

Clerk's Chambers,
Kitui County Assembly Buildings,
P.O Box 694-90200
KITUI.

APRIL, 2023

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, WATER AND IRRIGATION
REPORT ON
INSPECTION OF YAMBURU ROCK WATER CATCHMENT IN KIVOU WARD.

THIRD ASSEMBLY – (SECOND-SESSION)-2023

THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI

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ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

F.Y

Financial Year

MCA

Member of County Assembly.

CHAIRMAN'S FORWARD
Mr. Speaker,

This report contains the observations/findings and recommendations by the Committee on Agriculture, Water and Irrigation on an inspection exercise carried out at Yambyu rock catchment on 9th - 10th December, 2022.

The Committee visited Yambyu rock catchment following a public outcry which prompted the committee to swing to action after a purported series of persons drowning in this rock catchment.

The committee held her preliminary meeting on 1st December, 2022 and vide *MIN (AWI) 008/2022* came up with a program which included site visitation on 9th - 10th December, 2022 and thereafter retreating to compile a report on the findings and recommendations for adoption by the house.

During the site visit the committee made the following observations:

i. That the rock catchment was done in 1961 through donation from development partners with a capacity of 10M³.

ii. The rock catchment is partially fenced leaving some several open entrances while part of the fence is broken and needs repairs.

iii. The rock catchment is approximately 12 feet deep from the land surface and doesn't have drawing area for both human and livestock, this leaves the water prone to contamination while exposing the users to the risk of drowning as it happened in the recent past.

iv. In the opinion of the Committee, there was poor workmanship on the installation of pipes and construction of the reservoir wall which had developed cracks and as a result was leaking threatening stability of the rock catchment.

v. Absence of washrooms at the rock catchment left the water body prone to contamination due to open defecation by the water users which could lead to water disease outbreaks such as diarrhea and cholera.

vi. Lack of a security personnel to guard the rock catchment to deter children and unauthorized persons access to the premises makes it a death trap for unsuspecting users.

vii. The Committee established that the rock catchment serves approximately 1000 households in Kivou ward.

The committee recommends the following for adoption by the house:

- i. An urgent fresh surveying of the rock catchment should be undertaken to address the leakages on the reservoir wall and a new fence to secure the entire water body.
- ii. Proper piping should be done, watering troughs for animals should be installed to avoid human and animal activities inside the Rock catchment which may lead to contamination and drowning of members of the public.
- iii. Rehabilitation of the reservoir wall should be planned to avoid huge overflow which may be a tragedy.
- iv. As a matter of urgency permanent washrooms should be constructed at the rock catchment premises for use by water users to avoid probable water disease outbreaks as a result of open defecation by the water users.
- v. A well-trained water management committee should be constituted and tasked with the role of water management and safeguarding the rock catchment.
- vi. The security of this water body should be beefed up by recruiting security personnel urgently to safeguard the rock catchment.
- vii. Silt traps and a better spill way with a sill and a riprap should be constructed to prevent siltation of the rock catchment.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mr. Speaker Sir,

I take this opportunity to extend my sincere and Special appreciation to the Office of the Speaker and that of the Clerk for the facilitation accorded to this honourable Committee in fulfilment of its oversight mandate.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

I also express reflective gratitude to the members of the committee and secretariat for their technical support. It is through their enthusiasm, tireless hard work and commitment that we credit the accomplishment of this very imperative mission.

Mr. Speaker Sir,
In addition to this, the Committee extends its appreciation to the members of the public for willingly providing information that members of the committee needed to form part of the findings and recommendations in this report.

Thank You.

SIGNED
DATE 06/04/2023

HON. ANTHONY MUSYIMI MUSYOKA (MCA)
CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, WATER AND
IRRIGATION.
COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITUI.

Report Compiled by WINFRED MUSYOKI.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 Preface

Mr. Speaker Sir,

It is my honour and privilege to present to this honourable House, the report by the Committee on Agriculture, Water and Irrigation, on an inspection exercise of Yambyu rock catchment in Yambyu village, Kivou ward, Mwingi Central subcounty, Kitui County.

