



# Water Resources Management Experts

## JICA Experts Team

No.1 (March 2017)

The Beginning of January 2017 saw two Japanese Experts commence on the project “**JICA Experts for Water Resources Management**” During their stay in Kenya, they have carried out the kick off meeting and site reconnaissance in Tana Catchment Area. This newsletter describes the project outline and work activities done recently.

### 1. Project outline

A study of “The National Water Master Plan 2030”, which was conducted in 2013 with the assistance of JICA, formulated the National Water Master Plan (NWMP) towards the year 2030 taking into consideration climate change effects.

One of the outputs of the National Water Master Plan (NWMP) is the Water Resources Management Authority (WRMA) action plan on strengthening of its capacity on water resources management by;

- 1) Establishment and operations of Catchment For a for strengthening of river basin governance,
- 2) Strengthening of hydro meteorological information management,
- 3) Improvement of flood and drought disaster management

These are proposed as the urgent and priority actions to be undertaken among the others.

To achieve this action plan, WRMA has been making efforts to enhance its water resource management capacity by strengthening of the hydro meteorological monitoring system, and formulation of catchment management strategy and sub catchment management plans.

There are however emerging challenges on low level monitoring, evaluation, analysis and collection of water resources data resulting in poor data management. In this regard, there is an urgent need for capacity development of WRMA staff engaged in hydro meteorological monitoring as the information generated is essential for water resources management including water allocation decision making, water resources investment projects, production of water situation reports, etc.

### 2. Objective

The Project is a technical cooperation project and the objective is to enhance capacity of water resources management in WRMA with the following three expected outputs through JICA Experts Team.

- Output 1: Enhancement of surface water monitoring to improve water resources management by WRMA in line with the National Water Master Plan 2030 (NWMP)
- Output 2: Establishment of appropriate hydro meteorological network and management of the same
- Output 3: Provision of guidance to WRMA on future support for water resources management through Japan’s ODA or from any other organizations

### 3. Project Duration

The Project is carried out in the process of about 26 months from January 2017 to the end of February 2019.



## 4. Working Activities

To achieve three outputs, total 10 activities will be conducted with the assistance of JICA Experts Team.

### **Output 1**    **Enhancement of surface water monitoring to improve water resources management by WRMA in line with the National Water Master Plan 2030 (NWMP)**

- Activity 1.1 Assistance in the determination of the location of gauging stations of main rivers, lakes and springs
- Activity 1.2 Assistance in updating the meteorological and hydrological observation network
- Activity 1.3 Training on how to operate the equipment for discharge measurement
- Activity 1.4 Assistance for stage-discharge curves (H-Q curves)
- Activity 1.5 Assistance for the improvement of the operation system for the meteorological and hydrological gauging stations
- Activity 1.6 Advise on the determination of the discharge amount for river maintenance flow

### **Output 2**    **Establishment of appropriate hydro meteorological network and management of the same**

- Activity 2.1 Confirmation on the current condition for the meteorological and hydrological database
- Activity 2.2 Assistance in the improvement for meteorological and hydrological database

### **Output 3**    **Provision of guidance to WRMA on future support for water resources management through Japan's ODA or from any other organizations**

- Activity 3.1 Advise on the past performance of water resource management
- Activity 3.2 Specification the required items for training and preparation of the training program

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## 5. Project Area

There are six catchment areas in Kenya in the WRMA catchment boundary. Tana Catchment area is the project area for the implementation of activities, especially for Output 1 and Output 2.

Due to security concerns, JICA Experts Team in accordance with JICA's security regulation will not be able to conduct activities in East Garissa and therefore WRMA Staff of Garissa Sub-regional office are requested to participate in activities conducted at the regional office or at the other selected pilot sites in Tana Catchment Area.

## 6. Site Reconnaissance in TCA from 23 Jan. to 25 Jan.

Experts Team carried out the site reconnaissance in Tana Catchment Area with Headquarter Officer, Ms. Julia Kiruri, and Embu Regional office Manager, Mr. Geoffrey Wachira and surface water Officer, Ms. Augusta Migwi.

They assessed current condition of river gauging stations and identified technical issues to solve this project.



## 7. Way Forward

Two JICA experts are now ready to implement 10 activities to achieve the three outputs together with counterparts from WRMA. The project will run for two years, and during which the stay of the JICA experts will be intermittent. Corporation with WRMA staffs is a key factor in achieving the project goals.