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WATERFUND STRENGTHENS GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS AND ADVANCES SUSTAINABLE WATER FINANCING AT WORLD WATER WEEK 2026 IN SWEDEN

On 23rd to 27th August, 2026, Water Sector Trust Fund (WaterFund), led by the Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Willis Ombai, joined the Kenyan delegation in Stockholm, Sweden, for World Water Week 2026 forum. Held under the theme: "Water for People and Progress," the global forum brought together water sector stakeholders across the world, to enhance dialogue, collaboration and innovative solutions to global water challenges. The annual forum provided WaterFund with a platform to engage with development partners, strengthen strategic partnerships, share experiences on sustainable water and sanitation financing, and explore opportunities for resource mobilization.

A key highlight during the forum, was WaterFund's session which was presided over by Mr. Julius Korir, CBS, Principal Secretary (PS), State Department for Water and Sanitation (SD-WS), Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation (MWSI). The session titled "Interrogating Blended Financing Models for Sustainable Financing to Water and Sanitation in Kenya," was conducted and presented by Mr. Ombai and Ms. Ruth Nganga, General Manager (GM), Fund Development (FD), WaterFund. The deliberations attracted participation from Impact Fund Denmark, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), Kenya Innovative Finance Facility for Water (KIFFWA), Dutch Water Operators (VEI) and IHE Delft Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft) from the Netherlands among others. In addition, Ms. Nganga, contributed actively to discussions by presenting on blended financing models during a UNICEF and World Health Organization (WHO) session, focused on preparations for the upcoming UN Water Conference.

During the World Water Week 2026 forum, Mr. Ombai, participated in bilateral discussions with development partners, including KfW (German Development Bank), and representatives from the Netherlands, to explore opportunities for supporting Kenya's water and sanitation sector. The bilateral discussions were presided over by Mr. Julius Korir, CBS, PS, SD-WS, MWSI. Mr. Ombai, and Ms. Nganga, further engaged officials from the Government of Finland and the Finnish Water Forum, on strengthening partnerships and advancing resource mobilization initiatives. The leadership also met with Operon International to discuss on the way forward towards the finalisation, and signing of the Public Sector Investment Facility (PIF) Commercial Contract. These discussions focused on exploring opportunities to support Kenya's water and sanitation sector.

The Kenyan delegation further paid a courtesy call to the Office of Kenya's Ambassador to Sweden, Nordic and Baltic Region, hence strengthening Kenya's diplomatic and strategic engagements in the water sector.

WaterFund's participation in World Water Week 2026, strengthened its visibility on the global water financing platform, and provided an opportunity to deepen collaboration with strategic partners and development stakeholders. The engagements reaffirmed WaterFund's commitment to mobilizing resources and advancing innovative, blended and sustainable financing solutions to accelerate the development of Kenya's water and sanitation sector.



Mr. Julius Korir (left), CBS, PS, SD-WS, MWSI, and H.E. Ambassador Angeline Kavindu Musili (right), MBS, Kenyan Ambassador to Sweden during the courtesy call



Mr. Julius Korir, CBS, PS, SD-WS, MWSI, presiding over WaterFund's session during the World Water Week 2026 forum



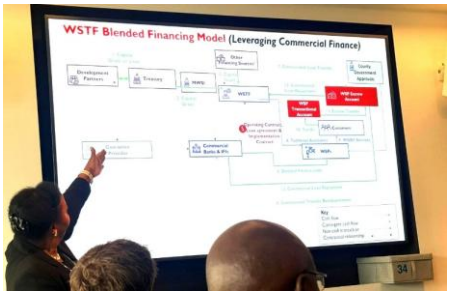
Mr. Willis Ombai (front), CEO, WaterFund, making his key presentation during WaterFund's session at the forum



Participants keenly following through WaterFund's session during the World Water Week 2026 forum



Kenyan delegation during the Courtesy Call at the Kenyan Embassy



Ms. Ruth Nganga (front), GM, FD, WaterFund, presentating on WaterFund's blended financing models

WATERFUND ADVANCES KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE ON NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS FOR SANITATION

On 24th to 28th August, 2026, WaterFund joined The World Bank in hosting a Water Sector delegation from the Republic of Mozambique, for a Knowledge Exchange Visit on Nature-Based Solutions for Sanitation. The delegation visited the Shimo La Tewa Decentralized Treatment Facility (DTF-50), financed by WaterFund through Mombasa Water Supply and Sanitation Company (Mombasa WSP); the Malindi Waste-to-Value Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP) site; and the Mikoko Pamoja Mangrove Restoration Project in Mikindani, funded by the World Bank through Mombasa WSP.

The visit was preceded by a debriefing on the DTF, where the delegation commended the facility's operations, and its impact to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and addressing climate-related challenges. The World Bank team was led by Ms. Pascaline Ndungu, Senior Water and Sanitation Specialist, while the WaterFund team was led by Eng. Thomas Nyangau, Manager, Commercial Financing. The two utilities were represented by their respective Managing Directors, Ms. Habiba Ali, Mombasa Water and Sanitation Company, and Mr. Félix Wanje, Malindi Water and Sanitation Company.



Eng. Thomas Nyangau, Manager, Commercial Financing/Urban Investments, WaterFund, making his remarks during the entry meeting



The World Bank, Mozambique and WaterFund delegation visiting Shimo La Tewa DTF-50



The World Bank, Mozambique and WaterFund delegation visiting the Waste-to-Value Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP)

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