An International exhibition on COMPLETE pharma manufacturing

AFRICA AFRICA PHARMA EXPO LAB EXPO

**KICC Nairobi KENYA** 

Organized by:



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POST SHOW REPORT 2025

Conccurrent Event:

CONFERENCE

THEME:

Anchorage of local pharma mfg. industry to AI and regulatory compliance in achieving enhanced National Universal Health

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PARESH JHURMARVALA FOUNDER & CEO GPE EXPO PVT LTD

## **ABOUT** EAST AFRICA PHARMA EXPO 2025:

## A Regional Platform Driving Growth and Collaboration



The 8th East Africa Pharma Expo & East Africa Lab Expo 2025, held on 16–17 September at KICC Nairobi, brought together 100+ exhibiting companies from over 10 countries and reaffirmed its status as the premier B2B platform for the pharmaceutical and life sciences sector in Fast Africa.

Exhibitors showcased a wide spectrum of solutions, including pharma raw materials & APIs, formulation and contract manufacturing, packaging materials & machinery, manufacturing machinery, analytical and laboratory technologies, cleanroom & HVAC systems, water treatment, automation, and turnkey consultancy. The Expo served as a dynamic hub for B2B meetings and regional networking, strengthening Kenya's role as a hub for pharmaceutical innovation and local production.

The event was inaugurated in the presence of dignitaries from key regulatory and industry bodies such as the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB), Federation of Kenya Pharmaceutical Manufacturers (FKPM), Pharmaceutical Society of Kenya (PSK), Kenya Association of Pharmaceutical Industry (KAPI), Kenya Pharmaceutical Association (KPA), and Uganda Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association (UPMA). A notable highlight was the participation of a delegation of senior QA/QC officers from the Tanzania Medicines & Medical Devices Authority (TMDA), underscoring cross-border collaboration.

Running parallel, the Pharma Conference addressed the theme "Anchorage of Local Pharmaceutical Industry to AI and Regulatory Compliance in Achieving Enhanced National Universal Health." Sessions explored AI in pharma and regulatory affairs, track-and-trace systems, compliance best practices, and sector-wide challenges and opportunities. The keynote by Mr. Ranjit Barshikar, CEO of QbD International and UN MPP Geneva Advisor, emphasized the need to embed Quality by Design (QbD), AI, and data integrity into East Africa's pharma manufacturing systems, drawing strong engagement from regulators, QA/QC professionals, and industry leaders.

With strong participation from stakeholders across Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Rwanda, and Burundi, the two-day event successfully positioned itself as a catalyst for advancing local manufacturing, regulatory harmonization, and global partnerships within East Africa's pharmaceutical sector





MORE ATTENDEES MADE
THE EVENT LARGEST
BUSINESS NETWORKING
PLATFORM AMONG THE
EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

1,347

TRADE PROFESSIONALS
ATTENDED

### EAST AFRICAN PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY OVERVIEW

The pharmaceutical industry in East Africa is undergoing a period of rapid growth and transformation, driven by population growth, rising healthcare needs, and strong policy support for local manufacturing. Countries such as Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Burundi, and the DRC are increasingly focusing on reducing dependency on imports by building regional production capacity.

Kenya remains the region's leading pharmaceutical hub, accounting for nearly 50% of the local manufacturing capacity in East Africa, while Tanzania, Uganda, and Ethiopia are expanding through public-private partnerships and incentives to attract investment. Across the region, the market is supported by government policies encouraging self-reliance, tax incentives, and regulatory reforms, particularly around Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) compliance.

The East African pharmaceutical market was valued at USD 4–5 billion in 2023, with demand projected to double by 2030, fueled by a growing population, universal health coverage programs, and increasing prevalence of non-communicable diseases. Despite this growth, the region still imports over 70% of its medicines, highlighting significant opportunities for investment in APIs, formulation plants, packaging, contract manufacturing, and lab/QA/QC infrastructure.

## **KEY TRENDS SHAPING THE SECTOR INCLUDE**

- Localization of production: Governments prioritizing essential medicines and vaccines.
- Regulatory harmonization: EAC countries moving toward aligned standards under the EAC Medicines Regulatory Harmonization program.
- Technology transfer & digitalization: Rising interest in automation, AI, and track-and-trace technologies to strengthen supply chains.
- Cross-border collaboration: Regional associations and regulators (e.g., PPB Kenya, TMDA Tanzania, UPMA Uganda) working together to enhance quality, safety, and competitiveness.

With strong international interest and regional policy momentum, East Africa is well-positioned to become a manufacturing hub for affordable, high-quality pharmaceutical products, serving both domestic and export markets.



