MAPPING FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Water source coverage
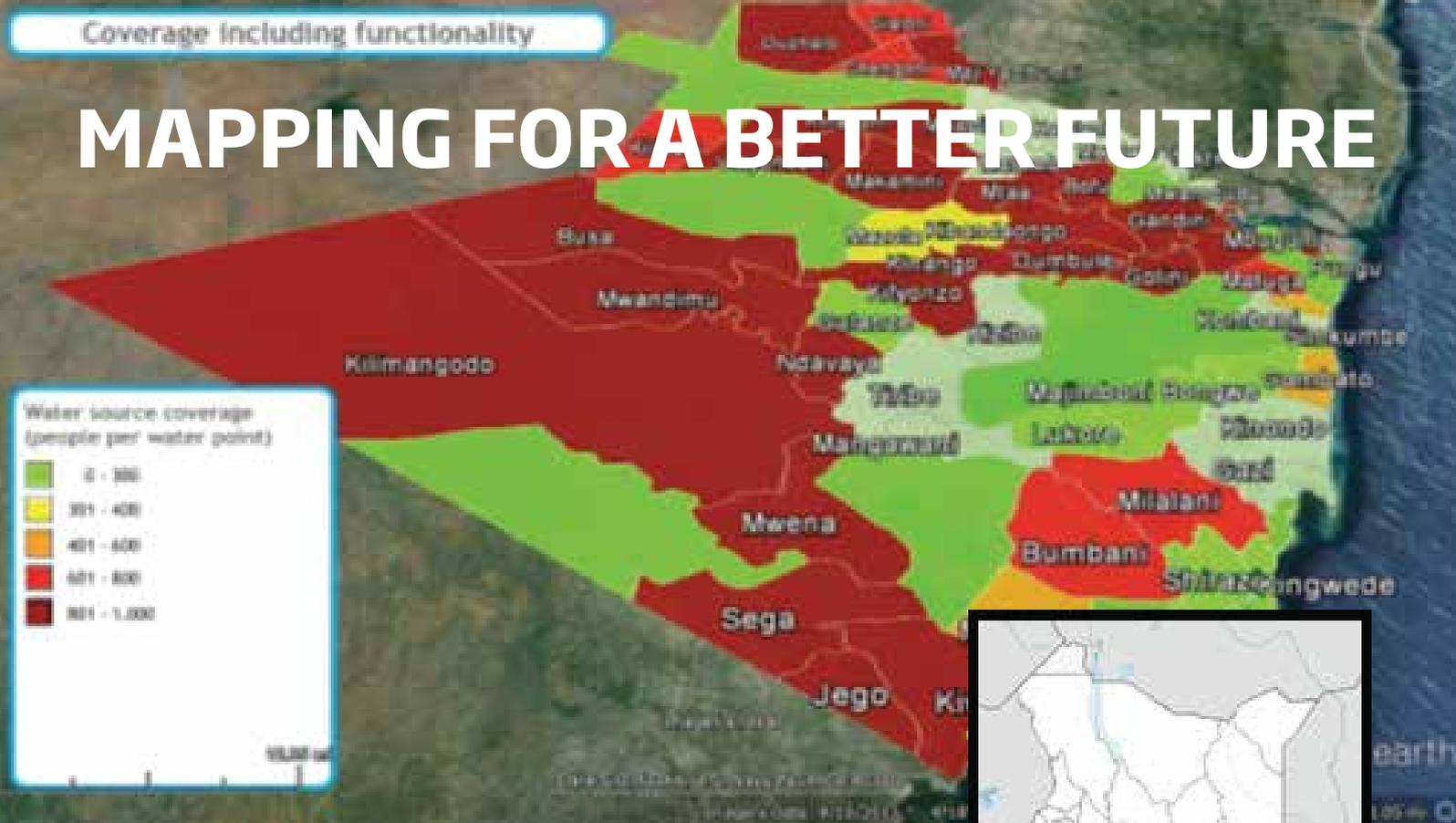(people per water point)

- 0 - 350
- 351 - 400
- 401 - 600
- 601 - 800
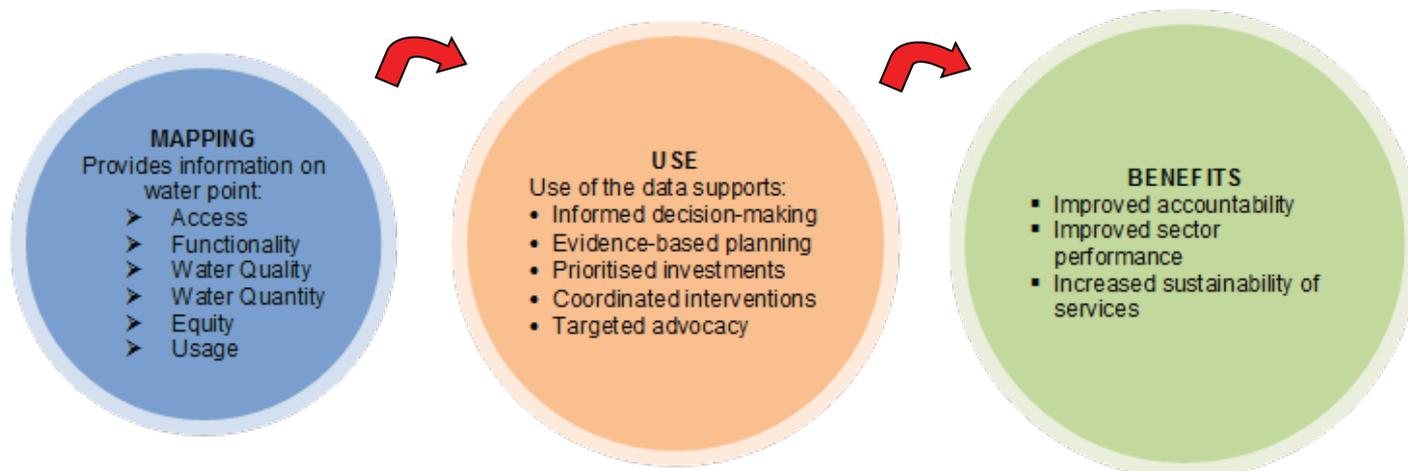- 801 - 1,000

