

Spotlight on Water ChangeMakers

Masungi Georeserve: Restoring forgotten watersheds through youth-led movements, Philippines, Southeast Asia

The Masungi Geopark Project, shall restore 3,000 hectares of degraded land to help solve the triple crises of biodiversity loss, climate change, and a looming water crisis through powerful youth-led movements.

- In the Philippines, only 3% of primary forests remain due to rampant deforestation, mineral extraction, and poor environmental enforcement. It is also one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change.
- Masungi Georeserve 47 kilometers east of Manila is a microcosm of these problems in a highly sensitive karst landscape which serves as a natural filter for vital waterways.
- While the georeserve has been restored after 20 years of protection, its surrounding mountains remain desperately threatened by land trafficking, slash-and-burn farming, charcoal-making and illegal logging, exacerbated by decades of institutional problems such as the lack of resources, corrupt practices, and neglect.

1996



2016



#SaveMasungi against Quarrying

- The youth-led movement in March 2020 saved at least 1,000 hectares from destructive quarrying
- After 6 days of online petition, campaigns, and direct lobbying, we were able to bring the Environment Minister to the site and he announce the cancellation of the three quarrying permits
- The campaign was sustained through a microdocumentary with a \$150-budget which was viewed half a million times
- Despite this success, we need to sustain public engagement to protect Masungi forever and ensure clean water and less risk of floods, landslides in Rizal Province and Metro Manila

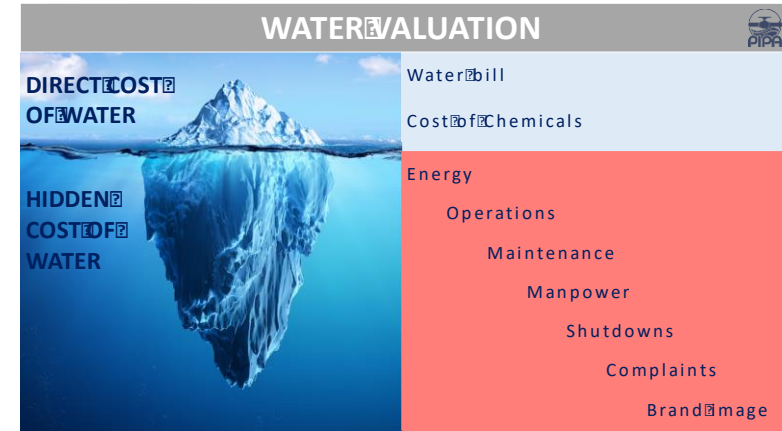
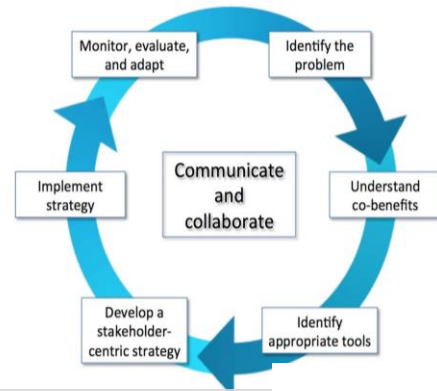
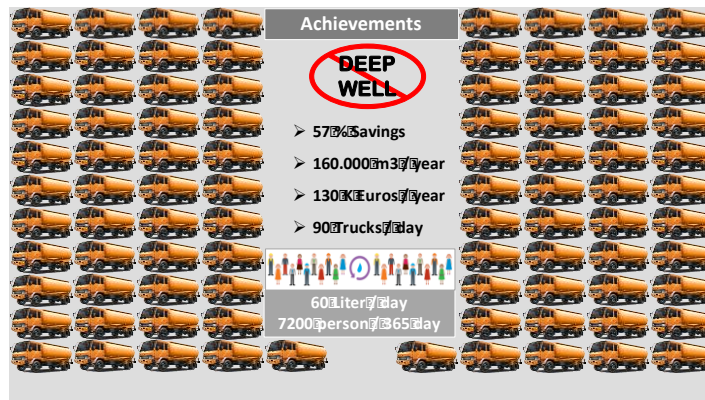
Water Efficiency as an immediate mitigation tool against Jakarta sinking process, Indonesia, Southeast Asia

JAKARTA SINKS BY 15 CMS / YEAR. GROUNDWATER OVER-EXTRACTIONS HAS BEEN BROADLY ACKNOWLEDGED, AS THE MAIN CAUSE OF LAND SUBSIDENCE. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

- 6. Capacity building, workshops , seminars and social medias boosted multi-stakeholder involvement towards a...
- 7. Dissemination platform for Jakarta and outside (Bali, Yogyakarta and others)



- 1. Audit highlighted business risk
- 2. Intensive metering and monitoring clarified user profile and savings potentials.

