



One Water Strategy



Investing in the future of equitable and resilient water management in Tanzania

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.

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

ONE WATER STRATEGY



Placing emphasis on domestic water puts the needs of society at the heart of our strategy. We will support the building, operation and management of sustainable water and sanitation infrastructure for households and public institutions. In our living labs we will integrate and test new technologies for increasing the supply of ground and surface water.

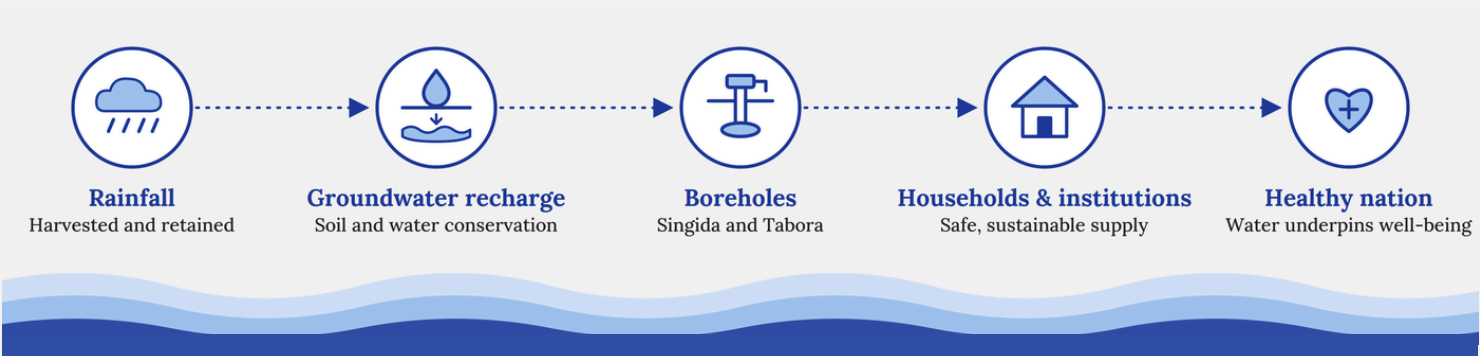
Support for surface water protection solutions for Tanzania's population and nature. MDF will support river and ocean ecosystem health initiatives across the country, aiming to address pollution in our vital water sources.

Integrate water conservation practices into livelihoods through soil and water conservation in conjunction with smart irrigation that reduce water scarcity. We will also integrate food forests and home gardens within schools and other institutions to link water with access to healthy food.

Bold action to recharge groundwater through soil and water conservation. Through partnerships we aim to scale up water retention practices with the purpose of capturing surface runoff and increasing infiltration, especially in semi-arid regions. Reforestation initiatives will further these efforts.

Mitigating climate impacts throughout the nation with the purpose of protecting people and ecosystems from climate extremes including floods and droughts.

Investment in education in order to create specialist education to fill capacity gaps. Living labs installed in schools to test new technologies and management techniques.



Theory of Change

The Need

The Gap We See

Working across sectors through water-centric planning to address fair access to water and build resilience for the future.

The Work

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

The Result

What We Will Measure

- No. of functioning water and sanitation infrastructure
- Transformation in human well-being
- No. of living labs established and practices being 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

2030

Expand this to 5 regions

2036

Put water at the centre of human and ecosystem well-being, leading to equitable water security in Tanzania

Our Measures

	Water & Sanitation Infrastructure	Advocacy & Resource Protection	Living Labs & Innovation
01 THE WORK WE DO	Rehabilitate and create sustainable, equitable and affordable water and sanitation infrastructure for households and public institutions.	Advocate for safe water and sanitation for all, while protecting and recharging water resources.	Create Living Labs to test and scale up integrated, water-centric management using appropriate technology and nature-based solutions.
02 OUTPUTS	- Infrastructure installations - Functioning water and sanitation systems	- Stakeholder engagements - Advocacy and publications - Collaborative cross-sectoral activities	Living Labs established as focal points for experimentation and training, e.g. food forests and water point monitoring technology
03 OUTCOMES	- Enhanced water and sanitation access in households and public institutions - Enhanced well-being and livelihoods - Reduced water scarcity	- One Water approach embedded, putting water at the centre of planning - Greater cross-sectoral collaboration across the water–energy–food nexus	- Increased capacity to deploy appropriate technology and nature-based solutions at transformative scale - Increased surface and groundwater recharge - Enhanced food and livelihood security
04 MEASURES & EVIDENCE	- Number of functioning water points - Geographical access mapping - Capacity created - Impact stories	- Volume metrics - Policy engagements - Number of active collaborations - Funding generated	- Number of Living Labs - Number of training opportunities - Number of successful scaling initiatives - Impact stories



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