1.1 Committee Establishment/ Membership

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Committee on Agriculture, Water and Irrigation was constituted pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 190(1). As currently constituted, the Committee comprises the following members: -

Chairperson	1. Hon. Anthony Musyimi Musyoka
Vice-Chairperson	2. Hon. Joseph Musyoka Mbite
Member	3. Hon. Aron Kilonzi Kasese
Member	4. Hon. Immaculate Wanza John
Member	5. Hon. Bonface Mukwate Katula
Member	6. Hon. Christopher Nzilu Nzioka
Member	7. Hon. Harrison Maluki Mawia
Member	8. Hon. Fastina Mwende Solomon Salu
Member	9. Hon. Jacqueline Cate Kalenga
Member	10. Hon. Muthama Musyoka Kieti
Member	11. Hon. Sylvester Kitheka Munyalo

1.2 Committee's mandate

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Committee draws her mandate from the provisions of Standing Order No. 190(5) which *inter alia* provides that a Sectoral Committee shall: -

- Investigate, inquire into and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operation and estimates of the assigned department;
- Study programs and policy objectives of departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;

- c) Study and review all county legislation referred to it; measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;
 - d) Study, assess and analyse the relative success of departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the County Assembly;
 - e) Investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the County Assembly;
 - f) To vet and report on all appointments where the constitution or any law requires the County Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order 185 (Committee Appointments); and
 - g) Make reports and recommendations to the county assembly as often as possible, including recommendations of proposed legislation.
- The **Second Schedule** provides and specifies the scope of the mandate of the Committee.

CHAPTER TWO
2.0 Background
Mr Speaker Sir,

The Committee was prompted by the public outcry on the purported periodic drowning of members of public in the Yambyu rock catchment while attempting to draw water for domestic use. The committee swung into action and held a preliminary meeting at the assembly precincts to draw a program of activities on 1st December, 2023 including site visitations and retreat to compile a report on the findings and recommendations for adoption by the house.

The committee visited Yambyu rock catchment on the 9th -10th December, 2022 and interacted with the members of public and collected their views. The committee learnt that in recent past a young boy aged 15 years had drowned at Yambyu rock catchment while fetching water for domestic use. The committee was informed that similar cases of people drowning in this rock catchment had occurred without being reported.

In undertaking the inspection exercise, the Committee acted within the provisions of **Article 185 (3)** of the Constitution which states that: -
"A County Assembly, while respecting the principle of the separation of powers, may exercise oversight over the County Executive Committee and any other County Executive organs.

CHAPTER THREE

3.0 Committee Observations and Findings.

Mr Speaker Sir,

Members of the Committee visited Yambyu rock catchment which was scheduled on 9th-10th January 2023 and made the following observations.

- I. That the rock catchment was done in 1961 through donation from development partners with a capacity of 10M³.
- II. The rock catchment is partially fenced leaving some several open entrances while part of the fence is broken and needs repairs.
- III. The rock catchment is approximately 12 feet deep from the land surface and doesn't have drawing area for both human and livestock, this leaves the water prone to contamination while exposing the users to the risk of drowning as it happened in the recent past.
- IV. In the opinion of the Committee, there was poor workmanship on the installation of pipes and construction of the reservoir wall which had developed cracks and as a result was leaking threatening stability of the rock catchment.
- V. Absence of washrooms at the rock catchment left the water body prone to contamination due to open defecation by the water users which could lead to water disease outbreaks such as diarrhea and cholera.
- VI. Lack of a security personnel to guard the rock catchment to deter children and unauthorized persons access to the premises makes it a death trap for unsuspecting users.
- VII. The Committee established that the rock catchment serves approximately 1000 households in Kivou ward.

CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 Committee Recommendations.

Mr. Speaker Sir

In respect to the findings and observations, the Committee on Agriculture, Water and Irrigation makes the following recommendation for adoption by

the house.

- I. An urgent fresh surveying of the rock catchment should be undertaken to address the leakages on the reservoir wall and a new fence to secure the entire water body.
- II. Proper piping should be done, and watering troughs for animals to avoid human and human activities inside the dam which may lead to contamination and drowning of members of the public.
- III. Rehabilitation of the reservoir wall should be planned to avoid huge overflow which may be a tragedy.
- IV. As a matter of urgency permanent washrooms should be constructed at the rock catchment premises for use by water users to avoid probable water disease outbreaks as a result of open defecation by the water users.
- V. A well-trained water management committee should be constituted and tasked with the role of water management and safeguarding the rock catchment.
- VI. The security of this water body should be beefed up by recruiting security personnel urgently to safeguard the rock catchment.
- VII. Silt traps and a better spill way with a sill and a riprap should be constructed to prevent siltation of the rock catchment.

CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 Inspection Challenges

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Committee encountered challenges in carrying out the inspection exercise however, through members' determination the task was accomplished. Some challenges faced included

Inaccessible sites due to poor state of roads caused by the heavy December rains.

6.0 Conclusion

Mr Speaker Sir,

The inspection exercise was an eye opener for the members to appreciate their oversight mandate in respect to the social and economic impact of Water Projects in entire Kitui County which face similar challenges. It is the view of this committee that all water projects must be well maintained in order to curb water shortages and provide clean water for domestic and livestock use in Kitui County.

ANNEXTURES

1.0 PHOTO GALLERY



Fig1: members of the Committee inspecting Yambyu rock catchment dam.

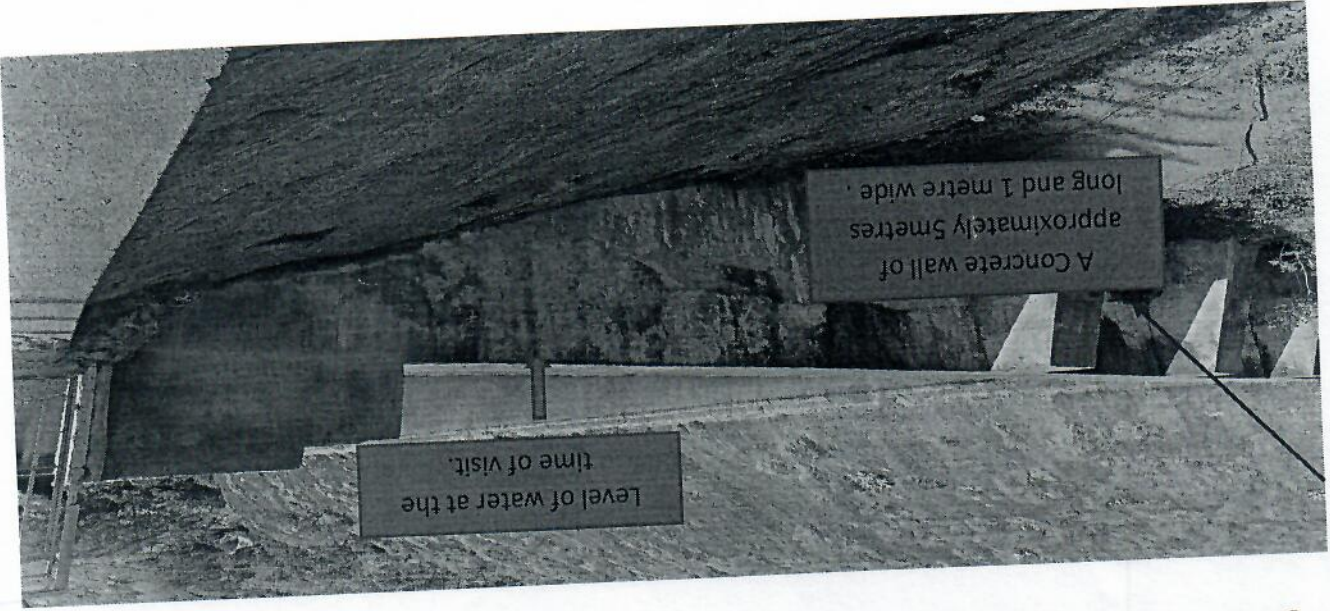


Fig 2: The outlook of the Yambyu rock catchment dam.

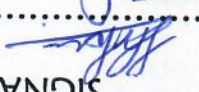












ANNEX 1

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT ON YAMBYU ROCK WATER CATCHMENT

IN KIVOU WARD.

We Members of the Committee on Agriculture Water and Irrigation have adopted this report on Yambyu Rock water Catchment in Kivou ward and hereby affix our signatures to affirm our approval and confirm its accuracy, validity and authenticity: -

NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
1.Hon. Antony Musyimi Musyoka	Chairperson	
2.Hon. Joseph Musyoka Mbite	Vice-Chairperson	
3.Hon. Aron Kilonzi Kasele	Member	
4.Hon. Immaculate Wanza John	Member	
5.Hon. Bonface Mukwate Katula	Member	
6.Hon. Christopher Nzilu Nzioka	Member	
7.Hon. Harrison Maluki Mawia	Member	
8.Hon. Fastina Mwende Solomon Salu	Member	
9.Hon. Jacqueline Cate Kalenga	Member	
10.Hon. Muthama Musyoka Kieti	Member	
11.Hon. Sylvester Kitheka Munyalo	Member	

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