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KIWASH Case Study and Policy Brief Dissemination

Workshop Report, Makueni & Kitui Counties

February 24 – 25, 2021

USAID RESILIENCE LEARNING ACTIVITY

KIWASH Case Study and Policy Brief Dissemination

Workshop Report, Makueni & Kitui Counties

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Last but not least, we would like to thank all the participants who took part in the dissemination including Daniel Adero who facilitated the development of the documents and also the dissemination sessions; Kelvin Musikoyo; Dan Owore; Ruth Chepkemei; Patrick Mburu; Angeline Mulwa; Charity Gathuthi; and Alois Muthini for their support to the process.

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Executive Summary

The Resilience Learning Activity (RLA) working with the Kenya Integrated Water Sanitation and Hygiene (KIWASH) project, and the County Governments of Kitui and Makueni planned and hosted dissemination workshops in Kitui and Makueni under the theme, “*Strengthening County Governments Accountability, Commitment and Participation in the WASH Sector*”. The workshops were held in Kitui on 24th February 2021 and in Makueni on 25th February 2021. At the dissemination workshop were participants from the County Governments, KIWASH, RLA, WASH stakeholders including the WASH enterprises and the water service providers, and other partners.

The dissemination workshops were facilitated by the County Governments, KIWASH and Resilience Learning Activity/ KIWASH and RLA are both USAID funded. The training provided the participants with an opportunity to learn more about KIWASH, to interact with the KIWASH Case Study, learn more about RLA and its goal, and the platform to discuss County priorities in WASH.

The delivery of the workshop was such that participants had opportunities to learn and grasp more about Collaboration, Learning and Adaptation and the place of learning products such as the Case Study and Policy Brief. Though most of the participants knew about KIWASH, the training exposed them to a broader understanding of WASH sector priorities for the Counties and the available opportunities for partnerships and scale up.

Participants in both Counties agreed to the fact that there is a need for continuous cross-learning, co-creation opportunities, and the need to adapt a multi-sectoral approach in WASH. Issues around how the County can work together with stakeholders were discussed. The stakeholders also agreed that there is a need to harness on synergies where possible for optimal impact through widening of service provision.

Overall, the dissemination workshops provided a much-needed platform for building partnership but also cross-learning. The County Governments were able to share their ambitions going forward and the stakeholders were able to engage them deeper. Participants did not only leave the workshops with the documents but left with even more know-how on scaling up WASH interventions.

Introduction

In October 2020, the Resilience Learning Activity (RLA) engaged a Learning and Knowledge Management Specialist to support KIWASH in conceptualizing and developing a Case Study on its work around Strengthening County Governments Accountability, Commitment and Participation in the WASH sector. Upon completion of the Case Study and during the post-case study discussions, it emerged that there was a need to further come up with a tool for engaging policy makers in WASH. RLA working with KIWASH therefore further engaged the consultant to lead the development of a Policy Brief.

The KIWASH Case Study and Policy Brief are the documents that were being disseminated to catalyse further adoption and scale-up of high impact interventions implemented by KIWASH.

About the Resilience Learning Activity

The Resilience Learning Activity (RLA) is a five-year initiative funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The activity supports regional and country-level institutions to conduct resilience learning activities in the Horn of Africa (HoA) to contribute to the region's Journey to Self-Reliance. At the regional level, the Activity supports USAID's investments in the Horn of Africa Resilience Network (HoRN), including Kenya, Somalia, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Uganda, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. It also supports selected cross-border clusters and limited support and broader buy-in capacity for other HoRN countries focused on building the capacity of institutions to learn how to build resilience faster and better across all landscapes. At the country level, RLA is the secretariat supporting the Partnership for Resilience and Economic Growth (PREG) and South Eastern Kenya (SEK) coordination and learning of local actors across Northern counties (Garissa, Marsabit, Turkana, Samburu, Wajir, and Isiolo) and (Makueni, Taita Taveta, and Kitui).

