IMPROVEMENT OF WATER ACCESS FOR THE COMMUNITIES OF UTENGULE AND UNYANGALA VILLAGES IN MAKETE DISTRICT



FINAL ACTIVITY REPORT





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1. INTRODUCTION

Makete Lagunak is a Spanish Association based in Bilbao, which was founded with the aim of collaborating with different development projects in Njombe region, and especially in Makete district. During the past 12 years, Makete Lagunak has carried out a number of projects and activities in line with their goal, mainly focusing on education.

Southern Highland Participatory Organization (SHIPO) is a Tanzanian NGO based in Njombe which operates throughout the Tanzanian mainland. It is specialized in Education, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Microfinance, Agriculture and Irrigation and has more than 15 years of experience working in rural communities by facilitating projects based on the priorities, needs and capacities of rural communities as well as the private sector. Through the SMART Centre Department, SHIPO trains local entrepreneurs on low-cost technologies for water supply and sanitation so that they bring the service to the community.

In July 2019, SHIPO with the support of Makete Lagunak carried out an assessment to identify WASH needs in Makete District. Utengule and Unyangala villages were identified as two communities that were facing the biggest challenges in water supply in the District.

Utengule and Unyangala villages belong to Kipagalo ward in Bulongwa Sub-division, 30 km south-west from Iwawa town, the administrative seat of Makete District. The scattered houses are located in a mountainous area (Livingstone Mountain Ranges), surrounded by wheat fields. Utengule and Unyangala villagers are sparsely populated with main areas of habitation being along the ridges separated by wide and deep valleys. Most of the water sources are located down the valley.

In 1980s, a project supported by Bulongwa Children's Home to bring water closer to the households was started. A storage tank with a capacity for 50 m³ was constructed in Utengule. The water from the springs down the valley was pumped up to the tank; however, after few months in operation, the pump got unoperational after shucking mud and therefore, no water was pumped to the tank.

In 2018, the project to bring water closer to the households was reactivated: a small damn, sedimentation tanks and a storage tank down were built and a submersible pump and the solar panels were installed. The water is since then pumped up to the tank, keeping the tank full. However, the two villages were still lacking the distribution lines and the water points (there were only two water points down the tank, next to Utengule Primary School).

For those villagers in Utengule who live far from the tank, it was still more convenient for them to get water from the streams.

The situation in Unyangala was more complicated since this village is located further from the tank: thus, the community had to go down to the streams to get water. Unyangala Primary school is located at the south part of the village, at the farthest part from the tank and the students had to fetch water every day from springs downhill during the class hours.

2. OBJECTIVES

The general objective of this project was to provide access to water for the villages of Utengule and Unyangala closer to their households in a sustainable way by January 2020.

For that, the specific objectives are:

- To assemble/build the distribution lines from the tank to the water points
- To construct 10 domestic water points in Utengule and 10 domestic water points in Unyangala.
- To form and train the CBWSO (Community Based Water Supply Organization) for Utengule and Unyangala villages of Makete District

3. ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED

The project was implemented between November 2019 and January 2020 and the activities carried out are summarized below.

3.1. Budget development meeting

On 17th to 18th October a couple of meetings were conducted with the two communities and RUWASA representatives to develop the project budget, agree on how each party was going to contribute to the project and develop the action plan. The meeting with the communities was held in Utengule village. The leaders from the two villages i.e. villages/sub-villages chairs, Ward Executive Officer, Ward Councilor, Villages Executives officers, Ward Community Development officer, District Community Development officer, RUWASA manager, RUWASA Technical and SHIPO staffs were present in that meeting. After that, SHIPO staff met RUWASA officers to develop the final BOQ of the materials needed.

3.2. Project launching meeting

On 19th November, a meeting was organized with the village, ward and District leaders to sing the contract of the project execution. Apart from making sure in an official way that the community and the government will take part in the project, this event is also part of the community sensitization: involving the community from the very beginning it is key so that they feel part of the project and develop the sense of ownership which is key for the sustainability of the project.







Figure 1: a) Budget developing meeting, b) and c) project launching meeting

3.3. Purchase and transportation of materials

The industrial materials needed for the project were purchased from the pipe Industry in Dar es Salaam and transported to SHIPO main office then to Makete. There were some challenges during the transportation due to the bad conditions of the roads due to the rain: the truck was knocked over but with the help of the villagers it was taken back to the road (Figure 2)



Figure 2: a) Industrial materials in SHIPO office to be transported to Makete; c) and d) the truck knocked over in Makete; b), e), f) different materials been transported within Makete.

3.4. Distribution lines setting

The distribution lines to the two villages were set up within the 30th November to 13th December. The trenches were excavated, the pipes laid, connected and back filled. SHIPO technical officer supervised these activities on the field and the villagers were the ones doing the job. Some of these activities are shown in Figure 3.



Figure 3: Different moments of the trench setting activities.

