Water Sector Trust Fund

Financing the Water Sector

1st Floor, CIC Plaza I, Mara Road, Upper Hill, Nairobi, Kenya
PO Box 49699 Nairobi-00100; Tel: +254 (20) 2720696, 2729017/8
Email: info@waterfund.go.ke; Website: www.waterfund.go.ke

SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) # 440
13TH - 17TH NOVEMBER 2023

WATERFUND'S ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION EFFORTS DURING THE NATIONAL TREE PLANTING DAY

Following the Declaration of 13th November, 2023 as the National Tree Planting Day, Hon. Zachariah Njeru, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation (MWSI) and Mr. Julius Korir, Principal Secretary (PS) MWSI; led a delegation from the Ministry agencies to Kamweru 11 Compartment Forest Kiambu County, to commerate the National tree Planting day. The initiative aligned with the National government's goal of planting and growing a total of 15 billion trees by 2032.

Speaking at the Nairobi County tree planting event, Hon. Zacharia Njeru, encouraged the community working through associations to continue their collaborative efforts with all stakeholders to ensure the protection of the forest. The CS further recommended that schools, churches, and individual households to integrate tree planting into their routine, proposing the incorporation of tree planting into celebratory occasions such as birthdays or the arrival of a new family member. Additionally, the CS called upon leaders from both National and County governments, as well as representatives from diverse sectors, to come together, cooperate, and lead by example in actively engaging in tree planting initiatives.

During the event, Mr. Willis Ombai, CEO Water Sector Trust Fund (WaterFund), conveyed the Fund's dedication to environmental conservation, asserting that it is everyone's responsibility to actively contribute to the well-being of the environment. He emphasized that WaterFund aims to make a meaningful impact on the journey toward a greener and more sustainable future for communities and the nation at large through collaborative initiatives like tree palnting. In regards to this, WaterFund collaborated with the MWSI in the countrywide tree planting initiative in support of 2,000 tree seedlings, contributing to a total of 19,000 tree seedlings planted during the activity.

The event brought together other stakeholders including the County government of Kiambu led by H.E. Rosemary Njeri Kirika, Deputy Governor, and representatives from; Kenya Road Board, Kenya Forest Services, Kenya Water Institute, Water Resources Authority and Athi Water Works Development Agency.



Hon. Zacharia Njeru, CS MWSI, Giving his key note speech during the tree planting event



Mr. Julius Korir, PS MWSI, giving his remarks at the event



Mr. Willis Ombai (right) CEO, WaterFund giving his speech



Mr. Willis Ombai (left) CEO, WaterFund, taking part in the tree planting activity



WaterFund team pose for a photo during the tree planting activity



Members of the public taking part in the tree planting exercise

SHOWCASING WATERFUND'S SUCCESS IN ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE IN LAMU COUNTY

WaterFund has been implementing the Sustainable Management and Access to Water and Sanitation in the ASALs (SWASAP) initiative in six target ASAL Counties, with support of the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA). In order to highlight the success of current and previously DANIDA funded projects, WaterFund hosted a delegation of journalists from the Kingdom of Denmark. Facilitated by the Royal Danish Embassy in Nairobi, the journalists embarked on a visit to the Kizingitini Watsan Extension Project and the Pate Marine Conservancy Djabia project in Lamu County.

The primary objective of this visit was to facilitate direct interactions between the journalists, project implementers, and beneficiaries. This engagement aimed to provide the visiting team with an understanding of the innovative interventions WaterFund has undertaken to address the challenges of climate change in Lamu County. The journalists also had an opportunity to document, first-hand, the impact of the Kingdom of Denmark's support towards climate adaptation and mitigation efforts, which is especially timely as the world moves towards the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference, also known as the Conference of the Parties (COP28).

At Kizingitini Watsan Extension Project and Pate Marine Conservancy Djabia project, the journalists witnessed the tangible results of WaterFund's initiatives namely: climate proofing strategies such as solarization of water supply systems; planting drought resistant and mangrove trees at degraded sites; construction of large storm water harvesting facilities; and use of climate-resilient construction materials and standards. The visit not only provided valuable insights into the local community climate proofing strategies, but also allowed for the documentation of Denmark's crucial role in supporting climate resilience on the global stage.



WaterFund and the Danish team of journalists at Kizingitini Watsan Project



Mr. Willis Ombai CEO, WaterFund being interviewed on WaterFund's Interventions in Kizingitini



Journalists interviewing Kizingitini Project Implementing agents on the impact of the project



Left: Danish Team of Journalists inspecting the Pate Marine Conservancy Djabia project

Right: Violet Mucheni, Principal Programme Officer, giving her perspective on WaterFund SWASAP Project intervention successes in Pate

