



# NATIONAL WATER HARVESTING & STORAGE AUTHORITY

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## CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

### DRAFT POLICY

2021

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## **FORWARD**

We are proud to align our operations and activities with the expectations of our stakeholders so as to attain economic, environmental as well as social imperatives. Through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), we aim to enhance our relationship with stakeholders, good corporate governance, build and keep public trust between the Authority and our stakeholders through solid working connections with both existing and new stakeholders.

This policy will help us put up a strong CSR system which is key in increasing customer satisfaction, better brand recognition and positive reputation, better financial performance, increased stakeholder focus and general organisational growth. We shall align this policy to our core values which are; Sustainability, Transparency Reliability, Accountability, Innovation, Governance, Honesty and Teamwork.

In implementing this policy, we shall uphold the principles of good governance as stipulated in the Mwongozo; the code of governance for State Corporations. Further, we shall ensure that processes, procedures and policies are implemented according to the principles of transparency, accountability, ethical leadership, good corporate citizenship and economic efficiency.

To foster access to information, we will follow the processes of disclosure and transparency so as to provide our stakeholders and the general public with precise, accurate and timely information about the Authority.

We commit to secure environmental sustainability through implementation of environmentally safe processes that foster protection of our water catchment areas, a clean and safe environment.

I have always believed that team work is key to our success in all we do. Led by the Board Chairman and the Board of Directors, we shall all embrace the initiatives outlined

in this policy with enthusiasm and dedication in its implementation for the mutual benefit of the Authority and our stakeholders.

**CS. Sharon Obonyo**  
**Ag. Chief Executive Officer**

## **1.0 BACKGROUND**

The Water Act No. 43 of 2016 came into effect on 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2017 and therein established the National Water Harvesting & Storage Authority. (NWHSA)

NWHSA under section 30 of the Water Act 2016 has a new extended mandate to undertake on behalf of the National Government, the development of National Public Water Works for Water Resources Storage and flood control among others.

## **1.1 VISION**

“To be the premier authority in water infrastructure development and management in Kenya and beyond”

## **1.2 MISSION**

“Developing and managing national water works infrastructure towards enhancing water security, flood mitigation and storage for multipurpose use.”

## **1.3 MANDATE**

- (a) Undertake on behalf of the national government, the development of national public water works for water resources storage and flood control;
- (b) Maintain and manage national public water works infrastructure for water resources storage;
- (c) Collect and provide information for the formulation by the Cabinet Secretary of the national water resources storage and flood control strategies;
- (d) Develop a water harvesting policy and enforce water harvesting strategies;
- (e) Undertake on behalf of the national government strategic water emergency interventions during drought;

(f) Advise the Cabinet Secretary on any matter concerning National public water works for water storage and flood control

#### **1.4. CORE VALUES - “STRAIGHT”**

<b>Sustainability:</b>	Implementing development projects that take into consideration the current and future generation’s welfare.
<b>Transparency:</b>	Acting in an open and honest manner in delivering our services.
<b>Reliability:</b>	Delivering our mandate with resolve, consistency and trust.
<b>Accountability:</b>	Answerable and acknowledging responsibility for our actions and decisions without shifting the blame.
<b>Innovation:</b>	Growth in creativity and being responsive to new ideas.
<b>Governance:</b>	Upholding principles of integrity.
<b>Honesty:</b>	Upholding a quality of fairness and truthfulness in our operations.
<b>Teamwork:</b>	Maintaining synergy in service delivery while ensuring professionalism.

#### **1.5. Strategic Objectives**

1. Develop and manage public water works infrastructure
2. Protect/save lives and property from the effects of floods
3. Mainstream crosscutting and policy issues as per guidelines
4. Enhance institutional capacity building
5. Enhance financial sustainability
6. Improve corporate image and enhance customer service.

## **2. INTRODUCTION**

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), is an organization's commitment to manage the social, environmental and economic effects of its operations responsibly and in line with public and stakeholder expectations. CSR is strongly connected with the principles of sustainability. The Authority commits to make decisions based not only on financial or operational factors, but also on the social and environmental consequences.

The policy will be a self-regulatory mechanism through which we shall carry out our operations as guided by law, ethical standards and international norms. Additionally, we intend to continue embracing responsibility for our corporate actions and to encourage a positive impact on the environment and our stakeholders.