Through partnerships with local institutions and leaders, national government, regional actors, and implementing partners, the Activity aims to achieve the following:

- Increase analytical capacity for local and host country organizations;
- Facilitate learning for adaptive management by local and host country organizations;
- Improve knowledge management and strategic communication for local and host country organizations; and
- Establish and strengthen systems and networks for Collaboration Learning and Adapting (CLA).

About KIWASH

The Kenya Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (KIWASH) is a five-year program of the US Agency for International Development, implemented by DAI with the goal of improving the lives and health of Kenyan citizens in nine counties through development and management of sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services. KIWASH aims to accelerate and sustain improvements in water and sanitation access and services in nine target counties and improve complementary hygiene behaviors.

To ensure that improvements in access are accelerated and sustained, KIWASH is implementing activities which contribute to six distinct objectives:

- Scale up market-based WASH service delivery models;
- Increase and sustain access to finance/credit for WASH;
- Improved access to integrated WASH and Nutrition services;
- Increased production and consumption of nutrient-dense, diverse foods, Increased environmental sustainability of WASH services;

- Strengthen governance of WASH services and water resources institutions; and
- Support targeted policy reforms advanced to stimulate and improve access.

The KIWASH project focused on different core areas in each of the 9 counties with specific activities being selected at the national and county level in accordance with identified needs and gaps and USAID's overall WASH strategy in Kenya.

Workshop Objectives

The dissemination workshop was organized to among other things contribute to USAID's sector knowledge and learning through development and dissemination of case studies and success stories on KIWASH activities for knowledge sharing and dissemination through different forums at county and National level.

The meeting, under the theme, Strengthening County Governments Accountability, Commitment and Participation in the WASH sector through Knowledge Management and Communications Practices aimed to achieve the following objectives:

- Highlighting the Knowledge Management and Communication practices by the Resilience Learning Activity to strengthen County Governments' Participation, Accountability and Commitments;
- To share with the stakeholders, the processes undertaken in documenting and packaging strategies used by KIWASH to strengthen County Governments' Participation, Accountability and Commitments; and
- To disseminate the findings through a Case Study Report to the WASH sector stakeholders for further discussion, adoption, and scale-up.

Workshop Participants

Seventy-Six (76) participants attended the dissemination workshops – 34 in Kitui and 42 in Makueni. The participants to the workshops were drawn from County Government staff, National Government staff, Water Service Providers, KIWASH staff, RLA staff, USAID implementing partners, the private sector and commercial banks. Among the participants were the Deputy Governor for the County Government of Makueni, County Executive Ministers for Water from both counties, County Chief Officers for WASH.

Workshop Deliberations

The dissemination workshops had different structures and led to different deliberations. The below Report is organized per County to show case what happened in each of the Counties.

A: Dissemination Deliberations in Kitui County

The dissemination workshop for Kitui County was held on the 24th February 2021 at Parkside Villa in Kitui. The meeting begun shortly after 9:00am and ended at about 3:00pm when all the sessions had been covered.



The workshop was started with a word of prayer after which participants introduced themselves to set pace for the forthcoming deliberations.

Opening Remarks

The workshop was started with a round of remarks from the Chief Officer and the County Executive Secretary for Water, Agriculture and Irrigation.

Remarks by Kioko Kiilu, Chief Officer – He started by welcoming everyone present to Kitui County and recognizing the present of Mr. Meshack Muthusi the County Executive Secretary for Water, Agriculture and Irrigation. He then thanked the KIWASH team and the RLA team for working with them to organize and host this memorable event.

Mr. Kiilu said that the demand for water services in Kitui County has remained so high despite many partners working to avert the situation. He invited the participants to ensure that the work done is in line with County priorities and that they are following government structured way of working. He said that the County Government has already invested a lot in the mapping out of water resources within the county and has in its possession a ready data bank of viable projects which are fully costed ready for implementation. Mr. Kiilu challenged any partner who wants to support the County initiatives to not start from scratch as the ground work is done.

