



Training for Quality Leadership and Governance

The CPST Connect

The Center for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST)-Connect.

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Strengthening Institutional Capacity: CPST Holds Training of Trainers Programme for Parliamentary Staff



Dr. George Wakah, the Director AFC, CPST, (Middle seated), poses for a photo with the participants of the CPST Training of Trainers (T.o.T) programme.

HIGHLIGHTS

1. Strengthening Institutional Capacity: CPST Holds Training of Trainers Programme for Parliamentary Staff
2. Women Legislators Begin Virtual Gender Equality Training with CPST and McGill University.
3. CPST Hosts Gender-Responsive Budgeting Seminar to Unpack the 2025/26 Budget Estimates
4. CPST Showcases Research Leadership at 7th Annual Hansard Association of Kenya Conference.
5. Celebrating Milestones: Parliament Graduates Over 120 Officers from Mandatory Legislative Courses.
6. From People to Policy: CPST and IPU Lead Global Dialogue on Public Participation.
7. The CPST Training Calendar 2025/26.
8. The CPST Webinar Calendar 2025/26.

In a step towards building a more dynamic and service-oriented Parliament, the CPST convened the Training of Trainers (ToT) Programme for Parliamentary Staff.

The week-long programme, was a bespoke training requested by the Clerk of the Senate. The Executive Director of CPST, recognizing the shared benefits, opened the training to all the services in Parliament and invited participation of staff from both the National Assembly and the Parliamentary Joint Service. This was intended to ensure not only inclusivity from across the Services but also shared experiences to enrich the training.

This training is not only a testament to CPST's leadership in capacity development in the areas of Training of Trainers but also a strategic move to empower staff across Parliament as a strategy for quality enhancement and sustainability of the CPST training going forward. form of .

Participants were grouped into three clusters of 19 officers each. This was to ensure that the sessions were interactive sessions and each participant was given special attention to address unique and specific challenges as a future trainer.

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Strengthening Institutional Capacity: CPST Holds Training of Trainers Programme for Parliamentary Staff (Continued)



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The training design was also geared towards sharpening delivery, boost confidence, and cultivate a culture of excellence in parliamentary training. The training was led by a team of CPST's experienced facilitators, with the Director of Administration, Finance and Corporate Services (AFC) serving as lead facilitator.

The Director of Legislation and Procedural Services Mr. Stephen Njenga Ruge, , praised the CPST model of peer-driven learning and urged more staff to enrol in future sessions. Speaking on behalf of his colleagues, Mr. Libendi, a participant, reflected on the empowering nature of the course and expressed heartfelt appreciation for the transformative skills imparted.

In his closing address on behalf of the Director General repre-

Participants attending the CPST Training of Trainers programme in their different clusters.

sented by Major (Rtd) Kirungu Majiba, Director of Security and Safety Services, saluted the leadership of both the Senate and National Assembly for supporting the initiative. He encouraged staff to seize future facilitation opportunities and embrace leadership through knowledge sharing. Adding to the programme's significance, Mr. Mohammed Ali, MBS, the Deputy Clerk of the Senate, speaking on behalf of the Clerk of the Senate/Secretary PSC, highlighted the programme's role as a vital platform for knowledge exchange. He emphasized how the collaborative environment would enable officers to share ideas and best practices, ultimately leading to enhanced service delivery.

Women Legislators Begin Virtual Gender Equality Training with CPST and McGill University

The CPST, in collaboration with McGill University's School of Continuing Studies, launched the *Parliamentary Practices: Mainstreaming Gender Equality and Women Empowerment (GEWE) Programme* on May 5th, 2025. The two institutions have enjoyed a long-standing partnership since 2016 through a Memorandum of Understanding that supports joint development of learning programmes to strengthen parliamentary governance.

The current programme, designed exclusively for Women Members of Kenya's 13th Parliament, will run for 11 weeks and is delivered virtually. It features 10 synchronous web sessions of 1.5 hours to 3 hours per week and the final week of participants' presentations. After successful completion of the programme, participants will be provided with an Attestation of Completion. The training aims to equip participants with practical skills and frameworks for promoting gender equality within legislative processes.

