

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY

SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON WATER AND IRRIGATION

**REPORT OF THE WORKSHOP ON SCRUTINY OF THE
STATUS AND DISTRIBUTION OF COUNTY OWNED
DAMS AND WATER PANS IN MURANG'A COUNTY
HELD ON FEBRUARY 19 -20, 2023 AT SPORTS VIEW
HOTEL KASARANI, NAIROBI**

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1.0 Preface

On behalf of the Sectoral Committee on Water and Irrigation, it is my pleasure and duty to present the report of the workshop on scrutiny of the status and distribution of dams and water pans in Murang'a County held at Sports View Hotel, Kasarani in Nairobi on February 19 -20, 2023.

1.1 Committee Membership

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|---|--------------------|
| 1. Hon. Edwin Mwangi Wairagu | - Chairperson |
| 2. Hon. Margaret Wanjiku Gichia | - Vice Chairperson |
| 3. Hon. Hon. John Ngugi Kibaiya | - Member |
| 4. Hon. Kenneth Kamau Mwangi | - Member |
| 5. Hon. Dinah Damaris Muthoni Kagiri | - Member |
| 6. Hon. Samson Mukora Ngigi | - Member |
| 7. Hon. Alex Ndunda Makau | - Member |
| 8. Hon. Jane Mukami Kigotho | - Member |
| 9. Hon. Jeremiah Clement Gichobe Mbatia | - Member |
| 10. Hon. Steven Muigai Kimani | - Member |
| 11. Hon. Mark Gicheru | - Member |

Committee Secretariat

The Secretariat supporting the Committee comprises of the following staff:

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Grace W. Thiong'o | - Senior Clerk Assistant |
| 2. Josphat Muraya | - Clerk Assistant |
| 3. Grace W. Kabutha | - Hansard Reporter |
| 4. Mary Njambi Kamau | - Researcher |
| 5. David Kimani Waithira | - Sergeant At Arms |

1.1 Committee Mandate

Pursuant to Standing Order 204, the Committee on Water and Irrigation is mandated to consider all matters related to implementation of specific national government policies on water for both domestic and industrial use, irrigation, water pans, dams, storm water and sanitation services

Further, Standing Order 195(5) provides that, the functions of a sectoral committee shall be to-

- (a) Investigate, inquire to, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned departments;
- (b) Study the programme and policy objectives of departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;
- (c) Study and review all county legislation referred to it;
- (d) Study, assess and analyze the relative success of the departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;

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- (e) Investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the Assembly;
- (f) To vet and report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order 189 (Committee on Appointments); and
- (g) Make reports and recommendations to the Assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation

1.3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Committee wishes to sincerely thank the Offices of the Speaker and the Clerk of the County Assembly for the support and services extended to the Members to enable the Committee complete this report. The Committee lastly thanks the Secretariat for their dedicated effort and hard work.

On behalf of the Committee, I now have the honor and pleasure to present this report.

Thank you

Signed.....

Hon. Edwin Mwangi Wairagu

(Chairperson)

Dated.....2023

2.0 BACKGROUND

A dam is a structure built across a river or stream to hold backwater. The purpose of a dam is to impound (store) water, wastewater or liquid borne materials for any of several reasons, such as flood control, human water supply, irrigation, livestock water supply, and energy generation, containment of mine tailings, recreation, or pollution control. A dam can also be used to collect water or for storage of water which can be evenly distributed between locations. Dams generally serve the primary purpose of retaining water, while other structures such as floodgates or levees (also known as dikes) are used to manage or prevent water flow into specific land regions. One of the advantages of dams and reservoirs is they are constructed to store surplus waters during wet periods, which can be used for irrigating arid lands. One of the major benefits of dams and reservoirs is that water flows can be regulated as per agricultural requirements of the various regions over the year

Water pans are a simple method of storing water, particularly relevant for livestock farmers in arid areas. Pans are dug in low-lying land, normally in flat area. They collect water from small streams and rivulets, which flow over the surrounding land during rainfall. Farmers can have access to water for use in the farm even in times of drought by building water pans to harvest and conserve the commodity. Farmers can have access to water for use in the

The Executive department on Water and Irrigation submitted the report on the status and distribution of dams and water pans in Murang'a County on January 23, 2023 through the Office of the Clerk. The report was further forward to the Committee on Water and Irrigation for scrutiny and report back to the House through a Committee's report on the same.

