



**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

**MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION  
THWAKE MULTIPURPOSE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PHASE I**

Press Release (For Immediate Release)

**Makueni, Wednesday, June 03, 2020**

**Thwake Dam Progress well on course as key CIT team tours**

Members of Contract Implementation Team (CIT) from the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, on Wednesday, June 3, 2020 toured the ongoing works at Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program (TMWDP) to check on the progress.

The Ministry is currently implementing the construction of Thwake Dam Embankment and Associated Works Phase 1. The first phase, which is currently on course, involves construction of an 80.5m high multi-purpose dam (688 million cubic meter storage capacity) and associated preliminary works needed to enable implementation of other three phases.

Their visit come just days after Water Secretary Mr. Samuel Alima also toured the project, being funded jointly by the Government of Kenya (GoK) and the African Development Bank (AfDB). Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program, is expected to be a big game-changer and heavily contribute to the transformation of lives of many rural residents of Makueni and Kitui counties.

Expected to be done in four phases, Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program will see the creation of thousands of jobs, emergence of small scale industries, boost to healthcare and sanitation, food security and irrigation thereby

contribute to the government's Big 4 Agenda. The program is pillared under Kenya's Vision 2030 blueprint.

Already, the ongoing civil works and related activities has seen both direct and indirect employment of more than 1,000 locals – both men and women who are mainly the bread winners for their families.

The recent tour of CIT members included Engineer Benard Kasabuli, Engineer Wilfred Amwata, Mr Peter Ngari, Mr. Wycliffe Ojukwu and Dr. Stephen Okoth Oduor.

The team, comprising of engineers, geologists, and finance specialists, appointed by the Principal Secretary, Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation Mr. Joseph Irungu, plays a critical role in overseeing the Contract implementation, achieving project objectives and deliver results and outputs.

Once complete, Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program will also provide regulation of flows on Athi River downstream of the dam for flood and drought mitigation thereby becoming a huge source of livelihoods to thousands of residents.

Ms. China Gezhouba Group Co. Ltd, is the Contractor for this project which is located approximately 184 kilometers South East of Nairobi across River Athi in Kitui and Makueni counties.

**Written by Godfrey Olali, Senior Communications Specialist, TMWDP**