

SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) # 589

12TH – 16TH OCTOBER 2026

WATERFUND'S LEADERSHIP IN INNOVATIVE FINANCING EARNS RECOGNITION AT WATER CREDIT FORUM 2026

Water Sector Trust Fund (WaterFund) has received the Catalytic Finance Leadership Award for Water & Sanitation from Water.org, recognising its institutional contribution to advancing innovative financing solutions that expand access to sustainable water and sanitation services in Kenya. The award was presented during the Water Credit Forum 2026, convened by Water.org on 16th October, 2026 at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Upper Hill, Nairobi, and received on behalf of the institution by Mr. Willis Ombai, Chief Executive Officer, WaterFund.

The recognition highlights WaterFund's strategic role in mobilising and channelling financial resources towards water and sanitation investments, particularly in underserved and marginalised communities where financing gaps continue to constrain access to essential services. As WaterFund advances its mandate of supporting underserved communities, this recognition reinforces its commitment to strengthening financing partnerships, unlocking new investment opportunities and accelerating progress towards sustainable access to safe water and sanitation for all.



*Mr. Willis Ombai, WaterFund CEO
with the prestigious award.*



WATERFUND JOINS MWSI ON K-WASH PROGRAMME MONITORING MISSION IN KWALE COUNTY TO ASSESS PROGRESS IN WATER AND SANITATION SERVICE DELIVERY

Water Sector Trust Fund (WaterFund), joined the Project Implementing Unit and the Project Management Unit (PMU), of Kenya Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (K-WASH) Programme, from the State Department for Water and Sanitation, under the Ministry of Water Sanitation and Irrigation (MWSI), on a monitoring mission of K-WASH projects in Kwale County. The team was led by Eng. Fred Amwata, Programme Coordinator for K-WASH Programme, under MWSI. The Programme is being funded by The World Bank, and it is being implemented in 19 counties by 33 Water Service Providers (WSPs).

During the monitoring exercise, the delegation paid a courtesy call to leadership of Kwale County, and were hosted by H.E. Chirema Kombo, Deputy Governor, Kwale County. His remarks emphasized on the County's commitment to fully support the realization of the project objectives. During this courtesy call, Hon. Hemedi Mwabudzo, County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Water, briefed the delegation on the progress of K-WASH interventions in

Kwale County, and highlighted the milestones, achievements and areas requiring further support.

The mission sought to review the progress of K-WASH projects implementation, assess the effectiveness of ongoing interventions, identify implementation challenges and strengthen coordination between the national government, county government and development partners. The K-WASH project plays a critical role in improving access to safe and reliable water services, enhancing sanitation and hygiene practices, and promoting sustainable water and sanitation infrastructure in beneficiary communities.

During the mission, the delegation visited key K-WASH project sites, including Funzi Village A and B for Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS), Ndugumbeni Borehole in Kinondo Ward, and Kombani Borehole in Waa-Ng'ombeni Ward. The team also assessed communities' Open Defecation Free (ODF) status and reviewed efforts to sustain improved sanitation and hygiene practices.

In addition, the team physically assessed the functionality of the projects, the quality of construction works, and compliance with the required standards, among other aspects, to ensure the delivery of durable and sustainable water and sanitation infrastructure.

WaterFund's participation in the monitoring of K-WASH Investments in Kwale County

Under K-WASH Programme, WaterFund is implementing Result Area 3 (RA3): Strengthening the Operational and Financial Performance of WSPs in the participating Counties. Under this component, WaterFund aims to support WSPs in enhancing revenue generation and strengthening their creditworthiness, to enable them to attract commercial and private financing. These efforts are geared towards building financially resilient, commercially viable, and sustainable WSPs. During the visit, WaterFund was represented by Ms. Stella Warue, Principal Programme Officer, Sanitation.

WaterFund's participation in the monitoring mission, demonstrates the Fund's commitment to expanding access to safe and reliable water services, and dignified sanitation facilities for underserved communities across Kenya. WaterFund is committed to working with WSPs to improve operational and financial performance, strengthen commercial viability, and position them to access financing for sustainable water and sanitation service delivery.



H.E. Chirema Kombo, Deputy Governor, Kwale County, making his remarks during the courtesy call



Eng. Fred Amwata (right), Programme Coordinator for K-WASH, MWSI keenly following an engagement with beneficiaries



Hon. Hemedi Mwabudzo, CECM, for Water, briefing the PMU on the progress of the project



Ms. Stella Warue, Principal Programme Officer, Sanitation, WaterFund, representing the Fund in Kwale County



Delegation visiting Funzi Village A and B in Kwale County



The delegation inspecting a water tower at Ndugumbeni, Kinondo Ward