Water Sector Trust Fund

Financing the Water Sector

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SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) # 399
30TH JANUARY – 3RD FEBRUARY 2023

CABINET SECRETARY LAUNCHES THE HORN OF AFRICA GROUNDWATER FOR RESILIENCE PROGRAMME (HoAGW4RP)

On 1st February 2023, Hon. Alice Wahome, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation (MWSI), launched a 6-year programme titled the Horn of Africa Groundwater for Resilience Programme (HoAGW4RP). This programme has been funded by the World Bank to the tune of KSh. 15.5 Billion and is set to benefit 1.5 million beneficiaries in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) Counties of Turkana, Marsabit, Mandera, Wajir and Garissa. The HoAGW4RP aims to, *"increase sustainable access and management of groundwater in the Horn of Africa borderlands."* The Key components of this programme will entail: rehabilitation of water schemes, capacity building & enabling environment, conservation & drought resilience and monitoring information & knowledge systems.

In collaboration with the Ministry, WaterFund, Water Resources Authority and Regional Centre on Groundwater Resources, will collaborate in overseeing the implementation of the programme. Speaking during the event, Hon. Alice Wahome, CS MWSI, noted that the project will be fast tracked to help Counties that have been battling with drought for the past 40 years.

Adding to that, Mr. Willis Ombai, Ag. CEO, WaterFund, noted that WaterFund will work closely with the beneficiary Counties through their County water departments and Water Service Providers (WSPs) to ensure success in the implementation of the programme. For the HoAGW4RP, WaterFund will facilitate the implementation of rehabilitation of ground water rural water supply schemes, enhancement of designated drought-response strategic boreholes networks and mainstreaming operations and maintenance of groundwater infrastructure.

Also present during the launch were: Dr. Paul Ronoh, Principal Secretary, State Department Water and Sanitation; Eng. Gitonga Mugambi, EBS, Principal Secretary, State Department Irrigation; Eng. SAO Halima, Water Secretary, MWSI; H.E. Mohammed Khalif, Governor, Mandera County; H.E. Mohamud Ali, Governor, Marsabit County; H.E. Nathif Jama, Governor, Garissa County; H.E. Ahmed Muhumed Deputy Governor, Wajir County; World Bank Representatives; CEOs and representatives of WaterFund, WRA and Regional Center on Groundwater Resources.



Hon. Alice Wahome, CS, Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation (MWSI) giving her key note speech



Dr. Paul Ronoh, PS, State Department Water and Sanitation, MWSI, giving his remarks during the lauch



Eng. Gitonga Mugambi, EBS, PS, State Department Irrigation, MWSI, addressing the guests



Eng. SAO Halima, Water Secretary, MWSI, addressing the guests during the launch



Mr. Willis Ombai, Ag. CEO, WaterFund, makes his presentation



Hon. Alice Wahome, 3rd right, Cabinet Secretary, pauses for a group picture with the Governors after a contract signing session

WATERFUND PAYS A COURTESY CALL TO GARISSA WATER AND SEWERAGE COMPANY

On 30th January, 2023, WaterFund officers paid a courtesy visit to Mr. Mohammed Dolal, Ag. Managing Director, Garissa Water and Sewerage Company (GAWASCO). The main objective of the visit was to discuss pending audit matters that has been identified in WaterFund funded programmes in the County. The programmes of focus included: Upscaling Basic Sanitation for the Urban Poor (UBSUP), Green Growth & Employment Programme (GGEP), Conditional Liquidity Support Grant (CLSG), Urban Project Concept and DANIDA EU-Share. In addition, the team proceeded to monitor and inspect the current status of Hulugho Decentralized Treatment Facility (DTF).



Left: (Left to Right) Mr. Quintine Ochola, Principal, Internal Auditor, WaterFund, Mr. Chris Kamau, Technical Service Manager, GAWASCO and Ms. Zainab Gure, County Resident Monitor, Garissa County

Right: The team inspecting the ongoing construction of a DTF facility in Masalani town



WATERFUND MEETINGS

WaterFund held a meeting with Gatsby Africa to discuss the proposal for Capacity Support to Water Service Providers (WSPs) through WaterFund, which is in its last stages of development. Gatsby Africa is looking to partner with WaterFund with the objective of offering technical assistance and Business Development Support (BDS) to water utilities for commercial viability.



Mr. Abdi Wario, Programme Director, GATSBY Africa, giving his remarks during the meeting



Ms. Joan Karanja (right), Principal Fund Development Officer, makes her presentation



Participants keenly following the proceedings of the meeting

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