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# PAWA254 FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

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## COMMUNITY FEATURE

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**Fredrick Odhiambo** is Kenyan visual artist, activist, and youth advocate who uses art as a powerful tool for storytelling, dialogue, and social change. His work explores themes of community, identity, social justice, and climate awareness, often drawing inspiration from everyday life and lived experiences within marginalized communities.

Working primarily with acrylic on canvas and mixed media, he creates paintings, murals, and participatory art projects that engage young people and community members in meaningful conversations. As an artist who also teaches children and youth, he believes art can empower people to express

themselves, challenge injustice, and imagine better futures.

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Fredrick is actively involved in community-based creative initiatives, and he collaborates with social justice spaces to use art as a form of advocacy and civic engagement. Through workshops and public art, he strives to create safe spaces where creativity becomes a voice for those whose stories are often unheard.

He was also part of the **Digital Action Lab (DAL)** project participants had the opportunity to learn and explore Augmented Reality (AR) in art. This experience expanded my creative practice by allowing me to integrate technology with visual art, opening new ways of storytelling and audience engagement.

Through his practice, he continues to work toward building stronger creative communities and inspiring young artists to use their talents for positive social impact.

Fred on social media:

- [Instagram](#)

Bernard Karathe - Community Manager

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## PROGRAMS FEATURE

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On February 27, the Mageuzi Hub was transformed into a vibrant center for art and activism during the **DemocrARTic Exhibitions Showcase**. This event served as the grand finale of the **Digital Action Lab (DAL)** campaign, a project led by **PAWA Initiative** in partnership with **CIVICUS & Black Rhino VR**, while the **British Council**, **UNESCO** also served as a main development partner for this well attended public event.

The showcase featured a series of immersive Augmented Reality (AR) art created by 17 young artists to address critical themes such as voter registration, civic rights, human rights issues, and democratic participation. By integrating AR into artistic practice, the project aimed to transform traditional civic messaging into interactive experiences that resonate with youth, effectively expanding the civic space through technology.

A key highlight of the event was the direct integration of democratic action with creative expression. The **Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC)** was on-site to conduct mass voter registration, successfully registering a significant number of young people. This initiative aimed to lower barriers to participation by providing a youth-friendly environment for civic engagement, with an initial target of registering at least

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The event featured an insightful panel discussion titled *Leveraging Emerging Tech for Youth Civic Participation and Socio-Economic Development* which brought together technologists, artists, activists, and development partners. The panel explored how emerging tools like AR can be leveraged for youth civic participation and social-economic development while fostering dialogue on the future of digital democracy in Kenya.

Following the success of this showcase, PAWA seeks to scale this campaign by engaging higher learning institutions and reaching communities in both rural and urban areas. Through continued partnership with like-minded CSOs and development partners, the initiative aims to keep promoting youth-led digital innovation and inclusive governance across the country.

Angeline Gitonga - Programs Officer

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## Policy Check

**SPECIAL ISSUE**

*Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 8 (National Assembly Bills No. 1)*



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

**KENYA GAZETTE SUPPLEMENT**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS, 2026**

**NAIROBI, 23rd January, 2026**

CONTENT

Bill for Introduction into the National Assembly—	PAGE
The National Infrastructure Fund Bill, 2025 .....	1

The National Infrastructure Fund (NIF) Bill, 2026 was signed into law by President Ruto on the 9th of March 2026. Its main purpose is to mobilize Ksh 5 trillion over 10 years for strategic national projects, reducing reliance on public debt. It aims to utilize private capital, sovereign wealth funds, and public-private partnerships (PPPs) rather than solely relying on loans. The fund will prioritize the expansion of Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) and other key energy/transport project. The Act includes oversight measures, a governing council, and strict penalties to ensure transparency and prevent corruption. Its Seed capital will be generated from privatization proceeds, including the [Kenya Pipeline IPO](#), which raised Ksh 106.3 billion.

Read the Bill [here](#).

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What a month it has been!

February was a vibrant and engaging month for the PAWA Radio team. We have been on the ground in the community ensuring that our listeners stay informed, connected, and empowered through meaningful conversations and events. Here is a look at some of the highlights from the month.

### **Radio Mtaani heads to Ngong**

We kicked off the month with our flagship programme under the **Rights Inclusion and Transparency for Accountable Institutions (RITAI)** project, dubbed **Radio Mtaani**. Designed to bridge the gap between communities and their duty bearers by creating a platform where grassroots voices can be heard, the programme serves as a growing digital archive documenting community experiences and issues that often go unheard.

In February Radio Mtaani travelled to Ngong Town, Kajiado County where residents, leaders, and young changemakers came together for an engaging public conversation on development and accountability in the area.

During the session the area MCA, Hon. Mbiriri Mwaura, addressed several concerns raised by residents, as well as sharing updates on stalled projects in Ngong, and solutions on the way forward. The conversation underscored the importance of initiatives like Radio Mtaani by creating meaningful dialogues between elected officials and their constituents.

You can watch the full Radio Mtaani conversation [here](#).

