



USAID | KENYA
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Water for the World Country Plan

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2016 UNICEF/WHO Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) report on drinking water and sanitation estimates that 61 percent of Kenyans have access to improved drinking water supply, and 30 percent have access to improved sanitation. This is a 5 percent increase since 2005. However, access to improved water and sanitation in Kenya has not been keeping pace with population growth, increasing 0.9 percent and 0.2 percent, per annum respectively, over the past decade. Similarly to many sub-Saharan countries, Kenya missed the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) targets. Water supply coverage in rural areas is much lower than in urban areas (57 percent versus 82 percent).

In addition to being designated as a Priority Country under the Paul Simon Water for the World Act, Kenya is a priority country for USAID under the Global Water Strategy (GWS). In alignment with the USAID Water and Development Strategy, USAID/Kenya and East Africa (USAID/KEA) is layering investments and emphasizing market-based models in its two flagship water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) activities—Kenya Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Project and the Kenya Resilient Arid Land Partnership for Integrated Development—that will command the bulk of USAID/KEA's WASH investments through 2020. These activities will build on learning generated by USAID's WASH activities implemented between 2012 and 2016 that resulted in over two million Kenyans gaining access to an improved water source and a sanitation facility.

II. INTRODUCTION

Water and sanitation play a fundamental role in achieving shared social and economic outcomes of both the Government of Kenya (GOK) and USAID. Unsafe or inadequate access to water, sanitation, and hygiene has a profound effect on public health in Kenya. Diarrhea alone is responsible for 10 percent of under-5 mortality in Kenya, and nearly 90 percent of diarrhea is attributed to unsafe drinking water, inadequate sanitation, and poor hygiene.

This KEA Water and Development country plan serves as a high-level summary of how the Mission intends to support the GOK to achieve its WASH service delivery objectives in line with the Mission's broader development and interagency goals. The USAID/KEA WASH program works with the GOK and the private sector to foster market-driven solutions and reforms to support water supply and sanitation access, hygiene promotion, environmental sustainability, and build resilience to water and food insecurity in rural areas, especially the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs). Behavior change is a key component of all sanitation and hygiene activities. The program creates impact across sectors, including agriculture, environment and natural resources, health, and nutrition.

III. GOVERNMENT OF KENYA WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE OBJECTIVES

The National Water Master Plan 2030, based on Kenya Vision 2030, recognizes water as an enabler in the socio-economic development of the country. It aims to transform Kenya into a “middle income country providing a high quality of life to all of its citizens by the year 2030.” It also takes into account how climate change and population could affect water availability and use. With rapid urbanization, it is estimated that 30 million Kenyans will reside in urban areas and account for 48 percent of the country's projected population by 2030. As a priority, the Government aims to increase access to clean water and sanitation services in the major urban centers and their suburbs, as well as the underserved rural areas where the coverage is much lower than in urban areas (57 percent versus 82 percent), including informal settlements, and strengthening sector institutions. The specific policy objectives (covering the four basic areas of water resources management, water supply and sewerage development, institutional arrangements, and financing) are to:

- Preserve, conserve, and protect all available water resources and allocate it in a sustainable, rational, and economic way
- Supply water of good quality and in sufficient quantities to meet the various water needs, including poverty alleviation, while ensuring safe disposal of wastewater and environmental protection
- Establish an efficient and effective institutional framework to achieve a systematic development and management of the water sector
- Develop a sound and sustainable financing system for effective water resources management, water supply, and sanitation development

For sanitation and hygiene, the GOK has developed a long-term policy goal of achieving and sustaining open defecation free (ODF) status and ensuring universal access to improved sanitation by 2030 in line with Kenya's economic and development vision of creating a globally competitive and prosperous nation with a high quality of life. To achieve this, Kenya has developed a Environmental Sanitation and Hygiene Strategic Framework

(KESSF) 2016–2020, which outlines the strategic interventions necessary for achieving an ODF Kenya by 2020, as well as universal access to improved sanitation and a clean and healthy environment for all by 2030. KESSF is aligned with the Constitution of Kenya 2010, Kenya's Vision 2030, and the international and regional obligations, commitments, and targets related to sanitation.