KWALE COUNTY – Overview

- Population: **649,931 (2009 Census)**
- No. of water points: **1007 (57% improved and 43% unimproved)**
- Water coverage level (rural): **15% (WPM study) / 42% (Census)**
- Functionality of water points: **76% (fully functional and in use)**
- Key cause of non-functionality: **technical breakdown (76%)**
- Date of Study: **November 2013**

Mapping supported by: MEWNR, WASREB, NWSB, TWAWEZA, SNV Netherlands, ERMIS AFRICA and WRMA

The Power of water point mapping data!

Water Point Mapping (WPM) is a process for monitoring the distribution and status of water points in rural and urban areas, and can be used to improve accountability and inform local level planning of investments to improve water supply coverage.

Info collected: location (GPS coordinates & photograph), source type, extraction system, (hand pump) type, energy source, operational status, water point (WP) ownership/maintenance/management, payment for water, cost recovery levels, and service level data pertaining to the availability, quality, distance from source and reliability of the supply.

MAPPING
Provides information on water point:
➢ Access
➢ Functionality
➢ Water Quality
➢ Water Quantity
➢ Equity
➢ Usage

USE
Use of the data supports:
- Informed decision-making
- Evidence-based planning
- Prioritised investments
- Coordinated interventions
- Targeted advocacy

BENEFITS
- Improved accountability
- Improved sector performance
- Increased sustainability of services

WPM data is therefore incredibly powerful and useful for Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) for you to use to inform and improve your own interventions, to more accurately target and prioritise your investments, and to influence other sector actors through evidence-based advocacy messages.

KEY FINDINGS – So what does the data tell us?

EQUITY

The study found that huge disparities exist in terms of water coverage especially between different sub-locations within Kwale County (see map). Data showed that 33 sub-locations had no water source at all while several sub-locations in Msbaweni division had as many as 20 sources. This clearly highlights the need for local authorities and implementers to address this inequitable distribution by prioritising investments and infrastructure towards the most underserved areas.

SUSTAINABILITY

Results showed that 76% of improved water points were fully functional and in use. The main cause for non-functionality was by far technical breakdowns (76%) with tube wells and boreholes the most affected by these. These reasons highlight the importance of skilled technicians and WP maintenance. These point to the need for targeted rehabilitation work, access to affordable spare parts and investing in strengthened O&M systems to increase water point sustainability.

GOVERNANCE

Understanding the strengths and weaknesses of the governance structures in place is key to optimising water sources. The survey established that the majority of the WPs were either owned by the private individuals (35%) or by the community (33%). Routine maintenance of WPs was most commonly carried out by community technicians (40%) and the local private sector (20%), while the management of WPs was mostly in the hands of private entrepreneurs (39%) or community-based organisations (29%).

FINANCING

The survey revealed varying levels of operations and maintenance (O&M) cost recovery mechanisms which affects sustainability. For 13% of WPs there was no payment system for use and in 53% of cases no clear O&M cost recovery system in place. Research shows that when a community contributes towards O&M there is a higher chance of a project being sustainable and therefore a need for interventions to integrate cost recovery and financial management.

SERVICE LEVEL

Service level, as measured by water quality, quantity, and fetching time, was variable across the county. 83% WPs out of the functional WPs in use have a sufficient water supply for households while 52% are sufficient for livestock 83% WPs out of the total improved WPs mapped have a sufficient water supply for households while just 51% are sufficient for livestock needs. E.coli tests (water quality) on improved WPs found that 83% were verified as safe and 7% unsafe. In terms of seasonality, 85% of WPs have an all-year-round water supply. Finally, for 84% of WPs fetching time (return trip including waiting time) took less than an hour while for 7% it took more than an hour.

Take Action! Way Forward and Recommendations

Planning and Prioritised Investments: Use findings in consultation with the local authorities to identify the gaps/areas with low coverage of quality water services and prioritise investing in underserved areas, identifying areas requiring new infrastructure and those requiring rehabilitation works.

Budget allocations: Support the Water Board and County Government to use WPM data to develop budgets and allocate funds targeted to where they are most needed and provide rural poor communities with access to afford-able water services

Coordination: Use findings to harmonize development plans with other stakeholders within the county to avoid duplication and inequity in water and sanitation services Financial sustainability: Devise strategies for cost effective service delivery with a clear payment structure that considers the ability to pay of poor and marginalized citizens while ensuring sufficient funds are generated for O&M

Capacity Building: Support county offices in strengthening water users associations in managing and maintaining water points by providing trainings and refresher courses Knowledge Management: Actively participate in data collection and timely submission of reports to assist county offices to develop and maintain a database on water and sanitation for regular updating of water point mapping studies

Technical sustainability: Identify supply chain options to provide communities with accessible and affordable hardware (e.g.: pump spare parts), and contribute to alternative market-driven O&M models built on the complementary strengths of government institutions, result-oriented private sector organizations, committed NGOs and the end-users themselves.

Find out more!
To view the full WPM report and data visit: **INSERT Link to report**
We would love to hear from you so don't hesitate to contact us with any follow-up questions or further suggestions at:
INSERT contact details (Org, email, telephone number....)
Other useful information?