

Aromo Sub-County Water & Sanitation Project

Partnership Project with Ryan's Well, Divine Waters Uganda and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

The aim of this project is to improve the health and living conditions of 28 rural communities of Aromo Sub-County, Lira District in the northern region of Uganda. Program activities focus on reducing water related diseases by increasing coverage and improving access to safe water sources and sanitation for 16,600 inhabitants, including 6,000 children, youth, and teachers of schools throughout Aromo. The project approach develops capacity of local organizations and local government to incorporate training activities in health, hygiene, management and maintenance into water and sanitation infrastructure programs. Each intervention seeks to improve local conditions, sustain integrity of the environment, advance participation of women, build local skills and create expertise for the future.

This two year program started in March 2011 and includes the following activities:

- *Drilling and construction of 15 shallow and 13 deep wells*
- *Building of 26 latrines and hand washing stations*
- *Establishing and training adult and youth committees for water and sanitation*
- *Training local trainers in health, hygiene and sanitation*
- *Training pump mechanics to support ongoing maintenance of the wells.*
- *Regional health & hygiene workshop for partner organizations and local contacts in Uganda and Kenya*

Year 1 Accomplishments

Activities got underway in March 21, 2011 and, as of April 2012, this partnership has resulted in:

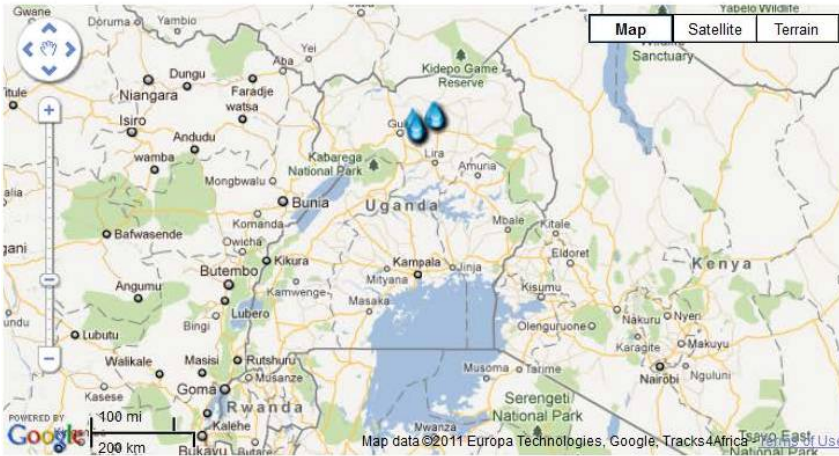
- ✓ Construction of 13 shallow wells and 6 deep wells serving over 15,400 people.
- ✓ Establishment and training of 19 local Water Source and Sanitation Committees (WSSC).
- ✓ Construction of 25 latrine stances serving over 1,869 students and teachers at 5 schools.
- ✓ Construction of 5 – 2,500 litre rainwater collection jars for collecting rainwater from the latrine block roofs for handwashing and the girl's washing rooms.
- ✓ Trained 30 community health facilitators for promotion of hygiene awareness for communities.
- ✓ Water quality testing of all wells sites and monitoring on any reported concerns by residents.



Jacinta collects water at the Angole B Village well.



Divine Waters field crew finishing latrine and rainwater jar at Agak Primary School.



Project region in northern Uganda, East Africa.



Akaiidebe Village well in Aromo Sub-County.

"From when I was four years, my mother was always attending to me. I couldn't go to school because, just like me, my sister was sickly. Therefore, I was always left to take care of my younger sister and also look after the animals. This interrupted my studies and the doctor advised my mom to start boiling our drinking water because our source was contaminated. With this new well I hope I will not fall sick again in our home to interfere with my studies."

-Ayo Bonny, a 16 year old girl from Te-Olam Village. The new well in her village will enable her and her sister to live healthier lives and attend school to begin breaking the cycle of poverty.

Year 2 Outlook – Activities for 2012/13

Once again this year, our fundraising goal is \$62,500 (CAD) with all eligible donations *matched \$3 for every \$1* with the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Together we will support these continuing initiatives:

- Construction of 2 remaining shallow wells and 7 more deep wells to increase water access for Aromo Sub-County.
- Training and equipment for pump mechanics to support long term maintenance of handpumps.
- Strengthening of school hygiene and sanitation practices to continue building healthy environments for education.
- Regional Hygiene Workshop for NGO partners and local government health officers to continue building capacity and local expertise in the water and sanitation sector.
- Continued mobilization of hygiene trainers, monitoring of water quality and engagement of local water source committees in support of positive behaviour change and sustainable access to safe water and sanitation.



Te-Olam Village well in Aromo, March 2012.