## **OPENING CEREMONY INSIGHTS**

The Opening Ceremony of the 8th East Africa Pharma Expo brought together government leaders, industry associations, regulators, and international partners to set the vision for East Africa's pharmaceutical future. The speakers highlighted the urgency of reducing import dependency, fostering innovation and investment, strengthening regulatory systems, and embracing global collaboration to deliver accessible and affordable healthcare across the region.



# FRAZ NDULO AND CLETUS OTIENO KENYA PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION (KPA)

"The Kenya Pharmaceutical Association, representing more than 13,000 pharmaceutical technologists across the country, sees first-hand how global shocks and currency volatility are affecting medicine distribution and healthcare access.

To address these disruptions, we believe in three critical pillars. First, reducing the cost of healthcare by strengthening local pharmaceutical manufacturing. By producing locally, we can stabilize prices, ensure consistent quality, and improve access to medicines.

Second, investment in human capital is vital. Kenya already has highly trained healthcare professionals who ensure medicine access, regulatory compliance, and patient care. With more investment, we can expand specialized training, provide scholarships, and build career pathways for the future.

Third, we must create space for small-scale innovators. Kenya is full of innovation, yet many struggle to scale because sustainable business models are lacking. Supporting these players will enable more efficient service delivery.

Above all, we firmly believe that quality healthcare is nonnegotiable - it must remain accessible and affordable for every Kenyan."



# DR. STELLA KIPKANUI KENYA ASSOCIATION OF PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRIES (KAPI)

"At the Kenya Association of Pharmaceutical Industries (KAPI), our commitment is clear: to ensure safe, equitable, and affordable access to healthcare products for all.

We are advancing this mission by promoting the use of safe and effective medicines, eliminating counterfeit products, and intensifying the fight against illicit trade. These efforts are central to protecting patients and strengthening the credibility of our healthcare system.

By working together, we can create an environment where every Kenyan has access to the medicines they need - without fear of falsified or unsafe products."



# DR. VIMAL PATEL CHAIRMAN, FEDERATION OF KENYA PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURERS (FKPM)

"Africa has the potential to become the next India or China in pharmaceutical manufacturing, provided all stakeholders align to promote local production. Yet, we face a lack of policies and laws that would encourage and motivate manufacturers to invest and expand.

Manufacturing is not only about economics - it is about sovereignty. A strong local industry shields us from global shocks, creates jobs, generates tax revenues, and ensures quick and easy access to medicines.

But above all, quality is not defined by the tests conducted at the end, but by the integrity of the process itself. We must produce medicines that we would trust to use ourselves."



# DR. WAIRIMU MBOGO PRESIDENT, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF KENYA (PSK)

"This is more than an exhibition - it is a call to action. We hope it translates into stronger responsibility from every healthcare worker to guarantee accessible, affordable, and reliable healthcare, ensuring all citizens receive the highest possible standard of care.

Today, Kenya imports 70% of its medicines, but our vision is to reduce this to 30% within the next four to five years. Revamping local manufacturing is key to ensuring essential medicines are readily available and to making our healthcare systems more sustainable.

At PSK, we are guided by four pillars: Policy and Investments, Quality and Compliance, Technology and Innovation, and Human Capital Development. Through the EPIC strategy - Education, Policy, Innovations, and Collaborations - we aim to move Kenya from being a consumer of innovations to becoming a global pioneer in healthcare best practices."



# OFFICIAL OPENING SPEECH: DR. JOHN MUNYU, CHAIRMAN PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD (PPB)

"The Government of Kenya is deeply committed to creating a robust, reliable, and sustainable pharmaceutical manufacturing sector - one that not only supports East Africa, but contributes to global healthcare systems. We welcome foreign investors to explore the many opportunities available to strengthen local manufacturing.

The East Africa Pharma Expo provides a platform to share innovations, promote regulatory compliance, and foster collaborations between local and international stakeholders. Kenya stands as a hub for the pharmaceutical industry in East Africa, and through collective efforts, we aim to become a global model for reliable healthcare delivery.

Promoting local manufacturing is also central to achieving Universal Healthcare Coverage. At PPB, we are embracing AI to strengthen our regulatory capacity and aiming for ML3 status under WHO standards, to position Kenya as a beacon of regulatory excellence in Africa.

Our vision is to be a regulatory body that listens, supports, and ensures the highest quality standards, while providing a conducive environment for industry growth. Together with all stakeholders, we will make Kenya a leading contributor to the global pharmaceutical industry.

