

According to the latest Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) by WHO and UNICEF, 41 % of Kenyans still lack access to safely managed or basic drinking water services and rely on unimproved water sources, such as ponds, shallow wells, and rivers. 9.4 million (i.e. 19 % of the population) drink directly from contaminated surface water source - the third-largest percentage of people in sub-Saharan Africa.

The COVID-19 pandemic is bringing additional challenges to the country which has the highest numbers of infections in East Africa. Especially in the rural areas and the urban slums, like in Nyanza Region, preventive hygiene measures and the provision of safe drinking water have become more important than ever. Kenya Ceramic Project is joining Free Kenya Foundation to increase awareness on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and to provide safe drinking water with the Ceramaji filters to more than 2000 families in Nyanza.

Taking COVID-19 restrictions into consideration, the activities of the initiative are carried out in a safe and efficient manner.

The first training sessions as seen below were carried out successfully and Ceramaji distribution to households started in July. Relying on simple, yet effective solutions is a key factor of the programme.



In the next few weeks, Ceramaji distribution to households and community centers will continue. Upon completion of this step, as well as the ongoing awareness raising and training sessions on WASH, the partners will assess the effectiveness of the roll out and evaluate next steps.



Sustainable improvement of healthcare in these poor surroundings requires a variety of activities in parallel such as health and hygiene training, but also investments in the improvement of infrastructures and income generation activities. Hence, investing in better drinking water quality is indeed an essential element for a healthier community.



Green ware at KCP factory, in Kiminini, Kenya.

This would have not been possible without the support of Village Volunteers and Rotary Club. For that, Asante sana.