

ATHI WATER WORKS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY PUBLICATION

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STRATEGIC COLLABORATIONS TO ENHANCE WATER ACCESS ACROSS NAIROBI AND ITS ENVIRONS




Athi Water Works Development Agency (AWWDA) hosted critical engagement with Water Service Providers to strategize on improving water supply management for Nairobi and its surrounding areas, including Kitengela, Mavoko, Ongata Rongai, Kiserian, Utawala, Kamulu and Mihango areas among others.


These discussions aimed to optimize water distribution from the Northern Collector Tunnel and the Karimenu II Dam Bulk Water Systems, which are now operational under licenses from the Water Services Regulatory Board (WASREB).

Advancing Regional Water Distribution

In collaboration with the Nairobi City Water and Sewerage Company (NCWSC), AWWDA is working to deliver 103 million liters of clean water daily to Nairobi residents through the Northern Collector

Tunnel Bulk Water System. Beyond Nairobi, the agency is extending its reach to benefit the broader region as follows:

 **Mavoko Water and Sewerage Company** will receive an additional 5 million liters daily, enhancing access in areas like the Athi River Export Processing Zone, which will also be allocated 7 million liters per day.

 **Oloolaiser Water and Sewerage Company** will access 5 million liters daily to serve areas including Ongata Rongai, Kiserian, Ngong, and Matasia/Solange.

The total water supplied from the Northern Collector Tunnel Bulk Water System will be 140 million litres of clean water per day.

Moreover, the Karimenu II Dam Bulk Water System is channeling an additional 23 million liters per day into Nairobi's supply network via the Kiambu Reservoir in Thindigua, significantly bolstering water delivery for the city.



AWWDA SECURES WASREB LICENSE TO OPERATE THE NORTHERN COLLECTOR BULK WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM

Athi Water Works Development Agency licensed to operate Northern Collector Bulk Water Supply system



“On September 30, 2024, the Water Services Regulatory Board (WASREB) officially licensed AWWDA to operate the Northern Collector Bulk Water Supply System and a Bulk Water Service Provider.”

This achievement paved the way for the full operationalization of the Northern Collector Tunnel (NCT) project, a transformative initiative poised to significantly enhance water access for millions of residents in Nairobi and surrounding counties.

Areas set to benefit include Gatanga in Murang'a County; Kiambu Urban in Kiambu County; Ongata Rongai, Gataka and Kitengela in Kajicho County; and Mavoko, along with the Export Processing Zone (EPZ), in Machakos County.



A Lifeline for Communities

During the licensing announcement, Mr. Charles Karondo, Chairman of the AWWDA Board of Directors, underscored the project's vital role in addressing persistent water shortages across the region.

“This is not merely an infrastructure achievement; it’s a transformative step for millions of Kenyans. With the operationalization of the NCT Bulk Water Supply System, we are securing a sustainable future for water access while improving the quality of life for communities, families, and businesses,” he said.

The NCT project is set to reduce water rationing, improve hygiene standards, and boost public health, with far-reaching impacts on economic growth and social well-being. This flagship initiative is fully aligned with the Government of Kenya’s goal of achieving universal access to safe water by 2030.

Transforming Water Service Delivery

Key components of the Northern Collector Bulk Water Supply System include:

- **The 11.8-kilometre Northern Collector Tunnel**, which captures overflow water from rivers Maragua, Gikigie and Irati in Murang’a County.
- **The Kigoro Water Treatment Plant**, designed to treat 140 million litres and purify water for safe consumption using ultra modern water treatment capabilities.
- **A 55-kilometre pipeline** from Thika (Ndakaini) Dam to Gigiri, delivering an additional 140 million litres of water daily to Nairobi and neighbouring counties.

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BRIDGING THE GAP THROUGH INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY: AWWDA CEO’S KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT THE 31ST IEK CONVENTION



Athi Water Works Development Agency (AWWDA) Chief Executive Officer, Eng. Joseph Kamau, delivered a compelling keynote address at the 31st Institute of Engineers of Kenya (IEK) Convention, held at Pride Inn Paradise Beach Resort, Mombasa on Thursday 31st October 2024.

