

SIAYA COUNTY: STATE OF SANITATION

County Size 2,496km²

Sub-Counties 6

Total pop. –955,410

Villages – 2245

Households – 216, 195

Community units-193

Definitions

WASH- Water, sanitation and hygiene

KIWASH-Kenya Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Project

KWAHO- Partners dealing with water, hygiene and sanitation

KRC – Kenya Red Cross

CLTS – Community Led Total Sanitation

CGS ---County government of Siaya

CUs - Community units

Q1. This is a water scarce region. How did your county become open defecation free (ODF)?

ANS. First, to correct the perception that Siaya has scarcity of water. Siaya pop. is 40% covered with piped treated water; 50% borehole water resourced and 10% draw water from rivers, streams and lakes: L. Victoria, L.Kanyaboli, R.Yala,R.Nzoia, Wuoroya and Gaula etc

-Siaya begun its open defecation free (ODF) roadmap in 2010 through the national government initiative in conjunction with UNICEF.

-In 2010, the latrine coverage was at 20%.

-Water sources were established in every community i.e. boreholes

-The provincial administration supported the process through Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs, who together with County Health Volunteers (CHVs) mobilized and sensitized the communities on use of latrines and the importance of washing hands.

-The first ODF villages in Ulafu sub- County were celebrated in 2011.

-In November 2013 the launch of ODF was done.

-In 2014, the following the launch, latrine coverage increased remarkably to 60% with ODF status at 37%.

From 2014 to date the Governor decided to pay CHV's a stipend as motivation

-Through constant reminders and checks the communities embraced the process and the open defecation free (ODF) was achieved progressively as follows:

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
L.C	20%	27%	32%	60%	77%	82%	87%	92%	
ODF.S	0%	1%	1%	37%	42%	50%	73%	100%	

-Siaya was declared ODF status in April 2018.

Post ODF activities the county is undertaking for sustainability:

- 1) **Mop up**-Weekly follow ups to monitor the non-negotiables, the use and accessibility of latrines in all the villages
- 2) **Quality Assurance** –County team conducts support supervision regularly and randomly to check the status of the villages
- 3) **Incorporating school pupils**- all schools are involved. Through school clubs the pupils are trained to make squat hole covers and tippy taps. The pupils also spearhead the social norms as they ridicule people who defecate in the open as well as report households which do the same.
- 4) **Community led water safety**- to ensure that all water sources are fit for domestic use by doing mapping, triggering follow ups, verification, certification and quality assurance to all the 193 community units (CUs)
- 5) **Capacity building of** PHOs, CHAs & CHVs on sustainability & communication strategy and how to generate specific WASH messages to communities through many channels.
- 6) **Sanitation marketing**-through engagement with different sanitation product providers. The county through the WASH hub is linking registered groups with the providers to enhance supply. The groups are assisted in account opening and are supplied with the products for resell. So far one community unit has been supplied with 770 sato pans which have been sold and fitted into existing and new latrines.
- 7) **Sanitation financing** –The county is identifying local saccos and financial institutions to finance registered groups. Luhano and Green Arrow Saccos are interested in supplying their members with the sanitation products as part of Assets loans

- 8) **Training of Artisans-** Through LLIXIL company, ten artisans were trained on the installation of sato pans. KIWASH has also identified 20 artisans to be trained on latrine construction and in different relevant technologies
- 9) **Monitoring of post ODF activities –** Through the hub, the team is trained on monitoring and reporting on the activities undertaken at the sub-counties. These include the indicators to be collected, how to fill them in the reporting tools as well as on the online reporting platform
- 10) **To hold stakeholders meeting with WASH Partners-** To do micro plan of all the WASH activities to be carried out

Q2. How did you trigger the communities-planning strategies on the ground; How could the communities connect Water, Health and Sanitation?

Ans.

a)-Triggering was done based on the community LED TOTAL SANITATION (CLTS) protocol.

-This method was to ensure acceptance and ownership of the process by the local community.

-Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs, CHVs were involved to mobilize and sensitize the communities

-Volunteer committees also emerged and spearheaded the process to ODF

b)PLANNING & STRATEGIES- the CLTS involved all the stakeholders: WASH Partners (KIWASH, KWAHO & KRC) CGS, Dept. of Health, UNICEF and community members.

-Micro-plans for the community led total sanitation activities were developed to guide the entire process

-Deliberate commitments from the stakeholders were made during the CLTS launch

-Training of CLTS promoters & local leaders were done

-CLTS process was followed strictly

-Agreed upon guidelines for the non-negotiables which households have to uphold:

- No exposed excreta/feaces
- All households have access to latrines
- Super structure that supports privacy
- The floor is clean
- Hand washing facility near the latrine with soap/ash and water
- Squat hole cover

c) Link between Water, Health and Sanitation

Through triggering process the communities were made to comprehend/understand the link between water, health and sanitation.

- They were made aware of how open defecation could lead to contamination of water and in the long run affect health of the communities through disease outbreaks.
- They also understood why washing of hands after toilet use was crucial

Q3 Is the County promoting water efficient sanitation systems?

- Yes, through advocating and encouraging for systems that use minimal water i.e -use of pit latrines, use of tippy taps for hand washing facility
- County procured 6 mobilelets to supplement the other sanitation systems especially during public events , gatherings etc

Q4. How Are You Working Towards Water Conservation to Make Sanitation Sustainable?

Ans.

The CGS is currently working on ways of sustaining water and sanitation through:

- a. Improving on the existing water systems i.e. upgrading of Siaya-Bondo water and sanitation system
- b. Huge budget has been allocated towards the improvement of SIBO water supply. It is the main supply company in the county. Several boreholes have also been earmarked for construction.
- c. County govt is in the process of putting up water based ablution blocks in 30 markets in Siaya County as part of sustaining sanitation in trading centers.
- d. Plans are underway to implement community led water safety program as one of the post ODF activities.
- e. County govt supported by North Gem project (Dorcas) is improving two water schemes which will be able to serve a population of 58,000 (in Uyoma and Naya)