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MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR WATER AND SANITATION

IMPLEMENTATION OF THWAKE MULTIPURPOSE WATER  
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (TMWDP) PHASE I CIVIL AND ASSOCIATED  
WORKS

# TMWDP STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN (SEP)



MAY 2025



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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

**AfDB:** African Development Bank  
**CGGC:** China Ghezouba Group Corporation  
**CHP:** Community Health Plan  
**CS:** Cabinet Secretary  
**CSR:** Corporate Social Responsibility  
**EPP:** Emergency Preparedness and Planning  
**EIA:** Environmental Impact Assessment  
**EMCA:** Environment Management and Coordination Act  
**ESIA:** Environmental and Social Impact Assessment  
**ESMP:** Environmental and Social Management Plan  
**GBV:** Gender-Based Violence  
**GRM:** Grievance Redress Mechanism  
**GOK:** Government of Kenya  
**HIA:** Health Impact Assessment  
**ISS:** Integrated Safeguard System  
**IWRM:** Integrated Water Resources Management  
**KPIs:** Key Performance Indicators  
**M&E:** Monitoring & Evaluation  
**MOWSI:** Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation  
**NEMA:** National Environmental Management Authority  
**NLC:** National Land Commission  
**NT:** National Treasury  
**NPSC:** National Program Steering Committee  
**PAPs:** Project Affected Persons  
**PE:** Project Engineer  
**PIT:** Program Implementation Team  
**PPE:** Personal Protective Equipment  
**PS:** Principal Secretary  
**RAP:** Resettlement Action Program  
**SACCO:** Savings and Credit Co-operative Society  
**SEP:** Stakeholder Engagement Plan  
**SHEA:** Sexual Harassment, Exploitation and Abuse  
**SMEC:** Snowy Mountain Engineering Company  
**TMWDP:** Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program  
**WSIP:** Water Sector Investment Plan  
**WS:** Water Secretary  
**WRUA:** Water Resources Users Association

## **GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

**Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP):** SEP is a useful tool for managing communications with the project stakeholders. The goal of this SEP is to improve and facilitate decision-making and create an atmosphere of understanding that actively involves project-affected people and other stakeholders promptly, and that these groups are provided sufficient opportunity to voice their opinions and concerns that may influence Project decisions.

**Stakeholder:** Refers to individuals or groups who: (a) are affected or likely to be affected by the project (project-affected parties), and (b) may get involved directly or/and have an interest in the project (other interested parties).

**Primary Stakeholders:** These are individuals or groups within the organization, such as employees, managers, and owners.

**Secondary Stakeholders:** These include individuals or groups outside the organization, such as customers, suppliers, investors, community members, and government agencies.

**Stakeholder engagement:** It is a continuous process used by the project to engage relevant stakeholders to generate a sense of ownership of the project and for a clear purpose to achieve accepted outcomes. It includes a range of activities and interactions over the life of the project such as stakeholder identification and analysis, information disclosure, stakeholder consultation, negotiations and partnerships, grievance management, stakeholder involvement in project monitoring, reporting to stakeholders, and management functions. It includes both state and non-state actors.

**List of Stakeholders:** Identified all individuals, groups, or organizations affected by or interested in the project.

**Stakeholder Analysis:** Assess their interests, influence, and potential impact on the project.

**Analyze Stakeholders:** Assess their level of interest, influence, and potential impact on the project.

**Engagement Strategy:** This is the approach used to engage with each stakeholder group involved in the course of implementation of Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program

**Implement Engagement Activities:** Carry out the planned activities and maintain regular communication.

**Enhanced Communication:** Ensures clear and consistent communication with all stakeholders

**Affected Household:** All members of a household, residing under one roof and operating as a single economic unit that is adversely affected by the Project or any of its components. The household can include a single nuclear family or an extended family group.

**Project Affected Persons/People:** (also Project Affected People or PAPs) - any person affected by Project related activities which cause changes in use, or access to land, water, natural resources, or in some circumstances, can lead to loss of income and/or changes in livelihood.

**Compensation:** a payment in kind, cash, or other assets given in exchange for the taking of land, loss of other types of assets (including fixed assets), or loss of livelihood resulting from project activities.

**Land Acquisition:** Refers to all methods of obtaining land for project purposes, which may include outright purchase, expropriation of property, and acquisition of access rights, such as easements or rights of way. Land acquisition may also include: (a) acquisition of unoccupied or unutilized land whether or not the landholder relies upon such land for income or livelihood purposes; (b) repossession of public land that is used or occupied by individuals or households; and (c) project impacts that result in land being submerged or otherwise rendered unusable or inaccessible.

**Land:** includes anything growing on or permanently affixed to land, such as crops, buildings, and other improvements, and appurtenant water bodies.

**Program:** Refers to the Government of Kenya's and African Development Bank (AfDB) funded Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program Phase 1, a flagship program under Vision 2030 of the Government of Kenya (GOK). The program aims to fulfill the long-term country's development ambition in the areas of water, energy, and agriculture.

**Grievance Redress Mechanism:** It is a mechanism that has been developed for potential use by project stakeholders to achieve mutually agreed resolutions for their grievances. It ensures that complaints and grievances are addressed through a transparent and impartial process.

**Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs):** A non-governmental organization (NGO) is a group that functions independently of any government. It is usually non-profit. NGOs, sometimes called civil society organizations, are established on community, national, and international levels to serve a social or political goal such as a humanitarian cause or the protection of the environment.

**Partnerships:** In the context of engagement, partnerships are defined as collaboration between people and organizations to achieve a common goal and often share resources and competencies, risks, and benefits.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **Project Background**

The Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program (TMWDP) aims to enhance water supply, sanitation, and irrigation in the rural parts of counties of Makueni, Kitui, and parts of Machakos, thereby fostering sustainable development and improving the quality of life for local communities. A crucial component of this Government initiative is the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), designed to promote effective communication, collaboration, and participation among all stakeholders involved in or affected by the program. This Stakeholder Engagement Plan sets guidelines, procedures, and considerations that the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program and the Kenyan Government through the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation make when interacting with its diverse audiences and the communities neighboring the Dam. The successful implementation of the plan will ensure effective communication, a strong corporate brand, and ultimately a positive image and reputation among both internal and external stakeholders.

The Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program (TMWDP) is a flagship Program under Vision 2030 of the Government of Kenya and a key Project under the Government's Economic Transformation Agenda for Inclusive Growth (BETA). The dam is located at the confluence of the rivers Athi and Thwake in Makueni and Kitui Counties and has a distance of about 180 km southeast of Nairobi. Its coordinates are 1°46'0" S and 37°43'0" E in DMS (Degrees Minutes Seconds) or -1.76667 and 37.7167 (in decimal degrees). The dam is accessible from Wote Town in Makueni County through an earth road to the Mavindini shopping centre. The dam is also accessible from the Kitui side by earth road from Kwa-Vonza, Kiusyani – Kanyangi road. The dam reservoir will physically cover an area of 2,900 Hectares spanning from the embankment to about 12 Km upstream and an estimated catchment area of 10,276 square km<sup>2</sup>. The catchment area covers about 35% arable and 65% semi-arable land.

The project started in 2018; the first phase is 94.2% complete by the time of preparing this SEP. However, there were changes in the original dam design after the completion of detailed designs in phase one of the project. The changes include increasing the dam height by 3 metres (from 77.5m to 80.5m), constructing one spillway instead of two spillways, and constructing two saddle dams, one in Kitui and the other in Makueni County. This SEP intends to give a strategic and detailed communications implementation plan for delivering any strategic message to a target audience as a way to drive a positive business result for the project.

The TMWDP Stakeholders Engagement Plan identifies the key project stakeholders and outlines how they will be reached to best engage them in all phases of project development. This Plan will enable the Ministry of Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation to create a strong framework for building relationships with internal and external parties. This SEP will enable

TMWDP to raise awareness and evaluate how key stakeholders receive the messages. The general objectives of the SEP include: the identification and mapping of TMWDP key stakeholders and their interests, providing a structured approach to communication and information sharing to the TMWDP key stakeholders, gathering and integrating TMWDP stakeholder feedback into project planning and implementation and identification of potential risks associated with TMWDP stakeholder engagement and outline mitigation measures.

### **General Objectives of Stakeholder Engagement Plan**

The general objectives of this Stakeholder Engagement Plan include the following;

- i. To identify and map TMWDP key stakeholders and their interests.
- ii. To provide a structured approach for engagement, communication, and information sharing to the TMWDP key stakeholders
- iii. To gather and integrate TMWDP stakeholder feedback into project planning and implementation
- iv. To identify potential risks associated with TMWDP stakeholder engagement and outline mitigation measures.

### **Specific Objectives of Stakeholder Engagement Plan:**

Specific Objectives of this Stakeholder Engagement Plan include the following;

- i. To define the main TMWDP stakeholders who might have a role in the dam project;
- ii. To define the main social groups impacted by the TMWDP project and how to involve them in the process of disclosure of information, and management of the impacts;
- iii. To define the roles and the responsibilities of the implementing agency (Ministry of Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation) in the communication and disclosure of the TMWDP project impact, mitigation measures, and other safeguards activities;
- iv. To clarify the grievances redress mechanism that is applied to the TMWDP project;
- v. Identify the most effective methods and structures through which to disseminate project information, and to ensure regular, accessible, transparent, and appropriate consultation with TMWDP stakeholders;
- vi. Guide the TMWDP Project to build mutually respectful, beneficial, and lasting relationships with stakeholders;
- vii. Define reporting and monitoring measures to ensure the effectiveness of the SEP and periodical reviews of the SEP based on findings.

### **Purpose of the SEP**

The primary purpose of the TMWDP SEP is to foster effective communication and collaboration between the project team and stakeholders, including Project Affected Persons (PAPs), government agencies, non-governmental organizations, community groups, and other

relevant parties. By proactively engaging stakeholders, the project seeks to minimize conflicts, enhance project benefits, and build trust among all involved.

### **Legal and Policy Framework**

The SEP will be guided by various national regulatory and policy frameworks including but not limited to the Constitution of Kenya (2010), Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA) (1999), Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (2003), Land Act (2012), Physical Planning Act (1996), Water Act (2016), The National Land Commission Act (2012), The National Environment Policy (2013), Kenya Vision 2030, National Water Policy (2018), Water Act (2016), National Sanitation and Hygiene Policy (2007), National Water Harvesting and Storage Policy (2011), National Environment Policy (NEP) (2013), The African Development Bank (AfDB) integrated Safeguards System (ISS).

The African Development Bank Group adopted the Integrated Safeguards System (ISS), updated in 2023, which established the Bank Group's commitment to sustainable development. The safeguards are relevant in that the project triggers OS1, which requires an ESIA for projects classified as high-risk. Further, under OS5, the land acquisition and displacement processes have been implemented within Kenyan legislation, and AfDB safeguards policies and guidelines for resettlement. The project also triggers OS7 by recognizing vulnerable groups as stakeholders. This standard focuses on ensuring the needs and rights of vulnerable populations are recognized in the project. The AfDB OS10 (Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure) emphasizes the importance of open engagement with stakeholders and disclosing all project information to stakeholders. A participatory approach discloses relevant project information at stakeholder engagement forums. This policy is triggered in the stakeholder engagements previously conducted and in future meetings. Pertinent information about the project's progress will be disclosed to stakeholders.

### **Environmental and Social Issues**

The following are the environmental issues associated with the dam development call for stakeholder engagement.

*Air Pollution* – The project leads to increased dust and emissions in the air from vehicles transporting material. This can be mitigated by conducting periodic air quality surveys.

*Noise and Blasting Operations:* These are the effects of blasting activities and heavy vehicle and equipment movement on the community and infrastructure.

*Water Pollution Control* - Contamination of water sources around Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program due to agricultural runoff, industrial discharges, or inadequate sanitation practices

*Workplace Safety and Health:* Prevention measures implemented at the site to address accidents and injuries incidents.

*Flooding and Evacuation:* There is a lack of preparedness measures in case of heavy rains. Dam break awareness and sensitization process will be carried out in the target-affected downstream communities.

*Water Resources Management Conflicts:* These are likely due to competition for water for different uses. This can be mitigated by ensuring equitable allocation and sustainable water use, especially downstream of the dam.

*Biodiversity Conservation and Ecosystem Degradation:* These include potential impacts on local ecosystems and biodiversity as a result of water extraction and infrastructure development. There will be a need for the conservation of natural habitats and the protection of flora and fauna that may be affected during dam construction.

*Climate Change Resilience:* These include the impacts of climate change on water resources, including altered precipitation patterns and increased severity of droughts or floods. The impacts can be reduced by the adoption of mitigation and adaptation strategies, to enhance community resilience.

*Water Flow Regime Changes -* Seasonal variations of River Athi water flows due to regulated dam releases may alter the river morphology and the downstream ecosystem.

*Waste Management –* This includes handling the liquid and solid wastes emanating from construction and operational activities due to dam development.

*Human-Wildlife Conflicts* including risks related to hippos and crocodiles.

### **Social-economic Issues**

*Land Acquisition and Compensation:* Ensuring fair compensation for Project Affected Persons.

*Livelihood Restoration:* Supporting economic recovery for displaced communities.

*Community Health and Safety:* Addressing risks such as increased health issues arising from the project implementation.

*Employment and Economic Opportunities:* Promoting local hiring and enterprise support.

*Gender and Social Inclusion:* Ensuring equal opportunities for women, youth, and marginalized groups.

*Cultural Heritage Protection:* Preserving indigenous knowledge and sites, including the ‘Chance Find’ procedure for archaeological discoveries.

*HIV/AIDS, Gender-Based Violence (GBV), and Sexual Harassment (SHEA):* Prevention and response within the project and community.

*Access to Water Points:* Ensuring the continued availability of water for affected communities.

*Community Livelihoods* - Assessing how water development initiatives might affect local livelihoods, particularly those dependent on agriculture, fishing, and tourism.

### **Stakeholders Identification**

The stakeholders were identified depending on the level of influence and interest. The identified stakeholders relevant to the dam development project include the project-affected persons (PAPs), the local communities, employees or workers, and vulnerable groups like the elderly, children, women, and persons with disability. Also included are the National and County Governments of Makueni and Kitui. ‘Interested parties’- include individuals or groups whose interests may be affected by the project and who have the potential to influence the project outcomes in any way such as Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), NGOs, civil society organizations, faith-based organizations, civil society organizations, opinion leaders in the project area, the media, other government agencies, the financier and the private sector.

### **Stakeholder Engagement**

The project has been engaging and will continue engaging the stakeholders through community meetings, multi-stakeholder workshops, and field visits, to facilitate discussions to gather input on local environmental and social issues, concerns, and expectations related to the program. Community meetings are held regularly in Makueni and Kitui Counties such as Mavindini and Kanyangi to inform residents about the project progress, and scope, including the dam’s potential benefits (water supply, irrigation, hydropower) and risks (displacement, environmental changes). Local leaders, community members, and Project Affected Persons (PAPs) are usually invited. Stakeholder Workshops include representatives from government agencies (e.g., Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, National Environment Management Authority), NGOs, technical experts, religious leaders, etc.

### **Stakeholder Communication Methods**

The project employs several methods of stakeholder communication such as public meetings and community forums, organized high-level site visits and tours by senior government officials, workshops and technical consultations, supervision missions and bilateral meetings, community outreach and social investment initiatives, media updates, and public disclosures, focus group discussions (FGDs).

## **Information Disclosure and Communication Strategy**

The Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program (TMWDP) Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) is a critical component of the project's framework, designed to ensure transparency, inclusivity, and effective communication with all stakeholders involved. Information disclosure for the TMWDP follows international best practices, such as those recommended by the AfDB, and is aligned with Kenyan regulations and policies, ensuring stakeholders are informed about project progress, impacts, and opportunities. The project uses disclosure methods such as community meetings that involve local engagement sessions in Makueni and Kitui counties that allow direct interactions with project management and the Program Implementation Team (PIT), project progress reports, magazines, and the official website. The TMWDP portal provides updates, success stories, and program details. Additionally media releases, for example, statements from government officials and media coverage ensure broad reach; technical summaries and supervision mission findings are shared with relevant stakeholders through TMWDP Social Media Platforms (X; @ThwakeWater); Facebook ([www.facebook.com/ThwakeWater](http://www.facebook.com/ThwakeWater)) and YouTube [www.youtube.com/@thwakemulti-purposewaterde979](http://www.youtube.com/@thwakemulti-purposewaterde979).

## **Grievance Redress Mechanism**

Mechanisms to redress grievances are a pre-requisite for large infrastructure interventions where people's key economic productive assets are acquired for a public purpose. The objectives are to ensure timely and transparent resolution of grievances related to land acquisition and project activities; to provide an accessible and fair process for affected parties and to strengthen trust between stakeholders and the project authorities. The existing GRM includes a Community level GRC constituted of 4 No. representatives of the local administration; 2 No. Community Liaison officers and 1No. EHS officer. The Grievance Redress Committee for the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program plays a vital role in ensuring stakeholder voices are heard and addressed effectively. By focusing on transparency, efficiency, and continuous improvement, the GRC contributes to the overall success and sustainability of the project, fostering a collaborative environment between all stakeholders. Similarly, a worker's GRC exists.

Grievances raised by stakeholders are managed through a transparent process, readily acceptable to all segments of affected communities and other stakeholders, at no cost and without retribution. The grievances are submitted via complaints through the local chief offices; written complaints (anonymous); community meetings where grievances are formally recorded; approaching the community liaison team who are available. Each grievance must be recorded in a Grievance Log Register, including complainant details (if provided); date of submission; nature of the complaint; status (pending/in progress/resolved); actions taken, and resolution timeline. If resolved, the case is closed and if unresolved, it moves to management.

## **Monitoring and Reporting**

The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) process for the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program is essential for assessing the program's effectiveness, ensuring accountability, and guiding decision-making. M&E is a systematic approach designed to ensure effective tracking of progress and impact, facilitate stakeholder engagement, and enable adaptive management. By focusing on data-driven decision-making and continuous learning, the program aims to achieve its goals sustainably and inclusively. The process is done through the preparation of annual and quarterly reports addressing areas of engagement such as compensation of Projects Affected Persons, resettlement process, terms and conditions of employment, and grievances management. A feedback mechanism is deployed to provide an avenue of giving feedback to all stakeholders on the process resolving issues raised by stakeholders during the engagement process.

Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Reports that cover issues raised and actions taken – through annual Environmental and Social Performance Reviews with key stakeholders' feedback loops to refine engagement strategies and address concerns.

Various key performance indicators to monitor the implementation of SEP have been developed; including the number of public hearings, consultation meetings, and other public discussions/forums conducted within a reporting period (e.g. monthly, quarterly, or annually). Additionally, the frequency of public engagement activities; geographical coverage of public engagement activities; number of participants in different engagement activities (where applicable); newly identified stakeholders; and number of locations covered by the consultation process are also included.

## **Conclusion and Recommendation**

### **Conclusion**

The TMWDP Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) provides a comprehensive framework for ensuring continuous and meaningful stakeholder participation throughout the project lifecycle. It emphasizes building strong relationships, fostering collaboration, and achieving sustainable outcomes. The SEP will foster effective communication and collaboration between the project team and stakeholders, including Project Affected Persons (PAPs), government agencies, non-governmental organizations, community groups, and other relevant parties. By proactively engaging stakeholders, the project will minimize conflicts, enhance project benefits, and build trust among all involved. The key components include monitoring and evaluation processes, and ensuring equitable representation and participation of all genders. The SEP will include regular reporting and documentation to enhance transparency and accountability. Special efforts will be made to ensure inclusivity and address capacity gaps through targeted stakeholder training programs.

### **Recommendation**

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*TMWDP Stakeholder Engagement Plan 2025*

The implementation of this Stakeholder Engagement Plan is essential for this Project. Notably, the SEP requires special attention to achieve its objective. M&E expert needs to expand M&E tools to include monitoring.

## **CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION**

The Government of Kenya through the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation and with financial support from the African Development Bank (AfDB) is implementing Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program Phase 1. Thwake Multipurpose Dam is a flagship project of Vision 2030 aligned with the Government's Bottom Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) and whose overall objective is to fulfill the long-term country's development ambition in the areas of water, energy, and agriculture. It will also provide regulation of flows on the Athi River downstream of the dam for flood control and drought mitigation.

The Ministry is currently implementing phase 1 of the Program which involves construction of Concrete Face Rockfill Dam (CFRD) at the confluence of Athi and Thwake rivers in Makueni and Kitui counties with a storage capacity of 688 million m<sup>3</sup>. The Implementation of the program is geared towards the realization of universal access to water sanitation and food security in accordance with Articles 43 (b), (c), and (d) of the Kenyan Constitution.

The completion of the Thwake dam construction and implementation of downstream components is critical to the realization of the semi-arid eastern region (area) economic viability through the harnessing of run-off during the rains. Subsequent release of the waters for various uses in Makueni and Kitui counties among them water supply of 150,000 m<sup>3</sup>/day to 1.3 million people including water supply to Konza Techno City in Machakos county, generation of 20MW hydropower to boost water supply and distribution, and supply water from the dam for irrigation of 100,000 acres downstream of the dam.

A crucial component of this Government initiative is the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), designed to promote effective communication, collaboration, and participation among all stakeholders involved in, affected by, or interested in Phase 1 of the program. This Stakeholder Engagement Plan sets guidelines, procedures, and considerations that the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program and the Kenyan Government through the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation make when interacting with its diverse audiences and the communities neighboring the dam. The TMWDP Stakeholders Engagement Plan involves learning about the key project stakeholders, and how to reach them using strategic messaging and channels. This Plan will enable the Ministry of Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation to create a strong framework for building relationships with internal and external parties. It provides a detailed outline that demonstrates what the project and Ministry want to say, who they want to say it to, and when and how they want to say it. It is useful for providing consistent updates about TMWDP.

## **1.1 Program Objectives**

The objective of the program is to provide water supply for domestic use, livestock, irrigation, hydropower, and industrial activities within the counties of Makueni and Kitui and to the development of Konza City. The dam will store water from the seasonal Thwake River and overflow from the permanent Athi River. It will also provide regulation of flows on River Athi downstream of the dam for flood control and drought mitigation.

## **1.2 Program Description and Components**

Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program is implemented in four phases namely:

- Phase 1; Construction of an 80.5m high multi-purpose dam with a storage capacity of 688 million cubic metres and associated auxiliary works; located one kilometre downstream of the confluence of Thwake and Athi Rivers. It is a concrete-faced rock-filled embankment dam covering an area of around 9,217 acres with a catchment spanning about 10,276 km<sup>2</sup>;
- Phase 2; Development of a hydropower generating system with an installed capacity of approximately 20 MW;
- Phase 3; Development of Water Supply, Sanitation & Wastewater Infrastructure to supply an estimated 150,000 m<sup>3</sup>/day of treated water to approximately 1.3million people drawn from the rural and urban areas of Kitui and Makueni Counties and Konza Techno City in Machakos County;
- Phase 4; Development of an Irrigation Scheme to irrigate 40,000 hectares (approx. 100,000 acres) of land.

