



# Have you ever **thought or imagined** Kenya having a Cable Car **transport system?**



**Dr Eustace Mwarania**  
**Chairman of Trapos Limited.**

Have you ever thought or imagined... Kenya having a Cable Car transport system? Well, rest your thinking and imagination because cable car transport will be a reality in Kenya shortly, thanks to Dr Eustace Mwarania, Chairman of Trapos Limited, the company that is responsible for deploying these life changing projects. Dr Mwarania spoke to Stephen Ndome about the projects.

## **Q. Who is Dr Mwarania and what does your job entail?**

**A-** Dr Mwarania is an electronic engineer and a researcher with over 30 years' experience in the fields of I.C.T, Internet, communication networks, transport infrastructure and project management. He holds a Bachelor of Science, Electrical engineering from the University of Nairobi, a Master of Science in Electronics from Southampton University in the UK, and a PhD in Electronics from Southampton as well. He lectured at the University of Nairobi before entering into private consultancy and has been a lead consultant in numerous assignments. Currently he is involved in the conceptualization, design and implementation of a Public Private Partnership (PPP) project utilizing cable car transport technologies.

## **Q.What is the vision of Trapos limited?**

**A-** Basically, we are seeking to resolve the public transport challenges in cities in sub-saharan Africa. Our projects are aimed at eliminating time wastage caused by traffic jams in these cities. Cable cars are cheaper than trams and can operate at speeds of 30km per hour.





**Q. What does Trapos Limited wish to achieve by introducing cable car technology?**

**A-** Cable cars will ease the transport of commuters to their places of work, ensure that school children get to school on time, and improve the quality of life of the city population. For example, it will take approximately 20 minutes to travel from Umoja to the Central Business District. Due to traffic jams, the same distance takes more than an hour and sometimes two. We will have medical consultants and observation rooms in our stations. Additionally we will move parcels faster and more conveniently between airports and CBD, for example..

**Q. How is your institution positioning itself in other counties apart from Nairobi and Mombasa?**

**A-** We are targeting Meru , Nakuru, Eldoret and Kisumu counties. In this part of the world, the convention is to optimise movement of cars and not people. Trapos Limited intends to optimize people movement and not cars. We expect to move approximately two million people daily in the city of Nairobi upon completion of Nairobi Cable Transit (NCT) system. No company can win if its product or service resemble every other product or service in the market. So, as part of our strategic management, we shall make sure we are on the new transport technological frontier. This will entail, for example, product leadership in transportation, operational excellence and customer satisfaction.

**Q. When is the construction work commencing?**

**A-** Construction work for the first project, Likoni Cable Express, is expected to commence on May 2017, with an expected operational date of August 2018. NCT phase 1 is expected to break ground 2nd Quarter 2018.

**Q. Are there any plans to carry out the same projects in other counties, apart from Nairobi and Mombasa cities ?**

**A-** Like I said before, our intention is to ease movement of people and goods in our cities and towns in Kenya and other sub-saharan countries. So the answer is yes. We will move to other towns in Kenya once we are through with Mombasa and Nairobi.

**Q. How will this project benefit the common mwananchi?**

**A-** Mwananchi will travel faster and affordably. Unlike current systems, the cable car system has a known transit time enabling commuters to plan their trips with certainty.

**Q .What are your final comments?**

**A-** This technology is growing rapidly in many parts of the world, and Kenya should not be left behind. We intend to remain at the forefront of this new transport technology.

