



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF WATER AND SANITATION

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR WATER SERVICES

TALKING NOTES FOR THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, PROF. FRED SEGOR, CBS DURING THE NATIONAL SANITATION WORKSHOP HELD AT SAFARI PARK HOTEL ON 12TH - 13TH FEBRUARY 2018.

- ✚ Sanitation plays a central role in sustainable development and improved access to sanitation can break the disease-poverty cycle and therefore contribute immensely to the wider agenda of poverty alleviation. The negative impact of insufficient sanitation services on the productivity of the population is equally huge.
- ✚ Sanitation is one of the most significant advances in preventive medicine. Improved sanitation reduces cholera, worms, diarrhea, pneumonia and malnutrition among others. Although the sanitation situation in rural areas is far from ideal, the health risks in the urban environment, particularly the densely populated informal settlements of the poor- are far higher.
- ✚ Recurring outbreaks of water related epidemics like cholera is evidence of poor sanitation facilities and practices in these areas. Furthermore, the proximity of latrines to shallow wells and other water points, as well as broken sewer systems lead to contamination of both surface and ground water.
- ✚ Kenya with a population of over 45 million faces enormous challenges in providing sustainable access to safe sanitation for its fast-growing population. The rate of urbanization in Kenya is tremendous and leads to an increasing number of 'sanitation

hotspots'. These hotspots are usually in the settlements of the "urban poor" otherwise known as slums.

- ↓ The constitution of Kenya 2010 recognizes sanitation as a human right. Article 43(b) states ***"Every person has the right to accessible and adequate housing and to reasonable standards of sanitation"***
- ↓ At national level, the Ministry of Water and Irrigation^{Sanitation} is responsible for developing policy, strategy, standards and providing general oversight for sewerage development in the country.
- ↓ The county governments are responsible for provision of sewerage and sanitation services. (this includes sanitation in public places)
- ↓ The National Water Masterplan 2030 developed in 2013 has elaborated Sanitation development plans to be implemented up to 2030. This includes development of sewerage systems in 95 urban centers in Kenya (currently 30 urban centers have sewerage systems)
- ↓ The Water Act 2016 makes a provision for imposing a sewerage service levy on all water services within a licensee area to cover some costs of disposing of the water supplied within those limits.
- ↓ In recognition of the past shortcomings, the Government of Kenya has vigorously embarked on the implementation of various strategies with particular focus on pro-poor interventions in sanitation in order to fast-track access to sanitation services for the underserved population.
- ↓ The Ministry continues to plan and mobilize funding for sewerage development in urban centres. Currently the sewerage coverage in urban areas is estimated at about 15%.

✚ The target for 2030 is that 80% of the population in urban areas will have access to sewerage. The estimated cost for this is Kshs 480 billion¹. This calls for innovative financing methods if universal access to sanitation is to be achieved as no one institution is able to fund such a budget.

✚ Currently the Ministry is in the initial stages of developing a National Water Services Strategy of which sanitation will be a key area to be addressed. Other interventions include expansion of sewerage in Nairobi, Mombasa, Kisumu, Kiserian, Narok and Nakuru. The Water Sector Trust Fund through the Upscaling Basic Sanitation for the Urban Poor(UBSUP) project and in collaboration with the Water Services Providers continues to provide onsite ^{non-sewer} solutions for the urban poor.

✚ The planned investments will contribute to achievement of **SDG 6**, in particular Indicator 6.2 on sanitation. According to the national baseline data, the proportion of the population using safely managed sanitation services is **20%** while basic sanitation is **5%**, about **22.8%** is shared. In total about **48%** have access to improved sanitation.

✚ The proposed Technical assistance ^{by the World Bank} will go a long way and in supporting Kenya to tackle the sanitation challenges both in the rural and urban areas.

* 28 towns followup
ADB →

¹ NWP 2030