He expressed his gratitude to the approach that has been used by KIWASH in supporting the water service providers and community water schemes. “Rural Water Schemes should be able to meet the demand for water in the rural areas BUT the challenge in operation management hinder this dream,” he remarked. He said that in the KIWASH model, support has been given to Water Management Committees, the Rural Water Schemes and the County Government Staff and this has seen the revolution in the schemes supported by KIWASH.

He challenged the Sub-County Water officers to keep a data bank of all the water facilities in their areas of work including their names, location, status of completion and functionality among others. He urged them to have with them contacts of all the management teams for these facilities so they are able to put a face to them. He said this will go along way in supporting the County Government’s 5-pillar manifesto of:

- Food and Water,
- Healthcare,
- Youth Development,
- Women Empowerment; and
- Wealth Creation.

He finished by asking that the partners should consider using the donor funds better. He said there is an opportunity that still exists even beyond what KIWASH has done and that is the continuous Strengthening of Governance Structures within the County to ensure new staff are well oriented and enabled.

He then invited the CEC to give his remarks and officially open the meeting.

Meshack Muthusi – County Executive Committee – Water, Agriculture, and Irrigation -Mr. Muthusi started by thanking the organizers through the WASH department at the County for convening such an important session. “You can not do anything if you have not been enabled,” he commented.

He said that food and water are one of the MOST significant focus areas for the county government of Kitui and that their Ministry is one of the key ones. He said food and water are basic needs and thus everyone strives to acquire them. Without food and water life would be uncertain.

He said that the County Government is willing to work with partners such as KIWASH and others. Development, according to him, cannot happen overnight and hence all must work together to achieve it.

He then declared the dissemination workshop officially open.

Other Presentations

After the meeting was officially opened there were other presentations as follows:

- **KIWASH Overview** – This presentation was made by Dan Owore, the WASH Governance Manager – Eastern Region, USAID/Kenya Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Project. He took the participants through the KIWASH journey from 2017 to date. He pointed out what the project objectives were at inception and how this remained largely the same. He also pointed out that they project got an extension to work on other areas among them support the Counties with response to COVID-19 pandemic. The presentation is attached as [Annex 3](#).
- **About RLA** – Kelvin Musikoyo, a Program Officer with RLA presented a brief about RLA, where it works, its objectives and opportunities for collaboration. Presentation is attached in [Annex 3](#).
- **KIWASH Case Study and Policy Brief** – Daniel Adero, the Knowledge Management and Communication Specialist presented the Case Study to the participants. The presentation covered the Case Study Documentation process, Key Findings (Key Approaches, Achievements, Lessons Learnt, Challenges, and Opportunities) and Reflections. He then presented the Policy Brief walking the participants through the two documents. A PowerPoint presentation is attached for reference under [Annex 3](#).

Discussions and Way Forward/Next Steps

After the presentations, a session was facilitated by Augustus Nding’o, the County WASH coordinator to deliberate on the key issues raised from the presentation and agree on next steps.

Key issues emerged including the following:

- KIWASH has realized great results with the community projects and the support to County Government. One of the concerns was whether the successes realized were as expected or they came as a surprise. It became clear that these successes were planned for through the Theory of Change that guided KIWASH and through the interventions that were designed and delivered.
- Most of the challenges in the sector were seen to border on management and governance. There was a concern because there are yet to be in existence proper legislation governing the WASH sector. Participants sought to be updated on the status of the County Water Bill and the Water Policy that were supported by KIWASH. The Chief Officer and the County WASH Coordinator informed the participants that the documents are at an advanced stage and their finalization towards full implementation will be prioritized.