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In her opening remarks, CPST Executive Director Prof. Nyokabi Kamau encouraged the Members to leverage the opportunity to sharpen their leadership, negotiation, and legislative oversight skills. She emphasized that the programme was not only a tool for personal growth but a strategic investment for the advancement of inclusive and responsive governance in Parliament and the country.

The GEWE programme is anchored in Kenya's Constitution, as well as the aspirations of Kenya Vision 2030, the African Union's Agenda 2063, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (especially SDG 5). It also reflects the commitments of Kenya under various UN human rights instruments and Universal Periodic Review recommendations related to gender equality and inclusive governance, where Kenya continues to engage in the assessment and implementation of international human rights recommendations, including those focused on women's rights and political inclusion.

Participants are taken through thematic areas such as international human rights law, parliamentary institutional reforms, public speaking, negotiation, and leadership. The sessions are co-facilitated by McGill faculty and prominent Members of Kenya's Parliament, ensuring that the training remains locally grounded and globally informed.

Among the Kenyan facilitators contributing to the course are: Hon. Sen. Catherine Muyeka Mumma, who is leading discus-

sions on the relationship between Parliaments and National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) and how these partnerships can enhance gender-responsive legislation.

Hon. Rachel Ameso Amollo, CBS, Commissioner at the Parliamentary Service Commission, who is presenting on the rights of women parliamentarians, including issues related to gender-based discrimination and inclusive parliamentary workplaces.

Hon. Esther Muthoni Passaris, OGW, MP, who is sharing insights on gender budgeting and inclusive leadership, drawn from her experience in advancing cross-party gender initiatives.

The course has attracted 22 participants—10 from the National Assembly and 12 from the Senate. Their enrolment was made possible through the support of the Clerks of both Houses, who facilitated registration and sponsorship, affirming Parliament's institutional commitment to gender equity and continuous learning.

The Centre extends its sincere appreciation to the Clerk of the National Assembly, Mr. Samuel Njoroge CBS, and the Clerk of the Senate/Secretary PSC, Mr. Jeremiah M. Nyegenye CBS, for facilitating the successful rollout of this programme. Special thanks also go to the Kenya Women Parliamentary Association (KEWOPA) for championing women's leadership, and to McGill University for their continued partnership in building inclusive and empowered legislatures.

CPST Training For Quality Governance

McGill School of Continuing Studies

Parliamentary Practices: Mainstreaming Gender Equality and Women Empowerment (GEWE) program.

✓ **11-Weeks Virtual program.**
Hosted by CPST and McGill University.

Commencement date:
5th May, 2025

1Hr 30 Min expert led sessions every Monday at 5:30pm (Nairobi time)

1Hr 30 Min group discussions and assignments per week.

The Program Modules:

- Parliamentary practices in mainstreaming human rights and inclusion.
- Gender sensitive and inclusive Parliaments
- Taking action to create change-empowering women in parliament to lead institutional and substantive reforms.
- Action Planning-developing a strategic, action-oriented approach to mainstream GEWE in parliamentary functions.

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Honourable Members pose for a photo after the Breakfast Seminar on Gender Responsive Budgeting. Second from L-R front row: Hon. Donya Aburi, Hon. Pamela Njeru (Embu), Hon. Crystal Asige, Hon. Esther Passaris, Hon. Beatrice Ogola. From L-R second row Hon. Martha Wangari and Hon. Flowrence Jematiah (4th from Left)

CPST Hosts Gender-Responsive Budgeting Seminar to Unpack the 2025/26 Budget Estimates

In collaboration with the Kenya Women Parliamentary Association (KEWOPA), UN Women, and the Parliamentary Budget Office, convened a Breakfast Seminar on Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB). The seminar brought together women Members of Parliament for a timely and focused discussion on the 2025/26 Budget Estimates through a gender lens.

The seminar sought to empower the legislators with practical skills in analyzing the national budget to ensure that fiscal policies, allocations, and expenditures promote equity, reduce disparities, and respond to the needs of all citizens—especially marginalized and underrepresented groups. During the forum, Gilgil Member of Parliament Hon. Martha Wangari emphasized the importance of collaboration between government institutions and private sector actors in realizing the goals of Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB).

“As legislators, our efforts around GRB will remain limited unless we build strong partnerships beyond Parliament,” she remarked.