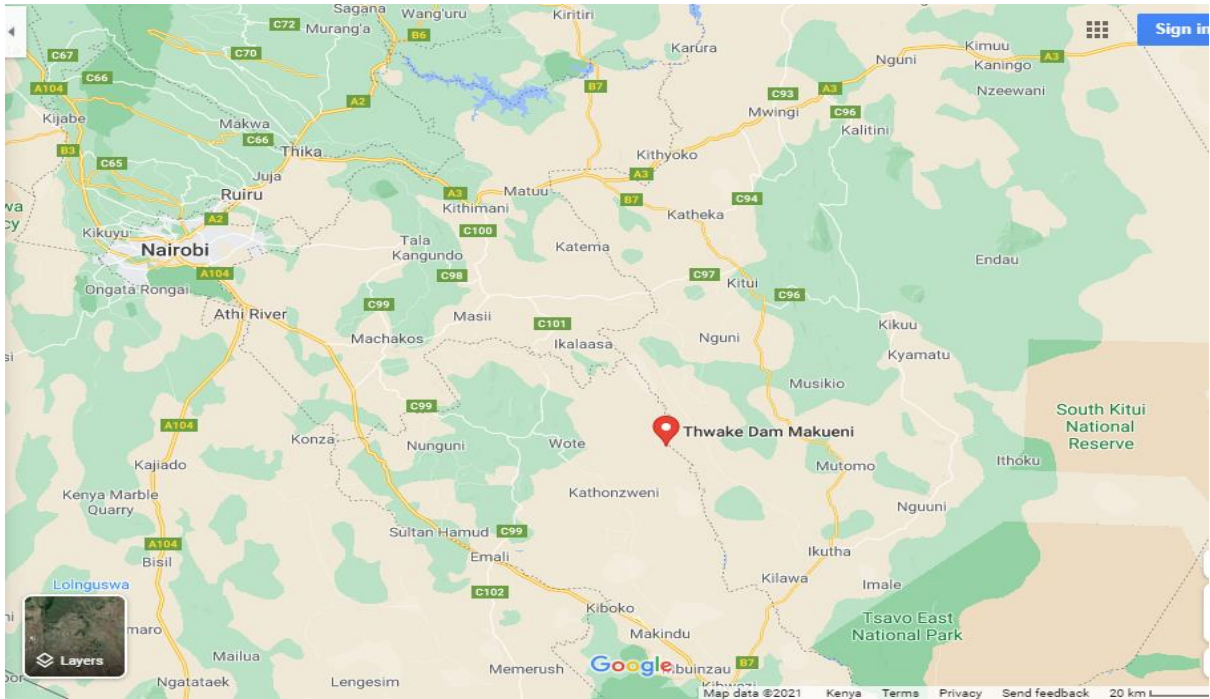


Figure 1: Physical Location of Thwake Multipurpose Dam

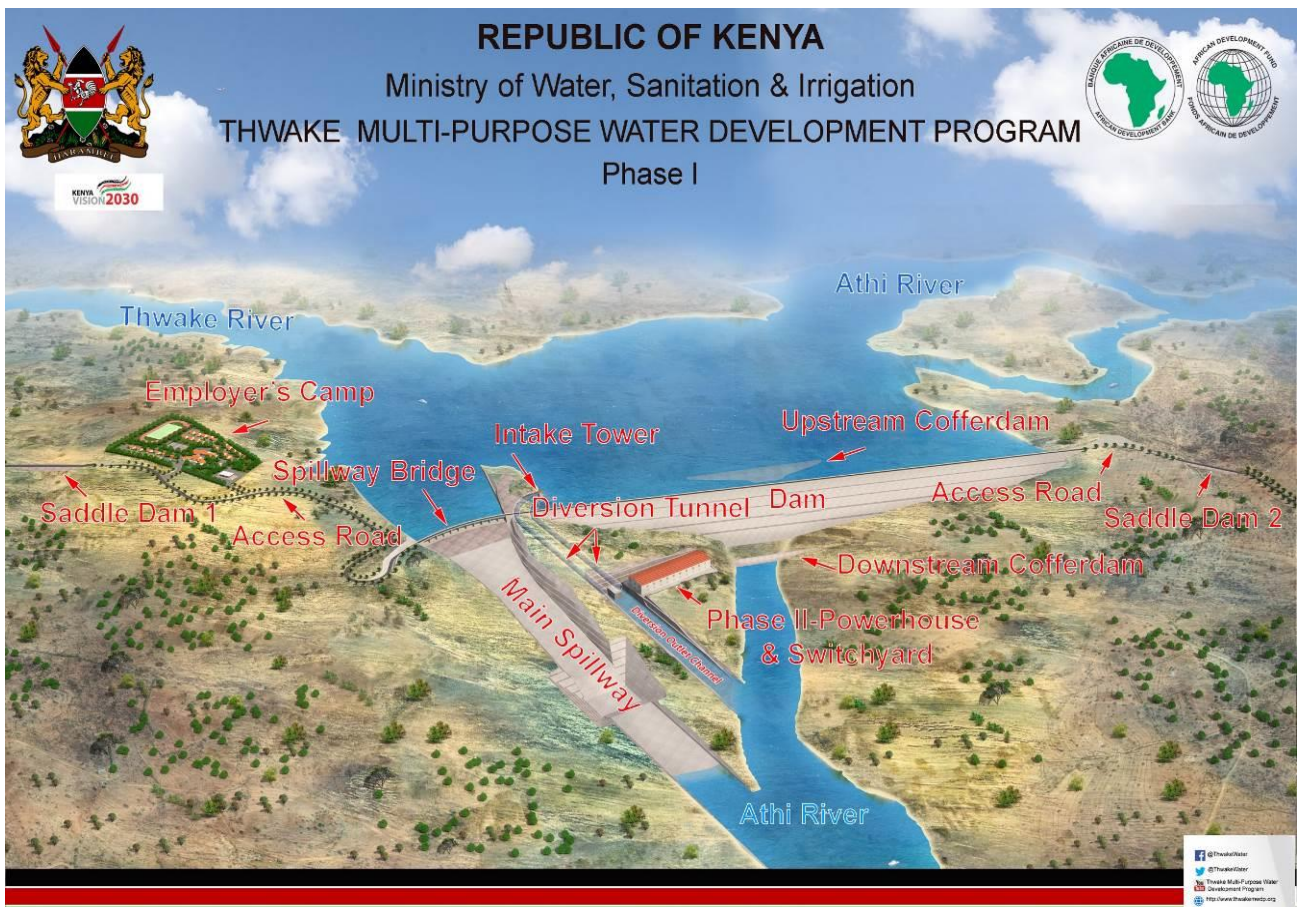


Figure 2: Thwake Multipurpose Dam Layout and Salient Features

### 1.3 Initial Components and Change in Dam Design

The Thwake Dam, officially part of the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program (TMWDP) in Kenya, has undergone several design considerations and modifications since its conceptualization. Located at the confluence of the Athi and Thwake Rivers on the border of Makueni and Kitui counties, this flagship project aims to provide water supply, hydropower, and irrigation to benefit over 1.3 million people in the semi-arid Lower Eastern region. Below is an overview of its initial components and notable changes in its design.

#### 1.3.1 Initial Components

The TMWDP was envisioned as a four-phase project, with Phase 1 focusing on constructing the dam itself. The initial design components for the dam included:

##### 1. Dam Structure:

A rock-fill dam with a concrete face, approximately 77.5 meters high. Storage capacity of 688 million cubic meters (MCM), intended to regulate flows on the Athi River for flood control, drought mitigation, and water storage.

Crest elevation at 920.5 meters above sea level, with a length spanning about 1.5 kilometres.

##### 2. Multipurpose Functionality:

**Water Supply:** Allocated 34 MCM for domestic and livestock use in rural areas of Makueni, Kitui, and parts of Machakos, plus supply to Konza Technopolis.

**Hydropower:** Planned for 20–23 megawatts of generation capacity in later phases.

**Irrigation:** Designed to support upstream (22 MCM) and downstream (625 MCM) irrigation, eventually covering 40,000 hectares.

**Flood and Drought Mitigation:** Regulation of downstream flows on the Athi River.

##### 3. Associated Infrastructure:

- Main and emergency spillways to manage excess water flow.
- Intake tower and low-level outlet for water release and management.
- Two diversion tunnels (700 meters long, 12 meters in diameter) to reroute the Athi River during construction, capable of handling 11,480 cubic meters of water per second.

- Access roads and a bridge connecting Kitui and Makueni counties over the dam.

### **1.3.2 Changes in Thwake Dam Design**

Over time, the design and execution of the Thwake Dam have seen adjustments driven by technical, environmental, and financial factors. The key changes include:

#### **1. Height Adjustments and its Implications**

The CAS consultant's design had a height of 77.5 meters, but the finalized design increased it to 80.5 meters after the completion of detailed hydrological and technical designs in 2018. This change was aimed at optimizing storage capacity and avoiding flood over-topping.

Due to the increase in the height of the dam by 3 m to EL 920.5 m, it was necessary to build two low-lying saddle dams one to the left and right of the main embankment. The saddle to the left of the embankment was originally the site of the Emergency Spillway in the tender design and has a minimum surface level of EL 918 m. The saddle to the right is approximately 1500 m to the WSW of the embankment with a minimum surface level of EL 917 m. The saddle dam to the right of the main embankment has been named Saddle Dam 1 (250m) and to the left Saddle Dam 2 (200m). The saddle dams meet the same MFL level as the main embankment and include suitable freeboard for wind set-up and wave run-up.

The spillway chute alignment and chute profile, presented in the Tender Design, were modified in the final design to take into consideration the following factors:

- Removal of the Emergency Spillway.
- Topography.
- Geotechnical information.
- “Fan” shape contraction; and
- Chute hydraulics

The final spillway arrangement consists of:

- i. A 235 m ungated concrete spillway crest on the right abutment of the dam. The final spillway crest will have eleven, 20 m wide bays from previous designs indicated twelve 12.5m wide ones, each will be separated by 1.5 m wide piers. A type 3 spillway pier nose was adopted from the previous type 1.
- ii. A 10 m wide bridge over the spillway structure i.e. Bridge Deck: A 10m wide bridge will be built across the spillway bays to allow vehicle access above the spillway. The spillway bridge will provide a 7m nominal width for the access road, separate width for the pedestrian walkway will be provided on the upstream and downstream sides. Pre-stressed concrete T-beams were considered for the deck. The soffit level of the beams was selected to ensure that the beams would not obstruct flows through the bays during severe floods. A concrete parapet wall will be provided on the upstream side of the deck to serve the freeboard requirements.

- iii. A concrete chute tapered from the spillway crest to a minimum width of 100m with 6m high chute walls: A spillway chute will be tapered from the spillway crest length (L=235 m) to a 100 m, approximately 270 m upstream from flip bucket invert level. Most of the chute slab will be founded on sound rock. A layer of low-strength concrete (15 MPa) will be used as dental concrete and as a leveling screed (blinding concrete). The chute slab was divided into several panels by an array of longitudinal and transverse construction joints. A surface groove will be provided at each joint to reduce cavitation effects.
- iv. A flip bucket at the chute end: Based on the tail-water curves, the flip bucket invert level was set at EL 850.00 (lip level at EL 851.81). A radius of 30 m was selected for the chute flip bucket with exit angles of 20°. The angle has been chosen as an initial estimate to promote adequate flow dispersal to spread the impact energy of the water jet. The final arrangement of the flip bucket shall be determined during a physical hydraulic model study.

The design envisages that the flip bucket structure will be socketed into sound rock. Rock anchors will be provided beneath the flip bucket as well as the chute. This is an important consideration since the bucket will be subjected to large hydrodynamic forces brought about by the centrifugal force created by the change in the direction of the flow. Small drainpipes will be installed at the invert level of the bucket to allow the structure to be drained when the spillway is dry. Due to their potential for cavity damage, floor drains will be avoided, and drainage will be provided laterally through the sidewalls.

- v. A plunge pool terminal structure; The plunge pool will be pre-excavated approximately to EL 823.50 (16 m below riverbed level). The upstream slope of the plunge pool will be protected with a concrete slab, anchored to the rock to prevent undermining of the flip bucket during high-frequency floods, and
- vi. Discharge channel to the river.

Thwake Dam is classified as a “High” hazard dam, as such the Inflow Design Flood (IDF) is equal to the PMF, and the spillway must have sufficient capacity to pass the PMF with an allowance for freeboard to the dam crest. The allowance of freeboard is a particular requirement for embankment dams, which is not necessarily required for concrete dams due to their ability to sustain some overtopping without failure. The DSPE deemed the dam to be an ‘Extreme’ hazard. To accommodate this condition, the spillway structure was therefore designed to safely pass a PMF event (inflow of 11,480 m<sup>3</sup>/s).

## **2. Capacity and Cost Revisions:**

The settled figure of 688 MCM reflects refined hydrological modeling to balance water needs and flood risks. Costs escalated from an early estimate of Sh37 billion to Sh49 billion, partly due to expanded scope and inflation.

## **3. Construction Timeline and Phasing:**

The original completion target for Phase 1 was November 2022, but delays due to foundation challenges and supply restrictions of explosives during COVID-19 extended this to December 2024. The new completion date is being analyzed. The work reached 94% completion by early 2025, but full completion is still outstanding.

#### **4. Environmental Considerations:**

Upstream pollution concerns (e.g., industrial discharge and sewage into the Athi River) prompted conservation efforts by the Government on clean up of both Nairobi and Athi Rivers to improve the quality of water reaching the Dam.

##### **1.3.3 Implications of Dam Design and Scope Changes**

In summary, the Thwake Dam's initial design centered on a multipurpose rock-fill structure with a clear water-energy-agriculture focus. Changes have largely been incremental—adjusting height, and capacity while grappling with external pressures like funding and environmental factors. The core vision remains unchanged.

##### **1.3.4 Objective of Stakeholder Engagement Plan**

This SEP sets out a strategic and detailed engagement and communication implementation plan for delivering any strategic message to a target audience as a way to drive a positive business result for the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program. This covers both external and internal communication. It defines what information should be communicated to the community and other stakeholders, who should receive that information when that information should be delivered, where (e.g., email, newspaper, radio, social media, mail) how and which communication will be shared.

By the execution of this Stakeholder Engagement Plan, the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program will achieve its engagement and communications objectives in a Specific, Measurable, Actionable, Relevant, and Timely (S.M.A.R.T) where possible. SMART Stakeholder Engagement will ensure a continued increase in stakeholder awareness, improving the key stakeholder's efficiency and productivity, gaining support and buy-ins from TMWDPs diverse audiences, changing the perception of the Project - both internally and externally, and improving team culture and behavior, and providing space and opportunity for feedback from stakeholders.

##### ***1.3.4.1 General Objectives of Stakeholder Engagement Plan***

The general objectives of this Stakeholder Engagement Plan include the following;

- i) To identify and map TMWDP key stakeholders and their interests.
- ii) To provide a structured approach to communication and information sharing to the TMWDP key stakeholders, as well as receiving feedback.

- iii) To gather and integrate TMWDP stakeholder feedback into project planning and implementation
- iv) To identify potential risks associated with TMWDP stakeholder engagement and outline mitigation measures.

#### ***1.3.4.2 Specific Objectives of Stakeholder Engagement Plan***

The specific objectives of this Stakeholder Engagement Plan include the following;

- i) To define the main TMWDP stakeholders who might have a role and/or interest in the dam project;
- ii) To define the main social groups impacted by the TMWDP project and how to involve them in the process of disclosure of information, and management of the impacts;
- iii) To define the roles and the responsibilities of the implementing agency (Ministry of Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation) in the communication and disclosure of the TMWDP project impact, mitigation measures, and other safeguards activities;
- iv) To clarify the grievance redress mechanism that is applied to the TMWDP project;
- v) Identify the most effective methods and structures through which to disseminate project information, and to ensure regular, accessible, transparent, and appropriate consultation with TMWDP stakeholders;
- vi) Guide the TMWDP Project to build mutually respectful, beneficial, and lasting relationships with stakeholders;
- vii) Define reporting and monitoring measures to ensure the effectiveness of the SEP and periodical reviews of the SEP based on findings.

#### **1.4 Stakeholder Engagement Principles**

The principles of stakeholder engagement in the context of the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program highlight the need for a thoughtful, inclusive, and transparent approach that fosters collaboration and respects the needs and rights of all stakeholders involved. By adhering to these principles, project developers can ensure social acceptance, enhance project outcomes, and contribute to sustainable development goals.

Stakeholder Engagement is a crucial aspect of the planning, development, and operation of infrastructure projects like the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program. Engaging stakeholders effectively can help mitigate conflicts, foster cooperation, and promote sustainable development. The TMWDP SEP will achieve this objective by applying the following key principles;

- **Inclusivity:** To ensure that all relevant TMWDP stakeholders, including community members, government agencies, local organizations, and private sectors, are identified and engaged throughout the program lifecycle.

- **Transparency:** To provide clear and timely information about the TMWDP program's goals, activities, and impacts, fostering trust and understanding among stakeholders.
- **Feedback Mechanism:** To establish channels for TMWDP stakeholders to provide input, voice concerns, and contribute to the decision-making process, enhancing the program's responsiveness to community needs.
- **Capacity Building:** To empower TMWDP local stakeholders through training and resources, ensuring they have the knowledge and skills necessary to participate effectively in the program

**Engagement Strategies:**

The engagement strategies involve a mix of methods tailored to different groups, including:

- i) Public consultations and community meetings
- ii) Surveys and questionnaires to gather input
- iii) Focus group discussions to facilitate dialogue
- iv) Regular updates via newsletters, social media, and community boards
- v) One-on-one meetings with key stakeholders.

**Timelines and Responsibilities:** The plan includes a timeline for engagement activities and identifies responsible parties within the project team to ensure accountability. Regular monitoring and evaluation will be conducted to assess the effectiveness of engagement efforts.

**Feedback Mechanism:** To ensure that stakeholder input is genuinely integrated into the project, a feedback mechanism will be established. This may include follow-up meetings, response letters, and incorporation of feedback into project revisions.

**Monitoring and Reporting:** The SEP will be a living document, regularly updated to reflect ongoing stakeholder engagement activities and outcomes. Stakeholder feedback will be documented, and engagement results will be reported back to stakeholders to maintain transparency.

**Information Dissemination:** Various communication channels will be utilized, including newsletters, social media, and community bulletin boards, to share updates and important information

**Workshops and Training Sessions:** Capacity-building workshops will be held to equip stakeholders with relevant knowledge about water management practices and governance

**Monitoring and Evaluation:** Ongoing monitoring of engagement activities will ensure they meet objectives effectively. Key performance indicators (KPIs) will be established to assess the quality of engagement and the level of stakeholder involvement. Regular evaluations will be conducted to refine strategies and ensure continuous improvement. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan is integral to the success of the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program. By fostering an inclusive, transparent, and responsive environment, the TMWDP aims to build strong relationships with stakeholders, facilitating collaboration and ultimately

contributing to sustainable water development in the region. The commitment to stakeholder engagement will help ensure that the program not only meets its goals but also reflects the aspirations and inputs of the communities it serves.

### **1.5 Purpose of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan**

The primary purpose of the TMWDP SEP is to foster effective communication and collaboration between the project team and stakeholders.

The Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) further outlines the framework for engaging with all relevant stakeholders throughout the lifecycle of the project. It aims to facilitate meaningful participation, enhance transparency, and ensure that stakeholder voices are heard and considered in decision-making processes. This SEP provides the policy and legal framework to guide the implementation of all stakeholder engagement activities. The Plan has also identified and analyzed all the project stakeholders that might affect the project both positively and negatively.

Gender and social inclusion consideration will be undertaken throughout project implementation to ensure that views of vulnerable groups are taken on board. The SEP has also provided a summary of stakeholder engagement-related activities undertaken during the first phase of the project.

## **CHAPTER 2: LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

In Kenya, several laws and regulations address stakeholder engagement, especially in areas like environmental management, land use, and project implementation. The existing laws and regulations highlight the legal obligation for stakeholder engagement in Kenya, particularly in projects like the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development.

Public participation therefore is a core principle embedded within these legal frameworks, ensuring that stakeholders—including local communities, government bodies, and other interest groups—have a voice in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of huge infrastructure projects. Adhering to these legal requirements not only fulfills regulatory obligations but also fosters social acceptance and sustainable project outcomes.

For a project like the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program, which involves significant environmental and social impacts, the following legal and policy frameworks are particularly relevant.

### **2.1 Regulatory Framework**

#### **2.1.1 The Constitution of Kenya (2010)**

*Article 10:* Enshrines the national values and principles of governance, including public participation, transparency, and accountability, which are essential for stakeholder engagement in all public projects.

*Article 69:* Advocates for the sustainable management of the environment and mandates the state to ensure public participation in environmental governance.

#### *Relevance to the project*

The proponent project must ensure that all stakeholders are involved in all phases of project development and ensure the effective participation of all the stakeholders, actors, and parties.

#### **2.1.2 Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA) (1999)**

EMCA mandates public participation and consultation in environmental impact assessment (EIA) processes. Before any project begins, proponents must engage stakeholders to address potential environmental and social impacts. Section 58 (1) requires project-implementing agencies to consider the views of stakeholders during the EIA process and to respond to raised concerns. Other relevant sections include 59 and 60 which further detail the public participation process within the EIA framework. Additionally, section 3(5) also mentions public participation in development processes.

##### **2.1.2.1 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (2003)**

Detailed procedures for public participation during the EIA process are outlined, requiring that public hearings and other forms of consultations be conducted to gather input from

stakeholders about proposed projects. Section 17 specifically addresses public participation. The section requires that the Authority seek views from interested parties and the public regarding the project's potential impacts and encourage their active involvement in the decision-making process.

*Relevance to the project:* All identified stakeholders are involved in the project cycle.

### **2.1.3 Land Act (2012)**

This Act advocates for public participation and consultation in land use management, and planning, including when implementing projects that involve land acquisition or resettlement. Ensures that the rights and interests of affected communities are considered and respected in processes involving land use changes. Section 4(2)(h) and (i), emphasizes participation, accountability, and democratic decision-making. Additionally, the Act recognizes the National Land Commission's functions and the process of compulsory acquisition of land.

*Relevance to the project:* The project has been involving the National Land Commission in all land acquisition and transfer matters. The affected persons have been involved in all land matters including resettlement/relocation and compensation since the project started.

### **2.1.4 Physical and Land Use Planning Act (2022)**

The Act indirectly mandates public participation in the preparation of development plans, which include infrastructural developments like dams. County Governments and local authorities are required to consult stakeholders during the planning process and to promote public participation in land use development decision-making. The Act's provisions regarding liaison committees, local development plans, development applications, and approval processes inherently involve public engagement and feedback. In this, it also mandates meaningful citizen participation in the Planning process and expected citizen participation during project execution.

### **2.1.5 Water Act (2016)**

The Act promotes the involvement of stakeholders in water resource management and planning, ensuring that community interests are integrated into water projects. Section 14 emphasizes the need for public participation in the development of regulations and policies concerning water resources. Additionally, the Act of 2016 incorporates public participation in other sections, notably 10(1), 64(1), and 87(1). Specifically, section 87(1) deals with applications for licenses, which are subject to public consultation. This ensures that the public has a say in decisions related to water resource management.

*Relevance to the project:* The project has been involving community members and other stakeholders in dam development issues, giving project progress updates.

### **2.1.6 The National Land Commission Act (2012)**

Promotes public participation in matters related to land management, ensuring that community voices are heard in decisions affecting land acquisition for infrastructure projects. The Act provides land adjudication, it outlines the process of land adjudication, which involves ascertaining individual and collective land rights, demarcation, survey, and registration; conversion of land: The Act also addresses the conversion of community land to other categories of land, requiring community consent and a formal process.

*Relevance to the project:* The commission has been actively involved in land matters including land acquisition, demarcation and survey, and transfer of title deeds.

### **2.1.7 The Access to Information Act (2016)**

This law promotes transparency and public access to information held by public authorities, thereby enhancing stakeholder engagement by empowering communities with the information needed to participate effectively.

### **2.1.8 County Government Act**

The Act mandates that Public participation in the county planning processes shall be mandatory and be facilitated. Here the public refers to the residents of the particular county, the ratepayers of a particular city or municipality, and any resident civic organisation or non-governmental, private sector, or labour organization with an interest in the governance of a particular county, city, or municipality. The Act requires the provision to the public of clear and unambiguous information on any matter under consideration in the planning process, including clear environmental impact assessment reports; expected development outcomes; and development options and their cost implications.

## **2.2 Policy Framework**

The Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation in Kenya has implemented several water supply policies aimed at improving access to water, enhancing sanitation, and ensuring sustainable management of water resources. These policies are part of Kenya's commitment to achieve sustainable water management, enhance sanitation, and improve access to safe and reliable water supply for all its citizens.

These policies collectively aim to ensure sustainable management of Kenya's water resources, improve access to clean water and sanitation, and promote environmental sustainability. The implementation of these policies involves collaboration between government agencies, local communities, non-governmental organizations, and international partners.

