



CAPACITY BUILDING FOR WASH SUSTAINABILITY IN UGANDA

Project Completion Report: September 2020 to August 2021

Submitted to:

Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)-Resilience and Social Development Department Human Development Division

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Submitted by:

Mr. Kiseembo Asuman-President
African Agency for Integrated Development (AAID)
P.O.BOX 815 Fort Portal, Uganda
Tel: 0772443965
Email: Afican.agency@yahoo.com
Website: www.africanaid.org

I. PROJECT OVERVIEW/SUMMARY

Project Title:	Capacity Building for WASH Sustainability in Uganda
Project Start Date and End Date:	1 st September, 2020 to 30 th August, 2021
Name of Implementing Partner:	African Agency for Integrated Development (AAID)
Geographic Coverage	Kabarole District- Western Uganda
	Kasenda and Kicwamba Sub Counties
Reporting Period:	September 2020 to May, 2021
Donor:	IsDB: 100,000 USD
	AAID: 100,000 USD

I.1 ProjectDescription/Introduction

In September, 2020 African Agency for Integrated Development (AAID) entered into an agreement with Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) to jointly fund a Capacity Building for WASH Sustainability project in Kabarole District of Western Uganda with the main objective of improving access to reliable clean water supply and sanitation in the sub-counties of Kiscwamba and Kasenda through community and institutional capacity building. The total project cost is 200,000 USD and is equally funded by IsDB and AAID.

Under this funding agreement, funding from IsDB will be given to AAID in 3 instalments; 1st instalment of 20% , second instalment of 50% and the final instalment of 30%. To-date AAID has received 70% of the total project financial support from IsDB and it's from this point that AAID is presenting the project progress report for the period September, 2020 to May, 2021.

2. ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

2.1 Progress Narrative

This is a project progress report for the Capacity Building for WASH sustainability project being implemented in Kasenda and Kicwamba Sub Counties of Kabarole District of Western Uganda. The report covers the period September to May, 2021 and specifically gives an account of activities implemented, goods and services procured and plans for the remaining project period.

2.1.1. AAID staff and board project orientation: It's a governance and management practice at AAID to orient staff and governance about new projects that come in the organization. The purpose is to create ownership of the project and a wider understanding of the AAID strategic direction. In the orientation, the Board and staff were given a background to the project, its objectives, activities to be implemented and how the project fits in AAID strategic direction. Specific board and staff roles and responsibilities were also shared and discussed in details.

2.1.2. Beneficiary and leadership mobilization and project orientation: Two separate meetings of technical and political leadership and representatives of the beneficiary community were conducted per Sub County of implementation. During this meeting, participants were introduced to the project, its objectives, areas of implementation and their specific roles and responsibilities were shared and discussed in detail. The purpose of the meetings was to create ownership and seek for support from the community stakeholders. Participants in these meetings greatly appreciated the project and committed to support the project from both the technical and political point of view.

2.1.3. Project launch: After leadership and beneficiary mobilization and project orientation at community level, the project was officially launched at Kabarole District Headquarters. The project was officially launched by the Resident District Commissioner (RDC) who is also a representative of the President of Uganda in Kabarole District. The project launch was attended by Ministry of Finance representative, Chief Administrative Officer and District Chairperson of Kabarole District. The other participants were the media, local and technical leadership from the sub county of implementation, National Water and Sewerage Corporation and representatives of the WASH alliance of Kabarole District. During the project launch, participants committed to support AAID in project implementation. They also requested AAID to create specific interventions for the vulnerable populations such as the elderly and children. They also emphasized the need of integrating media in the WASH sector. The RDC highlighted challenges of access to clean and safe water in the district and pledged total commitment and support to the project on behalf of the President's Office.

2.1.4. Procurement of project items/equipment: Items procured include:

- Training materials
- Building and construction materials
- Covid-19 prevention materials

Details attached in Annex 1.