IV. GOVERNMENT OF KENYA'S CURRENT AND PLANNED STRATEGIES AND APPROACHES TO WATER AND SANITATION

Kenya is a member of the Global Sanitation and Water for All partnership. On May 18, 2016, the country launched four sanitation and hygiene policies to align with the Sustainable Development Goals as well as the country's other global and regional WASH commitments:

- **Kenya Environmental Sanitation and Hygiene Strategic Framework, 2016–2020:** Addresses bottlenecks to achieving universal access to improved sanitation and eradication of open defecation in Kenya.
- **Kenya Environmental Sanitation and Hygiene Policy, 2016–2020:** Provides guidelines that ensure universal access to improved sanitation and a clean, healthy, sustainable living environment for improved quality of life of Kenyans.
- **National ODF Kenya 2020 Campaign Framework:** Maps and secures commitments from partners and support them in their work plans to achieve ODF by 2020.
- **Prototype County Kenya Environmental Health and Sanitation Bill:** Assists and guides the county governments to come up with legislation to enable county governments to effectively execute the sanitation and environmental health-related functions and powers vested in them by the Fourth Schedule to the constitution.

The GOK further initiated the Sector Wide Approach to Planning in 2006 to harmonize sector planning, implementation mechanisms, and coordination of resources. The Government, USAID, and other major donors, including the World Bank, the African Development Bank, and the Governments of Sweden, France, Germany, and Denmark, have developed a common sector policy framework and strategy, a common sector program (with possibilities for the pooling of resources), and common monitoring systems. The National Water Master Plan 2030 estimates that approximately \$14 billion in investment in water supply and \$5.4 billion in urban sewerage infrastructure are needed over the next 15 years for sustainable impact. Given that development partners now contribute more than half of financing, a sharp increase in mobilizing new financing, including commercial financing for commercially viable investments, will be required.

V. CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SECTOR

USAID intends to invest in the following areas to increase scale and sustainability:

Increase funding to the water sector

There has been a significant increase in overall spending during the 2000s from government and other sources, with the Ministry of Water and Irrigation budget increasing in absolute terms from \$64 million in 2003/04 to \$379 million in 2009/10. From 2006–2010, development partner funding to the sector rose dramatically, from \$54 million to \$191 million annually, and is almost double the government contribution, with the development banks being the largest donors.

Donor funding is 64 percent of the total sector financing, so there is a need to increase the availability of domestic financing. Currently, the annual required sector budget is about \$1 billion, of which about \$0.6 billion is funded by the GOK and development partners.

Prioritize the most vulnerable populations

Counties have been given a constitutional obligation to give priority to basic needs, focusing especially on improved access for the poor, as well as women and girls. Overall, the involvement of women and girls, men and boys in sharing decisions, costs, burdens, and benefits of water activities have significantly contributed in different and meaningful ways to the success and sustainability of sector outputs. USAID activities will continue to focus on strengthening the delivery of WASH services to the most vulnerable.

Support ongoing sector reforms

The Water Act of 2002 mandated significant policy and structural changes for the sector in Kenya, including consolidation of most water-related functions under a single ministry and decentralization of service provision to the subnational level. In 2016, the Water Act of 2002 was revised to align with the new constitution passed in 2010 that states that water and sanitation are a basic right for every Kenyan. The Water Bill of 2016 has been passed by parliament, approved by the president, and is currently awaiting commencement. USAID current implementing mechanisms have a strong focus on governance, both at the national and county levels.

Water scarcity

Kenya is a water-scarce country with per capita water resources of less than 500 m³. Mean annual rainfall across the country is 680 mm, but it varies from 200 mm in the ASALs zone to about 1,800 mm in the humid zone, with the ASALs covering 85 percent of the country. The main source of water is concentrated in five major catchments. However, the distribution of water is skewed and uneven across these areas. Variability in rainfall in these areas also leads to frequent droughts and floods. The USAID targeting criterion tackles both the ASAL areas to address the water challenges

VI. USAID/KEA COUNTRY APPROACH FOR WATER

Over the past five years, USAID has helped over two million Kenyans access WASH services. USAID/KEA's WASH program works with the Government and the private sector to foster market-driven solutions and reforms to support water supply and sanitation access, hygiene promotion, management, and environmental sustainability in rural areas, especially the ASALs. The program creates impact across sectors, including agriculture, environment and natural resources, health, and nutrition. Geographic priority areas for USAID/KEA water programming have been selected based on an analysis of multiple factors that enable the Mission to address the highest priority needs and opportunities within the WASH sector, while at the same time optimizing opportunities for synergy with other USAID-funded development activities in related sectors. The factors considered to identify the geographic focus for water programming are water supply coverage gaps, sanitation coverage gaps, Feed the Future (FtF) priority program areas, location within a single water catchment or a single watershed, childhood malnutrition rates, presence of USAID-implemented Maternal and Child Health programs, and geographic focal areas for Natural Resource Management (NRM) activities.

