

TO THE RESCUE | Nyeri emerges top in sanitary facilities but still loses over Sh400 million annually due to hygiene-related health

Ministry seeks to save Sh27bn lost every

Drive to boost levels of cleanliness in the 47 devolved units started after survey reveals massive loss of public funds due to lack of toilets

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The Health ministry has launched a campaign to help counties save Sh27 billion that they lose every year due to poor sanitation.

The move follows a sanitation survey, which shows that most of counties are lagging behind in provision of proper sanitary facilities like toilets and latrines.

Results of the assessment released early this month show that only 13 counties have above-average sanitation facilities. Some 14 counties are average while 19 are classified as below average in the report released by the Environmental Health Department with the Support of Water and Sanitation Programme of the World Bank.

The report was prepared after ranking counties on a score of 120 marks based on several criteria— including number of latrines, number of communities that have no one defecating in the open, number of toilets per pupil, availability of hand-washing facilities and budget allocated to provide sanitary services.



SAMMY KIMATU | NATION

Pedestrians waded through a section of Pumwani Road that was flooded by sewage near Machakos bus station in Nairobi yesterday. Nairobi County was ranked 42 out of 47 in a ministry of Health survey on availability of sanitary facilities.

With 96 per cent, Nyeri county has the highest score, although it still loses Sh426 million per year due to sanitary related issues.

Nakuru with 88 per cent was second best county in sanitation facilities and it loses Sh978 million per year.

Nairobi that is ranked 42 loses Sh1.7 billion annually due to poor sanitation. The worst, Mandera loses Sh1.2 billion.

The money is used to treat patients who contract diseases as a result of poor sanitation as others are lost through of

failure to work.

This includes time absent from work or school due to diarrhoea, seeking treatment from a health clinic or hospital, and time spent caring for under-fives suffering from diarrhoea or other diseases caused by poor sanitation.

KENYA 47 COUNTIES SANITATION RANKING

County	Grand Score	Rank	Amount Lost each year (Ksh)
Baringo	14	38	538,463,870
Bomet	17	35	600,015,325
Bungoma	23	33	881,842,846
Busia	84	3	536,144,388
E/Marakwet	70	10	307,707,308
Embu	10	40	345,146,119
Garissa	1	44	651,549,374
Homa Bay	54	17	919,895,790
Isiolo	46	20	138,751,976
Kajiado	29	29	542,386,862
Kakamega	74	5	942,755,377
Kericho	28	30	408,597,468
Kiambu	75	4	940,854,297
Kilifi	23	33	992,893,378
Kirinyaga	74	5	299,581,502
Kisii	48	19	776,470,119
Kisumu	70	10	739,547,492
Kitui	71	9	859,405,251
Kwale	42	23	676,587,796
Laikipia	38	25	267,184,969
Lamu	10	40	80,894,563
Machakos	74	5	756,626,277
Makueni	33	27	638,167,077
Mandera	1	44	1,229,335,518
Marsabit	59	15	331,791,085
Meru	5	43	815,928,892
Migori	64	14	800,093,480
Mombasa	39	24	548,095,163
Murang'a	73	8	606,040,344
Nairobi	8	42	1,712,512,884
Nakuru	88	2	977,654,057
Nandi	59	15	482,788,192
Narok	28	30	863,648,110
Nyamira	70	10	392,796,963
Nyandarua	51	18	366,631,422
Nyeri	96	1	425,812,703
Samburu	24	32	268,435,448
Siaya	67	13	707,999,269
T/Nithi	45	21	191,169,475
TaitaTaveta	33	27	282,928,987
Tana River	43	22	257,416,194
Trans Nzoia	17	35	507,509,404
Turkana	1	44	1,099,969,461
UasinGishu	14	38	533,079,182
Vihiga	16	37	306,555,951
Wajir	1	44	854,360,931
West Pokot	34	26	586,876,488

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Ms. Eunice Mbogo

Eunice is currently working as a Regional Director at the African Reinsurance Corporation Limited. She is the former Managing Director of Kenya Reinsurance Corporation Limited and has served on the Boards of PTA Reinsurance Company and Industrial Development Bank. Eunice holds an MBA from the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute.



Dr. Monica Kerretts-Makau

Dr. Makau is a World Bank Consultant working on various projects in Africa. She is also a Senior Faculty of the Strathmore Business School and a Director at the Communications Commission of Kenya. Dr. Makau holds a PHD in Public Policy Regulation from the University of New South Wales-Australia.



Ms. Susan Kasinga

Susan works at the Standard Investment Bank, Corporate Finance Division, and is a Board Member of the CIC Asset Management Company. She holds an MBA (Strategic Management) from the University of Nairobi.

Bank of Africa (K) Ltd Appoints New Directors



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complications as Manderu bears the brunt of poor sanitation, with over Sh1.2bn being lost per year

year due to poor sanitation in counties

The Sh27 billion can sustain the Free Primary Education Programme for nearly three years, where each of the nearly 10 million pupils is allocated Sh1,020 per year.

According to the Health ministry report, each person practising open defecation spends almost 2.5 days a year finding a private location to defecate leading to big economic losses.