2.1.5. Training of local technicians on proper maintenance and repair of community WASH facilities: Under this activity, 10 local technicians were given practical skills in water resource rehabilitation and management. These local technicians were selected from the local communities of Kasenda and Kicwamba Sub Counties where the project is being implemented. With the support of local leaders AAID staff selected 5 local technicians from Kasenda Sub County and the other 5 from Kicwamba Sub County. The training mainly focused on the following topics:- Operation and Maintenance, Water Technologies selection, Protection of water quality, Contract administration, Guidelines for construction supervision, Roles of Hydrological Consultant, Gravity water flow system and tackling different technologies. Onsite trainings were conducted on Kasenda Sub County gravity water flow system and Kicwamba Sub County gravity water flow system and trainees were exposed to hands on skills and information on the establishment, repair and maintenance of the gravity water flow systems. Trainees were also given a guide tour other water sources in the two sub counties. They specifically visited2 boreholes and shallow water wells in Kasenda Sub County and.....andin Kicwamba Sub County. The training was co-facilitated by Uganda Technical Institute-Kicwamba.

2.1.5. Re-instating of water boards: During the project implementation, it was established that water boards in the two sub counties of implementation were abolished by one of a water entity (Mid-Western Umbrella) under the Ministry of Water. Beneficiary and leadership communities noted that one of the reasons facing the management of WASH facilities in the communities is the absence of water boards. It was then resolved by the beneficiary and leadership communities in the two sub counties of project implementation that water boards be re-instated. In this reporting period, AAID supported Kasenda Sub County Council and Kicwamba Sub County Council to pass a decision to re-instate water boards and user committees. The two water boards have beenofficially appointmented and sworn in by the Kabarole District Local Government and have begun executing their official duties.

2.1.6. Signing MoU with Kabarole District: AAID MoU with KabaroleDistrict Local Government was signed. This MoU is an official document permitting us to work with the district to the implement the Capacity Building Project for WASH sustainability in Kabarole District. The MoU specifically spells out the roles of AAID and KabaroleDistrict Local Government in the implementation of this project.

2.1.7. Training of village Health Teams (VHTs): VHTs members are community volunteers who are selected by communities to provide accurate health information, mobilize communities and provide linkage to health services. They were established by the Ministry of Health to empower communities to take part in the decisions that affect their health; mobilize communities for health programs, and strengthen the delivery of health services at house-hold level. Under the Capacity Building for WASH sustainability project, AAID trained 70 VHTs on Sanitation and Hygiene practices in order to improve the living

conditions of the communities they live in and prevent unintentional contamination of



clean water. 4 VHT trainings were organized for Kicwamba and Kasenda Sub Counties VHTs. The first set of trainings (one in each sub county) were held in the last week of February 2021 and mainly focused on: the definition of VHTs, roles of VHTs, introduction of public health, voluntarism, Covid-19 control and prevention and household hygiene and sanitation. The second set of trainings (one in each sub county) were held in the last week of March, 2021 and mainly focused on: public and household sanitation, sanitation of people with disability, water treatment, gender mainstreaming.

Participatory methods were used in the training to encourage active involvement and learning by practice. The facilitator also used Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) Tools in the entire training. The PHAST tools were very helpful in making VHTs understand behavior change processes and decision making in dynamic and complex situations. Group work and role plays were also used. VHTs were mainly engaged in groups to draw their village and parish maps to enable them understand and appreciate their areas of operation. They were also engaged in groups to discuss their roles, develop a village register, define voluntarism, gender mainstreaming, public and household sanitation. VHTs specifically role played how to collect information for the village register, water treatment and sanitation for people with disabilities.

At the end of the training,

- VHTs developed the skill of drawing their village maps and how to use them to execute their tasks
- VHTs developed a skill of developing basic village registers and using them. But by the time of the VHT training, government had not yet provided village registers to VHTs. It's the role of government to provide village registers.
- VHTs appreciated the integration of WASH in their roles. They noted water is central in public and household hygiene and sanitation. It was appreciated that

over 90% of the diseases can be avoided if there is access to clean and safe water and proper use of water.

- VHTs noted that much as their work is voluntary, they still need the government and other development partners to motivate them with transport, T-shirts, Tags etc.
- VHTs were encouraged to form groups and or associations which government can go through for financial support and capacity building.
- Appreciated that relationship management and VHTs ethical standards are very central in execution of their work.
- Appreciated the PHAST Tools in enabling them identify problems and designing solutions for their own problems.

