



— July - September 2025 —

Turkana Water

A newsletter by Turkana Water Services Department



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County to leverage on partnership to boost water revenue collection

Lodwar – 1st August, 2025

The three Water Service Providers in Turkana — TUWASCO, TURWASCO and KALWASCO — have partnered with the Kenya Water Institute to strengthen their technical capacity in meter reading, billing, and revenue collection. Supported by JICA, officers underwent a five-day “On-site Customised Metering, Billing and Revenue Collection Training” aimed at reducing Non-Revenue Water, which stands at 56% in Turkana against the national average of 44%.

The training equipped staff with advanced technical skills and knowledge of regulatory performance indicators to improve accuracy and efficiency. Participants committed to applying the skills learned to enhance service delivery, accountability, and customer satisfaction. This is the first of nine scheduled trainings meant to improve water service provision for residents and refugees.



access, enhance sanitation, and support rural villages in achieving open defecation-free status. The Unit submitted eight projects for this financial year, aiming to benefit 2,417 households through improved water infrastructure. County Executive for Water Willyjustus Lopeyok urged members to make K-WASH impactful for vulnerable communities, noting benefits for TURWASCO.

Chief Officer Eng. Mark Achilla stressed aligning with the 12 K-WASH disbursement-linked indicators. Chief Officer Janerose Tioko emphasized sanitation collaboration, while Coordinator Tito Ochieng announced upcoming workshops to develop the strategy. Representatives from key county and national agencies attended.

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County to roll out water and sanitation plan for rural communities

Lodwar – 5th August, 2025

The K-WASH Project Implementation Unit met to plan the County Water and Sanitation Strategy and Investment Plan, a roadmap to expand water access in hard-to-reach areas. K-WASH, a six-year World Bank and National Government-funded initiative (2024–2030), targets 19 counties, including Turkana, to improve clean water



County water services department hosts three executives for benchmarking visit

Namoru – 7th August, 2025

The Turkana County Department of Water Services hosted a delegation of water executives from Isiolo, Garissa, and Wajir counties on a benchmarking visit to assess Kenya RAPID program projects. The delegation, led by County Executive Willjustus Lopeyok, included implementing partners and FCDC CEO Dr. Farah Idle.

The team held discussions with TUWASCO's management and visited the Namoru Water Project in Loima and Nariemeto Community Based Natural Resource Management Group in Songot Ward. Funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Kenya RAPID seeks to increase access to water, improve sanitation, and strengthen rangeland management across five northern counties.

Lopeyok praised TUWASCO's digitized billing system, supported by CRS, for improving revenue collection by 50% and restoring customer confidence. The Namoru project benefits 240 households through water access, school and livestock points, and a five-acre irrigation farm. Delegates encouraged communities to pay for water, care for the project, and maximize farm use. Beneficiaries reported improved nutrition and reduced time fetching water.



Namoru project benefits 240 households through water access, school and livestock points, and a five-acre irrigation farm.





TUWASCO urges landlords to act on tenants' unpaid bills

Lodwar - July 18th, 2025

Turkana Urban Water and Sanitation Company met landlords in Lodwar to address revenue losses from unpaid water bills, with non-revenue water at 55%. Managing Director Benedict Ekeru urged landlords to help ensure tenants pay on time and allow access for a planned transition from shared to individual meters.

The forum also discussed water quality, leak response, waste management, and maintenance schedules. Landlords, represented by Mike Njagi, proposed adopting smart solutions such as remote meter reading, real-time leak detection, and mobile billing notifications to improve efficiency and accountability.

Survey Findings to Guide WASH Interventions in SCORE II Project

Lodwar - 28th August, 2025

The SCORE II project shared baseline survey findings to inform water and sanitation interventions in five Turkana sub-counties. The survey covered 870 households, 27 schools, 350 water points, and 10 health facilities. Stakeholders, including county officials, UNICEF, and KOICA, attended the meeting.

The project, a Sh900 million KOICA-funded project, will rehabilitate 38 boreholes, drill three new ones, and promote community-led sanitation in 620 villages. The project, running until June 2027, aims to improve water access, sanitation, and governance to achieve SDG 6.