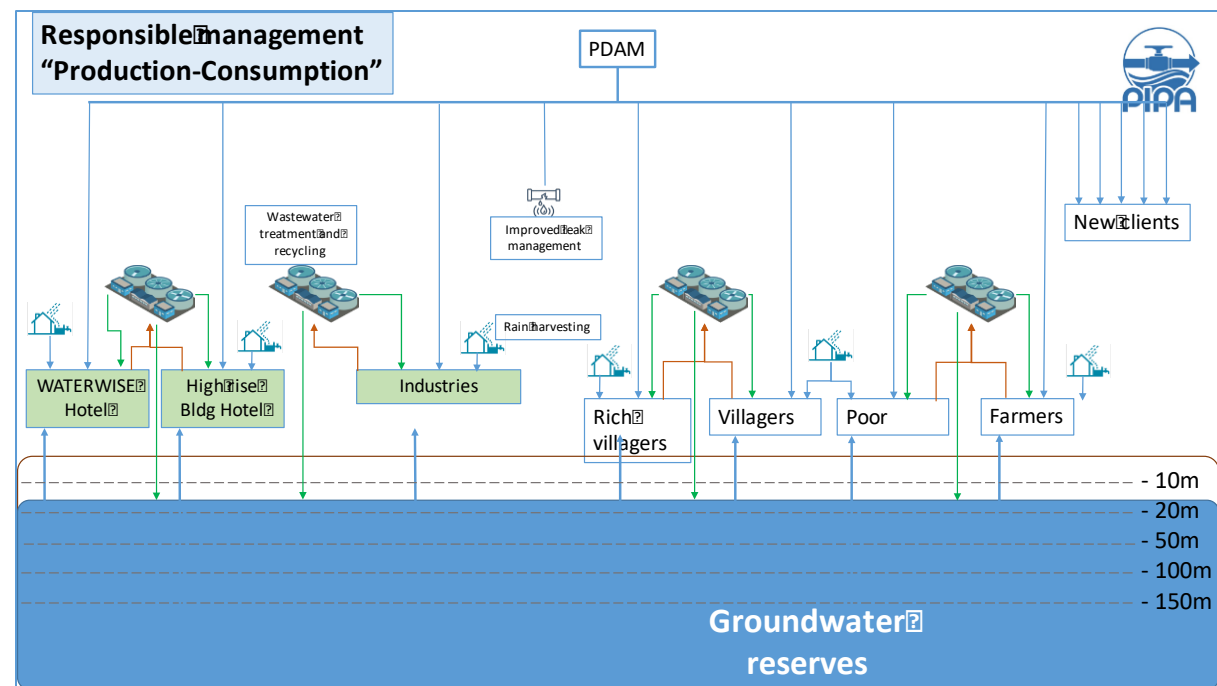
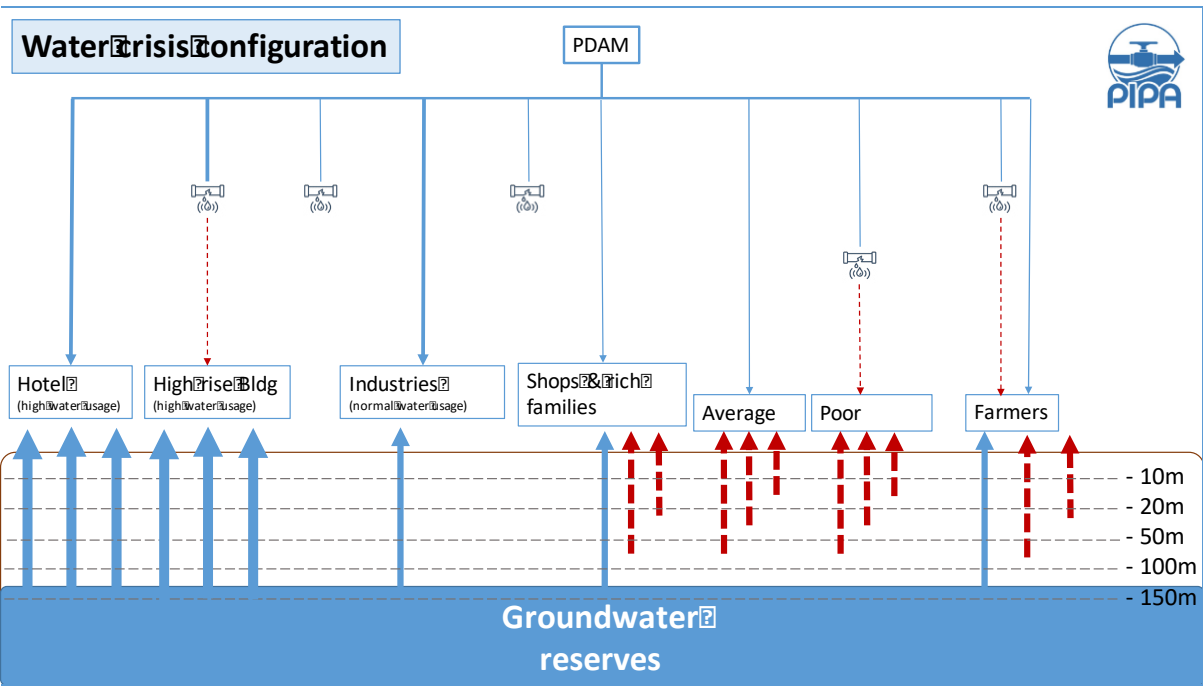


