



afrialliance socialinnovation

Rural water service delivery

Name of Participant: Violet .E. Mucheni

DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND

According to the United Nations Water for a Decade 2005–2015 data states approximately 115 people die in Africa every hour from diseases linked to contaminated water, poor sanitation and hygiene. Insufficient access to water cuts across many sectors not only in health; it also contributes to poor food security and lagging in social growth in many Least Developed Countries (LCD) in Asia, Sub Saharan Africa and Latin America.

Girls and women always bear the heavy load of providing water for their families. The third world war will be fought over scarcity of natural resource and water right is at the core as seen by increase of conflicts over it at national, regional and international levels in many parts of the world (Barbier, 2010).

The deprived are particularly susceptible to water scarcity, flooding and pollution in both rural and urban areas. According to World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF in 2015 confirmed that 2.1 billion people globally lack access to clean, safe and portable water at their doorsteps. 844 million lack basic drinking water and 159 million drink water directly from surface sources such as rivers, lakes and streams and 58% live in sub Saharan Africa. The surface sources are unhealthy and a key contributor to diarrhoeal diseases (Sarkar, Sarkar & Bhattacharjee, 2017).

The WASH Joint monitoring programme report (2019) by the World Health Organization and UNICEF found that only 59% of Kenyans have access to basic water. The majority of the underserved communities reside in rural area. 12% of rural population are served by a formal piped household connection compared to 86.4% in urban centers.

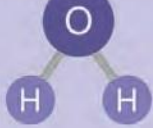
AfriAlliance
MOOC#2
Final
Assignment

Abstract

Access to water supply in rural areas has lagged behind since the implementation of Water Act, 2002 which led to development of water institutions that each play a specific role to avoid duplication and with a view of improving the water sector in Kenya. In addition, water is a basic right in the Constitution of Kenya and thus accessibility of clean and safe water is a key priority for all aspects of development and affects.

The rural water supply has been implemented by non-state actors like Community Based Organizations, Faith Based Organization and Non-Governmental Organizations. There is need to ensure sustainability of these water projects long after the development partners have pulled out of the projects.

TECHNOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS



- Mapping of rural water supply infrastructure
- Digitalization of billing systems in rural water supply systems
- Installation of underground pipe detection software's
- Adoption of pre-paid meters for accountability.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT



- Corporate governance training to Management staff of all rural water projects.
- Capacity building of water technicians in rural utilities in aspects of Operations and Monitoring.
- Business plans development and implementation
- Capacity building of county water and sanitation ministries on Water Act, 2016, its implementation

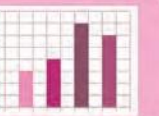
SOCIAL INNOVATION

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES



- Implementation of Guidelines for provision of water and sanitation services in rural and underserved areas developed by WASREB, Water Sector Trust Fund, Kenya Market Trust and Caritas International in the 47 County Governments of Kenya
- Registration of all rural water utilities and Community Based Water Projects for proper regulation and supervision.
- Development of county water legal frameworks to guide implementation of rural water supply in devolved government.
- Reporting structure to county and national governments on water utilities performance.

BUSINESS ROAD MAP



- Development of Public Private Community Partnership guidelines and strategy for rural water service delivery in Kenya
- Development of business plans development for existing rural water utilities
- Sensitization approaches for the private sector to have interest in the rural water space.
- Management of non-revenue water in rural water utilities.

The rural water service delivery need a consolidated effort from both the national and county governments to ensure the citizens have access to clean and safe water. Community Based Organization water projects and rural utilities are key players in the rural space and have to be empowered to ensure their projects are sustainable above the five-year period. Capacity development, governance and technological support are some of the areas that can be enhanced for this to be a reality especial in Sub-Sahara Africa.

- Barbier, E. B. (2010). *Scarcity and frontiers: how economies have developed through natural resource exploitation*. Cambridge University Press.
- Sarkar, S., Sarkar, A., & Bhattacharjee, C. (2017). Nanotechnology-based membrane-separation process for drinking water purification. In *Water Purification* (pp. 355-389). Academic Press.
- Social Innovation Factsheet #2.2: Water Use Efficiency
- Wachira, G. E. (2018). *Critical Success Factors in the Implementation of Community Based Projects in Kiambu County, Kenya*, Kenyatta University.
- WASREB IMPACT 2020 | A Performance Report of Kenya's Water Services Sector - 2018/19



 AFRIALLIANCE HAS RECEIVED FUNDING FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION'S HORIZON 2020 RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PROGRAMME UNDER GRANT AGREEMENT NO 689162