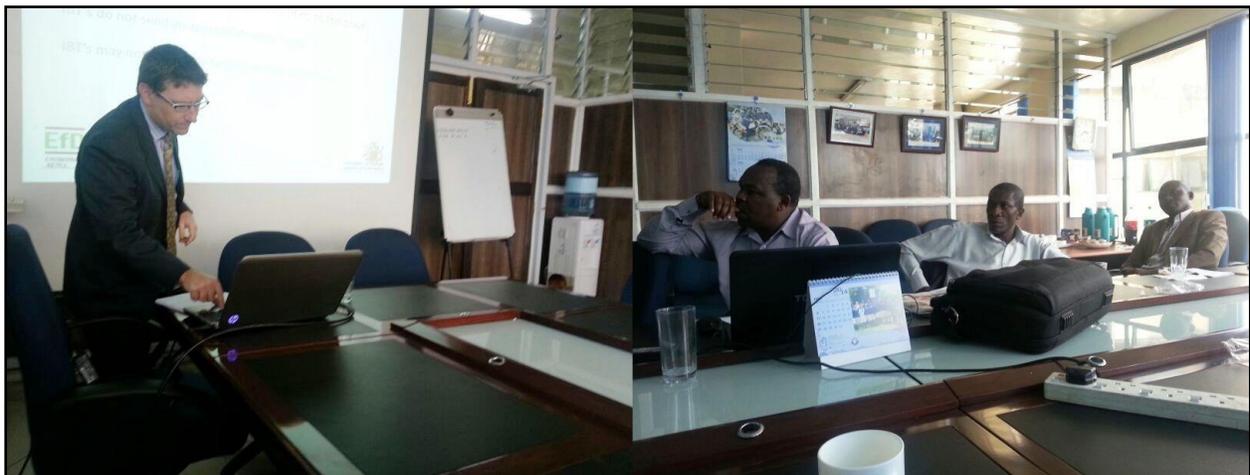


### EfD-Kenya Seminar presentation

**Venue:** Nairobi City Water and Sewerage Company, Central Region Board Room, Addis Ababa Road, Nairobi

**Date:** 26<sup>th</sup> June 2014

**Time:** 2.00 – 4.00 P.M.



*David Fuente; and Mbutu Mwaura, Owen Wanjala and Phillip Githinji of NCWSC*

**Project:** Increasing Block Tariffs and Subsidy Incidence in Kenya. The project is being carried out by David Fuente (Kenan Fellow and PhD student, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), Prof. Jane Mariara (Director, School of Economics, University of Nairobi, and EfD-K Coordinator), Mbutu Mwaura (Monitoring and Evaluation Manager, NCWSC), Dr. Moses Ikiara (Managing Director, KenInvest) and Prof. Dale Whittington (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, & the Manchester Business School).

## Purpose

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The EfD-Kenya team had been invited to make a presentation to the NCWSC Research and Development Committee. The members of the committee present were: Arthur Omollo - Compliance Manager and Deputy Chair of Research and Development Committee, NCWSC; Owen Wanjala- Research Coordinator; Phillip Githinji - Production Manager; Gideon Nguu - Research and Development Coordinator. Also present were Mbutu Mwaura- Monitoring and Evaluation Manager, NCWSC and Keffa Orina- Billing Coordinator, NCWSC. The EfD-Kenya team was represented by David Fuente and Jane Mariara.

## Proceedings

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*Mr. Arthur Omollo and Mr. Mbutu Mwaura of NSCWC*

The seminar opened with Mbutu Mwaura introducing the members of the research and development committees of NCWSC and those from EfD-Kenya. He then welcomed the NCWSC chair of the R&D committee to make welcome remarks.

Mr. Omollo welcomed the team and workshop participants on behalf of the chairperson. He expressed the happiness of the NCWSC team for being involved in the EfD-Kenya project and appreciation for the strong collaboration between the two institutions. He then welcomed the EfD-team to make comments.

Mariara lauded the collaboration between NCWSC and EfD-Kenya and noted that the MoU provides opportunities to fill in important institutional capacity gaps in the two institutions.

She then made a brief presentation on the School of Economics and EfD, making clear the mandate and vision of the two institutions. She noted that EfD consists of six centers at key government think tanks or large universities. She elaborated on the role of the EfD initiative in addressing the capacity, analytical and communication gaps in developing countries, both at the individual and institutional level.



*Prof. Jane Mariara*

She said that through addressing these institutional gaps, EfD ensures well grounded environmental analysis in key national plans and policies and thus EfD centers have to maintain strong collaboration with policy institutions. She further noted that EfD-Kenya is currently involved in various research projects, namely, two collaborative research projects, one on Park Pricing, and another on the design and evaluation of forest tenure reforms; and several thematic projects; focusing on water, climate change and co-management of natural resources.

David started by expressing appreciation to the NCWSC for the strong support they have provided to the project in terms of data and logistical support during and after the fieldwork. He also noted that he had worked with other utilities, such as Egypt and India, and that he was impressed by the level of professionalism of the NCWSC staff and the quality of their information management systems. He then made a presentation of the preliminary draft of the Nairobi Water project. The presentation focused on the process of the research so far, design of the survey, collection of data and results from the preliminary data analysis. David further elaborated on the proposed next steps for the ongoing project and also proposed follow up research. The presentation was followed by a lively discussion of the issues surrounding the research including sampling, data and the preliminary results. The discussion pointed at data issues that may need to be clarified, both from the household survey level and from the billing data. The EfD team was quite impressed by the level of engagement of the NCWSC team.



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In the concluding remarks, the NCWSC team expressed their enthusiasm to continue collaborating with EFD-Kenya and also to support the project. They further urged that the more results be shared with them as soon as possible as they found the preliminary results quite informative. They acknowledged that NCWSC does not carry out research on water use and subsidy incidence and thus the study will go a long way to influence water pricing policy. Mbutu noted that NCWSC has been mandated to develop a theme for the 18<sup>th</sup> African Water Association (AFWA) Conference, which would take place in Nairobi in 2016.

He invited the EFD-Kenya team to attend a meeting at the NCWSC on 2<sup>nd</sup> July to brainstorm and come up with a theme for the conference. The EFD team noted that NCWSC has been an excellent partner and that they would be happy to continue collaborating with NCWSC to carry out research which is not only useful from the academic point of view, but that would also assist NCWSC in making relevant policies related to water. The team also expressed EFD's willingness to be part of the 18<sup>th</sup> AFWA Conference.