

University students and graduates can now build the skills they need in order to make a smooth transition into the job market.

This is now possible after Barclays Bank of Kenya (BBK) launched the ReadyToWork programme at the University of Nairobi (UoN) targeting students. The programme is a free online platform that offers a curriculum for certificate courses in a range of people, work, entrepreneurial and money skills. Students are encouraged to log onto the portal <https://readytowork.barclays/> and register as members in order to benefit from the resources.

Presiding over the launch, Jeremy Awori, BBK Managing Director, said that the ReadyToWork platform will provide graduates with the necessary skills to enhance their competitiveness. He noted that the programme is in line with the bank's global citizenship strategy which aims to provide young people access to the skills and opportunities they need to find employment or venture into business. Mr. Awori revealed that the bank has invested in programmes that have equipped the youth with financial literacy, employability and life skills.

Speaking on behalf of the [Vice-Chancellor](#), Deputy Vice-Chancellor, [Student Affairs](#), Prof. Isaac Mbeche welcomed the initiative noting that the programme is timely as it will equip students and graduates with crucial people and work skills. In his remarks, Prof. Mbeche challenged the students to develop an intellectual and cultural curiosity both within their academic and professional disciplines and also across discipline boundaries. He urged them to develop problem solving work-ready skills as required in the dynamic and changing world. In readiness for the work environment, Prof. Mbeche asked students to demonstrate cultural awareness, develop a global perspective and cultivate respect and tolerance for others.

The ReadyToWork curriculum was developed after research was carried out across Africa, to identify the gaps in employment and youth-owned businesses.

Prof. Bernard Njoroge, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, [Administration and Finance](#), Prof. Isaac Jumba, Principal, [College of Education and External Studies](#), Prof. Peter Ngau, Ag. Principal, [College of Architecture and Engineering](#) are among those who graced the event.