3.5. Construction of domestic points

From 14th December to 16th January, the domestic water points were constructed: 10 in Utengule and 10 in Unyangala, as shown in Figure 4. The activities were coordinated and guided by the SHIPO technical officer. Villagers with mason skills took part in the construction of the water points. Those participants who were present from the beginning to the end of the water point construction and showed good technical skills, were provided with a certificate. As one of the immediate impact of this project, in the future, if there is a need for expanding the water supply network, these certified people will be hired by the RUWASA authorities to work on such activities. So the project created an opportunity to local artisans to show their capabilities and be known to RUWASA. Some of the activities during the construction of the domestic water points are shown in Figure 5.

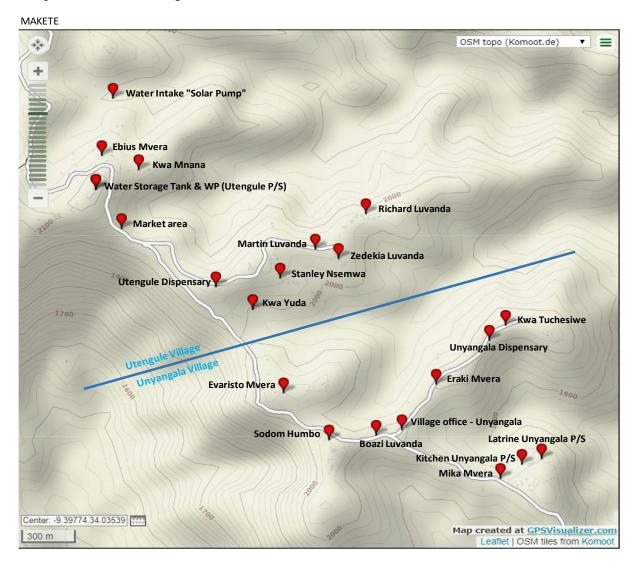


Figure 4: Location of the constructed 20 water points in Utengule (10) and Unyangala (10).



Figure 5: Different activities during the construction of the water points





Figure 6: Finalization of some of the water points.



Figure 7: Finalized water points.

3.6. Ladder fixing in the storage tank

While the construction of the water points was taking place, a ladder to access the tank was constructed and installed in the inner and outer part of the tank, as shown in Figure 8.





Figure 8: Fixing the ladder in the storage tank

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3.7. CBWSO formation and training

A crucial part for ensuring the sustainability of the project was to form and train the Community Based Water Supply Organization. This is the responsible organ to manage the water supply system.

The interim committee was formed at the beginning of December following the procedures established by the new Water Act n. 5 of July 2019.

The CBWSO's team involve 9 posts: some of them are already existing posts in the community, while others are people selected for that specific task. The Executive Committee is the responsible for decisions and daily operation tasks. The following ones are the posts of the committee:

- 1. Ward Chancellor (already existing)
- 2. Ward Executive Officer (already existing)
- 3. Village Executive Officer (already existing)
- 4. Health officer (selected) ----Executive Committee----
- 5. Chairperson (selected)
- 6. Secretary fundi (skilled person appointed by the government)
- 7. Finance officer (appointed)
- 8. Women Representative (selected)
- 9. Community Representative (selected)

Most of the daily operations are responsibility of the Chair Person, the Secretary and the Finance officer and therefore they are the people who will mainly be paid.

SHIPO together with the District legal officer, RUWASA Manager and RUWASA technical person were the responsible actors to facilitate the formation and registration of the CBWSO. Ward leaders including ward counselor, village leaders and appointed selection committee were present in these activities.

After formation of the committee, they got a 6-day training in mid-January. The first 3 days the "capacity building training" took place, in which, among other things, they learnt about the following points:

- Development of an Organization (CBWSO) constitution
- Developing the water project annual budget and sources for income;
- Financing the project activities;
- Tariff calculation and collection;
- Setting the by-laws for the Water Resource Management, including the fines in case of not complying with the laws;
- Using the funds for project extension.

After that, a 3-day practical training followed. The trained group had to explain to the members of the community and to the elders, what they had learnt during the capacity building training and showed them the MoU they had developed to be signed with RUWASA, among other legal documents. They consulted them and after discussion, they got their approval involving the legal issues and reached some agreements regarding the practical operations.

For instance, the committee set a price for the water tariffs which then had to be agreed with the community. Finally, it was agreed that each household would contribute 2,000 Tshs per month (around 0.8 cents of euro). 150 households were identified as households who could afford to pay.







Figure 9: Different CBWSO training sessions

3.8. Final evaluation of the water supply network

SHIPO Project Development, Monitoring and Evaluation officer together with RUWASA technical officers, checked the functionality of the water points and made sure that the water supply network was in operation following the drawings and specifications provided by the RUWASA office.