- There was an inquiry around the fate of the schemes that are not supported by KIWASH. This was in light of the fact that KIWASH supported schemes were doing really well yet there are others that are not being supported by KIWASH. To this, the County Government said there are plans to ensure the model is replicated. Partners were also challenged to work together to support the schemes in a more sustainable way.
- Last but not least there was an inquiry around the fate of donkeys in the County. It emerged that there can never be a conversation on water within the county without bringing in the donkey aspect. Maybe come up with a Donkey Welfare Policy.

In terms of the next steps, these came out:

- The Sub-County Water Officers to build a data bank of all the facilities in their areas;
- The County will initiate Kitui County Maintenance Trust Fund that will be governed either by a secretariat or a board. The role of this Fund is to ensure sustainable support given to the schemes;
- Finalize and operationalize the Water Policy and the Bill; and
- Continue with the WASH forums as they offer opportunities for cross-learning.

Closing Remarks

There being no other business, the County Executive Committee Member, Mr. Meshack Muthusi closed the meeting and a word of prayer was delivered.

B: Dissemination Deliberations in Makueni County

The dissemination workshop for Makueni County was held on the 25th February 2021 at Kusyombunguo Hotel, Wote. The meeting began shortly after 9:00am and ended at about 2:0pm when all the sessions had been covered.

The workshop was started with a word of prayer after which participants introduced themselves to know who was in the room.



Opening Remarks

The workshop was started with a round of remarks from the Chief Officer and the County Executive Secretary for Water.

Remarks by Damaris Makau, Chief Officer, Water, Makueni County – Ms. Damaris Makau started by acknowledging the presence of all participants and the CEC. She noted that the issue of water is a BIG agenda for the County and that is why the County leadership is driving the dissemination. She welcomed all participants and mentioned that partners were usually invited at the table when matters water are being discussed.

Ms. Makau said that water is one of the key issues even as a Country featuring in the BIG-4 agenda, the national development blue print Vision 2030 and the Makueni County development Agenda. She said that as a County they have slogan for the sector that means -settling. They look forward to settle issues WASH.

She lauded the great partnership that has existed between KIWASH and the County government that has seen strategic and sustainable interventions towards capacity building of actors in the sector. She also said that they have had similar strong relationships with the Water Service Providers and WASH enterprises.

She invited all the participants to keenly study the case study by KIWASH to see what interventions are there that can be replicated to avoid duplication of efforts but also to scale-up.

She then invited the CEC to give her remarks and officially open the meeting.

Rosemary Maundu – County Executive Committee Member– Water and Sanitation -Ms. Rosemary Maundu on her part congratulated KIWASH for work well done so far. She begun by saying that they have witnessed growth within the sector and that KIWASH has been a strategic partner to the County. She mentioned that KIWASH has supported them to develop a Water Policy and a Water Act – tools that will help revolutionize the sector.

She did say that other than the Universal Health Coverage, water was the next most important agenda for the County. She informed the participants that one of the County's top Leadership will join the meeting.

She then declared the dissemination workshop officially open.

Other Presentations

After the meeting was officially opened there were other presentations as follows:

- **KIWASH Overview** – This presentation was made by Dan Owore, the WASH Governance Manager – Eastern Region, USAID/Kenya Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Project. He took the participants through the KIWASH journey from 2017 to date. He pointed out what the project objectives were at inception and how this remained largely the same. He also pointed out that they project got an extension to work on other areas among them support the Counties with response to COVID-19 pandemic. The presentation is attached as [Annex 3](#).
- **About RLA** – Kelvin Musikoyo, a Program Officer with RLA presented a brief about RLA, where it works, its objectives and opportunities for collaboration. Presentation is attached in [Annex 3](#).
- **KIWASH Case Study and Policy Brief** – Daniel Adero, the Knowledge Management and Communication Specialist presented the Case Study to the participants. The presentation covered the Case Study Documentation process, Key Findings (Key Approaches, Achievements, Lessons Learnt, Challenges, and Opportunities) and Reflections. He then presented the Policy Brief walking the participants through the two documents. A PowerPoint presentation is attached for reference under [Annex 3](#).

