

2025 REFURBISHED WELL PROGRAM FUNDING PROPOSAL

Uganda

(Implementing Partner: Suubi Community Projects Uganda)

BriefBackground & Introduction

There are few water resources in the rural areas, and a borewell is a priority for clean drinking water. Millions of people in rural Uganda rely on water wells equipped with hand-operated pumps for daily water needs.

However, one in every three borewells is not in working order in parts of Uganda because the pumping equipment installed in the well has failed.

In the past, many government and nongovernment organisations have come in with a drill team, drilled and equipped a well, and left. There was rarely any training on how to fund or perform borewell maintenance or the establishment of water management strategies.

The primary reason behind these failures is because of inadequate borewell maintenance. In most cases, when the hand pump eventually needed repairs, the communities could not do so because of the lack of resources, proper management or any sense of ownership.

No or insufficient training on borewell management was provided to the borewell users at the time of commissioning and handover.

Community ownership must be established for the sustainability of new or refurbished borewells.

Establishing and training Water User Committees (WUCs) is essential to ensure the sustainability of any community water system. WUCs collect equitable fees from water users, contributing to a maintenance fund for future repairs.



One of many broken down borewells in rural Uganda

In Uganda, BridgIT Water Foundation partners with Suubi Community Projects Uganda (SCPU). SCPU is a registered non-government organisation whose 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".

Since 2016, SCPU and BridgIT have addressed the water challenges in rural Uganda by providing safe water sources, including drilled and refurbished borewells, to over 350 rural communities, directly impacting over 800,000 beneficiaries.

Suubi and BridgIT's approach is based on the Self-Help model and together we ensure sustainability strategies are implemented on all our projects.

Suubi and BridgIT's refurbished borewell program is hugely successful and in high demand because it establishes immediate access to water for sanitation and hygiene, and an existing borewell dramatically reduces the cost per project, giving great value to the invested funds.

Brief Project Outline

The project will help to increase access to clean water in Kayunga District. BridgIT and Suubi have worked in the Mukono District for the past 7 years and are now expanding our focus on the neighbouring Kayunga District. The refurbishment of failed borewells will be undertaken alongside the construction of new wells in the district.

Kayunga district is 75km northeast of Kampala and covers approximately 270,560 square miles. Agriculture is the main economic activity in the Kayunga district and represents 90% of the total employment. Unfortunately, the district's access to safe and clean water lies at less than 40%. Most people rely on unprotected water sources such as seasonal ponds and springs.

After receiving formal community requests, a routine needs assessment is conducted within the target community and villages are prioritised based on the following criteria.

- The existing borewells were constructed approximately 20 years ago by the government or other development partners.
- The borewells have been out of service for at least 1 year.
- The communities could not afford to fund the repairs because no ownership or active Water User Committee (WUC) was in place.

Project Description

The proposed project seeks to execute the refurbishment of 30 broken borewells.

Workshops will be conducted to train people on sustainability strategies, including maintenance and repair to their refurbished borewell so that it remains functional.

Water User Committees (WUCs) will be established and trained to fund, maintain and manage the refurbished water system.

WUC training focuses on educating the community about its obligations for the asset at the outset and implementing sustainability planning and the management of water user fees. Proper hygiene and WASH components are also heavily emphasised through the training sessions.

To keep good community relations, partners conduct routine follow-ups to check that the community are managing its resource and to aid or advise with any issues that may have arisen.



Scope of Work



Suubi's experienced site contracting teams repair the hand pumps. Mechanical repairs for Indian Mark II pumps typically involve replacing the pump cylinder, rods, pipes and drive head. In addition, some masonry work to the concrete pad and run-off channel is usually required. Building a security fence around the borewell and general grounds cleaning needs to be carried out by community members to ensure their commitment and buy-in to the project.

When the repairs are complete, full training is provided to the community, covering establishing a Water User Committee (WUC). A team of people are trained with the basic skills to carry out repairs on the hand pumps to enable them to manage ongoing maintenance and future repairs.

Activities & Budget

Item	Activity Description	Cost US\$	Cost AUD\$
1	Hand pump replacement, MKII	\$850.00	\$1,310.00
2	Labour	\$100.00	\$160.00
3	Materials for masonry work on platform and run-off channel	\$100.00	\$160.00
4	Partner project support costs including mobilisation, WUC & WASH training, sustainability monitoring and signage installation	\$300.00	\$470.00
5	Bridgit project management & reporting and monitoring and evaluation (includes a site visit)	\$250.00	\$400.00
	Total Cost Per Well	\$1,600.00	\$2,500.00

^{*}Currency unit based on US\$1 = AUD\$0.64 as an indication. To be recalculated at time of donation.

Village Waiting List Summary

The following list of villages in Kayunga District indicates the household beneficiaries that urgently require a refurbished well in their community to fulfil their water needs.

	Community Name	Sub-county	H/Holds	Population	Pupils	Cost AUD\$
1	Kyambogo	Kayunga	152	912		\$2,500.00
2	Bwetyaba	Kayunga	149	894		
3	Gaaza	Kayunga	168	1,008		
4	Ndeeba	Kayunga	190	1,140		
5	Ntooke	Kayunga	120	720		
6	Butakoola	Kayunga	175	1,050		
7	Busaala	Kayunga	125	750		
8	Kyagi	Kayunga	180	1,080		
9	Kyamimbi	Kayunga	130	780		
10	Bukuju	Kayunga	140	840		
11	Buyuki	Busana	150	900		
12	Nabuganyi	Busana	160	960		
13	Namatogonya	Busana	120	720		
14	Nekoyede	Busana	185	1,110		
15	Bumali	Busana	135	810		
16	Bukomba	Busana	125	750		
17	Namukuma	Busana	170	1,020		
18	Kasoota	Busana	150	900		
19	Kayonjo	Busana	140	840		
20	Kitala	Busana	190	1,140		
21	Kagulumira B	Kangulumira	210	1,260		
22	Kasambya	Kangulumira	200	1,200		
23	Soona	Kangulumira	190	1,140		
24	Kyebereka	Kangulumira	185	1,110		
25	Kiwugu C	Kangulumira	140	840		
26	Kitabazi	Kangulumira	160	960		
27	Kanyogoga	Kangulumira	170	1,020		
28	Wabukwa	Kangulumira	135	810		
29	Kungu B	Kangulumira	130	780		
30	Mirembe Bukeeka	Kangulumira	180	1,080		
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	Totals		4,754	28,524		\$75,000.00

[•] The number of people per household are estimated to be 6 as per the recommendation of the Uganda 2024 Census statistics.

Approximately 28,524 people require urgent support and will directly benefit from this water supply program.

[•] Data is as per provided by the local leadership at the respective sub-counties.

Community Ownership and Sustainability

Locally owned water systems ensure empowered communities

BridgIT and our partners are committed to the sustainability of the water systems we put into the communities we support. Sustainability gives value to the invested funds and results in the intended impacts.

Once a refurbishment is completed, the well is handed over to the community and the Water User Committees will take ownership and be responsible for monitoring, maintenance and sustainability of the borewell.

Suubi Community Projects Uganda will continue to work with the community once the borewells are operational. Suubi does this by following up the Water User Committee and checking the efficiency of their training and installations.



On behalf of all the beneficiary communities, we are very grateful to all donors and sponsors. We look forward to receiving support so that thousands of people living in the rural communities that form this proposal can receive clean water.



Your donation helps the global water crisis one rural village at a time





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Gifts and contributions are tax deductible in Australia

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