Water Sector Trust Fund

Financing the Water Sector

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SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) # 432
18TH – 22ND SEPTEMBER 2023

WATERFUND JOINS THE GLOBAL BAMBOO CELEBRATION: WORLD BAMBOO DAY 2023

Water Sector Trust Fund (WaterFund) participated in the celebration of World Bamboo Day 2023, which was held on September 18, 2023, at Ngirimari Wetland, in Embu County. The event was officiated by Mr. Gitonga Mugambi, Principal Secretary (PS), State Department for Forestry. The theme of this year's World Bamboo Day was "*Harnessing Bamboo for the Sustainable Restoration of Wetlands and Mitigating Climate Change*".

During the event, Mr. Gitonga Mugambi, expressed concern about the increasing illegal logging, especially as efforts to raise the national forest cover to 30% are ongoing. He went on to announce the creation of a dedicated office to manage a hotline for reporting illegal logging in public forests. He stressed on the government's commitment to combatting illegal logging and encouraged citizens to report suspicious activities. In line with the day's celebration, Mr. Mugambi highlighted the crucial role of bamboo trees in achieving this target, with plans to establish 150,000 hectares of the tree species. Also speaking at the event, H.E. Cecily Mbarire, Governor, County Government of Embu, emphasized on the bamboo trees potential to restore ecosystems and enhance climate resilience. She also reaffirmed the County's dedication in driving sustainable and water-secure future for their region and beyond.

WaterFund's participation in World Bamboo Day underscored its steadfast commitment to increased climate resilience in water and sanitations services, natural resource management and water supply in marginalized and underserved areas, through adoption of water and sanitation projects with efficient green technologies.



Left: Mr. Gitonga Mugambi, Principal Secretary, State Department for Forestry, giving his key note speech

Right: H.E. Cecily Mbarire, Governor County Government of Embu giving her speech at the event





Ms. Ann Nabangala, Principal Programme Officer- Climate Change, WaterFund, planting a tree



Anita Kiara (centre), Quality Assurance Monitor, WaterFund, interacting with the public



Participants keenly following the event proceedings

WATERFUND MEETINGS

During the week meeting took place as highlighted below:

- On 18th September, 2023, WaterFund met with a representative from the Swiss-based Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (Sandec-Eawag) to explore opportunities for collaboration in research and innovation.
- WaterFund met with the National Treasury Climate Finance Section and World Bank Consultants to deliberate on strategies for unlocking climate finance on 21st September, 2023.



Ms. Ruth Nganga, General Manager Fund Development, WaterFund, chairing the meeting with Sandec-Eawag



Dr. George Wainaina, Scientific Knowledge Broker, Sandec, giving his remarks



Mr. Elly Ochere (left), and Ms. Joan Wangui, WaterFund during the meeting



Ms. Ruth Nganga, chairing the meeting on strategies for unlocking climate finance



Mr. Benson Ochieng, Executive Director, ILEG & World Bank Climate Consultant



From Left: Mr. Hillary Korir and Mr. Idris Mohamed from The National Treasury, and Ms. Cynthia Audrey, Legal Officer, ILEG during the meeting

BLAST FROM THE PAST: FEATURED IN SITREP #220- WATERFUND INDUCTS J6P FIELD BASED INTERNS

WaterFund's Situation Report No. 220 (SITREP #220) covered the period **8th to 12th July, 2019.** Among the highlights was that, WaterFund CEO, Mr. Ismail Shaiye and Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) Director, Dr. Leunita Sumba, held an Internship Induction workshop for the Joint 6 Programme (J6P) field based interns recruited from KEWI. The interns were to be deployed to various Water Utilities funded under the J6P Programme by Government of Sweden and Government of Finland through WaterFund. The WaterFund-KEWI Internship Programme was to lead to youth empowerment and professional development for the incoming interns. WaterFund CEO emphasized on the need to uphold the Code of Ethics, accountability and Value for Money in their day to day interactions with stakeholders and water utilities where they will be stationed.



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