

# THE BOG

FRIENDS OF ONDIRI WETLANDS

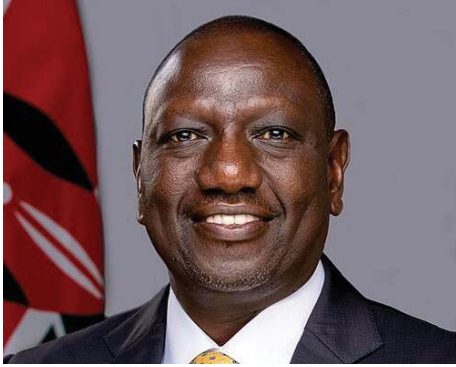


2025



## NEWSLETTER PRESS RELEASE

Mazingira Day Celebration at Ondiri Wetland Marks  
Major Milestone in Tree Growing Efforts



This monumental effort aligns directly with the vision of H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, the President of the Republic of Kenya, whose administration has demonstrated unprecedented leadership in environmental conservation. Under his stewardship, the 15 Billion Trees Initiative and the Climate Wox Program are transforming Kenya's landscapes, reviving ecosystems, creating green jobs, and inspiring a new generation of environmental stewards.

The event also featured exhibitions from various partners showcasing their environmental products and services. Leaders commended the tireless efforts of Friends of Ondiri Wetland and its partners for transforming Ondiri into Kenya's best-conserved wetland, a testament to the power of community-driven conservation.



The celebration strongly echoed H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto's national commitment to grow 15 billion trees by 2032. To date, Friends of Ondiri and partners have successfully planted over 50,000 trees towards this goal.



The day began at 6:00 a.m. with an exciting birdwatching activity, followed by the planting of 2,500 tree species at Alliance High School. This exercise was coordinated by the National Defence College (NDC) Karen under the leadership of Lt. Gen. J. S. Mwinjikai, the College Commandant; Alliance High School, led by Principal Mr. David Kamau; and Friends of Ondiri Wetland, coordinated by Mr. David Wakogy.

Kikuyu, 10th October 2025, Today marked one of the most remarkable days at Ondiri-Wetland as the Mazingira Day celebrations brought together thousands of environmental enthusiasts who collectively grew 12,500 trees in a single day.



Later, another 10,000 trees were planted along the reclaimed riparian land of Nyongara River, the main tributary of Nairobi River. The exercise was officially flagged off by Dr. Paul Kipronoh Ronoh, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, in the presence of Major General John Maison Nkoimo, General Officer Commanding Central Command (CENTCOM); Ms. Rael Chebichii Lelei, Commissioner, Nairobi Rivers Commission; Mr. David Kuria, CECM for Environment, Kiambu County; Mr. Charles Laboso, Kikuyu DCC; Mr. Paul Waruhiu, Kikuyu Municipal Manager; and Friends of Ondiri Wetland Coordinator, Mr. David Wakogy, among other distinguished leaders.





The success of the event was made possible by the Climate Worx Team, whose continuous efforts in reclaiming and restoring the Nairobi River from its source at Ondiri reflect President Ruto's support for urban youth engagement through the Climate Worx program.



The success of the event was made possible by the Climate Worx Team, whose continuous efforts in reclaiming and restoring the Nairobi River from its source at Ondiri reflect President Ruto's support for urban youth engagement through the Climate Worx program.

The success of the event was made possible by the Climate Worx Team, whose continuous efforts in reclaiming and restoring the Nairobi River from its source at Ondiri reflect President Ruto's support for urban youth engagement through the Climate Worx program.



Later in the day, Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah, MP for Kikuyu and Leader of the Majority in the National Assembly, graced the event and fulfilled his patriotic duty by planting trees in celebration of this important national day.



The event attracted environmental enthusiasts and partners from across Kenya and beyond, including participants from Norway, Denmark, Nepal, and several other countries, further underscoring Ondiri's growing global significance as a model for wetland restoration and climate action.



## Mazingira Day 2025

# KENYA UNITES TO GREEN ITS FUTURE

Every year on 10th October, Kenyans come together to celebrate Mazingira Day, a powerful national occasion dedicated to environmental conservation, climate resilience, and sustainable development. What was once known as Moi Day has been transformed into a symbol of Kenya's renewed commitment to safeguarding its natural heritage and securing a livable future for all.

In a world increasingly threatened by climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss, Mazingira Day stands out as a unique and unifying platform. It brings together citizens, government agencies, institutions, and corporates to take collective action for the planet proving that environmental protection is not just a duty but a shared national pride.



The 2025 Mazingira Day celebrations at Ondiri Wetland in Kikuyu, Kiambu County, were a resounding success. Thousands of Kenyans turned up to plant trees and restore riparian areas along the Nyongara River, the true source of the Nairobi River. This iconic wetland, Kenya's only subterranean peat bog, plays a crucial ecological role by regulating water flow and supporting diverse plant and animal life. Through such community-driven restoration work, Ondiri has become a national symbol of resilience and hope.

This monumental effort aligns directly with the vision of H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, the President of the Republic of Kenya, whose administration has demonstrated unprecedented leadership in environmental conservation. Under his stewardship, the 15 Billion Trees Initiative and the Climate Wox Program are transforming Kenya's landscapes, reviving ecosystems, creating green jobs, and inspiring a new generation of environmental stewards.

These initiatives have placed Kenya at the forefront of Africa's green transition, earning admiration from across the continent and beyond.



The 2025 Mazingira Day celebrations at Ondiri Wetland in Kikuyu, Kiambu County, were a resounding success. Thousands of Kenyans turned up to plant trees and restore riparian areas along the Nyongara River, the true source of the Nairobi River.

This iconic wetland, Kenya's only subterranean peat bog, plays a crucial ecological role by regulating water flow and supporting diverse plant and animal life. Through such community-driven restoration work, Ondiri has become a national symbol of resilience and hope.





Beyond tree planting, Mazingira Day has evolved into a festival of conservation, culture, and community spirit. Activities such as bird watching, brass band processions, guided wetland tours, and free exhibitions by corporates and institutions made the day both educational and celebratory. Parents were encouraged to bring their children, nurturing a new generation that understands and values the environment.





As the sun set on  
Mazingira Day 2025, one  
message rang clear:

**"The future of our  
environment lies in our  
hands, and the time to  
act is now."**



**David Wakogy  
Coordinator,  
Friends of Ondiri Wetland Kenya**

# MAZINGIRA DAY GALLERY









# MAZINGIRA DAY SPONSORS

