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# **Research Ethics Review and Misconduct Resolution: Institutional Practices from Kenya**

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# Outline

1. Research Ethics Review in Kenya
2. Research Integrity in Kenya
  - National
  - Institutional
3. Institutional Practices from Kenya on Handling Research Misconduct
4. Insights and Lessons from KEMRI

# Research Ethics in Kenya

- Overseen and accredited by National Commission for Science, Technology & Innovation (NACOSTI).
- Currently, 46 IRBs accredited in Kenya.
- Domiciled in Universities, Hospitals, and Research Institutions.
- IRBs are both in private and public sector.

# Research Integrity in Kenya - Nationally

- Not well established in Kenya.
- There are attempts to develop national RI Code.
- National RI virtual workshop was held.
- NACOSTI organized virtual session - different stakeholders.

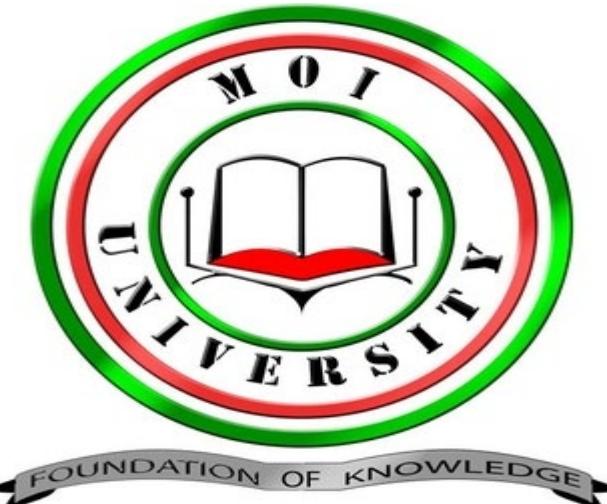


## Kenya Research Integrity Workshop



# Research Integrity in Kenya – Institutional Levels

- Plagiarism is often checked especially in academic institutions.
- Often combined with Research Ethics.
- Three institutions have developed frameworks:
  1. Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI)
  2. University of Nairobi
  3. Moi University



University of Nairobi



# Handling Misconduct – KEMRI Insights

- Ten (10) member committee appointed in July 2023.
- Committee ToRs:
  - 1) Development of institutional frameworks
  - 2) Create awareness on RI
  - 3) Development of roadmap for establishment of ORI.
- The RI policy is developed and approved
- Draft Guidelines & SOPs are being aligned with approved policy
- Continuous creation of awareness

# Handling Misconduct – KEMRI Insights

- Prior to this, RM issues were handled in an ad-hoc manner.
- Temporary Bureaus of Scientific Integrity (BSI).
- BSIs are issue-specific and short life span.
- Recommendations helpful in addressing similar future cases.

# Lessons from KEMRI RI Journey

1. Develop frameworks – policies, guidelines, SOPs etc.
2. Create awareness on RI – Prevent, Detect Early, Correct
3. Create safe environment for RM reporting
4. Intentional & institutionalized mentorship programs.
5. Start with available resources with long-term vision.
6. Document all actions.

# Thank You