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) # 490
4TH – 8TH NOVEMBER 2024

SIGNING OF THE KENYAN-DANISH STRATEGIC SECTOR COOPERATION (SSC)

Eng. Eric Mugaa, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, led a Kenyan delegation on a strategic visit to Denmark to advance the country's water sector interests. The delegation included Mr. Julius Korir, CBS, Principal Secretary, MWSI, Eng. SAO Alima, Water Secretary, MWSI and Mr. Willis Ombai, CEO Water Sector Trust Fund among other key officials. This visit culminated in the signing of the Kenyan-Danish Strategic Sector Cooperation (SSC) between Eng. Eric Mugaa, CS, MWSI and H.E Magnus Heunickie, the Danish Minister for Environment.

The three-year SSC project aims to improve groundwater quality and quantity in Kenya, focusing on establishing a safe and sustainable groundwater-based drinking water supply for present and future generations. Denmark, a key development partner to Kenya's water sector since 2004, has provided ongoing support to WaterFund and Water Services Regulatory Board (WASREB).

During the visit, Eng. Mugaa chaired multiple forums that emphasized collaboration in water resources management, with a particular focus on groundwater, and discussed ways for Kenya to benefit from Denmark's forthcoming Africa Strategy. Additionally, Mr. Willis Ombai, CEO of WaterFund, reinforced the Fund's commitment to supporting water services in underserved and marginalized areas through his presentation on "Innovative Financing: Addressing the Sector Financing Gap."



Eng. Eric Mugaa (left), CS, MWSI and H.E. Magnus Heunickie (right), Minister for Environment, Denmark



Eng. Eric Mugaa, CS , MWSI making his presentation



Mr. Willis Ombai, CEO WaterFund making his presentation



Left: members of the delegation during one of the forums

Right: The delegation pose for a group picture at the end of the session



IN BRIEF:

- In a bid to strengthen the capacity of Water Service Providers, WaterFund in collaboration with Gatsby Africa (GA), attended a workgroup on implementing the Commercial Viability and Financial Flows (CVF) programme for Water Services Providers (WSPs). The programme targets 18 WSPs to improve their creditworthiness and Operational Cost Coverage Ratio (OCCR). The objective of the workshop was to review implementation tools, develop project result frameworks and implementation roadmaps under the CVF programme.



Participants pose for a group photo after the workshop



BLAST FROM THE PAST: FEATURED IN SITREP #256– FIELD ACTIVITIES: MONITORING EXERCISES AND COVID-19 PREVENTION

The WaterFund's Situation Report No. 256 (SITREP #256) covered the period **30th March to 3rd April, 2020**. Among the highlights was that field activities including monitoring and inspection of the WaterFund's projects continued across the week. WaterFund was pleased to note that project implementing agencies are putting in place measures to protect their staff and members of the public from COVID-19 infections

- WaterFund, under its Output-Based Aid (OBA) Programme inspected the ongoing installation of water household connections in Karatina town and Kisumu County. During the exercise the staff on the ground were provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in response to COVID-19 World Health Organization (WHO) prevention guidelines.
- Monitoring of the proposed site at Sabuli water project in Wajir County by WaterFund staff. The staff maintained the recommended Social Distancing guidelines in line with COVID-19 WHO prevention guidelines



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