3.9. Handing Over Ceremony

On 6th February 2020, the Handing over Ceremony was celebrated in Utengule village. The goal of this ceremony was to deliver the completed project to the community so that from that moment on, they are the ones responsible for its operation and maintenance. Around 100 people from both Utengule and Unyangala were present in the ceremony together with the village and ward leaders, District representative, RUWASA manager, SHIPO General Manager and other SHIPO staffs involved in the project. All the parties mentioned before had the chance to express themselves, make a summary of their experience with the project, and mention the challenges and successes. They also signed the "Hand over certificate" (check Annex 1). During the ceremony, a much-highlighted topic was the sense of ownership and the future of the project. The communities showed their gratitude to all the project implementers and said they are ready to take care for the project and willing to collaborate in future projects.



Figure 10: The ceremony started by filling up a bucket from one of the constructed water points.









Figure 11: Speeches and signing of the handing over certificates during the ceremony.





Figure 12: a) and b) the certified artisans getting their certificate, c), d), e) some of the community members attending the ceremony

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4. LEARNINGS AND OBSERVED CHALLENGES

The project has been a success: the objectives have been reached within the expected timeframe. However, there have been a number of challenges during its implementation, as explained below.

First of all, the time to implement the project was very limited due to the start of the rain season at the beginning of December holidays. In addition, the two communities were new to SHIPO and vice versa; it was the first time for SHIPO to work in Makete District. The combination of these two facts resulted in not having enough time to sensitize properly the communities and therefore, at some points of the project implementation, the communities did not show enough cooperation.

Another challenge was the start of the rain. As mentioned before, a truck was knocked over on the way to the villages due to the bad condition of the road because of the rain. Some of the works like the trenches excavation were also delayed due to the rain.

Lastly, the project was implemented during a transition period when the village leaders were elected and new people were selected for that position. This affected the project in the sense that the message from the leaders to the community about the project were sometimes missing due to the transition period.

In line for to all mentioned above, SHIPO used its experience and capacity to make certain that all obtainable resources were mobilized conferring and assisted to influence up the expected results.

5. NEXT PLANS

The communities of both Utengule and Unyangala showed their gratitude for the project and are willing to take care of the project as they see it is so beneficial for themselves and the coming generations.

During the Handing Over Ceremony they addressed some challenges they still face regarding water supply. According to them, the ten water points in each of the two villages are not enough to serve all the people since there are still some few households which do not have a water point nearby.

However, RUWASA stated that the expansion of the water supply network is within their plans and they would be responsible for that.

Another challenge mentioned by the community was the fact that during cloudy days, the tank cannot be filled in to the maximum as the pumping system is driven by solar power. This results in not enough water to supply the two villages. Therefore, the communities demand an alternative pumping system (electric) to complement the solar panels during cloudy days.

RUWASA Manager mentioned about the District concern about capacitating the existing CBWSOs registered and un-registered within the District to improve the water point functionality and up-grade the sense of ownership on existing and expected water projects.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

In the following Table 1 the Financial Report for the project is summarized.

Table 1: Financial Report of the project execution.

| SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS PARTICIPARTORY ORGANIZATION - (SHIPO) | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|--|--|--|--|
| FINANCIAL REPORT AS UP TO FEBRUARY 21. 2020 PROJECT NAME: IMPROVEMENT OF WATER ACCESS TO COMMUNITIES OF UTENGULE AND UNYANGALA VILLAGES IN MAKETE DISTRICT. | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| Reporting rate TSH 2,510.48 | | | | | | | | | | |
| INCOME | | | | | | | | | | |
| DESCRIPTION | BUDGET (TZS) | ACTUAL (TZS) | | BUDGET (EUR) | ACTUAL (EUR) | EFFICIEN CY | | | | |
| Installment Received | 60,373,961 | 60,698,075 | | 24,183 | 24,183 | 100% | | | | |
| TOTAL | 60,373,961 | 60,698,075 | | 24,183 | 24,183 | 101% | | | | |
| EXPENDITURE | | | | | | | | | | |
| DESCRIPTION | BUDGET (TZS) | ACTUAL (TZS) | | BUDGET (EUR) | ACTUAL (EUR) | EFFICIEN CY | | | | |
| To Create Community Awarenes on Water Resources Management through establishement of Community Based Water Supply Organization (CBWSO) | 2,820,000 | 2,830,000 | | 1,123.51 | 1,127 | 100% | | | | |
| To improve the water supply infrastructure within Utengule and Unyangala villages | 34,551,125 | 35,370,787 | | 13,765.39 | 14,092 | 102% | | | | |
| To improve the water facility management in Utengule and Unyangala villages | 7,220,000 | 7,299,000 | | 2,876.49 | 2,908 | 101% | | | | |
| Overhead/Organization costs | 15,782,836 | 15,198,288 | | 6,287.98 | 6,055 | 96% | | | | |
| Total expenses | 60,373,961 | 60,698,075 | - | 24,053 | 24,183 | 101% | | | | |
| BALANCE AGAINST INCOME RECEIVED | | 0.00 | | | 0.00 | | | | | |

ANNEX 1 – HANDING OVER CERTIFICATE

