



Final Report & Acquittal

Rural Village Well Refurbishment Mukono Region, Uganda

Sponsored by: BridgIT Water Foundation USA

Duration: 1 – 15th September 2020

Managing Partner: **BridgIT Water Foundation, Australia**

Implementing Regional Partner: **Suubi Community Projects, Uganda**

Introduction

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|-------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Organization (Partner) Name: | | Suubi Community Projects Uganda (SCPU) | |
| Partner Contact: | Steven Beingana | Report Date: | 13 th September 2020 |
| Partner Contact Title: | Director | | |
| Country: | Uganda | | |
| Project / Program Name: | Community Well Refurbishment Program Uganda (September 2020) | | |
| Email: | info@scpuganda.org | Website: | www.scpuganda.org |
| Donor: | BridgIT Water Foundation USA | Project Status: | Completed |

Brief Partner Introduction & Approach of Implementing Partner:



Suubi Community Projects Uganda (SCPU) is a registered non-government organization in Uganda.

Our mission is “**To help improve access to clean**

and safe water and the quality of health and education service delivery for the neediest communities in rural Uganda”.

For the past 6 years, SCPU has been working in the rural areas of Uganda and our programs are focused on: increasing access to safe water and sanitation, improving health service delivery, improving education service delivery and economic empowerment for rural community members.

Our approach is based on the **Self-Help model** and community ownership of all the projects. We believe this is a more sustainable approach to foster the development of these rural communities.

SCPU has broad experience working with both local and international donors and volunteers in managing and implementing WASH projects. For the past 5 years the organization has implemented the construction and/or repair of 156 boreholes to date.

Background to Project

In September 2020, SCPU received a grant from BridgIT Water Foundation Australia (BWF) sponsored by BWF USA for the refurbishment of **1 community water well refurbishment at Kasokoso Village in Mukono District.**

The project has now been completed successfully and this is your final report to show how project funds were spent and the impact project funds have made.

Project Rationale & Context

In sub-Saharan Africa, one in every three wells are in non-working order, most commonly due to broken hand pumps, used to pump the ground water to the surface.

This is because in the past, many governments and non-government organizations have simply come in with a drill team, drilled a well, and left. There was rarely any training on well maintenance, the establishment of a water user committee, or routine follow-ups.

When the hand pump eventually needs repair, the communities are unable to do so because of the lack of resources, proper management, and sense of ownership.

While we are working in the rural communities, we continue to receive many requests from communities for support to repair their broken boreholes.

In most cases, the repair requires a complete overhaul of the hand pump system. This is way too high for the communities to fund if they have not been pooling together a maintenance fund for the past couple of years.

Beneficiaries & Stakeholders

The project beneficiaries are from the village of Kasokoso in Nagojje sub-county, Mukono rural region of Uganda. BridgIT Water Foundation USA allowed a total of **1,500 people** benefit with a safe drinking water bore.

| No. | Village Name | Description | People Impacted |
|-----|--------------|---|-----------------|
| 1. | Kasokoso | The borehole was put in by government more than 15 years ago, and it hasn't been functioning for at least 3 years. The community was never trained or prepared for sustainability of the source. The people had been collecting dirty water from streams 3km distance on average to access those streams. | 1,500 |

Description of Funded Activities - Action & Methodology



The scope of work involves the refurbishment of existing hand pumps including replacement of all the hand pump parts and implementation of water sustainability strategies by training Water User Committees.

The Well was successfully repaired by installing a whole new hand pump system including; 10 pipes, 10 rods, a cylinder pump, water tank, and complete head assembly and any necessary masonry work on the platform.





Train and put in place Water User Committees (WUC's)

WUC's are essential to ensure the sustainability of any community water system. BWF and its implementing partners have observed that it is important that the community feels responsible for, and develops the capacity to manage the maintenance and operation of its own water access points. The establishment and training of WUC's is an integral part of every water project we implement; in every community we work with.

8 people were selected and trained on the WUC. The committee is made up of: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, 2 Caretakers and 2 members.

At least 3 members must be women, and the post of Treasurer is specifically reserved for a woman. 2 young people must also be on the committee and at least 1 PWD.



Project Impacts

Impact is expected in four areas:

- (i) Access**
- (ii) Health**
- (iii) Education**
- (iv) Labor force participation and hours worked.**

- Access to clean and safe water has been restored to 1,500 people.
- Kasokoso Primary school will benefit. When the school reopens, the school children and staff will be able to have operational handwashing stations since they can easily access water.
- On average, people will walk 200mtrs to access the water, as opposed to the 3km before the well was repaired.
- Incidences of diarrhoea and typhoid, especially among children less than 12 years are expected to reduce.
- Incidences of back pain especially among women and older girls is expected to reduce. This is because they no longer move long distances while carrying the heavy containers filled with water.
- There is an average 2hours saved everyday especially by women who have the responsibility of fetching water. This time is now used for productive work on family farms or businesses.

Cross Cutting Themes - Gender Equality, People With Disabilities (PWD's) Inclusion & Environmental Management on BWF Programs

BridgIT Water Foundation and its partners are committed to avoiding, minimizing, and mitigating adverse environmental as well as adopting a gender-sensitive and gender-equitable approach for all its projects.

