



WATER NEWS UPDATE

AfWA LAUNCHES CITY WIDE INCLUSIVE SANITATION



AfWA Director of Programmes, Dr. Eng. Simeon Kenfack (4th left, front row), Kenya Water Institute CEO, Prof. Patrick Hayombe (3rd left, front row), Economic and Financial Advisor to Ag. Nairobi Governor, Sylvester Kasuku (4th right front row) and NCWSC Managing Director Eng. Nahason Muguna (2nd right, front row) pose for a photo with other dignitaries during the launch of City Wide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS) programme.

The Company in conjunction with African Water and Sanitation (AfWA) last week launched a City Wide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS) programme in a workshop in Nairobi County.

The programme, supported by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, aims to achieve universal access to in the targeted cities- Nairobi, Kisumu, Thika and Nakuru.

The one-day event was aimed at ensuring effective start of the capacity building programme in Kenya in order to identify key players in the sanitation sector at all levels, present the overall project to the various stakeholders and agree on the level of involvement of each actor as well as discuss the medium and long term action plans of the project.

The function was presided over by Principal Secretary for Water and Sanitation and Irrigation Joseph Irungu represented by Kenya Water Institute Chief Executive Officer Prof. Patrick Hayombe

The PS said the sanitation programme calls for institutional reforms to effectively roll out and monitor the sanitation programme

It is paramount that institutions may need to be restructured to accommodate a CWIS-driven strategy and allow strategic and tactical changes to optimize performance and service delivery." He said.

He added that the fight against Covid-19 pandemic placed proper sanitation as one of the key critical measures to fight it.

"The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has highlighted the critical importance of water, sanitation, and adequate hygiene services (WASH) as the primary line of defense against the spread of COVID-19." He said.

Ag. Nairobi Governor, H.E Ann Kananu, represented by her Economic and Financial Advisor, Sylvester Kasuku, called for commitment by sector players to make access to sanitation a reality.

"This is a clear indication of how each and every one of us is committed to help achieve universal access to improved sanitation in our cities. I am delighted that the programme aim of addressing water and sanitation challenges which essentially face any growing city like Nairobi." She noted.

The Director of Programmes at the African Water and Sanitation (AfWA), Dr.Eng. Simeon Kenfack, noted that capacity building plays a key role in realization of the Afwa mission.

"Capacity building of actors in the sector is the core mandate of the AfWA to guarantee improvement of the quality of sanitation to our populations to better the quality of life" He reiterated.

NCWSC Managing Director Eng. Nahason Muguna noted that the Company has implemented sanitation projects especially targeting informal settlements.

"We have undertaken various water and sanitation projects in order to improve service delivery in the city including the Nairobi Sanitation Output Based Aid (OBA) project whose objective is to increase access to sanitation and water services in selected low-income communities" He said.

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NCWSC HOSTS TOP JICA OFFICIALS



JICA Headquarter Director Youichi Inoue (4th , right) led the officials in visiting NCWSC. They are flanked by Ag. Technical Director , Eng. Lucy Njambi (centre), Engineering Manager , Eng. David Manore (3rd right), Donor Projects Manager , Eng. Ephantus Mugo (2nd, right) and Revenue Coordinator , Titus Nganga (far right).

The Company recently hosted senior sanitation and water officials from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

The team specializes in formulating bankable business proposals for Water Service Providers (WSPs) in order to independently raise funds from commercial banks and international donors

The initiative dubbed " Project for Capacity Building for Business Management Abilities and Water Supply Services" aims to develop the capacity of WSPs to formulate and conduct business plans at a level where WSPs can receive commercial financing, capital market financing, or blended financing from commercial banks / international organizations .

The team was received by Ag. Technical Director Eng. Lucy Njambi and Donor Projects Manager Eng. Ephantus Mugo, Engineering Manager, Eng. David Manore on behalf of the Managing Director.

Eng. Njambi said the Company is currently rolling out water and sewerage projects across the city that require financing.

"We shall be glad to enlist your services so that the company can attract funding especially in form of grants to finance and fast-track projects to enhance service delivery to the city residents." She noted.

The JICA team noted that public funds allocated to the water sector are estimated to be about 40% of the funds needed to achieve the 100% water supply target envisioned in the 2030 blue print hence the need to secure new sources of funds to improve and expand water supply infrastructure.

