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# Water Policy as it Relates to Community Management in Kenya

Adapted from a paper presented at a workshop on Community Management of Water and Sanitation Services, Machakos, Kenya. By Machakos District Water Office, MENR., Kenya.

The water policy aims at achieving sustainable development and management of the water sector. It provides a framework for selling the desired targets/goods in water resources management, water supply and sewerage development, institutional arrangement and financing the water sector. The following four specific policy objectives have been set to guide the sector activities in addressing the challenges:-

- (i) Preserve, conserve and protect available water resources and allocate it in a sustainable, rational and economical way.
- (ii) Supply water of good quality and in sufficient quantities to meet the various water needs, including poverty alleviation, while ensuring safe disposal of waste and environmental protection.
- (iii) Establish an efficient and effective institutional framework to achieve a systematic development and management of the water sector.
- (iv) Develop a sound and sustainable financing system for effective water resources management, water supply and sanitation development.

## Community Participation

The common practice, in the water sector has been that the communities are marginally involved in the entire development process. However, in the changing economic conditions, it is vital that the

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# World Water Day, 22 March 2001: Water and Health.

By WHO, Adapted from World Water Report.

Source: [www.worldwaterday.org](http://www.worldwaterday.org).

Water and health are inter-twined in many ways and it is important to address the increasing need for adequate and safe water to protect both people and the planet.

22 March is a unique occasion to remind everybody that solutions are possible.

## Message of Dr. Richard Jolly, Chair of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC)

By virtue of a United Nations Resolution in 1994, a World Day for Water is commemorated each year in many

countries around the globe. For the year 2001, the theme has been designated as "Water and Health".

There is no issue that more conclusively demonstrates the integrated nature of environment and development than that of water and its direct links with other sectors such as health. This fact has been borne out by recent studies which show that river basins are more polluted by biological

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