- 4. Training and transparency triggered sense of belonging
- 5. Communication boosted pride and interest from the communities



- 2. Lead to baseline, benchmarks and KPI
- 3. Advanced technologies and team work allowed drastic savings within 2 years ROI.

Main highlight: Consuming responsibly allowed to stopping underground extraction and brought many collateral benefits



Real-time monitoring and early warning of rainfall-induced landslides

Amrita Center for Wireless Networks & Applications (AmritaWNA), India, South Asia

Landslides are one of the major natural catastrophes claiming the lives of many in India.



Majority are triggered mainly due to the rainfall during the monsoon season. We had to detect such disasters ahead of time so that necessary precautionary and mitigation measures can be taken.



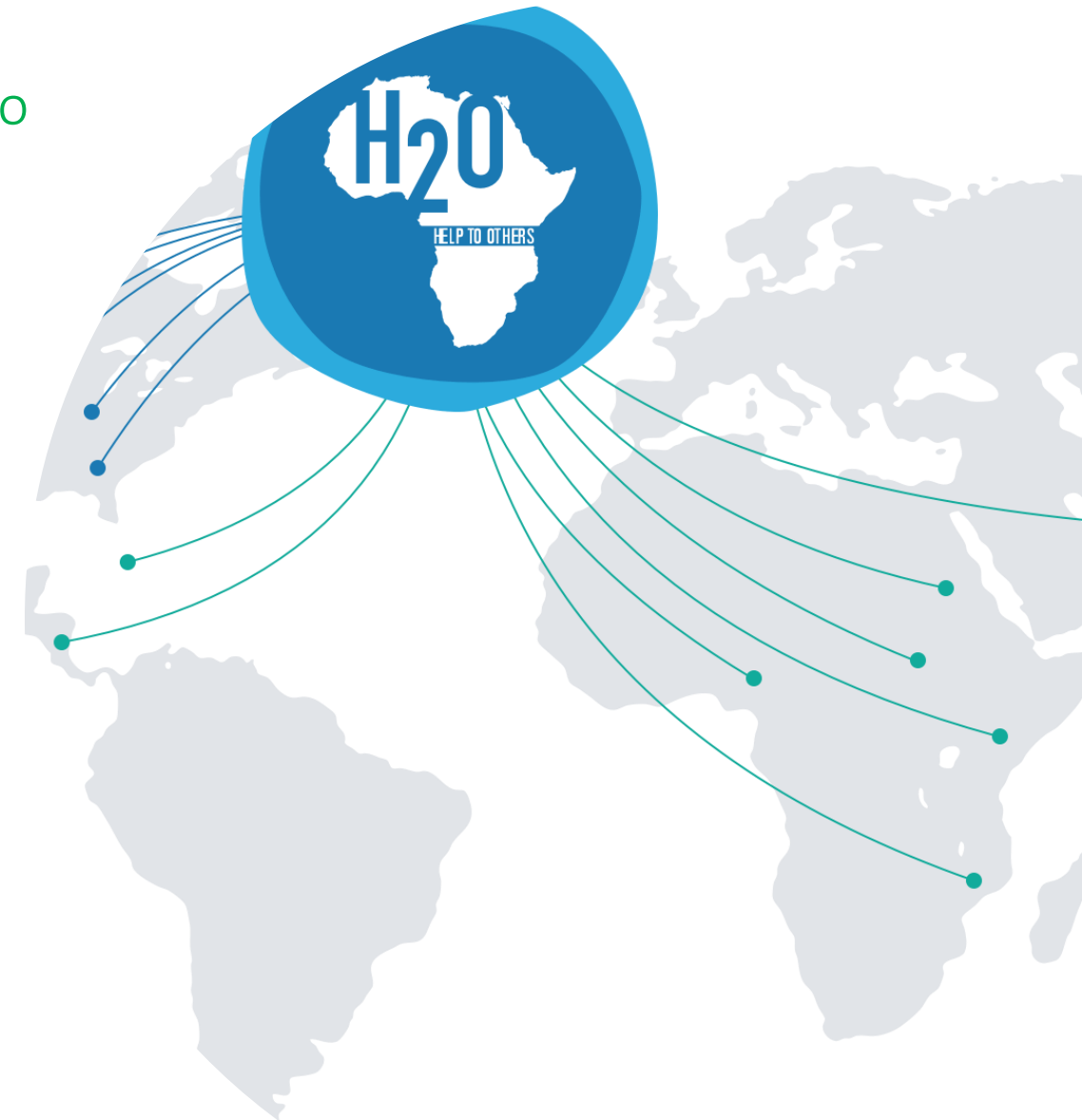
Our initiative was to develop systems to monitor such rainfall-triggered landslides and provide real-time warnings for saving the lives of the affected communities.



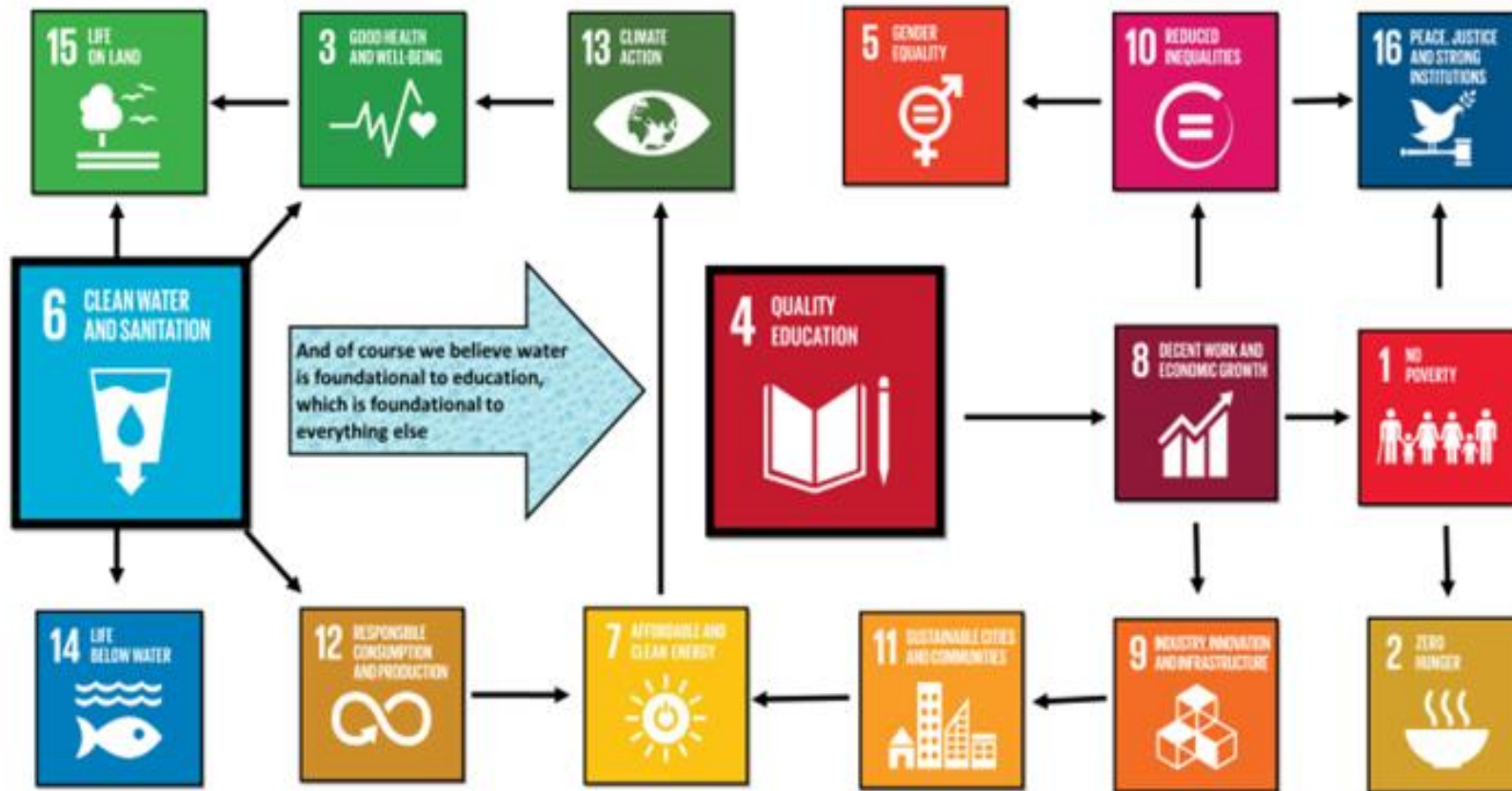
The ripple effects of service-learning programs are solving global water access problems