Some of the proposed NCWSC top priority projects for possible funding fronted by the Company are: Enhancement of plant production efficiency at Ngethu Treatment Works, Solarisation of facilities to reduce cost of power and Operations and Maintenance (O&M) costs and carbon footprints.

Others are generation of free power at Sasumua Dam, Thika Dam and Chania outfall, upgrade and extension of water and sewer networks of various size pipelines.

The Japan International Cooperation Agency is a governmental agency that delivers the bulk of Official Development Assistance for the government of Japan. It is chartered with assisting economic and social growth in developing countries, and the promotion of international cooperation.

ARUSHA WATER BENCHMARKS WITH NCWSC

The Company recently hosted Commercial Services Manager from Arusha Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (AUWSA) for benchmarking on Billing and Meter Reading, Customer Care and Finance.

John Letuco, a Commercial Services Manager, was received by Donor Projects Manager Eng. Ephantus Mugo and Billing and Meter Reading Coordinator, Keffa Orina.

The guest was taken through a brief of the organization and ownership, Board and Governance, operational structures, business units and departments, service coverage and human resource manpower

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Mr. Letuco also toured Informal Settlement Region, Central Region, Cameo Business Centre as well as Western Region to familiarize himself with the various aspects of Billing and Meter Reading, Customer Care and Finance and business operations.

Mr. Letuco was appreciative of the efficiency and effectiveness of the technologies adopted by the organization.

"I am really impressed by the level of automation that the Company gone ahead to implement. For us at Arusha Water, we are still manual in our operations. When I get back to our utility I will push for the adoption of some of them" He said.



Billing team at National Water led by Billing Coordinator Keffa Orina compare notes on billing processes between the two utilities .

NCWSC UNDERTAKES PILOT PROJECT ON POLLUTER PAY PRINCIPLE



Trade Effluent Management System Committee led by Eng. Njambi, Ag. Technical Director & Project Manager (front, center) poses for a group photo at Machakos University during a recent workshop.

NCWSC Trade Effluent Management System (TEMS) committee recently held a workshop to go through the Upstream Analysis, Risk Analysis Reports and come up with a draft Tariff structure.

The objective of the committee is to undertake the design and implementation of a Trade Effluent Management System (TEMS) also known as "Polluter Pay Principle". NCWSC is working in partnership with the World Bank 2030 Water Resources Group in this pilot project.

Trade Effluent Management System (TEMS) is a market-based instrument designed to promote compliance of discharge regulations among trade customers and increase investment in technologies for pretreatment and recycling of waste water before discharge to the sewerage system.

Based on the polluter-pays principle, the mechanism aims to encourage commercial and industrial water users to pretreat their effluent water before discharge or re-use.

In her remarks, Eng. Njambi Ag. Technical Director, applauded the team for their resilience to work on the project remotely during this pandemic period. She further said the Company looks forward to implementing the Polluter Pay Principle which will be a boost in cost recovery of Sewer infrastructure.

"The main benefit of a Trade Effluent Manager System is the reduced operational costs of sewer infrastructure maintenance" she continued to say.

The Water Act 2016 and Environmental Management Coordination Act (EMCA 1999) require those discharging effluent into a public sewer ensure that the effluent meets the standards for discharge to public sewers and enforced by the Water Service Providers; this aids to control pollution at the source.

The EMCA of 1999 makes provisions for application of the polluter pays principles (3P) in Kenya as a principle of sustainable development and to enforce the constitutional right to a clean environment.

The 3P is currently operationalized through the issuance of an Effluent Discharge License (by NEMA for discharge into environment or aquatic environment) and Effluent Discharge Permit (by WRA for discharge into water resources and onto land) as well as approval by WSPs for discharge into sewer, and a sewerage tariff charged by WSPs to the water users discharging into the sewerage system.

However, the current sewerage tariffs for water, effected by WSPs, are not cost reflective. The treatment and management of trade effluent is by far insufficient and the options for re-use and recycling of effluent remains largely unexplored.

Benefits of the TEMS to the Water Service providers are reduced operational costs, water saving, improved procedures and licensing systems, safe working environment and environmental protection.

Trade Effluent Management System Committee was appointed in 2020 and is comprised of staff drawn from Billing, Environment & Compliance, Donor Projects, Quality Assurance, Corporate Affairs & Corporate Risk departments.