While women and girls make up half of Kenya’s population, within the fields of Research, Science, Technology and Innovation (RST&I) they remain significantly underrepresented. NSTW provides an opportunity to highlight how women’s increased participation in the sciences is both vital for sustainable development and a viable tool for their advancement and empowerment. This forum will explore the unique barriers girls and women continue to face in their participation in RST&I and highlight how women’s underutilized talents, expertise, and perspectives can be used to infuse new energy into these fields. The discussions under this sub-theme are expected to encourage diversity of women in RST&I, recognize women’s impressive contributions to the sciences, and encourage uptake of RST&I amongst young girls and women.

**Professor Mary Abukutsa-Onyango**  
*Professor of Horticulture and Deputy Vice Chancellor of Research, Production and Extension, JKUAT*  
A distinguished scientist who has conducted pioneering research in African indigenous vegetables. Her work has had a tremendous impact on the utilization of indigenous vegetables in Africa and has led to her receipt of numerous national, regional and international awards.

**Dr. Jemimah Njuki**  
*Senior Program Officer at Canada’s International Development Research Centre (IDRC)*  
An expert on gender and agriculture who has worked in Africa and Asia for the last 15 years. Prior to joining IDRC, Jemimah was the Team Leader for CARE USA’s Women in Agriculture Program, and the Team Leader for Gender, Poverty and Impact at the International Livestock Research Institute.
Dr. Shikoh Gitau
Head of Products, Alpha at Safaricom Limited
An award-winning innovator and IT professional with over 10 years of experience in ICT4D technology design and implementation who has worked with the Africa Development Bank (AfDB), Mercy Corps, Google Emerging Market and the Microsoft TEMs team.

Gladys Mosomtai
PhD Fellow at ICIPE
A PhD fellow at the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (icipe), Kenya and University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa with over 5 years’ experience in geospatial modelling applications in landscape and movement ecology, genetics and epidemiology.

Dr. Rose M. Mutiso
Co-Founder & CEO, Mawazo Institute, and Research Director, Energy for Growth Hub
A materials scientist and polymer physicist by training, Rose has worked extensively as a researcher and practitioner focused on technology and policy dimensions of energy and innovation issues globally. At Mawazo, she supports the next generation of female scholars and thought leaders in Africa.