

Bariadi District

Bariadi is one of the 5 districts in the Simiyu Region of Tanzania. Bariadi has a population of 605,509 according to the 2012 National Census. Residents mainly practice a nomadic pastoralist economy. Periodic movement of families in search of pastures and water for their animals negatively affects enrolment and attendance rates.

HakiElimu's work in the district focuses on 4 primary schools, namely: Ibulyu, Gamondo A, Kidinda and Mahaha and 4 secondary schools.

Problems identified by the 2012 baseline study affecting schools in the district include poor attendance (exacerbated by the nomadic lifestyle of residents as well as prevalence of child marriages); poor state of school facilities, including lack of adequate sanitation facilities and low levels of interest and participation in school development activities.

Among the key changes from our work in Bariadi in 2014 is greater initiative and effectiveness of School Committees in encouraging and directing community support to resolve persisting issues, e.g. by building toilets, renovating classrooms, fabricating desks and more active involvement by parents to address low attendance.