

SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) # 460

8TH – 12TH APRIL 2024

EMPOWERING ASAL COMMUNITIES THROUGH WATERFUND'S SWASAP PROGRAMME

Water Sector Trust Fund (WaterFund) is implementing the Sustainable Management and Access to Water and Sanitation in the ASALs (SWASAP) Programme, with financial support from the Government of Kenya and the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA). The five-year SWASAP Programme aims to enhance community resilience and climate change adaptation by improving access to water and sanitation services for 40,000 households across ASAL counties.

In Tana River County, WaterFund is actively collaborating with key stakeholders to implement three SWASAP projects: the Wenje Kipendi Vukoni Water Supply Project, Golbanti - Odha Tana Water Project, and Baomo Water Project. Partnering with Tana Water and Sanitation Company (TAWASCO), Welthungerhilfe (WHH), and Kenya Water for Health Organization (KWAHO), WaterFund's investment of KSh. 136 Million alongside the County Government of Tana River's contribution of KSh. 20 Million underscores its dedication to enhancing water access and sanitation services in the region.

In regards to the above, WaterFund, in partnership with Mr. Abdulkadir Sirat Mathobe, Chief Officer of Water, Energy, and Natural Resources for Tana River County, launched the Wenje-Vukoni Water Supply Project and Golbanti - Odha Tana Water Project. Mr. Mathobe commended WaterFund and DANIDA for their unwavering support, citing their instrumental role in financing various projects within the County, including the Madogo Water Supply, Ndera Water Project, and Hola Sanitation Project.

The project launch was attended by various stakeholders such as Ms. Faith Haddia Buye, Chief Officer of Agriculture and Cooperative Development, Tana River County; Hon. Hamid Babusa, MCA of Kinakomba Ward; Mr. Siyat Osman, Quality Assurance Monitor, WaterFund; Mr. Said Waldea, Chairman Board of Directors of TAWASCO; Mr. Ambari Galgalo, Board Director of TAWASCO; and Ms. Sarah Maiyo, Area Manager, Welthungerhilfe. With the ongoing partnerships and community-centred initiatives, WaterFund remains as the lead agency in enhancing community resilience and climate change adaptation in ASAL communities.



Official ground-breaking of the Wenje Kipendi Vukoni Water Supply Project



Mr. Abdulkadir Sirat Mathobe, Chief Officer Water, Energy, and Natural Resources of Tana River County, giving his speech



Mr. Charles Kimani, Quality Assurance Monitor, WaterFund, Tana River County giving his remarks



Left: Community members follow keenly the proceedings of the Wenje Kipende Vukoni Water Supply Project launch



Right: Community members follow keenly the proceedings of the Golbanti-Odha Water Project launch

WATERFUND'S COMMITMENT TO FINANCIAL SECURITY AND MENTAL HEALTH OF ITS STAFF

WaterFund, through the Human Resources and Administration Division, held a staff awareness session, to address crucial topics encompassing financial management, mental health, medical insurance, and the National Government Affordable Housing initiatives. Chairing the meeting, Mr. Willis Ombai, CEO WaterFund, emphasized the significance of the session in reflecting on WaterFund's dedication to supporting its employees across various facets of their lives. Underlining the organization's unwavering commitment to prioritizing the physical and mental well-being, as well as the financial security of its staff, Mr. Ombai reiterated WaterFund's determination to provide resources and knowledge for both personal and professional growth.

The session featured an in-depth presentation on mental health awareness, offering practical strategies for maintaining well-being and reducing the stigma surrounding mental health issues. Furthermore, comprehensive information on medical insurance coverage, including key aspects such as network providers, co-payments, deductibles, and coverage limits, was provided to the staff. Additionally, employees received guidance on essential financial management principles with practical strategies to assist employees in formulating and adhering to budgets and making informed financial decisions. Lastly, staff members were briefed on the National Housing Corporation's initiative to provide affordable housing, with the aim of facilitating accessible home ownership opportunities for WaterFund employees. Through initiatives such as these, WaterFund continues to demonstrate its unwavering commitment to the holistic well-being and professional growth of its valued employees.



Mr. Willis Ombai, CEO WaterFund making his opening remarks during the staff sensitization session



Mr. Lucas Abwoga, Cooperative Bank, making his presentation on financial management



WaterFund staff members during the sensitization

BLAST FROM THE PAST: FEATURED IN SITREP #239 - WATERFUND DONATES TREE SEEDLINGS TOWARDS THE MINISTERIAL TREE PLANTING CAMPAIGN IN KWALE COUNTY

WaterFund's Situation Report No. 239 (SITREP #239) covered the period **18th to 22nd November, 2019**. Among the highlights was that, The Ministry of Water & Sanitation and Irrigation launched a tree planting campaign together with Water Sector Institutions, in order to support the National Government's target of 10% forest cover by the year 2022. WaterFund, under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities, took part in the tree planting campaign at Mpirani Primary School, which is in the Mwache Dam catchment area, in Kwale County. The tree planting exercise was to comply with the presidential directive on inclusion of tree planting in Corporate Social Responsibilities (CSR) activities in all state corporations towards support for afforestation. In view of the above, WaterFund donated 2,000 indigenous tree seedlings towards this noble cause.

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