With this, I am proud to declare the 8th East Africa Pharma Expo officially open."



# OPENING PRESENTATION: RANJIT BARSHIKAR CEO, QBD INTERNATIONAL UNITED NATIONS ADVISOR, GENEVA

"The world is changing, and with it, the standards for quality healthcare are rising. Artificial Intelligence (AI) offers a unique opportunity to overcome the challenges that have long slowed pharmaceutical manufacturing - from lengthy R&D timelines and delayed product launches to rising costs and quality concerns.

By harnessing data-driven decision-making and predictive analytics, AI can accelerate **drug discovery**, **design**, **clinical trials**, **QA/QC**, **marketing**, **and supply chain tracking**. Already, AI has contributed to discoveries such as Halicin, a new antibiotic effective against drug-resistant bacteria.

While AI brings efficiency, reduced costs, and improved patient safety, we must also address ethical concerns and fears of replacing human knowledge. Used responsibly, AI will not replace expertise, but enhance it - ensuring continuous improvement in quality and building a more resilient pharma sector."



# DR. NANCY NJERU DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH PRODUCTS AND TECHNOLOGIES, MINISTRY OF HEALTH

"During the Ministry's 2023 Expo, we made a firm commitment: by 2026, drugs on the essential drug list must be produced locally. Since then, the Ministry has carried out a comprehensive assessment of the local manufacturing landscape to develop a practical strategy for achieving this goal.

We have also evaluated mission-led industries for capacity building, ensuring they are positioned to play their role in improving access and availability. Importantly, this strategy integrates insights from both local and international stakeholders, making it inclusive and forward-looking.

Between April and June 2025, the strategy was finalized, and it will be circulated for review and recommendations between July and September 2025."



# VOTE OF THANKS PARESH JHURMARVALA CEO, GPE EXPO PVT LTD, INDIA

"The vision of making Kenya the pharmaceutical manufacturing hub of East Africa is alive and stronger than ever. We are deeply grateful to the government, industry leaders, associations, exhibitors, and international partners who have joined hands to make this Expo possible.

On behalf of the organizers, I extend my sincere appreciation to all the distinguished guests and speakers who have contributed their insights and support. Together, we will continue working towards strengthening East Africa's role as a center of pharmaceutical excellence."



# RISHABH KUMAR REWAR SECOND SECRETARY (COMMERCE & PRESS) / SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER, HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

"India has brought more than 75 pharmaceutical manufacturers with advanced technologies to this Expo, to build strong partnerships with East African counterparts.

Our vision is to support East Africa in becoming a key hub for pharmaceutical manufacturing in the region, fostering collaboration, technology transfer, and sustainable growth."



### **CONCLUSION**

The Opening Ceremony established a clear direction for the Expo: collaboration, innovation, and investment in local capacity will be the driving forces behind East Africa's pharmaceutical transformation. From harnessing AI for innovation, to advancing regulatory excellence, to building partnerships across borders, the insights shared by leaders highlighted a shared determination to make quality healthcare accessible, affordable, and sustainable for the region and beyond.



## CONFERENCE

**2 DAYS CONFERENCE** 

**20 SPEAKERS** 

**PANEL SESSIONS** 

**SEMINARS** 

THEME:

Anchorage of local pharma mfg. industry to AI and regulatory compliance in achieving enhanced National Universal Health

#### **DAY-1 HIGHLIGHTS**

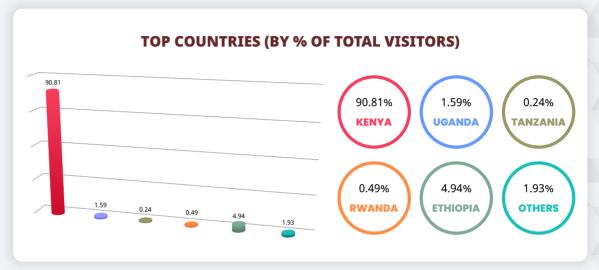
Day 1 of the Conference focused on the regulatory and operational enablers for local pharmaceutical manufacturing in East Africa. Regulators from Kenya and Tanzania, together with industry associations, emphasized the need to align policies with international GMP standards, incentivize local production, and build strong capacity through training and collaboration. Key discussions centered on reducing the high cost of imported raw materials, strengthening post-market surveillance to combat falsified medicines. and establishing a regional API manufacturing hub. KEMSA's presentation outlined challenges in procurement and equipment maintenance, while further panels explored the importance of compliance, innovation, and skills development. The discussions highlighted the critical role of regulatory harmonization and industry-regulator collaboration in achieving self-sufficiency.