Remarks by the Deputy Governor of Makueni County, Her Excellency Hon. Adelina Mwau

After the presentations were done, the CEC invited the Deputy Governor, who joined the meeting along the way to give her remarks.

Her Excellency also welcomed all participants to the County and expressed that the issue was a priority for the County Government. She said resources are hardly coming yet the people need WASH services on a day-to-day basis. She challenged partners and stakeholders to come together and pull resources to help finance and support the County Government's initiatives in the WASH sector.

She noted that issues of participation are critical when it comes to ensuring community ownership of initiatives and guarantee sustainable development. The sector according to her is full of mal practices including corruption and vandalization and must be addressed if any sustainable interventions are to stand the test of time. She said there is a need to ensure documentation of partnership initiatives.

Last but not least she called upon the Water Officers to get together and re-examine in detail the case study to see what the County can take forward. She also challenged them to look at the Policy Brief and see where there are gaps and come up with a plan on addressing the gaps. She said the County is willing to work with partners to cure the long-standing issues crippling the sector.

Discussions and Way Forward/Next Steps

After the presentations, a session was facilitated by Charity Gathuthi, the WASH Governance Specialist, KIWASH - Makueni to deliberate on the key issues raised from the presentation and agree on next steps.

Key issues emerged including the following:

- The need to bring up the issues so that they are incorporated in the County Budgets. A suggestion was floated that ward water officers need to be sensitized and trained ahead of the County Budgeting Cycle so that they can plan and budget well;
- Social and environmental aspects of the sector needs to be addressed for sustainability;
- There is a need to develop products around other approaches that have worked for KIWASH beyond the work on Governance that led to the Policy Brief;
- There was a request to KIWASH and RLA to consider designing a study around projects that are fully run and implemented by County Governments on their own vis a vie those done in partnerships such as the KIWASH partnership. This will yield critical lessons that the County Government can build upon to better their work;

- Need to organize an exchange visit – This could target new staff at the county and also at the WSPs and community schemes for enhanced learning experience;
- Last but not least there was an inquiry around the fate of donkeys in the County. It emerged that there can never be a conversation on water within the county without bringing in the donkey aspect. Maybe come up with a Donkey Welfare Policy.

In terms of the next steps, these came out:

- There is a need to consider setting up a County revolving fund set-up for the WSPs and the schemes to borrow from;
- Continue with the WASH forums for cross-learning;
- Plan exchange visits and capacity enhancement for the WSPs, the schemes and even the County Staff;
- Partners need to pull resources together – There is a need to enhance linkages for maximum benefits of the people;
- Think through sand conservation as an environmental issue;
- Need to have joint policy reviews.

Closing Remarks

There being no other business, the County Executive Committee Member, Ms. Rosemary Maundu closed the meeting and a word of prayer was delivered.

Annexes

Annex IA: Meeting Agenda and Schedule of Activities

Kitui

Session	Description	Resource Person	Session Outcomes
Date: 24th February 2021			
08:30-09:00 AM	Registration and Networking	<i>Kitui County and KIWASH Staff</i>	All participants present to sign an attendance register
09:00-09:20 AM	Opening Prayer Introductions	Priest/Sheikh KIWASH Kitui Staff	All participants present to introduce themselves
09:20-09:40 AM	Introductions and welcoming	Daniel Adero / Patrick Mburu -	Participants know who is in the room
	Remarks by County Representative	Meshack Muthusi – ECM, Kitui County	Official Opening of meeting
09:40-09:50 AM	KIWASH Program Overview	Dan Owore <i>WASH Governance Manager – Eastern Region</i> <i>USAID/Kenya Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Project</i>	Participants get refreshed on KIWASH and its activities
09:50-10:00 AM	About the USAID – Resilience Learning Activity	Kelvin Musikoyo	Participants are conversant with the work done by RLA and how it links to their day-to-day activities
10:00-10:30 AM	Tea Break	Hotel	Refreshments
10:30-11:15 AM	Strengthening County Governments' Accountability, Participation, and Commitments in the WASH sector: Case Study of Kitui and Makueni Counties, Kenya <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key approaches; • Successes; • Lessons Learnt; • Challenges and Mitigations; 	Daniel Adero Knowledge Management and Communications Specialist	<i>Highlight the key approaches implemented and some case stories relating to their projects</i>

