Water Sector Trust Fund

Financing the Water Sector

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SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) # 544
24TH – 28TH NOVEMBER 2025

REVIEW OF THE HoAGW4R PROGRAMME PROGRESS ACROSS BENEFICIARY COUNTIES

On the 26th November, 2025, Mr. Julius Korir, CBS, Principal Secretary for the State Department for Water and Sanitation under the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation (MWSI), chaired a high-level wrap-up meeting, for the World Bank supervision mission of the Horn of Africa Groundwater for Resilience (HoAGW4R) programme. The aim of the mission was to monitor projects progress and verify their compliance with the programme objectives. The meeting brought together all stakeholders to deliberate and provide a way forward for the programme, that is being implemented by three water sector institutions namely Water Sector Trust Fund (WaterFund), Water Resources Authority (WRA) and Regional Centre on Groundwater Resources Training & Research (RCGW).

Mr. Korir noted the significant strides in the progress of the projects across the five counties namely Wajir, Mandera, Marsabit, Turkana and Garissa Counties. In his remarks, he urged for collaboration with county leadership, Members of Parliament and National Administration Officials in order to ensure effective community engagements in identification of projects sites.

The team was appraised of the findings from the mission which include: The project sites in Marsabit and Turkana counties have been handed over to the contractors, in Mandera and Wajir the evaluation process is complete awaiting review of evaluation reports by WaterFund while in Garissa County, the project designs have been submitted and are currently under review.

WaterFund in the HoAGW4R programme is delivering Component 1 of the Programme, specifically Subcomponent 1.B, which focuses on rehabilitating groundwater-based rural water supply schemes and enhancing the drought-response borehole network across the five Counties.



Mr. Julius Korir, CBS, PS, State Department for Water and Sanitation ,MWSI chairing the meeting



Eng. Sao Alima, Water Secretary, MWSI present during the meeting



Mr. Steven Okoth (Left), Project Coordinator, MWSI and Mr. Willis Ombai (Right), CEO, WaterFund at the wrap-up meeting



Left: WaterFund Top Management present during the meeting.

Right: Various representatives present during the meeting at Maji House



WATERFUND SIGNS A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH KENYA WATER INSTITUTE

Mr. Willis Ombai, CEO, WaterFund and Dr. Leiro Letangule, Ph.D., EBS. CEO, Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) officially signed a collaboration framework to strengthen efforts towards improved water and sanitation services across Kenya. The two institutions share a common commitment in transforming the Kenyan water and sanitation sector through evidence-based, collaborative, and innovative approaches.

The signing marks a significant milestone in the sectors with the collaboration aiming at providing strategic solution to the challenges in the sector. Through this partnership, WaterFund and KEWI will jointly implement research, capacity building, innovation piloting, knowledge-sharing and resource mobilization initiatives aimed at enhancing water resource management and expanding access to safe water and sanitation services.

Key areas of collaboration agreed upon include: Joint research on innovative water and sanitation technologies, Standardization and delivery of training for water sector professionals, Technical assessments, monitoring, and evaluation of WaterFund-funded projects and Community engagement for improved participation and sustainability. Similarly, this partnership will support water utilities on infrastructure mapping and data sharing and co-developing of sustainable plans for long-term impact.



Mr. Willis Ombai, CEO, WaterFund during the contract signing



Mr. Willis Ombai (Left), CEO, WaterFund and and Dr. Leiro Letangule Ph.D., EBS, (Right), CEO, KEWI during the signing ceremony



Mr.Willis Ombai (2nd Left) and Dr. Leiro Letangule (2nd Right) joined by Ms. Ruth Nganga (Left), WaterFund and Mr. Nelson M. Kwamini (Right), KEWI

BLAST FROM THE PAST: FEATURED IN SITREP #296 - WATERFUND CONDUCTS FIELD APPRAISALS IN KILIFI COUNTY

The WaterFund's Situation Report No. 296 (SITREP #296) covered the period **18th to 22nd January, 2021**. Among the highlights was that, Water Sector Trust Fund (WaterFund) held meetings with representatives from Water Resources Authority (WRA) and Timboni Mjanaheri Water Resources Users Association (WRUA) in Kilifi County. The main aim of the meetings and field appraisals was to observe, validate and assess the interventions proposed as per the Timboni Mjanaheri WRUA's proposal submitted for funding.



Under the programme, Ending Drought Emergencies - Climate Proofed Infrastructure for Improved Water Supply and Sanitation in Arid and Semi - Arid Lands (ASAL) Areas (EDE-CPIRA), WaterFund was awarded a KSh. 2 Billion grant by the European Union to finance implementation of water supply and sanitation projects. Kilifi County is a beneficiary of the grant.

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