

Infrastructure boost as Northern Corridor states approve new development budget



South Sudan's Minister for Transport Rizik Zakaria Hassan (right) flanked by Burundi's Minister for Infrastructure, Social Housing, Transport and Equipment, Egide Niyimbere (Left) speaking during the 38th NCTTCA Council of Ministers meeting in Nairobi.

BY SADIK HASSAN (KNA)

Northern Corridor member states have approved a budget of \$6.83 million (Sh884.6 million) for the 2026/2027 financial year to accelerate regional infrastructure development, enhance cargo movement and strengthen trade facilitation as cargo movements from the Port of Mombasa continues to rise.

The approved budget of \$6,832,626 represents an increase of about \$2.2 million (Sh284.94 million) from the previous year's allocation of \$4,548,926, underscoring member states' commitment to improving transport and logistics infrastructure across the region.

Key priorities for the coming financial year include the construction of roadside stations, automation of weighbridges, development of the Naivasha Inland Container Depot into a bankable logistics hub, opening new cross-border transport links, and implementing 32 priority regional projects aimed at enhancing trade facilitation.

The resolutions were adopted during the 38th Northern Corridor Transit and Transport Coordination Authority (NCTTCA) Council of Ministers meeting held in Nairobi, where leaders reaffirmed their commitment to investing in transport infrastructure, railway connectivity, border efficiency and modern logistics systems to sustain the corridor's competitiveness.

Three ministers from

Burundi, Kenya and South Sudan attended the meeting physically, while representatives from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Rwanda and Uganda participated virtually.

Those in attendance included Burundi's Minister for Infrastructure, Social Housing, Transport and Equipment, Egide Niyimbere; Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for Roads and Transport, Davis Chirchir; and South Sudan's Minister for Transport, Rizik Zakaria Hassan.

Joining virtually were DRC Secretary General for Transport and Ways of Communication Nke Sana Moko, Rwanda's Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Infrastructure Canoth Manishimwe, and Uganda's Permanent Secretary for Works and Transport Bageya Waiswa.

The meeting was chaired by Egide Niyimbere, the current Chairperson of the NCTTCA Council of Ministers. In a joint communiqué, the Council commended member states for their continued collaboration in implementing programmes and projects aimed at facilitating the free movement of goods along the Northern Corridor.

BY THE NUMBERS

Sh883m

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The ministers also lauded the corridor's improved performance, citing increased cargo throughput at the Port of Mombasa, growth in transit cargo volumes and enhanced collaboration with development partners in implementing regional programmes.

The Council further directed the Secretariat to strengthen efforts to monitor and eliminate non-tariff barriers along the corridor to improve cargo movement and operational efficiency.

On technical programmes, the Council applauded the progress made by member states in improving regional transport infrastructure, including roads, the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), inland waterways, ports, roadside stations and Special Economic Zones (SEZs).

It urged member states to continue investing in infrastructure development to enhance regional connectivity and improve road safety.

The Council also directed the Secretariat to implement strategies that promote logistics hubs and cargo consolidation centres to increase intra-regional trade and boost regional exports.

Additionally, the Secretariat was tasked with strengthening the capacity of relevant agencies in identifying, profiling and developing Public-Private Partnership (PPP) projects across member states to support the transformation of the Northern Corridor into a vibrant economic development corridor.



MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION



ATHI WATER WORKS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

Country:	Kenya
PROJECT:	THE KENYA TOWNS SUSTAINABLE WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION PROGRAM
ASSIGNMENT TITLE:	CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF BUSINESS PLANS FOR WATER SERVICE PROVIDERS UNDER THE KENYA TOWNS SUSTAINABLE WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION PROGRAM -ATHI CLUSTER
REOI No. AWWDA/KTSWSSP/CS/22/2026	

- The Government of Kenya through Athi Water Works Development Agency (AWWDA) is implementing the Kenya Towns Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation Program (KTSWSSP) funded by African Development Bank (AfDB) for the Construction of Water and Sanitation projects in order to improve the access, quality, availability and sustainability of water supply services in 15 towns under the Athi Cluster.
- The consulting services ("the Services") involves undertaking the development of Business Plans for Water Service Providers under the Kenya Towns Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation Program – Athi Cluster namely Kikuyu, Limuru, Kiambu, Gatundu, Murang'a South, Machakos, Kitui, Yatta, Mwala and Malindi.

The scope of services for the Consultant will include but not be limited to:

- Business and Financial Planning:** Review existing business plans, financial statements, and operational reports of the ten WSPs, and develop realistic business plans and financial models.
 - Performance and Market Assessment:** Evaluate current operational and financial performance, and the impact of the Kenya Towns Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation Project on WSP operations.
 - Capacity Building and Implementation Support:** Prepare comprehensive business and management plans, conduct staff training and workshops, and provide technical assistance to support implementation of the business plans.
- The consultancy services will be carried out over a period of 6.5 Months
 - Athi Water Works Development Agency now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are:
 - The firm should demonstrate a general Experience of minimum 10 years in consulting services.
 - Specific Experience Relevant to Assignment having prepared at least 3 business plans for water utilities for the last 5 years
 - Experience in Similar Conditions Working in Sub-Saharan Africa / developing countries and Experience with donor-funded projects (preferably AfDB)
 - Availability of appropriate skills amongst staff for the assignment e.g. Water Supply and Sanitation Engineer, Financial Analyst/Economist and legal expert for the REOI Stage
 - Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with Guidelines for recruitment of Consultancy firms under the "Procurement Policy for Bank Group Funded Operations" dated October 2015, which is available on the Bank's website at <http://www.afdb.org>.
 - Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications.
 - A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.
 - Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from 0800 to 1700 hours from Monday to Friday excluding lunch hour (1300 to 1400Hrs) and public holidays.
 - Expressions of interest in English must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by fax, or by e-mail) by close of business on **23rd July 2026 at 1200EAT**.
 - Clarifications may be requested no later than 14 days prior to the submission deadline in writing addressed to address below.
 - Those submitted by package should be clearly marked "Request for Expression of Interest for Consultancy Services for the Development of Business Plans for Water Service Providers Under the Kenya Towns Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation Program -Athi Cluster"

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