The 4 trainings of VHTs in the two sub counties of project implementation were facilitated by the District Health Educator from the District Health Office of Kabarole District Local Government and AAID staff. Political and technical leadership of Kicwamba and Kasenda Sub Counties were represented in all the trainings.

2.1.8. Training VHTs in Making Latrine Slabs: This training of making latrine slabs was a continuation of the 2 sets of trainings for VHTs in Kicwamba and Kasenda Sub Counties.



It was informed by the poor latrine use & management and the state of latrines in Kicwamba and Kasenda Sub Counties.



Majority of the latrines in the two sub counties of project implementation are made of mud and wattle and most of them are in poor state. Their latrine floors are weak

and wet most of the times and most of them have poor roofs and many of them leak when it rains. House flies were seen all over the latrines when we visited latrines of the households in the two sub counties. Prevalence of open defecation in the two communities was also noticed. Training of making latrine slabs was therefore organized with a major purpose of improving latrine hygiene, usage and management. VHTs, local masons and local leadership were targeted. The training process started with the leadership and community mobilization to ensure understanding of the importance of latrine hygiene, usage & management and to encourage active participation of the leadership and the community in the training. Community based approaches were used in the training where communities were involved in selecting 15 latrine demonstration sites, VHTs and masons to be trained and local suppliers of construction materials.

Due to the state of latrines and the income status of the community, the engineer and the local community agreed to be trained to make local latrine slabs for local community latrines. The local latrine slabs involves making a concrete slab on existing local latrine floors which makes it possible to use water to clean it as opposed to use of ash and or leaves. 2 practical trainings of 2 days each were conducted in Kasenda and Kicwamba Sub Counties of Kabarole District, Western Uganda. 10 VHTs and 12 masons in each sub county of project implementation were trained.

In total 35 VHTs and 29 masons were trained in the two sub counties of project implementation. Participants were specifically taken through practical sessions of: testing the latrine floor strength, latrine pit depth, mixing cement ratios, laying the wire mesh and casting of cement and sand. Participants were also help to calculate the cost of construction and the usage of the latrines.

By the end of the training, 30 slabs were constructed on 30 latrines in the two sub counties of project implementation and 29 masons & 35 VHTs had acquired skills of constructing local latrine slabs on local community latrines.

2.1.9. Rehabilitation of existing gravity water facilities: In this project AAID with support from IsDB set out to rehabilitate two existing gravity flow facilities which are the main water sources of piped water in two sub counties of Kicwamba and Kasenda in Kabarole District. The gravity water facility is the natural ground water source on top of the mountain or hill which was protected by water engineers and technicians to deliver water to the beneficiaries of lowland by the use of gravity force to flow the water through pipe lines. This water technology serves a large number of beneficiaries if well protected. Currently, the water sources in the two sub counties of Kicwamba and Kasenda are not functioning to the required standards and there is an urgent need to rehabilitate them.

The rehabilitation process started with the leadership and community mobilization to ensure proper understanding of the WASH situation in the community and rehabilitation requirements of the selected gravity water facilities. Leadership and community mobilization was also conducted to ensure harmonization of approaches and methodologies between the technical and political leadership, community and AAID. This process involved several meetings with communities and leadership of Kicwamba and

Kasenda Sub Counties. These meetings mainly involved LC1 chairpersons, LC2 Chairpersons, LC3 Chairperson, District Health Office, Health Assistant, Sub County Chief and Parish Chief, Sub County and District Counsellors.

After the leadership and community mobilization, it was noted that the two gravity water facilities were handed over to Mid-Western Umbrella a body under the Ministry of Water and Environment of Uganda. Mid-western umbrella of water and Sanitation (mwUws) is one of the six regional umbrellas in Uganda, established by the Ministry of water and Environment of Uganda through the Directorate of water Development to directly manage selected gazetted piped water supply systems. MwUws has a mandate to manage, operate and maintain (O&M) water supply systems for their sustainability in the Mid-Western region of Uganda.

