

Activity Brief – Isiolo Sustainable Urban Drainage (SuDS) Project

Key Facts:

Location: Isiolo Municipality, Kenya	Sector: Urban Infrastructure - Drainage Systems
Investment Size: £1.04m (Ksh156m)	Seed Fund Contribution: Technical Assistance
Jobs Created: ~90	Other Benefits: Climate resilience for 80,000
Date Deal Signed: March 2023	Date Operational: Late 2023 / early 2024

Project Synopsis: SUED has assisted Isiolo Municipality to secure over £1m (Ksh 156m) for a Sustainable Urban Drainage (SuDS) project, which will improve the capacity of its drainage system, enhancing the municipality’s climate resilience, and safeguarding livelihoods. The Municipality is currently vulnerable to the rapid flow of stormwater from the upstream catchment areas of Meru County and Mt. Kenya which contribute to loss of life and extensive property damage.

SUED provided technical assistance through a pre-feasibility study outlining proposed improvements to Isiolo's drainage and flood management infrastructure, complete with technical drawings and environmental measures. This drew on Isiolo’s Urban Economic Plan, also produced by SUED, which identified the town’s lack of drainage as a key constraint to its development.

Financials: SUED helped Isiolo municipality develop a detailed funding proposal that influenced the fund allocation to the SuDS project by the World Bank through the Horn of Africa Gateway Development Project (HoAGDP) that is being implemented by the Kenya National Highways Authority (KeNHA). The amount secured is £1.04m (Ksh156m).

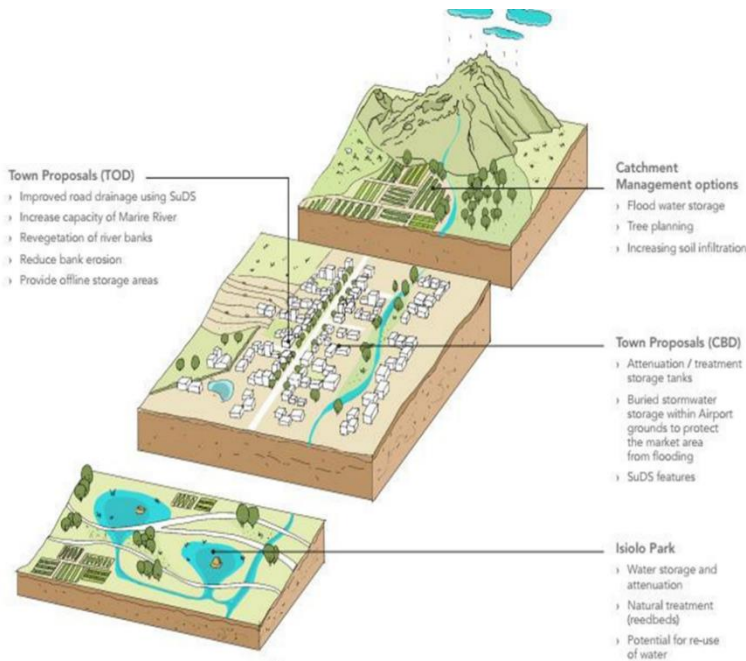
Impact - The SuDS project will play an integral role in enhancing the municipality’s climate resilience, safeguarding livelihoods, and creating adaptation opportunities such as the storage of water for irrigation during extreme events. Once implemented, the Isiolo stormwater drainage improvements (24kms of upgraded drainage channels) funded by HoAGDP will result in improved economic and social resilience for the town’s 80,000+ residents by reducing the damage caused by floods to trade premises and residential properties. The planting of trees and other vegetation in the proposed project areas that will help control atmospheric carbon while reducing heat stress for Isiolo's residents.



Areas affected by flooding: Isiolo urban center and surrounding areas



6



Quotes

Isiolo County Executive Committee Member for Lands, Physical Planning and Urban Development – Hon Yusuf Dahir Awale

“The SUDS project is of critical importance to Isiolo as floodwaters from Meru typically cut off the movement of goods and people in the town while causing severe damage and destruction to property and livelihoods. Addressing this issue will improve Isiolo’s urban centre and support HoAGDP objective of connecting the region and uplifting the livelihoods of communities along the corridor”