This SEP, therefore, takes into consideration the existing national and international institutional regulatory framework that protects the environment.

The following are Kenyan national legislations relevant to this SEP and key existing water supply policies in the country:

### **2.2.1 Kenya Vision 2030**

Vision 2030 blueprint emphasizes inclusive development, public participation, and sustainable resource management, which are critical to the program's Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). The SEP for TMWDP aligns with Vision 2030's principles by ensuring that local communities, government agencies, development partners like the African Development Bank (AfDB), and private contractors (e.g., China Gezhouba Group) are actively involved in planning and implementation. Some tenets include community empowerment and equity pillar, sustainable development where the environmental sustainability focus of Vision 2030 requires TMWDP to balance water resource use with ecological preservation, transparency, and accountability which calls for transparent institutions and economic impact where TMWDP SEP ensures the program supports Vision 2030's economic goals, like food security and job creation.

### **2.2.2 National Water Policy (2018)**

The National Water Policy (2018). Objective 3 calls for Sustainable Management of Water Resources which stresses public participation and stakeholder involvement in water project planning and implementation to ensure transparency, equity, and local ownership, community-based approaches to water governance, emphasizing the inclusion of local communities, marginalized groups, and other stakeholders in decision-making and sustainable and equitable access to water resources, aligning with national development goals like Vision 2030.

*Relevance to the project:* The project has involved the community members, affected persons, and other parties in dam development planning and decision-making.

### **2.2.3 Water Act (2016)**

Section 5 calls for public participation and stakeholder involvement in water resource management decisions to ensure transparency, inclusivity, and alignment with community needs. This is critical for TMWDP, which requires coordination among government agencies, local communities, private contractors (e.g., SMEC), and affected populations to address environmental, social, and economic impacts. Section 7 advocates for Community-Based Water Management. The Act encourages community involvement in managing water resources, which aligns with TMWDP's need for a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) to involve local communities in Makueni and Kitui counties. Section 22 of the Water Resource Management Authority (WRA) establishes WRA to oversee water resource planning and regulation, requiring stakeholder input in developing management plans. For TMWDP, WRMA's role includes ensuring the SEP adheres to national policies, such as the River Basin Management and Development Plan (POMCA), which emphasizes stakeholder mapping and participation strategies. Under Section 139, the Environmental and Social Safeguards, the Act requires environmental impact assessments (EIAs) and social considerations, mandating stakeholder consultations to mitigate risks like displacement or ecological harm.

*Relevance to the project* - TMWDP's SEP incorporates these principles by engaging stakeholders in dam safety inspections, water treatment facility designs, and irrigation planning to minimize adverse impacts, TMWDDP involves WRA in matters related to authorization and permit.

#### **2.2.4 National Sanitation and Hygiene Policy (2007)**

The policy is meant to guide on improvement of sanitation and hygiene services. The policy advocates for the provision of adequate sanitation services to all Kenyans; focuses on reducing diseases related to poor sanitation and hygiene, and emphasizes the need for behavior change regarding hygiene practices.

*Relevance to the project:* The policy is being used to guide the sanitation and hygiene plan, procedures, and protocols at dam construction.

#### **2.2.5 Water Sector Investment Plan (WSIP)**

The main objective of the investment plan is to lay out an investment strategy for the water sector. The plan identifies priority projects for enhancing water supply and sanitation; Allocates funding and resources for the improvement of water infrastructure; and ensures alignment with national development goals.

#### **2.2.6 National Water Harvesting and Storage Policy (2011)**

The policy, enacted to guide water resource management, focuses broadly on promoting water harvesting and storage systems, ensuring equitable access, and supporting sustainable development. It emphasizes stakeholder involvement in water projects Encourages the construction of water harvesting and storage structures, and supports community-based approaches to water harvesting. The section in the National Water Harvesting and Storage Policy (2011) of Kenya that explicitly mentions public participation and consultation is Section 44(1), which states that the Cabinet Secretary shall, following public consultation and based on recommendations of the Water Storage Authority, gazette a Water Harvesting Policy and Strategy.

*Relevance to the project* - The dam construction is guided by the Water Harvesting Policy and Strategy.

#### **2.2.7 National Environment Policy (NEP) (2013)**

The NEP, under sections 4.2 (on Integrated Water Resource Management) and 5.1 (on stakeholder participation), the policy promotes inclusive decision-making and collaboration with communities, government agencies, and private sectors for sustainable resource use. For instance, it encourages public participation in environmental planning and project implementation to ensure equitable benefits and minimize adverse impacts. Overall, the implementation of these policies involves collaboration with various stakeholders, including government agencies, local communities, NGOs, and international partners, to ensure effective and inclusive water and sanitation service delivery.

Further emphasizes the importance of stakeholder engagement in environmental governance and encourages participatory mechanisms to involve communities in the decision-making process regarding environmental management.

*Relevance to the project:* The project is being implemented in partnership and collaboration with various partners including government agencies, affected persons, and the community at large.

## **2.3 The African Development Bank (AfDB) Policies**

### **2.2.1 Integrated Safeguards System (ISS)**

The African Development Bank Group’s Integrated Safeguards System sets out clear requirements for greater public consultation among and participation by communities and local stakeholders that are likely to be affected by the Bank’s operations. “Consultation must meet the requirements of being “free, prior and informed,” and of achieving broad community support, especially in high-risk projects or projects affecting vulnerable groups”.

The African Development Bank Group’s Integrated Safeguards System makes it clear that consultations should be integrated into specific steps in the assessment process, such as developing draft terms of reference for an environmental and social assessment, draft reports of SESAs or Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs).

This SEP for the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program, therefore aligns with the AfDB Social Safeguard instruments as shown in Table 1. The safeguards reflect the requirements that Banks’ clients are expected to meet when addressing social and environmental impacts and risks. The ISS Safeguards are summarized in the table below.

**Table 1: ISS Safeguards Applicability**

<b>Operational</b>	<b>Relevance</b>
OS 1: Environmental and Social Assessment	Requires Stakeholder engagement, participation, or consultation, including grievance mechanisms as well as Internal and external communication and information disclosure requirements. During the project scoping process, Borrowers consult stakeholders and the public and allow for their participation in the identification of feasible project alternatives through public consultation meetings and the opportunity to comment.
OS2: Labour and Working Conditions	This applies by ensuring that all workers involved in the project are treated relatively and have adequate wages and benefits. Requires set up of workers' grievance mechanisms.

	Requires Borrowers to allow workers to form, join, and participate in workers' organizations, such as trade unions or associations of their choosing, to take collective action in support of their joint requests and grievances, and to protect their rights regarding working conditions and terms of employment
OS3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management	Requires participation in consultation with relevant stakeholders who depend on the resources affected by the project. Also, the project proponent is required to assist and collaborate with affected communities, relevant government agencies, and other relevant parties in their preparations to respond effectively to an emergency event, especially where their participation and collaboration will be an important part of an effective response.
OS4: Community Health, Safety and Security	Requires Borrowers to assist and collaborate with affected communities, relevant government agencies, and other relevant parties in their preparations to respond effectively to an emergency event, especially where their participation and collaboration will be an important part of an effective response
OS5: Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Access to Land and Land Use, and Involuntary Resettlement.	Requires that resettlement activities are planned and implemented with the appropriate disclosure of information, meaningful consultation, and the informed participation of those affected.  Disclosure of relevant information to and meaningful participation of affected communities and persons will take place during the consideration of alternative project designs, and their associated resettlement and compensation implications, and thereafter throughout the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the compensation process, livelihood restoration activities, and relocation process. Additional provisions apply to consultations with displaced highly vulnerable rural minorities (HVRM), in accordance with OS7.
OS6: Habitat and Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources	Requires that projects are developed with the meaningful participation of project-affected parties and be acceptable to the Bank. The Borrower shall ensure that all such operations are monitored with the meaningful participation of project-affected parties.

<p>OS7: Vulnerable Groups – such as female-headed households, the landless, the elderly, youth and children, persons with disabilities, groups who are marginalized based on ethnicity, religion, language, sexual orientation, and gender identity, and highly vulnerable rural minorities (HVRM).</p>	<p>Requires projects to allow for vulnerable groups’ effective participation in the design of project activities or mitigation measures that could potentially affect them either positively or negatively.</p> <p>As set out in OS10, the rights-based principles of participation, non-discrimination, and transparency in engagement and consultation will be addressed by the Borrower by providing identified vulnerable groups with all the relevant information about the project (including an assessment of potential adverse effects and projected benefits of the project) as early as possible. This is to be carried out in a culturally appropriate manner.</p>
<p>OS8: Cultural Heritage</p>	<p>To identify and understand the risks and impacts of a project, the ESA will involve the participation of cultural heritage experts and the affected community.</p>
<p>OS9: Financial Intermediaries</p>	<p>The project does not trigger this.</p>
<p>OS10: Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure</p>	<p>In its aim to meet its primary objective of assisting African countries to attain economic development and social progress, the Bank acknowledges that the right to effective participation in decision-making is essential for the development of inclusive and just societies.</p>

### 2.2.2 AfDB’s Policy on Disclosure and Access to Information (DAI)

In effect, under the DAI Policy, all information held by the Bank will be made public unless there is a compelling reason for confidentiality. The timely, active, and effective provision of information about the Bank Group and its activities, in particular its development operations, is essential to keeping stakeholders informed, and ensuring that the intended beneficiaries of the Bank Group’s development operations understand the intended objectives and are adequately positioned to derive the benefits. This RAP will therefore be disclosed on the Banks’ website.

### 2.2.3 AfDB Gender Policy

The Bank is increasingly playing an important role in promoting participatory development approaches and stakeholder consultation in RMCs. The participatory process is key to transformation of culturally determined gender relations. It affords women and men an

opportunity through which they can jointly address issues relevant to their development and question the equal relations of gender between themselves to change them. Since experience indicates that women's viewpoints may not always be adequately taken into account during project identification and design, special measures will be taken to ensure women's full participation in these processes.

## **CHAPTER 3: KEY ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES FOR ENGAGEMENT**

Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program (TMWDP) implementation activities during construction, operation, and decommissioning will cause some negative and positive environmental and social impacts. Continued stakeholder engagement is critical for identifying and addressing these issues, ensuring that the program is sustainable and beneficial. The environmental and social impacts and other key areas of concern or interest for the public are outlined below:

### **3.1 Overall Project Progress**

The majority of stakeholders have an interest in general project progress and completion dates as the project has been delayed and most people are interested in the prospects for irrigation and water supply.

### **3.2 Key Environmental Issues**

*Air Pollution* – The project will lead to increased dust and emissions in the air from vehicles transporting construction materials. This can be mitigated by conducting periodic air quality surveys.

*Noise and Blasting Operations:* These are the effects of blasting activities and heavy vehicle and equipment movement within the site and community neighborhoods.

*Water Pollution Control* - Contamination of water sources around Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program due to solid wastes, and wastewater from campsites. This also involves risks associated with land clearing and construction, which could lead to increased soil erosion and loss of arable land. There is a need for soil conservation measures to maintain agricultural productivity. Compliance with environmental standards should be emphasized.

*Workplace Safety:* These are occupational accidents and injuries at the construction site or in the community. Implementation of the Safety and Health Management Plan will guide and address accidents and injuries incidents. This should include workers' welfare and well-being by ensuring safe and humane working conditions.

*Flooding and Evacuation:* There is a lack of preparedness measures in case of heavy rains. Dam break awareness and sensitization process will be carried out in the target-affected downstream communities.

*Water Resource Management Conflicts:* The conflicts are likely due to competing water demands for agricultural productivity and domestic use. This can be mitigated by ensuring equitable water allocation and sustainable water use for the community, especially downstream of the dam.

*Biodiversity Conservation and Ecosystem Degradation:* Potential impacts on local ecosystems and biodiversity as a result of water extraction and infrastructure development. There is a need for the conservation of natural habitats and the protection of flora and fauna that may be affected during dam construction.

*Climate Change Resilience:* These include the impacts of climate change on water resources, including altered precipitation patterns and increased severity of droughts or floods. The impacts can be reduced by the adoption of mitigation and adaptation strategies. To enhance community resilience.

*Water Flow Regime Changes -* Seasonal variations in river Athi water flows due to regulated dam releases. There is a need for sustainable water management practices.

*Waste Management –* This includes solid and liquid wastes from construction and operational activities emanating from the dam development.

*Increased Human-Wildlife Conflicts* including risks related to hippos and crocodiles that invade the Thwake River waters.

### **3.3 Social-Economic Issues**

The following are the main socio-economic issues raised by the stakeholders during previous engagements and which often form the main basis of engagement and need for close update and feedback:

*Land Acquisition and Compensation:* Ensuring fair compensation for Project Affected Persons. This includes addressing issues of delays in the final demarcation of the project land and issuance of title deeds to Project Affected Persons (PAPs) whose land was acquired partially.

*Livelihood Restoration:* Supporting economic recovery for displaced communities.

*Community Health and Safety:* Addressing risks such as increased health issues arising from the project implementation.

*Employment and Economic Opportunities:* Promoting local hiring and enterprise support including communicating available employment opportunities

*Gender and Social Inclusion:* Ensuring equal opportunities for women, youth, and marginalized groups.

*Cultural Heritage Protection:* Preserving indigenous knowledge and sites, including the ‘Chance Find’ procedure for archaeological discoveries.

*HIV/AIDS, Gender-Based Violence (GBV), and Sexual Harassment (SHEA):* Prevention and response within the project and community.

*Access to Water Points:* Ensuring the continued availability of water for affected communities.

*Community Livelihoods* -Assessing how water development initiatives might affect local livelihoods, particularly those dependent on agriculture, fishing, and tourism.

*Project Social Investments* - Related to proposed and ongoing community-level projects undertaken by the project including in schools, boreholes, etc.

*Workers' rights and welfare issues* – Project workers' concerns are of interest to the workers themselves including payment of salaries and provision of various welfare services

### **3.4 Engagement Strategies for Addressing Issues**

The project has been and will continue engaging the stakeholders through workshops, meetings, and focus groups to facilitate discussions to gather input on local environmental and social issues and other issues of interest. Concerns, and expectations related to the program; household surveys to assess stakeholder perceptions and priorities concerning water management and related impacts have been addressed. Further, partnerships with local organizations to collaborate with NGOs, community groups, and academic institutions to identify issues and develop solutions that reflect local needs will be put in place where needed. .

Leadership from the Makueni and Kitui County Governments engage with national officials to address community concerns, land acquisition, and project impacts. They ensure local buy-in and address emerging challenges. Communities provide labor (skilled and unskilled) and benefit from socio-economic initiatives, such as job creation and irrigation schemes. The project addresses community needs, like safe deliveries through a new maternity block.

Informational campaigns including the use of multimedia channels to educate communities about the environmental and social aspects of the program, enhancing awareness and participation have been conducted.

Further, engagement around key environmental and social issues will enhance the effectiveness of the TMWDP. SEP will ensure that it aligns with the needs and values of the affected communities. Addressing these issues through proactive stakeholder engagement not only mitigates risks but also strengthens community support and promotes sustainable water resource management.

## **CHAPTER 4: STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION, MAPPING AND ANALYSIS**

A stakeholder is any individual, group, or organization that has a role, an interest in, or is affected by a particular project, initiative, or decision. Stakeholders can influence or be influenced by the project and its outcomes. Stakeholders are categorized based on their influence, interests, and roles in the project.

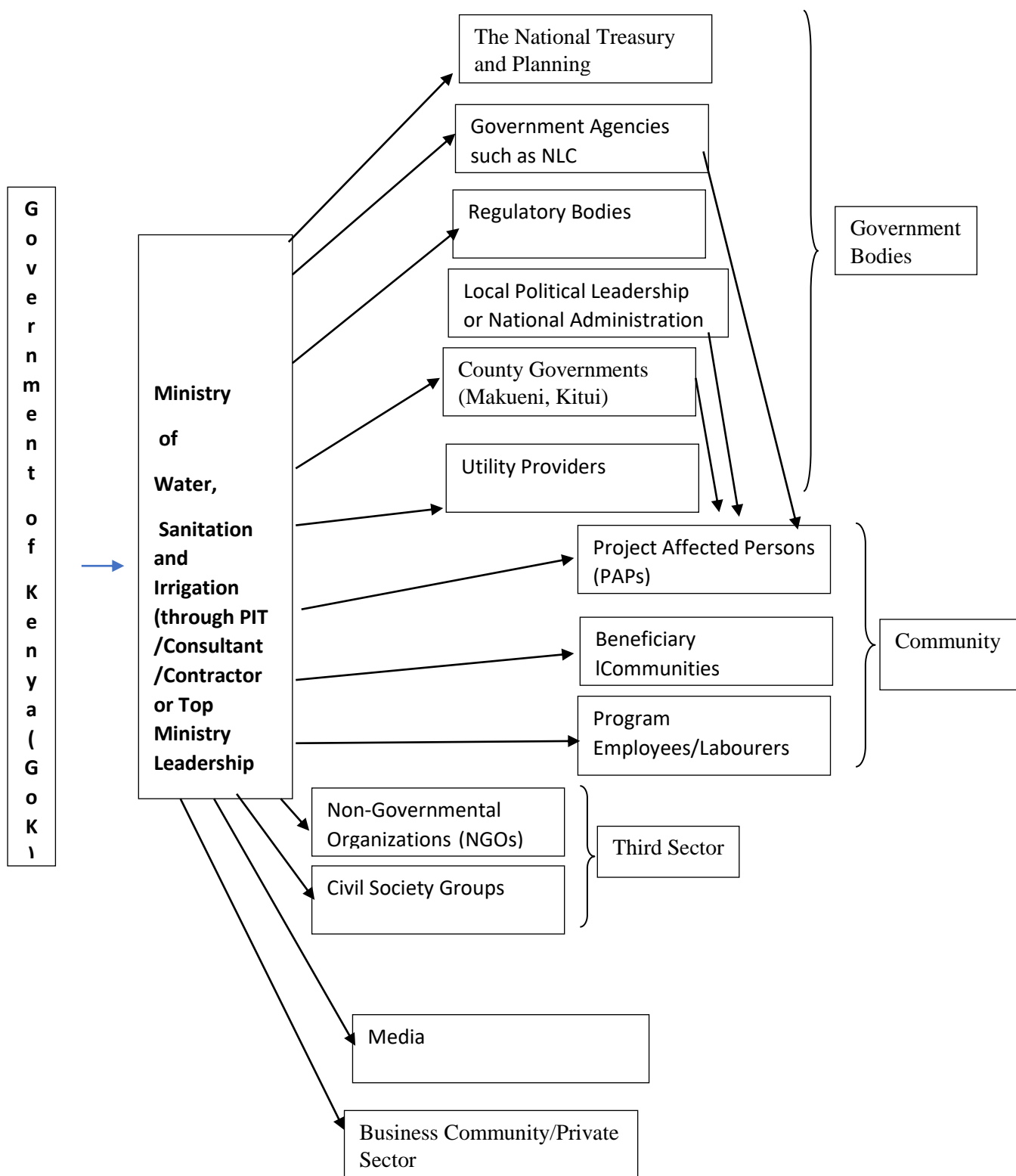
Project stakeholders can be categorized as primary and secondary stakeholders. Primary stakeholders are individuals, groups, or local communities that may be affected by the Project, positively or negatively, and directly or indirectly (also known as ‘affected parties’): in this group are found local communities, vulnerable groups, and users of the project area. Secondary stakeholders, on the other hand, are groups or individuals who have some interest (interested parties) or have influence and can influence the outcome of the project including regulatory and oversight bodies.

Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program, which aims to enhance water supply, improve irrigation, and provide hydroelectric power in the Lower Eastern Region in Kenya, particularly the counties of Kitui, Makueni, and parts of Machakos, involves a variety of key stakeholders. Identifying and engaging these stakeholders is crucial for the successful implementation, decision-making, and sustainability of the program.

### **4.1 Identification of Stakeholders**

Engaging the TMWDP stakeholders allows for gathering diverse perspectives and insights, addressing concerns and mitigating potential conflicts, building trust and relationships as well and enhancing project transparency and accountability. To achieve a detailed approach to stakeholder mapping and analysis, the factors considered were the stakeholder’s level of interest, the influence i.e. stakeholders’ power to affect the outcome of the implementation of the project, and the impact which is the degree to which the stakeholders can and will be affected by the implementation of Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program.

Figure 3 shows the general mapping of the stakeholders.



**Figure 3: Stakeholders associated with Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program**

### 4.1.1 Primary Stakeholders

These are the individuals or groups directly affected either positively or negatively by the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program or decisions. They are often the most engaged and have a vested interest in the outcomes. Examples include local communities, vulnerable groups and users of the project area living near the project site, employees or workers involved in the project, and customers or beneficiaries of the project services.

#### 4.1.1.1 Local Communities (Makueni, Mbooni East and Kitui Rural Constituencies)

*Residents:* Communities living in and around the area of the project such as Makueni, Mbooni East, and Kitui Rural constituencies will be directly affected by the construction and implementation of the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program. These also form the Project Affected [Persons (PAPs) whose land was acquired for the project.

**Needs:** Access to clean and reliable water supply for domestic use, information on the project's timelines and benefits, engagement in decision-making processes related to land use and allocation, compensation for any land or property affected by the project, job opportunities related to the construction and eventual operation of the dam.

**Expectations:** Assurance that local needs and concerns are addressed, training and capacity-building programs for locals to participate in the project, compensation of Project-Affected Persons (PAPs)

#### 4.1.1.3 Program Workers

Thwake Dam workers can be significantly affected by the project in terms of employment, health and safety, working conditions, and economic impacts. Addressing these factors proactively can help ensure that the project benefits not only the workers but also the surrounding communities, contributing to social cohesion and sustainable development. Workers involved in the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program are key stakeholders and can be affected in multiple ways throughout the project's lifecycle. Here are several aspects in which Thwake Dam workers may be impacted:

##### 1. Employment Opportunities

**Job Creation:** The construction and operational phases of the dam can provide numerous employment opportunities for local laborers, engineers, technicians, and other skilled workers. This can have positive economic implications for the local community.

##### 2. Skill Development and Training

**Skill Enhancement:** Workers may receive training in various construction techniques, safety procedures, and operational practices, enhancing their skills. This development can contribute to their long-term employability within the industry or other sectors.

### 3. Health and Safety Concerns

**Workplace Safety:** Construction projects often entail risks. Workers may be affected by the need for effective health and safety protocols to prevent accidents and injuries. Ensuring a safe working environment is crucial for their well-being.

**Health Impact:** Prolonged exposure to construction environments may pose health risks, such as dust inhalation or noise pollution, necessitating proper health and safety measures.

### 4. Labor Rights and Working Conditions

**Labor Rights:** Effective labor laws and regulations should be upheld to protect workers' rights. Workers' conditions, wages, hours, and other employment terms should be managed properly to ensure fair treatment.

### 5. Economic and Social Impact

**Local Economic Benefits:** Employment provided by the Thwake Dam can lead to increased disposable income for workers, resulting in better living standards for their families and contributing to local economic development.

**Social Dynamics:** The influx of workers for the dam project may influence local social dynamics, including potential changes in community relationships and dynamics related to economic disparities.

### 6. Environmental and Community Impacts

**Community Relations:** Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program workers may experience changes in community relations, especially if residents feel that they are competing for jobs or resources, leading to social tensions.

**Environmental Awareness:** Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program workers may be exposed to environmental management practices as part of the project, which can raise their awareness of sustainable practices in construction and operation.

### 7. Long-term Employment Security

**Job Security:** Once the construction phase is completed, Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program workers may face uncertainty regarding long-term employment opportunities, particularly if the dam requires a smaller operational workforce.

### 8. Psychological and Emotional Well-being

**Stress and Work-life Balance:** The demands of working on a large-scale construction project like the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program can lead to stress. Workers may experience challenges in achieving a work-life balance, especially if long hours are required.

## **9. Community Engagement and Support**

**Community Projects:** Engagement in community support initiatives may create a sense of ownership and pride among workers and foster positive relations with local inhabitants.

## **10. Unionization and Collective Bargaining**

**Worker Representation:** Workers may choose to organize and form unions to advocate for better working conditions and rights, impacting workplace dynamics and negotiations.