The keynote, titled **“Innovating Water and Sanitation Infrastructure: Policies, Manufacturing Synergies, and Economic Transformation,”** focused on leveraging technology and innovation to address the

growing demand for water supply and basic sanitation services in Kenya.

Eng. Kamau highlighted AWWDA’s commitment to adopting modern technologies in developing

and maintaining water and sewerage infrastructure. He stressed that these innovations are critical for meeting both current and future needs.

“As an Agency, we are integrating cutting-edge technologies to ensure efficient and sustainable infrastructure development. This approach will not only meet the rising demand but also create a resilient framework for Kenya’s water and sanitation systems,” he stated.

A Platform for Knowledge and Growth

The 31st IEK Convention has attracted over 3,000 engineers from across the country and beyond. This annual event serves as a platform to exchange

knowledge, foster innovation, and drive progress within the engineering profession.

This year’s theme was, ***“Industrialization for Economic Transformation and Employment Creation,”*** aligns with national efforts to harness engineering excellence for sustainable development.

As a leading figure in water and sanitation infrastructure, AWWDA’s participation reinforced its role in shaping innovative solutions to support Kenya’s industrialization agenda and improve livelihoods.

The annual event continues to provide valuable insights and collaborative opportunities to advance the engineering profession and its contribution to Kenya’s economic growth.



NAIROBI COUNTY SECTORIAL COMMITTEE ON WATER AND SANITATION INSPECTS KEY AWWDA PROJECTS



In a significant show of collaboration, the Nairobi County Sectorial Committee on Water and Sanitation conducted an inspection tour of critical infrastructure projects implemented by the Athi Water Works Development Agency (AWWDA) impacting Nairobi County. This interventions reiterate the ongoing partnership between AWWDA, the Nairobi County Government, and local communities to address water scarcity and enhance access to water and sanitation services.



Key Projects Inspected by the team included;

1. Eastern Transmission Kiambu-Embakasi Pipeline and Embakasi Reservoir

The committee inspected the pipeline and reservoir projects designed to bolster water supply and distribution to Nairobi's eastern regions. The inspection covered strategic sites such as Njathaini along Kamiti Road and the Embakasi Reservoir, which play a vital role in improving water availability for the growing urban population.

2. Eastern Nairobi Water & Sewerage Network Intensification Project

The committee also toured the expansive Eastern Nairobi Water & Sewerage Network Intensification

Project, a transformative initiative aimed at expanding water and sanitation infrastructure to meet the needs of Eastern Nairobi's rapidly increasing population. Key areas visited included Maili Saba, Utawala, Mihango, Ruai, Kamulu, and Ngundu.



Strengthening Collaboration and Accountability

The inspection provided a platform for select committee members to evaluate the progress of these pivotal projects, engage with on-ground stakeholders, and offer recommendations to address challenges. Their input is expected to ensure the timely and successful completion of these projects, which are critical to improving living standards and supporting economic growth in Nairobi.



KIGORO WATER TREATMENT PLANT UNVEILED IN THE STRIVE FOR TRANSFORMING WATER SUPPLY FOR MILLIONS



official commissioning of the Kigoro Water Treatment Plant. The event was graced by Eng. Eric Mugaa, Cabinet Secretary for Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation, alongside H.E. Thani Mohamed-Soilihi, French Minister of State for Francophonie and International Partnerships, Republic of France.

On November 26, 2024 Kenya celebrated a historic milestone in its water sector with the official commissioning of the Kigoro Water Treatment Plant. The event was graced by Eng. Eric Mugaa, Cabinet Secretary for Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation, alongside H.E. Thani Mohamed-Soilihi, French Minister of State for Francophonie and International Partnerships, Republic of France.

The Kigoro Water Treatment Plant, a flagship project under the 4th Nairobi Water Supply Projects, is set to revolutionize water access for over 1.2 million residents across Murang'a, Kiambu, Nairobi, Machakos, and Kajiado counties. With the capacity to treat and supply 140 million liters of clean water daily, the facility addresses a critical need for reliable water access in urban and peri-urban regions.

