

2. Enhancing access to clean and safe drinking water in three schools in Canon Apolo, Kahinju and Kamengo in Uganda

- Local partner: Rwenzori Aid (#109)

A local not-for-profit organization in western Uganda. Established in 2016, Rwenzori Aid has been at the forefront of advocating for better WASH in communities, schools and hospitals. Rwenzori Aid has been implemented projects benefiting over 30,000 people, in collaboration with both national and international organizations.

- Project cost: \$3,157 (JWF Fund: \$1,500, implementing organization: \$1,097, beneficiaries: \$560)
budget: \$3,067 (JWF Fund: \$1,500, implementing organization \$1,007, beneficiaries: \$560)
- Number of beneficiaries: 3,489 (55 men, 84 women, 3,350 children)
- Background:

Access to clean and safe drinking water in Uganda remains a challenge affecting many communities. Most schools lack water purification filters which would help make water safe for consumption without boiling. The project intended to improve access to clean and safe drinking water in three schools in Fort Portal City. Canon Apolo Demo primary school lacked a water source. Canon Apolo, Kahinju, and Kamengo primary schools did not have water purification filters.

【Before】



Canon Apolo school lacked a water source and proper facilities.



Students using water from an unsafe source



The ceramic water filters are proudly made in Uganda

- Project details:
 - Procured and installed one 10,000-liter water harvesting tank and 5 hand washing points.
 - Conducted 5 capacity-building training sessions on operations and maintenance of water facilities, and 7 training sessions on making reusable sanitary towels
 - Procured and handed over 6 water purification filters
 - The Financial Component was used to promote the payment of tariffs to facilitate the O&M of WASH facilities. The schools are to pay for the maintenance of WASH facilities. The WASH Club, School Management Committee, school caretaker, WASH Patron, PTA, and Water Board have all been trained in maintaining WASH facilities.

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【During】



Inception meeting



Construction of water tank slab



Water tank installation



Plumbing gutters



MHM training



WASH training



Filter assembly

【After】



4 hand wash taps at Kahinju PS



RWHS tank at Canon Apolo PS



Water filter handover at Kamengo PS



RWHS tank tap in service



Mr. Kituuku George, 54 years old

We are grateful for the opportunity to be beneficiaries of this project. Today we have a water tank that will enable the school to have constant water, we have water filters and the students will no longer drink unsafe water. Girls have been trained to make their own pads which will help improve menstrual hygiene. We thank JWF and Rwenzori Aid for the water facilities and the trainings that have greatly impacted our pupils.



Ms. Kajumba Molly, 35 years old

As a patron of the sanitation and hygiene club I am so happy that JWF and Rwenzori Aid came through for us. Students have been saved the burden of walking miles to find water. Most importantly, girls have learnt to make their own pads and manage their menstrual hygiene. Some of their parents can't afford to buy pads, and the pupils were staying home during their periods, which greatly affected their self-esteem and grades in the long run.



Kugonza Catherine, 11 years old

We thank Japan Water Forum and Rwenzori Aid for the water tank and water filters. We now can drink clean and safe water. We had been walking long distances for water. Also, we didn't have anywhere to wash our hands, but now we do. I wash my hands before eating, after eating and after visiting the latrine.



Ms. Kajumba Rose, 31 years old

We thank Rwenzori Aid and JWF for the water filters. We had been having a lot of dysentery cases and high levels of absenteeism, since, to avoid walking long distances, students were getting water from anywhere, including unsafe, dirty swamps, making water-borne diseases inevitable.