

PRESS RELEASE

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**NSE RECOGNIZES AND AWARDS THE
WINNERS OF THE 2018 NSE INVESTMENT
CHALLENGE**

November 19, 2018

Nairobi, November 19, 2018 - The Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) has today announced and awarded the winners of the 2018 NSE Investment Challenge.

Speaking during the award giving ceremony the NSE Chief Executive, Mr. Geoffrey Odundo, noted that, *“The NSE Investment Challenge is a critical initiative that the Exchange launched with an aim of enhancing financial literacy amongst the youth whilst inculcating a savings and investment culture in Kenya.”*

“The NSE has continued to witness sturdy growth in the number of participants and the participant’s portfolio valuation over the years demonstrating growth in knowledge about investing in various financial instruments listed on the Exchange”.

Reiterating his remarks, the NSE Vice-Chairman, Mr. Bob Karina said, *“The annual competition has enabled the NSE to leverage on increased internet penetration and smart phone usage to ease access to the Capital Markets amongst our youth”.*

Speaking during the award giving ceremony, Catherine Gitonga, Chief Executive Officer, Smart Youth Investments noted that, *“We look forward to impacting more youth in Kenya with fundamental financial skills through the NSE Investment Challenge”.*

Maureen Kibet, a student from the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) becomes the first female winner of the competition with a portfolio valuation of Ksh. 4.1 million. Kelvin Kahugu and Nelco Hesbon were the first and second runners up with a portfolio valuation of Ksh. 3.6 million and Ksh. 3.5 million respectively.

This year, the NSE Investment Challenge attracted over 10,000 participants from over 182 institutions of higher learning across 39 counties. The competition leverages on the increasing level of internet connectivity and smart phone penetration to reach the growing number of youth in Kenya.

About NSE

The Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) is the principal securities exchange in Kenya. Besides equity securities, the NSE offers a platform for the issuance and trading of debt securities. The NSE is a member of the African Securities Exchanges Association (ASEA) and the East African Securities Exchanges Association (EASEA). It is a full member of the Association of Futures Markets (AFM) and the World Federation of Exchanges (WFE), and a partner Exchange in the United Nations Sustainable Stock Exchanges Initiative (SSE).

About the NSE Investment Challenged

The NSE Investment Challenge is NSE's flagship public education initiative aimed at enhancing financial literacy amongst the youth whilst inculcating a saving and investment culture. During the competition, each participating individual or group receives Ksh. 3 million virtual capital to buy and sell shares, bonds and other securities listed on the NSE using real time stock prices provided by the NSE through the Automated Trading System. The annual competition takes place for three months following which the participating teams are evaluated based on their portfolio returns. Launched in 2007, the annual online competition has attracted over 50,000 students equipping them with the requisite financial skills for investment and entrepreneurship.

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