The Committee in a sitting and resolved to hold a two days' workshop from February 19 -20, 2023 at Sports View hotel Kasarani, Nairobi to scrutinize the document and write report on the same for adoption in the House.

3.0 SCRUTINY OF THE STATUS AND DISTRIBUTION OF DAMS AND WATER PANS IN MURANG'A COUNTY

3.0. Members were taken through the status and distribution of dams and Water Pans in Murang'a County as follows:-

	Name of Dam/Pan	Locality	Estimated Targeted Beneficiaries (HH)	Functional/Non functional	Use (Domestic, Livestock, Electricity , Irrigation)	Physical Status (silted, breached , etc)	Remarks/Required Interventions
1	Katipanga /Ngimu Dam 1	Kimorori area in Wempa ward	50	Non functional	livestock watering	Silted ,no spillway & dilapidated dam wall	Requires redesign & reconstruction

2	Katipanga /Ngimu Dam 2	Kimorori area in Wempa ward	300	Non functional	Livestock watering	Silted & dilapidated spillway	Requires de silting , spillway rehabilitation & fencing
3	Katipanga main/Ngimu Dam 3	Kimorori area in Wempa ward	800	Functional	Domestic , minor irrigation & livestock watering	Good. Have moderate water level ,silted & dilapidated spillway	Requires de silting , spillway rehabilitation & fencing
4	Punda Milia Dams	Punda Milia in Makuyu ward,	700	Functional	Domestic Irrigation Livestock	Silted. Have moderate water level	Dams require de-silting , spillway reconstruction & fencing
5	Iganjo/Silanga water pan	Iganjo area in Kamahuha ward	200	Non functional	Dried up	Silted up	Requires reconstruction of water pan
6	Kaharati/Silanga Dam	Kaharati area in Kamahuha ward	200	Partially Functional	Domestic & Livestock	Dam wall and Spillway demolished. Dam area completely encroached. No water	Requires de-silting, re-design and construction of dam wall and spillway.
7	Dera Dam	Makuyu , Kambiti ward	300	Functional	Domestic , minor irrigation & livestock watering	Good. Has moderate water level.	Rehabilitation of spillway, fencing & de silting required
8	Githanji Dam	Kenol area in Wempa ward	350	Functional	Domestic , minor irrigation & livestock watering	Good. Has moderate water level	Requires de-silting , construction of spillway and fencing

9	Mariki 1 Dam	Maragua, Samar area Nginda ward	300	Functional	Domestic Irrigation Livestock	Good. Have moderate water level.	Requires reinforcement of dam wall and construction of spillway.
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10	Mariki 2 Dam	Maragua, Samar area Nginda ward	400	Functional	Domestic Irrigation Livestock	Good. Have moderate water level.	Requires design and construction of spillway and watering troughs for livestock away from the dam wall and improved fencing around the dam.
11	Mariki 3 Dam	Maragua, Samar area Nginda ward	450	Non functional	Dried up	Silted up and dam wall completely breached	Occupies a big surface area. However it is completely encroached and its reservoir area is subdivided and sold to private developers. It's one of the major storage facility compared with other dams in the vicinity. If reclaimed and re-constructed it can be the best source of irrigation water in the whole of Kamahuha and Kambiti locations. The dam site is occupied by absentee landlords who have leased the farms to the locals.

