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## **NAKAKONGE AND KIRINDI WATER, SANITATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

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### **Introduction**

Perched on the western banks of the River Nile about 30 kilometres from its source in the town of Jinja in Uganda, lie the sleepy twin villages of Nakakonge and Kirindi. By road, the villages are about 90 kilometres north east of Kampala, the capital city of Uganda. Fishing was once an important activity but with overfishing and population growth, this has now declined significantly. Villagers are now engaged mainly in subsistence agriculture.

Uganda is a land locked East African country bordered by the Sudan in the North, Congo and Rwanda in the west, Tanzania in the south and to the west is Kenya which is the main exit route to the coastal city of Mombasa. Lake Victoria, the world's biggest fresh water lake and as noted above, the source of the River Nile extends into Kenya, Tanzania and

Uganda. Uganda has a population of approximately 40 million people and has a GDP per capita income of US\$662. The main cash crops of Uganda are coffee, cotton and tea.

By contrast, the GDP per capita income of Kayunga District where the villages of Nakakonge and Kirindi are located is about US\$165. For record, it may be noted that the neighbouring districts of Mukono and Jinja have GDPs of US\$1738 and US\$1180 respectively, while that of Kampala is US\$2,655. These figures highlight the acuteness of poverty in the district generally and in Nakakonge and Kirindi in particular. The basic activity of the population is subsistence farming for food crops like maize, millet, sweet potatoes, cassava, sorghum but little by way of the nations cash crops.

The populations of Nakakonge and Kirindi are about 4000 to 5000 people and the great proportion of these is under 18 years old and of school going age. There are a number of schools of varying quality but which suffer from the basic lack of infrastructure – toilets, classrooms and reading materials. Many of the classrooms we visited were temporary wooden structures and the toilets were planned for about a half to a quarter of the number that uses them. The villages also lack safe clean drinking water. The waters of the River Nile are heavily polluted and are about 2 to 5 kilometres from most homes.

### **Project objectives**

In an area that ranks among the poorest districts in Uganda, there is almost no limit to the possibilities for Rotary Areas of Focus. However, in order to keep the project within reasonable budgetary limits, it was decided to focus on the basics of Water and Sanitation mainly and a little economic empowerment.

#### **Project objective: Nakakonge village**

The project plan for the Nakakonge village is the provision of two high yield boreholes. Two areas of land have been identified and donated to this project by local owners. The River Nile waters are used for laundry, bathing, and waste disposal and are highly unsuited for use as drinking water without complex filtration methods and costly pipe work. Needless to mention, water borne diseases are not uncommon. It is also worth noting that the job of collecting water is that of children who should normally be engaged on other activities, particularly school work.

The objective of the borehole project is to satisfy the overall objective of the provision of good clean water to the village. This is the Rotary Area of Focus.

#### **Project objective: Kirindi village**

The project plan for the Kirindi village is for

- ▶ The provision of a six stance pit latrine (3 stances and urinal for boys and three

stances and a bathroom for girls) to St. John Balabyekubo Primary School. The pit latrine will have 2 hand wash basins, one for girls and one for boys.

► The provision of water harvesting facilities consisting of 2 water tanks of 5000 litres each plus down gutters and accompanying accessories.

► For the One Mama Clinic, the provision of a water harvesting facility consisting of five water tanks of 5000 litres each plus downpipes and accompanying accessories.

It should be noted that the One Mama Clinic is the only maternal clinic of its kind within a radius of eight kilometers and caters for a local population of about 2000 people.

It has no running water or water borne toilets for its patients or staff. This assistance would go a long way in meeting the maternal health needs of Uganda in general where infant mortality rates are high.

**The above plans would be in line with the water and sanitation Areas of Focus.**

► Finally it is expected that the a provision would be made for 10,000fruit and medicinal tree seedlings to the community to provide some economic empowerment.

## Budget

	US\$
1. Two high yield boreholes @ US\$11,000 each.	22,000
2. One pit latrine @US\$6,500	6,500
3. Two water harvesting facilities @US\$7,000	14,000
4. Ten thousand tree seedlings @US\$0.50	5,000
5. Manure and herbicides for the seedlings	2,000
6. Project administration	1,500
	51,000

