WaterFund
Financing the Water Sector

xWater 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) # 515

5TH – 9TH MAY 2025

WATERFUND PARTICIPATES IN THE WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION CONFERENCE 2025

On 8th May, 2025 The Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation (MWSI) together with water sector institutions and in partnership with Nation Media Group, hosted a fundamental conference on that provided a platform for knowledge exchange and dialogue on advancing the water and sanitation sector. The theme of the conference, Sustainable Water, Sanitation and Irrigation Management Solutions, brought together various water sector institutions and other players in the water sector.

The event was officially opened by Eng. Eric Mugaa, Cabinet Secretary MWSI. Accompanying him was Mr. Julius Korir, CBS Principal Secretary for Water and Sanitation, MWSI; CPA Ephantus Kimotho, CBS Principal Secretary, Irrigation, MWSI; Eng. SAO Alima, Water Secretary, MWSI; and other senior officials in the sector.

In his keynote address, Eng. Mugaa highlighted a notable improvement in water and sanitation access over the past two and a half years, with water access rising from 70% to 73% and sanitation access increasing from 67% to 69%. He attributed this progress to coordinated development efforts and reiterated the Ministry's unwavering commitment to achieving universal access to water and sanitation by 2030. He also emphasized the need to explore innovative solutions to address the sector's persistent challenges.

Representing Water Sector Trust Fund (WaterFund) at the conference was: Ms. Maryan Mohamed, Ms. Winfred Njoroge and Hon. Andrew Mbithi, from the WaterFund Board of Trustees (BoTs); Mr. Willis Ombai, CEO WaterFund, and other staff. During the conference Mr. Ombai participated in a high-level panel discussion that focused on mobilizing domestic resources and blended finance models for water infrastructure development. He noted that WaterFund is actively adopting innovative financing approaches to overcome funding gaps in the water, sanitation, and irrigation sector. He further reported that the Fund has mobilized KShs. 50 billion, reaching approximately 7.5 million Kenyans with improved water and sanitation services.

Additionally, WaterFund showcased its mandate, status of completed and ongoing programmes, and achievements at the exhibition, reaffirming its commitment to collaboration and innovation in supporting the goal of universal water and sanitation access by 2030.



Eng. Eric Mugaa, CS, MWSI making his keynote address during the opening ceremony



Mr. Julius Korir, CBS, Principal Secretary, MWSI, taking part in one of the panel discussions



Eng. SAO Alima, Water Secretary MWSI, giving his remarks



From lef to rightt: Ms.Winfred Njoroge ,Hon. Andrew Mbithi and Ms. Maryan Mohamed, WaterFund Board of Trustees, at WaterFund's exhibition booth



Mr. Willis Ombai (right), CEO WaterFund taking part in the panel discussion



Panelists pose for a group picture after the panel discussion


WaterFund adopts innovative financing models to resolve funding challenges in sector

A special pullout on the Daily Nation featuring Mr. Willis Ombai, CEO WaterFund





WaterFund staff with guests at the exhibition stand

WATERFUND MEETINGS

During the past weeks, the following meetings took place as highlighted below:

- On 24th April 2025, Mr. Willis Ombai, CEO WaterFund, held a consultative meeting with Hon. Jhanda Zaheer, Member of Parliament for Nyaribari Chache constituency, Kisii County. The purpose of the meeting was to deliberate on opportunities for collaboration in financing water projects in the area.
- Mr. Willis Ombai, CEO, WaterFund, held a consultative meeting with representatives from Machakos Water and Sewerage Company and Mavoko Water and Sanitation Company. The meeting focused on exploring strategies to accelerate the implementation of the Urban Projects Concept (UPC) and the Upscaling Basic Sanitation for the Urban Poor (UBSUP) initiatives in Machakos County.
- On 23rd April 2025, Ms. Ruth Nganga, General Manager for Fund Development at WaterFund, chaired a strategic meeting between WaterFund and World Water Net. The discussions focused on identifying potential areas of partnership within the water sector, including opportunities to jointly develop bankable projects and utilize blended financing models to enhance sector sustainability in Kenya. The World Water Net delegation was led by Mr. Peter De Koning, Country Director, and Mr. George Sanga, Senior Advisor.



Mr. Wills Ombai (left), CEO WaterFund and Hon. Jhanda Zaheer (right), MP, Nyaribari Chache Constituency in Kisii County



Representatives of WaterFund, Mavoko and Machakos Water and Sanitation Company during the meeting



WaterFund's Fund Development team and World Water Net during the the meeting

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