

Iganga WaSH Project, Uganda



Background

As access to clean water is the number one priority for rural African communities, the High Five Club has made water provision in wildlife areas of Africa one of its key deliverables. We are expanding our reach year by year to bring safe, clean water to thousands of people in African villages and at the same time reducing conflict with wildlife.

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In Uganda, we have continued our support in 2018 of our friends at **Busoga Volunteers for Community Development**. Busoga are a really inspiring grass-roots community-owned and managed organisation that works tirelessly to bring safe clean drinking water and improved hygiene and sanitation to people in their own community, along with other community developments.



The High Five Club has been working with Busoga since 2016 to develop the **Iganga WaSH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Programme** in Uganda. In 2016 and 2017 you may remember that we joined hands together with Busoga to fund 6 wells. This year we have funded the construction of 4 wells in **Iganga District**, bringing safe clean water to ca. 2,000 villagers and schoolchildren living in rural areas alongside wildlife. The Busoga team have also sensitised the villagers on hygiene and sanitation promotion as part of the well building programme. Emphasis here was placed on the construction of plate stands, refuse pits, wash rooms and long-drop pit-latrines as opposed to open defecation.

The Busoga wells are different to our Zambian wells, as they incorporate hand pumps and a piping mechanism that makes it easier to draw water. As all wells are hence capped (closed off), it reduces the risk of contamination.

Each village or school has set up a standing water user committee to take care of their new water source, and a small household fee is charged each month for use of the well, by those that can afford, to ensure that the funds are there in the future to make any repairs to their well when needed. The community members also provided bricks and sand, unskilled labour, plus food and accommodation for the skilled workers as their contribution towards the wells, in line with our self-help 'hand up' approach to development. Kifuta village also purchased a solar submersible pump, water tank and tap for their new water source to make water collection even easier and to reduce queuing times at their well as it has a particularly high throughput.

High Five Club support: The 4 new wells have been built in **Kifuta village (Masaka), Malongo village, Budinda village** and **Life skills Primary school (Buyende District)**. To reach the water table the wells varied in depth from 25 to 100ft and hence the excavation, which was carried out by hand, was really physically, hard work!

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New water source 1 - Kifuta village



Water source for Kifuta villagers before construction of their High Five Club well



New water source – hand dug well with solar pump, water storage tank and tap!

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New water source 2 - Malongo village



New water source – hand dug well with hand pump



New water source 3 - Budinda village



New water source – hand dug well with hand pump

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New water source 4 - Life skills Primary school (Buyende District)



Old water source – one child drowned recently collecting water from this pond and many have missed school regularly due to serious stomach problems



New water source – hand dug well with hand pump to serve this primary school's 542 pupils

Positive outcomes to date in the 4 communities has been a reduction in waterborne related diseases and shorter distances walked by women and children to get water - the latter contributing towards increased school attendance leading to better grades in the project area communities. Also improved safety in collecting water, particularly of children.

The project is also of great importance to wildlife as it reduces competition at the few existing natural water sources leaving these for the exclusive use of wild (and domestic) animals. The programme also helps to reduce conflict between humans and wildlife.



High Five Club Support:

High Five Club has provided the funds to pay for the skilled labour, cement, pipework and hand pumps, plus transport costs for materials, along with a contribution towards the sensitisation training.

In total we have contributed together £3,497.87 during 2018 which equates to an average of £874.47 per water source. So for just £1.75 per person, we have brought safe, clean drinking water in 2018 to circa 2,000 people for life. What great value!!

We are very thankful to the Hope Trust for a grant towards our water programmes in 2018. It is amazing what an impact we are having.

High Five Club Water Programme in Iganga District, Uganda	Total Number of Wells	Total Number of People Benefiting	Av. Cost per Person (£)
2016 - 2018			
New Wells Constructed	10	5,000	1.59

We will keep you updated as your contributions to the High Five Club enable more wells to be built as we extend to other villages. If you know of any organisations who would like to help us bring clean water to people living in wildlife areas of Africa, please put them in touch.

For more information contact Cheryl@highfiveclub.co.uk