Speaking during the three-day workshop, Chief Officer for Water Services, Eng. Mark Achilla, emphasized the strategy's importance, noting it would make the county eligible for Sh130 million in World Bank funding.

Chief Officer for Medical Services, Dr. Gilchrist Lokoel, urged participants to design innovative, context-specific sanitation solutions for Turkana's diverse populations and encouraged municipalities to invest in sewage systems.

Director for Water Services, Paul Lotum, said the strategy would address water service gaps, while County K-WASH Coordinator, Tito Ochieng, stressed the focus on last-mile access. Stakeholders included county departments, UN agencies, and development partners.

... noting it [strategy] would make the county eligible for Sh130 million in World Bank funding.

WASH stakeholders draft strategy for World Bank project

Lodwar – 21st August, 2025

Water and sanitation stakeholders have drafted the County Water and Sanitation Strategy and Investment Plan under the Kenya Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Program (K-WASH), a six-year initiative (2024–2030) funded by the World Bank and the National Government targeting 19 arid and semi-arid counties, including Turkana.





will support monitoring, planning, and decision-making by presenting key performance indicators in an accessible visual format. Director of Water Services Paul Lotum said it will improve infrastructure management, reduce water scarcity issues, and integrate sanitation data for a comprehensive view.

Sub-county officers noted it will help map groundwater potential, save resources, and guide interventions for areas with poor water quality. Senior Drilling Superintendent Anderson Koskey said borehole data will support future planning and aquifer mapping.

The Water Resources Authority welcomed the dashboard's ability to track licensed boreholes and enforce compliance. The dashboard will be commissioned after further refinements.

...a water assets inventory dashboard that simplifies county water infrastructure data for easier management.

County Water Services to digitize assets inventory

Lodwar – 11th September, 2025

Sub-county water officers and water service providers are developing the “Turkana Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Map,” a water assets inventory dashboard that simplifies county water infrastructure data for easier management.

Developed with LOKADO and funded by Welthungerhilfe Kenya, the tool



County, Users Associations Discuss Naduat Water Management

Lomeguro – 29th September, 2025

Senior Turkana County officials met with three Water Users Associations (WUAs) from Lomeguro, Naperebei, and KenHA/Morukapel to strengthen collaboration on water management in Naduat and Nakalale Ward.

The discussions, held with the Turkana County Rural Water Services Company (TURWASCO), focused on addressing water shortages, improving infrastructure, and ensuring sustainable service delivery. TURWASCO Managing Director, Ekanan Victorsam, said the company was established to professionalize rural water provision.

Ward Water Committee Chair, Julius Lokala, urged civic education to build public trust, while Legal Services Director, Ekai Nabenyio, explained that the Water Act 2019 supports WUAs' role in governance, conservation, and dispute resolution.

Community representatives called for new boreholes and expanded piping to meet growing demand from population growth, schools, health facilities, and gold mining activities.

In attendance were Water Services Deputy Director, Jackson Arigan; Turkana North SCA, Brenda Kokoi; Turkana North SWO, James Koki Mariaao; and Nakalale Ward Admin, Amos Esilan.



...Water Act 2019 supports WUAs' role in governance, conservation, and dispute resolution.



County Water Services takes over upgraded water infrastructure, Lokichar

Lokichar – 15th September 2025

County Department of Water Services has officially taken over an upgraded water supply system from Catholic Relief Services in Kalodicha Village, Lokichar.

The system features an elevated steel tank, a four-kilometer pipeline, an upgraded borehole pump, and six water points serving over 300 households, Kalodicha Comprehensive School's 600 students, and the ECDE center.

Speaking at the handover, County Executive for Water Services Willjustus Lopeyok urged the community to take ownership by paying for water, stressing that revenues will fund operations, maintenance, and salaries for staff running kiosks and guarding the borehole.

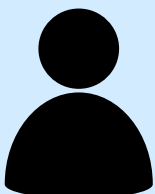
He warned against vandalism of equipment and solar panels and encouraged forming water management committees in line with county water laws.

Community members welcomed the project, citing improved access to clean water. Village elder John Kolok and head teacher Matthew Epetet said water points at the school and ECDE center have saved students time previously spent fetching water.

Turkana CRS Project Manager Alfred Ireri highlighted successful collaboration with the county and urged the community to pay for water to ensure sustainability.



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