PAWA Radio was live at Mageuzi Hub for the DemocrARTic Exhibitions held on 27th February marking the culmination of the **Digital Action Lab (DAL)** campaign bringing together young artists, technologists, and civic actors.

Supported by **CIVICUS** and **Black Rhino VR**, the event showcased Augmented Reality (AR) art pieces created by young artists during project DAL. These works explored themes such as voter registration, identity documentation, civic rights, and democratic participation.

The exhibition created an immersive and interactive environment where audiences engaged with civic issues through digital art, demonstrating the potential of activism and emerging technologies to strengthen democratic awareness and participation. The showcase also featured a dynamic panel discussion that brought together artists, technologists, civil society actors, and youth leaders. The conversation explored how new digital technologies can play a vital role in strengthening youth participation in democratic processes.

Catch the full conversation [here](#).

That wraps up our February highlights. Be sure to follow us on our social media platforms to stay updated on upcoming conversations, community engagements, and new content from PAWA Radio.

- [Instagram](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [YouTube](#)
- [TikTok](#)

As always, keep tuning in and powering up!

Anne Wanyoike - Community Assistant

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## Opportunities

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Leading the change in Africa's food systems

**APPLY  
NOW!**

## Applications are now open for new Fellows!

We are recruiting 120 food systems leaders in Kenya, Rwanda, and Zambia, 40 for each country, working in these impact areas:

**Deadline: 26 April 2026**

### KENYA

- Horticulture for Inclusive Markets
- Blue Economy for Food
- Agri-finance

### RWANDA

- Access to Healthy and Nutritious Foods
- Climate Smart Agriculture
- Inclusive Markets and Trade

### ZAMBIA

- Access to Healthy and Nutritious Food
- Resilient Food Systems
- Inclusive Markets and Trade

### African Food Fellowship

African Food Fellowship are recruiting 120 food systems leaders in Kenya, Rwanda, and Zambia to join the African Food Fellowship, 40 for each country. These are mid-career professionals aged between 27-50 years old, whose work is focused on any of the impact areas outlined for each country.

The deadline for applications is 26th April, 2026.

## Jua Soko Masterclass



**DISCOVER YOUR WHY**

**JUA SOKO MASTERCLASS**

Calling all creatives in Nakuru, Kisumu, Kakamega, Nairobi, Turkana and Mombasa for virtual skilling on understanding "YOUR WHY" as a creative

**27** | **March, 2026** | Live Start **4 PM - 6 PM**

**SECTIONS**

- ✓ Unpack What Drives You
- ✓ Define Your Why
- ✓ Align Actions & Identity

**SCAN TO REGISTER**



<https://tinyurl.com/ytsrsuuv>

**INK COACHING**

# Sanara



Part of Sanara, an inclusive creative industries program for young women and men in Kenya by Mastercard Foundation in partnership with HEVA, SNDBX UBUNTU, Baraza Media Lab and GoDown Arts Centre  
 Visit [www.hevafund.com/sanara](http://www.hevafund.com/sanara)

Calling all creatives in Nakuru, Kisumu, Kakamega, Nairobi, Turkana, and Mombasa to join us for this insightful learning experience, this is your invitation to pause and reconnect with what truly drives you.

The Jua Soko Masterclass is designed to help you discover and gain clarity on your creative purpose, what motivates your work, and how to align your identity with your actions. This session will help you unpack what drives you, define your why, and build a stronger foundation for your creative journey. Whether you're just starting out or already building your path, this space is for you.

<a href="#">Subscribe</a> <a href="#">Registration Link &amp; Details</a>	<a href="#">Past Issues</a>	<a href="#">Translate</a> ▼
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### Events

