

# WATER NEWS UPDATE



## FIRST LADY LAUDS TREE PLANTING DRIVE

- This is the first ever tree planting presided by First Lady in our facility
- Over 10,000 bamboo seedlings planted.



*First Lady. H.E. Margaret Kenyatta is taken through the NCWSC systems by the Ag. Managing Director Eng. Nahason Muguna using a model at Ruiru Dam, Kiambu County, during Bamboo tree planting drive at the catchment. Looking on are Bidco Africa Ltd Chair Vimal Shah (in blue cap) and Nairobi City Water and Sewerage Company Ltd Corporate Affairs Manager Mbaruku Vyakweli (in spectacles).*

The Company in collaboration with Bidco Africa Ltd and other stakeholders recently organized a Bamboo tree planting drive at Ruiru Dam presided over by First Lady H.E Margaret Kenyatta.

The First Lady said tree planting drive will help mitigate against the effects posed by climate change.

"Climate change is a consequence of our action. Our participation today in this noble exercise is commendable as it will go a long way in restoring our ecosystem and biodiversity."

She further stated that the global environment continues to face

numerous challenges ranging from pollution, deforestation, desertification and scarcity of natural resources.

She also noted that forests have multiple benefits and called upon stakeholders to seek for innovative solutions to restore water towers.

"We must be better advocates and champions of environmental conservation in order to contribute to a healthy ecosystem. Forests ensures there is food security besides it being of medicinal value." She said.

Environment and Forestry Cabinet Secretary, Keriako Tobiko, said the presidential directive on tree planting is on course while decrying the state forest cover in the country.

"The country's forest cover stands at dismal 7.2% while at independence it was 30%. We must strive to achieve the 10% forest cover by the year 2022 as directed by the president." He said.

He also called on the corporates to invest more on environmental initiatives. "Environment and water is life. Corporates can protect the environment and still make profits." He noted.

NCWSC Ag. Managing Director Eng. Nahason Muguna said the planting of bamboo seedling within the catchment will bring forth many benefits.

"Some of the benefits to the catchment include the restoration of the water cycle which has been distorted by deforestation and thus the climatic challenges we see affecting the weather patterns " He said .

Over 10,000 tree seedlings were planted during the event attended by local leadership among others Kiambu Governor Ferdinand Waititu , environmentalist, corporates and students.

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*First Lady. H.E. Margaret Kenyatta and Environment and Forestry Cabinet Secretary Keriako Tobiko leads the bamboo tree planting drive at Ruiru Dam.*

**NCWSC, AWSB MEET OVER AFD FUNDED PROJECTS**

The Company and its regulator Athi Water Services Board, recently met officials from French Development Agency (AFD) to discuss proposed water and sanitation projects to be funded by the financial institution.

The overall goal of the projects is to improve living conditions for the inhabitants of Nairobi residents by expanding access to drinking water and sanitation.

Others include reinforcement and extension of the sewerage distribution network geared towards the reduction of discharge of untreated effluent as well as building the capacity of NCWSC in reduction of Non-Revenue Water (NRW).

The Company's Managing Director, Eng. Nahason Muguna, noted that reduction of Non-Revenue Water is a key priority .

"We are still grappling with the issue of Non-Revenue Water which we believe if drastically reduced will help us get the much needed revenue for the Company." He said

Under the component of building capacity in the proposed project, NCWSC seeks a long-term technical assistance towards undertaking a tariff study; design of a remote management system to collect data, training in networks modelling and management of Non-Revenue Water.

The proposed projects will augment the Northern Collector Tunnel Project that aims to tap a new water resource and increase by 140,000 m<sup>3</sup>/d the volumes supplied to Nairobi city.



*NCWSC Ag. Managing Director Eng. Nahason Muguna chairs a meeting with delegates from French Development Agency and Athi Water Services Board.*

**PICTORIAL**



*NCWSC Alcohol, Drugs and Substance Abuse (ADSA) Committee headed by Ag. Northern Regional Manager Timothy Irimu when they visited Eldoret Water and Sanitation Company Ltd for benchmarking mission. The mandate of the committee is to ensure that ADSA issues are handled procedurally and professionally.*