## EMPOWERING EDUCATORS WITH AI: IIDEMIC PROJECT HOSTS TRAINING ON HEYGEN AI VIDEO GENERATOR



The Department of Educational Communication and Technology recently hosted an intensive training session on the HeyGen AI Video Generator as part of the Inclusive and Innovative Digital Education for Migrant Community in Kenya and Somalia (IIDEMIC) Project. This initiative, funded by the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) under the European Commission's Erasmus+ CBHE programme, aims to enhance digital skills among academic teachers and promote innovative instructional practices. The training, held on 12th March 2025, was led by the Principal Investigator, Dr. Adelheid Bwire, and supported by other project team members: Dr. Marguerite Miheso, Prof. Mildred Nawiri, Dr. Beatrice Bunyasi, Dr. Priscilla Ndegwa, and Dr. Francis Mwangi. Conducted at the department's computer laboratory, the session was designed to build capacity in AI-driven content creation, one of the project's core objectives.

The training aimed to equip academic staff with practical skills in leveraging AI-powered tools to enhance online teaching and learning. Faculty members were introduced to key features of HeyGen, including AI avatar generation, automated voiceovers, and the creation of high-quality instructional videos with minimal technical expertise. Participants learned how to select avatars, script narrations, and customize video elements to suit specific teaching needs. Practical demonstrations showcased the potential of HeyGen to improve online course delivery and foster greater student engagement.



Dr. Francis Mwangi IIDEMIC Project Team member taking participants through training on use of HeyGen AI tool.

Dr. Francis Mwangi guided the faculty through live exercises, helping participants create sample videos tailored to their disciplines. Attendees expressed enthusiasm for incorporating HeyGen into their teaching practices, citing its time-saving capabilities and enhancing learning experiences. This training built on skills acquired during the Joint Project Seminar held in Mombasa from January 27–31, 2025, at the North Coast Beach Hotel, in collaboration with IIDEMIC's partners from WSB Poland. The broader objective is to enhance interaction with

inclusive and innovative digital tools, enabling educators to integrate technology effectively into their pedagogical practices.

The IIDEMIC Project continues to drive capacity-building efforts that empower educators with digital tools and strategies to enhance their teaching and research. By fostering innovation and inclusivity in digital education, the project contributes to a more dynamic and engaging learning experience for both educators, teachers and students.