It was further noted that much as MwUws has this mandate, the gravity water facilities they took over still have the same challenges and the situation is even worsening as time goes by. Communities in the two sub counties still complain of water not reaching them even when pipes run by their homesteads. Those who receive the water complain of the high water fees and the poor quality water which is not treated.

It was also noted that MwUws failed to extend the piped water to all the villages. People in the community are now running to shallow water and springs and many of which are not functioning well and others have contaminated water. It was noted that many people in the two communities of Kicwamba and Kasenda Sub Counties are suffering from Bilharzia and they continuously complain of the burden of medication where they have to take bilharzia treatment tablets endlessly.

AAID together with the leadership of Kicwamba and Kasenda Sub Counties have organized several meetings with MwUws seeking partnership to rehabilitate these gravity water facilities in the two sub counties and they have made it very clear that the two schemes belong to them and it's their mandate to manage them and AAID should keep away from them. MwUws said that if AAID has to intervene, it should support them to construct water treatment plants in the two sub counties each at an estimated cost of 150,000 USD. This being outside AAID project budget range, we agreed with the leadership to find other alternatives. We agreed to conduct a mapping of water facilities in the two (2) sub counties and find out facilities we can rehabilitate that have impact in the community but also fitting in our budget.

2.1.9.1. Rehabilitation of water facilities in Kicwamba Sub County: A rapid mapping exercise of Water facilities in Kicwamba Sub County was conducted by the Health Assistant, Parish Chiefs and AAID staff and presented to the district political and technical leadership of Kicwamba Sub County for discussion. Kicwamba Sub County leadership directed that AAID concentrates on Bwanika Parish where there is minimal WASH intervention from government and other development partners.

A comprehensive mapping of water facilities of Bwanika Parish was conducted by AAID



WASH staff, AAID Water Engineer and LC1s and LC2 Vice Chairperson of Bwanika Parish. A list of water facilities was developed and facilities were categorized under functional

and non-functional. Non-functional category was further categorized under to be rehabilitated and re-construction. 11 water facilities were selected for rehabilitation and construction. Water facilities to be rehabilitated and re-constructed were further assessed and priced. All the 11 water facilities were rehabilitated and out of the 11 water facilities, 2 belong to community schools serving a population of over 1000 pupils, teaching staff and non-teaching staff. They also serve community around them.

2.1.9.2. Rehabilitation of water facilities in Kasenda Sub County: A rapid mapping exercise of Water facilities of Kasenda Sub County was conducted by the Health Assistant,



Parish Chiefs and AAID staff and presented to the district political and technical leadership for discussion. Kasenda Sub County

leadership directed that AAID concentrates on Kyatambara Parish and rehabilitate a gravity water scheme for Kyatambara Primary School. This scheme was constructed by Rotary Club of Kabarole District to provide clean and safe water to Kyatambara Primary

School and the community around the school. The school leadership informed us that this scheme worked for not more than one month. The scheme was meant to serve a school population of 489 pupils, teaching staff and non-teaching staff. The scheme was also meant to serve over 90 homesteads surrounding the school and the nearby market of Rwaihamba.

A comprehensive assessment of the Kyatambara Primary School gravity flow scheme was done involving the school management and governing body, LC1 chairpersons, LC2 chairperson, LC 3 Chairperson, Sub County Chief, Parish Chief and Health Assistant.



A comprehensive assessment report of the Kyatambara Primary School gravity flow scheme was produced and the rehabilitation plan developed.

Key points of concern in the assessment report included: functional solar system and a pump, a water source, two community water stations, a community latrine and 2 latrines in the school for boys and girls. The report also indicated no water flowing in the gravity flow system, broken and cut pipes, hanging /open surface pipes, broken taps, un- protected water tank, un-protected solar

system and water pump.

