



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



KENYA

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

Kenya is classified among the most water scarce countries in the world. This, coupled with more frequent cycles of severe weather and depleting natural resources, is making water less available for domestic and productive uses. Approximately 60 percent of Kenyans have access to safe drinking water, and 29 percent have access to basic sanitation. In Kenya, 9.9 million people drink directly from contaminated surface water sources and an estimated five million people practice open defecation. Only 25 percent have hand-washing facilities with soap and water at home.

Water insecurity, along with a lack of sanitation and hygiene products and services, puts public health at risk, undermines economic growth, fosters political instability, and perpetuates inequalities. Climate change exacerbates these challenges, and global shocks and stressors, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and Horn of Africa drought, have put a spotlight on the importance of strong water and sanitation governance, finance and institutions for building household and community resilience and protecting economic gains.

OUR WORK

Working with communities, businesses, and county governments, USAID is strengthening water security, increasing, and improving access to water services, and improving sanitation and hygiene. USAID partners with the government, the private sector, and civil society to strengthen the systems that ensure sufficient service delivery now and in the future.

To maximize benefits and reach those in greatest need, WASH activities are often integrated with other programs including agriculture, environment, governance, and maternal and child health.

EXPANDING ACCESS TO WATER

To facilitate better delivery of services, USAID applies a range of approaches to both professionalize water services and strengthen water utilities, while protecting the watersheds and effectively managing the water resources that these services rely on. USAID works with the Government of Kenya to explore and map groundwater potential in Kenya, and to increase the capacity of stakeholders to apply this data for decision making.

To mobilize much-needed financing for the sector, USAID assists service providers to improve their operations and management to expand, attract and retain customers, strengthen their creditworthiness, and establish a solid financial foundation for increased investment and partnerships.

WASH PORTFOLIO BUDGET

\$100 Million

KEY PARTNERS

Government of Kenya

- County Governments and Council of Governors
- Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation
- Ministry of Health
- Water Services Regulatory Board
- Water Resource Authority
- Water Services Trust Fund

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

RTI, Tetra Tech, UNICEF, United States Geological Survey, DAI

MISSION CONTACT

Amanda Robertson, WASH Team Lead

Tel: +254-728-510652

Email: arobertson@usaid.gov

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Email: usaidkea@usaid.gov

Website: www.usaid.gov/kenya

Facebook: USAIDKenya

Twitter: @USAIDKenya

IMPROVING SANITATION AND HYGIENE

To address the need for progressively realizing higher quality household sanitation, new approaches that go beyond the traditional “Do-It-Yourself” model are needed. USAID supports market-based solutions to improve the quality of household sanitation and hygiene products, including for menstrual hygiene management. USAID also supports research to identify and pilot innovative approaches to end open defecation in traditionally hard to reach communities.

ACHIEVEMENT SNAPSHOTS (2022)

- Provided 85,108 Kenyans with access to basic drinking water services because of USG assistance.
- Provided 282,086 Kenyans with access to a basic sanitation service because of USG assistance.
- 126 health centers have access to basic sanitation facilities because of USG assistance.
- Enabled 1209 communities verified to achieve ‘open defecation free’ status.