



# KENYA

## Water and Sanitation Profile

POPULATION AND HEALTH STATISTICS	
Population (2008)	38.5 million <sup>a</sup>
Proportion of population living in urban areas (2008)	22% <sup>a</sup>
Average annual urban/rural population growth rates (1990-2008)	3.8 / 2.6% <sup>a</sup>
Under age 5 mortality rate (2007)	121/1000 live births <sup>b</sup>
Under age 5 mortality rate due to diarrheal disease (2004)	15.3% <sup>b</sup>
<small>Note: Most recently available data provided.  <sup>a</sup> World Bank. 2009 World Development Indicators (WDI) Database.  <sup>b</sup> World Health Organization (WHO). World Health Statistics 2009.</small>	

### WSS SECTOR OVERVIEW

Kenya is a water-scarce country, standing within the top 8 percent of countries in terms of water scarcity and with significantly less water resources than its immediate neighbors. Surface waters account for only 2 percent of Kenya's total surface area, and variability of rainfall in these areas lends to frequent droughts and floods.<sup>1</sup> As populations soar and livelihoods are threatened by the unsustainable consumption of regional resources, productivity decreases and the potential for conflict over resources increases.

Lack of water availability helps inform the way in which Kenya approaches water resources management and water supply and sanitation (WSS) service. Kenya has embarked on the implementation of a comprehensive reform program, encompassing both WSS and water resource management.

Until its recent political setbacks, Kenya appeared to be on track to achieve the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) for access to improved drinking water, though it is off-track to meet its MDG target for

<sup>1</sup> World Bank. *Project Appraisal Document, Kenya, Water and Sanitation Service Improvement Project* (2007).

sanitation access. Kenya may still meet the MDG goals if it follows through with its institutional reforms and builds management capacity at the local service provider level.

WATER AVAILABILITY IN KENYA	
Renewable freshwater resources per capita, m <sup>3</sup> /person/year (2008)	534 <sup>c</sup>
Water withdrawals, m <sup>3</sup> /person/year (2007)	72 <sup>c</sup>
Projected water resources per capita, m <sup>3</sup> /person/year in 2015	440 <sup>d</sup>
<small>Note: Most recently available data provided.  <sup>c</sup> UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). <i>FAO Aquastat Database</i>. "Freshwater resources" refers to estimates of runoff into rivers and recharge of ground water and does not include flows from other countries.  <sup>d</sup> Note this value was calculated using a straight-line calculation based on average population growth rates (1990-2008) with no adjustment for consumption or technology changes. Data was obtained from <i>World Bank WDI Database</i> (population) and <i>FAO Aquastat Database</i> (water resources).</small>	

### WSS SECTOR FRAMEWORK

Kenya made comprehensive reforms to the water sector aimed at improving management of water resources, increasing access to WSS services, enhancing accountability, and decentralizing provision of services. Reforms have included a number of policies and strategies, of which the most important legal milestone was the passage of the 2002 Water Act.<sup>2</sup> The Act was instrumental in decentralizing Kenya's WSS services and created a new institutional framework. Central to the new framework is the separation of functions between the aspects of service delivery - policy making, regulation, asset ownership/control and service delivery operations.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup> UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). *The United Nations World Water Development Report 2* (2006).

<sup>3</sup> World Bank. *Project Appraisal Document, Kenya, Water and Sanitation Service Improvement Project* (2007).

## KEY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Agency	Description	Contact Information
MWI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develops national water policy;</li> <li>Overall regulation and monitoring of sector.</li> </ul>	Fred Mwangi jmunyeyes2002@yahoo.co.uk Charles Koske karapkoske@wananchi.com Tel: 254 046 3197/2733810
WRSB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulation of WSS services;</li> <li>Implements national policy;</li> <li>Water rate policies;</li> <li>Licenses WSBs;</li> <li>Sets standards.</li> </ul>	Richard K. Cheruiyot rkipkorir@yahoo.com wsrb_kenya@yahoo.com Tel: 254 20 2733 559/61
Water Services Trust Fund (WSTF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mobilizes government and donor funds for water supply in poor areas.</li> </ul>	Japheth-Mutai CEO Tel: 020-2720696
WSBs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 regional WSBs: Athi, Tana, Northern, Coast, Rift Valley, Lake Victoria North, Lake Victoria South;</li> <li>Maintain, plan, and develop assets.</li> </ul>	Varies.
WSPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contracted by WSBs to provide services at town/community level;</li> <li>Typically owned by local authorities.</li> </ul>	Varies.
National Water Conservation and Pipeline Corporation (NWCPC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raw water development and conveyance</li> <li>Drills wells; constructs pipelines and conservation structures.</li> </ul>	Tel: 254 02 55 66 00 www.nwcpc.go.ke

The Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI) is responsible for developing water resources, policy, and overall sector monitoring functions, while devolving water service provisions to local water operators. An independent regulator, the Water Regulatory Services Board (WSRB), is responsible for regulating water and sewerage services, including licensing, quality assurance, and issuance of guidelines for rates, fees, and handling service complaints.

