



Livestock watering in Makueni County. Photo credit: USAID KIWASH project

KENYA

USAID STAWI

The five-year USAID STAWI activity is working alongside county governments across the northern and southeastern counties of Garissa, Isiolo, Marsabit, Samburu, Turkana, Wajir, Kitui, Makueni, and Taita Taveta to advance water security for social, economic, and environmental needs. STAWI is helping to reverse historic neglect and enabling the GOK and USAID to achieve their ambitious objectives for inclusive economic growth while building resilience to the region's unique shocks and stresses.

The arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs) are critical to Kenya's economy, covering 89 percent of Kenya's land area, with 70 percent of the country's livestock herds and more than 90 percent of the wildlife that supports the tourism industry. The ASAL population is highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, which are predicted to become more acute in the future. The combination of historic marginalization, population growth, and environmental shocks has increased competition for resources, triggered conflict, and perpetuated poverty, leaving more than 1.6 million people experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity and only 55 percent of the population with access to safe drinking water in STAWI's nine target counties.

OUR WORK

To achieve lasting water security in the ASALs, STAWI is taking an Integrated and Inclusive Water Security approach, working across built and natural systems, in both rural and urban areas, to connect WRM, water services, and water for production, while taking a risk-aware, facilitative approach to strengthening enabling governance and financial structures. Locally designed and led approaches, and empowerment of women and youth, are at the center of implementation. STAWI has four objectives:

Objective 1: Improve governance of water resources and service, including support for policy and planning to strengthen service delivery, water resource management and shock response.

Objective 2: Increase sustainability of water service delivery, both rural and urban, with an emphasis on operational efficiencies, resilience, and data-driven management and monitoring.

Objective 3: Improved management, efficiency, and equitable access to water used for productive purposes, including strategic targeting of available water, and increased availability and inclusion.

Objective 4: Improved collaboration and learning across stakeholders and strengthening capacity of county governments for learning and adaptation. This work encompasses support to the county WASH Forums, donor coordination, joint planning with the Partnership for Resilience and Economic Growth, and support to the Council of Governors.

BUDGET: USD \$24.8 million

DURATION: 2023-2028

ACTIVITY LOCATIONS

Garissa, Isiolo, Marsabit, Samburu, Turkana, Wajir, Kitui, Makueni, and Taita Taveta counties.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER

DAI Global LLC

KEY PARTNERS

- FundiFix
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- Solstice

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