Speaking at the unveiling, CS Eng. Eric Mugaa highlighted the importance of collaboration in delivering impactful projects.

"This achievement is a beacon of what is possible when governments, development partners, and communities unite for a common purpose," he stated.

H.E. Thani Mohamed-Soilihi lauded the initiative as a testament to Kenya's progress in sustainable water solutions.

"I am thrilled to witness the strides Kenya has made in the water sector, bringing life-changing improvements to its citizens. Water is life, and life without water is not possible," he remarked.

Mr. Charles Karondo, Chairman of the Athi Water Works Development Agency (AWWDA), described the project as a landmark in Kenya's water infrastructure history.

"This project exemplifies what visionary leadership and international cooperation can achieve. It is more than a water system; it is a lifeline for our people, an investment in their health, and a foundation for sustainable economic growth. At AWWDA, we are committed to ensuring the efficient operation of this system and scaling up similar initiatives across the region," he emphasized.

The Kigoro Water Treatment Plant is part of a broader strategy by AWWDA to address the growing demand for clean and reliable water. Upcoming projects include the construction of critical water storage dams such as Ndarugu Dam, Maragua IV Dam, and Gatei Dam.

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AWWDA BOARD MEMBERS INSPECT KEY PROJECTS IN MURANG'A AND NAIROBI COUNTIES



The Board of Directors of the Athi Water Works Development Agency (AWWDA), led by Chairman Mr. Charles Karondo, conducted an extensive inspection tour of critical water and sanitation projects in Murang'a and Nairobi counties.

The team began their visit at the Makutano Water Supply and Sewerage Project in Murang'a County, which is nearing completion at 95%. This project, part of the Kenya Towns Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation Program (KTSWSSP), is designed to serve the rapidly growing Kenol area and its surroundings.

The project involves the installation of over 195 kilometers of water pipelines, the construction of two masonry water storage tanks, and a sewage treatment plant with a capacity of 3,000 cubic meters per day. Additionally, 32 kilometers of sewer pipelines are being laid, along with 1,000 household sewer connections. Once operational, the project will significantly enhance access to clean water and sanitation for residents in Makutano (Kenol), Kangari, Kangema, Kigumo, and Gatanga.

The delegation then proceeded to inspect the Dandora Estate Wastewater Treatment Plant (DEWWTP) in

Ruai, Nairobi County. As Nairobi's primary wastewater treatment facility, the plant is undergoing an upgrade to expand its treatment capacity to 180,000 cubic meters per day, with an increased inlet capacity of 320,000 cubic meters per day. These enhancements will improve wastewater management for over 4 million residents of Nairobi, while supporting environmental conservation efforts through the rehabilitation of access roads and fencing along the Nairobi River.

The inspection tour was led by Chairman Mr. Karondo, accompanied by Board members including Dr. Boaz Cheluget, Simon Mukhwana, Eng. James Wainaina, Francis Bor, and Isaac Odek. Also, in attendance were AWWDA Chief Executive Officer Eng. Joseph Kamau, Ag. Director of Infrastructure Development Eng. Bonnie Nyandwaro, Company Secretary CS Joyce Mukururi, Deputy Director of Sewerage Works Eng. James Muturi, and other senior officials.



ATHI WATER WORKS SHINES AT THE 13TH CHAMPIONS OF GOVERNANCE AWARDS



Athi Water Works Development Agency (AWWDA) demonstrated exceptional performance at the 13th Champions of Governance (COG) Awards, held at the Panafric Hotel in Nairobi.

Athi Water Works Development Agency (AWWDA) demonstrated exceptional performance at the 13th Champions of Governance (COG) Awards, held at the Panafric Hotel in Nairobi. The prestigious event, officiated by Eliud Owalo, EGH, celebrated institutions excelling in governance, leadership, and accountability.

