



## REPUBLIC OF KENYA

### MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION IMPLEMENTATION OF THWAKE MULTIPURPOSE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (TMWDP) PHASE 1

VISIT BY H.E. HON. UHURU KENYATTA, C.G.H, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA AND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE KENYA DEFENCE FORCES TO THWAKE MULTIPURPOSE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (TMWDP) ON FRIDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2021

## MEDIA BRIEF

### 1.0: LOCATION

The project is located in Katithi location of Mavindini Division in Makueni County, a distance of about 180 kilometers south east of Nairobi.

### 2.0: INTRODUCTION

Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program (TMWDP) is designated as a **Vision 2030** project by the Government of Kenya (GoK) to fulfill the long term country's development ambition in the areas of water, energy, agriculture and flood mitigation. The Program – expected to be done in four phases - is also designated as an enabler of the **Big-4 Agenda** blue-print by the Government of Kenya (GoK). The implementation of the dam project civil works and other related activities has been ongoing with overall progress of works currently at **55.66** per cent.

### 3.0 PROGRESS ON CONSTRUCTION OF THWAKE DAM

The Contract for construction of Thwake dam embankment and associated works was signed on 15th November, 2017 between the Government of Kenya and China Gezhouba Group Company (CGGC) Limited and the Contractor (CGGC) was granted access to site for commencement of construction works on 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 for a period of 56 Months giving completion date of the dam project at 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022. However, this is being fast tracked to have the dam completed by June 2022.

Progress on the key activities include: - Excavation works on water diversion Tunnels A and B which are complete. Currently lining of the tunnels is ongoing at 50% done. Tunnel A is 731 metres long with a diameter of 12 metres and Tunnel B is 797 metres with a diameter of 12 metres. Approach Channel excavation is at 96%, Outlet Channel excavation is at 98% while excavation at discharge channel and power house is complete. Spillway excavation is also complete while the Dam Axis (embankment) excavation works is ongoing at 85%. Rock fill at the embankment is ongoing at 13.7% and plinth construction is at 47%. The two (2) coffer dam designs are under review and construction is scheduled to commence in September 2021. Construction of the employer and engineer's permanent site offices completed and occupied.

#### **4:0 PHASES AND COMPONENTS**

The program comprises a multi-purpose dam for **Water Supply, Hydropower Generation and Irrigation Development**. It will also provide regulation of flows on River Athi downstream of the dam for flood control and drought mitigation. The program will be implemented in four phases;

#### **5:0 PHASES**

**Phase 1;** Construction of an 80.5m high multi-purpose dam with storage capacity of **688 Million** cubic metre and associated preliminary works located one Kilometre downstream of the confluence of Thwake and Athi Rivers. It is an embankment dam with an approximate maximum height of 80.5 m covering an area of around 9,217 acres, with catchment spanning about 10,276 km<sup>2</sup>;

**Phase 2;** Development of Water Supply, Sanitation & Waste Water Infrastructure to supply estimated **150,000 m<sup>3</sup>/day** of treated water to approximately **1.3 Million** people drawn from the rural areas of **Kitui** and **Makueni** Counties and **Konza Techno City** in **Machakos County**;

**Phase 3;** Development of hydropower generating system with an installed capacity of approximately 20 MW;

**Phase 4;** Development of Irrigation Scheme to ultimately irrigate 40,000 hectares (approx. 100,000 acres) of land

#### **6:0 SOCIAL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE PROJECT**

##### **Employment**

Currently there are **1,161** local people employed directly into the dam construction project of which **975** (84%) are male and **186** (16%) are female. Out of the **1,161** people employed, **928** (80%) of the labour force is sourced from the local community in the counties of **Makueni (548)**, **Kitui (256)**, and **Machakos**

**(124).** In terms of skills **697 (60%)** persons are skilled labour, **278 (24%)** persons are semi-skilled and **186 (16%)** persons are non-skilled labours.

