After a long while of preparing our new 5 years country strategy,

Drum roooolls ...........

We are finally ready to launch it, please save the date below and invitations will be shared accordingly.

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SAVE the DATE

18 05 23

COUNTRY STRATEGY LAUNCH 2023-2028 & 40 YEARS ANNIVERSARY

'Ending the water, sanitation, and hygiene crisis together – for everyone, everywhere'
Partners, donors and colleagues,

As we end our year in March 2023 and start the new WaterAid financial year 2023/2024, I would like to appreciate and recognize the support from each of you towards the big achievement we registered during the year. For the financial year 2022/2023, WaterAid Tanzania's focus was on the development of our 5 years country strategy alongside programme delivery. We managed to deliver all our ambitions and the plan is to launch the new strategy on May 2023, before proceeding with its execution for the next 5 years. I trust that you will continue to be part of this ambitious journey of ending the water, sanitation and hygiene crisis for everyone, everywhere. A special thanks to our donors who believed in WaterAid's work in FY 22/23, through you, the dream of Tanzanians to have WASH services is coming true.

14,000 to benefit from WASH services in schools and healthcare facilities

Through the hard work of WaterAid staff, partners and support of funds from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), WAT is implementing a programme for the Effectiveness of Hygiene Behaviour in Schools and Health Care Facilities. Through this project, WaterAid Tanzania has improved access to WASH services and good hygiene behaviours in 45 institutions (30 schools and 15 healthcare facilities) in Kisarawe District Council.

Earlier this year, the WASH infrastructures construction component on the 45 institutions was completed with a rainwater harvesting system composed of a concrete tank base, gutter systems and 10,000 litres poly tanks, handwashing facilities with 4 taps, handwashing facilities with 8 taps, poly storage tanks, rehabilitated and new latrine cubicles for students, teachers, healthcare workers and people with disabilities, MHM burning chambers, mirror and pad box, ash pits, incinerators (burning chamber), placenta pits and handwashing sinks in healthcare facilities' service rooms.

WaterAid Tanzania handed over the facilities to Kisarawe District Council on the 14th of February 2023 at Kisarawe District Council to allow users and the Kisarawe District council to utilize the services in all facilities for better operation and maintenance. WaterAid Tanzania proceeds to implement component two: research works and finalize the third component of hygiene behaviour change promotion.
The kickstart of the research component in Kisarawe

As part of the JICA-funded project and following the handover of the WASH infrastructure component, WAT through a research partner is conducting a baseline assessment in Kisarawe in 30 schools, 15 HCFs and 900 households including household water quality testing. The purpose of this research is to assess the effectiveness of HBC interventions in schools and HCFs including the daily hygiene routines and practices of school students/teachers/ healthcare staff, identify the prevalence of behaviours (knowledge/practice) and their key determinants, barriers, and motives to practice the behaviour and finally, to assess the changes due to the project interventions including the handwashing behaviours of crucial target populations in the 30 schools and 15 healthcare facilities.

A total of 6 Trainer of Trainers (ToT) and 85 data collectors were trained on the HBC research protocol, methods, tools and data collection modalities (paper-based, online) to effectively collect data from the schools, and HCFs and clean them before uploading them into mWater.

Following this study, it will also add value or increase knowledge on some basic information about some of the hygiene/health issues that are common in schools and healthcare facilities and how they can be improved. The results from this study will influence future hygiene programming in Tanzania and globally.

