

*New Project Chosen for EuCanAid/TDT Joint Funding.
Integrated Programme For Sustaining Mdughuyu Village in Singida*

Following the successful seven-year roll-out of a series of projects in [Marumba village](#) in Tanzania's Mtwara region an exciting new development project has recently been selected for joint funding with [EuCanAid](#).

Ntuntu Orphans and Disabled People Organisation's 'Integrated Programme for Sustaining Mdughuyu Village', will implement vital infrastructure in Mdughuyu Village, zeroing-in on some of the core challenges facing the local community, such as insufficient WASH facilities and the construction of a much-needed healthcare centre.

As one of the poorest and most remote villages in Tanzania's Singida region, Mdughuyu Village faces a multitude of challenges, from sporadic rainfall, due to its position in the arid Rift Valley, to illiteracy rates of 43%. Meanwhile, a principal reliance on agricultural production means that 96% of the village's 3,224 inhabitants, live on just under 1.05 US\$ dollars a day. Accordingly, at a recent community discussion organised by our rep Hamza from [NODIP](#) in June which involved the Village Executive Officer, District Officials and the community; villagers were given the chance to voice their concerns, giving rise to the 'Integrated Programme for Sustaining Mdughuyu Village' (IPSMV).

Toilets and Classrooms: Mdughuyu Primary school.

A severe shortage of toilet facilities for the children and teachers at the local primary school, was noted by villagers as critical, with the school's 339 pupils and six teachers, currently forced to share four lavatories. This absence of adequate sanitation has been detrimental to the educational attainment of young girls in particular, with absenteeism of 3–5-day stints, commonplace during menstrual periods, with girls pointing to embarrassment and a lack of privacy.

Equally, the school's six classrooms serve the entire student cohort, with overcrowding resulting in classes being held outdoors and under the surrounding trees. This is untenable, with heavy rainfall, extreme heat during the summer months, and wild animals roaming during late evening



Children in Mdughuyu Village study outside beneath a tree due to the lack of classroom facilities.

classes, posing a direct threat to the wellbeing of pupils and prompting further truancy. As of 2021, Mdughuyu Primary school was one of the worst performing schools in Ikungi District.

In response, the first year of the IPSMV Project, running from late 2022 to mid-2023, will focus its efforts on the construction of six new toilets, catering to both students and teachers, whilst two further classrooms will be developed. Funded by EuCanAid and TDT with from the local community, these vital additions will provide much-needed WASH facilities and educational spaces, with the overarching goal of cutting absenteeism and heightening overall educational attainment.

Healthcare Centre, Water Supply and Additional Accommodation for Teachers.

Meanwhile, with no healthcare centre in a village of over 3,000 inhabitants, sick villagers and women giving birth, are forced to walk up to 40km to the neighbouring village. This has dire consequences, with 9 pregnant Mdughuyu women losing their lives between 2019 and 2021 alone due to complications arising during home deliveries or whilst en route to the nearest healthcare facility, underscoring the pressing need for a new healthcare centre.

Mdughuyu residents, primarily the village's women, are also forced to make a daily 25km commutes to collect water, due to scarce supplies in the village, trekking for an average of five hours to reach the Mwasenge Dam. Upon arrival, they are greeted with a contaminated source, shared by cattle and other wildlife, with stunted growth and poor school attendance amongst young women, directly linked to this burden of water collection.



The school's only toilet facility, containing six holes for all teachers and students (Left panel). The arid landscape Mdughuyu must walk through to reach water (Right panel).

The IPSMV Project's second phase thus plans to construct a healthcare centre, funded by EuCanAid and TDT, working in collaboration with the Mdughuyu Peoples and District Council. A borehole will also be dug and a water tank capable of holding 5,000 litres installed. This will help to cut unnecessary deaths during pregnancy and liberating women from daily water collection tasks. Vegetable and fruit crops will also be planted by local school children and teachers, allowing them to access a sustainable source of revenue that can be channelled into the repair and long-term upkeep of classrooms and toilet facilities.

Lastly, with teachers lacking housing near Mdughuyu, daily walks of over 4km add time-consuming and often dangerous journeys to their days, with late walks home from evening classes plagued with dangerous wildlife, forcing them to rent from villagers or simply risk the perilous route. For the IPSMV Project's final stage, teachers' accommodation will thus be erected.



Current accommodation inhabited by the school's teachers, predominantly made of corrugated iron and mud.

This project will operate over a three-year period from late 2022 at an approximate overall budget of 162,112,600 Tanzanian Shillings, and will markedly improve Mdughuyu's water supply, standard of healthcare and quality of education and living.

Follow us for new project updates as we enter phase one of this exciting new Integrated Village development Project.