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) # 549

5TH – 9TH JANUARY 2026

FROM SCARCITY TO SUSTAINABILITY: THE EL MOLO COMMUNITY'S JOURNEY TO CLEAN WATER AND DIGNIFIED SANITATION

WaterFund undertook a monitoring and documentation visit to the El Molo Bay Community in Loiyangalani, Marsabit County, to capture the progress and impact of the El Molo Bay Water Supply Project implemented by Pastoralist Community Initiative and Development Assistance (PACIDA) with financial support from DANIDA. The visit formed part of the Sustainable Management and Access to Water and Sanitation in the ASALs Programme (SWASAP), which seeks to strengthen resilience and improve access to safe water and sanitation services across Kenya's arid and semi-arid counties.

The documentation exercise, conducted in collaboration with Nation Media Group, focused on showcasing how the project is transforming the lives of the El Molo community, one of Kenya's smallest and most vulnerable indigenous groups. Prior to the intervention, residents relied on highly saline lake water, exposing households to waterborne diseases and placing a heavy burden on women and children who spent long hours fetching unsafe water. Through a KSh. 43.5 Million investment by WaterFund and the County Government of Marsabit, the project introduced solar-powered reverse osmosis desalination systems, intake works, pipelines, water kiosks, and operator houses, alongside community-led sanitation initiatives and energy-saving technologies.

The visit highlighted tangible results already being felt on the ground. Access to safe water is improving for households in Layeni Village and Komote Island, sanitation outcomes have been strengthened through CLTS activities and the achievement of open defecation free villages, and capacity building has empowered local water user associations to manage the systems sustainably. Community members shared testimonies of reduced water collection time, improved hygiene, better health outcomes, and emerging income-generating opportunities, particularly for women and youth.

To view the impact story, follow the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UMdB9VlhQhY





Interview of Ms. Susan Loomwa (left) and Interview of Ms. Lucy Gesepisho (right) to capture the impact of the El Molo Bay Project to their daily lives







Reverse Osmosis plant at Layeni, El Molo Bay

VIP Latrine at Layeni primary School



Left and Right: Project Beneficiaries at the Komote Island Water Kiosk under the El Molo Bay Project





Left and Right: WaterFund, PACIDA and Nation Media Group Staff after the documentation of the El Molo Bay Project.



BLAST FROM THE PAST: FEATURED IN SITREP #301 - OFFICIAL GROUND-BREAKING OF BAMBA-SHIRANGO WATER SUPPLY PROJECT IN KILIFI COUNTY


WaterFund
Water Sector Trust Fund
SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) # 301
22ND - 26TH FEBRUARY 2021
OFFICIAL GROUND-BREAKING OF BAMBA-SHIRANGO WATER SUPPLY PROJECT IN KILIFI COUNTY
WATERFUND MANAGEMENT ATTENDS THE INSTITUTIONAL PERFOMANCE REVIEW WORKSHOP IN MACHAKOS COUNTY
FIELD ACTIVITIES: MONITORING EXERCISES

The WaterFund's Situation Report No. 301 (SITREP #301) covered the period **22nd to 26th February, 2021**. Among the highlights was that, H.E. Amason Kingi, E.G.H. the former Governor, County Government of Kilifi, together with Mr. Ismail Shaiye, the then CEO WaterFund, spearheaded the ground-breaking ceremony of Bamba-Shirango Water Supply Project in Kilifi County. This project seeks to benefit approximately 11,828 community members In Ganze Sub-County, Kilifi County, with improved access to water at household levels.

The Bamba-Shirango Water Supply Project will be implemented by Kilifi Mariakani Water and Sewerage Company (KIMAWASCO) under WaterFund's Ending Drought Emergency-Climate Proofed Infrastructure (EDE-CPIRA) Programme. This project has been funded by the European Union through WaterFund at a total cost of KSh. 100.2 Million which includes a 13% Kilifi County contribution of KSh. 13.02 Million.

The main components of the project will include: construction of water kiosks, 50m3 masonry tank and repair of solar panels among others.

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