



Kakamega County Water And Sanitation Company



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KACWASCO Seeks WSTF Support To Improve On Provision Of Sanitation Services



KACWASCO management and WSTF officers during a consultative meeting at KACWASCO's Boardroom

The Company is seeking funding from Water Sector Trust Fund to improve on sanitation in Kakamega town, Shinyalu and Shitoli areas.

According to the proposal, the Company seeks to construct two Decentralized Waste Water Treatment facilities (DTF) at Nabongo in Kakamega town and at Museno.

Speaking during a meeting between the Company officials and officers from WSTF led by Ms Fresiah Munyuro, senior Program Officer and KACWASCO acting CEO Ms Christabell Ashiono noted the projects will help the Company achieve its mandate of provision of sanitation services to its customers.

“I am grateful for this meeting and the support we get from WSTF. We are looking forward for this project to

enable us serve our customers better,” said Ms Ashiono.

KACWASCO Technical Manager P.Eng.Tech Celsus Shilehwa said if the proposal will be approved, WSTF will also construct 400 SafiSan toilets to serve low-income urban areas.

He said the two projects are aimed at improving sanitation and health situations within the county, reducing incidences of waterborne diseases, increasing sanitation coverage within the low-income area, improving the quality of life of the residents within those areas and contributing to regulation and commercialization of service provision in the low-income urban areas.

“As a Company, we have two projects that we intend to work on to help improve sanitation in the county. We have the Kakamega-Shinyalu

household sanitation project which involves construction of a 50-meter cubic decentralized treatment facility at Nabongo and 100 SafiSan toilets at Virhembe and Shibuye in Shinyalu Area and another 100 SafiSan toilets at Juakali and Kefinco in Kakamega Area,” Said Mr Shilehwa.

He added: “We also have Shitoli Household sanitation project which involves construction of a 50-meter cubic decentralized treatment facility at Museno in Khayega and 100 SafiSan toilets at Khayega, Museno and Sigalagala.”

He noted that the two projects which are expected to be completed in a year are intended to benefit a population of 4,683 and 5,880 in Shitoli and Kakamega - Shinyalu respectively, adding that they will cost approximately Ksh. 20 million each.

Maji Safi, Maisha Bora - Quality Water, Healthy Livelihood

BOD Meets, Targets To Enhance The Company's Operational Efficiency



BOD led by chairman Prof. Laban Ayiro (C) during their meeting at the Company's Boardroom

Nambacha Team Conducts Clean-Up Of The Water Treatment Plant

Nambacha Water Treatment Plant team conducted cleaning exercise of their facility's lagoon to improve its efficiency.

Mr Issa Kassim, Production Supervisor at the Plant said the cleaning exercise aimed at removing sludge from the lagoon to revive the water re-circulate pumps that had been blocked by mud.

“Since the Plant was commissioned, the lagoon has been holding sludge instead of that sludge being directed to the drying beds and for this period the lagoon has now been full of sludge hindering its intended purpose of holding water from the filters,” said Mr Kassim.

He said the lagoon's main purpose is to retain water from the filters which is then recycled saying the recycled water uses less chemicals to be treated for human consumption.

“The lagoon holds water from the water filters during back-washing ex-

ercise. The water is later recycled for treatment and released to customers,” he said.

He noted that after the cleaning exercise, the Plant can now effectively perform its water treatment process to enable customers get quality, clean and safe water.

Apart from cleaning the lagoons, the team recently conducted desludging

exercise at the Plant to remove sludge in the baffle and segmentation basins to improve on the efficiency of the Plant.

The process happens after every three months.

Nambacha Water Treatment Plant is one the Company's largest water treatment which supplies water to Mumias town and some parts of Navakholo Sub County.



Cleaning exercise at Nambacha water treatment plant lagoon

Bernard Wandere: A Reverend Of Many Hats

Rev Bernard Wandere has always championed for sports at KACWASCO since he joined the Company's Sports Committee in 2014 where he has scaled the heights to become the Committee's chairman and Team Manager of the Company's football team.

He said his vision is to help the Company nurture talents in various sports disciplines encouraging staff to participate in sports as a way of healthy living and development of their talent.

He said under his chairmanship, he will reform the sporting culture of the Company by establishing different sports units for different sporting activities which will be open to all KACWASCO staff.

