



DR. CATHERINE NYAKI ADEYA

ALUMNI PROFILE



Dr. Catherine Adeya is a result driven information scientist, Governance Specialist, and a Senior Digital Transformation working in technology and development. She has a rich experience across academia, civil society, Government, and the private sector and is a trailblazer in the technology field, a niche sculptured when she joined Moi University among the pioneer class in the School of Information, Communication & Technology in 1988. She is an expert in multilateral agency operations, excellent skills in research and policy development.

Dr. Adeya was the Director of Research at the World Wide Web Foundation (WF) until 2022, and was responsible for coordinating a global research team dedicated to achieving a web that is safe and empowering for everyone. She has overseen the organization's groundbreaking research in areas from internet access, privacy and data rights, and women's rights online, focused on low- and middle-income countries. Dr. Adeya has extensive knowledge and is widely spoken and published in the ICT for Development sector. She began her career as a Research Fellow at the United Nations University's Institute for New Technologies in Maastricht, the Netherlands from 1998.

In 2002, driven by a commitment to tackle global inequality, she moved back to Africa to advocate for the use of digital technologies to expand opportunities and drive development. She was involved in research linking ICTs and poverty, critical success factors for the Business Process Outsourcing industry (BPO) and with organizations like the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). From 2005, she moved more from academia to work with the Civil society on ICTs for Development. Catherine was involved in the Kenya ICT policy process from 2006 through the Kenya ICT Action Network (KICTANET) which was the beginning of ICT networks for participatory democracy and economic growth in Kenya.

She was appointed to the first Board of Directors of the Kenya ICT Board (now ICT Authority of Kenya) she has also served as the Director of Business Process Outsourcing/Information Technology Enabled Services (BPO/ITES) at the Ministry of ICT in Kenya; and as founder and CEO of the Konza Technopolis Development Authority (KoTDA). Dr. Adeya has also been immensely instrumental in the development of the East Africa Centre for Internet Governance and Policy (CIGAP) at the renowned Strathmore University in Nairobi.

She was an independent non-executive director at Standard Chartered Bank Kenya for nine(9) years until December 2024. Catherine is currently an independent non-executive Director at Old Mutual East Africa Holdings, where she chairs the Technology and Innovation Committee. She also serves on the advisory board of the East Africa Infrastructure Platform(EAIP)

Her biggest dream is to empower as many women as possible to follow in her steps to pursue Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, popular as STEM subjects, and be part of the process as far as research is concerned.

Dr. Catherine, started her University Education with an Undergraduate degree in Information Sciences from Moi University. Her postgraduate studies led to a Doctor of Philosophy(Ph.D) degree in Information and Development as well as a masters degree from Edinburgh, Scotland. She has various certifications in corporate governance including the renowned UK Institute of Directors(IODs) certificate in company direction, Stanford University's Cybersecurity for Executive Strategy and Yale University's Women in Leadership.

Dr. Catherine is in the Management of the MU88 Group, a distinguished and outstanding Alumni class that graduated in 1992 and are the pioneers of the adopt a student programme, and the powerhouse behind the MU88 arboretum.

Honors & Awards

- 2005: University of Southern California (USC) Fellowship for Visiting Scholar
- 1994: UK Overseas Research Students (ORS) Scholarship for Doctoral Studies [Merit Award]
- 1993: British Council Scholarship for Postgraduate studies (MPhil.) in the United Kingdom [Merit Award for the Best Graduating Student (Valedictorian) in the Faculty of Information Sciences, Moi University, Kenya]
- 1992: EATEC Award for Overall Best Graduating Student in the Faculty of Information Sciences, Moi University, Kenya
- 1992: United States Library of Congress Award for Best Student, Moi University in: Indexing, User Studies, Repackaging Information, Information Searching and Retrieval
- 1992: Kenya Publishers' Association (KPA) Award for Best Student in the Department of Publishing
- 1992: The Textbook Centre Award for Best Student in Marketing
- 1987: Limuru Girls' School, Kenya - Best Citizen Award and High Commendation Award for Good Service to the School; Senior Prefect Award; School Games Captain Award

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