Session	Description	Resource Person	Session Outcomes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunities; Recommendations 		
11:15 -11:30 AM	Q&A – Emerging Issues from the case study	Angeline Nduku Mulwa – KIWASH Kitui	Key points or areas for scale-up and strengthening picked from the Case Study
11:30 -12:00 PM	Advocating for long lasting impact – The Governance Policy Brief	Daniel Adero Knowledge Management and Communications Specialist	Present the Policy Brief
12:00 – 12:30 PM	Q&A – Emerging Issues from the case study	Patrick Mburu – WASH, Governance Specialist - Kitui	Next steps on operationalizing the Policy Brief highlighted
12:30 – 1:00 PM	Closing Remarks and Way Forward Vote of Thanks	RLA Representative/KIWASH County Government Rep	Next steps and appreciation of all participating stakeholders
1:00PM -	Lunch and Departure		


Annex 1B: Meeting Agenda and Schedule of Activities

Makueni

Session	Description	Resource Person	Session Outcomes
Date: 25th February 2021			
08:30-09:00 AM	Registration and Networking	<i>Makueni County and KIWASH Staff</i>	All participants present to sign an attendance register
09:00-09:20 AM	Opening Prayer Introductions	Priest/Sheikh KIWASH Makueni Staff	All participants present to introduce themselves
09:20-09:40 AM	Introductions and welcoming	Daniel Adero / Charity Gathuthi	Participants know who is in the room
	Remarks by County Representative	Rosemary Maundu – <i>ECM, Makueni County</i>	Official Opening of meeting
09:40-09:50 AM	KIWASH Program Overview	Dan Owore <i>WASH Governance Manager – Eastern Region - USAID/Kenya</i>	Participants get refreshed on KIWASH and its activities

Session	Description	Resource Person	Session Outcomes
		<i>Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Project</i>	
09:50-10:00 AM	About the USAID – Resilience Learning Activity	Kelvin Musikoyo	Participants are conversant with the work done by RLA and how it links to their day-to-day activities
10:00-10:30 AM	Tea Break	Hotel	Refreshments
10:30-11:15 AM	Strengthening County Governments’ Accountability, Participation, and Commitments in the WASH sector: Case Study of Kitui and Makueni Counties, Kenya <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key approaches; • Successes; • Lessons Learnt; • Challenges and Mitigations; • Opportunities; • Recommendations 	Daniel Adero Knowledge Management and Communications Specialist	<i>Highlight the key approaches implemented and some case stories relating to their projects</i>
11:15 -11:30 AM	Q&A – Emerging Issues from the case study	Alois Muthini David - Service Provider Capacity Building Specialist – KIWASH Makueni	Key points or areas for scale-up and strengthening picked from the Case Study
11:30 -12:00 PM	Advocating for long lasting impact – The Governance Policy Brief	Daniel Adero Knowledge Management and Communications Specialist	Present the Policy Brief
12:00 – 12:30 PM	Q&A – Emerging Issues from the case study	Charity Gathuthi – WASH Governance Specialist – Makueni	Next steps on operationalizing the Policy Brief highlighted
12:30 – 1:00 PM	Closing Remarks and Way Forward Vote of Thanks	RLA Representative/KIWASH County Government Rep	Next steps and appreciation of all participating stakeholders
1:00PM -	Lunch and Departure		

Annex 2: Attendance List

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Annex 3: Presentations

KIWASH	RLA	KIWASH Case Study
 KIWASH overview- Dissemination works	 RLA Program Overview Presentatic	 KIWASH Case Study PowerPoint Presenta



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