AWWDA emerged as a standout achiever, receiving multiple accolades in recognition of its commitment to excellence. The agency was named the 2nd Runners-Up in the Champions of Governance Award under the Public Service Category, a testament to its unwavering dedication to upholding the highest standards of governance.

In addition to this institutional recognition, AWWDA Board Chairman Charles Karondo was honored as the 1st Runners-Up in the Chairman of the Year Award, highlighting his exemplary leadership. Further affirming the agency's leadership strength, Company Secretary CS Joyce Mukururi earned the 2nd Runners-Up position in the Corporation Secretary of the Year Award category. AWWDA also clinched the 1st Runners-Up position in the overall Champions of Governance Awards.



AWWDA WINS BEST USE OF ICT IN STATE CORPORATIONS AWARD



Athi Water Works Development Agency (AWWDA) has been recognized for excellence in technological innovation, winning the prestigious **Best Use of ICT in State Corporations Award** at the ICT Value Awards & Gala Dinner held at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC). This accolade highlights AWWDA's effective and innovative use of cutting-edge technologies, including IoT sensors, smart meters, and SCADA systems, to enhance efficiency, safety, and sustainability in water management and infrastructure development.



TANA WATER WORKS BENCHMARKS ATHI WATER'S BULK WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS

On Monday, December 16, 2024, the Board of Directors and Management of Tana Water Works Development Agency (TWWDA) visited Athi Water Works Development Agency (AWWDA) for a benchmarking tour of its bulk water supply systems.

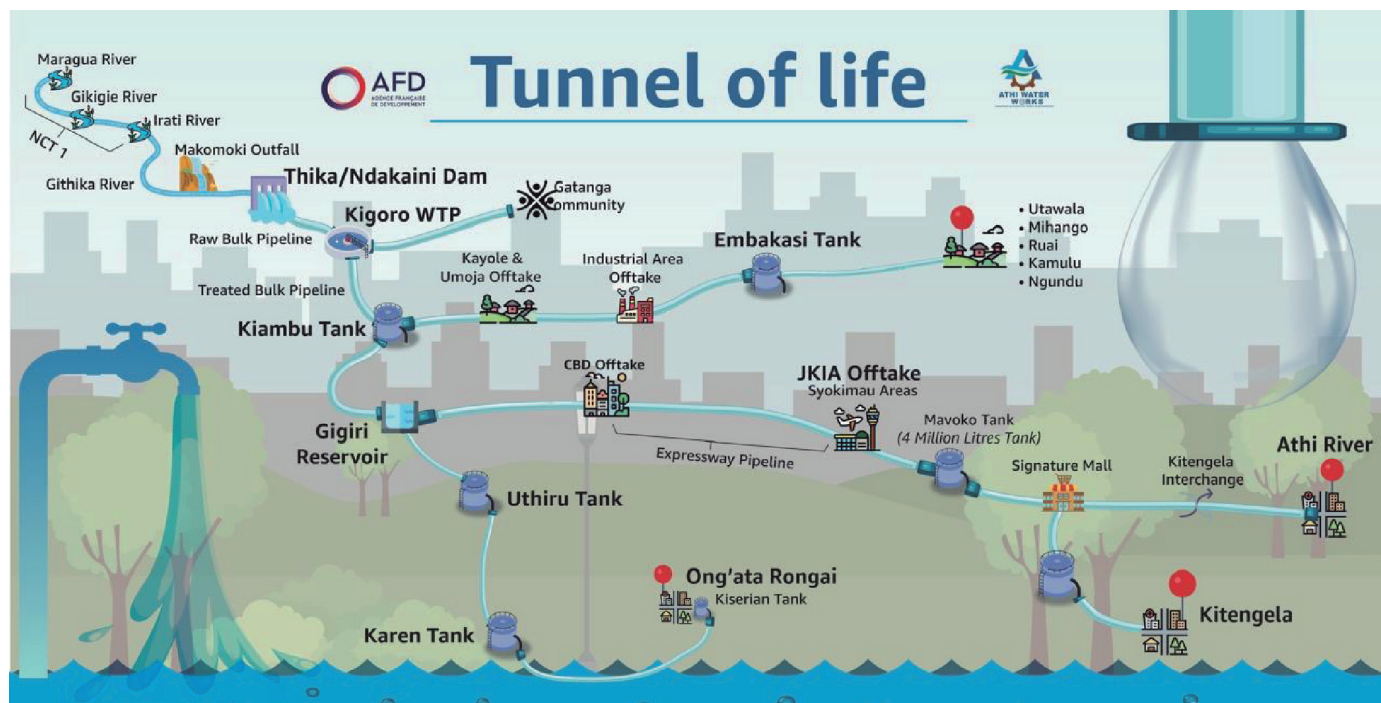
The tour featured an in-depth look at AWWDA's flagship projects, including the **Karimenu II Dam Bulk Water System**, which supplies 73 million liters of clean water daily to Nairobi, Ruiru, Gatundu, Juja, and Tatu City. The dam, currently full and spilling, holds an impressive 22.6 billion liters of water.