### **4.1.2 Secondary Stakeholders (including Regulatory and Oversight Bodies)**

These are the stakeholders who are indirectly affected by the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program implementation, parties with some interest, or those whose decisions, or actions have some influence impact or interest in the project. They may have an interest in the Project (interested parties). They include individuals or groups whose interests may be affected by the Project, or who may influence the project and who have the potential to influence the Project outcomes in any way. These include civil society organizations, opinion leaders in the project area, the media, other government agencies, and the private sector in general among others.

#### **4.1.2.1 4.1.1.2 The Government**

*National Government:* Various ministries, including the National Treasury, and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, oversee policy and regulatory frameworks.

*County Governments (Makueni, Kitui, Machakos):* County government authorities in the specific regions affected by the project who are responsible for local governance and community engagement, and also have some regulatory authority.

**Needs:** Coordination and cooperation between the two counties to manage resources and share benefits, support for infrastructure development linked to the dam (roads, electricity), funding, and technical assistance for local development initiatives stemming from the dam project.

**Expectations:** Inclusion in planning and implementation processes, regular updates on the project's progress and outcomes, and regulatory role.

*Community-Based Organizations (CBOs):* Local groups that represent community interests and can facilitate communication and engagement between the project implementers and the local population.

#### **4.1.2.2 Community-Based Organizations, NGOs, and Civil Society:**

While NGOs have a moderate influence, they can provide valuable insights and expertise in community mobilization and environmental best practices. The private sector's involvement is crucial for technical execution, yet it requires careful management of partnerships to ensure community benefits align with business interests. Environmental NGOs are focused on protecting natural resources and advocating for sustainable practices related to water use and ecosystem conservation around the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program.

The needs of such organizations include environmental assessments to understand the dam's impact on local ecosystems; consultation about conservation measures and how to address any negative environmental effects; and participation in community education initiatives on sustainable water use. The organizations expect strategies for community engagement that are inclusive and transparent, and commitment from the project implementers to uphold rights and enhance livelihoods.

*Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs):* NGOs focused on water, environment, and community development that may support advocacy and community engagement initiatives in the implementation of the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program.

#### **4.1.2.2 Regulatory Bodies/Authorities**

*Regulatory Agencies:* Bodies responsible for ensuring compliance with environmental, safety, and health etc. regulations such as the National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA), Water Resources Authority (WRA), and Directorate of Occupational Safety and Health Services (DOSHS).

#### **4.1.2.3 Religious leaders**

Religious stakeholders can play a significant role in the implementation of the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program, especially in terms of community engagement, social cohesion, and ethical considerations. Here are some key religious stakeholders, their potential needs, and expectations. Engaging religious stakeholders in the Thwake Dam project is essential for fostering community buy-in, mitigating potential conflicts, and ensuring that the project aligns with the local cultural and ethical landscape. By addressing their needs and expectations, project implementers can enhance trust and collaboration, leading to positive outcomes for both the stakeholders and the broader community.

#### **1. Local Churches and Religious Leaders**

The following are the needs of the various religious groups, inclusion in community consultations and planning processes for the project; information about the potential impacts of the dam on the community's social and spiritual dynamics; support for initiatives that promote community welfare aligned with their religious teachings; opportunities to conduct

prayers or rituals that bless the project and seek divine guidance for a successful implementation.

**Expectations:** Assurance that the project will respect local cultures and beliefs, recognition of their role in fostering community unity and addressing any grievances, collaboration on programs that promote environmental stewardship, and caring for God’s creation.

## **2. Religious Organizations and Faith-Based NGOs**

Their needs include partnerships in community development projects related to the dam's socio-economic impacts, such as education, health, and livelihood programs, awareness and training on sustainable practices that can enhance the community’s engagement with the dam's resources, participation in environmental assessments and discussions to ensure ethical considerations regarding the local ecology are included.

**Expectations:** Commitment from Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program implementers to uphold social justice, equity, and community rights, transparency in how the resource management from the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program aligns with communal values and ethical considerations.

## **3. Interfaith Committees and Networks**

**Needs:** Facilitation of interfaith dialogues to address concerns and explore collaborative approaches to community issues arising from the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program, involvement in conflict resolution initiatives, especially in cases where there are disputes over land use or resource allocation, opportunities to contribute to community cohesion efforts amid changes brought by the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program

**Expectations:** Recognition of their role in promoting peace and understanding among diverse community groups, opportunities for advocacy on social issues resulting from the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program, and ensuring that marginalized voices are heard.

### **4.2.2.4 Local Businesses and Private Sector Partners**

The business communities around Thwake Dam will have diverse needs centered on access to resources, job creation, infrastructure development, environmental sustainability, and investment opportunities. Addressing these needs effectively will help ensure that the project benefits not only the immediate stakeholders but also the broader regional economy.

### **4.2.2.5 Media**

Media stakeholders play a crucial role in informing the public, shaping perceptions, and facilitating dialogue around the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program. By addressing these needs, media stakeholders in Makueni and Kitui can effectively fulfill their

role in promoting transparency and accountability surrounding the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program. The media including newspapers, magazines, other printed media, televisions, local radio stations, community radios, and electronic media will be used to communicate about the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program activities and progress. It will also serve as a channel to communicate with stakeholders and a platform where stakeholders can express their concerns and issues about the program. Fostering an informed public through ethical and accurate reporting will ultimately contribute to the project's success and community acceptance.

## **Needs of Media Stakeholders**

### **1. Access to Information**

**Detailed Project Information:** Media stakeholders need comprehensive and up-to-date information about the Thwake project, including its objectives, progress, anticipated benefits, and any challenges encountered.

**Data and Statistics:** The media need access to relevant data, including environmental impact assessments, social studies, and economic forecasts, to provide accurate reporting.

### **2. Regular Updates**

**Ongoing Communication:** Media outlets require regular updates from implementers of the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program to keep the public informed about milestones, changes in project timelines, and any community consultations.

**Press Releases and Events:** Invitations to press briefings, site visits, and community engagement forums to gather first-hand information and interviews.

### **3. Capacity Building**

**Training Opportunities:** Workshops or training sessions focusing on water resource management, environmental reporting, and ethical journalism to help journalists understand the complexities of the issues surrounding the project.

**Expert Access:** Opportunities to interview Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program experts, program leadership, and community leaders to enrich their reporting.

### **4. Platforms for Dialogue**

**Forums for Discussion:** Creation of platforms or forums where media can facilitate discussions among stakeholders, government officials, community members, and project implementers.

**Community Feedback Mechanisms:** Develop channels for the media to relay community concerns, feedback, and questions regarding the project to the relevant authorities.

### **5. Support for Investigative Journalism**

**Funding for Investigative Work:** Support or grants for in-depth investigative journalism that would explore the impacts of the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program on local communities, the environment, and governance.

**Access to Documentation:** Transparency in providing access to Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program documents, contracts, and agreements to allow for thorough reporting and investigative analysis.

## **6. Collaboration and Partnerships**

**Networking Opportunities:** Building relationships between media stakeholders and project officials, NGOs, and community leaders to facilitate better reporting and collaboration on public awareness initiatives.

**Joint Awareness Campaigns:** Collaborating on campaigns to educate the community about water conservation, hygiene, and the benefits of the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program.

### **4.2.2.6 Academic and Research Institutions**

Universities and research organizations that can provide technical expertise, conduct studies, and contribute to monitoring and evaluation efforts related to the project's impacts.

### **4.2.2.7 Utilities and Service Providers**

Water and energy service providers that will be involved in the distribution of water resources or in harnessing hydroelectric power generated by the project

### **4.2.2.8 Political Leadership**

Political leaders play a crucial role in the success and implementation of the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program. By addressing these needs, political leaders can effectively support the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program while ensuring that it meets the needs of their constituents and contributes positively to the long-term development of the larger Makueni and Kitui regions. Therefore, engaging closely with the project will enable political leaders to advocate for resources, foster community support, and play a pivotal role in ensuring the project's success and sustainability.

## **Needs of Political Leaders Stakeholders**

### **1. Comprehensive Project Understanding**

**Detailed Project Briefing:** Access to clear, in-depth information about the objectives, scope, and expected impacts of the Thwake project, including technical, social, and economic aspects.

**Impact Assessments:** Understanding how the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program will affect the local communities, economy, and environment to communicate effectively with constituents.

#### **4.1.3 Key Stakeholders**

These are stakeholders who have significant influence over the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program or its outcomes. They may hold decision-making power or possess critical resources. Examples include:

- i) Development partners or investors – African Development Bank (AfDB)
- ii) The National Treasury (NT) and Economic Planning
- iii) Organizational leaders or executives

#### ***Funding and Development Partners***

##### **African Development Bank**

These include the International Financial Institutions, and organizations such as the African Development Bank (AfDB) that provide funding or technical support to the project. The Multipurpose Dam being developed under the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program is funded by the African Development Bank. The Bank will monitor and ensure the application of the AfDB Operational Safeguards as given in Table 1.

##### ***4.2.6.1 Private Sector***

These include Contractors and Suppliers - Companies involved in the design, construction, and supply of materials for the project; and investors who are the private entities interested in the economic opportunities arising from improved water supply and irrigation services arising once all three phases of Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program are executed successfully.

#### **4.2 Stakeholders Mapping and Analysis**

Stakeholder mapping and analysis are essential for identifying the various entities that have an interest in the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program and understanding their influence, interests, and roles in the project's implementation. This process helps in ensuring effective engagement and communication with all relevant stakeholders.

It is critical to define which groups of people may have an effect on the ongoing activities at Thwake Multipurpose Dam or be affected by the activities. Such groups include community leaders, church leaders, area administration, youth, women, PLWDs, business community, education sector, saccos, community-based organizations, healthcare workers, residents, community groups, and government workers (and the agencies they represent). Following this, there is a need to have proper stakeholder mapping and crafting specific messages for each group of stakeholders.

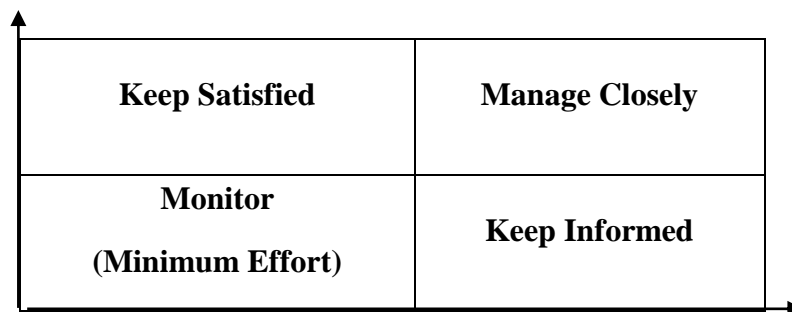
### 4.3 Power/ Interest Matrix Categorization

The power/interest matrix was used to classify the stakeholders. This involves assessing the influence (power) and interest of each stakeholder as:

- **High Power, High Interest:** These are key stakeholders who have significant influence over the project and are highly interested in its outcomes. They require close engagement and active management.
- **High Power, Low Interest:** Stakeholders in this category have significant influence but are less interested in the project. They need to be kept satisfied but not necessarily involved in every detail.
- **Low Power, High Interest:** These stakeholders are highly interested in the project but have less influence. They need to be kept informed and involved in specific aspects of the project that directly affect them.
- **Low Power, Low Interest:** These stakeholders have limited influence and interest. They require minimal effort but should be monitored to ensure they do not become more influential or interested over time.

Table 1 shows the categorization of each group of stakeholder. The management action for the different stakeholders is based on the power /interest grid below.

#### Power/Interest Grid for Stakeholder Analysis



Source: Adapted from Zimbabwe Agricultural Value Chain Enhancement Project (Zavacep)

### 4.4 Stakeholder Analysis Findings

Effective stakeholder mapping and analysis for the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program is essential for identifying and engaging key stakeholders. Utilizing a tailored engagement strategy for each group based on their interests, influence, and impact ensures that the project meets its objectives while addressing the diverse needs of the community, environment, and economy. Continuous dialogue and collaborative planning among stakeholders also enhance transparency, trust, and partnership throughout the project lifecycle. Table 2 shows the key stakeholders identified, and analyzed their communication needs and who should be delivering the communication to that stakeholder, about what, and

at what frequency. The table also highlights if the stakeholder is primary, secondary, or tertiary, the level of influence, interest and management action.



<p>Vulnerable and disadvantaged Groups</p>	<p><b>High Interest and Low Influence:</b> These include physically disabled people, widows or women-headed households, children or orphans-headed households, and households below the poverty line. Women’s groups and entrepreneurs. This group will provide information regarding the socioeconomic status of residents in the project area groups.</p>	<p><b>Low-Medium Impact:</b> Directly or indirectly affected by displacement, land acquisition, and livelihood changes. Benefits include access to water, irrigation, and business opportunities.</p>	<p><b>Keep Informed</b></p>
<p>National and County Governments (Makueni, Kitui, Machakos), Government Ministries and agencies.</p>	<p><b>High Interest and Influence:</b> Significant influence via local policy, land use planning, and community mobilization.</p> <p>Key partners in project implementation and benefit distribution (e.g., water allocation, irrigation schemes).</p>	<p><b>High:</b> Counties gain economic growth, improved water access, and infrastructure development. Risks include political tensions or misalignment with national goals.</p>	<p><b>Manage</b></p>

African Development Bank (AfDB)	<b>Very High:</b> Major funder and overseer, with influence over project timelines, compliance, and disbursements. Can enforce environmental, social, and financial standards.	<b>High:</b> Financial and reputational stake. Success enhances AfDB's portfolio in water security and sustainable development; delays or issues risk criticism.	<b>Manage</b>
Program Employees (Skilled/Unskilled)	High Interest, Moderate Power - Project staff, including contractors from China Gezhouba Group Company (CGGC), local workers, and Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation personnel)	<b>Moderate to high impact:</b> Directly involved in project execution, some influence over operations	<b>Manage</b>
Interfaith Committees and Networks	<b>Moderate:</b> Have moral authority and community trust, particularly in rural areas. Can mobilize diverse groups for project support or raise ethical concerns about impacts.	<b>Moderate:</b> Affected by improved water access, which supports community welfare. Their involvement strengthens social cohesion around the project.	<b>Keep Informed</b>
Local Churches and Religious	<b>Moderate to High:</b> Trusted figures in local communities	<b>High:</b> Directly impacted by water access improvements, which	<b>Keep Informed</b>

Leaders	who can sway public opinion. They often mediate community concerns and advocate for fairness.	affect congregants' livelihoods. Negative impacts (e.g., land acquisition disputes) could spark resistance.	
NGOs Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), Water Resource Users	<b>Moderate:</b> Influence through advocacy and local knowledge. Organizations like Catholic Relief Services or World Vision have resources and community reach. They influence opinions on environmental and social justice issues. Can raise concerns about environmental impacts (e.g., sedimentation, ecosystem disruption) or community displacement.	<b>Moderate to High:</b> Directly affected by environmental outcomes and community welfare. Successful project implementation enhances their goals; failures could undermine trust.  Benefit from improved water access for their programs (e.g., health, agriculture).  May face scrutiny if community displacement or environmental issues arise.	<b>Keep Informed</b>
Private Sector and Business Community	High Interest and Medium Influence: Includes contractors and suppliers, investors interested in the economic opportunities arising from improved water	Medium to High Impact: Directly or indirectly affected by project progress and implementation program.	<b>Monitor and Manage</b>

	supply and irrigation services upon project completion		
Educational & Training Institutions, including colleges and universities	Medium Interest and Influence: Institutions involved in academics, skills impartment, and collaborative training	Benefit from improved water supply, improved infrastructure, research opportunities	<b>Keep Informed</b>
Utility Providers e.g. Kenya Power and Lightning Company	Low-Medium interest and influence.	Low-Moderate impact – Constant supply of power is key in ensuring sustainability of components such as hydropower development and irrigation and establishment of small-holder industries.	<b>Keep Informed</b>
Political Leadership	<b>High:</b> Includes national and county government officials (e.g., Water Cabinet Secretary, Makueni and Kitui Governors, MPs). They control funding, policy decisions, and project prioritization. Their support	<b>High:</b> Directly affected by project success or failure, as it impacts their political capital and public perception. Successful implementation enhances its reputation for delivering on Vision 2030 promises.	<b>Keep Informed</b>

	ensures project continuation and resource allocation.		
Media	<b>Moderate to High:</b> Shapes public perception and can amplify project successes or highlight issues (e.g., delays, environmental concerns). National and local media outlets influence community support and political pressure.	<b>Moderate:</b> Not directly impacted but serves as a conduit for information.  Negative coverage could affect project momentum, while positive stories enhance visibility.	<b>Keep Informed</b>

Table 3: This chart is designed to look at TMWDP key stakeholders identified and analyze their communication needs and who should be delivering the communication to that stakeholder, about what, and at what frequency.

STAKEHOLDER CATEGORY	STAKEHOLDER GROUP	INFORMATION TO CONVEY/COLLECT	CHANNEL/TECHNIQUES	TIMING	DELIVERED BY
<b>PRIMARY STAKEHOLDERS</b>  (Directly impacted, high influence)	<b>Local Communities (Makueni, Kitui, Machakos)</b>	Project progress, benefits (water access, irrigation, jobs), resettlement plans, safety measures, community needs, concerns, and feedback on project impacts.	Community meetings, focus group discussions, local radio, and leaflets in local languages (e.g., Kikamba).	Monthly/quarterly meetings; ongoing via radio updates.	TMWDP Program Implementation Team  Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation (MoWSI),

					Community Liaison Officers.  Project Contractor
	<p><b>Project Affected Persons (PAPs)</b> (Local communities in Makueni, Kitui, and Machakos counties, including farmers, residents, and those displaced/relocated) High Interest, Low Power (Highly affected by the project but limited authority to influence decisions)</p>	<p>Project objectives, water supply, irrigation, hydropower benefits, compensation/relocation plans, details on land acquisition, resettlement packages, environmental and social impact, mitigation measures (e.g., flood/drought control), timelines, construction phases and expected completion (e.g., Phase 1, grievance mechanisms, concerns and expectations like relocation, livelihood impacts, water access, feedback on compensation fairness, community needs, irrigation support, job opportunities, local knowledge, environmental conditions, flood patterns, issues with contractors or project impacts.</p>	<p>Community meetings/workshops: Face-to-face sessions in local villages. - Local radio broadcasts: In local languages (Kamba, Swahili). - Printed flyers/posters: Distributed at community centers. - Mobile SMS alerts: For quick updates. - Social media (e.g., WhatsApp groups): For community leaders to share updates. - Surveys/interviews: Door-to-door or during community gatherings</p>	<p>Monthly and on need basis</p>	<p>TMWDP PIT</p>
	<p><b>Program Employees (Skilled/Unskilled)</b> Project staff, including contractors from</p>	<p>Project progress, milestones (e.g., Phase 1 completion), safety protocols, compliance with dam safety standards,</p>	<p>- Internal meetings: Weekly site briefings. - Email updates: For managerial staff.</p>	<p>Daily through tool box talks and as needed</p>	<p>MOWSI  TMWDP PIT</p>

	China Gezhouba Group Company (CGGC), local workers, and Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation personnel	roles and responsibilities: RACI matrix for clarity (Responsible, Accountable, Consulted, Informed), work schedules, deadlines, benefits like job security, training opportunities, updates from AfDB/Ministry, funding, policy changes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Notice boards: At construction sites.</li> <li>- Training workshops: Safety and technical skills.</li> <li>- Mobile apps (e.g., project management tools): For task updates.</li> <li>- Feedback forms: Anonymous submissions for concerns</li> </ul>		
	High Interest, Moderate Power (Directly involved in project execution, some influence over operations)				
	<b>China Gezhouba Group Company (CGGC)</b>	Construction timelines, resource needs, safety protocols, progress updates, technical challenges, and completion forecasts.	Site meetings, technical reports, and project management software.	Weekly/monthly site reviews.	TMWDP PIT, CGGC Project Managers.
<b>SECONDARY STAKEHOLDERS</b>  (Indirectly impacted, moderate influence)	<b>Local Government (County Governments of Makeni, Kitui, Machakos)</b>	Project alignment with county development plans, economic benefits, county-level approvals, and infrastructure support needs.	County stakeholder forums, official letters, and joint planning meetings.	Quarterly forums/meetings, as needed for approvals.	TMWDP PIT, MoWSI, County Liaison Officers.
	<b>African Development Bank (AfDB)</b>	Financial reports, project milestones, compliance with loan conditions, funding approvals, technical advice, and supervision feedback.	Formal reports, supervision missions, email correspondence, and project review meetings.	Monthly reports and meetings, Quarterly reports, and annual supervision missions.	TMWDP PIT, National Treasury, MoWSI.
	<b>NGOs and Civil</b>	Environmental and social	Workshops, public	Biannual	TMWDP PIT,

	<b>Society Organizations (CSOs)</b>	safeguards, community benefits, advocacy concerns, monitoring reports, and community feedback.	consultations, online platforms (e.g., project website).	consultations, and ongoing monitoring.	Environmental and Social Safeguards Team.
	<b>National Treasury and Planning</b>	Budget utilization, economic impacts, funding allocations, and economic policy guidance.	Budget reviews, formal reports, and inter-ministerial briefings.	Quarterly/annual reviews.	TMWDP PIT,  MoWSI,  National Treasury.
	<b>Political Leadership</b>	Project progress, benefits (water supply, irrigation, hydropower), economic impacts, and alignment with Vision 2030 and Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA).  Feedback on community needs, policy support, and potential challenges (e.g., land disputes, funding).	Formal meetings, site visits, policy briefs, media briefings, public forums, Presentations, progress reports, Q&A sessions, and media interviews to ensure transparency and alignment with national goals.	Quarterly updates, during site inspections and key milestones	Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, African Development Bank (AfDB) representatives, and TMWDP project management team.
	<b>Media</b>	Project progress, benefits (water supply, irrigation, hydropower), economic impacts, and alignment with Vision 2030 and Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA).	Media tours and site visits, press conferences, Press releases, media briefings, media workshops and training, and media interviews to ensure transparency and alignment with national goals.	Quarterly updates, during site inspections and key milestones	Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, African Development Bank (AfDB) representatives, and PIT.

	<b>Regulatory Bodies/Authorities</b>	Adherence and compliance to environmental laws and policies,	Formal meetings and site tours, workshops	Annually	Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, and PIT

## CHAPTER 5: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT METHODS AND STRATEGY

### 5.1 ESIA for Additional Financing and Stakeholder Engagements

As the project progressed, additional financing from the AfDB was sought to fund the implementation of Phase 1 new design and scope changes including the construction of the increased dam height of 3m, extended spillway, 2 saddle dams, employer's houses, and access road. The dam changes prompted the need for updated ESIA and RAP reports to reflect the expanded scope and revised timelines, and the consequent need for more funding. During the preparation of the RAP and ESIA, stakeholder consultations to assess the environmental and social implications of the dam's design and scope changes, were undertaken by the Program Implementation Team (PIT), in Makueni and Kitui, These engagements included community and county-level meetings, government and development partners meetings and other engagements.

#### 5.1.1 2025 Engagement for ESIA update

**Community Meetings:** Community forums were organized in affected areas such as Mavindini, Kanyangi and Kyusyani Wards to inform residents about the new dam design and project scope changes. The meetings aimed to collect the community views, concerns and issues regarding the changes and incorporate in the project design and implementation. Community meetings were mobilized through the Community Liason Officer and Area Chiefs. Local leaders, community members, and Project Affected Persons (PAPs) participated. A total of 64 participants attended (43 males and 21 females). Table 4 shows the community meetings held at the project area while the meeting minutes and list of attendance is attached in Annex 1.1. Photos are shown in Annex 2.