### **DAY-2 HIGHLIGHTS**

Day 2 placed a spotlight on the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the pharmaceutical industry and regulation. Speakers demonstrated how AI is revolutionizing drug discovery, clinical trials, quality control, and manufacturing through predictive analytics and automation. Case studies such as Sanofi's "Factory of the Future" illustrated the possibilities of smart, automated pharma plants. The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) shared its roadmap for becoming a regional leader in regulatory AI adoption through a phased rollout up to 2032. The Q&A sessions raised critical issues around AI's ethical use, training needs, accountability in clinical trials, and even its carbon footprint. Overall, Day 2 highlighted that AI is not just a technological upgrade but a strategic imperative for efficiency, compliance, and patient safety.



## **VISITOR DATA ANALYSIS**







## **EXHIBITORS**





### **GEOGRAPHY OF EAST AFRICA PHARMA EXPO 2025 EXHIBITORS**











**CHINA** 

**GERMANY** 

INDIA

**KFNYA** 

IJK

### **EXHIBITORS CATEGORY**

- ANALYTICAL PRODUCTS & SERVICES
- API, BULK ACTIVES / DRUGS, ADDITIVES, EXCIPIENTS
- CAPSULATION UNIT
- CONTRACT RESEARCH
- CREAM / OINTMENT UNIT
- FILTER AND FILTRATION EQUIPMENT
- HVAC AND CLEANROOM **MANUFACTURING**
- INFORMATION RESOURCES
- INJECTABLE / STERILE UNIT
- LIQUID PLANT
- LOGISTICS & COMMUNICATIONS

- PACKAGING EQUIPMENTS
- PACKAGING MATERIALS
- PHARMA CONTRACT MANUFACTURING
- PHARMA FORMULATIONS MANUFACTURING
- PHARMA PRODUCT STORAGE SYSTEM
- PLANT / MACHINERY FOR API
- POWDER / DRY SYRUP UNIT
- PROFESSIONAL / BUSINESS SERVICES
- PROJECT MANAGEMENT / **CONSULTANTS**
- TABLETING UNIT
- WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM



# SOME OF THE EXHIBITING COMPANIES AT EAST AFRICA PHARMA EXPO 2025

- ACCUPACK ENGINEERING PVT LTD INDIA
- ALCOHOLS LTD UK
- ALKEMIA EAST AFRICA KENYA
- AMBIKA STEEL FURNITURE INDIA
- AMICRON CLEANTECT (INDIA) PVT LTD INDIA
- AMR PRINT & PACK INDIA
- ANISH PHARMA EQUIP PVT LTD INDIA
- APELOA PHARMACEUTICAL CO LTD CHINA
- APPLE AIRCON PVT LTD INDIA
- APURVA WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS PVT LTD INDIA
- ARNITA CONSULTANTS PVT LTD INDIA
- ASHUT ENGINEERS LTD KENYA
- ASOJ SOFT CAPS PVT LTD INDIA
- ATHENA INSTRUMENTS PVT LTD INDIA
- AVANT GARDE CLEANROOM & ENGG SOLUTIONS PVT LTD INDIA
- BECTOCHEM LOEDIGE PROCESS TECHNOLOGY PVT LTD INDIA
- BEIJING HANLIN HANGYU TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT INC CHINA
- BIO-CAPS INDIA LTD INDIA
- BROTHERS PHARMAMACH INDIA PVT LTD INDIA
- BRY-AIR INDIA
- CADMACH MACHINERY CO PVT LTD INDIA



"The East Africa Pharma Expo 2025 provided a valuable opportunity to connect with key decision-makers from across the region. We were able to showcase our solutions, build relationships with potential partners, and explore new opportunities in a well-organized setting. The quality of attendees and the level of discussion exceeded our expectations, making it a rewarding experience"

PARASHAR VACHHRAJANI SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT CADMACH MACHINERY, INDIA



"East Africa Pharma Expo 2025 provided us a great opportunity to connect and engage with the tremendously developing pharmaceutical market of Kenya. We have been regularly participating in the expo, and have been getting good exposure to the African market. I wish the organizing team all the very best for successful conclusion of the show, and for the upcoming editions as well."

ARUN SHUKLA & ANKITA SHUKLA MANAGING PARTNER & HEAD-MARKETING VISHWAKARMA ENGINEERING, INDIA



"Participating in East Africa Pharma Expo 2025 reinforced our confidence in the region's potential. The event allowed us to engage with a broad audience - from seasoned industry professionals to up-and-coming entrepreneurs -and to share knowledge about best practices in manufacturing and compliance."