Additionally, the delegation explored the **Northern Collector Tunnel Bulk Water System**, a transformative initiative delivering 140 million liters of clean water daily to over 1.2 million residents across Nairobi, Murang'a, Kiambu, Machakos, and Kajiado counties.

The TWWDA team, led by Board Chairperson Mr. Teobald Wambugu and CEO Eng. Philip Gichuki, was hosted by AWWDA's CEO Eng. Joseph Kamau and Director of Infrastructure Development Eng. Bonnie Nyandwaro.

THE TUNNEL OF LIFE



ATHI WATER WORKS PARTICIPATES IN WORLD TOILET DAY CELEBRATIONS IN KIBERA

Athi Water Works Development Agency (AWWDA) joined the global community in marking World Toilet Day 2024 under the theme **“Toilets are a place for peace.”**

The event, held at Highrise Estate Grounds near Nairobi Dam, was graced by Eng. Eric Mugaa, the Cabinet Secretary for Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation among other key stakeholders.

The celebration sought to amplify the importance of safe and secure sanitation systems, aligning with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, which aims to ensure “Safe toilets for all by 2030.”

AWWDA also showcased innovative sanitation projects that contribute to improving access to dignified sanitation services in Nairobi and its environs. The Interactive displays demonstrated the role of sanitation systems in promoting public health and environmental conservation, including technologies designed to withstand challenges such as climate change and urban growth.



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HANDOVER OF CHIEF WAITHAKA ABLUTION BLOCK TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY



AWWDA marked a significant milestone in the Nairobi Rivers Basin Rehabilitation and Restoration Program Phase II, under the Sewerage Improvement Project, funded by the African Development Bank and the Government of Kenya. The Waithaka Chief's Camp Ablution Block was officially handed over to the community, providing critical sanitation infrastructure for public institutions and residents in the area.

The newly constructed ablution block at Waithaka Chief's Camp serves approximately 700 individuals daily. It is accessible to public institutions, including Waithaka Health Center, Waithaka Polytechnic, the Administration Chief's Office, the local police station, and the fire station.

The community was also sensitized on efficient management and utilization of the ablution block in order to effectively serve the residents sustainably.

The Agency is also constructing 25 new ablution blocks, rehabilitating 25 existing blocks, and 700 last-mile household sewer connections, along with upgrading 300 pit latrines to pour-flush systems.

So far, the project has delivered dignified sanitation to over 17,000 students across several schools and over 2,000 individuals in health centers and administration units, including the Riruta Satellite Chief's Camp in Dagoretti, and Mukuru Kwa Reuben Health Center.

In total, over 20,000 people across Nairobi's informal settlements, including Ngomongo, Mukuru kwa Njenga, and Mathare, now have access to improved sanitation through the interventions.

ATHI WATER WORKS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY



BEST USE OF ICT IN STATE
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WINNER

CHAMPIONS OF GOVERNANCE 2024





**ATHI WATER
WORKS**

Accelerating Access to Water and Sanitation

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