



# KENYA

## Water and Sanitation Profile

POPULATION AND HEALTH STATISTICS	
Population (2006)	36.6 million
Proportion of population living in urban areas	21%
Urban/Rural population growth rates (1980-2000)	6.6 / 1.8%
Diarrheal deaths/year (2004)	21,800
Under age 5 mortality rate	120/1000 live births
Under age 5 mortality rate due to diarrheal disease (2000)	16.5%

### SECTOR OVERVIEW

Kenya is a water-scarce country with less than 1,000m<sup>3</sup> per capita of renewable freshwater supplies. 80 percent of Kenya is made up of arid and semi-arid lands. Variability of rainfall in these areas ensures that local populations have limited socio-economic opportunities. As populations soar and livelihoods are threatened by the unsustainable consumption of regional resources, productivity decreases and the potential for conflict over resources increases. This may be particularly important in the Horn of Africa where water security has real economic, social, ecological, and political value.

Water availability helps inform the way in which Kenya approaches water resources management and water supply and sanitation (WSS) service. Kenya's embrace of both water resources management and WSS sector reforms is very promising. Until its recent political setbacks, Kenya appeared to be on track to achieve the water Millennium Development Goal (MDG) of 90 percent water access, though it is off-track to meet its 90 percent target for sanitation access. In 2006, 57 percent of Kenya's 36.6 million people had access to improved drinking water, and 42 percent had access to improved sanitation facilities.

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.

### SECTOR FRAMEWORK

Kenya made major reforms to its WSS services sector through the passage of its 2002 Water Act. The Act was instrumental in decentralizing Kenya's WSS services and creating the institutional framework that exists today. Through the creation of the Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI), the government consolidated the responsibility to develop water resources, policy, and overall sector monitoring functions in MWI, while devolving water service provisions to local water operators. In addition, an independent regulator, the Water Regulatory Services Board (WSRB), was created for the regulation of 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. The seven WSBs cover the whole country and are responsible for asset development and overall responsibility for services. However, direct

WATER AVAILABILITY IN KENYA	
Renewable water resources per capita, m <sup>3</sup> /person/year (1960-2007)	837
Water withdrawals, m <sup>3</sup> /person/year (2000)	51
Projected water resources per capita, m <sup>3</sup> /person/year in 2015	605
Note: 2015 projected water resources per capita is a straight-line regression calculation based on population growth rates with no adjustment for consumption or technology changes	

## KEY AGENCIES

Agency	Description	Contact Information
Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develops national water policy</li> <li>Overall regulation and monitoring of sector</li> </ul>	Fred Mwango jmunyes2002@yahoo.co.uk Charles Koske <a href="mailto:karapkoske@wananchi.com">karapkoske@wananchi.com</a> Tel: +254 046 3197/2733810
Water Services and Regulation Board (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 <a href="mailto:rrkipkorir@yahoo.com">rrkipkorir@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:wrsb_kenya@yahoo.com">wrsb_kenya@yahoo.com</a> 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
Water Services Boards (WSBs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seven WSBs exist at regional level</li> <li>Maintain, plan, develop assets</li> </ul>	
Water Services Providers (WSPs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contracted by WSBs to provide WSS services on performance basis at town/community level</li> <li>Typically owned by local authorities</li> </ul>	
National Water Conservation and Pipeline Corporation (NWPCPC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raw water development and conveyance</li> <li>Drills wells; constructs pipelines and conservation structures</li> </ul>	

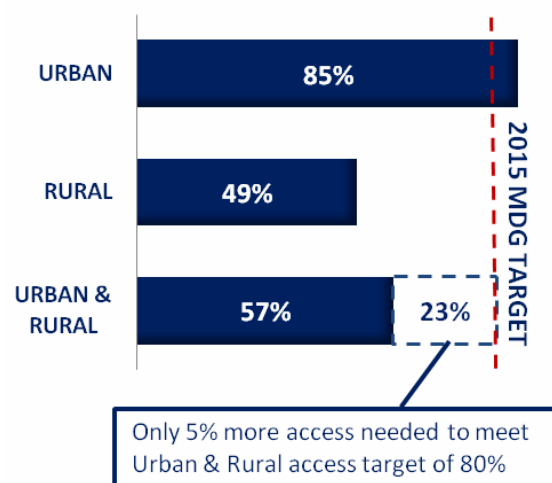
provision of water services is undertaken by Water Service Providers (WSPs) to whom the responsibility is delegated by the WSBs. Still, the WSRB can make exceptions. The WSPs can be community groups, non-governmental organizations, or autonomous entities established by local authorities or other persons. As a result, improvements and expansion of WSS services is beginning to gain traction, but sorely needed financing, local capacity building, and an improved system of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) remain as important next steps.

Multiple new institutions were created under the 2002 Water Act. 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 draft 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. Good M&E will help inform future investment planning and bring transparency to the WSS sector.

