



Clean water flows

It's farming season in D'ka community and Mallam Hamisu is happy to have clean water in his community for the first time ever. He says life is better now.

“Honestly, this progress in D'ka is beneficial for everyone. Before the clean water, we faced a lot of difficulty in getting water. Our women and young girls used to walk for about 3 to 10 kilometres just to get drinking water.

“Sometimes, they slept over at the place and returned in the morning. Then we could have some water to wash our faces. Even then, the water was still bad. We had to sieve some to allow the dirt settle a bit – that's the one we drank. As farmers, we already dug a few man-made reservoirs, waiting for the rainy season but with this new water scheme, everything will be alright.

“Now, we have water the way it should be and our skin has changed for good by the grace of God. To show our appreciation and commitment, the community has opened a savings account with NGN 50,000 for the maintenance of this facility and we are happy that RUWASSA has committed to support us with another NGN 50,000.

We now have more than enough water for drinking, farming and bathing. We are indeed excited!”



In 2018 WaterAid Nigeria implemented the Diageo Water of Life project in Kebbi State to provide inclusive access to clean water to the people of D'ka community in Danko/Wasagu local government area of Kebbi State, as well as support community management structures to ensure sustained operations of the water facility.

Largely dominated by farmers, many households in D'ka relied on unsafe shallow wells and other unimproved surface sources for their supply of drinking water. This scarcity extremely affects women and girls, putting them at greater physical risk, as many households rely on them to go fetch water from distant areas that are also prone to sand storms.

Now, with the water facility available, over 2,500 people in D'ka, including persons with disabilities, have access to clean water close to home. The facility also serves neighbouring communities with clean water. The Water of Life project was made possible with support from the Kebbi State Government through the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (Kebbi RUWASSA), with technical support of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and with funding from Diageo PLC (Guinness Nigeria).

Photo credit: WaterAid/Dotun Roy