Adding to the discussion, Nairobi County Woman Represent-

tative Hon. Esther Passaris highlighted that GRB is a governance concern that transcends gender.

“Gender Responsive Budgeting is not just a women’s agenda—it reflects a governance obligation grounded in Kenya’s Constitution, Vision 2030, and international frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals. It is fundamentally about inclusion, equity, and ensuring development serves all people,” she said.

Also in attendance were Hon. Flowrence Jematiah (Baringo), Hon. Donya Aburi (Kisii), Hon. Pamela Njeru (Embu), and nominated Senators Hon. Beatrice Ogola and Hon. Crystal Asige.

A key outcome of the seminar was the development of an Action Plan to guide MPs in applying gender-responsive approaches across all stages of the budget process. The Gender-Responsive Budgeting (GRB) action plan calls on Members of Parliament to actively participate in all stages of the budget cycle by staying informed on fiscal documents, engaging in committee work, and safeguarding allocations to key sectors such as health, agriculture, MSMEs, and social protection. It emphasizes the need for reviewing and updating GRB guidelines, institutionalizing gender tagging in IFMIS, creating a gender-disaggregated expenditure database, and submitting gender impact statements. The plan also advocates for a GRB results framework, enhanced public participation—especially of women, youth, and persons with disabilities.

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Honourable Members while attending the Gender Responsive Breakfast organized by the CPST in collaboration with KEWOPA, UN Women and the Parliamentary Budget Office.

CPST Showcases Research Leadership at 7th Annual Hansard Association of Kenya Conference.

The CPST joined Hansard professionals and governance stakeholders from across Kenya and the region for the 7th Annual Hansard Association of Kenya (HAK) Conference. Themed “The Place of Hansard in Good Governance and Advancement of Democracy,” the conference brought together participants from Parliament, County Assemblies, the Judiciary, the National Land Commission, regional legislatures, and academia.

CPST contributed significantly to the conference by introducing two major institutional initiatives: the Journal of Governance and Legislative Studies (JGLS) and the PSC Research Fellowship Policy. The Journal offers a unique platform for publishing peer-reviewed research on legislation, representation, and oversight, while the Fellowship Policy aims to position CPST as a regional hub for parliamentary research by engaging scholars and practitioners in knowledge generation.

The conference discussions also explored the evolving role of Hansard in democratic accountability, particularly the impact of artificial intelligence in transcription, language clarity, and standardization of Hansard reports across legislatures. The conference emphasized the importance of developing a national Hansard style guide, promoting editorial training, and integrating technology into reporting workflows.

CPST’s engagement was especially impactful during the session on governance and democracy, where it shared its vision to publish HAK papers in future editions of the JGLS, offering Hansard professionals a credible and international platform to disseminate their research. In doing so, CPST reaffirmed its mandate under the Parliamentary Service Act, 2019, to lead in knowledge generation and training across parliamentary disciplines.



Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly, Mrs. Serah Kioko MBS, (middle, seated) poses for a photo with the participants of the 7th Annual Hansard Association of Kenya Conference

Celebrating Milestones: Parliament Graduates Over 120 Officers from Mandatory Legislative Courses

The Centre hosted a joint graduation ceremony for over 120 staff who successfully completed Legislative Supervisory Course and the Senior Legislative Management Course offered by the CPST.

These officers had undergone intensive residential training between August 2024 and February 2025, covering critical modules in legislative supervision, public finance management, parliamentary procedures, and good governance.

The ceremony was held in the Debating Chambers of the National Assembly on Friday 25th April 2025 marks a major milestone in the professional development of Parliamentary staff. The event celebrated the successful completion of three CPST-led cohorts of Mandatory Courses approved by the Parliamentary Service Commission in 2018.

The ceremony was guided by the CPST's training and examination framework and was in line with Section 22(7) of the CPST Examination Guidelines, which provides for a formal graduation once candidates complete and pass the set assessments.

Speaking during the event, Hon. Rachel Ameso CBS, who is

the Chairperson of the CPST Board and also Commissioner in the Parliamentary Service reaffirmed the Board's commitment to ensuring that all Parliamentary staff undertake the mandatory courses as part of their career progression. She also noted that going forward, efforts are underway to transition some of the courses to online and blended formats to accommodate more officers and reduce training costs, while still maintaining quality and relevance.

