



# Kakamega County Water And Sanitation Company



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## KACWASCO Launches Construction Of Malava WSTF Water Project



**Ag. CEO Ms Christabell Ashiono (R) addressing Malava residents during the event**

The Company has commissioned the construction of Malava Water Project to enhance water supply services in the area.

The Project which is funded by the Water Sector Trust Fund (WSTF) will serve at least 2,600 people upon completion.

Speaking during the site hand over, launch and sensitization meeting, the Company's acting CEO Ms Christabell Ashiono noted that the project will include rehabilitation of the water spring, construction of a 250 cubic meter water storage tank and laying of the water pipeline.

"This Project will help us address the

high demand for water in this area. As a Company we are committed to ensuring we bring water closer to the residents as per the manifesto of the Governor H.E FCPA Fernandes Barasa," said Ms Ashiono.

She noted that Malava is experiencing increase in population leading to a high demand for water yet the Company's 50 cubic meter water storage tank cannot satisfy the demand.

She said currently, Malava town and its environs relies on water boreholes and spring for supply of clean water which is not enough.

The CEO asked development partners to support the Company in construc-

tion of a sewerage system in Malava saying there is need for proper waste water disposal in the town.

Chief Officer for Environment Mr Eugene Wamalwa said as the County Government they will ensure all residents access clean and safe water at their doorsteps.

"We also have Kuvasali Water Project here in Malava which is under construction, once completed it will serve more people and ensure Malava has enough water," said Mr Wamalwa.

Engineer Andrew Ayuka from WSTF said his organization is keen on implementation of the Project to ensure residents benefit from it.

***Maji Safi, Maisha Bora - Quality Water, Healthy Livelihood***

## KACWASCO Lauded For Its Clean And Safe Water

The Company has been lauded for supplying clean and safe water for consumption which has contributed to reduction in cases of waterborne diseases in the County.

Speaking during a health talk at the Company's Boardroom, Equity Afia Kakamega branch resident practitioner Dr. Victor Omina said KACWASCO is doing exemplary work in ensuring that its water is clean and safe for consumption.

"I want to appreciate you for being at the forefront of ensuring that Kakamega residents are supplied with clean and safe water for consumption. I want to assure you that we have

tested, tried and done research and there are very rare cases of typhoid and other waterborne diseases in this County. This shows that as a Company you are doing an exemplary job," said Dr. Omina.

He however expressed concerns over people's way of living that he said leads to most of them developing lifestyle diseases such as obesity, hypertension and diabetes advising them to do regular medical checkups.

"It is good that we all watch on our lifestyle. Eating a balanced diet containing all the nutrients is very essential for one to live a healthy life. Don't take less or more than what is

recommended," he advised.

Mr Bush Orondo, Quality Assurance Manager, promised that as a Company they will continue to ensure that they supply clean and safe water.

"Water quality is one of our strongholds. We are among the best in Africa in provision of clean and safe water. We will always make sure that we meet the required standard of water quality," he assured.

He called upon all the staff to heed to the advice on matters health for a healthy workforce.

## KACWASCO, Nyota Media To Partner In Conserving Environment And Nurturing Talents



Ag. CEO Ms Christabell Ashiono (C) during a meeting with Nyota Media CEO Fred Wesonga (R)

KACWASCO and Nyota Media have agreed to partner in conserving the environment and nurturing talents at the grassroots.

The partnership targets to conserve the Company's water catchment areas around its water treatment facilities including Tindinyo, Nambacha, and Kipkaren among others.

KACWASCO acting CEO Ms Christabell Ashiono while speaking during a consultative meeting with Nyota

Media CEO Mr Fred Harrison Wesonga, said as a Company they are committed toward conserving the environment by planting trees and supporting initiatives targeting to mitigate the effects of climate change.

"I appreciate Nyota Media for your support towards improving our service delivery. As a Company, we are planning to plant trees at our water treatment facilities as part of our efforts to conserve the environment. We will roll out this programme next month and I request Nyota Media to be part of this initiative," said Ms Ashiono.

She added that it is through such engagements that the two companies will be able to foster a good working relationship for the benefit of the community.

"Nyota Media has been at the forefront to provide publicity for our services, projects and events making our customers well informed on what we are doing," she said.

Mr Wesonga accepted to partner with KACWASCO and promised to help the Company in conservation of its water catchment areas.

"KACWASCO has always been in the limelight for provision of clean and safe water, because of its commitment we have never witnessed or heard of waterborne diseases in this County. As a Media Company, we are open for this partnership to help you achieve your goals," he said.

He added: "We look forward to having more engagement including in sports to nurture talents at the grassroots. We will be organizing for a friendly football match between Nyota FC, who are currently playing in division 1 of the National league and KACWASCO soccer team."