Rehabilitation work of Kyatambara Primary School gravity water scheme was commissioned by the LC3 chairperson of Kasenda Sub County and the Head Teacher of Kyantambara Primary Schools. Rehabilitation works on the scheme are now complete and now the community in Kyatambara is accessing clean piped water. Specific works on Kyatambara Primary School gravity water scheme included:

- Excavation works which involved removing old pipes and replacing them with new pipes. This also involved putting pipes a little deeper in the soil than they were before thus preventing them from damage.
- Re-enforcing the water tank stand and fencing it off. The water tank was surging because of the weak stands. The water tank stand was also not protected. Communities around would bring their animals (cows and goats) for grazing and tie them around the water tank stands which weakened the stands further. Stronger metallic poles were placed on the tank stand and fenced off. The tank stands were also painted to make the tank more visible to the community.
- Fixing broken water taps in the school and community water stations
- Fencing off the water source and protecting it from animal and human invasion.
- Water meters were also fixed to enable the water user committees calculate the amount of water consumed

- AAID facilitated the formation of a water user committee to manage the water facility.

2.1.10.1. Covid-19 intervention- sensitization: In all the project activities highlighted above, participants were sensitized about Covid-19 especially the spread, control and prevention. Hand washing facilities, masks and sanitizers were also distributed to all participants. AAID also emphasized the adherence to the SOPs provided by the Ministry of Health and WHO.

2.1.10.2 Training of rural youth in making face masks: As a key player in the fight against Covid-19, AAID integrated a component of training 100 youth in communities to make masks. This training intervention was informed by the SOPs put forward by the Ministry of Health of Uganda and WHO, the challenge the local people are facing to adhere to



these
SOPs
and the
urgent
need for
availing

affordable face masks to the rural poor people. As part of the control and prevention of the spread of Covid-19, the Government of Uganda asked everyone in Uganda with exception of children below 6 years to put on face masks. This was further re-emphasized when the government started opening schools in a phased manner. The government has so far distributed 1 (one) face mask to every citizen and a good number of Ugandans are putting them on. The biggest challenge now is using one mask day in day out. In several community and leadership meetings in the two sub counties of project implementation, we observed many people putting on very dirty face masks with GoU embroidery. One of the participants when asked why he was putting on a very dirty face mask he said he only has one face mask and he has to adhere to MoH guidelines by putting it on every day because the nature of his work requires him to be in public every day. On average one locally made face mask in Uganda costs between 1000 UGX (0.6 USD) and 5000 UGX (1.36 USD) which is relatively expensive for average rural poor person who also has other competing need such as health, education for children and food. It's from this background that AAID launched the local training of face masks in all the parishes of Kicwamba and Kasenda Sub Counties in Kabarole District in Western Uganda. The local training of face masks targeted 150 unemployed youth from the two sub counties of project implementation. The aim was to enable them learn the skill of making face masks and

avail them to the community at a relatively lower price. The other aim was to enable them make money from the sale of face masks to the community. The training of face masks making was also intended to introduce trainees to professional sewing. A few people we contacted in the two sub counties of project implementation informed us that many people in rural areas are not putting on masks because they are costly and not easily available. They also informed us that those who are putting them on get them from Fort Portal City which is over 30 Kms away from the sub counties of project implementation. AAID agreed with the local leadership that building a local youth skill base in the community to provide affordable face masks will partly assist the government in enforcing MoH Covid-19 SOPs but also create money making opportunities for the unemployed youth in the rural communities of Kabarole District.

A community based approach was used where one local trainer was selected per parish by the LC3 and LC1 Chairmen. Selection of the trainer was based on the experience of the trainer in sewing, having a sewing machine, being community/village based and willingness to train 15-20 unemployed youths. Selection of the trainees was done by the LC1 chairman and a balance between males and females was encouraged. Training took a period of 2-3 weeks.

2.1.10.2.1. Progress on face mask training in Kasenda Sub County:

4 trainings were completed in the 4 parishes of Kasenda Sub County i.e. Nyabweya, Kyatambara, Isunga and Burambira sub counties. A total of 68 young girls and boys aged 13-21 years were trained in making face masks.

A. Nyabweya Parish: The trainer in this parish is called MuhirekiMarvisi Mildred. She



recruited 15 youth, 3 boys and 12 girls.

Trainees were given skills in basic sewing and they can now

make face masks and do basic sewing. While interacting with the trainees on the future plans, they informed us that they are going to look for sewing opportunities in trading centers and schools.

