

TECHNICAL PROJECT REPORT - KOGABI EXTENSION

The Kogabi Water Project was successfully completed in December 2019, **in large part because of your family's generous contribution**, your trust in us when plans changed and your willingness to see the foundational gift of clean water brought to these children, is the reason this project went ahead.

The GFS water technology is designed to provide clean water for a lifetime! Thirty-two (32) taps have now been turned on in 6 villages, giving 3300 people access to clean water for generations to come.

Your financial support was critical for this project happening. The following report goes into greater detail on the technical aspects of the project. While much of it may be more “in the weeds” than most reporting, we wanted to provide at least at this moment an opportunity to go a bit deeper into the impact your gifts have had and will continue to have.

This project is servicing 3 villages with 14 taps. Construction on Kogabi Extension began in September (2019). This portion of the system consists of:

- A 37,000-liter reservoir tank.
- 14.9 kilometers of pipeline that hosts 14 taps located in 6 rural villages.
- 5-stance latrine at Kinyamugara Primary School,
-4 latrine blocks are scheduled to be constructed at 3 more schools over the next 6 months.
- 169 households in Kogabi were visited, sensitized, and are being monitored for Water And Sanitation Health (WASH) improvements. WASH improvements at a household include: a well-constructed latrine with a Tippy-Tap for handwashing; good food storage facilities; and drying racks for dishes. Some Kogabi households have already been selected for the Open Defecation Free (ODF) verification process (see below for more information).

The GFS is a large portion of the Kicuzi Water and Sanitation Project in South Western Uganda, which seeks to improve the WASH standards as a whole.

Our 3 top-level WASH outcomes (goals) for these communities are:

1. To improve access to a sustainable source of safe drinking water.
2. To ultimately improve the quality of life by raising WASH standards in GFS catchment communities.
3. To achieve the Open Defecation Free (ODF) designation for target communities (assigned by the Ugandan government).

The ODF designation requires a community to meet a list of sanitation health standards / practices that are basic requirements to halting the spread of waterborne disease. WASH practices underpin the spread of waterborne disease. We can provide people with access to clean water, but if poor WASH practices continue, then waterborne disease will continue. Waterborne disease stops children from going to school and interrupts education. When children are not educated, the cycle of poverty continues. The ODF verification process involves an extensive assessment that happens at the village, sub-county, and national levels. A verification team from these three levels of governance are triggered and facilitated to go into our target communities and assess the standards of living (i.e. WASH standards/practices). For the Kogabi catchment area, two out the six target villages have completed this process, and were promoted to the national level for verification. Our team is there to support the community in this process, ensuring that the community is equipped with knowledge and governance skills to maintain a better quality of life.

To equip communities to be successful in this process, our team provides communities with:

- Education and training on WASH facts and best practices (i.e. waterborne disease and transmission of diseases).
- Community governance training for the GFS and school latrine committees.
- Mechanical training of maintenance caretakers for the GFS.
- Coordination of community, sub-county, and district leaders, which are responsible for the oversight of sanitation and water development, and community health.

While the following achievements are outside of the scope of the Kogabi Ext. portion of the GFS build, we wanted to share the level of impact that Acts has achieved within Kicuzi sub-county:

- 100% of households in the GFS catchment have access to safe drinking water within 0.5 kilometers of their home (i.e. the international humanitarian standard).
- 530 households in 6 villages have been educated and trained in WASH.
- 10 trainings have been conducted for governance committees. As a result of the training, we are tracking an 80% success rate of user fee payment (from user households to the community governance committee). Note: Low default rates on user-fees are critical for sustainable maintenance of the GFS system.
- 12 trainings for GFS caretakers have been conducted.
- 1 latrine for boys has been built at Kicuzi Primary School, along with the facilitation of a School-led Total Sanitation Approach—which equips the school community to lead and govern their own WASH development. The Kicuzi school sanitation scoring improved by 40% when re-evaluated after the

training. Overall student enrollment for this school has also improved by 15%.

- There has been a reduction in the following waterborne diseases:
 - o Diarrhea reduced by 88%.
 - o Dysentery by 100%.
 - o Typhoid reduced by 50%.