

JWF Fund 2021 – Project Outline

2. Installation of water kiosk in Kaptolla village, Kenya

- Organization: Ufanisi Support Group (USG) (#099)
- Location: Kaptolla village, Kisiwa location, Kabuchai constituency, Kabuchaisub-county, Bungoma county, Kenya
- Cost: US\$ 1,805 (JWF Fund: US\$ 1,500, beneficiaries: US\$305)
- Number of direct beneficiaries: 1,500 people (250 women, 250 men, 1,000 children)
- Background:

Kaptolla village consists of 250 poverty-stricken, water-deprived households. The village has a market called Big, serving as its economic hub where local farmers sell their produce in order to purchase household necessities. Big Market was about to be closed prior to the project due to a lack of safe water and outbreaks of waterborne disease caused by contamination. The women of the village were relying primarily on heavily polluted water with high turbidity levels from the village's contaminated seasonal river and a damaged open spring well, situated around 2.5 km from the village. They could also purchase safe water at a high price, spending over 35% of their hard-earned incomes on water and medications for waterborne diseases. This exacerbated the abject poverty of the population.



Before:
A woman fetching water from a polluted source



After:
Supplying water at a water kiosk

- Main activities of the project:
Inception meeting with stakeholders; construction of one water kiosk; installation of a new 1 km pipeline from existing Nzowasco pipeline; water quality testing; establishment of a water users' committee; training workshops on hand-washing and usage, repair, and maintenance of the facilities.
- Sustainability action:
A water company called Nzowasco, owned by Bungoma and Trans Nzoia county, helps purchase materials and provides safe water from their treated water-main system, along with skilled technicians and trainers. Water is sold from the kiosk for an affordable price and the procedures are controlled by the water users' committee.

JWF Fund 2021 – Results of Follow-up Observations

2. Installation of water kiosk in Kaptolla village, Kenya

【Current situation】

The one-kilometre safe water pipe system and water kiosk constructed through JWF Fund 2021 is functioning as planned and provides safe water for the 1500 beneficiaries throughout the year. The only damage found was the running of paint on the walls following unusually heavy rains between early September and early November 2023. However, there are plans by the management to repaint the kiosk by end of 2023.

The beneficiaries are using the facilities properly without any conflicts. Management of the facility consists of a 10-woman water users' committee, drawn from Kaptolla village's 250 households. They were trained during project implementation on use, repair, maintenance and operations of the water pipe system and on the importance of hand-washing. The managers, working in pairs on a rotating schedule, take care of operations and repairs and maintenance of the facilities, based on commercial and environmental principles, to ensure sustainability and long-term benefits. They are selling 20-litre containers of safe water for US\$0.025 to households in Kaptolla village, keeping records of sales, paying bills to NZOWASCO, and meeting repair and maintenance expenses. They are sharing out 70% of profits earned from water sales as wages and have saved 30% of profits for expansion of water pipe system.

The average kiosk's safe water consumption per household in Kaptolla village is 4000 litres. For 250 households, the estimated water consumed per month is 1,000,000 litres. The managers sell each 20 litre of water for KES2.5 (US\$0.025), thus total income generated per month is US\$1,250. The management pays monthly water bills to NZOWASCO of around US\$416.67. As such, total monthly revenue generated is US\$833.33. Repairs and maintenance of the facilities cost KES2,000 (US\$20) each month. Thus, the net profit is estimated to be US\$813.33 per month.

【Changes】

Beneficiaries are now washing their hands with soap and clean water from the water kiosk using leaky tin hand washing stations outside their homes. The project facility management have shown beneficiaries how to make leaky tins and tippy taps using locally-available materials and have ensured that every household has a hand-washing station to enable regular hand-washing with soap, so that nobody in the community will contract waterborne diseases or coronavirus. Beneficiaries now wash their hands using the correct technique for at least 20 seconds. Additionally, before drinking water from an open source, beneficiaries are now boiling and chlorinating, as well as using sun pasteurization and Water Guard to purify the water. They are also washing their containers before collecting water for proper water handling.

Water-borne diseases have reduced drastically and have become a thing of the past in Kaptolla since construction of the safe water pipe system and kiosk. The community is now healthier and more prosperous because its expenditure on medication has gone down. The availability of safe water has also raised morale in the community and improved residents' relationship with public health officials. The beneficiaries are now healthier and saving time, energy and money on water and treatment of waterborne diseases, so they can invest more in farming and income-generating activities in order to end poverty. They now spend less than 7% of their hard-earned income on water and medication for waterborne diseases down from over 35% before the project.

【Other Points】

The organization has not carried out any other projects related to water or sanitation since JWF Fund 2021, hindered by a lack of finances.



View of water kiosk



A user at water kiosk



Sella Waswa using tippy tap hand washing station

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Voices of the beneficiaries (Excerpts)



Mr. Eliud Muyekho, 47 years old

I've found positive changes in the hygiene behavior of local people since completion of the project. Community members have installed hand-washing stations made from leaky tins and tippy taps in their homes using locally available materials, and now regularly and properly wash their hands with soap for at least 20 seconds to prevent waterborne diseases and coronavirus. They also boil the water they get from open sources before drinking and are embracing chlorination, sun pasteurization and Water Guard to purify water from open sources before using it. They also wash their containers before collecting water.

I've found positive changes in the health of local people since the project. They are now healthier because the incidence of waterborne diseases has fallen. There has been no outbreak of waterborne diseases in Kaptolla since construction of the safe water kiosk.

I've found positive changes in the social and economic conditions of the local community since the project. Healthier residents can now save time, energy and money spent on water collecting and the treatment of waterborne diseases. They can invest more money and time on farming and income-generating activities, thereby reducing poverty. They now spend less than 7% of their hard-earned incomes on water and medications for waterborne diseases, down from over 35%.



Ms. Sharon Wafula, 33 years old

The committee members work in pairs on a daily rotating basis. They provide all the human resources needed to operate and maintain the facilities, and generate the financial resources needed to operate and maintain the facilities by selling safe water at US\$0.025 for a 20-litre container to Kaptolla village's households.

We have received feedback from a user of the kiosk: "Before the project, I faced at least a three-hour journey to get dirty unsafe water from open sources at a huge cost. Now I'm using the kiosk's safe running water. It provides easily-accessible and reliable safe water at a cheaper price to meet our daily needs".



Ms. Sella Waswa, 52 years old

I usually use the facilities and feel good and cared-for in terms of well-being and health. After the WASH training, I installed leaky tins and a tippy tap hand-washing station in my home using locally-available materials. Now my family and I properly wash our hands with soap for at least 20 seconds to prevent waterborne diseases and coronavirus. I also always ensure that I use safe water from the kiosk and treat any unsafe water from open sources before using it.

I've found positive changes around me and my family. We're now in good health and don't get sick from unsafe water or poor hygiene. We can save time, energy and costs previously spent on water and treating waterborne diseases. We can invest those funds on farming and income-generating activities.