



PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

USAID Partnership Supports Young Kenyan Women Acquire Vital Technical Skills to Secure Jobs

Nairobi, September 05, 2024 – Seventy-eight (78) young women from Nairobi and Kiambu Counties today graduated from the PEPFAR/USAID-supported DREAMS Construction Skills Training program after successfully completing plumbing and electrical skills training conducted by accredited institutions at the Project Safe spaces. These young women are part of **427 graduates** from the program to date who have broken barriers to become skilled plumbers and electricians in job sectors traditionally dominated by men.

All the program graduates have received accreditation to practice by the National Industrial Training Authority (NITA) and the National Construction Authority (NCA). An impressive 84 percent of them have already secured jobs or started their own businesses, showing the program's transformative impact in job creation and economic empowerment for Kenyan youth. At today's event, the graduates received their certificates and construction toolkits setting them off to a good start to create their own jobs or seek gainful employment.

"Quote from USAID HPN Director" Get quote from cleared speech

Can include quote from Chief Guest/Project COP

The graduation of these 78 young women marks another significant step in USAID's partnership with Kenya's public and private sector to empower women to overcome societal vulnerabilities and promote healthy outcomes and better livelihoods by advancing gender inclusivity in access to education, skills and economic opportunities for all Kenyans.

The DREAMS Construction Skills Training program is funded by the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through USAID's Tumikia Mtoto project. This transformative initiative is jointly implemented by World Vision Kenya and the Family Group Foundation and provides young women aged 18-24 years with a six-month hands-on training equipping them with job market skills for the construction industry. More than a vocational program, this initiative addresses the vulnerabilities that young women face, including the risk of HIV, gender-based violence, and economic instability.

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ABOUT USAID TUMIKIA MTOTO

USAID Tumikia Mtoto is a PEPFAR/USAID-funded five-year project working towards promoting access to county-led quality health and social services for orphans and vulnerable children (OVC), adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) and their families as a continuum of care, protection and capacity building for self-reliance. USAID Tumikia Mtoto is led by World Vision Kenya in partnership with six local implementing partners. The Project is jointly implemented with the County Governments of Nairobi and Kiambu.

The project leverages on its strong partnerships with clinical partners, the private sector, and other stakeholders in delivering quality age-appropriate HIV and violence prevention health and social services to AGYW, OVC, and their families.

For more information on USAID Tumikia Mtoto, please visit <https://www.wvi.org/kenya/usaid-tumikia-mtoto-project>