12	Gakoigo Dam	Maragua, Nginda ward	400	Functional	Domestic Livestock Coffee pulping	Silted up. Moderate water level	Requires de-silting and improvement by constructing a strong dam wall to impound more water. Dam vital for irrigation water
13	Methi-Swani Dam	Makuyu, Wempa ward	350	Partially Functional	Domestic Irrigation Livestock	Poor, silted. Dam completely dry, encroachment of catchment reservoir, underground seepage and broken down spillway.	Requires de-silting and repair of the spillway.
14	Kiangamba Water pan	Maragua ridge Kambiti ward	50	Partially Functional	Livestock	Poor. Silted	Requires de-silting & reservoir enlargement
15	Maragua Ridge Water Pan	Maragua, Maragua ridge ward	100	Partially Functional	Domestic Livestock Irrigation	Poor. Silted up.	Requires de-silting
16	Mugira Dam	Makuyu, Kambiti ward	250	Functional	Domestic Livestock Irrigation	Fair, clean water. Silted and spillway eroded and cut away thus emptying the dam and reducing its retention capacity.	Requires de-silting, re-designing and construction of spillway. Best for domestic and irrigation use. Dam area enclosed by adjacent farmers.
17	Marema and 49 Dams	Makuyu, Kambiti ward, Marema farm	60	Partially Functional	Domestic Irrigation	Heavily silted and spillway damaged	Requires de-silting, fencing, design and construction of a spillway.

18	Kianduru Dam	Makuyu, Makuyu ward	65	Partially Functional	Domestic Irrigation	Heavily silted and bushy, Dam encroached, illegal farming along dam catchment, , not properly demarcated, little water, fed by three springs	Requires de-silting, fencing, protection of springs that feed the dam and clear demarcation of dam area.
19	Kitune Water Pan	Makuyu, Kambiti ward	40	Partially Functional	Domestic Livestock	Heavily silted and requires outlet construction	Requires de silting & increase reservoir capacity

20	Mitubiri Dam	Makuyu, Wem pa Ward , Kihiumwiri	300	Functional	Domestic Irrigation	Silted, spillway damaged	Requires de-silting, repair of spillway, clear demarcation of dam area, fencing and controlled abstraction. Dam is being used for horticultural farming adjacent to it.
21	Gikono Dam	Makuyu, Wem pa Ward , Mitumbiri area	450	Functional	Domestic Irrigation Livestock	Encroached. Dam has a lot of water, poorly utilized, no economic activity apart from small-scale irrigation through siphoning of water.	Spillway requires re-design and construction. Riparian reserve requires protection since people have cultivated up to dam edge, a water project is necessary

							to supply the locals with water.
22	Wairuri dam	Mara gua, Samar Kam ahuh award	50	Partially Functional	Domestic Irrigation Livestock	Silted	Requires reconstruction of dam wall & increase reservoir capacity
23	Kiboko dam	Mara gua wem pa ward	35	Partially Functional	livestock	Silted	Requires reconstruction of dam wall & increase reservoir capacity
24	Muli dam	Mara gua kam biti ward	500	Functional	Domestic Irrigation Livestock	Partially silted	Requires de silting & fencing
25	Makuyu dam	Mara gua mak uyu ward	80	Functional	Domestic Livestock	Silted	Requires de silting, fencing, reconstruction of dam wall, spillway & increase reservoir capacity
26	Mariira Dam	Kigu mo, kang ari ward	80	Functional	Livestock Irrigation	Heavily silted. Owned by Kenyatta ATC, Mareira.	Institutional dam. Requires de-silting and rehabilitation

27	Matunda Dam	<u>Gatanga Sub-county</u> Kakuzi/Ru biru/Kakuzi			Functional	Domestic Livestock Irrigation Fishing Leisure	Silted up, Vegetation growth, pollution by livestock	Requires de-silting, catchment conservation, spillway Redesign and construction, construction
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						and farming, spillway damaged.	of livestock watering facilities and improved irrigation efficiency.
28	Nginyi Dam	"	80	Functional	"	"	"
29	Kabuku Dam	"	65	Functional	"	"	"
30	Ngelyria Dam	Ithanga/Ithanga/Ithanga	45	Functional	"	"	"
31	Kirathani Dam	"	70	Functional	"	"	"
32	Mugumo Dam	"	50	Functional	"	"	"
33	Mianyani Dam	"	30	Functional	"	"	"
34	Maringo Dam	"	30	Functional	"	"	"
35	Kaguku Dam	"	35	Functional	"	"	"
36	Nyanyani Dam	"	40	Functional	"	"	"
37	Silanga Dam	Kakuzi	55	Functional	"	"	"
38	Kimathi water pan	Gaturi ward in kiharu	50	Partially Functional	Livestock	Silted up,	Requires de silting
39	Githuri water pan	Mbiri ward in kiharu	15	Non functional	Dried up	Silted up,	Requires de silting
40	Upendo water pan	Mbiri ward in kiharu	20	Partially	Livestock	Silted up,	Requires de silting