Seven Water Services Boards (WSBs) are responsible for the efficient and economical provision

of water and sewerage services within their area of jurisdiction. WSBs own the water and sewerage infrastructure in their area and can lease the infrastructure to qualified Water Service Providers (WSPs) for operation and management. The seven WSBs cover the whole country and are responsible for asset development and mobilizing financial resources within their jurisdictions.

Direct provision of water services is undertaken by Water Service Providers (WSPs), which are utilities, and to whom the responsibility is delegated by the WSBs. As of May 2007, more than 80 WSPs have been appointed by various WSBs.<sup>4</sup> Most WSPs are owned by local authorities or communities but are commercialized to be run like businesses. Service Provision Agreements (SPAs) are signed between the WSBs and the WSPs. SPAs include benchmarks for minimum levels of service provision (e.g., percentage of population with access to water provision, and hours of service).

Implementation of reforms is also driven by the National Policy on Water Resources Management and Development (1999), the National Water Resources Management Strategy (2003) and the National Water Services Strategy and Investment Plan (2003).<sup>5</sup> A national environmental sanitation and hygiene policy is currently under preparation, which commits the government to ensure that 90 percent of households will have access by 2015.<sup>6</sup>

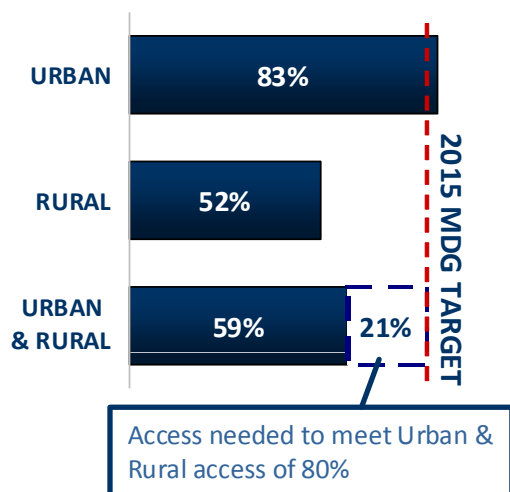
To fully implement the reforms, complementary human resources, management training, and additional financial sources are required to effectively scale-up WSS service. Key to success is the adoption of the Sector Investment Plan and the rationalization of local water rate structures that ensure better cost-recovery, conserve water, and are geared toward pro-poor access and equity policies. These actions must be coupled with robust performance tracking to ensure cost-effectiveness and measurable outcomes. However, a national WSS monitoring and evaluation mechanism is currently lacking.

<sup>4</sup> World Bank. *Project Appraisal Document, Kenya, Water and Sanitation Service Improvement Project* (2007).

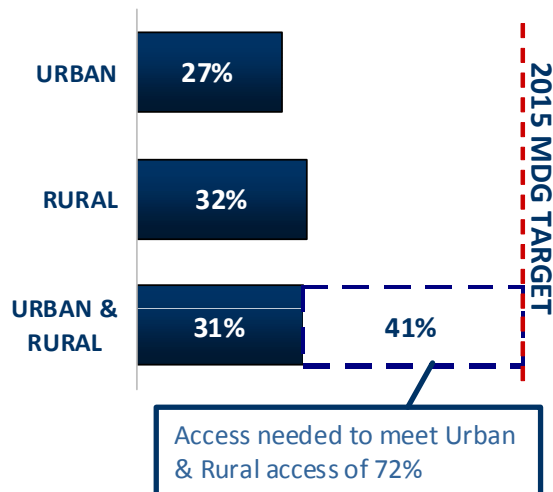
<sup>5</sup> AfDB/Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). *African Economic Outlook: Kenya* (2007).

<sup>6</sup> African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), et al. *Getting Africa on Track to Meet the MDGs on Water and Sanitation* (2006).

### Meeting MDG 7: Access to Water in 2008



### Meeting MDG 7: Access to Sanitation in 2008



Data Source: WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP), *Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water, 2010 Update*. Note on comparing baseline data from earlier reports: The JMP methodology uses all available data in each successive report. This means that estimates may be recalculated for earlier years if more data becomes available. The JMP notes that these new estimates may affect the baseline reported in earlier data sets.

### THE URBAN SUB-SECTOR

In urban settlements, the WSPs are mostly local authority-owned utilities that have been recently established as commercialized, publicly-owned companies. In other areas, community-managed projects are to be transformed into formally recognised WSPs. Community-based organizations retain ownership over the assets and, where possible, remain or become in charge of operations.