This cost affects women more since majority of them act "as caregivers who may spend additional time accompanying young children or sick or elderly relatives".

This cost is likely to be an underestimation as those without toilets, particularly women, will be obliged to find a private location for urination as well.

21m
Number of Kenyans using unsanitary or shared latrines

800,000
Number of Kenyans living in areas that are free from open defecation

According to the study, open defecation costs more per person than any other type of poor sanitation. The additional costs are mainly due to the time taken to find a safe, private location for defecation.

Costs associated with shared sanitation are likely to be higher than shown if time taken to reach and queue at a

public latrine as well as user-fee were added.

"Loss of dignity and privacy or risk of physical attack and sexual violence may not be easily valued in monetary units, but these issues are the reality when sanitation facilities are not available," the study says.

The costs of poor sanitation are inequitably distributed, with the highest economic burden falling disproportionately on the poorest.

The average cost associated with poor sanitation constitutes a much greater proportion of a poor person's income than that of a wealthy one. The poorest 20 per cent of the population are 270 times more likely to practise open defecation than the wealthiest 20 per cent of Kenyans.

For the poorest, therefore, poverty is a double-edged sword — not only are they more likely to have poor sanitation but they have to pay proportionately more for its negative effects.

According to the report, faecal contamination of the environment is the root cause of an annual average of 3,500 cases of cholera affecting Kenya.

However, the economic implications of a cholera outbreak go beyond the immediate health system response—there are also costs related to loss of productivity and premature death, diversion of expenditure from other essential items and loss of trade and tourism revenue.

According to the report, more than half of the population, 21 million people, use



FILE | NATION

A pit latrine in a Kisumu slum. A research report released by the World Bank early this year shows that more than five million Kenyans do not have latrines and help themselves in the open.

insanitary or shared latrines. Some 5.6 million people have no latrine at all and defecate in the open.

The situation is largely to blame for the high number of children, more than 17,000, under five who die of diarrhoea every year.

Of the deaths, "90 per cent of them are directly attributed to poor water, sanitation, and hygiene". The ministry is pushing for a campaign that helps households and communities to build their own latrines.

"Since the beginning of the campaign to declare rural Kenya Open Defecation Free, we have seen significant gains in sanitation and hygiene, but

we must maintain this momentum," said Chief Public Health Officer Kepha Ombacho.

According to Mr Ombacho, more than 800,000 Kenyans are now living in areas that are open-defecation-free.

Nambale sub-county became the first to be declared Open Defecation Free last year.

Mr Ombacho said the government was preparing to launch a national behaviour change communications campaign to help encourage people to use pit latrines.

"We ask community leaders to keep in mind the importance of these goals in their annual budget planning, and adequately consider funding for

proper sanitation initiatives next year," he said.

The report came soon after another released early this month that revealed that more than 40 per cent of Kenyans use pit latrines, buckets and bushes to relieve themselves.

The inequality report released by the Society for International Development and Kenya National Bureau of Statistics indicated that some counties have stark differences between households headed by men and female-headed families on access to improved sanitation.

"Use of the bush accounts for 17.5 per cent of the population—reflecting lack of basic

infrastructure or household initiatives towards the use of alternative forms of waste disposal," said the report.

The document, *Pulling Apart or Pooling Together*, said the proportion of households that are headed by women use the bush slightly more, at 24.2 per cent, compared to the male-headed households, at 23.9 per cent. It said only 5.9 per cent of the country's population was connected to main sewers systems hence have in-house toilets.

Nairobi county, according to the report, has the highest population with access to improved waste disposal means, at 87.9 per cent. Wajir is on the other end of the stick, with only at 6.8 per cent enjoying improved waste disposal services.

15 times better

Access to improved modes of waste disposal in Nairobi county is 15 times better than Wajir county.

A World Bank report on water and sanitation for 2012 was the first to indicate that 21 million Kenyans, about half the population, use insanitary or shared latrines, while 5.6 million others do not have latrines at all and are forced to defecate in the open.

The report notes that open defecation costs the economy Sh7.3 billion every year, yet eliminating the practice would require construction and use of less than 1.2 million latrines.

The study established that the majority of these costs are as a result of premature deaths from diarrhoea of 23,000 Kenyans every year.



POLITE REMINDER

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Sixty-first Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held on Friday, 20th December 2013 at 11.00a.m. at Kasarani Gymnasium, Thika Road, Nairobi.

By Order of the Board

R. MIANO
COMPANY SECRETARY

16 December 2013



KENYA INSTITUTE OF STUDIES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CENTRE FOR FORENSIC INVESTIGATION & SECURITY MANAGEMENT

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Target Groups: Military Police Officers, Police Officers, Crime Scene Officers, Immigration Officers, Intelligence, Officers, Prison Officers, Security Personnel, State Counsel and other interested professionals and individuals.

Qualifications: Certificate - D+ in KCSE, Diploma C-in KCSE, Certificate in the relevant field, H/Diploma-C in KCSE, Relevant Diploma.

Applications should be addressed to:-

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