

**From hours to minutes,
water transformation
stories in Ndachi**



Dodoma



In most parts of Tanzania, women are accountable for fetching water by any means possible. As a mother of 4 and a wife, Madina Swai used to cycle on her bicycle for hours, searching for water. This was no easy task. She had to leave early and return in the afternoon, finding her children already home from school waiting for her to cook lunch. When she couldn't fetch the water herself, she would find a local 'bodaboda' and pay him 2,600 Tanzanian Shillings (TZS) to bring her 120 liters of water. This arrangement was quite expensive for Madina and her family, but she didn't have the privilege of having a choice. Madina barely had time to spend on her farm or caring for her family. She needed more water than she could get, which hindered her from economically elevating herself and her family's well-being, since she couldn't tend to her farm as much as she should have. Time is one thing she did not have at all.





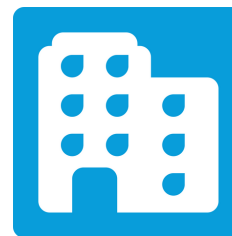
WaterAid/Neema Kimaro



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The Dodoma region is usually dry, with long periods of hot weather. Ndachi Ward is in urban Dodoma, just several kilometers away from the city. The main water source in Ndachi used to be a shallow hand-dug well; these wells are privately owned by a few residents in Ndachi who used to sell the water. The price for a 20-liter bucket of water ranged from 100-200 TZS, which was expensive since the average water need per household in Ndachi is about 200 liters per day. Moreover, water fetched from wells was neither clean nor safe, which posed a pain to users in Ndachi Village.

As a changemaker for everyone, everywhere, WaterAid's work has a huge multiplier effect, helping everyone get closer to making clean water, decent toilets, and good hygiene a reality for people everywhere, every day. Seeing the need and demand for clean and safe water, WaterAid, in partnership with the Hilton Global Foundation, implemented a water supply project in Ndachi Village to reach 1,000 people through two water points, each with two taps to avoid queues.

A constructed water tank can store 100,000 liters per day, while the water pump can pump up to 200,000 liters per day. WaterAid installed a chlorination unit that kills all harmful bacteria to ensure communities have access to treated, safe water.



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As women, we had a hard time because we didn't have any other means of getting water from the well. My husband was not at home most of the time, as he engaged in other economic activities, so I was the only one responsible for water. At times he left me with a small amount of money, which I used to find a 'bodaboda' to bring us water. Still, that arrangement was not for every day because we couldn't afford it.

So, I often had to use my bicycle to look for water. It was hard because there may be a queue at the well, and I would have to wait hours while standing under the sun. The water from the well was neither clean nor safe. Even cows and goats drank the same water because it was a shallow well.

Now, things are different. I can finally breathe, and the water point is 5 minutes away from my house. You can imagine the relief it has brought to my family and I in terms of time and money. I can use the time now to tend to my farm near where I live. I can use water as much as I want, and my children now drink clean and safe water. I sit back and think about when I used to dream of a day like this - not just to have clean water, but the privilege of having a water point very close to my home.

I can't thank enough everyone who made this project happen. Thank you very much

-Madina Swai, resident of Ndachi.

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Astrida Chiwaya is an entrepreneur who sells 'maandazi', a very popular bread typically eaten with tea in Tanzania. Occasionally, she is also a farmer, mostly invested in maize. She was a victim of water scarcity in Ndachi for as long as she could remember. Like most women, she spent a lot of time looking for water, and sometimes she would get in trouble with her husband for spending so much time looking for water. At times, Astrida had to wait at the local well because the well's owner was not home, forcing her to stay there until he returned. The water price was unbearable compared to her home's need for water. In addition, since she has a baking business, she sometimes felt guilty using water that was unsafe for her customers. Now, Astrida is very confident about the water she uses for baking. She is very happy that now water is closer and uses her time to improve her business and engage in farming.



As of 2021, Ndachi had 8,043 residents and a primary school with over 1,000 students. We are grateful for this project. We would appreciate it if we could get 4 more water points, including one at Ndachi Primary School. These two water points serve users mostly at Matuli, but we are missing a water point here at Ndachi Center. This project was meant to benefit 1,000 users or even more. However, there are 7,000 people who are either using dirty water or walking for miles to fetch water at the new water points. We would really appreciate getting more water points.

-Mbacho Nassoro, Ward Executive Officer, Ndachi



Dodoma Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (DUWASA) has operated since 1998 to provide quality water supply and sewerage disposal services to its customers within urban Dodoma. DUWASA aspires to cover 95% of Dodoma and currently serves 82%. Engineers Norbert Mwombeki and David Kasanja have been at DUWASA overseeing Ndachi's water supply project since the beginning. *"Ndachi has been one of the places where DUWASA hasn't been able to touch at all, as there were no water supply systems in place. We are very grateful for this project, and it will serve the purpose," said Engineer Mwombeki*

DUWASA communicated to WaterAid that they still need support for expansions, to add more boreholes and water points to reach more people in Ndachi and neighbouring areas.

"Money generated from selling water in Ndachi will be used to operate and maintain the water for sustainability purposes. Like any other urban area in Tanzania, the country's Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) has set a reasonable price that users will have to pay to access water." - Engineer Kasanja





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**One WaterAid.
Three goals.**