

All systems go

Africa

Working with handpump mechanics and hardware shops to ensure a sustained repair system for point water systems in Kamwenge and Luuka district

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Water For People Uganda

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Who we are..



water for people

- Water for People is an international NGO based in the U.S.A.
- Vision: a world where all people have access to safe drinking water and sanitation, a world where no one suffers or dies from water – or sanitation – related

Background



- According to June 2020 and June 2021 MWE Sector performance reports functionality of rural water supplies was at 85%. (water and environment sector performance report by Ministry of Water and Environment). Why the stagnation?
- Kamwenge District Functionality rate is at 62%.
- Luuka District Functionality rate is at 76%

The National Operation and Maintenance Framework proposes Handpump Mechanic Associations as Service providers alongside Umbrella of water and Sanitation and National Water and Sewerage corporation.

Roles of Handpump mechanics as area service providers:



Handpump mechanics support water user committees by repairing pumps upon breakdown.

As an area service provider the Pump Mechanic enters into a repair contract with the water committee to make any major repairs needed on the borehole. (one off)

Or the Hand Pump mechanics get into a Service Contract, with the Water and Sanitation Committee for a full year to conduct routine checks and preventive maintenances every 3 months (4 times a year)

What led to the interventions in our focus area



Mukora Protected Deep Well, Lwanika Village, Butimbwa Parish, Waibuga SC, Luuka District

Photo taken by Nicholas Tumwebaze

At baseline

- Delayed repair time (89% of the sources has broken down and not repaired with a day)
- Functionality (10% of the sources had no drinking water on the day of visit)

Interventions:



Training of HPMS in Luuka on the installation of a borehole in Lwanda Village

- **Capacity Building sessions for the Hand Pump Mechanics.**
- **Supporting the association with tool kits for maintenance/repairs**
- **Establishment of hardware shops**

Achievements:

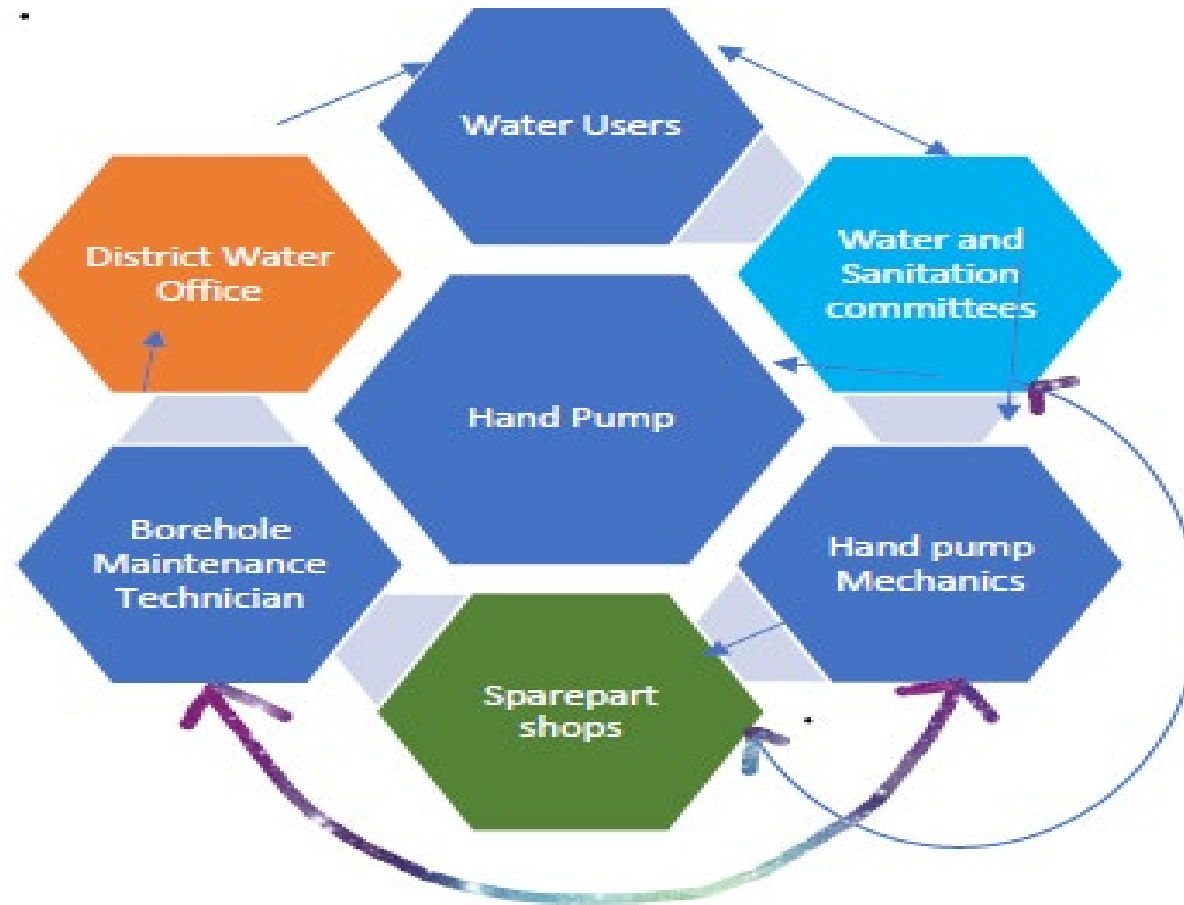
HPMs in Luuka District rehabilitating a borehole in Bulongo sub-county.



- Spare part network with fast moving spare parts created
- Reduced downtime of boreholes (41% had quick response time)
- Improved coordination and accountability with the district.

Photo taken by Makooba Faruk

Linkages in the supply chain/functionality of water sources



Challenges faced in strengthening the system



- **Low enforcement of the operation and maintenance framework which calls for payment of water user fees by all users.**
- **Low community willingness to pay water user fees**
- **Non functionality of water and sanitation committees.**



Recommendations

A borehole with Pay as you fetch model in Kamwenge District



Photo taken by Loretta Nakayima

- Programs of attitude change is needed to change willingness to pay
- Continuous capacity building of the hand pump mechanics and spare-part shops
- Operationalizing of the operation and maintenance frame work in the country



Happy Members of the Hand pump Mechanic Association after a training in Luuka District. *Photo By Geoffrey David Nyeko*



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