B. Kyatambara Parish: Kangye Francis Xavier was the only male trainer among the 4



trainers in Kasenda parish. Kangye trained 10 trainees. All the 10 trainees are females. 8 out of the 10 trainees are school drop outs and teenage mothers. One of the trainees-teenage mother aged 17 years, said that after getting the skill of making masks, she will look for a loan and buy a sewing machine and continue with the mask business and general business. Currently she and her young husband who is also aged 17 years are surviving on digging in people's gardens.

C. Isunga Parish: KemigaboAnah was the youngest trainer among all the trainees. She



recruited 15 trainees all females. The youngest was 13 years and the oldest 20 years. In our interaction, we asked them about their background. Over 8 out of 9 said they had dropped out of school because of the Covid-19 lockdown and their parents were not willing to taking them back to school. When we asked them if they can go back to school if given opportunity, only 1 out the 8 said she is willing to go back. The 7 said they

no longer interested in continuing with education.

D. Burambira Parish: Kukunda Jenifer lives in one of the remotest places among the 4



parishes where the training of face masks is taking place. She trained 13 trainees and 2 of them dropped out of the training and 11 completed the training successfully. 9 out of the 11 trainees are females and 2 are males. All the trainees are school drop outs and teenage mothers. They dig in other people's gardens for a living. They are all not comfortable they are living in and they wishing to get a skill that can enable

them change their life style. One of the male trainees was a chapatti seller-aged 18 years. His business was disrupted by the covid-19 lockdown. He's now looking for alternative source of income.

2.1.10.2.2. Progress on face mask training in Kicwamba Sub County:

Face mask training in Kicwamba Sub County was officially launched on the 25th of March, 2021 at Bwanika Parish Headquarters, Kicwamba Sub County. Three local trainers were selected from Kicwamba Sub County-one trainer representing a parish. A community based approach was used where one local trainer was selected per parish by the LC3 and LC1 Chairmen. Selection of the trainer was based on the experience of the trainer in sewing, having a sewing machine, being community/village based and willingness to train 15-20 unemployed youths. Mbabazi Grace was selected to train youth from Kihondo Parish, KaijamporaPeluca selected to train in Bwanika Parish and TwesimeAnjella was selected to train in Mabaale Parish. Each trainer was provided with funds for training fees and purchasing training materials. Selection of the trainees was done by the LC1 chairman and a balance between males and females was encouraged.

The training is scheduled to take 2-3 weeks depending on the learning abilities of the trainees. 45 young girls aged between 13 and 21 years in KicwambaSub County have completed their training in face mask making. Over 85% percent were females mainly school drop outs and teenage mothers and the rest were out of school boys.

General observations: Trainer were very committed and loved to create a change in the lives of the young people in the community. 2 out of the trainers had daily registers and



the other two trainees forgot daily registration saying trainees came at daily intervals. They however committed to carry out daily registration every day of the training. Registers was one of the verification strategy put in place to track progress of the trainings.

- **From hopelessness to optimism:** Most of the trainees had lost hope mainly because of the Covid-19 lockdown and extreme poverty in the rural areas. Many of them went into early marriages thinking men will solve their problems. When we asked one of the young mothers if she had gotten what she went for in marriage, she said she did not get what she expected. Training of face masks brought them hope. They are now thinking of different alternatives of how to make money for a better life.
- **High teenage pregnancy:** There is rampant teenage pregnancy in Kasenda Sub County. Many of the girls between the ages of 12 and 17 years are either married

or are in pre-marital sexual relationship. This situation has been exacerbated by the covid-19 lockdown which has left many young girls idle. Many of the girls interacted with have either given birth or are pregnant and many of them are not willing to continue with education even if they were given opportunities to go back to school.

- **Challenge:** The biggest challenge is what next after the training of face mask making. Many of them are now asking us for sewing machines which we don't have in our budgets. Others are interested in continuing with sewing at professional –and unfortunately we don't offer that. We are therefore asking development partners to join us to bring back hope in the lives of young people after the covid-19 lockdown.