The ceremony marked a renewed push to scale up the rollout of all five mandatory courses, including the upcoming Legislative Corporate Governance Course for senior management. CPST remains committed to transforming Parliament through capacity building—one course, one cohort, and one graduate at a time. While closing the training, Ms. Linet Misati, CPST's Deputy Director of Administration, Finance and Corporate Affairs, encouraged the participants to actively implement their newly acquired knowledge and skills in their daily responsibilities. She emphasized how their enhanced capabilities would contribute to the efficient operation of the Kitui County Assembly while maintaining the highest legislative standards.



The CPST Board Chair Hon. Rachel Ameso CBS (middle, seated), and the CPST Executive Director, Prof. Nyokabi Kamau EBS (third from right, seated), pose for photos with the graduands of the PSC Mandatory Course

From People to Policy: CPST and IPU Lead Global Dialogue on Public Participation.

The Centre in collaboration with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) successfully hosted their inaugural joint webinar, focusing on "Public Participation in Parliament and Its Implication on Parliamentary Democracy: Strengthening Legislation for Enhanced Governance."

This virtual session marked a significant milestone in CPST's partnership with the IPU, aligned with its mandate under Section 34 of the Parliamentary Service Act, 2019, to promote

continuous learning and strengthen democratic governance. The webinar drew over 180 participants from across the globe, with Kenya accounting for 67% of attendees.

The Executive Director of CPST, Prof. Nyokabi Kamau, EBS, and Ms. Kareen Jabre, Director of Programmes at the IPU, jointly opened the webinar, reaffirming the commitment of both institutions to enhancing parliamentary capacity on inclusive governance. The keynote address was delivered by Mr. Andres Lomp, a Community Engagement Specialist from the Victorian Parliament in Australia, who shared practical insights on institutionalizing participatory frameworks in legislative settings.

Engaging discussants included Hon. John Kiaria, Member of Parlia-

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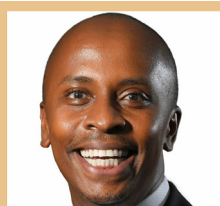
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ment in Kenya, and Dr. Mohammed Amali from the National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS), Nigeria. The session was moderated by Mr. Jeremiah Nyegenye, CBS, Clerk of the Senate and Secretary to the Parliamentary Service Commission.

The conversation revolved around strengthening legislation that fosters citizen engagement in parliamentary processes, highlighting the importance of bridging the gap between par-

liament and the public. Speakers emphasized the role of public input in policy formulation, enhancing transparency, and building trust in democratic institutions.

This webinar was part of a broader CPST and IPU initiative to build capacity in areas critical to legislative development and good governance. The collaboration sets a new precedent for international peer-learning platforms focused on parliamentary excellence.



Hon. John Kiarie, CBS
Member
National Assembly
DISCUSSANT



Mr. Andres Lomp
Community
Engagement Specialist
Parliament of Victoria
KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Dr. Mohammed Amali
Senior Research Fellow
National Assembly
DISCUSSANT



Prof. Nyokabi Kamau, EBS
Executive Director, CPST
Parliament of Kenya



Jeremiah M. Nyegenye, CBS
Clerk of Senate/Secretary
Parliamentary Service Com-
mission, Kenya
MODERATOR



