

## **Kenya: Konza Technology City Project Development Underway**

Humphrey Lilech January 13

The development of Konza Technology City – also dubbed as "Africa's Silicon Savannah" - is finally underway following a ground breaking ceremony by Kenyan President, Mwai Kibaki on January 23, 2013. Konza Technology City is a US\$7-10.0 billion Greenfield project to be developed at a 5000 acre site at Konza, 60 kilometers south of Nairobi. This 20-year, four-phase development is a flagship project of Vision 2030, Kenya's economic blueprint for attaining middle-income status by year 2030. Konza City will be an exemplary planned smart city complete with ICT parks that will focus on IT-Enabled Services (ITES) including Business Process Outsourcing (BPO), Software Development, Data Centers, Disaster Recovery Centers, and Call Centers; light assembly manufacturing industries, residential, financial and social amenities to provide a high quality of life.

The first phase of development will take up 150 acres and lead to the construction of the Business Pavilion of the City, which will host the Konza Master Plan Exhibition Hall and administrative offices among other provisions. Konza City will be managed by the Konza Technopolis Development Authority (KOTDA). To enable the implementation of the Konza City project, in July 2012 the Kenyan Government contracted the services of HR&A Advisors of New York as a Master Delivery Partner 1 for six months to come up with a Business Development Strategy detailing the vision of the proposed technology city and an implementation plan which includes: Anchor Tenant Strategy, Physical Master Plan, Infrastructure Financing Plan, Business and Cash-Flow Plan and a Governance Plan for KOTDA. HR&A Advisors are set to finalize their contractual mandate by end of January 2013.

## For More Information

The U.S. Commercial Service in Nairobi, Kenya can be contacted via e-mail at: <a href="mailto:Humphrey.Lilech@trade.gov">Humphrey.Lilech@trade.gov</a>; Phone: +254 (20) 363-6438; Fax: +254 (20) 363-6722; or visit our website: <a href="mailto:http://www.export.gov/kenya/">http://www.export.gov/kenya/</a>

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