**Table 3: Community Engagements**

No	Date of Meeting	Objective of meeting	Male attendance	Female attendance	Total	Remarks
1	11 <sup>th</sup> Feb. 2025	To inform the communities of the new dam design changes and solicit their views and concerns on the environmental and social issues	14	2	16	
2	12 <sup>th</sup> Feb. 2025	To inform the local communities of the new dam design changes and solicit their views and concerns on the environmental and social issues	14	10	24	
	13 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	To inform the local	15	9	24	

	2025	communities of the new dam design changes and solicit their views and concerns on the environmental and social issues				
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### 5.1.1.1 Summary of Key Issues Raised by Communities during ESIA Update in 2025

The pertinent issues raised at the community level meetings outlined in table 4 below.

**Table 4: Key Issues Raised by the Communities**

<b>Issue/Concern Raised</b>	<b>Response provided</b>
Land displacement – Will the new dam changes lead to more land acquisition?	No. Land for the new design changes, especially for saddle dams, has been acquired from the initial land.
Human-Wildlife conflicts –There has been an increase in the number of water animals in the Athi area, i.e., the hippos and the crocodiles. The animals threaten the health & safety of communities and destroy their crops, thus affecting food security. What is the project doing to curb the menace?  The community recommended the following:  1. Establish the area's Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) offices to help with emergency and rescue services.	Two KWS Wardens have been deployed to the site to monitor the movement of the hippos and safeguard workers and the community in the project area. The hippos are in their habitat area, and the project leadership will continue to engage KWS to create more awareness and avoid human-wildlife conflicts. A KWS office is being proposed to be set up in the project area to focus more on the hippos and crocodiles.  The project has not planned to install an electric fence to prevent the hippos from reaching community farms. However, engagement with KWS continues to pursue a long-term solution, including relocation where possible.
Cracked houses – Many houses near the dam site have been reported to have broken due to excessive vibration emanating from blasting operations at the dam site. Is there any plan to compensate?	Yes. Many complaints from the neighboring communities have been reported to the project. All houses reported cracked will be assessed, and complaints will be resolved based on the assessment report before the closure of the project.
There will be a possible increase in malaria cases; how will this be addressed?	There will be consultations with the county governments to create more awareness of malaria prevention and

<p>The community recommended the supply of mosquito nets by the county government.</p>	<p>equipment in the nearby hospitals to prevent and handle the likely increase in malaria cases.</p>
<p>Closed Roads- Some access roads have been closed, forcing the residents to walk long distances, particularly from Kitui to Makueni.</p>	<p>The roads at the dam site are closed for security and safety reasons, as crossing through an active construction site is unsafe. Water points and community access roads have been planned to be built in Feb or March 2025</p>
<p>Buffer Zone- Is the buffer zone enough to accommodate the new dam changes?</p>	<p>The design provided an adequate buffer zone for the dam. Surveyors and engineers who designed the dam, leading to the variation of the dam, did not provide an increased buffer zone; hence, flow back will be accommodated with the existing buffer zone. However, the two proposed saddle dams will ensure enough and safe storage of the additional water as a result of the change in dam height</p>
<p>Flooding – There was flooding in my farm/residence during the recent rains. What is the project going to do to ensure no more flooding?</p>	<p>Dam water flow back to flooded community land is new information and will be shared with the Engineers and surveyors to investigate and advise if the buffer zone needs to be expanded. Where extra land will be required to accommodate the expanded buffer zone will be compensated accordingly.</p>
<p>Water use and management conflicts – Water conflicts might occur during dam operation. How will this be handled?</p>	<p>Farmers will be encouraged to join the Water Users Association (WRUA) or Irrigation Water Users Association (IWRUAs), which are mandated to help resolve water conflicts at the lowest level of water management.</p>

**County Stakeholder Meetings:** Representatives from government agencies (e.g., Ministry of Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation, National Environment Management Authority), NGOs, faith-based organizations, business people, PLWDS, and technical experts were engaged to seek the stakeholder's views and concerns on the potential environmental and social issues arising from the new dam design changes and incorporate feedback. The meeting was held on

03/04/25 and 04/04/2025, at Mavindini Chiefs Camp (Makueni) and Kanyangi AIC Church (Kitui) respectively, A total of 46 stakeholders attended, including 31 males and 15 females. The minutes of stakeholders' engagement and list of attendance are attached in Annex 1.2. The photos are posted in Annex 2.

Stakeholder consultations were conducted in both Makueni and Kitui Counties as shown in Table 5 below.

**Table 5: County Stakeholders Meetings in Makueni and Kitui County**

No	Date of Meeting	Objective of meeting	Male attendance	Female attendance	Total	Remarks
1	3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2025	To inform the stakeholders of the new dam design changes and solicit their views and concerns on the environmental and social issues	14	9	23	
2	4 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	To inform the stakeholders of the new dam design changes and solicit their views and concerns on the environmental and social issues	17	6	23	

### 5.1.1.2 Summary of Key Issues Raised by Stakeholders during ESIA Update in 2025

The following are the key issues raised by the stakeholders during the county level meetings.

**Table 6: Key Issues raised by the Stakeholders**

	Issue	How Responded
1	<b>Concern:</b> (: The stakeholder wanted to know whether in the likelihood of water flow back and flooding caused by Dam Height, Project Affected Persons (PAPs) owning farms and houses would be compensated.	<b>Ans:</b> The PIT however informed the members that since a spillway and two saddle dams have been constructed, water flow back may not affect the land.
2	<b>Concern:</b> Makali, informed the forum that the road at the entry point to the dam was in a bad state and needed to be repaired. <b>Concern:</b> The stakeholder also proposed that the Project consider repairing roads for the community.	They were also informed that the contract BQ does not provide for the repair of roads by the Contractor.
3	<b>Concern:</b> wanted to know some of the measures put in place to control communicable diseases with another	The PIT informed the stakeholders that community communication campaigns had been done to sensitize them on HIV Aids,

	community member adding that there was an outbreak of sexually transmitted disease on site.	waterborne diseases, Corona, and others. They were further informed that waters flowing into Thwake Dam will be treated hence there is no cause for alarm with regards to the spread of water bone diseases.
4	<b>Concern:</b> A representative from the office of the Senator, feared that human-animal conflicts would increase if the Saddle Dams were not properly fenced.	<b>Ans:</b> The PIT however indicated that Kenya Wildlife Services offices are on-site
5	<b>Concern:</b> The stakeholders also feared that the three remaining phases are likely to take many years to complete hence the need for the Government to ensure the Dam is quickly completed for the residents to start enjoying water.	<b>Ans:</b> The PIT however indicated that as soon as the first phase is done, the Government will invite bids for the remaining downstream phases and the irrigation component will be given priority. Stakeholders were also informed that water tanks will be placed around Kanyangi center to Kwa Vonza town.
6.	<b>Concern:</b> The stakeholders also expressed concerns that the presence of Kenya Wildlife Service rangers at the dam denies them the opportunity to fish around the river. Kanyangi community, they added, has a lot of fishmongers who have been affected by the KWS presence at the site.	<b>Ans:</b> The PIT informed the forum that KWS owns the fish and the wildlife in the river hence special permits and licenses would be required to undertake fishing activities. Residents were further urged to form organizations and apply for such permits.
7.	<b>Concern:</b> The stakeholders also wanted to know measures that have been put in place in case of a possible Dam Break.	<b>Response:</b> The PIT informed them that sensitization sessions had been done and the Ministry is planning to undertake another sensitization to people living in the downstream areas

### 5.1.2 Land Acquisition for Additional Financing

This process adhered to Kenyan legal frameworks and African Development Bank (AfDB) safeguard policies, ensuring fair compensation and minimal disruption for Project Affected Persons (PAPs). The acquisition was driven by the need to increase the dam height from 77.5m to 80.5m to accommodate a revised Probable Maximum Flood (PMF) of 11,480 m<sup>3</sup>/s, expand the main spillway (from 224m to 235m at the weir and 535m to 618m in length), construct saddle dams to mitigate overtopping risks, develop the employer's camp and extend the main road. Nine land parcels were acquired, affecting 28 PAPs. The steps involved issuance of Kenya Gazette notices to notify landowners, asset inspection and valuation to record developments (e.g., 76 structures, 1,248 crops/trees), stakeholder consultations to sensitize PAPs and address concerns, facilitation of bank account openings and pre-compensation financial literacy training, resolution of succession cases for 5 parcels through

legal assistance, issuance of awards and notices to vacate. All PAPs relocated by July 2024. The acquisition complied with Land Act 2012, National Land Commission Act, and Constitution (Article 40), AfDB Operational Safeguard 2 (OS2) on involuntary resettlement, ensuring full replacement cost, timely compensation, and stakeholder engagement. Most PAPs reported improved livelihoods, investing in modern housing, farming, and businesses (e.g., hotels, water boozers). Special provisions ensured inclusion of elderly, single-headed households, and disabled persons while environmental impact assessments confirmed minimal disruption, with mitigation strategies in place.

### 5.1.3 Broader Stakeholder Engagements

Beyond the ESIA processes, stakeholder engagements for the Thwake Multipurpose Dam have been ongoing throughout its implementation, involving a wide range of actors:

**High-Level Government Tours:** Visits by officials, such as President Uhuru Kenyatta (2021), Cabinet Secretary Alice Wahome (2022), and CS Eric Mugaa (September 2024), included briefings with local leaders and communities to reaffirm government commitment and address concerns (*See photos in Annex 3*).

**Community Initiatives:** The contractor and government-supported social programs (e.g., gifting school supplies in January 2023) to foster goodwill and maintain community support.

### 5.1.4 Summary of Key Issues Raised by Stakeholders

Stakeholder engagements revealed several recurring concerns and priorities:

- (a) **Compensation and Resettlement:** PAPs expressed dissatisfaction with delays in compensation for land acquired in earlier phases and sought clarity on payments for additional land (e.g., 60 acres acquired in 2022). Fair valuation and timely disbursement were key demands. Relocation logistics, including access to alternative livelihoods, remained contentious.
- (b) **Water Quality and Upstream Pollution:** Stakeholders, including the Auditor General (2022), raised alarms about the Athi River's pollution, particularly from the Nairobi River tributary, which could compromise the dam's water quality for drinking and irrigation. Communities demanded upstream cleanup efforts.
- (c) **Project Delays and Funding:** Residents and leaders voiced frustration over repeated delays in Phase 1 completion (initially set for June 2022, later postponed to December 2024). Funding shortages, as highlighted in December 2024 reports, were a major concern, with calls for faster AfDB disbursements.
- (d) **Livelihood Impacts:** Farmers and pastoralists worried about temporary disruptions to water access during construction and sought guarantees for irrigation benefits in later phases. Employment opportunities for locals were also a priority.

- (e) **Environmental and Safety Concerns:** Downstream communities highlighted risks of flooding or reduced river flows, pressing for robust flood and drought mitigation measures. The Dam Safety Panel emphasized the need for rigorous safety standards.
- (f) **Community Benefits:** Stakeholders, especially in Makueni and Kitui, requested more tangible benefits, such as improved infrastructure (schools, health centres), boreholes, and assured water supply, to offset disruptions.

The consultations and engagements for the Thwake Multipurpose Dam’s ESIA update and additional financing phases have been extensive, involving communities, government bodies, donors, and technical experts. While these efforts have secured broad support for the project, key issues—compensation delays, water quality, funding challenges, and livelihood concerns—continue to shape stakeholder expectations. Addressing these effectively will be critical as the project moves toward Phase 1 commissioning and prepares for subsequent phases.

## 5.2 Future Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

Effective communication with stakeholders is crucial for the success of the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program. Implementing these communication methods will facilitate strong relationships with stakeholders and foster a collaborative environment for the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program. Continuous engagement through tailored communication strategies can help to address concerns, garner support, and ultimately contribute to the project’s overall success.

To monitor the impacts of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan communications activities, the PIT will keep track of journalists’ lists and contacts during media events; Compile an archive of press clippings, including radio and TV programs, and screenshots of websites that mention the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program. Present the reports to the AfDB; Set up a library/archive with the project’s publications and keep track of who received the project’s publications (distribution lists) and the number of publications disseminated; and use infographics to illustrate project results through key facts and figures that can be used on social media, websites, posters, and in publications.

**Table 7: Expected Communication Results**

<b>EXPECTED COMMUNICATION RESULTS</b>	
<b>OUTPUT LEVEL</b>	<b>OUTCOME LEVEL</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ TMWDP-related messages are disseminated via different forms and channels of communication.</li> <li>○ Media published/broadcast stories about the TMWDP</li> <li>○ TMWDP Stakeholders took part</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Raised awareness and understanding about the TMWDP among targeted audiences</li> <li>○ Development and maintenance of mutually beneficial, dialogic, two-way communications with targeted public and TMWDP stakeholders</li> </ul>

	<p>in events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ TMWDP Stakeholders received communications messages</li> <li>○ TMWDP Stakeholders understand communications messages</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Communication used as a tool for a better understanding of TMWDP-related issues</li> <li>○ Communication used as a tool for solving (communications-related) TMWDP challenges and problems</li> <li>○ Communication is used as a tool for empowering TMWDP stakeholders to make informed decisions</li> <li>○ Communication is used as a tool for engaging local communities</li> <li>○ Communication is used as a tool for influencing the behaviors of decision-makers in local communities</li> <li>○ Increased participatory communication and interactivity among TMWDP stakeholders</li> <li>○ Increased media understanding of TMWDP issues</li> </ul>
<b>SUCCESS INDICATORS</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Number of disseminated messages about TMWDP (media advisories, press releases, e-newsletter, interviews, news and features stories submitted to media, posts on social media –Facebook, YouTube, Twitter)</li> <li>○ Number of published, broadcast, and narrowcasting messages about TMWDP in print, broadcasting, and online media</li> <li>○ TMWDP key messages presented by media</li> <li>○ Number of participants in TMWDP events – national, county</li> <li>○ Number of people in target groups who received TMWDP messages</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Number of people in target groups who understand TMWDP messages</li> <li>○ Number of people in target groups who positively (re) act and start with actions based on TMWDP messages which influenced their behaviors</li> <li>○ Prominent, affirmative presentation of donors and partners in media</li> <li>○ Number of likes, comments, and shares on social media about TMWDP</li> <li>○ Measurement of quality of relationships with TMWDP stakeholders based on focus groups /expert discussions</li> </ul>

<b>MEANS OF VERIFICATION</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Media monitoring, press clipping</li> <li>○ Content analysis of TMWDP media coverage</li> <li>○ Feedback from participants in TMWDP events</li> <li>○ Social media measurement tools (such as Facebook Insight, and Google Analytics)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Qualitative assessment of TMWDP media coverage</li> <li>○ TMWDP Media Content Analysis</li> </ul>

This SEP also outlines strategic communications activities that will be aligned with the TMWDP key priorities and are designed to ensure there is a continuous, even, and consistent flow of communications geared towards achieving the outlined objectives. Table 4 shows the SEP communication approach.

**Table 8: The SEP Communications Approach**

1	Immersion Stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Review past communication strategies and plans</li> <li>○ Gather insights on ongoing activities</li> <li>○ Identify gaps, needs, trends</li> <li>○ Position publicity areas that may give TMWDP impact and positive publicity</li> </ul>
2	Preparing to Communicate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Develop key messages</li> <li>○ Communications implementation plans</li> <li>○ Stakeholder engagement plans</li> <li>○ Campaign concepts</li> <li>○ Development of work plans and budgets</li> </ul>
3	Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roll out the SEP</li> <li>• Review the efficacy of the SEP</li> </ul>

### **5.2.1 Designing Key Messages**

The Community living near Thwake Multipurpose Dam is diverse and dynamic. It is imperative to ask the following questions when designing messages.

1. What questions do people ask Thwake staff during field visits?
2. What are their expectations?

3. What would you want to know about the program if you lived in the community surrounding Thwake Multipurpose Dam?
4. Is there any information that should not be shared, given the context?
5. The community members want to know about key areas such as TMWDP program goals and objectives, planned activities and deliverables, including start and end dates, employment, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programs, and criteria for employment.
6. Who are the partners involved in project implementation (Role of Government of Kenya, African Development Bank (AfDB), China Ghezouba Group of Companies (CGGC), SMEC International)
7. The contact details, including how people can identify TMWDP employees?
8. How the community can participate in the program through contracts, businesses, and other opportunities?
9. How the impact will be sustained after the end of the program?
10. What do people need to understand for the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program?
11. What are the key messages we want to communicate to each set of target groups?

### 5.2.2 Communication Methods by Stakeholder Group

The project employs several communication methods for different stakeholders as depicted in table 9 below.

**Table 9: Communication Methods by Stakeholder Groups**

<b>Stakeholder Group</b>	<b>Preferred Communication Methods</b>
<b>Government Authorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Formal Reports and Briefings: Scheduled reports at meetings with national/local officials</li> <li>▪ Policy Advocacy Workshops: Dialogue on policy issues</li> <li>▪ Emails and Newsletters: Updates on milestones, funding, impacts.</li> </ul>
<b>Community Groups</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Community Engagement Meetings: Public forums/town halls for feedback</li> <li>▪ Informal Focus Group Discussions: Diverse group insights</li> <li>▪ Community Liaison Officers: Local facilitators for communication.</li> </ul>
<b>Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Networking Events: Collaboration meetings for best practices</li> <li>▪ Joint Initiatives and Workshops: Capacity-building on water conservation</li> <li>▪ Collaborative Project Updates: Written/virtual progress reports.</li> </ul>
<b>Private Sector</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Informational Webinars: Explain project scope, bidding</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>process</li> <li>▪ Regular Meetings and Stakeholder Engagement: Discuss timelines, contracts</li> <li>▪ Feedback Mechanisms: System for concerns/suggestions.</li> </ul>
<b>Donor Agencies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Management Meetings: Present timelines, budgets, issues</li> <li>▪ Progress Reports: Comprehensive achievement/challenge reports</li> <li>▪ Site Visits: Firsthand observation of progress.</li> </ul>
<b>Academic and Research Institutions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Research Collaborations: Joint projects on water management</li> <li>▪ Knowledge Sharing Workshops: Share findings, explore innovations</li> <li>▪ Professional Conferences: Present research/lessons learned.</li> </ul>
<b>Environmental Groups</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Environmental Impact Assessments: Incorporate input during assessments</li> <li>▪ Public Forums on Environmental Concerns: Discuss safeguards</li> <li>▪ Sustainability Reports: Environmental performance updates.</li> </ul>
<b>General Communication Strategies</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Social Media and Online Platforms</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Thwake website (<a href="http://www.thwakedam.go.ke">www.thwakedam.go.ke</a>) and Ministry of Water site (<a href="http://www.water.go.ke">www.water.go.ke</a>) for updates, ensuring transparency.</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Communication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Create infographics, videos, and presentations to communicate goals/impacts, tailored for varying literacy levels.</li> </ul>
<b>Feedback Mechanisms</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Establish suggestion boxes and surveys for two-way communication from all stakeholders.</li> </ul>
<b>Culturally Sensitive Communication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Adapt communication to cultural contexts of stakeholder groups for better understanding/engagement.</li> </ul>

### 5.2.3 General Communication Strategies

**Social Media and Online Platforms:** Utilize social media and Thwake Multipurpose Water Development

**Culturally Sensitive Communication:** Ensure that communication is adapted to the cultural contexts of different stakeholder groups at Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program to enhance understanding and engagement

## 5.2.4 Selecting Communication Platforms

The Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program (TMWDP) employs a variety of stakeholder communication methods to engage with communities, government entities, donors like the African Development Bank (AfDB), contractors, and other key stakeholders. These methods reflect the program's efforts to ensure transparency, build trust, and address stakeholder concerns effectively.

## 5.2.5 Stakeholder Communication Methods at TMWDP

### (a) Public Meetings and Community Forums

**Description:** Face-to-face gatherings with local communities, particularly Project Affected Persons (PAPs) in Makueni, Kitui, and parts of Machakos counties, are held to share project updates, discuss impacts, and gather feedback.

**Application:** Used during the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) processes and ongoing phases to address compensation, resettlement, and livelihood concerns. For example, consultations in areas like Mavindini and Kanyangi divisions have been key to informing residents about the dam's benefits and risks.

**Purpose:** Ensures direct engagement with affected populations, fostering inclusivity and addressing local priorities.

### (b) High-Level Site Visits and Tours

**Description:** Organized tours of the dam site for government officials, donor representatives, and technical experts to assess progress and discuss challenges.

**Application:** Examples include visits by former President Uhuru Kenyatta (2021), Cabinet Secretaries Alice Wahome (2022) and Eric Mugaa (September 2024), and AfDB supervision missions (e.g., June 2023, October 2024). These visits often involve briefings with local leaders and contractors like China Gezhouba Group Company (CGGC).

**Purpose:** Facilitates coordination between national leadership, funders, and implementers while showcasing progress to stakeholders

### (c) Workshops and Technical Consultations

**Description:** Structured sessions with government agencies, consultants (e.g., SMEC), and the Dam Safety Panel of Experts to review technical aspects and compliance with safety standards.

**Application:** Regular workshops have been part of ESIA updates and additional financing discussions, involving entities like the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, and the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA).

**Purpose:** Ensures expert input and alignment with regulatory and environmental requirements.

#### **(d) Supervision Missions and Bilateral Meetings**

These include formal engagements led by the AfDB and the Government of Kenya (GoK) to monitor progress, address funding delays, and resolve implementation issues. Such missions including site appraisals and discussions with the National Treasury, contractors, and the Program Implementation Team tackle disbursement, environmental and social challenges, and timelines. The purpose of the mission was to strengthen the donor-government collaboration and keep financial and operational stakeholders aligned.

#### **(e) Community Outreach and Social Investment Initiatives**

These are the events and programs to build goodwill, such as the distribution of school supplies by CGGC in January 2023 to schools near the dam site. The initiatives target local communities to demonstrate tangible benefits beyond the dam's core objectives (water, hydropower, irrigation). The purpose is to enhance community support and address stakeholder expectations for immediate benefits.

#### **(f) Media Updates and Public Disclosures**

These include press releases, website updates (e.g. [thwakedam.go.ke](http://thwakedam.go.ke)), and media coverage to disseminate project milestones and address public concerns. The statements from officials like CS Eric Mugaa (September 2024) on fast-tracking funding, and AfDB reports on phase completion timelines (e.g., December 2024 target), are shared through these channels. The purpose is to keep a broader audience informed, ensuring transparency and managing public perception.

#### **(g) Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)**

FGDs are targeted sessions with specific groups such as farmers, women, and youth to understand their unique needs and concerns. They are mostly employed during ESIA consultations to tailor mitigation measures, such as irrigation plans for farmers or water access for households. The aim is to capture diverse perspectives to refine project planning and implementation.

#### **(h) Formal Reports and Documentation**

This is the formal distribution of ESIA reports, progress updates, and supervision mission findings to stakeholders via official channels. For example, the AfDB's June 2019 ESIA

summary and subsequent updates are made available for public review, often accompanied by consultation periods for feedback. The channel provides a legal and technical basis for stakeholder input and accountability.

### **5.2.6 Information Disclosure and Communication Strategy**

The Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program (TMWDP) Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) is a critical component of the project's framework, designed to ensure transparency, inclusivity, and effective communication with all stakeholders involved. While specific details of the SEP's information disclosure mechanisms are not fully outlined in a single public document based on available data, general practices and principles from the project's implementation and related water management initiatives can be inferred.

#### **Information Disclosure Approach for SEP**

Information disclosure for the TMWDP SEP follows international best practices, such as those recommended by the AfDB and aligned with Kenyan policies, ensuring stakeholders are informed about project progress, impacts, and opportunities. Key aspects include:

**Project Objectives and Scope:** Stakeholders are provided with clear details about the dam's purpose—water supply, 20 MW hydropower generation, and irrigation for 40,000 hectares—as well as its four-phase implementation plan. Phase 1, involved the construction of an 80.5-meter-high dam with a 688 million cubic meter capacity.

**Stakeholder Identification:** The SEP identifies affected communities, local and national government entities, NGOs, and private sector partners as key stakeholders. Regular updates are shared to ensure all parties understand their roles and the project's implications.

**Public Updates and Milestones:** Progress reports, such as the completion of the embankment area ahead of schedule in June 2024, are disclosed through official channels like the TMWDP website (*thwakedam.go.ke*) and media briefings by officials, including the Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation Cabinet Secretary.