Recently, urban water access has fallen due to the shortage of adequate funding to repair or replace rapidly aging infrastructure. To reverse this trend, the WSS sector needs to improve sector investment planning and scaling-up capacity in terms of human resources, technical competence, and logistics management, thus improving the sector's ability to absorb investments.

Other challenges for Kenya's urban WSS sector include high rates of unaccounted-for water losses, estimated between 40 to 66 percent depending on the service provider/utility.<sup>7</sup> These losses are largely due to leakage from pipes, illegal connections and/or underregistration of water meters. These losses

translate into water not reaching the consumer or lost revenue for the WSP utility.

Urban sanitation is seriously lacking. To improve the sub-sector, the government is devising a new environmental sanitation and hygiene policy. This policy needs to be finalized and will be implemented by the ministries of Health and Environment. A concerted effort to rehabilitate and expand sanitation facilities is needed to meet the MDG target by 2015.

### THE RURAL SUB-SECTOR

Kenya's rural sub-sector has experienced marked improvements in drinking water access, but access to improved sanitation facilities has remained relatively flat. Between 1990 and 2008, access to drinking water in rural areas increased by 20 percent, and for sanitation access, rates increased by only 5 percent.<sup>8</sup> Access may continue to increase as national water reforms are fully implemented and water service providers in rural areas attract greater amounts of technical assistance, donor contributions, and greater participation of the private sector. Although Kenya's rural areas boast relatively high WSS service access levels compared with other sub-Saharan African

<sup>7</sup> Kenya Ministry of Water and Irrigation, et al. *Citizens' Report Card on Urban Water, Sanitation and Solid Waste Services in Kenya* (2007).

<sup>8</sup> WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP). *Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water, 2010 Update*.

countries, WSS service is distributed unequally; the Rift Valley and Lake Victoria South regions have the highest percentage of unserved populations in the country.

### DONOR INVOLVEMENT

The Government of Kenya began developing a Sector Wide Approach to Planning (SWAP) in 2006 to harmonize sector planning, implementation mechanisms, and coordination of resources. With the assistance of several major donors, Kenya has

developed a common sector policy framework and strategy, a common sector program (with possibilities for the pooling of resources), and common monitoring systems. Major donors include the World Bank, the African Development Bank, Arab Bank for Development in Africa, the United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-HABITAT), and the governments of Sweden, France, Germany, Denmark, Japan, and the United States.

DONOR	ACTIVITIES	CONTACT INFORMATION <sup>e</sup>
The World Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Supports continued implementation of reforms through support of regulatory agency via technical assistance, institutional capacity building, and institutional restructuring</li> <li>▪ Urban WSS infrastructure upgrades</li> <li>▪ Urban WSS service capacity building in financial management</li> <li>▪ Water and Sanitation Service Improvement Project (WaSSIP)</li> </ul>	Alain Morel (Wash DC) amorel@worldbank.org Tel: 254-733-602-182 Dennis Mwanza dmwanza@worldbank.org 254-20-322-6315
The African Development Bank (AfDB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support to regional Water Service Boards</li> <li>▪ Urban and rural infrastructure and management capacity development and expansion</li> </ul>	Arthur Swatson Tel: 216-7110-2672
Sweden (SIDA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Rural water supply and sanitation facility infrastructure</li> <li>▪ Integrated water resources management studies</li> </ul>	
Germany/ GTZ/KfW/DED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Institutional capacity building for WSS services</li> <li>▪ Water resources management</li> <li>▪ Transboundary waters</li> </ul>	Joerg Dux (KfW) Joerg.dux@kfw.de Tel: 254-20-3872-111
France (AFD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Urban water supply and sanitation improvements</li> <li>▪ Increasing private sector participation</li> <li>▪ Water resources development</li> <li>▪ Nairobi Water and Sewerage Emergency Physical Investment Project</li> <li>▪ Coast Region Water and Sanitation Services Improvement Project</li> </ul>	François Gil gil@groupe-afd.org Tel: +254 20 2718452/57
Denmark (DANIDA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Rural water supply and sanitation infrastructure and capacity building</li> <li>▪ Water resources management</li> <li>▪ National water reforms</li> </ul>	Leif Hommelgaard leihom@um.dk
Water and Sanitation Program (WSP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support for extending services to the poor</li> </ul>	Rosemary Rop rrop@worldbank.org Tel: +254 20 322 6317/34
<sup>e</sup> Contact information may change frequently and therefore be different from what is noted above.		

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Additional references that aided in the completion of this report include: World Bank Country Brief – Kenya (2009); World Bank, *Donor Statement – Water and Sanitation Sector, Consultative Group Meeting* (April 2005); DANIDA, *Kenya Successes and Challenge - Towards Joint Planning and Financing Based on Coherent Government Policies and Strategies, Draft Briefing Note* (April 2007).

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