

CLEAN WATER, SAFER HOMES: COMMUNITY STORIES FROM MATHARE, RUARAKA & KAHAWA WEST

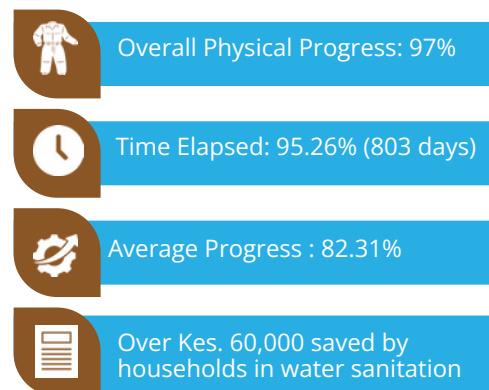


Overview

The Nairobi Rivers Sewerage Improvement Project Phase II (NaRSIP II) continues to deliver safe, inclusive, and sustainable sanitation solutions across Nairobi. Supported by the Government of Kenya and African Development Bank (AfDB), the project focuses on improving quality of life in underserved urban settlements through proper waste management, clean water access, and resilient infrastructure.



Key Highlights:



Beneficiaries Impact:

NaRSIP II is also reducing flooding, waterlogging, and sanitation risks across Nairobi by replacing outdated systems with well-planned, climate-resilient sewer lines and water facilities. As flooding patterns worsen with climate change, this infrastructure is protecting homes and families

Dignity and Hygiene for Women

Mathare

For Consolata Mwatha, a long-time resident of Mathare, the new ablution block built under NaRSIP II is more than a facility—it is a life-changing upgrade that restores dignity, especially for women and the elderly.

"This toilet project has been constructed really well... there is a side for ladies and a side for gents," says Consolata.

"It is user-friendly for the elderly too. In the past, if a woman was on her period, you could easily tell by looking at her clothes. Now, with water availability, she can clean herself well and maintain hygiene."



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"I don't even know what to say—I'm so joyful and I pray this project continues."

Consolata Mwathe - Mathare resident

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Community-Driven Sanitation



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We're so grateful to AWWDA for this project—it has completely improved our water sanitation situation."

Mark Okello – Mwangaza Youth Group

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Mwangaza Youth Group – Mathare

The Mwangaza Youth Group in Mathare is among the many community organizations benefiting from NaRSIP II. Ablution blocks constructed under the program are currently serving over 350 residents.

The Mwangaza Youth Group says the community has significantly benefited from the project in terms of water sanitation when in comparison to previous times.

By empowering youth groups and supporting public hygiene, the project promotes grassroots-driven solutions to longstanding sanitation issues.



Residents See Real Change



Kahawa West

Lucy Wambui from Kahawa West reflects on how NaRSIP II has changed the environment in her neighborhood. Before the project, septic tanks would overflow during rainy seasons, sending wastewater into homes and across streets. The problem of water overflow, especially when it rained, has now been curbed by the constructed sewer lines. Dry streets, flowing sewer lines, and improved hygiene have become the new normal in Kahawa West.

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“Even after people do laundry, the roads and verandahs are dry. That’s our joy with this project.”

Lucy Wambui – Kahawa West Resident

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Preventing Water Contamination and Soil Pollution



Ruaraka Academy

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With the constructed sewer line, there's no overflow of water sewerage, making it a much safer system.

Eliud Kimani – Ruaraka Academy

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In Ruaraka, sanitation used to be a major health hazard for students. According to Eliud Kimani, the academy had to deal with overflowing septic tanks that posed serious environmental and safety threats. NaRSIP II resolved that. With septic tanks getting full and bursting, there was a lot of waste coming out, which was unsafe for children studying at the school.

The connection to a proper sewer line is not only a health win, but also a sustainable step toward environmental preservation.



Residents Saving Big

Thome

John Kuria's family once spent up to KES 60,000 per year emptying their septic tank every two months. Rainy seasons made things worse, often flooding the compound.

The cost savings and flood control have restored a sense of security and relief to this long-suffering neighborhood.

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"Now, with a sewer connection, I don't need to empty the tank. The drainage even works during storms. I'm saving real money."

John Kuria – Thome Resident

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