Ms. Kareen Jabre
Director, Division of Pro-
grammes
IPU

CPST TRAINING CALENDAR 2025/2026 FINANCIAL YEAR

CODE	COURSE	DATES	TARGET	VENUE	COORDINATOR
SHORT ONLINE COURSES FOR MPS					
CPST/ HRM/P/500/11/25	Transition Management	3 rd Nov to 6 th Dec, 2025	All Members of Parliament	6 Online Sessions	Ms. Pauline Kigera
CPST/ ICCP/P/300/12/25	Interrogating Sessional Papers	2 nd Dec, 2025 to 16 th Dec 2026	All Members of Parliament	3 Online Sessions	Mr. Peter Muchira
CPST/ CCI/P/600/2/26	Arbitration	2 nd Feb, to 15 th June, 2026	All Members of Parliament	20 Online Sessions	Mr. Brian Mwambu
CPST/LPM/P/200/5/26	Parliamentary Practices: Mainstreaming Gender Equality and Women Empowerment	4 th May to 13 th July, 2026	Women Members of Parliament	11 Online Sessions	Ms. Faith Kibathi
MEMBERS OF COUNTY ASSEMBLIES					
CPST/LPM/CA/200/9/25	Legislative Committees Presidium	23 rd to 25 th September, 2025	Deputy Speakers and Chairpersons of Liaison Committees	CPST Nairobi	Mr. Peter Muchira
CPST/CCI/CA/600/10/25	Monitoring House Resolutions	14 th to 16 th October, 2025	Members of Implementation Committee	CPST Nairobi	Mr. Brian Mwambu
CPST/CCI/CA/600/10/25	Legislative Compliance and Risk Management for CASB	21 st to 23 rd October 2025	Members of the County Assembly Service Boards	CPST Nairobi	Ms. Pauline Kigera
CPST/PFM/CA/400/01/26	Public Finance Management: Transition from IPSAS Cash to Accrual; EGP.	27 th to 29 th January, 2026	Members of the Committee on Finance and Planning	CPST Nairobi	Ms. Victoria Barmao
CPST/CCI/CA/600/02/26	Evidence-Based Decision Making, Innovation and Technology Governance	3 rd to 5 th February, 2026	Members of Sectoral Committees	CPST Nairobi	Mr. Anthony Ngugi
CPST/PFM/CA/400/03/26	Women Leaders in Fiscal Analysis: Gender Responsive Budgeting	3 rd to 5 th March, 2026	Women Members of County Assemblies	CPST Nairobi	Ms. Faith Kibathi
COUNTY ASSEMBLY STAFF					
CPST/LPM/CA/200/11/25	Managing Committee of the Whole House	4 th to 6 th November, 2025	Clerks-at-the-Table	CPST Nairobi	Mr. Peter Muchira
CPST/LPM/CA/200/11/25	Speaker's Rules and Enforcement	17 th to 21 st November, 2025	Serjeant –at-Arms and Security Officers	CPST Nairobi	Mr. Anthony Ngugi
CPST/ PFM/ CA/400/01/26	Public Finance Management: Transition from IPSAS Cash to Accrual; EGP.	26 th to 30 th January, 2026	Finance Officers, Accountants and Internal Auditors	CPST Nairobi	Ms. Faith Kibathi

CPST/ICCP/CA/300/13/26	Protocol, Etiquette and Event Management in the Legislature	11 th to 15 th March, 2026	Public Communication Officers, Protocol Officers and Public Relations Officers	CPST Nairobi	Mr. Christopher Kenana
CPST/HRM/CA/500/03/26	Coaching and Mentoring Skills Course	16 th to 20 th March, 2026	Directors and Heads of Departments	CPST Nairobi	Ms. Pauline Kigera
CPST/ LPM /CA/200/5/26	Hansard Reporting in the Advent of AI	6 th to 10 th April, 2026	Hansard Officers	CPST Nairobi	Mr. Brian Mwambu
CPST/IPPC/CA/300/5/26	Legislative Media Relations Management	4 th to 8 th May, 2026	Public Communication and Media Relations Officers	TBC	Mr. Peter Muchira
CPST/IPPC/CA/300/5/26	Legislative Public Policy Analysis	25 th to 29 th May, 2026	Researchers, Legal Officers and Policy Analysts	TBC	Mr. Brian Mwambu
ON REQUEST					
CPST/IPPC/OR/300	Strategic Negotiation, Communication and Public Speaking Skills	TBC	Members of the National Assembly	TBC	Mr. Brian Mwambu
CPST/LPM/OR/200	Scrutiny of Subsidiary Legislation	TBC	Senators	TBC	Mr. Peter Muchira
CPST/HRM/OR/500	Parliamentary Administration and Customer Care	TBC	PSC Contract Staff	TBC	Ms. Pauline Kigera
Please take note that Bespoke Programmes are available throughout as long as they meet the minimum number of participants. All inquiries to be sent cpst@parliament.go.ke or Telephone No +254 11 531 2157					



Training for Quality Leadership and Governance

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