## THE URBAN SUB-SECTOR

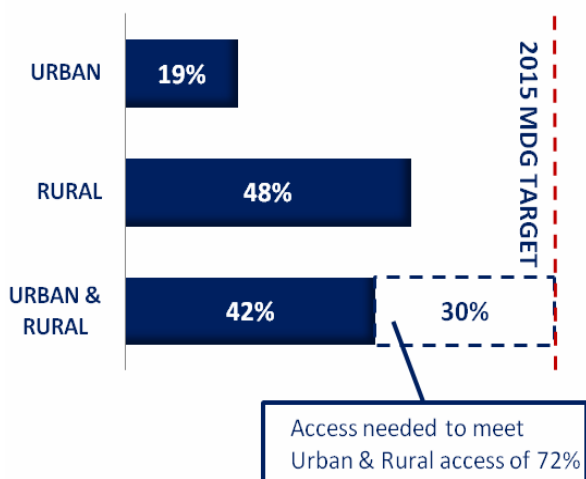
In urban settlements, the WSPs are mostly local authority-owned utilities that have been established recently as commercialized, publicly owned companies. In other areas, community-managed projects are to be transformed into formally recognised WSPs. Community based organizations (CBOs) will retain ownership over their assets and, where possible, remain or become in charge of operations. By 2006, urban areas in Kenya had remarkably greater access to improved drinking water than access to improved sanitation facilities, 85 and 19 percent respectively. Interestingly, water access has fallen by five percent since 1990 due to the shortage of adequate funding to repair or replace rapidly aging infrastructure. To reverse this trend, the

### Meeting MDG 7: Access to Water in 2006



Data Source: UN MDG Indicator Database

### Meeting MDG 7: Access to Sanitation in 2006



Data Source: UN MDG Indicator Database

WSS sector needs to build upon the recent reforms by improving 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. Addressing these issues will help the WSBs/WSPs reduce non-revenue water (estimated at 60 percent), effectively communicate the new WSS service framework to their customers, and create water rate structures that meet revenue requirements. Some cities have effectively implemented strategies, such as Nairobi, but others, like Mombasa, have not delivered on changes and, as a result, have come close to losing their licenses to operate.

Urban sanitation is seriously lacking. To improve the sub-sector, the government is devising a new environmental sanitation and hygiene policy. The policy needs to be finalized and implemented by the ministries of Health and Environment. Without a concerted effort to rehabilitate and expand sanitation facilities, it is unlikely MDGs will be met by 2015. Even if MDGs cannot be met, efforts to simply enforce regulations may curb greater amounts of water pollution and subsequently increase safe drinking water sources.

### 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. Access may 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 countries, WSS service is distributed unequally; the Rift Valley and Lake Victoria South regions have the highest percentage of unserved populations in the country. The Water Act (2002) provided for the creation of a Water Services Trust Fund (WSTF) to assist in financing the provision of water services to areas without adequate water services and a Water Appeal Board (WAB) for resolving certain disputes.

### DONOR INVOLVEMENT

The Government started developing a Sector Wide Approach to Planning (SWAP) in 2006 to harmonize sector planning, implementation mechanisms, and coordination of resources. The Government and the major donors, including the World Bank, the African Development Bank, and the governments of Sweden, France, Germany, and Denmark, have developed a common sector policy framework and strategies, a common sector program (with possibilities for the pooling of resources), and common monitoring systems.

DONOR	ACTIVITIES	CONTACT INFORMATION
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</li> <li>▪ Urban WSS infrastructure upgrades</li> <li>▪ Urban WSS service capacity building in financial management</li> </ul>	Alain Morel (Wash DC) <a href="mailto:amorel@worldbank.org">amorel@worldbank.org</a> Tel: 254-733-602-182 Dennis Mwanza <a href="mailto:dmwanza@worldbank.org">dmwanza@worldbank.org</a> 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>	
GTZ/KfW	<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) <a href="mailto:Joerg.dux@kfw.de">Joerg.dux@kfw.de</a> 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> </ul>	François Gil <a href="mailto:gil@groupe-afd.org">gil@groupe-afd.org</a> 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 <a href="mailto:leihom@um.dk">leihom@um.dk</a>
Water and Sanitation Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support for extending services to the poor</li> </ul>	Rosemary Rop <a href="mailto:rrop@worldbank.org">rrop@worldbank.org</a> Tel: +254 20 322 6317/34

Additional information and sources: Statistics were compiled from the WHOSIS database, WRI-Earthtrends Water Resources and Freshwater Ecosystems database, and the UN MDG Indicators database. Other sources include the 2006 African Development Bank's "Getting Africa on Track to Meet the MDGs in Water Supply and Sanitation," 2007 OECD-Kenya Annual Economic Outlook Report, "A Rapid Assessment of Kenya's Water, Sanitation and Sewerage Framework," Institute of Economic Affairs, June 2007.

This Water and Sanitation Profile was prepared under the **Advancing the Blue Revolution Initiative (ABRI)**. ABRI is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development and addresses some of the most challenging water issues in the Middle East and Africa, including the lack of access by the poor to improved water and sanitation services, inefficient and nonproductive water use, and transboundary river basin management. ABRI works closely with host country governments, actively pursues co-investments from the private sector, reaches out to like-minded foundations, and partners with regional institutions.