2.1.11: Production and Distribution of Covid-19 IEC Materials: AAID partnered with WHO, UNICEF and Ministry of Health (MoH) and the Health Department of Kabarole



District Local Government to produce and disseminate Covid-19 information booklets to communities in Kabarole District and Fort Portal City. The

production of this information booklet was informed by the continuous community disregard of the SOPs put forward by the WHO and MoH and the resistance MoH is facing to vaccinate people against Covid-19. 300 booklets were produced to be given to schools, hospitals, churches and mosques. The booklet mainly contains information on Covid-19 spread, prevention, control and vaccination. Special emphasis is given on the benefits of the Covid-19 vaccination and mainly summarizes the Frequently Asked Questions and what people need to know about Covid-19 vaccination.

2.1.12. Training of Sub County Water Supply Service Boards (WSSB): 2 WSSB of Kicwamba and Kasenda Sub Counties were trained in various topical areas. Trainings were decentralized to enable participants relate the trainings with their own sub county context. The WSSB comprised of 14 board members from the two sub counties of Kasenda and Kicwamba Sub Counties. Key topics covered included: main tasks of water



boards/ water management committees in WASH sector, legal and policy framework for water and sanitation in Uganda, requirements of water

supply system, water quality, gravity water flow system and tackling different technologies, operation and maintenance of WASH facilities and main tasks in WASH for extension workers from Government and NGOs. The WSSB were also trained in: roles and responsibilities of each WASH actors in the Project area, management structures in the Project area, sequence of WASH Implementation, WASH Promotion and WASH advocacy at community level, community orientation, community Based Management information system, sanitation ladder, gender mainstreaming. Water boards were also trained in financial management. The trainings were organized with the purpose of equipping WSSB of Kichwamba and Kasenda Sub Counties with managerial and administration skills to effectively oversee the daily operation of the water supply facilities for proper collection and utilization of user fees for maintenance and repair WASH facilities. The training was facilitated by a team from the Ministry of Water and Environment under the Rural Water and Sanitation Centre 6 (RWS6). The RWS6 team also shared the new guidelines and curriculum for Water Boards in Uganda. There was general appreciation of the training by the water WSSB and they committed to support the operations of the water user committees.

2.1.12. Reporting: With the project coming to an end in August 2021 and in accordance with the contractual project reporting provisions, we have contracted a consultancy firm to prepare the final project report. The firm has already received project orientation and will officially begin work in July, 2021.

Training women to make rain water harvesting jars:

- 40 rural women trained how to construct water jars
- Water jars used to collect rain water running off iron roofs
- Helps avoid long distances walked to fetch water

Training women and youth on simple water treatment technologies

- 50 Woman and youth trained in used alternative water treatment technologies

- Women and youth trained how to use sodish water disinfection method and clay

Training Water User Committees in VSLA

- 11 Water user committees were trained in VSLA
- All trained committees equipped with VSLA kits
- 6/11 have already started saving and lending
- One of the groups (Kinyamange VSLA) has collected close to 1m UGX within 3 weeks of its inception

2.2 Implementation Challenges:

- **Demand for hardware support:** The leadership and beneficiary community appreciate the WASH capacity building programme but also request that AAID gives them more support in terms of building more water facilities in their community and connecting more people to water facilities.
- **Demand for water treatment plants:** The two gravity flow systems in the two sub counties of implementation which are also a major focus in this project don't have treatment plants. Beneficiary and leadership communities are complaining of the dirty and contaminated water supplied to them and demand AAID to support them to build two treatment plants each at a cost of 100,000 USD.
- **Impassable Roads:** Most of the roads in the sub counties of implementation are not well maintained. They become impassable during the rainy season. August-December being a rainy season in Uganda, we received a lot of difficulties reaching the beneficiary communities during this first phase of project implementation.
- **Limited project scale:** Management of existing water facilities is a district wide problem. We have received several demands from key stakeholders in the district to extend this WASH capacity building project to other sub counties.
- **Pay as you fetch:** There is a lot of resistance from the community to pay for water. They claim the water user fees levied on them are very high compared to their incomes. Besides the water supplied is dirty and not treated. Convincing communities to pay for dirty and untreated water is not just difficult but also unethical.

