

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA

Monica Fedha
30/3/23



**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, FISHERIES, IRRIGATION &
COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

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BUNGOMA
DATE: 28TH MARCH, 2023

REF: BGM/CG-CECM/MOALF&C/CA. MEET/VOL.I

THE CLERK,
COUNTY ASSEMBLY
BUNGOMA

Committee Clerk - AgWC
Tina
30/3/2023
[Signature]

Dear Sir,

RE: RESPONSE ON MAGEMO DAM

The above subject refers.

Following your letter Ref: BCA/ADM/6 VOL. III/ (60), we hereby respond as follows:

Issue no. 1:

Why the department has neglected the said Dam posing a risk to human life and other environmental and health risks to the residents of Ndivisi Ward:

Response:

Bungoma County has more than 85 dams spread across the county. An assessment of the dams has found that most of the dams have silted and are in dire need of rehabilitation to serve the intended objectives and avoid being a risk to the respective residents

Magemo dam is one of the largest dams in the County with a capacity of over 100,000 M³ of water. The dam has a huge potential for irrigation and fisheries development as well as recreation. In spite of the Dam being an important resource, it has been neglected because the local leadership and the community have not given it priority while choosing projects to be funded by the County

Government, just like in the case of the other dams and water pans across the County.

Issue no. 2:

The reasons as to why there has been little effort to rehabilitate the dam

Response:

Owing to its large capacity, it falls under the Department of water. This is because the department of Irrigation which is under the County Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperatives is only allowed to rehabilitate water pans and small dams of capacity of less than 20,000 M³ . Additionally, it is estimated that the dam will require Ksh, 75 M for effective rehabilitation. This amount is enormous and hence requires proper planning and resource mobilization similar to what happened to Kabkara Dam which is being rehabilitated by the National Agriculture and Rural Inclusive and Growth Project (NARIGP).

Issue no. 3: The steps the Executive is taking to implement the recommendations of PAC/PIC report in respect of rehabilitation of the said dam done in Financial Year 2014/15.

Response:

The issue of the said report and its implementation can only be clarified by the County Secretary who was there at the said time, and the implementation committee of the first County Assembly. This is because the implementation of the reports has a time frame and is depended on the due diligence that is done by the Executive on issues raised in PIC/PAC reports. This is more so in cases where the PIC/PAC reports of the County Assembly are not based on Auditor General's reports.

Issue no.4: What the department is doing to have the dam repaired in a better manner

Response:

The department in its planning framework, the Draft Sectoral plan 2023-2032 and the draft County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) 2023-2027, has planned to rehabilitate dams across the County to increase water storage capacity and availability for increased agricultural and fisheries productivity. It is also recommended that the Dam can be rehabilitated in phases due to limited funds that are allocated to the department. The Department of Water can also be requested to plan and budget for the rehabilitation of the Magemo Dam.

Thank you



Hon. Monicah Salano Fedha

County Executive Committee Member

Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation & Cooperative Development