

# Govt invested over 3 trillion in water projects

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He said at least 731 bn/- was spent in Dar es Salaam while 2.67 tr/- went to other regional and district town as 300bn/- went to the rural water projects during the period.

Prof Mkumbo noted that despite such investments, the demanding for provision of water nationwide is still wanting; urging the private sector to help complement the government efforts implementing water projects.

"The government has done a lot in provision of water in the country but a lot more need to be done to end the challenge of providing water in both urban and rural areas, " he said.

He went further explaining that in the Water Sector Development Programme (WSDP) target was that \$3.33bn would be needed to fully provide water and sanitation in the country, though experts are still reviewing the plan to know how realistic it is in terms of ability to raise the amount.

Speaking while officiating the opening of the Tanzania Water and Sanitation Network (TAWASANET) annual general meeting yesterday, he also noted that civil society organisations (CSOs) have a role in helping the government understand the real need of water at different areas.

He challenged TAWASANET member organisations to conduct analysis on the water projects since the government is only busy implementing the projects.

After such analysis, the PS said CSOs feed the information to the government with the aim of forming policy development process. He added that through such power of analysis, they can engage with the government, challenging it if it is going off the truck.

TAWASANET board chairperson, Wilhemina Malima noted that the situation of water provision remains one of the biggest challenges to the government, noting that a lot of money goes to the projects but not so much can be seen.

She noted that the organisation aims at helping reach the unreachable, the forgotten and the marginalised population in the country.

"We are now going to work closely with the district council on issues relating to water point mapping' she said, adding that in most cases the authority fail to share the relevant information on the demand of water in their areas.

The TAWASANET leader noted that while they work with various international donors, the authority sometimes do not share information of where there is need to establish projects if funds are available.

Speaking about the AGM, she said the members got the opportunity to learn a lot on capacity building, good governance, among others.

She added that the organisation will today hold election of new officials in accordance with its constitution that stipulates that elections be held after every three years.