**Other Program Impact:-**

- Creation of thousands of jobs, emergence of small scale industries, boost to healthcare and sanitation, food security and irrigation.
- Ongoing civil works and related activities have already created direct and indirect employment of more than 1,000 locals – both men and women who are mainly the bread winners for their families. By this, the project will ease the direct resource dependency pressures.
- Opening up the areas for agribusiness through irrigation and also generate electricity.
- Fishing, tourism.
- Boost to realizing the Vision 2030 and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through eradication of extreme poverty and hunger by enhancing income sources and food security
- Provision of water from the dam will see enhanced development and agricultural growth as more economic and social interests would arise.
- Improvement of sanitation and hygiene hence minimizing threat of diseases amongst the rural inhabitants in Makueni, Kitui and Machakos.

**7:0 OUR SOCIAL INVESTMENT**

Building and rehabilitation of classrooms, health centers and sinking of community boreholes in parts of Makueni and Kitui.

**8:0 ATHI RIVER WATER POLLUTION AND CONSERVATION OF CATCHMENT AREA**

- The Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation is committed to improve sanitation upstream of ongoing construction of Thwake Multipurpose Water Development Program Phase I by investing in a number of interventions – both long term, medium term and short term. This strategy is on course and already being carried out by an Inter-Agency Technical Committee on Athi River Protection and Pollution Control and Management
- Nairobi Rivers Sewerage Improvement Project targets at improving sanitation situation in the City and has financial commitment from Agence Francaise De Development (AFD) to be implemented in five years and African Development Bank (AfDB) to be implemented for a period of three years with an additional GoK contribution for Resettlement Action Plan.
- A multi-sectoral (inter-agency) committee drawn from a number of players and institutions is in place to spearhead catchment protection and pollution control activities on Athi River.

- The team is mandated to generate possible action lines that will be implemented to control pollution problems in Nairobi Basin Rivers which feed into the Thwake Dam.
- The team includes Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), Athi Water Works Development Agency, Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company, Nairobi Metropolis Services (NMS) and Water Resources Authority (WRA).
- The team has held several strategic meeting looking at the possible catchment conservation and rehabilitation activities to protect the dam from siltation. This will also be informed by the ongoing study on Sediment Load and Control Analysis for Thwake Multipurpose Dam project.
- Some of the ongoing initiatives to control pollution of Athi River include: -
  - (i) Pollution hotspots identified and mapped by WRA and NEMA
  - (ii) Athi Water Works Development Agency has put up 19 ablution blocks in Kibra slums and in partnership with Mazingira Yetu undertaken River clean up exercise
  - (iii) Water Resources Authority has pegged some riparian areas and is in the process of pegging more areas for protection
  - (iv) There is an ongoing project of sewerage connections in Kasarani area

## **9:0 PROGRAM BUDGET AND FUNDING ARRANGEMENT**

The total cost for phase 1 is Kshs 42.365 Billion Funded by Africa Development Bank (AfDB) and Government of Kenya (GOK) at AfDB – Kshs32.510 billion & GOK Kshs 9.855 billion. Civil Works will cost Kshs 36.971 Billion with AfDB providing Kshs31.872 billion and GOK contributing Kshs 5.099 billion. Total funds disbursed (utilized) to date amount to Kshs 20,668,971,686 (AfDB – Kshs 16.422 billion and the GOK's contribution Kshs 4.246 billion).

## **10: ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR THE DAM PROJECT**

The Government has acquired 9,158 acres of land for the dam project displacing approximately 1,792 persons referred to as Project Affected Persons (PAPs). As at 30th June, 2021 a total number of 1,783 Project Affected Persons (PAPs) out of the targeted 1,792 Project Affected Persons (PAPs) have been fully compensated and relocated from the dam site. This translates to 99.49% compensation level. There is a balance of 9 unpaid PAPs due to family disputes. The contractor has full access to the acquired land uninterrupted.

Meanwhile the Ministry is in the process of acquiring an additional land of 24.2654 Hectares (59.9598 acres) covering 9 land parcels with 28 Project Affected Persons (PAPs) to accommodate construction of employer's camp, a saddle dam, enlarged spillway and main road. The total compensation value is Kshs 44,972,853.00. This will be processed during the Current Financial Year 2021/2022 to enable the affected 28 PAPs receive their compensation.

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