

# MO DEWJI FOUNDATION



## MARKET

The Mo Dewji Foundation has one market, Tanzania. Their mission is to assist the people of the country in any way possible by providing grants for health care, education and business development, among other things. "All the current and future projects supported by the Mo Dewji Foundation will be aligned to my philanthropic vision of facilitating the development of a poverty-free Tanzania. A future where the possibilities, opportunities and dreams of Tanzanians are limitless," Dewji wrote in his Pledge letter.

Dewji is the first person from Tanzania to join the pledge, which Bill Gates and Warren Buffett launched in 2010 to spur more philanthropic giving globally. The Pledge now counts 155 members from 17 countries.

Dewji is determined to see a healthy prospering Tanzania and will do everything possible to help to achieve this.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

The Mo Dewji Foundation considers even the smallest achievement a victory as long as it helps someone. Below are some of their more notable achievements:

- Provided financial assistance worth over US\$ 200,000 to numerous individuals that were unable to get appropriate surgical care and/or treatment in Tanzania by providing airlines tickets and covering medical costs.
- Helped build 17 secondary schools in Singida.
- Sponsored over 5,000 students in primary, secondary school and tertiary education.
- Donated over a 1000 science textbooks to secondary schools.
- Donated over 500 desks for primary schools across Tanzania.
- Built a specialised ward for patients with eye diseases at Singida Hospital, in collaboration with the Helen Keller Foundation.
- Contributed 12,000 mosquito nets across Tanzania.
- Collaborated with the Lions Club and the Bilal Muslim Mission, flew in doctors from overseas to hold an eye camp which benefitted over 1500 patients.
- Financed half the costs for building the Mungumaji Dispensary in Singida.
- Built a dispensary in Ititi Village and donated over 50 wheelchairs.



- Successfully lobbied the Tanzanian Government to dedicate USD 35 million to improve access to clean water in Singida,
- Financed the digging of 45 water wells in 20 villages in Singida.
- Donated 1,500 animal-drawn ploughs to local farmers.
- Donated 40 tons of leguminous seeds to farmers.

## HISTORY

In June 2014, Africa's Youngest Billionaire and notable philanthropist, Mohammed Dewji founded the Mo Dewji Foundation with the mission of creating lasting solutions in order to

enhance the quality of life and well-being of under-privileged Tanzanians.

In July 2016, Dewji decided to strengthen his commitment by joining the Giving Pledge, promising to give away at least half of his wealth to philanthropic causes. "Having witnessed severe poverty throughout my upbringing, I have always felt a deep responsibility to give back to my community," Dewji wrote in his Giving Pledge letter, which he shared with media. Dewji credits his parents with instilling the "ethos of philanthropy, particularly my responsibility as a Muslim to give and care for the less fortunate in our society."

Dewji has always firmly believed that it is the responsibility of businesses and corporations to give back to their communities and support the economic and social development of Tanzania. His contributions began as CSR initiative via his company METL Group.

Dewji decided to take a more proactive role himself, and became a Member of Parliament for Singida Urban District.

He was the driving force in creating sustainable socioeconomic development within his constituency when he decided to found the NGO Singida Yetu in 2006. In the decade following its inception, Singida Yetu spent more than KSh 2 billion shillings on community service projects, including the provision of safe and clean water, improvement of sanitation schemes, donation of mosquito nets and the funding of healthcare treatment and cataract operations.

After the successes in Singida, and the realisation of the needs throughout the rest of Tanzania, the next logical step was to provide the same services nationally. Thus the Mo Dewji Foundation was created in July 2014. Over the last few

years, Mohammed Dewji's collectively philanthropist efforts exceed \$3 million on projects that have directly improved the lives of Tanzanians.

## PRODUCT

The Mo Dewji Foundation conducts its work through grant giving and project implementation, employing rigorous standards of program design, monitoring, and evaluation for all that they do. Foundation focuses on improving life conditions in Tanzania in several areas:

### Education:

Promoting education in order to create a pathway for the population, especially the disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, to lead

to a more productive, equitable and society productive life. The Foundation gives funds for school refurbishment programs and merit/need based scholarships.

**Healthcare:**

Strengthening healthcare systems thought the country. Offering treatment, medicine, care and education to those who have been deprived of it. One of their most successful initiatives was to create child-friendly care and treatment environments. They did so, by creating Tumaini La Maisha – Tanzania’s first children’s cancer ward for under 18 year olds by supporting the entire non-clinical segment: nutrition program, school for patients, library, play therapy, housing, rehabilitation and skills development for guardians while their loved ones await long-term treatment.

**Community development:**

Supporting community development efforts in order to help build self-sustaining and successful communities throughout Tanzania.

The Mo Dewji Foundation’s flagship programs are:

**Mo Scholars Program:**

The Foundation provides scholarships to outstanding high school students planning to pursue higher education. This grant covers all four years of undergraduate education in addition to meal, housings and books allowances.

Recipients of this program must be high-performing students that demonstrate leadership potential, while exhibiting financial need. The scholarship program is intended to create a community of passionate students and provide them with the capacity to achieve their greatest potential.

**Mo Entrepreneurs Competition:**

Provides an interest-free loan to innovative young entrepreneurs enabling them to improve

productivity and income. The competition provides the financial with financial literacy training, accounting and personal finance training and an accounting software and package to be able to track their progress and create operations efficiencies. The provision of this software has improved the firm owners’ financial literacy and their understanding of their companies’ profits, and will allow us to make a data-driven decision on the winners.



the possibilities, opportunities and dreams of Tanzanians are limitless.” This vision is guided by four key values highlighted below:

**Accountability** - Through their policies, procedures and actions, they are transparent and accountable, answering to all their partners, members and broader stakeholders.

**Empowerment** - In all actions, they strive to develop people’s capacity and confidence to increase the strength of individuals and communities.

**Integrity** - Act consistently with the Foundation’s mission, while being honest and transparent in everything they do and say. They accept the

**RECENT DEVELOPMENTS**

The Mo Dewji Foundation believes in constantly evolving and finding now imitative to help the people of Tanzania. They will be launching two below initiatives shortly:

**Menstruation Campaign:**

Aimed to tackle the pervasive challenges around the topic and the taboos that surrounding it. They understand the need to educate and assist. The Foundation will refurbish



sanitation facilities, donate sanitary pads and create advocacy program for students, teachers and parents on why to invest in menstrual health for young girls. All in hopes of empowering young girls, and overcoming poor school attendance and performance due to poor sanitation facilities in the country.

**Mo Entrepreneurs Program (Phase 2):**

Noticing the massive potential around innovative solutions to development, the Foundation plans to explore providing grant to Tanzanian innovators creating solutions for social and economic development.

This program will include an innovation competition, STEM training and boot camps and mentorship with major innovation stakeholders globally in addition to start-up grants for ideas.

**BRAND VALUES**

Through its vision, the foundation aims to “see a Tanzania free of poverty – a future where

responsibility for their collective and individual actions.

**Sustainability** - Committed to development that meets the needs of the present without comprising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

[www.modewjifoundation.org](http://www.modewjifoundation.org)

**Things you didn’t know about Mo Dewji Foundation**

- Mo Dewji Foundation and Dewji are the first from Tanzania to join the pledge, which Bill Gates and Warren Buffett launched in 2010 to spur more philanthropic giving globally.
- Mo Dewji Foundation donated 40 tons of leguminous seeds to farmers.
- Mo Dewji Foundation’s founder Mohammed Dewji, has given away ½ his wealth to charity.
- Mo Dewji Foundation believes in they are investing in the future of Tanzania by giving individuals the opportunity to be the best they can.