Therefore, it is the core Corporate Responsibility of National Water Harvesting & Storage Authority (NWHSA) to practice its corporate values through its commitment to grow in a socially and environmentally responsible way, while meeting the interests of its stakeholders and the public.

## **3. POLICY STATEMENT**

NHWSA recognizes that its activities and services have a significant impact on the wider social, environmental and economic well-being within the communities. By addressing these impacts, we will improve the quality and performance of our core organisational processes and responsibilities. By embracing Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) we will actively look for opportunities to improve the environment and contribute to the well-being of the communities in which we operate in.

#### **4. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to streamline the Authority's CSR activities and ensure maximum shared value between its stakeholders and the public in a sustainable manner. It seeks to align its CSR activities with its core mandate considering the genuine concern for communities served.

#### **5. OBJECTIVES**

- To align the CSR activities with the Authority's strategic goals, objectives and values in an effort to make a positive difference in the society.
- To foster successful interaction with governments, communities and other stakeholders.
- To contribute to charitable causes related to the Authority's mandate and seek to participate in ways that touch people's lives in these communities.

#### **6. OUR PRINCIPLES**

- i. We recognize that we must integrate our core values and operations to meet the expectations of our stakeholders and the environment.
- ii. We recognize that our social, economic and environmental responsibilities to these stakeholders are integral to our operations.
- iii. We aim to demonstrate these responsibilities through our actions and within our corporate policies.
- iv. We take seriously all feedback that we receive from our stakeholders and, where possible, maintain open dialogue to ensure that we fulfill the requirements outlined within this policy.
- v. Creating an awareness of how our activities have a local impact.
- vi. Environment—ensure afforestation programs such as tree planting through raising a culture of environmental consciousness in communities surrounding our projects.

## **7. SCOPE**

This Policy applies to the Authority's Board, management and staff. It will also extend to contractors whose services the Authority may procure from time to time, and partners. This document is designed to support the Authority's mandate as spelt out in the Water Act 2016 and promote the principles of national values. It will be periodically reviewed and updated in line with the Human Resource Policies and Procedure Manual.

## **8. OUR FOCUS**

- i) We shall strive to improve our environmental performance through implementation of Sustainable Development and Environmental policies.
- ii) We shall encourage dialogue with local communities for mutual benefit.
- iii) We shall provide, and strive to maintain, a clean, healthy and safe working environment.
- iv) We shall uphold the values of honesty, partnership and fairness in our relationships with stakeholders.

## **9. CSR ACTIVITIES**

We will engage and participate in CSR activities that are related to our mandate and environmental conservation. One of these activities is tree planting. The Presidential Directive Circular Ref. No. OP/CAB/26/1.3A dated 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 directs inclusion of tree planting in CSR activities of all government agencies.

We shall restrict our CSR activities to our project areas because these will be our area of operation. Finally, all CSR activities shall be approved by management before they are implemented while considering availability of budget.

All CSR projects or donations such as water storage tanks shall be properly branded as per the Authority's brand manual specifications.

## **10. COMPLIANCE**

The Authority's Board, Management and Staff must comply with the policy guidelines.

## **11. ENFORCEMENT**

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) will be responsible for enforcing this policy. The Chief Executive Officer shall undertake his or her advisory, co-ordination and facilitation role for the successful implementation of the policy.

## **12. CSR TEAM:**

A dedicated CSR team chaired by the head of Corporate Communications shall be constituted from among the employees of NWHSA to implement the policy. It shall work under the guidance of the CEO and will be mainly responsible for:

- Execution of the CSR Policy.
- Identify projects and key initiatives pursuant to the CSR Policy.
- Compilation, preparation of CSR activity reports, and presentation to Management.
- Any other activity necessary to ensure achievement of CSR objectives.

## **13. CSR BUDGET**

The CSR budget will be sourced from various projects of the Authority. This shall be factored during the preparation of the Bill of Quantities (BOQ).

## **14. MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

Monitoring and Evaluation shall be based on measurable, observable and verifiable indicators. This will involve outputs and outcomes, sustainability of the CSR activities,

challenges faced during the implementation of the policy and mitigation measures for the same.

## **15. REVIEW**

This policy shall be reviewed every **three years** to incorporate emerging issues and as and when necessary.