From the CEO

In 2006, the Water Services Trust Fund has stepped up its efforts to provide water to underserved communities in Kenya.

Between January and March 2006, the WSTF has funded 41 water and sanitation projects. Most of these are located in areas that have been identified as being in urgent need of water services, while 12 of these were to bolster Government drought intervention efforts.

These are the largest number of projects funded by the WSTF in a single quarter, highlighting that the WSTF’s efforts are now getting into full gear.

Some of the projects funded have utilised the Community Project Cycle. In the course of the year, Partner Organisations, Support Organisations, Quality Control Agents and Monitoring Agents who are all partners aimed at making the Cycle more effective will be procured throughout the country.

Providing water to underserved communities is no mean task, requiring support from communities and other implementing agents. It is also a task that cannot be achieved without requisite financial support from corporate bodies in Kenya and development partners. We urge more partners to come on board to make this task achievable.

Eng. Simon Mwangi
Chief Executive Officer
WSTF

Funded Projects Pass 100 Mark as Improved Funding Process Gets Underway

Forty one more projects were approved for funding in the period January to March 2006, which means that projects funded by the Water Services Trust Fund (WSTF) have now reached 102. This is a rise from 13 projects in 2004. Through these projects, the WSTF will channel about Kshs. 247 million. Since its inception, the WSTF has disbursed almost Kshs. 350 million as assistance to community water and sanitation projects countrywide.

In the latest release of funding, 17 projects were drawn from areas identified as being in urgent need of water and sanitation services. The proposals from these communities were refined by the Water Services Boards (WSBs) to meet the Community Project Cycle (CPC) process and the WSTF selection and funding criteria. The WSTF had received 140 proposals, of which 30 were from the target locations, however, only 17 met the funding criteria.

The CPC is a process through which the WSTF provides financial assistance to improve water and sanitation services to underserved communities. The Cycle involves the communities partnering with other organisations to enhance their capacity to initiate and sustain water and sanitation projects.

Through a targeting system developed with WSBs, the WSTF intends to fund proposals that meet the CPC process. Implementation of the CPC requires bringing on board:

- Partner Organisations to conduct awareness and capacity building activities;
- Support Organisations to provide technical and managerial support to communities during proposal preparation and during implementation;
- Quality Control Agents who are experts in technical areas and will assist in improving the quality of proposals and controlling the quality of works during implementation; and
- Monitoring Agents to monitor and evaluate projects in one or more WSB and report on performance and implementation to the WSTF.

The procurement of these experts is aimed at strengthening the project implementation and ensures project sustainability.

Through the guidance of respective WSBs, WSTF and these experts it is expected that communities will be more informed on what is required to access funding from the WSTF.

Members of the Gitare Community Self Help Group which is located in Nyandarua district draw water from a water well improved with WSTF support. WSTF provided funding to purchase hand pumps and construct well slabs for the scheme.
Since the initiation of the WSTF, the WSTF Board of Trustees has approved the funding of over 100 projects which are spread throughout the country at Kshs 67 million, with communities contributing Kshs 112 million and WSTF contributing Kshs 351 million. In addition, the WSTF funded 12 projects early this year as part of the overall Government drought intervention efforts at Kshs 15 million.

WSTF continues to pursue its strategy of strengthening the partnerships between WSTF, donor partners, Water Services Boards (WSBs) and the implementing agencies – mainly NGOs and CBOs. In order to strengthen the partnership with WSBs, memorandums of understanding have been signed between them and the WSTF.

In March 2006, monitoring and evaluation consultants were engaged to develop a monitoring and evaluation system which will be piloted over a 12 month period. Engagement of partners organisations is also at an advanced stage.

Key statistics:
- Six projects ready for commissioning
- 150,000 people together with their livestock benefitting by mid March 2006
- 250 water tanks of various sizes built
- 244 springs protected
- 83 shallow-wells constructed
- 535 VIP latrines and Ecosan toilets constructed
- 17 pans and small earth dams constructed
- Many kilometres of pipelines laid, giving birth to 41 gravity schemes

**WSTF Trustees Recruit Management Team**

The WSTF trustees have finalised recruitment of core management staff. Other positions will be filled soon. Led by Eng. Simon G. Mwangi as the Chief Executive Officer, below are brief profiles of the new team.

**ENG. SIMON G. MWANGI**

is the Chief Executive Officer at the Water Services Trust Fund. He brings with him 18 years experience gained as head of water and sanitation programmes in Kilifi (CTI), Nairobi (SIDA), Lake Victoria Environmental Management Programme (World Bank/GEF), and Meru Town (ICA). He holds a degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Nairobi and has also attended several courses locally and oversees on management of water and sanitation projects.

**ENG. S.A.O ALIMA**

is the Technical Appraisal Manager, responsible for review, verification and update of project proposals submitted to WSTF for funding assistance to ensure compliance with funding criteria and engineering standards. He holds a Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Nairobi and has a wealth of technical and managerial experience gained while working with the Ministry of Water and Irrigation in Various positions and later as Provincial Water Officer.

**KENNEDY OCHUKA**

is the Finance Manager at the WSTF. Kennedy joined WSTF from the National Water Conservation and Pipeline Corporation and he holds a Bacheror of Commerce Degree from the University of Nairobi and an MBA from the same university. He is a Certified Public Accountant and a member of the Institute of Certified Public Accountant of Kenya.