Together, these factors reflect a combination of the most critical “need” and “opportunity” criteria for success in WASH. USAID/KEA, therefore, included geographic criteria reflecting higher population densities, vibrant agricultural economy opportunities, and hydrologic connectivity in order to advance its approach at scale. To advance the GWS and in alignment with USAID’s comparative advantages as outlined in its Agency-specific Plan, USAID/KEA is focusing on private sector development, improved governance, and layering activities for maximum impact. Given USAID’s considerable experience working with the private sector in Kenya to advance market-based models in numerous development sectors, USAID/KEA will work to strengthen value chains for WASH services. Furthermore, USAID/KEA has historically supported the role of strengthened governance as a fundamental principle across its portfolio in economic development, food security, natural resources management, and health, as well as supporting decentralized governance and recently, new programming to ease implementation of constitutional reform. This will extend to the water and sanitation portfolio as well. Finally, USAID/KEA’s high profile initiatives in global health, food security, climate change, and NRM provide a unique opportunity among donors for strategic integration with WASH investments and advancement of innovative, cross-sectoral approaches.

Implementation mechanisms

- Kenya Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Project (KIWASH): This is the Mission’s flagship five-year (WASH and Feed the Future Initiative) activity being implemented in nine counties in the country of which eight are in FtF areas. The activity aims to reach more than one million people with WASH services using a market approach model, with the following outcomes: 1) market-based WASH service delivery models scaled up; 2) sustained access to financing/credit for WASH services increased; 3) access to integrated WASH and nutrition services improved; 4) environmental sustainability of WASH services improved; 5) WASH services and water resources institutions strengthened and appropriately governed; and 6) targeted policy reforms advanced, which stimulate and support improvements in access.
- Kenya Resilient Arid Land Partnership for Integrated Development (RAPID): This is a Global Development Alliance (GDA) with the Millennium Water Alliance being implemented in five arid counties of Northern Kenya over five years. This is part of the Mission’s resilience efforts in northern Kenya. The GDA leverages USAID’s investment with private sector partners, including Coca Cola Foundation and IBM Research Labs, as well as additional leverage from the Swiss Development Corporation. This activity, which is supporting 450,000 vulnerable populations, has three objectives: 1) governance of water projects; 2) pilot market approach; and 3) increased access to WASH services for improved livelihoods.
- Afya Jijini, KEA Afya Pwani, Afya County and National Support (CNSP), and Maternal Child Survival Program (MCSP): USAID/KEA’s support for quality WASH and reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child, and adolescent health services will be more strictly targeted and geographically concentrated, guided by epidemiology, collaboration with county and national governments, and coordination with other developing partners. Currently, WASH is being implemented in Kilifi, Nairobi, Migori, and Kisumu counties, but moving forward in FY 2018 the focus counties will be Migori, Kakamega, Kitui, and Nakuru. These counties are chosen based on alignment to other Mission WASH programs, the greatest need, and expected impacts. Increased emphasis will be placed on reducing preventable maternal and child deaths through increased access and utilization of quality WASH services at facility and community levels, and improved WASH practices.
- WASH Finance: This five-year, WASH-FIN project, funded by USAID, began in October 2016. WASH-FIN implementation is led by Tetra Tech International Development with support

from Open Capital Advisors, Segura Consulting, and Global Credit Rating. It is aimed at closing financial gaps to achieve universal access to water and sanitation services through sustainable and creditworthy business models, increased public funding, and expanded market finance for infrastructure investment.

Other USG Activities to Further this Vision

- United States Geological Survey (USGS): USAID has an interagency agreement with USGS USAID/Kenya and East Africa to support the GOK on groundwater mapping. This technical assistance covers remote sensing, mapping, and groundwater modeling to determine the amount of groundwater availability. The program is being implemented in Kenya's Marsabit County and Turkana County using remote sensing and modeling technologies.
- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): In coordination with the Ministry of Health, the CDC is supporting a number of initiatives in Kenya to enhance health service delivery. Since 2009, CDC has worked to enhance cholera preparedness, response, and prevention, and is also testing an innovative fecal waste treatment process using solar energy. The CDC is leading studies on the impact of a rotavirus vaccine on under-5 diarrhea and is assessing WASH coverage in 12 counties following intervention by some NGOs.
- U.S. Department of State (DOS): With the U.S. Water Partnership (USWP), the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, and the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, DOS supported technical assistance on the rehabilitation of the Nairobi River Basin through the USWP Water Consultant Program.

Expected results

By 2020, USAID's activities are expected to provide over one million Kenyans with sustainable access to improved water supply and over one million with access to improved sanitation. The results reported reflect targets at the time of this document's production, however, targets may be updated on an annual basis.

The Kenya Country Plan is costed based on prior year resources still available for programming, the FY 2017 estimated allocation of \$12.2 million, and the FY 2018 President's Budget Request of \$2.0 million.