

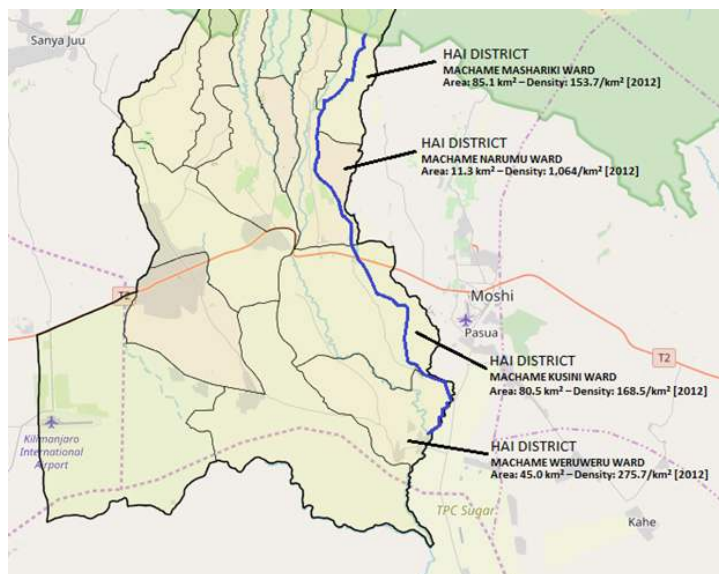


PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT WERUWERU

Collective Action for Shared Natural Resources

COMPETING DEMANDS FOR WERUWERU'S WATER RESOURCES

The Weruweru sub-catchment supports large-scale agricultural investments, primarily for export. These include coffee farms such as African Partnerships Kilimanjaro (APK) and flower companies like Dekker Chrysanten and Bondeni Flowers. All these enterprises depend on the Weruweru River for irrigation. They generate export revenue, create jobs, and boost Tanzania's agricultural output.



Map: Weruweru river sub-catchment

The sub-catchment also supports many smallholder farmers who depend on water from the river and its tributaries. This water is distributed through 35 furrows, including 13 main systems that divert water directly from Weruweru main river. Each main furrow serves up to 1,000 farmers, demonstrating the river's vital role in small-scale farming and local livelihoods. Furthermore, the sub-catchment's fertile volcanic soils support diverse crops for local and regional markets, highlighting the community's dependence on Weruweru's water.

A significant portion of the water reaching farms is transported via old, earthen furrows that

lose substantial amounts through seepage and evaporation, further complicating water demands.

The Weruweru sub-catchment now faces extreme resource use pressure, primarily due to the economic water stress from high demand, resource scarcity, competing needs exacerbated by climate change and changing rain patterns. As a result, the sub-catchment is prone to conflicts over water use, especially during the dry season when irrigation needs are at its highest.

STRENGTHENING WATER SECURITY

Because the Weruweru sub-catchment faces extreme resource use pressure, balancing economic growth, social well-being, and environmental sustainability is vital. Unlike top-down approaches, this partnership is built on the recognition that water challenges are interconnected and cannot be solved by any one group alone.



Steering Committee Meeting at APK offices

SUWAMA Weruweru brings together stakeholders with shared risks and responsibilities to jointly implement interventions that holistically address water, environmental, and social challenges. The objective is to enhance resilience of people and ecosystems within the catchment. The partnership meets this objective by creating a collaborative platform where diverse actors come together as equal partners.

Structured dialogue, joint planning, and transparent decision-making processes help balance power dynamics, ensuring that decisions are not dominated by stronger actors but reflect the collective interests of all.

SUWAMA Weruweru promotes trust, accountability, and fairness, making cooperation more effective and sustainable. Actors engage in implementing activities on climate action and protection, private sector engagement, and gender inclusion in sustainable water resources management.

PARTNERSHIP STAKEHOLDERS



- Pangani Basin Water Board (PBWB)
- Makeresho Primary School
- Nkweshoo Primary School
- Nkweseko Primary School
- Lyamungo Umbwe Water Supply Trust (LUWST)



- African Partnerships Kilimanjaro (APK)
- Dekker Chrysanten



- Weruweru Water Users Association (WUA)
- Kijani Pamoja
- Bio-Plan Initiative
- The Tanzania Development Action (TADA)
- Lyana Group

ACHIEVEMENTS

Leveraging Private Sector Engagement

- APK invested **US\$ 1.2 million** to convert furrows into a piped irrigation system, replacing inefficient flood irrigation with sprinklers and linear systems - improving efficiency on coffee, beans, and maize farms while also securing reliable water for neighbouring smallholder farmers.

Climate Mitigation Results

- **75% reduction in GHG emissions** from transitioning two major furrows from pump-based

- to gravity-fed piped irrigation. This saves an estimated **12.8 tonnes of CO₂e per hectare per year** – equivalent to **about 5,760 tonnes of CO₂e annually** across APK's Lambo Estate.
- **About 60% reduction in on-transit water losses**, with piped systems cutting losses to negligible levels. This enables sustainable abstraction, reducing pressure on shared resources, and mitigating water conflicts.

Riparian Zone Protection

- **7,204 trees** planted along the Weruweru river riparian zone to improve water quality, reduce erosion and enhance biodiversity.
- **TZS 19.9 million** paid to smallholder farmers in Machame region through the Pay-to-Grow model in the period of **May 2023 – June 2025**.
- **40 smallholder farmers** were engaged in tree planting initiative of which 67.5% were women and 25% youth.



Arusha Villa Trees unloading at APK site

Gender Inclusion in Water Resources Management

- **38 (33 women, 8 youth, and 5 male)** Water User Group members were trained on the roles of women and marginalized groups in leadership and decision making in water resources governance.
- A **6-member Gender Task Force** was established to implement the gender action plan in both Usa river and Weruweru (3 Usa River members and 3 Weruweru members).
- A **Gender Action Plan** developed with 4 focus areas: inclusive leadership, equitable climate adaptation, fair water allocation, and green jobs through river and furrow conservation.

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