



One Water Strategy

Theory of Change

One Water

Everything is connected



One Water is both a scientific concept and a practical framework. It asks people, governments, and organisations to manage water as a single, shared resource — not as separate problems to be solved by separate departments.

For the Mo Dewji Foundation, One Water means that improving people's lives requires looking at the whole picture: **soil, trees, rivers, rainfall, food, and health** — all together.

This concept matters deeply in Tanzania. Rivers are shrinking and populations are growing. Rainfall patterns are shifting. Smallholder farmers, who depend on reliable water for their crops and livelihoods, are among the most exposed. **But water is also essential to underpin the health and well-being of the nation through access to safe drinking water and sanitation.** The same water is critical to every sector to drive economic transformation.

Holistic Approach

The One Water framework asks us to stop treating **water, energy, and food** as separate policy problems and start designing solutions that work across all three. Creating a food forest in conjunction with water access points, for example, addresses all three at once: it conserves soil moisture (water), reduces the need for energy-intensive irrigation (energy), and produces diverse, nutritious food (food). Soil and water conservation measures recharge aquifers, support rain-fed agriculture, and reduce the energy costs of water supply. These measures can also address flooding.

Equitable Access

The MDF One Water Strategy responds to this reality by investing in improved and equitable water access in conjunction with practical actions on **soil health, reforestation, and agroecological food systems** that restore the natural water cycle rather than simply extracting from it.

Our One Water Strategy links directly to our work in preventative health and well-being, and in forward looking skills education.

What We Will Do

Domestic Water

Rehabilitation and creation of sustainable and affordable water and sanitation infrastructure for households and public institutions.

Surface Water

Support nature-based solutions to protect water resources for people and nature. Support river and ocean clean up initiatives across the country.

Water for Livelihoods

Support smart irrigation, rainwater harvesting, and food forests

Groundwater

Recharge groundwater through soil and water conservation and reforestation.

Climate

Protect people and ecosystems from climate extremes - drought and flood

Education and Governance

Creation of specialist education to fill capacity gaps. Creation of Living Labs to test new technologies and management.

Theory of Change

The Need	The Work	The Result
The Gap We See Working across sectors through water-centric planning to address fair access to water and build resilience for the future.	What We Do Rehabilitation and creation of sustainable, equitable and affordable water and sanitation infrastructure for households and public institutions Advocate for safe water and sanitation for all, whilst protecting and recharging water resources Create 'Living Labs' to test and scale-up integrated water-centric management using appropriate technology and nature-based solutions	What We Will Measure No. of functioning water and sanitation infrastructure. Transformation in human well-being No. of living labs established and practices bring scaled up No. of soil and water conservation and food forest initiatives Engagement in policy activities
The Problem Water resources are not being used sustainably or to fully enhance human and ecosystem well-being Water management is fragmented across different sectors.	Our Big Idea Our One Water approach starts with water access but connects this to the wider water cycle and sustainable livelihoods and land management	What Will Happen Increase in accessible and functional water supply with transformation in wider water conservation and management that enhances human and ecosystem well-being.
What We Need We need funding and local commitment to make this possible	Who We Work With Central ministries and local government Water supply and sanitation authorities Academic institutions Civil society and local groups	Short Term Outcome Increased provision of sustainable water infrastructure in 2 regions and created a network of 5 Living Labs and other water recharge initiatives by the end of 2028
		Long term outcomes Expand this to 5 regions by 2030 By 2036 put water at the centre of human and ecosystem well-being leading to equitable water security in Tanzania

Our Measures

The Work We Do	Rehabilitation and creation of sustainable, equitable and affordable water and sanitation infrastructure for households and public institutions	Advocate for safe water and sanitation for all, whilst protecting and recharging water resources	Create 'Living Labs' to test and scale-up integrated water-centric management using appropriate technology and nature-based solutions
The Output of This Work	- Infrastructure installations - Functioning water and sanitation systems	- Stakeholder engagements - Advocacy and publication - Collaborative cross-sectoral activities	Living Labs established as focal points of experimentation and training e.g. food forests, water point monitoring technology
The Outcomes That Will Result	- Enhanced water and sanitation access in households and public institutions. - Enhanced well-being and livelihoods - Reduced water scarcity	- Embedding One Water approach to put water at centre of planning - Greater cross-sectoral collaboration in the water-energy-food nexus	- Increased capacity to deploy appropriate technology and nature-based solutions at transformative scale - Increased surface and ground water recharge Enhanced food and livelihood security
Measures & Evidence	- No. of functioning water points - Geographical access mapping - Impact stories - Capacity created	- Volume metrics - Policy engagements - No of active collaborations - Funding generated	- No of Living Labs No of training opportunities - No of successful scaling initiatives - Impact stories



Mo Dewji Foundation is an organisation registered in Tanzania P.O. Box 22196

5th Floor of Absa House on Ohio Street in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

info@modewjifoundation.org

+255 742 184 053