

SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) # 573

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WATERFUND SHOWCASES INNOVATIVE FINANCING AND PARTNERSHIPS AT AFRICA PUBLIC SERVICE DAY 2026

Water Sector Trust Fund (WaterFund) joined national leaders, development partners and key stakeholders at the Africa Public Service Day 2026 (APSD 2026) to champion innovative financing and multi-stakeholder partnerships as critical drivers towards achieving universal access to safe water and sanitation in Kenya. The two-day event, held at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC), was organized by the State Department for Public Service and Human Capital Development under the theme, "*Enhancing Public Sector Institutions and Empowering Multi-stakeholder Partnerships to Achieve Universal Water Availability and Safe Sanitation by 2063.*"

Bringing together representatives from national and county governments, development partners, academia, civil society, the private sector, youth and the public, APSD 2026 provided a platform for stakeholders to showcase innovative solutions, exchange experiences and strengthen collaboration towards improving water and sanitation service delivery. Participants also engaged in expert discussions and explored practical approaches to scaling sustainable and climate-resilient water and sanitation solutions.

Speaking during the opening ceremony, the Chief Guest, Hon. Geoffrey Kiringa Ruku, Cabinet Secretary for Public Service, Human Capital Development and Special Programmes, emphasized the need to enhance productivity, performance and service delivery across public institutions through innovation, stronger partnerships and a renewed focus on measurable results. He noted that APSD 2026 provided an opportunity to reaffirm a shared commitment to strengthening public institutions and accelerating Africa's development agenda.

Echoing this commitment, Mr. Julius Korir, CBS, Principal Secretary, State Department for Water and Sanitation under the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, highlighted the Government's ongoing efforts to achieve universal access to safe water and sanitation through sustained investments in water infrastructure, service expansion, climate resilience and resource mobilization. He further noted that the sector continues to prioritize last-mile connectivity, catchment conservation and the adoption of innovative technologies, including solar-powered water transmission systems, to strengthen water supply across the country.

Building on these national priorities, WaterFund showcased the critical role of sustainable financing in translating policy commitments into tangible development outcomes. Representing the Fund, Chief Executive Officer Mr. Willis Ombai participated as a panellist during the Water and Sanitation session, where he highlighted WaterFund's mandate in mobilizing, financing and monitoring investments that expand equitable access to safe water and sanitation services, particularly in underserved and marginalized communities. He highlighted the importance of innovative financing mechanisms, including Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), climate financing, impact investments and strengthened institutional capacity and accountability, as essential to attracting sustainable investment and closing the financing gap.

WaterFund's participation at APSD 2026 reiterated its commitment to strengthening partnerships, mobilizing sustainable financing and supporting investments that will accelerate universal access to safe water and sanitation while building resilient communities across Kenya.



Hon. Geoffrey Kiringa Ruku, Cabinet Secretary, PSHCD&SP and Special Programmes making his remarks during APSD 2026



Mr. Julius Korir, CBS, Principal Secretary, SD-WS, MoWSI, making his official remarks during APSD 2026



Left: Mr. Willis Ombai, CEO, WaterFund, making his remarks during APSD 2026



Mr. Willis Ombai, CEO, WaterFund, keenly following the deliberations during APSD 2026



Participants actively following through the session during APSD 2026



WaterFund branding during Africa Public Service Day 2026

ENHANCING WORKPLACE READINESS: WATERFUND ORIENTS ITS INTERNS AND ATTACHÉS ON THE FUND'S MANDATE AND POLICIES

On 26th June, 2026, WaterFund's Management team, led by Mr. Willis Ombai, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), WaterFund, conducted an orientation session for interns and attachés placed across various divisions. The session provided the new cohort with a comprehensive overview of the institution's mandate and strategic objectives.

During the meeting, Mr. Ombai, the CEO, officially welcomed the team and encouraged them to actively contribute to achievement of the Fund's mandate. He urged them to maximize the opportunity by learning from experienced staff and familiarizing themselves with the Fund's operations and work processes. He further encouraged them to demonstrate a positive attitude towards learning, and leverage their placement to acquire valuable knowledge, practical skills, and hands-on experience that will enhance their professional growth.

The Management collectively emphasized on the importance of adhering to the code of conduct, prudent use of institutional resources, and compliance with institutional policies. Topics including Risk Management and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) awareness, were also covered. In attendance was CPA Samuel Gitau, General Manager, Corporate Services, Ms. Halima Ali, General Manager, Legal Services & Corporation Secretary, Mr. Edwin Korir, General Manager, Internal Audit & Risk Assurance and Mr. Paul Atwa, Manager, Human Resource & Administration.



Mr. Willis Ombai, Chief Executive Officer, WaterFund, making his opening remarks during the meeting



Mr. Paul Atwa, Manager, Human Resources and Administration, WaterFund, making his presentation during the meeting



Participants actively listening to the CEO's remarks

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