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INVITATION TO JOIN KFSE BOARD

The Founder and the Board of KFSE recognize that sustainable economic empowerment depends as much on institutional design and governance quality as it does on intent. Poverty and marginalization are neither inevitable nor acceptable features of a modern society; they are the outcomes of systems, incentives, and narratives that can—and must—be changed.

At KFSE, we believe that poverty and marginalization are not private misfortunes; they are collective humiliations. They constitute unacceptable violations of human dignity. To tolerate them is to normalize humiliation; to abolish them is to restore decency, self-respect, and social pride.

As the organization matures, the Board is working to strengthen its governance and strategic capacity by welcoming new members whose resources, technical expertise, and analytical rigor can enhance oversight, sustainability, and long-term effectiveness.

This, then, is an invitation to individuals and institutions who believe that poverty should not be accepted as inevitable, but rather recognized as a condition that must be deliberately corrected, to join the Board of KFSE.

Our Story: Founded in 2012, KFSE has always pursued economic empowerment for marginalized communities. Our conviction is simple: *"Economically empowered individuals are more likely to claim and assert their rights, while economic vulnerability often correlates with increased rights violations*."

Over the years, KFSE has built extensive expertise in the areas of entrepreneurial training, MSMEs mentorship, seed capital financing, innovative credit provision, and scholarships for individuals seeking technical and vocational skills.

What makes KFSE distinctive is not *what* we do, but *how* we do it:

- We link **economic empowerment (E^2)** with social justice, keeping dignity and inclusion at the centre of our work.
- We stand with marginalized groups who are often excluded from mainstream opportunities.
- Through practical and scalable economic empowerment models, we challenge the entrenched belief that poverty is inevitable and marginalization unavoidable — and instead demonstrate how dignity and inclusion can be restored.

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KFSE's Strategic Focus Areas

KFSE advances its mission through the following four integrated strategic pillars:

1. **Building Economic Empowerment Capabilities & Pathways:** We deliver entrepreneurial skills training, research and promote innovative income-generation pathways, and facilitate peer-to-peer economic empowerment activities.

2. **Resourcing for Rights (R4R):** We provide seed capital financing, credit education integrated with access to affordable credit, business mentorship, and visibility for emerging entrepreneurs.

3. **Shifting Norms on Poverty & Marginalization:** We reframe poverty and marginalization as violations of human dignity and actively cultivate abolitionist thinking in response to them.

4. **Proving, Learning & Scaling:** We generate evidence on effective economic empowerment practices, influence policy discourse, and showcase scalable models for broader adoption.

What Board Members Will Contribute to:

KFSE is particularly interested in Board members drawn from academia, finance, applied research, and mission-aligned institutions with experience in economic empowerment, MSME development, and inclusive finance. We therefore invite individuals and institutions who can contribute in one or more of the following ways:

1. **Strategic, Technical & Thought Leadership**
    i. Academic scholars, researchers, and practitioners in economic empowerment, development economics, finance, public policy, and social justice who can strengthen KFSE's analytical rigor, evidence generation, and the refinement of scalable economic empowerment models.

2. **Institutional Resources & Financial Partnerships**
    i. Financial institutions, fintechs, and capital providers interested in supporting responsible, affordable digital credit models for early-stage and necessity entrepreneurs.

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ii. Mainstream banking partners seeking to grow a pipeline of credit-ready MSMEs, enabling a structured transition from concessional or developmental finance to sustainable, market-rate credit as enterprises mature.

3. **Governance, Oversight & Institutional Strengthening**
   i. Board members who bring disciplined governance, risk oversight, and strategic guidance in support of KFSE's long-term sustainability, institutional systems strengthening, and robust accountability frameworks.

4. **Values-Based Commitment to Poverty Abolition**
   i. Individuals and institutions who believe that poverty alleviation is not charity, but a justice imperative—and who are willing to support practical, evidence-driven interventions that restore dignity, agency, and economic participation

What Board Members Gain

Serving on the KFSE Board offers members the opportunity to:

1. Shape and steward innovative economic empowerment models grounded in human dignity, inclusion, and paradigm shifting E^2 interventions.
2. Engage in a credible, practice-informed platform for advancing research, policy influence, and scalable solutions to poverty and marginalization.
3. Participate in cross-sector collaboration linking academia, finance, civil society, and entrepreneurship.
4. Contribute meaningfully to dismantling systems that normalize poverty—while helping build viable alternatives and narratives.

Expressions of interest in Board membership may be submitted to the KFSE Secretariat by requesting the full Board invitation package via email:

***info[at]kuriafoundation.or.ke*.**