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

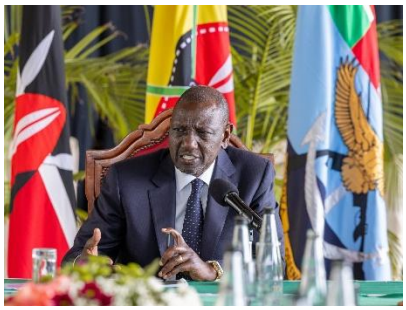
SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) # 537
6TH – 9TH OCTOBER 2025

H.E. DR. WILLIAM SAMOEI RUTO, C.G.H CHAIRS HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON WATER SECTOR TRANSFORMATION

On 8th October 2025, H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, CGH, President of the Republic of Kenya and Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Forces, chaired a high-level strategic meeting at State House, Nairobi, to discuss the transformation of the water, sanitation and irrigation sectors.

Leading the deliberations from the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation was Eng. Eric Mugaa, the Cabinet Secretary accompanied by Mr. Ephantus Kimotho, Principal Secretary. Also in attendance was Mr. Willis Ombai, Chief Executive Officer, Water Sector Trust Fund (WaterFund), alongside other chairs and CEOs from various water agencies.

The meeting focused on assessing the current status of water, sanitation and irrigation projects in the country; highlighting progress made, existing challenges, and strategies for sustainable management of the sector. The discussions underscored the President's agenda to transform the water sector through the construction of 40 to 45 mega dams over the next decade, financed through innovative resource mobilization mechanisms. This initiative seeks to enhance agricultural productivity through the irrigation of two to three million acres of land. It is also expected to strengthen food security and expand access to clean and safe water for domestic, commercial, and livestock use.



Left: H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, CGH, President of the Republic of Kenya, giving his remarks during the meeting

Right: CEOs and Chairs of water sector institutions in attendance during the meeting



IMPROVING ACCESS TO WATER AND SANITATION THROUGH THE SWASAP PROGRAMME

In its efforts to address climate vulnerabilities and water scarcity in the arid and semi-arid regions, WaterFund is driving progress under its Sustainable Management and Access to Water and Sanitation in the ASALs Programme (SWASAP). Financed by the Government of Kenya and the Royal Danish Embassy, this five-year programme focuses on sustainable natural resource management and improved access to water and sanitation for enhanced community resilience.

In line with this objective, WaterFund programme officers undertook a one-week monitoring mission to Garissa and Tana River counties to fast-track implementation and assess the progress of the SWASAP programme. The projects monitored in Tana River County included: the construction of sanitation facilities at Wenje and Vukoni Primary Schools; Vukoni Water Project, which has completed solarization and water pump installation; a 100m³ elevated steel tank in Baomo, which is now complete; and the ongoing construction of the 30,000m³ Hurara Water Pan at Gubani, being implemented by Welthungerhilfe (German Agro Action).

Similarly, in Garissa County, the team monitored water and sanitation initiatives implemented by the Ishaqbini Hirola Community Conservancy, including the Kotile Water Supply and Shawofa Water Pan projects, among others.



Complete 4-door VIP latrine in Golbanti Primary School in Tana River County



Elevated steel tank at Golbanti Odha in Garissa County



Ongoing construction of a cattle water trough in Shawofa area in Garissa county



Right: Ongoing construction of Shawofa water pan in Garissa County

Left: Complete water kiosk at Baomo in Tana River County



BLAST FROM THE PAST: FEATURED IN SITREP #290 - OFFICIAL GROUND-BREAKING OF PINYINY (NTULELE) WATER PROJECT, NAROK COUNTY



The WaterFund's Situation Report No. 290 (SITREP #290) covered the period **23rd to 27th November, 2020**. Among the highlights was that, H.E. Samuel Tunai, the then Governor, Narok County, together with Mr. Ismail Shaiye, the then CEO, WaterFund, spearheaded the ground-breaking ceremony of Pinyiny (Ntulele) Water Project in Narok County. This project was financed under WaterFund's Joint Six Programme (J6P) with financial support from the Embassy of Finland and Embassy of Sweden at a total cost of KSh. 45 million with support from Narok County Government.

The project benefited over 6,500 residents of Narok County with improved water and sanitation Services. Components of Pinyiny (Ntulele) included the construction of a masonry tank, an elevated steel tank, rising main, pump house and borehole development. Under the J6P programme, WaterFund was allocated KSh. 129 million by the Embassy of Finland and Embassy of Sweden to support the implementation of water, sanitation and water resources management projects in Narok County.

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