Water Sector Trust Fund

Financing the Water Sector

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SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) # 436

16TH – 19TH OCTOBER 2023

NEWLY APPOINTED CABINET SECRETARY CONVENES A MEETING WITH MINISTRY'S TOP OFFICIALS

On 18th October 2023, Hon. Zachariah Njeru, newly elected Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation (MWSI), convened a meeting with key officials from the MWSI, CEOs of water sector institutions and agencies. The primary objective of the meeting was to officially sign the performance contract for the FY 2023/2024 between the MWSI and the institutions; and to deliberate on the current status of projects within the water sector.

In his opening remarks the Hon. Zacharia Njeru, CS, emphasized his commitment to maintaining an open-door policy and assured his unwavering support and cooperation. He highlighted that the Ministry's future activities would primarily be seen on the ground, where most services are needed. Furthermore, he underscored the importance of fostering harmonious working relationships and unity, in order to effectively execute the Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA). Accompanying the CS were the newly appointed Principal Secretaries: Mr. Julius Korir, PS, State Department of Water and Sanitation, MWSI and Mr. Ephantus Kimotho, PS, State Department of Irrigation, MWSI. In their opening remarks they expressed their commitment in supporting the Cabinet Secretary and the Water sector institutions in fulfilling the Ministry's mandate.

During the meeting, the Agency CEOs presented status reports on the projects and initiatives being executed in their respective organisations. Each institution tailored their presentation to various aspects such as their: mandate, geographical coverage of projects, performance contracts, annual budgets, communication strategies, notable achievements and existing challenges among others. The meeting served as a significant milestone aimed at aligning the efforts of the Ministry, water sector institutions, agencies and stakeholders to work together towards a specific goal.



Hon. Zachariah Njeru, Cabinet Secretary (CS), Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation (MWSI) giving his keynote speech



Hon. Zachariah Njeru (left), CS, and Hon. Lucas Chepkitony (right), a Member of WaterFund Board of Trustees (BoTs), pose for a picture after the signing of the Performance contract 2023/2024



The CS joined by key officials in the Water Sector pose for a group picture after the meeting

ENHANCING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IN LAIKIPIA COUNTY: A STEP TOWARD UNIVERSAL WATER ACCESS

H.E. Joshua Irungu, Governor, Laikipia County in conjunction with Eng. Joseph Ngacha, Member of WaterFund Board of Trustees, commissioned the augmentation of water distribution systems for Oljabet town and Site Phase II in Laikipia County. The project was funded at a total cost of KSh. 19 Million from the German Development Bank (KfW) through WaterFund's Urban Projects Concept (UPC) 8th Call. Overseeing the implementation of this project is Nyahururu Water and Sanitation Company (NYAHUWASCO). The project components encompass the extension of pipeline covering 7.14 kilometers in Site Phase II and 10 kilometers in Oljabet town.

Before the execution of this project, Oljabet town did not have standard water distribution pipe network as the existing ones were done by local communities and individuals using small sized GI pipes with most of the sections clogged by ferrous iron deposits. As a result of the implementation of the Oljabet water project, approximately 9,000 residents will now have increased access to water. Additionally, the project has seen the installation of 300 individual consumer water meters and two water hydrants. The overall primary objective of this water distribution system is to improve and enlarge the water distribution system in Oljabet town and Site II.

During the commissioning, in his key note speech, H.E. Joshua Irungu, Governor, Laikipia County expressed his gratitude to WaterFund for the partnership, which has contributed to Laikipia County making a step towards its commitment to ensuring water access within a radius of1 km for all residents. In addition, Ms. Leah Njeri, County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Water, Environment, Natural Resources, and Climate Change in the County highlighted that the enhancement of the water distribution system in Oljabet and Nyahururu Phase II has significantly decreased non-revenue water from 62% to 57% within two months since the completion of the project.

Speaking during the commissioning, Eng. Joseph Ngacha, a Member of WaterFund Board of Trustees (BoTs) assured that the implementation of this project will be upheld with utmost transparency and accountability. Lastly, on behalf of WaterFund CEO, Mr. Isaac Kega, General Manager Programmes, WaterFund, reiterated that WaterFund remains steadfast in its commitment to inclusivity and sustainable solutions to increase water access. This will be achieved by ensuring current and upcoming WaterFund projects are in line with the Government's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA); by focusing on household and community water projects to provide universal access to safe water by 2027.



Eng. Joseph Ngacha (standing left) a Member of WaterFund Board of Trustees and H.E Joshua Irungu (standing right) unveiling the plaque during the commissioning





Left: H.E. Joshua Irungu, Governor, Laikipia County giving his key note speech during the commissioning

Right: Mr. Isaac Kega, General Manager Programmes, WaterFund, giving his remarks at the commissioning



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