**Engagement Activities:** Site visits, such as those by the AfDB Supervision Mission and the Regional Development Implementation Coordination Committee in 2022 and 2024, are publicized to demonstrate transparency and accountability. These events often include tours and discussions with local leaders and contractors like the China Gezhouba Group Company (CGGC).

**Grievance Mechanisms:** While not explicitly detailed, standard practice in such projects includes a grievance redress mechanism (GRM) to allow stakeholders to raise concerns. Contact points, likely through the Ministry or TMWDP management, would be disclosed to facilitate feedback.

**Environmental and Social Impacts:** Information on environmental management, health, safety, and community benefits—like the maternity block constructed for local mothers—is shared to address stakeholder concerns and highlight positive outcomes.

### *1) Methods of Disclosure*

Disclosure methods typically include:

**Official Websites:** The TMWDP portal provides updates, success stories, and program details; **Media Releases:** Statements from government officials and media coverage ensure broad reach; **Community Meetings:** Local engagement sessions in Makueni and Kitui counties allow direct interaction; **Reports:** Technical summaries and supervision mission findings are shared with relevant stakeholders, though public versions may be simplified, **TMWDP Social Media Platforms** (X; @ThwakeWater); *Facebook* ([www.facebook.com/ThwakeWater](http://www.facebook.com/ThwakeWater)) and *You Tube* [www.youtube.com/@thwakemulti-purposewaterde979](http://www.youtube.com/@thwakemulti-purposewaterde979).

### *2) Observations on Effectiveness*

These methods collectively aim to balance top-down communication (e.g., government and donor-led updates) with bottom-up engagement (e.g., community forums). However, challenges like delays in compensation and funding, as raised by stakeholders, suggest that while communication channels exist, their effectiveness in resolving issues varies. The program’s reliance on in-person methods is complemented by limited digital outreach (e.g., the TMWDP website), though social media or advanced ICT tools appear underutilized compared to global best practices for stakeholder engagement.

## **CHAPTER 6: GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM (GRM)**

### **6.1 Establishment of Grievance Redress Mechanisms**

Mechanisms to redress grievances are a pre-requisite for large infrastructure interventions where people's key economic productive assets are acquired for a public purpose. This has a likelihood of leaving the Project Affected Persons (PAPs) vulnerable to multiple risks including change of occupation, lowering of income levels, and lack of support systems. On July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 a community grievance Redress Mechanism was developed for the project. This was necessitated by the need to address grievances brought forth by the community as a result of the project. It was also meant to show the community proper reporting mechanisms for easier addressing of the complaints.

### **6.2 Objectives of the GRM**

The objectives are to ensure timely and transparent resolution of grievances related to land acquisition and project activities; to provide an accessible and fair process for affected parties and to strengthen trust between stakeholders and the project authorities.

### **6.3 Types of Likely Grievances**

The Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program community stakeholders and other key actors may raise different types of grievances including but not limited to the ones indicated in table 10. **Table 6 shows** the grievance matrix as mapped to TMWDP Stakeholders.

**Table 10: Types of TMWDP Grievances and Who May Raise Them**

<b>Type of Grievance</b>	<b>Likely Stakeholders Raising the Grievance</b>
Negative impacts on communities (financial loss, physical harm, nuisance)	Residents, community leaders, affected households
Blasting causes the cracking of houses.	Homeowners, and residents near construction sites
Delayed release of compensation packages or land titles	Project Affected Persons (PAPs), landowners
Health and safety risks	Residents, workers, community health groups
Negative environmental impacts (pollution of waterways, soil, air)	Environmental groups, local residents, farmers, fisherfolk
Relocation and disruption of utilities	Relocated households, local residents
Lack of access to Thwake River	Fisherfolk, farmers, local residents relying on the river
Blocked access to fishing activities	Fisherfolk, fishing cooperatives
Lack of employment of locals by the Contractor	Unemployed local youth, community leaders, local workers
Disruption of social setups by migrant workers	Local residents, community leaders, cultural groups
Inadequate management of project impacts	Local residents, community leaders, NGOs
Inadequate restoration of project sites	Local residents, environmental groups, farmers
Failure to consult, sensitize, or disclose project impacts	Local residents, community leaders, PAPs, NGOs
Lack of access to community roads	Local residents, farmers, business owners

**Table 11: Grievances Matrix Mapped to TMWDP Stakeholders**

<b>Grievance</b>	<b>Local Residents</b>	<b>PAPs</b>	<b>Fisherfolk</b>	<b>Farmers</b>	<b>Community Leaders</b>	<b>Environmental Groups</b>	<b>NGOs</b>	<b>Workers</b>	<b>Business Owners</b>
Negative impacts (financial loss, harm, nuisance)	X	X		X	X		X		X
Blasting causes house cracking.	X	X			X				
Delayed compensation or land titles		X		X	X		X		

Health and safety risks	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	
Environmental pollution (waterways, soil, air)	X		X	X	X	X	X		
Relocation and utility disruption	X	X			X		X		
Lack of access to Thwake River	X		X	X	X	X			
Blocked fishing activities			X		X				
Lack of local employment	X				X		X	X	
Disruption by migrant workers	X				X		X		X
Inadequate management of project impacts	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Inadequate site restoration	X		X	X	X	X	X		
Failure to consult or disclose impacts	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Lack of access to community roads	X			X	X				

**Notes:**

- **X** indicates that the stakeholder group is likely to raise the grievance.
- Stakeholders include residents (from Makueni, Kitui, and Machakos counties), Project Affected Persons (PAPs), fisher folk, farmers, community leaders, environmental groups, NGOs, workers, and business owners.
- The matrix simplifies stakeholder mapping; actual grievances may involve overlapping groups depending on specific circumstances.

## **6.4 GRM Membership and Structure**

The project GRM is in two parts: Community GRM and Workers/employees GRM.

### **6.4.1 Community GRM**

This involves a GRC whose membership is constituted of 4 No. representatives of the local administration, 2 No. Community Liaison officers and 1No. EHS officer. The Grievance Redress Committee for the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program plays a vital role in ensuring stakeholder voices are heard and addressed effectively. By focusing on transparency, efficiency, and continuous improvement. The GRC contributes to the overall success and sustainability of the project, fostering a collaborative environment between all stakeholders.

#### **6.4.1.1 Objectives of the Grievance Redress Committee**

*Establish Clear Channels for Grievance Submission:* Create and provide accessible mechanisms for stakeholders to lodge grievances, ensuring that all community members are aware of how to voice their concerns.

*Ensure Timely and Efficient Handling of Grievances:* Aim to resolve grievances on time, with a structured process that includes acknowledgment of the complaint, investigation, and response within a predetermined timeframe.

*Enhance Stakeholder Trust and Confidence:* Build and maintain trust among Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program community stakeholders by demonstrating a commitment to addressing concerns and acting on feedback, thereby fostering a sense of confidence in the project's governance.

*Promote Transparency and Accountability:* Ensure transparency in the grievance handling process, making information about the nature of grievances and their resolutions available to Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program community stakeholders, thereby holding accountable those responsible for managing complaints.

*Facilitate Continuous Improvement:* Use information gathered from grievances to identify patterns and root causes, leading to the development of strategies and actions aimed at preventing similar issues in the future.

*Encourage Participation and Engagement:* Promote active participation from all stakeholders through Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program community groups in the grievance process, encouraging feedback and involvement in finding solutions to issues that affect them.

*Ensure Fairness and Impartiality:* Guarantee that all grievances are addressed fairly and impartially without bias, ensuring that the rights and interests of all Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program stakeholders are respected and upheld.

*Document and Analyze Grievance Data:* Record and maintain detailed documentation of all grievances, responses, and resolutions to analyze trends, evaluate the effectiveness of the grievance process, and inform decision-making.

*Enhance Communication between Stakeholders and Project Management:* Serve as a bridge between stakeholders and project management, facilitating dialogue and understanding regarding project activities and their impacts.

*Support Conflict Resolution Mechanisms:* Act as a conflict resolution mechanism that not only addresses grievances but also seeks to mediate and resolve underlying issues that could lead to more significant disputes.

#### **6.4.2 Workers/Employees GRM for Labour-Related Grievances**

To create a working environment that provides safety and security to all Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program workers, the main Contractor, and the sub-contractors presents every month a worker's grievance redress mechanism that responds to the requirements of AfDB OSs. For direct workers, the mechanism should involve an appropriate level of management and address concerns promptly, using an understandable and transparent process that provides feedback to those concerned, without any retribution.

The contractor will inform the workers of the grievance redress mechanism at the time of hiring, and make it easily accessible to them. Workers will elect representatives who will form a committee that will act as the Workers Grievance Redress Committee. The employees' representatives amicably settle individual labor disputes between employers and employees. If employees' representatives fail to settle the disputes amicably, the concerned party refers the matter to the labor representative. In any case, the PIT will be informed from the beginning of any worker's grievances and provide insight and mediation if possible. The matter will be referred to the Ministry only if the PIT fails to do the mediation.

### **6.5 Grievance Procedures, Recording and Addressing Grievances**

#### **Submission of Grievances**

The grievances can be submitted via complaints through the local chief offices; written complaints (anonymous); community meetings where grievances are formally recorded; approaching the community liaison team who are available.

#### **Grievance Documentation**

Each grievance must be recorded in a Grievance Log Register, including complainant details (if provided), date of submission, nature of the complaint, status (pending/in progress/resolved), actions taken, and resolution timeline.

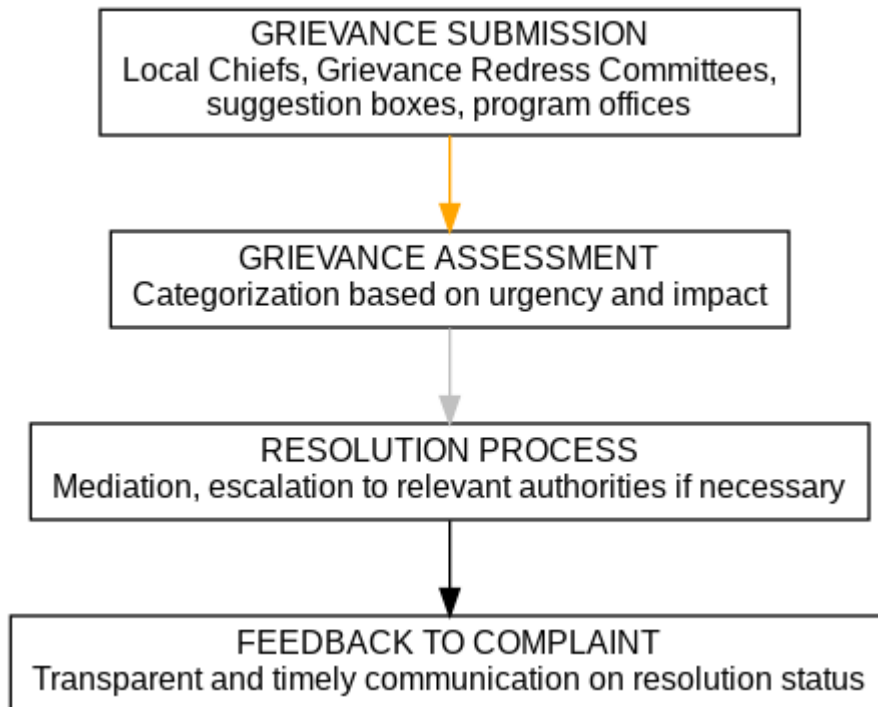
**Grievance assessment:** Categorization based on urgency and impact.

#### **Resolution and Escalation Process**

Mediation, escalation to relevant authorities if necessary

If resolved, the case is closed and if unresolved, it moves to the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation.

**Feedback to the complainant:** Transparent and timely communication on resolution status.



*Figure 4: The GRM Process*

## **6.6 Transparency and Communication**

To uphold transparency and proper communication, the GRM procedures will be publicly displayed in affected areas. Additionally, regular updates are provided through community meetings and feedback mechanisms allow complainants to be tracked.

A grievance redress mechanism must address the concerns of the PAPs and other stakeholders, and provide for effective redress in a time-bound manner within the legal framework to avoid grievances becoming contentious hence affecting the project.

Further, grievance redress mechanisms devised must keep in mind the socio-cultural setting and the provisions of the legal system.

Grievance Redress mechanisms if included in the Programme design, planning, and management, help to realize the program objectives effectively. This requires setting up appropriate channels to address individual or community concerns, prevent adverse consequences and risks, and bring out program implementation-related issues and corrupt practices if any. Such an effective mechanism also brings out positive changes in people's lives as well as enhanced feeling of being an important stakeholder in the Programme.

## **6.7 Establishment of the Grievance Redress Committee**

The Grievance Redress Committee (GRC) for the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program is established to address concerns and grievances from various stakeholders effectively and transparently.

Grievances raised by stakeholders need to be managed through a transparent process, readily acceptable to all segments of affected communities and other stakeholders, at no cost and without retribution. The grievance mechanism should be appropriate to the scale of impacts and risks presented by a project and beneficial for both a proponent/operator and stakeholders, especially PAPs.

## **CHAPTER 7: MONITORING AND REPORTING**

### **7.1 Introduction**

The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) process for the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program is essential for assessing the program's effectiveness, ensuring accountability, and guiding decision-making. The M&E process for the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program is a systematic approach designed to ensure effective tracking of progress and impact, facilitate stakeholder engagement, and enable adaptive management. By focusing on data-driven decision-making and continuous learning, the program aims to achieve its goals sustainably and inclusively.

Monitoring and evaluation of the stakeholder process is considered vital to ensure the project implementers can respond to identified issues and alter the schedule and nature of engagement activities to make them more effective. Adherence to the following characteristics/commitments/activities will assist in achieving successful engagement: Sufficient resources to undertake the engagement; Inclusivity (inclusion of key groups) of interactions with stakeholders; Promotion of stakeholder involvement; Sense of trust in leadership shown by all stakeholders; Clear defined approaches; and transparency in all activities.

Monitoring of the stakeholder engagement process allows the efficacy of the process to be evaluated. Specifically, by identifying key performance indicators that reflect the objectives of the SEP and the specific actions and timings, it is possible to both monitor and evaluate the process undertaken.

### **7.2 Key Performance Indicators to Monitor the Implementation of SEP**

The following key performance indicators will be used to monitor the implementation of SEP: the number of public hearings, consultation meetings, and other public discussions/forums conducted within a reporting period (e.g. monthly, quarterly, or annually); frequency of public engagement activities; geographical coverage of public engagement activities; number of participants in different engagement activities (where applicable); newly identified stakeholders; number of locations covered by the consultation process; number and details of vulnerable individuals involved in consultation meetings; number of grievances received within a reporting period (e.g. monthly, quarterly, or annually) and number of those resolved within the prescribed timeline; type of grievances received; number of press materials published/broadcasted in the local, regional, and national media;

### **7.3 Monitoring and Evaluation Process**

#### **1. Establishment of M&E Framework**

This is the development of a comprehensive M&E framework that outlines the goals, objectives, indicators, data collection methods, and timelines for the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program. The process includes the definition of key performance indicators (KPIs) that will measure the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program's success across various dimensions, including social, environmental, and economic outcomes.

## **2. Baseline Data Collection**

Conduct baseline surveys and assessments before the implementation of the program to establish a point of reference against which progress can be measured. This includes collecting socio-economic, environmental, and demographic data from relevant Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program stakeholders and communities.

## **3. Routine Monitoring**

Implementing routine monitoring activities to track the progress of Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program activities against planned timelines and targets. This will be done through regular field visits, site inspections, and consultations with community members to gather qualitative and quantitative data.

## **4. Stakeholder Engagement**

This means involving key stakeholders, including community members, local authorities, and project staff, in the M&E process to ensure that diverse perspectives are considered and conduct regular meetings, workshops, and feedback sessions to discuss findings and receive input on program performance.

## **5. Data Collection and Management**

Data collection can be done by utilizing various data collection methods, such as surveys, focus group discussions, interviews, and participatory assessments for Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program. It will also involve ensuring proper data management protocols are in place to maintain the accuracy, integrity, and confidentiality of collected data.

## **6. Periodic Evaluations**

Conducting mid-term and end-of-phase evaluations to assess the overall impact of the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program, outcomes achieved, and lessons learned

Evaluations can be formative (ongoing, developmental) to improve program design and implementation or summative (conclusive) to assess the effectiveness and sustainability of outcomes.

## **7. Analysis and Interpretation of Data**

Analyzing collected data to measure progress towards objectives, exploring trends, and identifying areas for improvement.

Interpreting results in the context of the local environment, challenges faced, and the dynamics of stakeholder involvement.

## 8. Reporting and Documentation

Preparing regular reports summarizing monitoring activities, key findings, challenges encountered, and recommendations for improvement

Ensuring that reports are accessible to stakeholders, fostering transparency and accountability.

## 9. Feedback Mechanisms

The feedback mechanisms will be to respond to stakeholders based on M&E findings, enabling informed discussions about program adjustments and enhancements. Also, utilizing stakeholder input to refine Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program strategies and operational plans.

## 10. Learning and Adaptation

This will involve fostering a culture of learning within the Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program by reflecting on M&E findings and applying lessons learned to improve future planning and implementation. Additionally, continuously adjusting program activities based on monitoring results and stakeholder feedback to enhance effectiveness and impact.

### 7.4 SEP Performance and Impact Monitoring

The project will monitor two main aspects of SEP implementation to measure its achievements and success, i.e. the performance and impact process.

#### 7.4.1 Performance Monitoring

These include the monitoring of the progress of engagements, consultations, and grievance management. This activity will be undertaken directly by TMWDP and it can be defined as Internal Monitoring. The PIT team will monitor the progress of engagements and implementation through monthly progress reports and it will report to AfDB on the effectiveness monthly.

#### 7.4.2 Impact Monitoring/Annual Environmental and Social Audit

Some aspects of the performance monitoring mentioned above will also be covered in the annual E&S performance audit which also covers elements of stakeholder engagements and consultations. The project will engage an independent agency/consultant/consulting firm to conduct the external audits. The external Consultant will measure the effectiveness of the stakeholder engagements program as part of the project's progress. Table 12 shows the types of monitoring, indicators, responsible entities, and timelines.

*Table 12: Performance and Impact Monitoring of SEP Process*

Type of	Topic	Indicator	Responsible	Frequency
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<b>Monitoring</b>				
Performance Monitoring Internal	Consultation	No. of consultation against the SEP  Type of consultation against SEP Percentage of participation men, women, youth  The main topic of discussion and conclusion reached	PIT/Contractor	Monthly
Performance Monitoring Internal	Grievances	No. of open grievances  No. of closed grievances Breakdown of grievances  No. of social grievances  No. of Resettlement and Compensation Grievances  Breakdown of complainants: No. of Women and Men, No. of elderly, Youth  No of Grievances GBV and/or SEAH	PIT/Contractor	Monthly
Impact Monitoring External	Consultations	Impacts analysis of consultation programs on the affected	PIT/External Consultant	Annually

		community		
Impact Monitoring External	Grievances	Efficacy of grievances mechanism	PIT/External Consultant	Annually

## 7.5 Reporting

The reporting of stakeholder engagement activities will be undertaken throughout the project to facilitate continuous improvement of the engagement process. Stakeholder engagement activities and significant changes or updates in the project, stakeholders' concerns, as well as environmental and social issues will be continuously reported and published to a wider audience in a transparent way through public domain documents. Monthly reports and annual audit reports will be compiled and feedback channeled back to the community.

### 7.5.1 Monthly Reports

The Project will prepare monthly reports on stakeholder engagement activities for the Bank, including stakeholder activities conducted monthly; Public outreach activities (meetings with stakeholders); Entries in the grievance register; newly identified stakeholder groups; and emerging new issues or challenges.

### 7.5.2 Annual Audit Reports

The PIT team will compile a report summarizing SEP engagements and results on an annual basis. This report will provide a summary of all public consultation issues, grievances & resolutions, and public consultation findings from informal meetings held at the community level. This will be part of the annual environment and social audit report which will be submitted to the Bank.

### 7.5.3 Reporting and Feedback to the Stakeholders

Stakeholder engagement is a two-way process where the project is expected to give feedback to the various stakeholders identified. This is important for the success of the project as feedback ensures that stakeholders' voices are heard and their comments are integrated into the project planning and execution processes. To understand the perspectives, concerns, and suggestions of stakeholders, the PIT team will collect, analyse, and report the feedback to stakeholders through various ways including:

**Interviews** - In-depth interviews will be conducted periodically, with key informants such as local leaders, government officials, and project staff to gather detailed insights.

**Focus Group Discussions** - These will be organized with various stakeholder groups to facilitate in-depth discussions on specific issues and gather diverse perspectives.

**Suggestion Boxes** - Physical Suggestion Boxes: Placed in accessible locations within communities, such as the Area Chief's offices to collect anonymous feedback. Digital

Suggestion Boxes are established on project websites and social media platforms to provide a convenient feedback channel for all stakeholders.

**Community Meetings** - Regular community meetings will be held to facilitate direct communication and allow stakeholders to voice their opinions and concerns openly.

**Feedback Analysis** - The feedback from stakeholders will be compiled in a database, categorized, and analysed to generate themes and narratives alongside statistics. This will then be prioritised based on its relevance, urgency, and potential impact on the project. The prioritised feedback will be incorporated into the project's planning and execution strategies and help in adjusting project activities, timelines, and resources as necessary to address stakeholders' concerns and suggestions.

**Feedback Reporting** - To build trust and ensure transparency with stakeholders, the PIT will ensure feedback is reported back to stakeholders in a timely and understandable manner, through regular updates, newsletters, community meetings, and digital platforms. Additionally, public meetings and workshops will be hosted to present feedback findings and discuss the implemented changes. These events will also serve as platforms for further dialogue and continuous engagement. The project will also enhance feedback communication through digital channels such as emails, social media, and the project website to share feedback reports and updates widely.

## CHAPTER 8: INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR SEP IMPLEMENTATION

The Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program (TMWDP) Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) is a critical framework designed to ensure effective communication, participation, and accountability among all parties involved in the project. The broader governance structure of the TMWDP, aligned with Kenyan government policies and international funding requirements, provides insight into how these processes are likely organized. Below is an outline of the institutional arrangements for the implementation and monitoring of the TMWDP SEP, based on the program's operational context.

### 8.1 Institutional Framework for Implementation

**Lead Agency: Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation:** The Ministry serves as the primary implementing agency for the TMWDP, overseeing the program's strategic direction and ensuring alignment with Kenya's Vision 2030 and national water policies. It is responsible for coordinating the SEP's execution, including stakeholder identification, engagement activities, and information dissemination. A dedicated Program Implementation Team (PIT) within the Ministry manages day-to-day SEP activities, ensuring that stakeholder consultations, grievance redress mechanisms, and communication strategies are effectively rolled out.

**Contractors and Technical Partners:** The China Gezhouba Group Company (CGGC), the main contractor for Phase 1, supports SEP implementation by engaging with local communities on issues like employment opportunities and environmental management. Technical consultants, such as SMEC, contribute by providing expertise in stakeholder mapping and engagement during design and construction phases. These partners collaborate with the PIT to ensure that project-related information reaches stakeholders and that feedback is incorporated into project planning.

**Local Government and Community Structures:** County governments in Makueni, Kitui, and parts of Machakos are integral to SEP implementation at the grassroots level. They facilitate community dialogues, mobilize local stakeholders when called upon by the project, and address region-specific concerns, such as water access and land use. Community-based organizations and local leaders act as intermediaries, helping to organize meetings, disseminate information, and collect feedback from residents.

### 8.2 Monitoring Mechanisms

**Program Implementation Team (PIT) Oversight:** The PIT is tasked with monitoring the SEP's progress, tracking stakeholder engagement activities, and assessing their effectiveness. This includes documenting participation rates, grievances raised, and resolutions provided. Regular reports are prepared for internal review and submission to the AfDB, detailing how stakeholder concerns are addressed and integrated into project decisions.

