



KENYA

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

Kenya is classified among the most water scarce countries in the world. This fact, coupled with more frequent cycles of severe weather and depleting natural resources, is making water less available for agricultural and domestic use, especially in the country's arid and semi-arid regions. Access to safe water and improved sanitation is a challenge in Kenya. Water service providers (WSP) struggle to raise the capital and strengthen local capacities needed to accelerate WASH service delivery. The COVID-19 pandemic has only added to the stress on both WSP and households to provide and afford services, respectively. Approaches to household sanitation often overly rely on increasing the knowledge of the health benefits of sanitation without addressing other crucial factors that impact demand, community norms, individual motivations, and access to products and services.

OUR WORK

Working with communities, businesses, and county governments, USAID is strengthening water security, increasing, and improving access to water services, and improving sanitation and hygiene. USAID partners with the government, the private sector, and civil society to strengthen the systems that ensure sufficient service delivery now and in the future. To maximize benefits and reach those in greatest need, WASH activities are often integrated with other programs including agriculture, environment, governance, and maternal and child health.

EXPANDING ACCESS TO WATER

To facilitate better delivery of services, USAID applies a range of approaches to both professionalize water services and strengthen water utilities, while protecting the watersheds and effectively managing the water resources that these services rely upon. USAID works with the Government of Kenya to

explore and map groundwater potential in northern Kenya, and to increase the capacity of stakeholders to apply this data for decision making.

To mobilize much-needed financing for the sector, USAID assists service providers to improve their operations and management to expand, attract and retain customers, strengthen their creditworthiness, and establish a solid financial foundation for increased investment and partnerships.

IMPROVING SANITATION AND HYGIENE

To address the need for progressively realizing higher quality household sanitation, new approaches that go beyond the traditional “Do-It-Yourself” model are needed. USAID supports market-based solutions to improve the quality of household sanitation and hygiene products, including for menstrual hygiene management. USAID also supports research to identify and pilot innovative approaches to end open defecation in traditionally hard to reach communities.

ACHIEVEMENT SNAPSHOTS (2021)

- Provided 197,624 Kenyans with access to basic drinking water services because of USG assistance.
- Provided 101,698 Kenyans with access to a basic sanitation service because of USG assistance.
- 128 health centers have access to basic sanitation facilities because of USG assistance.
- Enabled 56 communities to achieve ‘open defecation free’ status.

WASH PORTFOLIO BUDGET

\$62 Million

KEY PARTNERS

Government of Kenya

- County Governments and Council of Governors
- Ministry of Water and Irrigation
- Ministry of Health
- Water Services Regulatory Board
- Water Resource Management Authority
- Water Services Trust Fund

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

RTI, Tetra Tech, UNICEF, and the United States Geological Survey.

MISSION CONTACT

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