

Clean and safe water spare
Kihanju village from
unprotected water sources



WaterAid





Kihanju is a village located at about 7 Km from the headquarters of Itigi District Council town. It is bordered by Sanjaranda in the South, Itigi Town in North, Songambele in the East and Kitaraka in the west. According to the village profile, the village has a total population of 1,986 people. People in Kihanju mainly depend on farming as their economic means. People in Kihanju depended on unprotected water supply sources mainly locally dug shallow well. Women were required to fetch water from distant sources and commonly suffered from water-borne diseases. Lack of access to safe, sustainable, and inclusive water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) significantly contributes to the cycle of poverty, particularly impacting the lives of women, girls, children and the most vulnerable. Accessible WASH services are a prerequisite for poverty reduction, improvement in the quality of life, and enhanced economic growth



Through an existing relationship between WaterAid and Serengeti Breweries Limited, we implemented Kihanju water supply project to provide clean and safe water to about 2000 community members in Kihanju and contribute to improving health of target community members. With 50 TZS, one can get 20 liters of clean water from the water points by dropping the coin inside the water point. WaterAid considered installation of e-taps in 2 water points to increase in the revenue collection efficiency, cost-saving as there is no need for the tap's operators and thus reliable and sustainable water supply in Kihanju village.



Joyce Patrick is 27 years old, married and a mother of three children. Before this water project, she used to fetch water at Itigi 2 hours from her home. The water that I she was fetching at Itigi was not clean and they usually had diarrhoea and stomach aches and typhoid.

Back then I searched for water for two hours to fetch water but now I get water nearby and come back home to do other activities like a small business I do but also cook for my children

Joyce is looking forward to using this water to start a small vegetable farm that she can sell and get money

Joyce added that she is also looking forward to having a tap at her home so that she can also use the water for her cattle and other home activities.

Watch Joyce's interview [here](#)



Monica Gasper is 30 years old, married for almost ten years now with two boys and one girl. Before this project, she used to walk for thirty minutes searching for water, the water was sour, and the well was long.

The water was dirty and had bacteria, so we usually ended up sick. I remember when I was pregnant, it was very painful to fetch water because the well is like ten feet deep underground, and we use a 10 liters bucket and a very long rope to pull the water from underground, the process led to excruciating pain in my waist given my condition at that time, this didn't only happen to me but to many women here

Monica adds that, the water that we have now from this new project is beneficial to me as I use it for drinking, cooking, to flush on the toilet, for the chicken and for washing clothes.

The time she used to spend for find water, now, she spends use it to find firewood for cooking and to perform church activities. Monica aspires to have a water at her house so that she can cultivate a vegetable garden. Watch Monica's interview [here](#)



Rural Water and Sanitation agency was established in July 2019 with a vision to facilitate rural communities with access to portable and sustainably managed water supply and sanitation services for social economic development.

RUWASA's mission is to develop and manage rural water supply and sanitation services in a participatory, professional, and cost-effective manner. The main mandate of RUWASA is to sustainably plan, design, construct and manage water supply and sanitation services in rural parts of Tanzania mainland.

As RUWASA their main goal is to make sure that community members in rural areas have clean and safe water services and make sure that until 2025, 85% of people at have clean and water.

Gabriel Ngogi has been a RUWASA's District Manager in Manyoni District for quite some time now.

We work closely with the community to bring about water projects in rural areas but also when that process is done, we start the designing stage and include it in the government budget, once approved, we start the project implementation. We also work to make sure that those projects are sustainable by creating CBWSO in terms in operations and maintenance

At Itigi District Council, only 61% people have clean and safe water in the rural areas so there is still a demand for water and a gap that we have to fill until 2025 to make sure that they reach 100%. Before Kihanju village had water through the funds from Serengeti Breweries Limited and WaterAid, they used local ponds and well and the water was not clean and safe and walked for like 15 kilometers to Itigi town for water. Now almost 2000 people in Kihanju are benefiting from this project funded by Serengeti Breweries Limited and WaterAid

In short during the implementation of the project, it went hand in hand with the formation of Community water users' group (CBWSO) and they have been handed over the project and the have been educated on how to operate and maintain the project. I would advise Kihanju residents to stop using local ponds and wells because the water is not clean and safe. On our side we have allocated thirty million Tanzania shillings to expand the existing water network to reach more villagers in Kihanju. To reach everyone everywhere we must work together, and we request the water sector stakeholders to support us in making sure that we all support the government's efforts. See Gabriel's interview [here](#)





Iddy Hussein Manguli is a headmaster at Kihanju primary school and has been a teacher here since 2016. Before the installation of a water point here in school, they used to fetch water in wells that were so deep underground, and open which made it very dangerous to students, so they had to go with them to the wells

We used to go to fetch water like two kilometers from here so the time that we were supposed to be in the class we wasted it searching for water. When we reached the wells, we didn't fetch the water right away, we used long ropes called Nkosi, and the process to fetch the water was long and hard. Here in school students drink porridge, this water has helped us because we use it for porridge and other times, we use to wash the cooking utensils. Our trees also started to die because of lack of water but now we use this water for our trees too, they are now looking green, so this water has really been beneficial to us. Now that this water project is here, students have been safe and fetching water here in school without any problem. Now we are living and studying without wasting any time



Before this project, teachers were telling students to come with their own drinking water however it was the same water fetched from the well. Parents used to come at the school complaining and tell that their children have stomach aches and when they go to the hospital, they were told they are infected because of the unsafe water Iddy added, I would request the government to expand the water network to reach more places for instance in the issue of irrigation, if we were to construct a simtank and pump water it would help irrigation rather than fetching in one water point, it would help us to have a garden too.

[Click here to watch his interview](#)





WAT will engage with and influence the Government, service providers, civil society organisations (CSOs) and all WASH actors to bring about effective change. This will act as the spark to reach unserved people in rural and urban areas with sustainable WASH. We will provide robust evidence and sound reasoning to demonstrate the positive impact of WASH on society, the economy and public health, and how it can create resilience to the effects of climate change and aid in poverty eradication in remote areas and forgotten or marginalised communities.

For more information, Karibu sana to our head office, which is based in Dar es Salaam. You can find us at: 1469 Rufiji Street, Msasani Peninsula, PO Box 33759, Dar es Salaam. We are also on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook. Don't forget to follow us and stay up to date with the latest news!