H2O for Life, United States of America and Mexico

- A service-learning program for U.S. Schools to learn about the global water crisis and global citizenship.
- Students helping students model
 - Done through localized global NGO partnerships
- Programming Includes:
 - **Water Guardians Online Curriculum**
 - A Long Walk to Water Reading Guide
 - STEAM Education Tools
 - UN SDG Activity
 - Classroom Presentations
- Impact to Date:
 - Assisted **994 projects** creating access for **449,700 students** internationally
 - Projects have been completed in 38 different nations with 64 implementing partners
 - **1,781 U.S. schools** have participated, including **750,100 students**



UN SDG Illustration

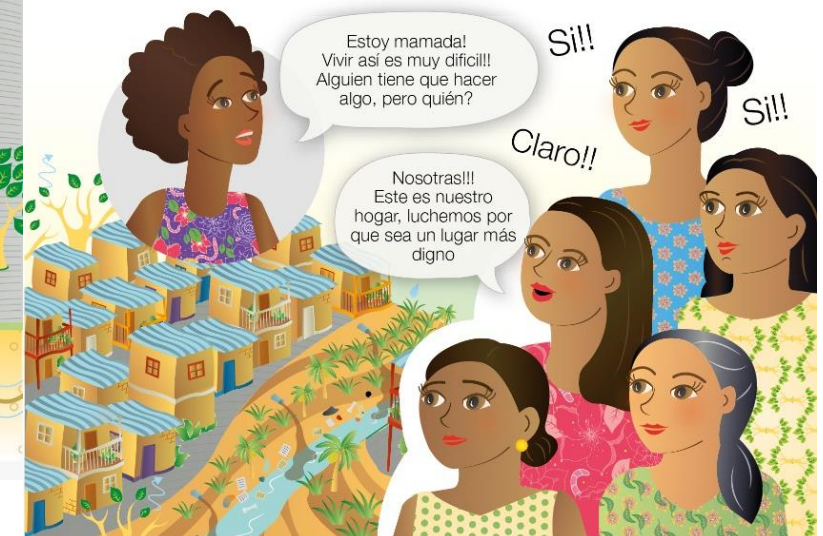
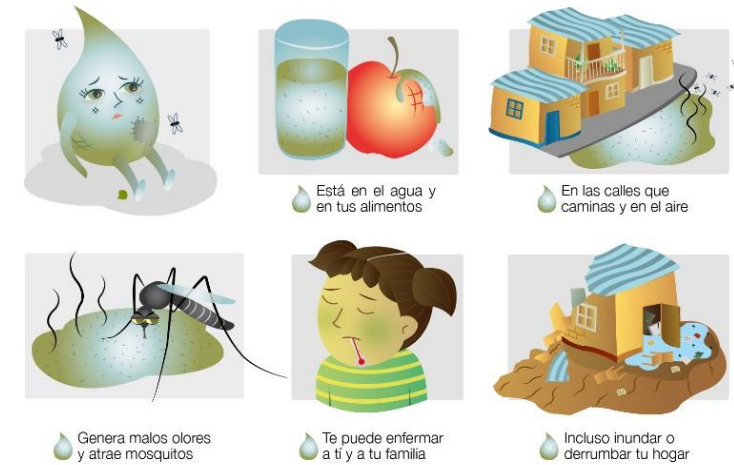