**AfDB Supervision Missions and Monthly Technical Meetings:** The AfDB conducts periodic supervision missions to evaluate the SEP's implementation. These missions involve site visits, stakeholder interviews, and reviews of engagement records to ensure compliance with agreed standards. Independent audits, aligned with AfDB's environmental and social frameworks, may be commissioned to assess the SEP's impact and identify areas for improvement.

**Dam Safety Panel of Experts (DSPE):** An independent panel of experts, as noted in project updates, monitors technical and safety aspects of the dam, including stakeholder-related issues like displacement or environmental impacts. Their findings inform adjustments to the SEP to mitigate risks and enhance community trust.

**Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM):** A GRM is typically established to handle stakeholder complaints, providing a structured process for logging, investigating, and resolving issues. The PIT, in collaboration with county governments, oversees the GRM, ensuring accessibility to affected communities. Monitoring of the GRM includes tracking the number and nature of grievances, resolution times, and stakeholder satisfaction with outcomes.

**Community and Stakeholder Feedback Loops:** Regular community forums and surveys are likely used to gauge stakeholder perceptions and the effectiveness of engagement activities. Feedback is channeled to the PIT and AfDB for consideration in project adjustments. Local NGOs and civil society groups may also play a role in independent monitoring, advocating for transparency and accountability.

### **8.2.1 Coordination and Accountability**

**Inter-Agency Coordination:** The TMWDP aligns with Kenya's Regional Development Implementation Coordination Committee (RDICC), which includes representatives from multiple ministries and agencies. This body ensures that the SEP is integrated into broader development goals and that cross-sectoral issues, like irrigation and energy, are addressed collaboratively.

**Transparency Measures:** Information disclosure, a key component of the SEP, is facilitated through the TMWDP website ([thwakedam.go.ke](http://thwakedam.go.ke)), media updates, and public forums.

**Accountability to Stakeholders:** The institutional setup emphasizes responsiveness to stakeholder needs, particularly for the 1.3 million beneficiaries in semi-arid regions. This includes ensuring that marginalized groups, such as women and youth, are actively engaged and their voices reflected in project outcomes.

## CHAPTER 9: SEP IMPLEMENTATION BUDGET

Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program is advancing towards completion of Phase 1 as mentioned in the subsequent chapters. However, stakeholder engagement activities discussed in the previous chapters and others that will be identified throughout project implementation will be carried out. In Table 13, a tentative estimation of costs has been proposed with the assumption that it will be updated or amended as appropriate depending on the arising program needs. A bill item for communication in the contract will be used to fund this activity.

*Table 13: SEP Implementation Budget*

Activity/Exercise	Description	Materials/Requirements	Estimated Cost (KES)	Funding Agency
<b>Public Meetings and Community Forums</b>	<b>Organize face-to-face meetings in Makueni and Kitui, counties to communicate project updates, discuss impacts, and gather feedback from Project Affected Persons (PAPs) and local communities.</b>	<b>Venue rental, transportation for participants, refreshments, audio-visual equipment, printed materials (flyers, posters).</b>	<b>100,000 per event (6 events annually) = 600,000/-</b>	<b>African Development Bank (AfDB) / Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation (MWSI)</b>
<b>High-Level Site Visits and Tours</b>	<b>Facilitate site visits for National and County government officials and Agencies (NEMA, DoHSS, KWS,..) local leaders, NGOs, Parties of Interest to the project</b>	<b>Transportation, lunches, refreshments, security arrangements, briefing materials, photography/ Videography.</b>	<b>350,000 per visit (2 visits annually) = 700,000/-</b>	<b>AfDB / MWSI</b>
<b>Workshops and Technical Consultations</b>	<b>Conduct workshops with government agencies, NGOs, and technical experts to present and obtain feedback on dam safety and stakeholder concerns.</b>	<b>Venue hire, facilitator fees, technical materials, participant allowances, stationery.</b>	<b>400,000/- per workshop (2workshops annually) = 800,000</b>	<b>AfDB / MWSI</b>
<b>Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)</b>	<b>Targeted sessions with specific groups (e.g. farmers, women, youth) to address unique concerns and tailor mitigation measures.</b>	<b>Venue costs, moderator fees, participant transport, refreshments, recording equipment.</b>	<b>100,000 per FGD (4 FGDs annually) = 400,000</b>	<b>AfDB / MWSI</b>
<b>Community Outreach and Social Investment</b>	<b>Implement programs like school supply distribution, health</b>	<b>Supplies (e.g., school materials, medical kits), transportation, personnel</b>	<b>300,000 per initiative (2 initiatives</b>	<b>China Gezhouba Group</b>

<b>Initiatives</b>	<b>campaigns to foster positive relationship and address immediate community needs.</b>	<b>costs, promotional materials.</b>	<b>annually) = 600,000</b>	<b>Company (CGGC) / MWSI</b>
<b>Media Updates and Public Disclosures</b>	<b>Produce press releases, website updates, and media coverage to disseminate project milestones and respond to public concerns.</b>	<b>Media production (videos, articles), website maintenance, advertising, social media management.</b>	<b>500,000 annually</b>	<b>MWSI / AfDB</b>
<b>Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) Operations</b>	<b>Maintain a functional GRM to log, investigate, and resolve stakeholder complaints, including training for committee members.</b>	<b>Office supplies, GRM software/database, training materials, staff allowances, communication costs.</b>	<b>100,000/-per event, 12 events = 1,200,000/-</b>	<b>AfDB / MWSI</b>
<b>Capacity Building and Training</b>	<b>Organize workshops to equip stakeholders with knowledge on water management, environmental safeguards, and project governance.</b>	<b>Training materials, venue hire, trainer fees, participant allowances, certification costs.</b>	<b>500,000 per session, 2 sessions in a year = 1,000,000</b>	<b>AfDB / MWSI</b>
<b>Information Dissemination Materials</b>	<b>Develop and distribute newsletters, brochures, and posters to keep stakeholders informed about project progress and opportunities.</b>	<b>Design and printing costs, distribution logistics, translation services (for local languages).</b>	<b>400,000/- per activity, 3 activities per year = 1,200,000/-</b>	<b>MWSI / AfDB</b>
		<b>TOTAL (KSHS ANNUALLY)</b>	<b>7,000,000</b>	

**NB: Total Estimated Budget: 27,100,000 KES annually**

**Notes:**

- Costs are indicative and subject to adjustment based on actual needs and inflation rates.
- Funding is primarily sourced from the AfDB and MWSI, with contributions from CGGC for specific community initiatives.
- Budget will be sourced from **Item 1C.13** of the Contactors Bills of Quantities of Civil Works Contract under a Provisional Sum for the Employer's Communication Strategy.

- Regular reviews and updates to the budget will be conducted to align with project progress and stakeholder needs.

## **CHAPTER 10: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

### **10.1 Conclusion**

The TMWDP Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) provides a comprehensive framework for ensuring continuous and meaningful stakeholder participation throughout the project lifecycle. It emphasizes building strong relationships, fostering collaboration, and achieving sustainable outcomes. The SEP will foster effective communication and collaboration between the project team and stakeholders, including Project Affected Persons (PAPs), government agencies, non-governmental organizations, community groups, and other relevant parties. By proactively engaging stakeholders, the project will minimize conflicts, enhance project benefits, and build trust among all involved. The key components include monitoring and evaluation processes, and ensuring equitable representation and participation of all genders. The SEP will include regular reporting and documentation to enhance transparency and accountability. Special efforts will be made to ensure inclusivity and address capacity gaps through targeted stakeholder training programs.

### **10.2 Recommendation**

The implementation of this Stakeholder Engagement Plan is essential for this Project. Notably, the SEP requires special attention to achieve its objective. M&E Expert in PIT to develop expanded M&E tools for monitoring implementation.

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## ANNEXES

### ANNEX 1: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT MINUTES

#### ANNEX 1.1: COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES

#### MINUTES OF COMMUNITY MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2025 AT 11.00 AM AT AFRICA BROTHERHOOD CHURCH, UNYEOO IN KATHULUMBI-KALAWA.

##### ATTENDANCE

1. Augustine Makau                      TMWDP – PIT ESH EXPERT   Chairing
2. Rhoda Kambua                      Gender and Development Expert
3. Dominic Kyenza                      Community Liaison Officer

Community members: See the attendance lists

##### AGENDA

1. Introductions
2. Opening Remarks and New Project Changes Overview – Augustine Makau
3. Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures
4. Open discussions/Plenary
5. Questionnaire filling
6. Closing Remarks

MIN	MINUTE
MIN. 1/02/2025	<b>Introduction</b>
	Mr. Augustine called the meeting to order at 11.10 AM.
MIN. 2/02/2025	<b>Opening Remarks and Project Overview</b>

	<p>The meeting started with a word of prayer and later self-introductions. Mr. Augustine informed the participants of the day's agenda and told them that stakeholder public participation and consultation is a constitutional right and, therefore, is done within the law.</p> <p>He explained that the purpose of the meeting was to update the community on the project's progress, changes in the dam designs, and related impacts and mitigation measures. He emphasized that the meeting aimed to collect the communities' environmental and social concerns to update the previous ESIA report for 2013. However, he noted that the project and the community had interacted in other forums.</p> <p>Augustine highlighted that the project was progressing well and that 94% of the work had been completed. He explained that engineers recommended dam changes after completing a detailed design in 2018. He added that the hydrology studies revealed that more water could be impounded and, therefore, the size of the Dam had to be increased. He highlighted the new dam design and scope changes, including:</p> <p>the new dam design and scope changes, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Change in the height of the Dam from 77.5m to 80.5m to impound 688 million m<sup>3</sup>.</li> <li>-Spillway changes: There will be one spillway measuring 235m instead of two as earlier designed.</li> <li>-Saddle dams: The expert explained that the increased dam height requires more storage space. Therefore, two saddle dams will be constructed, one on the Kitui and the other on the Makueni side.</li> <li>-Employers Camp houses: The houses will accommodate the experts operating the Dam.</li> </ul> <p>The meeting was informed that 59 acres of land had already been acquired, and 28 affected persons had been compensated. There will be no more land acquisition for new design changes.</p>
<p><b>MIN.</b> <b>3/02/2025</b></p>	<p><b>Project likely impacts and mitigation measures</b></p> <p>The ESH expert explained that the new dam changes will capture more water for domestic and irrigation purposes. He informed the members that the meeting was convened to collect views on project impacts and urged them members to present the impacts during the open forum discussions.</p>

MIN.  
4/02/2025

**Open Forum Discussions/Plenary**

The session was open to questions/clarifications/remarks from the meeting participants.

Question	Response
1. Mr. Dominic Mutune reported that the boreholes have not been handed over to the community, have broken down, and are facing water scarcity. What is being done to resolve the issue?	There have been meetings where this has come up and has been noted. The faulty borehole pumps will be repaired as the contractor has been advised to visit the borehole sites, analyze the problems, and conduct repairs.
2. Mr Peter Nzomo asked if the dam height increase would result in a backflow that would submerge communities nearby.	No: the engineering design has considered the possible increase in backflow; thus, the community should not have such fears.
3. Shadrack Kingw'aa reported that the land demarcation was done, but title deeds were not issued. We need the title deeds to help owners utilize their land comfortably.	The demarcation process is set to begin at the end of February 2025. The process will include mapping out the acquired land and processing 304 title deeds to PAPs whose land was partially acquired. (304 title deed) and one unified title.
4. Cracked Houses - Mutinda asked what would be done for all those whose houses had broken due to vibrations from the dam site.	The PIT EHS explained that an assessment and compensation would be done for all cracked houses once the appraisal and valuation are completed and the report submitted to the Ministry. Through the Consultant, the contractor has been notified of the possible liability.
5. Charles Nzau reported that human-wildlife conflicts, including hippos and crocodiles, have increased in the area. What will be done to stop the hippos from destroying crops?	Two KWS Wardens are manning the hippos at the project area. The hippos are in their habitat area, and the project leadership will engage KWS to create more awareness and resolve human-wildlife conflicts. A KWS office has also been proposed to be set up in the Project area to focus more on the hippos and crocodiles.  The project has not planned to install an electric fence to prevent the hippos from reaching community farms.
6. Boniface noted that the project might lead to increased water diseases. He suggested upgrading local hospitals, or can the project give the hospital at the site to the community?	After the project is completed, the Dam will be handed over to the county governments. The county governments will address the affected communities' waterborne diseases and malaria issues.
7. Dominic Masina, can we have more job opportunities for locals?	The project has applied policies that have allowed the contractor to prioritize local employment opportunities. The group agreed to the many locals recruited and working on the project.

<b>MIN. 5/02/2025</b>	<b>Questionnaires Filling</b>
	Madam Kambua guided the participants to complete the structured questionnaires. The structured questionnaires were meant to gather more information on environmental and social impacts that may not be captured in the open forum discussions.
<b>MIN. 6/02/2025</b>	<b>Closing remarks</b>
	Mr Augustine thanked all members for taking the time to attend the meeting. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 1 PM.

**TMWDP – PIT ESH EXPERT: Name: .....Signature:..... Date:**

**SOCIOLOGIST: Name: Signature:..... Date:**

# KATHULUMBI- KALAWA MEETING ATTENDANCE LIST



REPUBLIC OF KENYA  
 MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION  
 THWAKE MULTIPURPOSE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (TMWDIP) PHASE 1  
 PURPOSE: ESIA PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - FORMAL  
 DATE: 11<sup>th</sup> FEB 2025 VENUE: Kelanda - Kathulumbi

	Name	PHONE	AGE	GENDER M/F	Signature
1	BONIFACE M. MUSIMBI	0110308800	63	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
2	MUTHIDA NYAMAI	0720919158	60	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
3	JOSPH X. KITONYO	0727767156	70	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
4	ELIZABETH MOKILE	0711158730	54	F	<i>[Signature]</i>
5	PATRICK K. MATHI	0797213996	76	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
6	JOSEPH K. MULE	0721234769	66	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
7	DOMINIC W. MUSUNJE	0711107956	55	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
8	K. ANITA K. MUMBI	0705286566	34	M	<i>[Signature]</i>

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND CONSULTATION HELD ON 12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2025, AT 10.30 AM, AT KANYANGI CHIEF'S CAMP, ZAMBIA.**

**ATTENDANCE**

1. Augustine Makau                      TMWDP – PIT ESH EXPERT              Chairperson
  2. Rhoda Kambua                                      Gender Development and Social Expert
  3. Dominic Kyenza                      Project Community Liason Officer
- Community Members - See attached List

**AGENDA**

1. Introductions
2. Opening remarks and Project Changes Brief – Augustine Makau
3. Project impacts and mitigation measures
4. Open forum for discussions
5. Questionnaire filling
6. Closing Remarks

MIN	MINUTE
<b>MIN. 1/02/2025</b>	<b>Introduction</b>
	The area Chief called the meeting to order at about 10:35 AM and welcomed the community members present and the Thwake Dam team. The meeting started with a word of prayer and later self-introductions.
<b>MIN. 2/02/2025</b>	<b>Opening Remarks and Project Overview</b>

	<p>The PIT EHS Expert informed the meeting of the day's agenda and informed the participants that stakeholder public participation and consultation is a constitutional right and, therefore, done within the law. He explained that the purpose of the meeting was to update the community on the project's progress and demonstrate the dam design changes and related impacts and mitigation measures. He emphasized that the main aim was to collect the communities' environmental and social concerns to update the previous ESIA report done in 2013, although noting the project and the community had interacted in the meantime in other forums.</p> <p>ESIA report done in 2013, although noting the project and the community had interacted in the meantime in other forums.</p> <p>ESIA report done in 2013, although noting the project and the community had interacted in the meantime in other forums.</p> <p>The ESH briefed on the project's progress and said that 94% of the work had been done.</p> <p>The expert explained the dam design and scope variations had changed because, after detailed dam designs, including geotechnical investigations, it was realized that more water could be impounded. Therefore, the size of the Dam had to be increased. He informed the meeting that the changes proposed by the engineers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase of dam height by 3m from 77.5m to 80.5m to impound an increased amount of water of 688 million m<sup>3</sup>,</li> <li>• The spillway size will increase from 200m to 235m wide. The spillway will be one instead of two, as designed earlier.</li> <li>• Saddle dams: There will be two saddle dams to hold more water. The dams will be constructed, one on Kitui and the other on Makueni.</li> <li>• Employer's Camp houses: The houses will accommodate the staff operating the Dam. The meeting was informed that 59 acres of land had already been acquired, and 28 affected persons had been compensated.</li> </ul>
<b>MIN. 3/02/2025</b>	Possible Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures
	<p>The ESH expert explained that the new dam changes will capture more water for domestic and irrigation purposes. He informed the members that the meeting was convened to collect views on project impacts. He urged the members to present the likely environmental and social impacts during the open forum discussions and in the questionnaires.</p>
<b>MIN. 4/02/2025</b>	<b>Open Forum Discussions/Plenary</b>

The session was open to questions/clarifications/remarks from the meeting participants.

Questions	Responses
1. Mr Richard Nyanzi - Will the 3m dam height increase affect the residents?	No. The PIT EHS expert responded that the design changes mean more materials, more time, and more money for the construction of the changes in the design. Competent engineers did the design, so there was no need for fear. He further said the 59 acres of extra land have been acquired.
2. Mr. Mwongela - Will the increased height affect the buffer zone because the water flow back went about 4m from the land outside the Dam during the recent flooding experienced in 2024?	The EHS Expert explained that flow back had an adequate buffer zone according to the design. The incident reported here will be reported and investigated by the engineers and surveyors to address the problem.
3. Francis Musya said the last flood was about 4m from the project land, plot no. 1025. What will be done to control this in the future?	The incident will be reported to engineers and surveyors for further investigations and to address the problem.
4. Mr Mwongela reported that the demarcation of land was not done correctly.	The National Land Commission had completed the phase 1 demarcation. Phase 2 is being planned this month.
5. Mr Francis Mbithi – What happened to water points and access roads?	The water points have not been created, and access roads have not been planned.
6. Mr. Augustine Mwongela asked, What is being done about the cracked houses due to blasting at the site?	As the Assessment Report recommends, a survey of all cracked houses will be conducted and later compensated.
7. Mr Muteti Mbaluka - Will a radius of mapping blasting effects of houses exist?	Mr Augustine said there would be no radius, and all reported cracked house cases would be assessed regardless of distance from the site.
8. Mr Mutemi – Can the rehabilitation of the Murram road from Kanyangi to Nzambia be done as part of CSR?	The community road was not included in the project's Bill of Quantities (BoQ). -2 Access roads: one to Nzambia

<b>MIN. 5/02/2025</b>	<b>Questionnaires Filling</b>
	Madam Kambua guided the participants in filling out the questionnaires. The questionnaires aimed to collect more information on environmental and social impacts, which plenary discussions would fail to capture.
<b>MIN. 6/02/2025</b>	<b>Closing remarks</b>
	The PIT ESH thanked all members for taking the time to attend the meeting. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12.40 PM.

**TMWDP – PIT ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY AND HEALTH EXPERT:**

Name: .....Signature:..... Date:

**SOCIOLOGIST:**

Name: .....Signature:..... Date:

KANYANGI CHIEF'S CAMP MEETING ATTENDANCE LIST



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION  
 THWAKE MULTIPURPOSE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (TMWDP) PHASE1

PURPOSE: ESIA PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FORUM

DATE: 12<sup>th</sup> FEB 2025 VENUE: Kanyangi (chiefs camp)

	Name	PHONE	AGE	GENDER M/F	Signature
1	PATRICIA WILLET	0705132175	52	F	<i>[Signature]</i>
2	RICHARD NYAKI	0717271947	73	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
3	MUTET MBERUKA	0707841273	47	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
4	JOSEPH NZAMBI	0719871017	49	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
5	FRANCIS NGATHI	0727635492	47	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
6	STANISLUS MUTENI	0722565164	52	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
7	AUGUSTINE N. MURUGA	0727222997	56	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
8	Mutuku Mumaia	0714549896	48	M	<i>[Signature]</i>



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION  
THWAKE MULTIPURPOSE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (TMWDP) PHASE I

PURPOSE: ESIA PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

DATE: 13<sup>th</sup> FEB 2025 VENUE: MAVIMDI (KUYUTANI CHURCH.)

	Name	PHONE	AGE	GENDER M/F	Signature
1	Stephen Nuthwa	0717577536	32	M	
2	SAMUEL M. KILU	0113404549	75	M	
3	JONATHAN K. MURTA	0713213901	46	M	
4	SEBASTIAN M. MUTHOKA	0700504918	33	M	
5	AGATHA MUTHOKA	0790743090	27	F	
6	RODAH V. KILI	0703640867	49	F	
7	MARGARET K. WATA	074127630	43	F	
8	CHRISTOPHER D. KATIKI	0703869087	55	M	

**MINUTES OF COMMUNITY MEETING AND CONSULTATION HELD ON 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2025, AT 10.00 AM AT KYUSYIANI CATHOLIC CHURCH, MAVINDINI.**

**ATTENDANCE:**

1. Augustine Makau                      TMWDP – PIT ESH EXPERT                      Chairing
2. Rhoda Kambua                      Sociologist
3. Dominic Kyenza, Community Liaison Officer

Community Members: See attached List

**AGENDA**

1. Self-Introductions
2. Opening Remarks and Project Changes Overview – Augustine Makau
3. Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures
4. Open Forum Discussions
5. Questionnaire filling
6. Closing Remarks

<b>MIN</b>	<b>MINUTE</b>
<b>MIN. 1/02/2025</b>	<b>Introduction</b>
	Mr. Augustine (PIT EHS) called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM.
<b>MIN. 2/02/2025</b>	<b>Opening Remarks and Project Overview</b>

	<p>The meeting started with a word of prayer and later self-introductions. The EHS informed the meeting of the day's agenda and informed the participants that stakeholder public participation and consultation is a constitutional right and, therefore, done within the law.</p> <p>He explained that the purpose of the meeting was to update the community on the project's progress and demonstrate the dam design changes and related impacts and mitigation measures. He emphasized that the main aim was to collect the communities' environmental and social concerns to update the previous ESIA report done in 2013, although noting the project and the community had interacted in the meantime in other forums.</p> <p>ies' environmental and social concerns to update the previous ESIA report done in 2013, although noting the project and the community had interacted in the meantime in other forums.</p> <p>The ESH Expert gave a brief on the project's progress and said that 94% of the work has been done.</p> <p>The expert explained that the dam design and scope had changed because a detailed dam design was done after geotechnical investigations and hydrological studies were completed. It was realized that more water could be impounded, and therefore, the size of the Dam had to be increased. He informed the meeting that the changes proposed by the engineers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase of dam height by 3m from 77.5m to 80.5m to impound an increased amount of water of 688 million m<sup>3</sup>,</li> <li>• The spillway size will increase from 200m to 235m wide. The spillway will be one instead of two, as designed earlier.</li> <li>• Saddle dams: There will be two saddle dams. The expert explained that the increased dam height requires more storage space. Therefore, the dams will be constructed, one on the Kitui and the other on the Makueni side.</li> <li>• Employer's Camp houses: The houses will accommodate the staff operating the Dam. The meeting was informed that 59 acres of land have already been acquired, and 28 affected members have been compensated.</li> </ul>
<b>MIN. 3/02/2025</b>	<b>Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures</b>
	<p>The ESH expert explained that the new dam changes will capture more water for domestic and irrigation purposes. He informed the members that the meeting was convened to collect views on project impacts. He urged them to present the likely environmental and social impacts during the open forum discussions and in the structured questionnaires.</p>
<b>MIN. 4/02/2025</b>	<b>Open Forum Discussions/Plenary</b>

The session was open to questions/clarifications/remarks from the meeting participants.