RITESH INDULKAR
HEAD - MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS
JEKSON VISION PVT LTD, INDIA



### SOME OF THE EXHIBITING COMPANIES AT EAST AFRICA PHARMA EXPO 2025

- CONCEPT ENGG CO & SINGHANIA INDUSTRIES INDIA
- CUVKAR GENETIC MEDICINES PVT LTD INDIA
- DIGSS ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS INDIA
- EMEISHAN HONGSEN BIOPHARMACEUTICAL CO LTD -CHINA
- FABTECH TECHNOLOGIES LTD INDIA
- FEDERATION OF KENYA PHARMA MANUFACTURERS (FKPM) - KENYA
- FETTE COMPACTING MACHINERY INDIA PVT LTD INDIA
- FLUIDPACK INDIA
- FUTURISTIC PACKAGING PVT LTD INDIA
- GALAXY SIVTEK PVT LTD INDIA
- GALLEON INSTRU-TECH PVT LTD INDIA
- GMP MACHINERIES & PACKAGING INDIA
- HELIOS CONCREW PVT LTD / BLISTER KING INDIA
- HVAX TECHNOLOGIES LTD INDIA
- HYDROPURE SYSTEM PVT LTD INDIA
- ICETON AIR PVT LTD INDIA
- IMPACT LABS PVT LTD INDIA
- INNOVATIVE ENGINEERS HVAC PVT LTD INDIA
- IAGAT INDUSTRIES INDIA
- JBM PRISPAC SOLUTION INDIA PVT LTD INDIA
- JEKSON VISION PVT LTD INDIA

- JICON TECHNOLOGIES PVT LTD INDIA
- K+S MINERALS AND AGRICULTURE GMBH GERMANY
- KAHAN PHARMACEUTICALS INDIA
- KAMBERT MACHINERY CO PVT LTD INDIA
- KENYA PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION (KPA) KENYA
- KONARK MACHINE TOOLS INDIA
- LAXMI PHARMA PACK UNITY FOILS INDIA
- LOTUS TECHNICALS PVT LTD INDIA
- MARUSH OVERSEAS PVT LTD INDIA
- MECHZEAL INTERPHASING PVT LTD INDIA
- MEDICLAVE INDUSTRIES PVT LTD INDIA
- MEGGLE GMBH & CO. KG MEGGLE EXCIPIENTS -GERMANY
- MICROBIOTECH / KALP STERI SOLUTION INDIA
- MIKHAIL CORPORATION INDIA
- NANJING SINO PHARMACEUTICAL LTD CHINA
- NICOMAC TAIKISHA CLEAN ROOMS PVT LTD INDIA
- PANGLOBAL MACHINERIES PVT LTD INDIA
- PANKAJ INDUSTRIES INDIA
- PATEL SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS PVT LTD INDIA
- PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF KENYA (PSK) KENYA
- PHARMALAB INDIA PVT LTD INDIA

- PROMPTECH PHARMA EQUIPMENTS INDIA PVT LTD INDIA
- RAJA TRADELINKS PVT LTD INDIA
- REDACHEM EAST AFRICA LTD KENYA
- S K PHARMA MACHINERY PVT LTD INDIA
- S S PRINT TO PACK PVT LTD INDIA
- SAAN ENGINEERS AND ISOSAAN CONTAINMENT SOLUTIONS - INDIA
- SALLMEO GROUP INDIA
- SHUBHAM PHARMACHEM PVT LTD INDIA
- SNEHAL TURNKEY SOLUTIONS PVT LTD INDIA
- SPECTRUM PHARMATECH CONSULTANTS PVT LTD INDIA
- SSPM SYSTEMS & ENGINEERS PVT LTD INDIA
- SUN TEKNOVATION PVT LTD INDIA
- SUPREEM PHARMACEUTICALS MYSORE PVT LTD INDIA
- SWATHI CLEANROOMS INDIA
- TOFFLON CHINA
- UPHILL ENGINEERING & INNOVATIONS PVT LTD INDIA
- VISHWAKARMA ENGINEERING INDIA
- WATERMASS SYSTEMS PVT LTD INDIA
- ZHEJIANG ALIGNED TECHNOLOGY CO LTD CHINA



# SEE YOU IN 2027 Nairobi KENYA

AFRICA AFRICA

PHARMA EXPO

LAB EXPO

# An International exhibition on COMPLETE pharma manufacturing

**Concurrent Event:** 

**PHARMA CONFERENCE** 

Organized by:



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