Gender equality approaches were employed: We are aware that the success and effective use of water facilities depends on the involvement of women and men, boys and girls in selecting the location and technology of such facilities, and taking responsibility for management, operation and maintenance. The role of women, men, boys and girls in maintaining the borehole was not underestimated; it varies from preventive maintenance and repairs, to paying of Use fees. Women, men and youth all hold equal representation on the Water User Committee, with the post of the Treasurer being reserved for a woman.

PWD Inclusion approaches were employed including: The composition of the Water User Committee reserves a special slot for the representation of PWD. PWD's were equally consulted during site location, and they are empowered to equally participate in the maintenance and operation of the water source. Where they are heads of families and have active income, they as well contribute by paying user fees.

The refurbishment project did not have any environmental impacts for the community. The beneficiaries were trained to observe environmentally friendly approaches while they access and use the Well.

Testimonials & Stakeholder Feedback



Charity Namutebi, a 14 year old girl said:

“Since schools closed, I have been having disagreements with my mother. I always want to revise my books in the early morning, but it is also the time that my mother wants me to go collect water for the family. It would take me at least 3 hours to go to the well and back home. Tired, I could not go ahead and revise my books. This well is close and I can collect water quickly and have time to read my books”

Godfrey Kiwewa, an 11 year old boy said:

“I am the eldest child of my family with 4 younger siblings. I am tasked with the responsibility of taking home at least 7 jerry cans (the yellow plastic containers, each 20 liters). This work is very tedious and sometimes I feel like running away from home”



Training

The first training was offered to all members of the beneficiary community at the pre-construction meeting. During this first encounter with the beneficiary community we educate them about their responsibility during the **project implementation and as well as the long-term obligations** of the project. This meeting mainly entails good WASH practice guidance.

A WUC was trained in basic maintenance and management of the water source, and how they can help to maximise impact by enforcing other good sanitation practices like use of clean containers, boiling all drinking water, latrines for homes, and use of tippy taps.

Sustainability & community ownership

It is crucial that community ownership is established for the sustainability of the refurbished well.

The sustainability of the Wells largely depends on the beneficiary community. The community has been trained and empowered to take complete ownership of the Wells and plan for their future maintenance and repairs.

To ensure sustainability of project benefits, it is important that, after construction, physical conditions of infrastructure, water yield, and the status of operation, water quality, sanitary hazards, and financial viability are regularly monitored; initially by the implementing agency jointly with concerned WUCs (Water User Committees), so that timely corrective measures can be taken without disruptions to the Well's function ability.

Financial Acquittal

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| | | UGX | US\$ |
| BWF Grant | | | |
| Was the grant fully expended (highlight) | | Yes | YES |
| BWF Grant Remaining | | Nil | Nil |
| Budgeted Income | | | |
| Internal Contribution | | 0 | 0 |
| Other Income | | 0 | 0 |
| BWF Grant | | 4,380,000 | \$1,200 |
| Total Project Income | | | |
| Budgeted Expenditures | | | |
| | | | |
| <i>Description</i> | <i>Contractor Name</i> | <i>UGX</i> | <i>US\$</i> |
| <i>Construction Costs</i> | <i>Suubi Community Projects</i> | | |
| Hand pump replacement, Indian Mark II | " | 3,102,500 | \$850 |
| Installation labor | " | 365,000 | \$100 |
| Masonry work | | 182,500 | \$50 |
| Signage | | 182,500 | \$100 |
| Travel costs | | 127,750 | \$35 |
| Trainings | | 182,500 | \$50 |
| Project management | | 182,500 | \$50 |
| Other Costs (Bank charges and mobile money transfers) | | 54,750 | \$15 |
| Total Partner Expenditures | | 4,380,000 | \$1,200 |
| BridgIT Project Management & M&E Cost | | | \$150 |
| Balance Remaining | | 0 | 0 |

Project Challenges

- It rained heavily just when the repair work hard started. We had to complete amidst the rain. Because of this, we did not capture many photos of the work.
- The project has been implemented amidst restrictions due to COVID 19. This affected our travel movements trainings and interactions with the community. We limited the number of people we invited for training, and our workers were cautioned against getting in contact with the locals during the execution of their work. However, these were very important precautions for the safety of our team and the people we serve and we are glad that they were observed. Because of this reason, we captured very few photos of locals at the repaired wells.

Lessons Learned

A healthy engagement with the local government has been helpful in finding the solutions for some of the challenges encountered. Our team was given clearance to move and continue work as essential workers during the lockdown. The lesson learned is to always keep the local government informed about all our work and services.

Acknowledgements

Our gratitude goes to **Mr. Tom Webber of BridgIT Water Foundation USA and all who donated on the global funding page** for their generosity. We appreciate the members of the WUC, program implementation team, local leadership and our beloved beneficiary population for their cooperation during the implementation of the project. The project succeeded with the efforts of all of you, thank you so much.

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Suubi Community Projects, Uganda
Reviewed by BridgIT Water Foundation

