# **Upgrading Water Supply in Health Facilities**



Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC



Project full name:

Maji kwa Afya ya Jamii: Upgrading Water Supply in Primary Health Facilities (MkAJI)

Domain: Health

Phase I: 2012 - 2019

SDC contribution: CHF 8'580'000

Total phase budget: CHF 8'580'000

Location: Dodoma Region

## Implementing partner:

 Simavi Consortium (CBHCC, UFUNDIKO, PATUTA and Wittevin and Bos)

## Other partners:

- Ministry of Health, Community
  Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MoHCDGEC)
- President's Office -Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG)

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## **Project Overview**

Water and sanitation is one of the most important social determinants of health. The current water situation in Dodoma Region poses a great health problem especially at the primary health care level where the majority (almost 70%) of the population seeks health care services. Sanitation and hygiene remains very low due to limited access to clean water and lack of adequate sanitation facilities. At the inception of the project, out of the 402 primary health facilities in the region, 186 did not have water at all.

The Maji kwa Afya ya Jamii (MkAJI) project is a request from the Dodoma Regional Authorities to upgrade water supply and sanitation in primary health facilities. The MKAJI Project intends to considerably reduce the risk of infection transmission and improve quality of care service delivery in health facilities by upgrading water supply and sanitation systems in 100 primary health facilities in the eight districts of Dodoma Region in Tanzania.

# Overall goal

To improve the quality of public health services provision by reducing the potential risk of transmission of communicable diseases and infections during routine patient care and treatment and improved maternity health care and service delivery.

## **Opportunities**

The MkAJI project is complimentary to an already existing SDC project in the region, the Health Promotion and System Strengthening (HPSS) project. The MkAJI project is working

in close collaboration with the Health Promotion component of the HPSS Project in the development and awareness-raising of hygiene promotion messages for health facilities. The MkAJI project has established synergy with the Health Technology and Maintenance component of the HPSS project and is working closely with health technicians trained by the HPSS project in the maintenance of water and sanitation facilities at health facilities.

## Main activities of the phase

MkAJI Project is focusing on four main components:

- Rehabilitation and/or construction of water supply and sanitation facilities in 100 selected primary health facilities.
- Strengthening governance and community capacity and participation in the operation and maintenance of the water supply and sanitation facilities.
- Improving hygiene knowledge and practice of the health workers, visitors, and patients at the health facilities.
- Gender and social accountability mainstreaming.

MkAJI project is using three standard solutions to upgrade water supply in the health facilities. These include connection to existing water network, rehabilitation or construction of boreholes, and construction or rehabilitation of rain water harvesting tanks.

#### **RESULTS**

- Improved access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities for health workers, patients, visitors in 34 completed health facilities (32 dispensaries and 4 health centers).
- Deliveries in the completed health facilities have increased from 3 per month to 15 per month as a result of improved access to water and sanitation facilities.
- 3. Service utilization has increased from 60 patients per month to 140 per month.
- Communities are participating in water management and ready to pay for water services.

### **Beneficiaries**

The main beneficiaries are health facility staff, patients, care-givers and surrounding communities.