

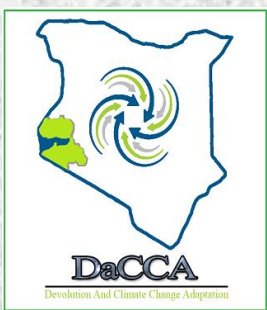
# THE DaCCA BULLETIN

A MONTHLY BRIEF ON THE DACCA PARTNERS' ACTIVITIES

JANUARY 2018 ISSUE



## OSIENALA's WASH interventions improving lives



### THE PARTNERS



*Photo 1: A ferro-cement tank constructed in a home in Kajulu*



*Photo 2: OSIENALA team inspecting an Ecosan Toilet constructed in a school*

OSIENALA (Friends of Lake Victoria), a DaCCA programme partner, has been conducting Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) activities that seek to save lives, prevent diseases, promote dignity, and support access to better living conditions and livelihood opportunities. The organization has achieved this through direct interventions in collaboration with Village Environmental Committees (VECs) and through partnerships with other like-minded CSOs. The mode of operation chosen by OSIENALA depends primarily on the WASH needs of the targeted beneficiaries, and the quickest and most effective way to meet these needs.

The OSIENALA WASH activities focus on five thematic areas:

- Construction of ferro-cement tanks for water harvesting to provide safe water for drinking, cooking, personal hygiene and household cleaning to communities living within Kasagam village of Dunga and Nyamasaria in Kisumu County
- Promotion and facilitation of construction of Ecological Sanitation toilets that provide by-products for organic farming as well as training of Ecosan artisans

- Mobilizing and training of village environmental committees to promote safe hygiene and health-seeking behaviour, and to empower local community members to take an active role in WASH operation
- active disease surveillance and increased vigilance on water quality and sanitation practices during disease outbreaks
- solid waste management and site drainage activities, to reduce standing water and garbage where disease-carrying mosquitos or vermin breed

So far, the project has facilitated the construction of over 35 Ecosan toilets i.e. 2 double units in four schools (Nanga primary, Oasis School, Kindu RC primary and Secondary schools) and household single Ecosan units in Nyamasaria, Dunga and Kajulu/Kindu villages. The project has also registered success in other activities such as several stakeholder consultative meetings for lobbying and advocacy on Ecosan Technology, training of 20 Ecosan artisans and rehabilitation of two springs for provision of safe water to communities living within Kasagam village of Dunga and Nyamasaria communities. As much as the project focuses on the low-lying Dunga wetland communities, the upstream Kajulu community and the peripheral communities, degrading activities resulting on catchment, rivers, river banks and wetlands destruction through deforestation, sand harvesting, unsustainable agriculture, pollution, eutrophication, siltation, burning and over-harvesting of wetlands papyrus are still ubiquitous. Therefore, there's a need to upscale these interventions and widen the coverage to reach both upstream and downstream villages impacting on the greater Dunga wetland.

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