Questions	Response
<p>1. Mr. Charles Mutua Nzau reported that the community's expectations have not been met, and there have been no regular meetings to provide updates on the construction works. Is it possible to have more community sensitization meetings?</p>	<p>It was agreed that since the Chief is a member of the GRMC, he ought to brief the community during barazas and community meetings on project updates. The community liaison team will also incorporate this during their community engagement forums.</p>
<p>2. Mr. Jonathan Kioko reported that the access roads are in poor condition. What is the project doing about the streets?</p>	
<p>3. Human-Wildlife conflicts – Mr Christopher - What is the project doing about hippos damaging our crops?  The members suggested putting an electric fence near the rivers to prevent animals from entering the farms.</p>	<p>The PIT EHS said the issue is being addressed.</p>
<p>4. Mr. Samson Nguli reported that some houses have been cracked due to blasting operations at the Dam. How is the project going to deal with the issues?</p>	<p>All cracked houses will be assessed, and compensation for affected houses will be provided.</p>
<p>5. Madam Stella said that the locals should be</p>	<p>The PIT EHS expert explained that the policy was already in place, employment was given to</p>

<b>MIN. 5/02/2025</b>	<b>Questionnaires Filling</b>
	Madam Joyce and Madam Kambua guided the participants in filling out the questionnaires. The questionnaires aimed to collect more information on the environmental and social impacts, which were possibly not captured in the plenary discussions.
<b>MIN. 6/02/2025</b>	Closing remarks
	Mr. Augustine thanked all members for taking the time to attend the meeting. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12.45 PM.

**TMWDP – PIT ESH EXPERT: Name: .....Signature:..... Date:**

**SOCIOLOGIST: Name: ..... Signature:..... Date:**

MAVINDINI-KYUSYANI MEETING ATTENDANCE



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION  
 THWAKE MULTIPURPOSE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (TMWDP) PHASE I

PURPOSE: ESIA PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

DATE: 13<sup>th</sup> FEB 2025

VENUE: MAVINDINI (KUYANI CHUACH.)

	Name	PHONE	AGE	GENDER M/F	Signature
1	Stephen Nduku	0717571536	32	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
2	SAMUEL M. KILU	0113404549	75	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
3	JONATHAN K. MATATA	0713213901	46	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
4	SEGASTIAN M. MUTHOKA	0700504918	33	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
5	AGATHA MUTHOKA	07907443090	27	F	<i>[Signature]</i>
6	RODAH V. KELI	0703640867	49	F	<i>[Signature]</i>
7	MARGARET K. WATA	0741277630	43	F	<i>[Signature]</i>
8	CHRISTOPHER D. KATIKI	0703869087	55	M	<i>[Signature]</i>

COMMUNITY MEETINGS PICTORIAL



Stakeholders meeting at Kanyangi Chief's Camp



Stakeholder meeting at Kathulumbi, Kalawa – ABC Church



Stakeholders meeting at Mavindini- Kiusyani Catholic Church grounds



## ANNEX 1.2: COUNTY-LEVEL MEETING MINUTES



### REPUBLIC OF KENYA

#### MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION & IRRIGATION STATE DEPARTMENT FOR WATER AND SANITATION IMPLEMENTATION OF THWAKE MULTIPURPOSE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PHASE 1

#### MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS IN MAKUENI AND KITUI COUNTIES HELD ON 3<sup>RD</sup>- 4<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2025 SEEKING VIEWS ON DAM HEIGHT CHANGE

#### VENUE:

MAVINDINI MARKET, MAKUENI CONSTITUENCY, MAKUENI COUNTY -  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF (3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL, 2025)

KANYANGI MARKET, KITUI RURAL CONSTITUENCY, KITUI COUNTY – AIC  
CHURCH, KANYANGI (4<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2025)

#### PRELIMINARY LIST OF PARTICIPANTS (MAKUENI STAKEHOLDER FORUM)

S.No	Name	Stakeholder Group	Organization
1	Paul N. Kituku	Faith-Based Organization	Seventh-Day Adventist Church
2	Nicholas Mutuku Nzeve	Faith-Based Organization	African Inland Church
3	Hellen Mbuthu	Community-Based Organization	
4	Stephen M. Nzioka	Assistant Chief	Mavindini Sub Location
5	Phidelia Kagai	State Department for Housing and Urban Development	State Department for Housing and Urban Development (SHUD)
6	Paul Nzili Mbuta	Ward Coordinator	Mavindini Ward
7	Damaris Nduku	Persons Living with Disability (PLWD)	Community
8	Jonathan Kimongo	Member of County Assembly	Mavindini

9	Miriam Mutuku	Village Administrator	Community
10	Jonathan S. Mutua	Opinion Leader	Mavindini Community
11	Abednego Kimanthi	Opinion Leader	Office of the Member of County Assembly
12	Philip Muia	Opinion Leader	Mavindini Community
13	Colleta Musau	Opinion Leader	Mavindini Community
14	Amos Mule	Non-Governmental Organization	Mavindini Community
15	Stephen M. Malila	Youth	Mavindini Community
16	Angelina S. Kimulu	CHP	Community
17	Bernard A. Onywoki	GMC-WWO	Community
18	Boniface Wang	National Environmental Management Authority	Enforcement Officer
19	Ann Mbithe	National Environmental Management Authority	Officer
20	Stella Mutuku	Assistant Chief	Ministry of Interior
21	Victoria Mativo	Ward Administrator	Mavindini Location
22	Samson N. Nguli	Chief	Mavindini Location

**PRELIMINARY LIST OF PARTICIPANTS (KITUI COUNTY STAKEHOLDER FORUM)**

<b>S.No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Stakeholder Group</b>	<b>Organization</b>
1	Rev. Fr. Dominic Nzoka	Faith Based Organization	Catholic Mission, Kanyangi
2	Priscila Wambua	Ministry of Interior	Local Administration
3	Augustine M. Mwangela	Senior Citizen	Kanyangi Community
4	Samuel Kalani	Resident	Kalulini Community
5	Elizabeth Peter	Resident	Kalulini Community
6	Benjamin Kioko Mbevi	Youth	Kanyangi Community
7	Florence K. Mulu	Business Community	Kanyangi Market
8	Patricia N. Willy	Business Community	Kanyangi Market
9	Miriam Mutuku	Village Administrator	Community
10	Erastus M. Muithi	Faith Based Group	Kanyangi Community
11	Komu Ndembe	Kitui Water and Sanitation Company	Water Sector
12	Robert M. Kaviti	Faith Based Organization	African Inland Church, Kanyangi

13	Jacob D. Kasonzo	Community-Based Organization	Kanyangi Division Pastors Forum
14	Evalyne M. Mala	CSO Office	Kanyangi Division
15	Jona Ngei	Faith Based Organization	Kanyangi Division
16	Peter Kitungai	Opinion Leader	Kanyangi Division
17	Saul Makali	Community Member	Kanyangi Community

### IN ATTENDANCE

1. Augustine Makau - Environment, Health & Safety Expert (Program Implementation Team, Delegation Lead)
2. Rhoda Kambua – Gender and Social Development Expert
3. Godfrey Olali - Senior Communications Specialist
4. Dominic Kyenza (Senior Community Liaison Officer, SMEC)

### AGENDA

- a) Preliminaries- Opening prayer and introduction of participants
- b) Remarks from the Program Implementation Team (PIT) Team Leader
- c) Plenary and Way forward, Q&A
- d) Any other business

### MAVINDINI STAKEHOLDER FORUM (MAKUENI COUNTY) – 3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL 2025

Minute	Discussion
1/03/04/2025	<p>The meeting was called to order at 10.20 am after opening prayers. The Senior Community Liaison Team thanked members for attending and appreciated the chief's office for hosting the forum. He further welcomed the host to conduct an introduction of the stakeholders who attended the forum.</p> <p>The host further welcomed the PIT Team Leader for opening remarks and general introductions of PIT members present. In his welcoming remarks, the PIT Team Lead thanked members for their support of the Project. He underscored the importance of coordinated collaboration between all stakeholders for the project's success.</p> <p>He informed the team that the main aim of the stakeholder forum was to get their views regarding the change of Thwake Dam Height from the initial 77.5 meters to 80.5 meters high after a similar forum was held in March for stakeholders drawn from Mbooni East and Kitui Rural constituencies. He indicated the importance of seeking views of the residents and other stakeholder groups since the variation would affect them in terms of water back flow, compensation issues, construction of a new saddle dam, enlarged spillway and acquisition of extra land. The stakeholders were further told that Government Laws requires that such views must be obtained and licences issues too.</p>

<p><b>2/03/04/2025</b> Plenary (Q&amp;A)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Concern</b> (Jonathan Mule): The stakeholder wanted to know whether in the likelihood of water flow back and flooding caused by Dam Height, Project Affected Persons (PAPs) owning farms and houses would be paid</li> <li>○ <b>Ans:</b> The PIT indicated that there would be no likelihood of water flow since the Employer already proposed for construction of an extra saddle dam and spillway</li> <li>○ <b>Concern:</b> (Area MCA) – The MCA informed the forum that because of the height change, several factors must be put into consideration including public participation. He further listed several positive aspects of the Project including; increased volumes of water, increased opportunities for residents – both direct and indirect, job creation, and historical impetus where geographically Mavindini area will be on the world map as a host of countries’s second largest dam, increase in land costs and value, etc. He however listed other disadvantages coming with the Project such as; early and unwanted pregnancies, drug and substance abuse, theft and increase in crime, pollution, increased human-wildlife conflicts, damage to critical infrastructure like roads, dilapidation, and degradation of the ecosystem. He proposed that the Contractor needs to give fuel to the County for the maintenance of the community roads. <b>Concern:</b> (Miriam Mutuku). The stakeholder also proposed that the Project consider repairing roads for the community. <b>Ans:</b> PIT informed the stakeholders that the issue of road repairs was not contained in the BOQ for the Contractor but the Ministry will take up this matter for further review during the upcoming downstream phases. The meeting also deliberated on proposals to include KURA/KERA in the road repairs. <b>Concern:</b> (Colleta Musau). The stakeholder wanted to know the steps being undertaken to repair some classrooms whose repairs were done in a substandard manner. She also wanted to know some of the measures put in place to control communicable diseases with another community member adding that there was an outbreak of sexually transmitted disease on site. The issue of insufficient drugs in the local health centers was also raised. <b>Ans:</b> The PIT informed the stakeholders that community communication campaigns had been done to sensitize them on HIV Aids, waterborne diseases, Corona, and others. They were further informed that waters flowing into Thwake Dam will be treated hence there is no cause for alarm with regards to the spread of water bone diseases. Members were also informed that the Government has formed the Nairobi Rivers Commission and there is an existing inter-agency technical team mandated to clean the Athi River. Ministry is also working with several Water Resources Users Associations (WRUAs) who are already planting trees along the catchment areas. <b>Concern:</b> (Ms. Mumo). The stakeholders wanted clarity if community members whose farms will be affected by the water flow back will be compensated. <b>Concern:</b> The MCA suggested that to combat theft cases, there is a need to empower the local police station. The area chief also suggested that general security at the Thwake site be enhanced. <b>Concern:</b> A representative from the office of the Senator, feared that</li> </ul>
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	<p>human-animal conflicts would increase if the Saddle Dams were not properly fenced.</p> <p><b>Ans:</b> The PIT however indicated that Kenya Wildlife Services offices are on-site</p> <p><b>Concern:</b> A member of the forum, Abeid Kimanathi, suggested that a CSR budget be set aside for Knowledge Transfer to locals. He indicated that this initiative has succeeded in other countries such as Egypt.</p> <p><b>Ans:</b> The PIT informed the stakeholders that the Ministry already has a robust Graduate Trainee Program where university graduates are attached to the project as part of knowledge transfer.</p>
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**KANYANGI STAKEHOLDER FORUM (KITUI COUNTY) – 4<sup>RD</sup> APRIL 2025**

**PRELIMINARIES (Q&A)**

<p><b>3/03/04/2025</b></p>	<p><b>General Discussion</b></p> <p>The meeting was called to order at 3:10 pm after opening prayers. The Senior Community Liaison Team thanked members for attending and appreciated the chief’s office for hosting the forum. He further welcomed the host to conduct an introduction of the stakeholders who attended the forum.</p> <p>The host further welcomed the PIT Team Leader for opening remarks and general introductions of PIT members present. In his welcoming remarks, the PIT Team Lead thanked members for their support of the Project. He underscored the importance of coordinated collaboration between all stakeholders for the project’s success.</p> <p>He informed the team that the main aim of the stakeholder forum from Kitui County was to get their views regarding the change of Thwake Dam Height from the initial 77.5 meters to 80.5 meters high after a similar forum was held in March for stakeholders drawn from Mbooni East and Kitui Rural constituencies. He indicated the importance of seeking the views of the residents and other stakeholder groups since the variation would affect them in terms of water backflow, compensation issues, construction of a new saddle dam, enlarged spillway, and acquisition of extra land. The stakeholders were further told that Government Laws require that such views must be obtained and license issues too.</p>
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	<p><b>Concern:</b> A member of the forum, Evans Muli, informed the meeting that a move by the Government and the dam builders to increase the height means that more parcels of land are to be taken by the Project.</p> <p>Another member, Samuel Makali, informed the forum that the road at the entry point to the dam was in a bad state and needed to be repaired.</p> <p><b>Ans:</b> The PIT however informed the members that since a spillway and two saddle dams have been constructed, water flow back may not affect the land. They were also informed that the contract BQ does not provide for the repair of roads by the Contractor.</p> <p><b>Concern:</b> According to Mr Augustine Mwongela, there is a need to provide the residents with an access bridge adding that as the immediate neighbors living near the dam site, they fear that water flow back is likely to affect their farms without any compensation being put in place</p> <p><b>Concern:</b> The stakeholders also feared that the three remaining phases are likely to take many years to complete hence the need for the Government to ensure the Dam is quickly completed for the residents to start enjoying water. They also feared that the budget for Thwake Dam is normally being reduced by Parliament adding that they do not know what will happen to the Project in the current regime.</p> <p><b>Ans:</b> The PIT however indicated that as soon as the first phase is done, the Government will invite bids for the remaining downstream phases and the irrigation component will be given priority. Stakeholders were also informed that water tanks will be placed around Kanyangi center to Kwa Vonza town. Residents were urged to involve their leaders and political class to ensure these matters are raised during stakeholder engagements.</p> <p><b>Concern:</b> The stakeholders also expressed concerns that the presence of Kenya Wildlife Service rangers at the dam denies them the opportunity to fish around the river. Kanyangi community, they added, has a lot of fishmongers who have been affected by the KWS presence at the site.</p> <p><b>Ans:</b> The PIT informed the forum that KWS owns the fish and the wildlife in the river hence special permits and licenses would be required to undertake fishing activities. Residents were further urged to form organizations and apply for such permits.</p> <p><b>Concern:</b> A member, Benjamin Kioko, wanted to know if compensation will be done in case of water backflow and damage to property following the increase in the dam wall</p> <p><b>Concern:</b> The stakeholders also wanted to know measures that have been put in place in case of a possible Dam Break.</p> <p><b>Concern:</b> The PIT informed them that sensitization sessions had been done and the Ministry is planning to undertake another sensitization to people living in the downstream areas</p> <p><b>Concern:</b> Members expressed concerns over rampant theft of fuel at the site. They were however told that the issue is being addressed in there is presence of a Critical Infrastructure Police Unit (CIPU) at the site.</p> <p><b>Concern:</b> Stakeholders also asked about the measures put in place by the Project to address child protection and how faith-based institutions will be involved.</p>	
4/03/04/2025	Any other business	There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 4:30 pm by a word of prayer.

**Minutes Confirmed by:**

PIT Team Lead	Name: .....
	Position: .....
	Signature.....
	.....
	Date: .....

**ANNEX 1.1 LIST OF ATTENDANCE –KITUI AND MAKUENI COUNTIES  
STAKEHOLDERS MEETINGS**

**ANNEX 1.1.1 STAKEHOLDERS MEETING AT KANYANGI CHIEF’S CAMP, KITUI**



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION

THWAKE MULTIPURPOSE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (TMWDP) PHASE1

PURPOSE: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT  
 DATE: 3/24/2025 VENUE/LOCATION: KANYANGI

	Name	ORGANIZATION/DESIGNATION	CONTACT	GENDER M/F	Signature
1	REV. FR. DOMINIC NZOKA	CATHOLIC MISSION KANYANGI	0725996766	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
2	PRISCILLA WAMBUA	INTERIOR	0721387938	F	<i>[Signature]</i>
3	AUGUSTINE M. MWONGEMA	SENIOR CITIZEN	0727422877	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
4	SAMUEL KALANI	KALULINI RESIDENT	0721179284	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
5	ELIZABETH PETER	KALULINI RESIDENT	0712036952	F	<i>[Signature]</i>
6	BENJAMIN KIOKO MBEI	YOUTH REP KANYANGI	0702819581	M	<i>[Signature]</i>
7	FLORENCE K MUKU	BUS WORK KANYANGI	0717549491	F	<i>[Signature]</i>
8	PATRICIA OF WILLET	WATERWORKS M.A.K.U.E. SECRETARY	0703132175	F	<i>[Signature]</i>



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION

THWAKE MULTIPURPOSE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (TMWDP) PHASE I

PURPOSE: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

DATE: 03/04/2025 VENUE/LOCATION: KANTANGI

	Name	ORGANIZATION/DESIGNATION	CONTACT	GENDER M/F	Signature
1	Nicholas Githau	World vision Kenya Lower Tatta AP	0721787448	M	
2	Paul Mbiti	World vision Kenya Lower Tatta AP	0721236027	M	
3	REGINAH MUSEMBI	AORA KENYA	0724682450	F	
4	MUJINDA MURRAYA	KAWUNU (Kwagalla)	072800072	M	
5		ARE GROUP JAMES			
6	DANIEL KITHOME	INTERIOR	07217389557	M	
7	Dr. MARTIN NIKUETI	M.O.H. - KANTANGI HOSP.	0707655150 0721738955	M	
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### 1.1.2 STAKEHOLDERS MEETING AT MAVINDINI, MAKUENI COUNTY



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION

THWAKE MULTIPURPOSE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (TMWDP) PHASE I

PURPOSE: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

DATE: 04/04/2025 VENUE/LOCATION: MAVINDINI

	Name	ORGANIZATION/DESIGNATION	CONTACT	GENDER M/F	Signature
1	BONFAES KATICA	NEMA-EGO	0729725514	M	
2	ANN MBITHI	NEMA-SA	0112934449	F	
3	DONIC M. KIENZA	THWAKE DAM - Sr. CLO	0722322674	M	
4	STELLA M. MUKU	INTERIOR ASSISTANT CHIEF I	072380268	F	
5	RODRIK KAMBURA	SSDE-MWSI	0720210922	F	
6	VICTORIA MATUA	WARD ADMIN	0706478160	F	
7	SAMSON N. NGULI	CHIEF - MAVINDINI	0729995211	M	
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REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION

THWAKE MULTIPURPOSE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (TMWDP) PHASE1

PURPOSE: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

DATE: 04/10/2025 VENUE/LOCATION: MAVIMBI

	Name	ORGANIZATION/DESIGNATION	CONTACT	GENDER M/F	Signature
1	PAUL N KIUKU	FB (SDA)	0725929242	M	
2	NICOLAS MURUKU NZEVE	PB (ACC)	0798880477 0720273935	M	
3	HELLEN WI MBUTHU	C.B.O	0715272318	F	
4	STEPHEN M. NZIOKA	ASST. CHIEF MAVIMBI SUBLOC.	0716483712	M	
5	PAUL NZILI MBUIA	WARD CO-ORDINATOR MAVIMBI WARD	0728397786	M	
6	DAMIAN NBUKU	PWD REPRESENTATIVE	0793511750	F	
7	JONATHAN KIMOTGO	MCA	0725206267	M	
8	MIRIAM MURUKU	VILLAGE ADMIN GRUPE	0724604256	F	



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION

THWAKE MULTIPURPOSE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (TMWDP) PHASE1

PURPOSE: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

DATE: 04/10/2025 VENUE/LOCATION: MAVIMBI

	Name	ORGANIZATION/DESIGNATION	CONTACT	GENDER M/F	Signature
1	JONATHAN S MUTUA	OPINION LEADER	0725112935	M	
2	Ashalego Kisanthi	Spans leader (MVA 9/a)	0715094271	M	
3	Muli Philip	Openy leader	0795147039	M	
4	COLLETA MUSAU	Opinion leader	0724971720	F	
5	ANOS MULE	NGO	0715980314	M	
6	Stephen N. Malila	Youth	0112 318693	M	
7	ANGELINA S KIMULU	CHP	0713715547	F	
8	Bernard A. Ouyiviki	GMC-WVIO	0726720916	M	

## ANNEX 2: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PICTORIAL



*Figure 5 Environment, Health and Safety Expert at the Program Implementation Team (PIT) Mr. Augustine Makau (front) explains a point to stakeholders from Makueni County during the meeting held at the Mavindini Chief's office on April 3, 2025. /Picture/Courtesy/PIT*



*Figure 6 Stakeholders from Makueni County filled in questionnaire forms during the meeting held at the Mavindini Chief's office on April 3, 2025. /Picture/Courtesy/PIT*



*Figure 7 A lady stakeholder from Makueni County (seated) is assisted in filling in a questionnaire form during the meeting held at the Mavindini Chief's office on April 3, 2025. /Picture/Courtesy/PIT*



*Figure 8 Members of the Program Implementation Team (PIT) join stakeholders from Makeni County for a group photo during the meeting held at the Mavindini Chief's office on April 3, 2025. /Picture/Courtesy/PIT*



*Figure 9 Members of the Program Implementation Team (PIT) attend to the stakeholders from Kitui County during an engagement session held at the Kanyangi AIC Church on April 4, 2025. Picture/Courtesy/PIT*



*Figure 10 Different groups of stakeholder groups from Kitui County give views during an engagement session held at the Kanyangi AIC Church on April 4, 2025. Picture/Courtesy/PIT*



*Figure 11 A lady gives her views during a stakeholder engagement meeting in Kitui County during a session held at Kanyangi AIC Church on April 4, 2025. Picture/Courtesy/PIT*



*Figure 12 Members of the Program Implementation Team (PIT) join stakeholders from Kitui County for a group photo during the meeting held at the Kanyangi AIC church on April 4, 2025. /Picture/Courtesy/PIT*

### ANNEX 3: PAST STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENTS AND HIGH-PROFILE MONITORING VISITS



*Community Health Communications Campaign held in December 2021 to sensitize members on the effects and prevention of HIV/Aids, communicable diseases, sexually transmitted diseases, early pregnancies, COVID-19/Picture/Courtesy/PIT.*



*Community Health Communications Campaign held in December 2021 to sensitize members on the effects and prevention of HIV/Aids, communicable diseases, sexually transmitted diseases, early pregnancies, Covid 19/Picture/Courtesy/PIT.*



*County Health Department in collaboration with the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation and the Contractor, administered the COVID-19 vaccine to members of the community in October 2021/Picture/Courtesy/PIT.*



*Former President H.E Uhuru Kenyatta (center), former Cabinet Secretary for Water, Sanitation and Irrigation Sicily Kariuki (3<sup>rd</sup> right), former Principal Secretary, State Department for Water and Sanitation Joseph Irungu (far right) and Water Secretary Eng. Samuel A.O Alima (far left) with staff from TMWDP during a site visit in July 2021/Picture/Courtesy PIT*



*Director General, AfDB Regional Development and Business Delivery Office with other Bank officials during a site inspection visit on March 9, 2022/Picture/Courtesy/PIT*



*Members of the Dam Safety Panel of Experts (DSPE) during a site inspection visit in June 2022/Picture/Courtesy/PIT*



*Members of the National Program Steering Committee (NPSC) join staff from the Contractor, Supervising Consultant, and PIT during a past site inspection tour/Picture/Courtesy/PIT*

#### ANNEX 4: THWAKE DAM CONSTRUCTION PICTURES



*Figure 13 Water from Thwake River flowing (December 2024) /Picture/Courtesy/PIT*



*Figure 14 A View of Thwake Dam Spillway ongoing works /Picture/Courtesy/PIT*



*Figure 15 Side view of Dam Embankment area during settling /Picture/Courtesy/PIT*



*Figure 16 A view of the tunnels with water flow (December 2024) /Picture/Courtesy/PIT*



*Figure 17 A section of a concrete footbridge near the tunnels /Picture/Courtesy/PIT*



*Figure 18 Water from Thwake River flowing (December 2024)/Picture/Courtesy/PIT*