It is important for students to know that WASH interventions are not just about water. They are also a health intervention, an economic development project, a move towards sustainable communities, removing barriers to education, a step towards eradicating hunger and poverty, and so much more.

WomanWASH: Innovating and transforming my community from within

Colombia, South America

Leaving No Women behind in WASH management



Gender mainstreaming in WASH projects is not just ensuring participation...



Lily's husband

I don't agree with my husband but I can't express it in public

This meeting is so long, my kids are with the neighbour

This project will give me more workload 😞

I don't understand what the engineer is saying... but I am ashamed of asking



There are more men than women...I feel uncomfortable

- Vulnerable socioeconomic conditions (displaced, poor and from an indigenous group)
- Religious
- 7 children (5 under the age of 18)
- Unfinished primary education (partially literate – can read but cannot write)
- Faces gender-based violence at home
- Economically dependent from her husband

Uhakika program – Citizen action, accountability, monitoring and advocacy for water and climate security in Tanzania, East Africa

Why Uhakika?

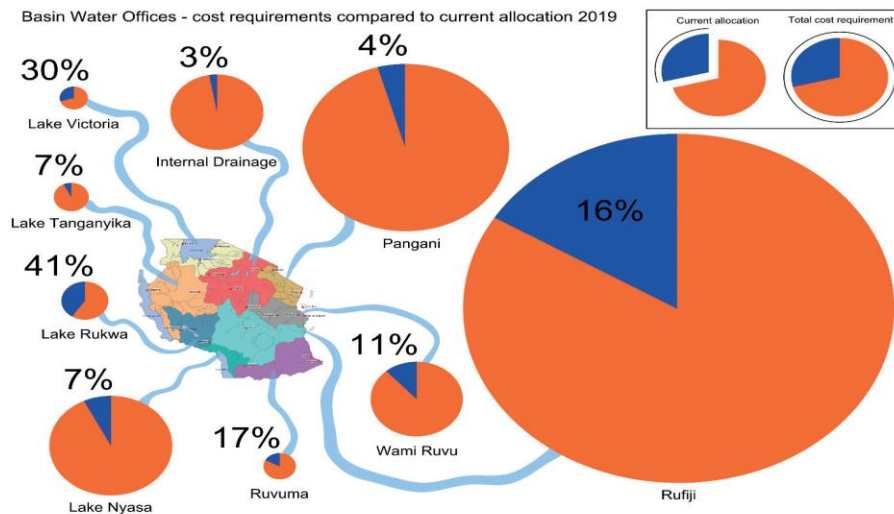
Effective and equitable Water Resource Management is key to ensure Economic development and water security for all

- Despite good policy & institutional framework, limited financial support restrict institutional performance leading to:
 - escalating conflict between water users, inadequate water supply, water pollution, resource degradation and depletion, and extreme cases of flood & drought, mostly affecting the poor and marginalised communities.
- 'Uhakika' employs SAM approach to:
 - activate citizen's voice
 - monitor accountability practises
 - evidence based advocacy to influence change for improved service delivery

Most important highlight to make change happen

Constructive evidence based advocacy

- Budget analysis identified gaps in water sector financing
 - ✓ Confirmed WRM receive inadequate financial resources.
 - ✓ Some basins received less than 4% of required budget.



Source of information: Water Resources Management Financing Options. Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Feb 2019.

- Influenced changes:
 - ✓ Tariff setting by Basin Boards to improve revenue collection - New regulation (2019)
 - ✓ Financing option study
 - ✓ Commitment by MoW to adapt the Risk based approach

Adequate finance enables effective performance by sector institutions to achieve water security for all.