

# JWF Fund 2019 Result of the Follow-up observation

## 2.Uganda

- Organization: Rural Aid Foundation (RAFO) (#229)
- Project period: September 2019 to March 2020
- Country/Area: Uganda / Kikaada village, Kibaale district
- Cost: \$1,157 (\$1,000: JWF funds, \$57: beneficiaries, and \$100: RAFO)
- Number of beneficiaries: 1,500 children (5-17 years)
- Background: Kikaada Primary School is a government funded school in the village of Kikaada, located in Kibaale district. It has an enrollment of 1,500 pupils, aged between 5 and 17 years old. Kyageefa spring is the only source of water for this school, the neighboring trading center, which has 400 households (about 1000 residents), and Kikaada market, which takes place every Saturday and Sunday. Kyageefa spring stopped providing water after heavy rains in March 2019 resulted in the displacement of stones and soil that blocked the spring. This forced children from Kikaada Primary School to walk over 3 kilometers to obtain water from a pond in the village of Kabode. To exacerbate the situation, the pond was being used by a distillery producing waragi (a type of alcohol made from sugar cane), as a dumping place for alcohol residue. Since March 2019, 60 cases of bilharzia and 56 of typhoid have been recorded at Kibaale Health Center, according to its report. Since this pond was shared with other residents of Kikaada, there were usually long queues that caused children to miss their classes. The pond was also used by animals, such as cattle from the neighborhood.
- Main activities: Project inception meeting between stakeholders, Establishment and training of a water management committee, Reconstruction of Kyageefa spring, On-site water treatment and boiling demonstration, Radio talk show to raise awareness among the community



Pond used for drinking water and for disposal by a distillery



Children of Kikaada Primary School attending a water boiling and treatment demonstration at the spring

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### 【Current situation】

- **Reconstructed water spring**...The spring is functioning well without damage and the water flow is consistent.
- **Operation and maintenance**: The water management committee is maintaining the spring and trimming the surrounding grass and trees.

### 【Changes】

- **Reduction in disease**: The beneficiaries have noticed reductions in morbidity and mortality from water-borne diseases, such as typhoid and cholera, caused by the use of contaminated water.
- **Economic impact and job creation**: More and more people are earning an income from retailing and bicycle cleaning using water from the spring.
- **Strengthening cooperation**: Cooperation between the water management committee and the village chairperson has been established.

### 【Others】

- There have been no unexpected effects or conflicts between the residents.
- An assault on a girl who was fetching water has led the RAFO to focus on rights and reproductive health.





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### Voices from the beneficiaries (Excerpts)



Mr. Baguma Augustine, 40 years old,  
Chairperson of Kikaada Local Council

Thank you Rural Aid Foundation for constructing the spring for our village. First of all, people never used to wash their clothes and you would find children walking to school looking as if they had been playing in their gardens. This was because the water source was very far from many homes. People now have water and they wash their clothes anytime they want to and the general smartness and sanitation in the village have improved.

There has been a reduction in the number of people falling sick since the spring was constructed. In the village report (July to November, 2020) that I submitted to the parish, there were only two children who had contracted typhoid, compared to the July to November, 2019 report where we had 21 cases of illness (typhoid, stomach pains, diarrhea etc.) and 7 deaths.

There is also a boy who takes care of his grandmother with the income he earns by selling water from the spring. Some boys earn money from washing motorbike taxis (Boda Boda), and women sell packaged portions of water.



Ms Tibiita Annet, 22 years old,  
Water Management Committee  
member

When the channel was blocked by soil carried by heavy rains, we mobilized people to come and clear it. The challenge we had was that some of our members do not have phones and it was hard to reach them, especially during the maize planting season because some of them plant their crops far from their homes. So when we met to work on the channel, we appointed Mr Kyamanywa Petero as committee chairperson because he has a bicycle and can easily inform those without mobile phones when we need to do something to the spring. So it is now very easy. We have even agreed to collect 500 Shillings per person so that we can replace the concrete floor in May. One of our members is in charge of the money.



Ms. Nabusaayi Mary, 44 years old,  
a teacher at Kikaada Primary School

I use the spring both when I am at school and at home. Because of Covid-19. I am now at home waiting for the school to open. On the radio, we were told to boil water before drinking it and I make sure the water I use for making juice is boiled. I teach all the children here, so I have asked their parents to stop washing clothes in the spring in order to keep it clean. Since completion of the project, I haven't spent much on medicine for my children because of sickness caused by drinking dirty water. Before April 2020, I used to spend about 30,000 Shillings on drugs for my children because they kept complaining of stomach pain. Even since we came into lockdown due to Covid-19, none of my four children has fallen sick.