



**WAMI-RUVU AND PANGANI RIVER BASINS: TANZANIA**

**COUNTRY:** Tanzania  
**START DATE:** February 2007  
**FUNDING:** \$500,000 – WADA  
 \$158,000 – USAID/Tanzania



*An integrated river basin management approach is helping to sustain freshwater in the Pangani and Wami-Ruvu river basins*

**KEY PARTNERS:**

- Bonite Bottling – local Coca-Cola bottlers
- USAID/Tanzania
- University of Rhode Island, Coastal Resources Center
- Florida International University
- Tanzania Health, Environment, and Sanitation Association
- World Vision

**ACTIVITIES SUMMARY:**

- Integrated water resources management, industrial and agricultural water use management, and water supply and sanitation service delivery in two of the country's most critical river basins

**BENEFICIARIES:**

- 20,000 people benefiting from access to water supply or sanitation services
- 150,000 residents and industries benefiting from improved watershed protection
- Five private industries receiving assessments to increase water and energy efficiency and reduce pollution

**ALLIANCE OBJECTIVES:**

- **Watershed Management**
  - Conducting assessments to increase industrial water and energy efficiency and reduce wastewater discharges
  - Conducting an environmental flow assessment
- **Supporting community-based reforestation and land care education**
- **Establishing and strengthening community water supply and sanitation management committees**
- **Water Supply and Sanitation Services**
  - Providing rain catchment systems and improving sanitation infrastructure
- **Hygiene and Sanitation Behavior**
  - Conducting campaigns to promote improved hygiene practices



*Replacing unusable sanitation infrastructure will help alleviate stresses on valued water resources*

**INTEGRATED APPROACHES AND MULTIPLE USES**

The Water and Development Alliance (WADA) is applying an integrated river basin management approach to address water-related challenges in two of Tanzania's most populated river basins, the Pangani and Wami-Ruvu, directly and indirectly benefiting over 150,000 people. The activity complements and builds on the efforts of a longer-term USAID/Tanzania ecosystem conservation program.

While these basins still have adequate freshwater to meet existing needs, ambitious development plans and population growth point to the need for effective basin management and better water and sanitation practices. Uncontrolled discharge of industrial waste, agricultural pollution, deforestation, and lack of sanitation infrastructure are increasing stresses on valued water resources.

WADA is supporting a holistic approach that recognizes resolving water problems will require concerted action by individuals, industries, and governments alike. On the community-level, the project is engaging village leaders and residents to increase access to water and sanitation services and participate in soil conservation activities, such as planting economically valuable tree species in degraded land parcels. To complement these activities, process-efficiency assessments are being conducted in water-intensive industries with the cooperation of sisal growers, sugar producers, and Coca-Cola bottling facilities. Local scientists are assisting the Wami Ruvu Basin Water Office to carry out an analysis of water use and availability to determine optimal water allocation for ecosystem function.

In the near-term, this approach addresses urgent needs by expanding availability of water and sanitation services for thousands of residents in the target basins. Over the long-term, the project will institutionalize benefits within local and national government agencies by strengthening their capacity and providing scientific data to support decision-making on watershed management.

Work is carried out with a broad-range of partners including US and Tanzanian universities, World Vision, and the local organization Tanzania Health, Environment, and Sanitation Association (THESA) to complement Tanzania's integrated approach to water sector governance as reflected in the recent National Water Sector Development Strategy.