

CALL FOR EXPERTS

Water Lens Kenya is a social enterprise committed to transforming Kenya's water sector by bridging data, policy, and action. As the sector's strategic intelligence partner, we advance evidence-based solutions and multi-stakeholder collaboration to accelerate progress towards Kenya's Vision 2030 and SDG 6. Our mission centers on ensuring every decision, from policymaking to infrastructure investment, drives equitable water access, sustainable resource management, and climate resilience.

To amplify our impact in addressing Kenya's urgent water challenges, we are curating a prevetted, **on-demand** technical reservoir: the MajiWise Hub. We seek experts committed to our vision of a water-secure Kenya to provide rapid, assignment-based support across high-priority interventions. Selected specialists will be engaged **as discrete needs arise** to deploy niche skills in delivering context-adapted solutions, ensuring transformative outcomes when and where the sector needs them most.

Background

Kenya's water sector stands at a pivotal point. Despite the 2010 Constitution guaranteeing water as a fundamental right, stark inequities persist, undermining universal access efforts. The National Water and Sanitation Investment Plan (NAWASIP) estimates a critical KES 466 billion funding gap to achieve SDG 6 by 2030, compounded by declining sector allocations in government budgets and slow progress in attracting alternative financing from the private sector. Although the Water Act 2016 provides a governance framework, lagging compliance with sector regulations, slow implementation of policies, and persistent challenges in enforcement, financing, and utility performance stifle progress.

Water Lens Kenya contends that overcoming these constraints demands a decisive shift towards data-driven decision-making, strategic partnerships, climate-resilient interventions, and strengthened intergovernmental coordination.

To accelerate this shift, Water Lens Kenya- through its MajiWise Hub shall deploy prequalified experts to provide rapid technical support in addressing governance challenges and compliance bottlenecks, accelerating policy implementation, supporting utilities for improved performance and mobilizing financing to bridge the sector funding gap.

Objective

Through this call, Water Lens Kenya seeks to:

- Fully operationalize MajiWise Hub as a premier expert pool, pre-qualifying experts across core component areas for rapid deployment.
- Enable agile technical response by ensuring Hub experts address urgent sector gaps
- Embed niche expertise into Water Lens Kenya's core work, channeling professionals into research, advocacy, partnerships and infrastructure initiatives that advance SDG 6.
- Catalyze collaborative innovation between Hub experts and Water Lens Kenya's collaborators (regulators, county governments, utilities, private sector, among others) to develop scalable solutions for Kenya's water challenges.

Expert categories

Water Lens Kenya seeks the following experts:

Policy and Governance Specialists

To accelerate implementation of the Water Act 2016 (as amended by the Water (Amendment) Act 2024) by supporting the formulation of adaptive policies and supporting their execution to achieve SDG 6 targets and investment plans. They will support the strengthening of regulator oversight, closing of post-amendment compliance gaps, enforcement of standards, and transform legislation into equitable, data-driven outcomes to ensure dynamic alignment with evolving water challenges.

Utilities Support Specialists (Rural & Urban)

To drive operational transformation of water service providers through co-designing targeted NRW mitigation measures and cost recovery improvement strategies. They will collaborate with governance experts to strengthen utility oversight through building capacity of Boards of Directors and management teams in fiduciary compliance, strategic planning, and performance accountability. They will design targetted interventions to elevate utility performance as tracked on WASREB-prescribed KPIs. In rural contexts, they will support Small-Scale Service Providers (SSSPs) in enhancing operational efficiency and achieving full compliance with regulatory guidelines.

WASH Financing and Partnerships Specialists

To spearhead the operationalization of the Water (Amendment) Act 2024 by designing and executing compliant PPP frameworks that mobilize private capital for water investments. They will support in bridging the KES 466B sector funding gap by co-creating financing mechanisms with national and regional agencies, counties, utilities and private sector players to standardize risk-sharing models, concession agreements, and transparency safeguards while accelerating blended finance to fast-track achevement of NAWASIP targets.

Water Resource Management Specialists

To support the development of integrated, climate-resilient strategies for sustainable water resource management across diverse ecosystems. They will co-design solutions with Water Resources Authority (WRA), county governments, communities and other stakeholders to optimize allocation frameworks, conserve water catchments and strengthen interinstitutional coordination for long-term water security.

Compliance Support Specialists

In collaboration with policy, financing, and utility support specialists, they will bridge enforcement and compliance gaps across the sector through development of integrated compliance frameworks for the Water Act 2016 and Amendment Act 2024, utility performance standards as prescribed by WASREB, and pollution controls. They will employ joint audits, capacity building, and other innovative approaches, to empower regulators and counties to enforce sanctions while promoting accountability.

WASH Infrastructure specialists

To oversee design, implementation, and maintainance of water and sanitation infrastructure with the aim of advancing access to sustainable water services. They will translate technical data into context-adapted solutions ensuring systems withstand are climate-resilient while optimizing cost-efficiency. In collaboration with WWDAs, counties, utilities and communities, they will implement infrastructure improvements to tackle non-revenue water (NRW) and leverage innovations like hybridization of systems to manage service providers O&M costs.

LENS KENYA

Communication Specialists

To amplify Water Lens Kenya's impact by transforming technical water sector reforms into compelling public narratives and high-quality reports for diverse audiences. They will design and execute targeted sensitization campaigns on critical issues while producing evidence-based policy briefs, impact analyses, and stakeholder dashboards. They will employ multimedia storytelling, strategic engagement, crisis frameworks, and rigorous reporting, to drive sector transparency and trust among policymakers, media, and communities.

Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning (MEL) Specialists

To design and implement integrated MEL frameworks to assess the impact of water sector interventions across service delivery and resource sustainability. They will co-develop metrics with WASREB, WRA, WSTF, county governments, and communities to track SDG 6 progress, investment efficiency, and ecosystem outcomes to transform data into adaptive strategies for policymakers, financiers, and basin authorities.

Expert Eligibility Criteria

Educational Qualifications

Master's degree or higher in Civil/Water/Environmental Engineering, Environmental Science, Public Policy, Finance, Data Analytics, or related disciplines.

Professional Experience

- 1. Specialized Expertise: Minimum 8 years experience working in the water sector.
- 2. Stakeholder Collaboration: Demonstrated experience working with government agencies, counties, regulators, utilities, and sector partners.

Sector Proficiency

Demonstrated ability to diagnose systemic challenges and deliver scalable, context-adapted solutions.

WASH Infrastructure Specialists additional requirement

Engineers Board of Kenya (EBK) registration is mandatory, with 8+ years of field experience designing/retrofitting water infrastructure in Kenyan contexts.

This call is open to **Kenyan experts only.**

Application Guidelines

To apply to join the MajiWise Hub:

Send a cover letter and updated resume to <u>info@waterlens.co.ke</u> with the category of interest as the subject line **by COB August 8, 2025.**

Category Selection Protocol

Water Lens Kenya mandates precise expertise alignment. Applicants must select the single category matching their core competencies and ensure their experience strongly aligns with this category.

Validity period:

MajiWise Hub pre-qualification is valid for a period of 24 months from the date of acceptance.

Engagement disclaimer:

Placement in the MajiWise Hub constitutes pre-qualification only and does not establish an employment relationship with Water Lens Kenya. Engagement is contingent upon project-specific needs, with assignments offered on a discrete, as-required basis. No minimum volume of work or benefits is guaranteed.