"I want to change the notion that when we participate in sporting activities we are after winning, but rather encourage networking with the aim of marketing and selling out the Company's name since the activities provide us with the opportunity to interact with both local and international partners who can help better the Company's service delivery in one way or the other," said Rev Wandere.

He said being the chairman of Sports Committee gave him the opportunity to also serve in the Sports Committee of WASCO games 2022.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to chair the sports committee for the WASCO games 2022 hosted by Kisumu water, where KACWASCO scooped the runners-up position.

This year's WASCO tournament was the first under my leadership and I want by the time we participate in

the next one we will be very prepared and ready to bring the cup home," he noted.

Rev Wandere, who is Pastor at Maranatha Pioneer Church in Butere started his journey at KACWASCO in 2012 as a cleaner before

he was promoted to an office assistant then in 2013, he was promoted to be in charge of the Registry Unit as Registry Officer.

"KACWASCO provided me with an opportunity to work while I further my studies, I enrolled at Sigalagala National Polytechnic in 2017 and graduated in 2019 having pursued a Diploma in Information Science," he said.

He added that the Registry Unit deals mainly with the management of Company records which is an integral part of any organization.

"I find satisfaction in proper record management, this is because it makes the work of other departments easier in locating important files thus reducing time wastage," he said

He noted that the Company is in the process of establishing a record management system which can be integrated in the ERP system thus reducing file loss and clutter.

"Digitization of the registry process



Mr Wandere in his office

will improve the efficiency of the Unit. I also want to improve service delivery by ensuring fast retrieval of documents and information by having a well-planned file management system, maximize the security of documents, and also create a cloud-based backup for the files," said Rev Wandere.

He acknowledged the efforts by the acting CEO Ms Christabell Ashiono in supporting his Unit to discharge its duties properly, citing that she is the backbone for the success of his Unit.

"I would like to thank the acting CEO for her guidance, reforms, provision of a secure registry space, registry equipment and financial support which has enabled my Unit to undertake its functions properly, not forgetting her immense support in the Sports Department which is a motivation to the staff at large," he said.

Rev Wandere also serves chairman of KACWASCO staff welfare.

KACWASCO Mourns Mama Philomena, Mother To Governor Barasa



The late Mama Philomena

KACWASCO acting CEO Ms Christabell Ashiono sent a message of condolence to Governor H.E FCPA Fernandes Barasa and his fam-

ily following the untimely demise of their mother Mama Philomena Barasa.

In her message, the CEO described the late Mama Philomena as a staunch Christian, selfless and insightful person who interacted with the mighty and the lowly in the society in equal measures.

“Her death has robbed the society a dedicated person whose wise counsel, insights and advice will be missed by

many,” said Ms Ashiono.

She added: “On behalf of Kakamega County Water and Sanitation Company (KACWASCO) and myself, I convey my heartfelt condolences to H.E Governor Barasa and his family.”

She prayed to God to grant the bereaved family fortitude, peace and comfort to bear with the loss.

“May the soul of Mama Philomena rest in eternal peace,” she said.

CIS Nears Homestretch As The Company Gears To Clean Up Its Database



CIS enumerators and data validators during their weekly briefing

The Company’s Customer Identification Survey (CIS) in Kakamega area is in its last laps to completion.

The exercise which began a month ago targets to clean the customers’ database to establish active accounts and dormant accounts as a means of improving services to the customers.

During the survey, the team also has discovered illegal connections, bursts and leakages that cause water and revenue loss to the Company.

In the progress report as of 22nd October 2022, the survey team had visited and collected data from 10,781 out of 17,119 accounts in Kakamega Area, this representing 63%.

From the 10,781 accounts, at least 8,000 accounts are active with the rest inactive.

The survey has located 47 bursts and leakages from the 13 zones in the area.

The report indicated quick response to the identified bursts and leakages

through coordination with the Area Manager Mr Idd Osundwa

The exercise has also unearthed a total of 17 illegal connections and whose penalties have been posted to the perpetrator’s accounts in liaison with the enforcement team.

The exercise encountered challenges especially where customers were unavailable and hostile customers who declined to provide needed information.

The team also were faced with the problem of buried meters hence not accessible.

The report said the issue of water rationing continued to pose a challenge to the exercise especially in locating the dry lines, and where bursts and leakages could be.

The report acknowledged success of the exercise despite the challenges hindering the Company’s efforts to improve services and increase customer satisfaction levels.



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