Kwamaizi community eagerly waiting for clean and safe water

WaterAid Tanzania through funds from Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL) is implementing the construction of a water dam at Kwamaizi ward expected to reach 1944 people. Before and currently the community at Kwamaizi is fetching water 5-10 km from their homes in shallow wells leaving girls and women affected the most. This project will not only improve access to clean and safe water but also improve the capacity of the community-owned based organization and LGAs on a sustainable approach to the management of the water infrastructures and improve awareness of community members with a focus on key target behaviour such as handwashing, and water quality management. During a donor (SBL) site visit at Kwamaizi Dam, the district commissioner for Handeni Hon. Albert Msando pledged his office's full support during the implementation of the project and thanked SBL and WaterAid for their support on the provision of clean and safe water since Handeni access to clean and safe water is currently below 40%. Watch the pre-intervention documentary here
Misima secondary school is in the Mabanda Kwedigongo area in the Handeni district with a total of 756 students. The water source for the students and teachers used to be from local unprotected shallow wells located around the school. For Ordinary level (form one (1) to four (4) students they collected water for themselves from shallow wells and valleys around the school catchment within 10 kilometres the water was not clean nor safe. Due to the lack of water students were transferred to other schools. Also, fungus and skin irritations diarrhoea, Urinary Tract Infections, and typhoid were common diseases affecting students in Misima secondary school. Due to the lack of water near the school, most time used by students to fetch water led to reducing study time and concentration of students for better learning.

Through funds from Hilton Effect Foundation, WaterAid Tanzania in agreement with WaterAid America implemented a comprehensive school water and sanitation project to support girls with water access together with imparting awareness on hygiene improvement. WAT has formulated girls’ hygiene clubs and equipped the awareness on Menstrual Hygiene and Hygiene (MHH), the connection of water to the school supply scheme and tapping points and the construction of improved laundry units.

Now Misima girls have a smile on their faces with a functional water system within the school and hygiene improvement with appropriate awareness of comprehensive hygiene.

The Role of Members of Parliament in Championing WASH in HCFs

In FY 2021/22 WAT oriented the Parliamentary Social Services and Community Development Committee (SSCPC) about the critical situation in the WASH sector, particularly health care facilities and bottlenecks including underfunding. 5 Members of Parliament champions from SSCPC were appointed for continuous involvement in WASH matters with Non-State actors. WaterAid Tanzania with the 5 MPs champions from SSCPC travelled to the Geita region for a field learning visit where WaterAid in collaboration with AMREF implemented a project to address maternal, newborn and child mortality. Two HCFs were visited; Kharumwa Health Centre (with WASH facilities) and Nyamakana Dispensary (without WASH facilities).
This visit enabled learning where to improve in promoting WASH in HCF through utilizing the space of engagement with the relevant members of parliament and deliberate on the WASH in HCF for dynamic discussion in the parliament to get all relevant MPs to recognize specific WASH in the HCF situations for following up with actions to the Ministry of Health and prioritization of budget allocation in WASH in HCFs. As a result, the MPs have started to share specific messages on hygiene relative to the event/activity that will lead to active discussion in the parliament including in the ongoing discussion of the Universal Health Insurance Bill of 2022 in relation to WASH coverage and other relevant platforms as part of a response plan to communicable diseases. Read healthcare workers’ stories here

Global VIP Water Changemakers Award

Our Country Director was privileged to attend the National Reception of the First Global VIP Water Change Makers Award conferred to H.E. Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi, the President of Zanzibar, followed by a series of meetings for potential collaboration with the Ministry of Water - Zanzibar.

The President of Zanzibar Hon @DrHmwinyi became the First Recipient of the Global VIP Water Change Makers Award. We will continue to engage with partners to support and influence policies and budgets and contribute to improving access to safe, affordable, gender-responsive, socially inclusive and sustainable water services for everyone, everywhere. Learn more about the global VIP awards here.
WAT’s vision is of a country like Tanzania where no woman or girl is forced to walk and queue for hours to collect water. We aspire to be a place where no community is held back by an endless cycle of sickness caused by broken and dirty water supplies and poor hygiene and sanitation. WaterAid Tanzania shared a statement to 16 media outlets regarding our calls for action on world water day. Read our statement here.
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 rest on farming as their economic means. People in Kihanju depended on unprotected water sources, mainly locally dug shallow wells. 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. Read more here
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