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SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) # 571
8TH – 12TH JUNE 2026

WATERFUND PARTICIPATES IN THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2026 CELEBRATIONS AT THE OL'KALOU ARBORETUM IN NYANDARUA COUNTY

On 5th June, 2026, Water Sector Trust Fund (WaterFund), joined other stakeholders in commemorating the World Environment Day 2026 (WED 2026), held at the Ol'Kalou Arboretum in Nyandarua County. The event was organized by the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), and brought together senior government officials, environmental stakeholders, community leaders, students and residents to mark the annual celebration.

This year's event was graced by Dr. Deborah Mulongo Barasa, EGH, the Cabinet Secretary (CS) for Environment, Climate Change and Forestry (MoECCF), under the theme: "A Global Call for Climate Action." In her keynote address, Dr. Barasa, reaffirmed Kenya's commitment to environmental protection and climate resilience. She emphasized that safeguarding the environment is a collective responsibility that requires sustained action and collaboration among individuals, communities, institutions and the government. She further noted that Ol'Kalou Arboretum, holds a significant ecological importance to the Mount Kenya region, as it forms part of the larger Aberdare ecosystem, one of Kenya's critical water towers.

Speaking at the event, Dr. Eng. Festus K. Ng'eno, MIEK, CBS, Principal Secretary (PS), State Department for Environment & Climate Change (SD-ECC), reaffirmed the department's commitment to implementing the Presidential directive of planting 15 billion trees by 2032. He challenged government officials to take an active role in adopting and restoring forest ecosystems, to help transform the country's forest cover and advance sustainable environmental management. The Principal Secretary further urged Kenyans to remain alert and adequately prepared, following the El Niño advisories issued by the Kenya Meteorological Department.

During the event, WaterFund was represented by Eng. Rose Nyikuri, Manager, Water Resources and Climate Change, and Mr. Peter Koech, Manager, Water and Sanitation Services. Through targeted water resources, and climate change interventions in the marginalized regions, WaterFund continues to champion environmental conservation and sustainable water resource management, hence improving resilience and livelihoods in vulnerable communities.

WaterFund's participation in environmental awareness and conservation activities, align with its broader mandate of strengthening community resilience, and the sustainable management of water resources across the country.



Dr. Deborah Barasa, EGH, CS, MoECCF, delivering her key remarks



Dr. Deborah Barasa, EGH, CS, MoECCF, taking part in a tree-planting exercise during WED 2026



Dr. Eng. Festus K. Ng'eno, MIEK, CBS, PS, SD-ECC making his remarks



WaterFund staff posing for a photo during the celebrations



WaterFund staff engaging with partners at their exhibition stand during WED 2026 celebrations



WaterFund Branding during WED 2026 celebrations



Top government officials, heads of state corporations and residents of Ol'Kalou participating in the WED 2026 celebrations

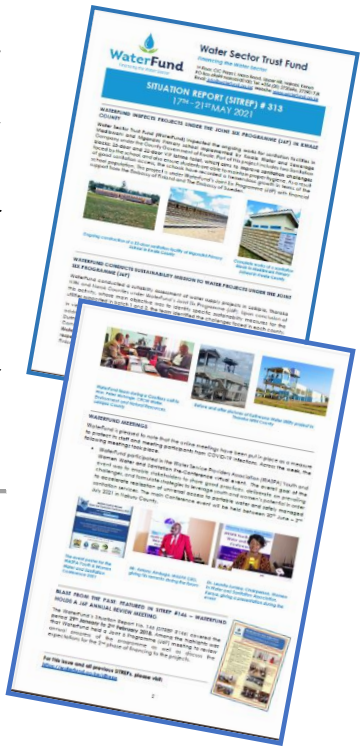


BLAST FROM THE PAST: FEATURED IN SITREP #313- WATERFUND INSPECTS PROJECTS UNDER THE JOINT SIX PROGRAMME (J6P) IN KWALE COUNTY

WaterFund's Situation Report No. 313 (SITREP #313) covered the period **17th to 21st May, 2021.** Among the highlights was that, Water Sector Trust Fund (WaterFund) inspected the ongoing works for sanitation facilities in Madibwani and Mgandini Primary school implemented by Kwale Water and Sewerage Company under the County Government of Kwale.

Part of this project included two Sanitation blocks: 26-door and 22-door VIP latrine toilet, which improved sanitation challenges faced by the school, and also ensured students are able to maintain proper hygiene.

As a result of good sanitation access, the schools recorded a tremendous growth in terms of the school population. The project was under WaterFund's Joint Six Programme (J6P) with financial support from the Embassy of Finland and the Embassy of Sweden.



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