

Water Transforming Life

UGA-MET-WTL-P02



Buyende, Uganda



Water

2 Year Project: September 2023 to August 2025

Total Budget: \$82,400



Overview

This two-year project saw the construction of a deep bore well with solar pump and two tanks. Clay-pot filters, WASH education (water, sanitation and hygiene) and tap ware were provided to the impoverished community of Buyende, approximately 125 kms east of the capital Kampala. The local shallow wells and swamps are unclean and dry up over the summer. This results in the community having to buy water elsewhere or use unsafe and unreliable sources. It is inefficient and dangerous for a community wanting to break the poverty cycle. Active community involvement has had a greater impact than expected.

Objectives



Construction of a deep bore well and tank

The deep bore well, solar pump, a 10,000ltr tank, multiple water stations and pipe infrastructure have been installed and have now been running without fault for the past six months. Water quality has been tested and is far above the national average.



Train community leaders in WASH

Community leaders and village healthcare representatives were trained in WASH and can now train other community members. A total of 6100 community members now have direct access to clean water, filters and WASH training.



Community Education in WASH

1039 community members undertook training in hygiene and sanitation in preparation for receiving filters. 13 WASH training programs have been held so far and will continue as the need arises, so that as many people as possible complete the training.



Distribution of clay-pot filters

Filters were distributed to villagers on request once they completed the WASH training. A 20% contribution was collected from recipients, which demonstrates strong local ownership, allocated to maintenance and ongoing development of water projects.



Life change

- New knowledge and behaviours have led to a much healthier lifestyle
- Increased levels of household income as a result of better health
- A remarkable 97% of children now regularly go to school
- A reduction in time spent accessing water leading to more time and energy for relationships and productive activities (4hrs down to 22min per day, an outstanding result)
- Villagers working together cooperatively to build their community



Mubeezi's Story

I farm and run a small business selling my crops. For years, our community has shared unsafe pond water with animals which has caused dysentery, cholera, diarrhea, and typhoid, claiming lives, draining families financially, and leaving us in despair. We reached out for help, conducted surveys and held meetings and training sessions to prepare for a sustainable solution. We freely contributed land, labour, food, and accommodation for the technicians who built our borehole. Our unity and commitment made this dream a reality. The impact has been life-changing for our health, crops and community well being.



Robinah's story

My husband and I have 5 children. We are farmers, and advocate passionately for children's human rights. I am so grateful for the introduction of clean water and filters to our community. This intervention has brought about great health and social benefits. Waterborne diseases have drastically reduced, and people are healthier than ever before. Parents like us no longer live in fear of losing our children to preventable illnesses. With improved health, we can now focus on farming, business, and education instead of spending money on hospital bills. The project has also increased awareness about personal hygiene. We are more conscious of the importance of clean water and proper sanitation practices, which is great.

