Water Sector Trust Fund

Financing the Water Sector

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SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) # 427
14TH – 18TH AUGUST 2023

WATERFUND AT 1ST BIENNIAL DEVOLUTION CONFERENCE: A DECADE OF PROGRESS

WaterFund participated in the 1st Biennial Devolution Conference, Uasin Gishu County, held on 16th to 18th August, 2023. Themed *'10 years of Devolution: The Present and Future'*, the event focused on the achievements of the past decade of devolution, exploring both local and international methodologies that reinforce systems, thereby elevating the quality of service delivery in various Counties.

The conference was officially opened on 16th August 2023, by H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, CGH, President of the Republic of Kenya, as the chief guest. In his remarks, the president highlighted that Devolution has grown tremendously in a decade. He added that it has matured from a delicate fledgling with limited institutional capacity to administer resources, provide services and generate own revenues, to fully operational governments touching the lives of people at the grassroots, undertaking ambitious development programmes and driving economic growth.

Showcasing WaterFund's Impact: Contributions to 10 Years of Devolution

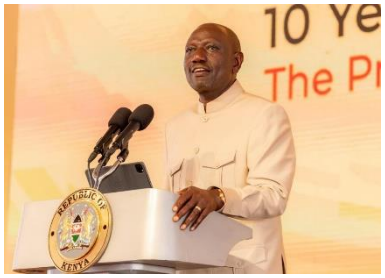
In its support for devolution, WaterFund played a pivotal role in the 1st Biennial Devolution Conference. Collaborating with the Council of Governors, WaterFund showcased its commitment to enhancing access to water and sanitation services. Dr. Erick K. Rutto, WaterFund Chairperson Board of Trustees (BoT), accompanied by Mr. Lucas Chepkitony, Mr. Andrew Mbithi and Ms Gladys Wekesa, BoT representatives, led the WaterFund delegation in various engagements with the public and esteemed County leadership which underscored WaterFund's unwavering commitment to enhancing access to water and sanitation services.

Participation extended to a significant breakout session on *'Leveraging Natural Resource Management (NRM) for Sustainable Development Pathway and Green Economy transition in Counties'*. One of the key panelists in this session was Hon. Alice Wahome, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation (MWSI); who highlighted the progress made in the NRM sector over the past 10 years, including opportunities for partnerships with the Counties in transitioning to green economies.

Throughout the conference, WaterFund engaged with various stakeholders and delegates and showcased its success stories, innovations and contributions towards the 10 years of Devolution. This was achieved through one on one conversations with the public at the exhibition stand.

WaterFund had the privilege of hosting Eng. Festus K. Ng'eno, Principal Secretary of the State Department of Environment and Climate Change. Eng. Ng'eno's visit served as a clear manifestation of the collaborative endeavors between his institution and WaterFund. The discussions and exchanges during his visit highlighted the mutual goals and shared dedication to addressing environmental and climate-related challenges.

WaterFund's active participation not only underscored its alignment with devolution but also illuminated its vital role in shaping Kenya's journey towards sustainable development and improved quality of life.



H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, CGH, President of the Republic of Kenya giving his key note speech at the opening ceremony



H.E. Rigathi Gachagua, Deputy President of the Republic of Kenya giving his key note speech at the closing plenary



RT. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga, former Prime Minister of Kenya, gives his remarks on day 2 of the devolution conference



Dr. Erick K. Rutto (right), Chairperson WaterFund Board of Trustees at WaterFund's exhibition stand



Mr. Lucas Chepkitony (centre) and Mr. Andrew Mbithi (right) members of WaterFund BoTs, at the WaterFund's stand



Eng. Festus K. Ng'eno, PS, State Department for Environment and Climate Change, signs the visitor's book at WaterFund's stand







WaterFund staff interacting with visitors at the WaterFund stand during the conference



WaterFund staff following the proceedings of the breakaway session on Leveraging Natural Resource Management for Sustainable Development Pathway and Green Economy Transition in Counties



BLAST FROM THE PAST: FEATURED IN SITREP #217- WATERFUND AWARDED UNPSA AT BAKU

WaterFund's Situation Report No. 217 (SITREP #217) covered the period **24th to 28th June, 2019.** Among the highlights was that, WaterFund through its programme Up-scaling Basic Sanitation for the Urban Poor (UBSUP) was awarded winner at the United Nations Public Service Awards in Baku, Azerbaijan, under category of "Delivering Inclusive and Equitable Services to Leave No one Behind". A special edition of the SITREP with the full coverage of this auspicious occasion was announced for the subsequent week.

For this issue and all previous SITREPs, please visit: https://waterfund.go.ke/sitreps