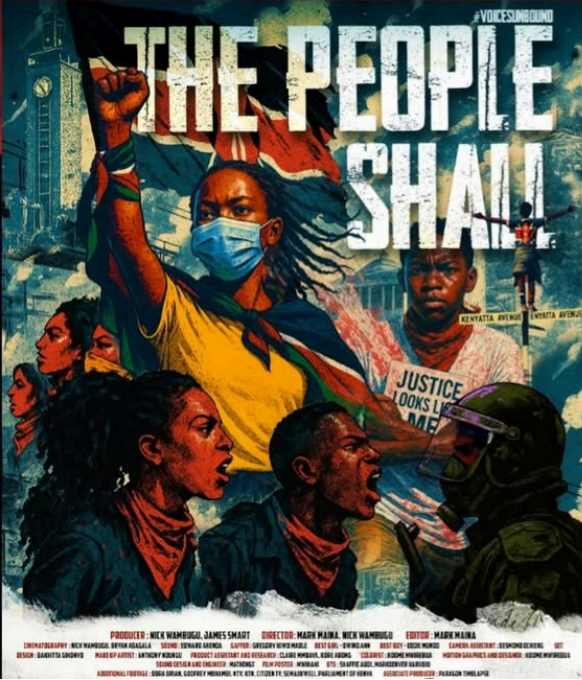
# ART OF ORDER

## MEMORY, PROTEST, AND THE SHAPE OF DEMOCRACY

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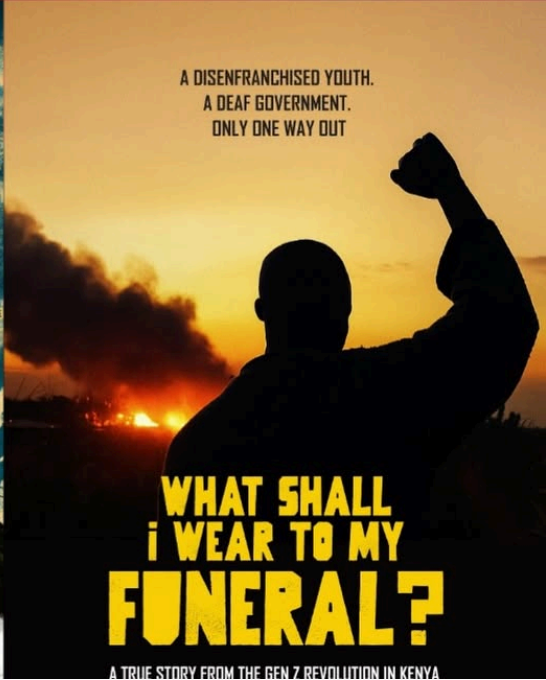
DATE: THUR | 26.03.2026

FROM: 5:30 P.M.



PRODUCER: NICK WAMBUGU, JAMES SMART | DIRECTOR: MARK MAIRA, NICK WAMBUGU | EDITOR: MARK MAIRA  
 EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: NICK WAMBUGU, JAMES SMART | PRODUCED BY: NICK WAMBUGU, JAMES SMART | WRITTEN BY: NICK WAMBUGU, JAMES SMART  
 BASED UPON: ANTHONY MURRAY | PROJECT ASSISTANT: ARIE ROSSIGLIARDI, CLARE MURPHY, KYLE ADAMS | COLLABORATOR: BECKY WAMBUGU  
 MUSIC BY: JAMES MURRAY | SOUND DESIGNER: ANTHONY MURRAY | FILM EDITOR: NICK WAMBUGU | POST-PRODUCTION: NICK WAMBUGU  
 ADDITIONAL POST-PRODUCTION: OGGI SHUKLA, SUDHEEY MURTHY, AYE KHA, CIZHON TY, SHALINIYILL, PAVANLATH OF NERVA | EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: PARAGAN THIRAPATI

A DISENFRANCHISED YOUTH.  
A DEAF GOVERNMENT.  
ONLY ONE WAY OUT



WHAT SHALL  
I WEAR TO MY  
FUNERAL?

A TRUE STORY FROM THE GEN Z REVOLUTION IN KENYA

### African Food Fellowship

<b>Subscribe</b>	<b>Past Issues</b>	Art of Order returns with <i>The People Shall...</i> , a documentary by Kenyan filmmakers Jirka Wambugi and Mark Maina Maingi. Hosted by ALN Academy in	<b>Translate</b> ▼
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partnership with Docubox, Art of Order is a screening series that uses film to open space for public reflection and conversation on justice, governance, and lived experience.

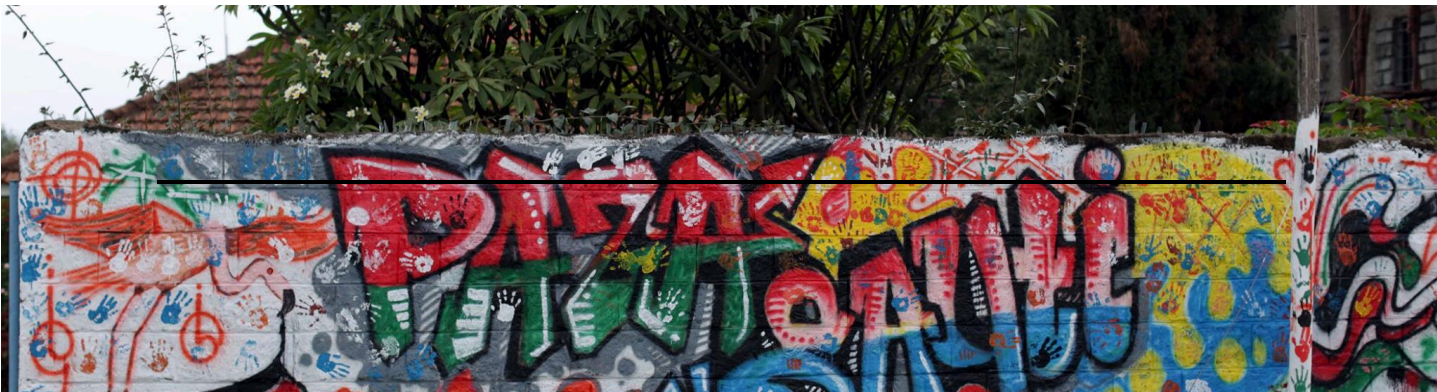
Date: Thursday, 26 March 2026 | 5:00 PM

Venue: ALN House, Off Eldama Ravine Close, Nairobi

Free limited spots available [here](#).

## Find us online

For more details visit <https://pawa254.org/>  
 Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram



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