2.3 Personnel Changes:

In this reporting period, AAID recruited 2 new staff. These include:

Name of staff	Position	Qualifications
Mwanga Julius	Project Coordinator	MBA
Kakyo Rose	Project Officer	BA. Education

3. INTEGRATION OF CROSSCUTTING ISSUES

3.1 Gender Equality and Female Empowerment:

Women participation in the WASH sector is minimal in Kabarole District yet African culture positions women as key actors in WASH. This is partly due to the fact that WASH in the district focused more on hard ware which again African culture has made it a preserve of men. This being a capacity building project, there has been a high emphasis of women participation at all levels. AAID is using this opportunity to encourage women to also participate in WASH hardware activities.

3.2 Policy and Governance Support:

AAID has initiated the processes of mobilizing WASH stakeholders in the district to streamline the pay as you fetch policy in Uganda. Mid-Western Umbrella in under the ministry of water charges a fixed price of 1 USD per unit per month which to the rural poor communities is very costly. Besides that, communities were not involved in setting this price. This has left many beneficiaries walking long distances to fetch water even when water lines are within reach of their houses.

3.3 Local Capacity Development:

During project implementation, AAID has identified the opportunity of skilling youth and women in the two sub counties of project implementation to make WASH and Covid-19 items/equipment. AAID has particularly seen the opportunity of skilling the youth in making hand washing facilities, hand sanitizers, masks and liquid soap which are much needed in the communities to control and prevent the spread of Covid-19. The other opportunity is skilling the youth in making latrine slabs and also skilling women in making water harvesting jugs.

4. STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT

For purposes of ownership and sustainability, AAID has ensured strong involvement of Kabarole District local government technical and political involvement at both sub county and district levels. Specifically AAID is working closely with the Chief Administrative Office, District Water and Health Offices, extension workers, Sub County Chiefs from the two sub counties of implementation, LC 3 chairpersons, CDOs and health assistants.

5. PLANS FOR MAY-AUGUST 2021

ACTIVITY	SUB ACTIVITIES	ACTIVITY LAYOUT	PERIOD				Responsible Officers	
			May	Jun	Jul	Aug	AAID	KDLG
Improving technical skills of local technicians in proper maintenance and repair techniques in order to support the maintenance of water facilities	Rehabilitation of existing gravity water facilities.	Leadership and Community mobilization					AAID Field Officer	CDO
		Rehabilitation of selected existing gravity water facilities					AAID Water Engineer	Water Engineer KDLG
Training of village HealthTeams (VHTs) on sanitation and Hygiene practices in order to improve the living conditions and prevent unintentional contermination of clean water	Making Dish racks	Leadership and Community mobilization					AAID Field Officer	CDO
		Selecting beneficiary households					AAID Field Officer	CDO
		Mapping best dish racks					AAID Field Officer	CDO
		Training community on dish rack making					AAID Field Officer	CDO
Building the capacity of the community to actively engage in the management of their water sources with	Building the capacity of other NGOs/CBOs in WASH sector within the district	Mapping NGOs/CBOs in the WASH sector					AAID Capacity Building Officer	District Water Officer
		Selection of NGOs/CBOs for training					AAID Capacity Building Officer	District Water Officer

Gender sensitive approaches		Training of NGOs/CBOs in selected fields					AAID Capacity Building Officer	District Water Officer
	Exchange visit to other NGOs/CBOs to learn new Ideas	Mapping visiting areas					AAID Capacity Building Officer	District Water Officer
		Exchange visit					AAID Capacity Building Officer	District Water Officer
	Training women and children on simple water treatment at house hold level using Sodish system/disinfection method	Leadership and community mobilization					AAID Field Officer	CDO
		Mapping of simple water treatment technologies					AAID Field Officer	CDO
		Selection and training of women and children in simple water treatment technologies					AAID Field Officer	CDO
Develop Managerial Skills of water Management Committees	Training of water boards/water management committees on financial management	Leadership and community mobilization					AAID Capacity Building Officer	Ministry of Water & Environment
		Training of water boards in selected fields					AAID Capacity Building Officer	Ministry of Water & Environment
Reporting	Writing final project report	Writing final project report					AAID Project Coordinator	-