

January

Membership/Cert Renewals / Calendar of Events (2025)

Location: Virtual | Days/Hrs: 1 hr | CPE: 1

Technology & Audit Executives Breakfast

Location: Nairobi | Days/Hrs: 2 hr | CPE: 2

February

Corporate Governance in the Digital Age: The IT Governance Perspective

Location: Mombasa | Days/Hrs: 5 Days | CPE: 35

Cybersecurity for Senior Executives

Location: Machakos | Days/Hrs: 2 Days | CPE: 14

Computer Forensics: Tools and Techniques

Location: | Days/Hrs: 5 Days | CPE: 35

March

IT Auditing Auditing for Beginners

Location: Mombasa | Days/Hrs: 5 days | CPE: 35

March

Project Management: ICT-based Projects - Tools and Techniques

Location: Virtual | Days/Hrs: 5 days | CPE: 35

April

April

Annual Conference

Location: Mombasa | Days/Hrs: 5 Days | CPE: 35

Sponsors



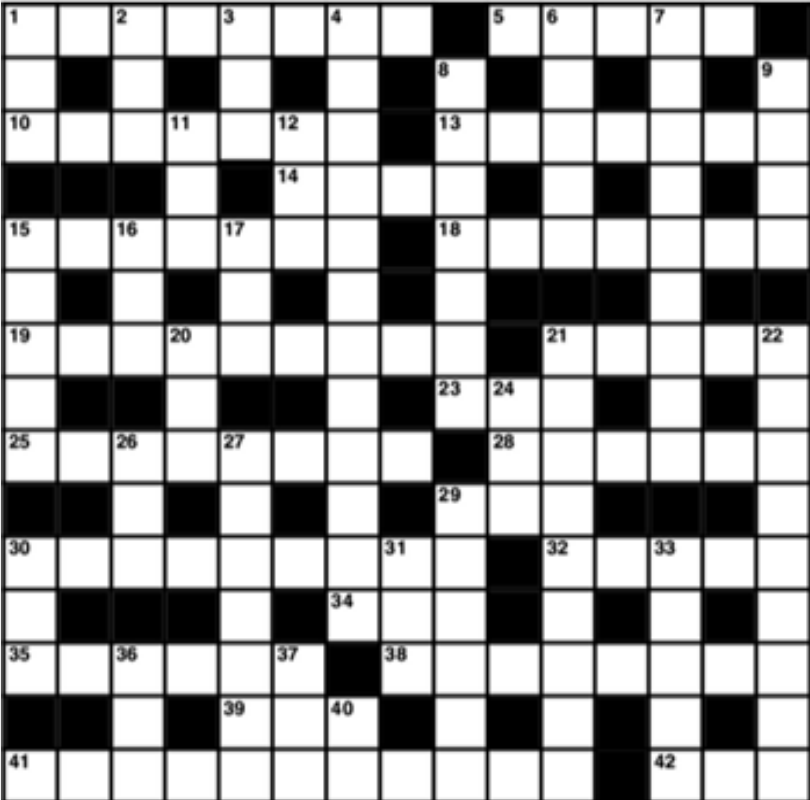
Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1. Use of IT systems, device, software, applications or services without the knowledge or approval of the organization's IT department, 2 words
- 5. Multinational digital communications corporation based in San Jose, CA
- 10. Able to change and adapt
- 13. Visual and strategic tool that clearly outlines a project's key components, milestones, and timelines
- 14. Qatar's capital
- 15. Relating to earlier idyllic and peaceful times
- 18. Covert activity
- 19. A failure to apply security procedures and standards, e.g.
- 21. Infiltrator, perhaps
- 23. Long-snouted fish
- 25. Leads
- 28. Alter documents to falsify them
- 29. Obtain
- 30. See 30 down
- 32. Haven of a sort
- 34. Perfect rating number
- 35. Catch cunningly
- 38. Create risk from something harmful, as a company- 2 words
- 39. Investigated, with into
- 41. Erasable boards used to communicate ideas or plans
- 42. Unhappy

DOWN

- 1. Lay turf
- 2. Massachusetts' Cape ____
- 3. Unit of electrical resistance
- 4. Not compatible or in keeping with standard procedures
- 6. Reputation
- 7. Compatible with or following specific standards, specifications and rules,
- 8. Wiping out
- 9. Colorful deep-sea fish
- 11. Bend
- 12. Wedding vow, 2 words
- 15. Chaos
- 16. Zodiac sign
- 17. Assent word
- 20. Took the initiative
- 21. Correct conduct code
- 22. Beginning point
- 24. "Lemon" or "lime" ending
- 26. Naught



- 27. Improve
- 29. Millennial's parent, 2 words
- 30. Reasonable steps taken to satisfy a legal requirement, goes with 30 across
- 31. Average grade
- 33. Distorts, as data
- 36. ___ chi (martial art)
- 37. After-game meeting place for some
- 40. Approval word

Answers





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