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Hon. Speaker, the Committee members came up with the following observations and recommendations

4.0 COMMITTEE’S OBSERVATIONS

1. The members noted that most of the dams and water pans are located in the semi arid areas within the County.
2. It was noted that most of the dams are used for harvesting water for domestic and livestock consumption and irrigation purposes.
3. Most of the dams requires de-silting, fencing, rehabilitation thus increase in reservoir capacity
4. Members observed that, most of the dams are partially functional and non-functional hence not serving the residents efficiently

5.0 COMMITTEE’S RECOMMENDATIONS

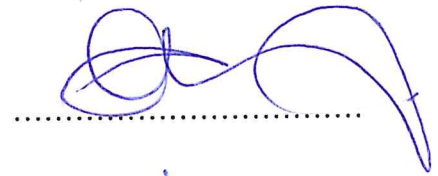
1. **THAT**, the County Executive in charge of Environment to formulate policies that will guide in the management and operations of County owned dams and Water pans to be adopted in the Assembly.
2. That, the CEC in charge of Water and Irrigation to factor the rehabilitation of the dams and water pans which are partially functional and non-functional in the next financial year Budget 2023 – 2024.
3. That, the County Executive Committee Member in charge of Water and Irrigation to consider desilting all the Water Dams in Murang’a County. This will enable the same to hold more water levels to satisfy the area residents.
4. That, the Department to consider fencing all the Water dams and Water pans in Murang’a County to avoid endangering of Children and Livestock from drowning in the said facilities.
5. The CECM in charge of Environment and Natural Resources to consider planting of bamboo trees along the dam’s water banks. This will control flooding of the dams during rainy seasons.
6. That, the CECM in charge Water and Irrigation to consider construction of separate water drinking points from the main dams for the livestock consumption.
7. That, due to the high increase in population in Mitubiri Ward, thus increase in water consumption, the CEC to consider pumping water uphill from Mitubiri dam for irrigation purposes by the residents.
8. That, the CEC to factor constructions of two dams in Gitugi ward to serve the residents of Ruiru and Yakarengo since the area is too dry.

9. That, the County Executive Member for Water and Irrigation should submit quarterly reports on implementation status of the dams and water pans for consideration and monitoring by the Committee.

NAME**DESIGNATION****SIGNATURE**

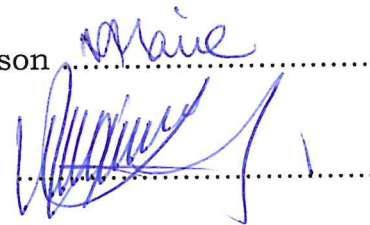
Hon. Edwin Mwangi Wairagu

- Chairperson



Hon. Margaret Wanjiku Gichia

- Vice Chairperson



Hon. Hon. John Ngugi Kibaiya

- Member



Hon. Kenneth Kamau Mwangi

- Member

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Hon. Dinah D. Muthoni Kagiri

- Member



Hon. Samson Mukora Ngigi

- Member

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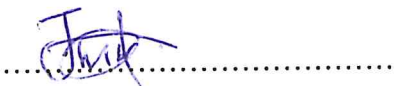
Hon. Alex Ndunda Makau

- Member



Hon. Jane Mukami Kigotho

- Member



Hon. Jeremiah Clement Gichobe

- Member



Hon. Steven Muigai Kimani

- Member



Hon. Mark Gicheru

- Member