**PHANUEL MATSESHE**

is the Senior Assistant Field Coordination Manager at the WSTF. Mr. Matseshe has immense experience in community management of water and sanitation projects gained while working in various donor funded projects in Kenya for the last 25 years. He is a 1981 Bachelor of Science graduate of the University of Nairobi and has attended several local and international courses in management of water and sanitation projects.

**JAPETH MUTAI**

is the Field Coordination Manager, responsible for monitoring and evaluation of WSTF funded projects. He brings to the job a wealth of technical and managerial experience acquired in the water sector, having worked in senior management positions in the Ministry of Water and Irrigation. He holds an Engineering Degree from McGill University, Canada and is an MBA finalist with ESAMI.

**Community Initiative Rewarded**

**SOMETIMES GETTING fresh drinking water in Kenya requires a lot of sacrifice, and the women are the ones who suffer most.**

For many years, residents of Gitare, a rural village in Nyandarua district, had to go through lots to get fresh water. There is no surface water source in the area, and women had to travel long distances in search of the commodity from open water pans which are prone to contamination from surface water runoFFS and livestock.

To solve the problem, the Gitare community came together to explore the ground water potential in the area. This proved successful and the area was identified as good enough for development of groundwater. Through their own initiative, they dug shallow wells and water was struck at different levels. The soil in the area was stable enough to prevent wells collapsing, and as a result, the aquifers had clean water fit for human consumption.

In total, 37 wells were dug in different homesteads. The wells provide water for domestic use, livestock and small scale irrigation. However, the technology used was water. Water was drawn using the rope and washer method, whereby water is drawn manually using a pulley system. The finishing was also obsolete with pieces of timber placed on top acting as the cover of the well which makes it prone to pollution.

The Gitare Community Self Help Group came together and applied for funding from the WSTF for support to construct well slabs, procure and install hand pumps, construct eight demonstration latrines at Gitare Primary School, and capacity building of community members. Almost 1,000 people were to benefit.

The committee chairman was sponsored for training on installation and maintenance of hand pumps by Davis and Shiffitt, who supplied the pumps procure. The installation is being carried out under his supervision by the village youth.

Individual households will maintain their own wells and carry out small repairs. The trained pump operators and the management committee will do the major rehabilitation works.
Feasibility Study on Proposed Project Carried Out

IN MARCH 2006, WSTF hosted the mission conducting the feasibility study for the proposed UNICEF/Government of Kenya (GOK)-Government of Netherlands project to accelerate achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the water and sanitation sector in Kenya.

This is part of conclusion of negotiations between GOK/UNICEF and the Government of Netherlands. The study was reviewing in country institutional capacity and implementation arrangements to meet the planned project objectives in preparation for the commencement in July 2007. Financing of the water and sanitation component will be channeled through the Trust Fund.

WSTF Preparing to Apply for ACP-EU Water Facility

THE FIRST QUARTER of 2006 witnessed the intensification of preparation by WSTF for compilation of its application for the 2nd call for Proposals of the African Caribbean and Pacific - European Union (ACP-EU) water facility that was officially launched on 31st of March 2006. In this respect, the Fund obtained commitment by GTZ for technical support including stationing an Advisor as input to the Preparation Team that is being assembled.

The deadline for submission of applications is 30 June 2006 with timings for completion of evaluation and award earmarked for November and December 2006 respectively.

Projects Approved by the WSTF from January to March 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>No of Projects</th>
<th>Target Population</th>
<th>Total Cost of the Projects Kshs</th>
<th>WSTF Contribution Kshs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lake Victoria South Water Services Board</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>17,779</td>
<td>37,670,600</td>
<td>34,536,472</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lake Victoria North Water Services Board</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12,161</td>
<td>17,388,117</td>
<td>14,400,517</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rift Valley Water Services Board</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5,985</td>
<td>10,167,149</td>
<td>9,328,749</td>
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<tr>
<td>Athi Water Services Board</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7,860</td>
<td>22,681,920</td>
<td>19,283,045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tana Water Services Board</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>32,164</td>
<td>21,329,154</td>
<td>19,632,562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Water Services Board</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>80,159</td>
<td>78,494,684</td>
<td>69,982,525</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coast Water Services Board</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>36,700</td>
<td>67,447,395</td>
<td>64,946,344</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drought intervention</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>31,200</td>
<td>14,903,085</td>
<td>14,903,085</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>223,108</td>
<td>255,077,922</td>
<td>247,016,299</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total for First Disbursement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>129,423,947</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the Beneficiaries

“I used to spend the night by the water spring, going there at 11pm to join community members as we waited for the well to recharge its yield, a very slow process. Sometimes I would leave the children alone in the house while their father was away. Other times, dawn would break while I was still there and I would leave my jerry can on queue and rush home to prepare breakfast for my children before they went to school. I would then go back to the spring to see if my turn had reached. This has all changed as we now draw water from the standpipes and water kiosks constructed with WSTF support. I say thank you and may God bless the WSTF.”

Comments by Beatrice Thomas Ndunda, a beneficiary of the Mukiti Water Project in Machakos District

Contact us

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ABOUT WSTF

The Water Services Trust Fund (WSTF) was established through the Water Act 2002 which initiated the Water Sector Reforms. The functions of the WSTF are: to mobilize resources from bilateral and multilateral development partners and to apply the resources to provide water supply and sanitation services in underserved communities. The WSTF is currently receiving funding from the Government of Kenya, SIDA and DANIDA.

Editorial team

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