## KACWASCO, WWANC To Partner To Conserve River Yala Catchment Area

The Company is seeking to partner with Women in Water and Natural Resources Conservation (WWANC) to conserve River Yala water catchment area.

The initiative dubbed Yala River Water Fund will also bring on board Water Fund and Nature Conservancy to help achieve its mission.

Ms Stella Wanjala, Co-founder and Director Women in Water and Natural Resources Conservation said degradation of forests, human settlement in Wetlands and siltation in most of the dams are some of the challenges that have pushed her team to start the initiative of conserving the environment.

“I want to appreciate the fact that all of us love water and natural resources with about 75% of water being used in Kenya having its towers in western and central parts of Kenya. I therefore call upon all of us to be at the forefront of securing our water catchment areas because if we don't put in place such interventions then we might end up living with no water at all in the near future,” she said.

She acknowledged that setting up a water treatment plant is expensive and therefore the need to use the nature based solutions that will help save water sheds, clean water and also improve the livelihood of those in riparian land.

She said the Yala River Water Fund targets to ensure that the communities living around water resources can also benefit from the water that comes from their community.

“We all understand that the people who live around water sources may not directly benefit from the wa-



**KACWASCO and WWANC officials during a meeting at KACWASCO's Boardroom**

ter and this has brought in conflicts between the communities at the source and those downstream, which can lead to those around the sources destroying them. With this Fund in place, we will all come together and embrace the importance of conservation of the river and the water,” she added.

She said there is need for support from those who benefit from water to help educate those who stay around the water sources so as to help conserve them.

She noted that embracing the initiative will help in enhancement of diversity, restoration of critical ecosystem such as Kakamega forest, improve stream health, enhance biodiversity, improve quality and quantity of water, control soil erosion as well as create job opportunities for the community.

KACWASCO acting CEO Ms Christabell Ashiono, lauded the efforts by the organization towards protecting water sources in the region.

“I commend you for having thought of such a project. As KACWASCO, we are committed to seeing this project materialize for the benefits of the Company. We are also keen especially in service provision and that is why we welcome the initiative as it will help us solve the problem of siltation and erosion at our main treatment facility in Tindinyo that requires urgent repair,” said the CEO.

She expressed the Company's desire to take the initiative with the keenness it deserves adding that the Company is committed to working together with WWANC to make the project a success

She pointed out some areas which ought to be incorporated in the project as key areas of focus in conservation of river Yala as well as other water catchment areas which are key sources of water for KACWASCO.

Mrs Mary Mariga (Customer Service Manager), Ms Powell Mmbone (Internal Audit Manager) and other officials from WWANC were present.

## CEO Visits Shitoli Area

Acting CEO Ms Christabell Ashiono held her maiden site/field visit in Shitoli Area.

The objective of the visit was to have a field tour of the pipeline extension projects as well as the rehabilitation initiatives of the Museno tank as well as an overview of the two solarized boreholes to be handed over to the Company by LVNWWDA.

Ms Ashiono said the Company is committed to ensure more customers are brought on board as it strives to attain the goal of having all residents' access clean water at their doorsteps.

The CEO visited Museno water tank, Sigalagala, Lirhembe School borehole and Shipalo Primary School borehole.

"I am doing field visits to help me understand areas we need to focus on a lot to ensure we connect more people to clean and safe water," said Ms Ashiono.

During a meeting with staff, the CEO appreciated them for their efforts in ensuring the Company meets its operational efficiency and revenue collection targets.

She said Shitoli Area is among Areas and Schemes that are performing well in revenue collection.

"I thank you for your excellent performance in both operational and revenue collection. We have lined a series of programs that will help you in your performance," she said.

She said the Company will revive Mukumu borehole to start supplying

water to Muraka and its environs.

However, the CEO cautioned staff against colluding with customers to have them get water illegally.

She said the Company will conduct Customer Identification Survey (CIS) in the Area from next week and staff found culpable of aiding illegalities will be dealt with according to the Company policies.

"We will do a survey in this Area from next week and I hope that we will not unearth any illegal connections because if we do so then those responsible will carry their own cross," she warned.

Ms Valerie Ngira Chief Accountant who is also the Area Patron asked the CEO to support the Area to connect more people to water as this will increase revenue for the Company.

"We have a high demand for water but currently we cannot satisfy that demand. We request that you support us to achieve our goal of connecting more people to our clean

pipled water," Ms Ngira said.

Her words were echoed by Ms Nancy Tarus who is the Area Manager who added that the Area has a huge potential of increasing revenue if they will be able to connect more people and also activate dormant and inactive accounts.



KACWASCO staff at Museno water tank



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