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) # 555

16TH – 20TH FEBRUARY 2026

ADVANCING GROUNDWATER RESILIENCE: HOAGW4RP PROGRESS IN WAJIR COUNTY

On 18th February, 2026, the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, led by, Mr. Julius Korir, CBS, Principal Secretary, State Department for Water and Sanitation and Eng. SAO Alima, Water Secretary, convened a high-level consultative meeting at Weston hotel in Nairobi. The meeting brought together the top leadership of Wajir County, led by H.E. FCPA Ahmed Abdullahi, EGH, Governor, Wajir County, and Hon. (Dr.) Keynan Wehliye Adan, CBS, Member of Parliament for Eldas.

The meeting reviewed progress under the Horn of Africa Groundwater for Resilience Programme (HoAGW4RP) in Wajir County, identifying key implementation gaps and priority actions required to accelerate delivery. Building on this review, discussions highlighted the need for enhanced inter-agency coordination, clearer role delineation, and timely execution of agreed interventions to ensure the Programme delivers measurable impact in Wajir and other target counties.

The consultative session further provided a platform to outline the proposed project distribution and strategic interventions aimed at addressing persistent challenges in access to clean and safe water. With an estimated investment cost of KSh. 16 billion, the HoAGW4RP is expected to benefit approximately 700,000 people in rural communities through improved groundwater management and development. The HoAGW4RP also prioritizes the rehabilitation of groundwater infrastructure to enhance fresh water availability and strengthen climate change adaptation.

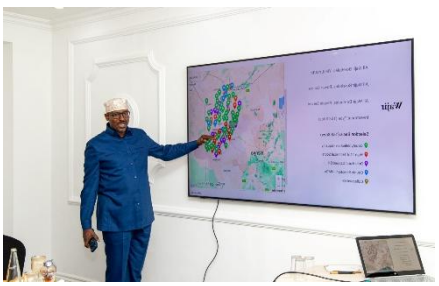
Mr. Willis Ombai, CEO, Water Sector trust Fund (WaterFund) participated in the high-level engagement, as WaterFund is responsible for delivering component 1 of the programme, specifically sub-component 1.B. This sub-component focuses on rehabilitating groundwater-based rural water supply schemes and enhancing drought-response boreholes across the five target Counties. Through this engagement, WaterFund reaffirmed its dedication to ensuring sustainable access to clean and safe water for communities across Kenya's Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs), while supporting resilience against drought and climate challenges.



Mr. Julius Korir, CBS, PS, State Department for Water and Sanitation, giving his remarks during the consultataive meeting



Eng. SAO Alima, Water Secretary, MWSI making his remarks during the meeting



H.E. FCPA Ahmed Abdullahi, EGH., Governor, Wajir County, making his presentation



H.E. Mohamud M. Ali, EGH., (left), Governor, Marsabit County and Mr. Mohamed Moulid Shurie (right) OGW, MBS, CEO, WRA present during the meeting



Hon. (Dr.) Keynan, Wehliye Adan, CBS, Member of Parliament, Eldas, present during the consultative meeting



Mr. Willis Ombai, CEO, WaterFund, following keenly the deliberations of the meeting



Left: Participants following keenly on the meeting

Right: Participants posing for a group photo after the meeting



BLAST FROM THE PAST: FEATURED IN SITREP #307- FIELD ACTIVITIES: MONITORING EXERCISES



WaterFund's Situation Report No. 307 (SITREP #307) covered the period **5th to 9th April 2021.** Among the highlights was that, Water Sector Trust Fund conducted field activities including monitoring and inspection of WaterFund's projects continued across the past weeks.

- WaterFund staff monitored the ongoing construction of Malka project in Lamu County. Malka is an opening which allows community members and livestock to access the river without being at risk of getting attacked by crocodiles. The project was implemented by Hanshak Nyongoro Community Conservancy (HNCC) and received financial support from The Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) at an approximate cost of KSh. 6.5 million.
- Monitoring of the ongoing excavation works at Ebitwosin Earth Dam in Turkana County. This project is under WaterFund's Water and Livelihood Programme (WLP) with financial support from the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA).
- Inspection of the ongoing construction of Maktau Bus Park Public Sanitation Facility (PSF) in Taita Taveta County. The project was being implemented under WaterFund's Ending Drought Emergency-Climate Proofed Infrastructure Programme (EDE-CPIRA) funded by the European Union.

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