

UoN student shortlisted for the African Prize for Engineering Innovation



Taita Ngetich, 5th year, Mechanical Engineering explains how Mkulima Hodari works.

Taita Ng'etich, a 5th year, Mechanical Engineering has been shortlisted for the 2015/2016 Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation by the Royal Academy of Engineering, for his innovation.

The innovation is a solar powered greenhouse automation system with sensors that monitor temperature, humidity and soil moisture and regulates water through the drip lines. The innovation is among the twelve innovations being presented at the Africa Prize.

#AfricaPrize for Engineering Innovation: shortlist



The graphic features a blue map of Kenya with a yellow dot for Nairobi. A circular inset shows a smiling man, Taita Ngetich. To the right is a stylized map of Africa with horizontal stripes in red, orange, and yellow, and the year '2016' at the bottom. The text 'CELEBRATING AFRICAN INNOVATORS' is written across the stripes.

Kenya

Nairobi

CELEBRATING
AFRICAN
INNOVATORS
2016

"Imagine being able to produce crops all year round, regardless of the weather, and of how often you can be on your farm. This is what we do for farmers. And this means more food, and a stronger agricultural economy."

The Innovator: Taita Ngetich, 22, is studying mechanical engineering in Nairobi, and co-founded the project with the hope to help Kenyan farmers unlock their potential.

The Innovation: **Illuminum Greenhouses** are low-cost, modern greenhouses with solar-powered sensors that monitor and automate irrigation, and can be controlled remotely through any phone.

ROYAL
ACADEMY OF
ENGINEERING

The Africa Prize is generously supported by The Shell Centenary Scholarship Fund, Consolidated Contractors Company, ConocoPhillips, Mo Ibrahim Foundation and The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (UK)

The Africa Prize, now in its second year, is Africa's largest award dedicated to engineering innovation. It covers all engineering disciplines from mechanical, civil and computing to agricultural, biomedical, oil and gas, mining and electronics.

The twelve engineering entrepreneurs will be encouraged and supported to grow a business from their innovation through six months of training and money-can't-buy mentoring from business development and engineering experts. An overall winner will be announced in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, in May 2016. The winner will receive £25,000, with £10,000 awarded to two runners up.

The Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation was established to celebrate innovation in Africa and highlight the importance of engineering as an enabler of improved quality of life and economic development. It is generously supported by the Shell Centenary Scholarship Fund, Consolidated Contractors Company, The Foreign and Commonwealth Office's Africa Prosperity Fund, ConocoPhillips and the Mo Ibrahim Foundation.