Water Sector Trust Fund

Financing the Water Sector

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SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) # 535

22ND – 26TH SEPTEMBER 2025

WATERFUND TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH K-WASH PROGRAMME IN KITUI AND NAROK COUNTIES

Kenya Water and Sanitation Hygiene (K-WASH) programme is a World Bank funded initiative in Kenya aimed at improving sustainable access to water and sanitation, eliminating open defecation, and enhancing the financial performance of rural Water Service Providers (WSPs) in 19 selected Arid and Semi-Arid (ASAL) counties. Spanning for a period of 6 years running from 2024-2030, WaterFund will support the implementation of Result Area 3 (RA3): Strengthening the operational and financial performance of WSPs in the participating counties.

In regards to this, on 8th to 24th September, 2025 WaterFund with support from The World Bank undertook a support mission under the K-WASH Programme in Kitui and Narok Counties. The mission's key objective was to assess progress towards Year 1 results by the County and its WSPs, and to engage County leadership in a debriefing meeting on key observations and areas for improvement.

To support the mission, a delegation was formed for high level engagements comprising of H.E Dr. Julius Makau Malombe, EGH, Governor, Kitui County and H.E Patrick K. Ole Ntutu, Governor Narok County and County Executive Committee Members (CECMs) from Kitui and Narok Counties. Both Governors reiterated their administration's commitment to improving water and sanitation infrastructure in their respective counties. During the mission the delegation conducted field visits to selected household's sanitation project sites in the two counties, where they assessed the improved sanitation systems.

The mission provided the team with critical insights into the programme's impact in the country as well as feedback on how to strengthen seamless implementation of the programme. These efforts contribute to the larger National Water and Sanitation Investment and Financing Plan (NAWASIP) (2023-2030).



H.E. Dr. Julius Makau Malombe, EGH, Governor Kitui County



H.E. Patrick K. Ole Ntutu, Governor Narok County



The delegation pose for a group picture after a courtesy call vist to the office of the Governor, Narok County



Residents fetching water at the Mwangeni water kiosk in Kitui County



Cattle drinking from a water trough under Mwangeni water supply project in Kitui County



Nkorkorri borehole water point, Narok West implemented by County Government of Narok

WATERFUND MEETINGS:

During the week meetings took place as highlighted below:

- On 24th September 2025, WaterFund hosted a high-level delegation from Uganda's Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), Instiglio and Water For People Uganda. The visit aimed at sharing institutional experiences in water sector financing, governance and programme delivery. Discussions focused on WaterFund's mandate, financing models and operational practices that have enabled sustainable service delivery in underserved areas of Kenya. Both institutions reaffirmed their commitment to continued peer learning, regional cooperation and exploring opportunities for collaboration to strengthen water and sanitation sector. Mr. Willis Ombai, CEO, WaterFund led the deliberations, while the Ugandan delegation was headed by Eng. Olweny Lamu, Assistant Commissioner MWE, Uganda.



Mr. Willis Ombai, CEO, WaterFund chairing the meeting



From Left – Right: Ms. Edrida Natumanya, Principal Sociologist MWE, Uganda, Eng. Olweny Lamu, Assistant Commissioner MWE, Uganda and Eng. Diana Leesiga, Senior Manager, Water For People Uganda



Mr. Kipp Clarke, Senior Manager, Instiglio, present during the meeting



Eng. Wilfred Okello, Manager RWSPC at the MWE, Uganda



Mr. Isaac Kega (left) General Manager, Programmes, WaterFund and Ms. Ruth Nganga (right) General Manager, Fund Development, WaterFund



Participants closely engaged in the presentations

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