

EWASO NG'IRO NORTH RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

ENNDA'S EXPANSIVE WATER PAN DEVELOPMENT ONGOING INITIATIVES TRANSFORMING NORTHERN KENYA

In the vast, arid landscapes of northern Kenya, access to water is a constant struggle for pastoralist communities. However, the Ewaso Ng'iro North Development Authority (ENNDA) is spearheading an ambitious mission to alleviate this challenge through an extensive water pan development program across the region.

One of the flagship projects is the construction of the massive Chafa Gafarsa Water Pan in Merti, Isiolo County. This mega-pan, with a staggering capacity of 240,000 cubic meters, will provide a lifeline for the 20,000 pastoralists and 60,000 livestock that call this area home.

In Garissa County, ENNDA is constructing several water pans, including the 48,000 cubic meter Hawalduba Water Pan in Banisa, benefiting 12,300 people and 6,500 livestock, and the 48,000 cubic meter War Yarey Water Pan in Gither, serving 15,900 people and 22,000 livestock.

The Libi Water Pan in Bute/Godoma, with a capacity of 80,000 cubic meters, will cater to the needs of 12,455 people and 38,800 livestock, while the Hobsoy Ohio Water Pan in Kul-Aley/Ibrahim Ure, with a capacity of 48,000 cubic meters, will benefit 16,678 people and 25,000 livestock.

In Kutulo-Mansa/Tarbaj, the Tarbaj Water Pan, with a capacity of 40,000 cubic meters, will serve 17,800 people and 21,000 livestock. The Bosicha Water Pan in Gurar/Danaba, also with a capacity of 48,000 cubic meters, will provide water for 22,000 people and 15,460 livestock.

The Warabalcaad Water Pan in Burder/Burder, with a capacity of 48,000 cubic meters, will benefit 17,600 people and 6,890 livestock, while the Bula Argi Water Pan in Korokora/Iftin, with a capacity of 40,000 cubic meters, will serve 19,600 people and 8,700 livestock.

In Central/Butiye, the Bori Water Pan, with a capacity of 48,000 cubic meters, will cater to the needs of 21,000 people and 9,000 livestock.

ENNDA is not only constructing new water pans but also undertaking desilting and expansion projects. In Benane/Benane, the desilting and expansion of the Shalet-Eldere Water Pan will increase its capacity to 15,000 cubic meters, benefiting 19,000 people and 4,500 livestock. Similarly, in Kargi/Kargi-South Horr, the desilting and expansion of the Arge water pan will result in a new capacity of 10,000 cubic meters, serving 15,000 people and 40,000 livestock.

Additionally, ENNDA is rehabilitating the Chaffa Chachane Dam in Turbi/Turbi, a project that will benefit 150,000 people and 200,000 livestock.

Other notable water pan projects include the Nana Water Pan in Golbo/Golbo, with a capacity of 32,000 cubic meters, serving 35,000 people and 56,000 livestock; the Resim Water Pan in Wamba/Wamba West, with a capacity of 80,000 cubic meters, benefiting 49,000 people and 26,000 livestock; and the Ntarakwai Water Pan in Lorroki/Suguta Marmar, with a capacity of 32,000 cubic meters, catering to the needs of 23,000 people and 52,000 livestock.

ENNDA's water pan development initiatives are not only providing access to water but also promoting food security, improving livestock productivity, and enhancing the overall resilience of pastoralist communities in the face of recurring droughts and climate change. These projects are a testament to the authority's commitment to sustainable development and the recognition of the vital role of water in the region's socio-economic progress.

As the construction, desilting, and rehabilitation of these water pans continue, hope blooms in the hearts of the pastoralist communities. With each drop of water secured, their resilience grows, and their journey towards a more prosperous future becomes more attainable.