

ENHANCING ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER AND ADEQUATE SANITATION
IN TESO NORTH SCHOOLS, KENYA



FINAL REPORT

PROJECT PERIOD NOVEMBER 2014 TO SEPTEMBER 2015

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Introduction

Most schools in Kenya do not have access to clean water and adequate sanitation. Teso North is one of the Counties in Kenya that are disadvantaged in access to clean water. In November, 2014, COGICHIS started implementing the “Enhancing access to clean Water and adequate Sanitation in Teso North Schools” project. In collaboration with Solwodi Deutschland e.V, COGICHIS was able to get funding from Good Water Foundation. The project was implemented at St. James Koteko primary school. The school is in Koteko village, Koteko sub-location in Kocholia location, Amagoro division (Sub County) in Busia County.

Teso North is underserved in terms of improved water sources. Only 20% of the population is provided with safe water by the Lake Victoria North Water Services Board. The remaining 80% use unsafe water from unprotected sources. Communities around Koteko have been experiencing a lot of water problems. Diseases such as dysentery, diarrhoea, worms and other water related diseases have been affecting the inhabitants very often, a situation that affects children’s education and the economic situation in the area. Apart from the diseases, the girl child has been underprivileged over the years because the girls get out of the class rooms to go for water while boys stay in the class rooms and continue learning. Girls during their menses have been skipping going to school because they do not have adequate sanitation especially the bathrooms and water to cater for their situation.

It is from the above background that COGICHIS, in collaboration with Solwodi e.V., designed the “Enhancing access to clean Water and Sanitation at St. James Koteko Primary School” in Teso North Sub - county, Busia – Kenya to address water shortage and improve sanitation in the school. COGICHIS was founded in 2010 and registered with the registrar of societies Kenya. The vision of COGICHIS is a Society where issues affecting the girl child are addresses at all levels starting from the family. COGICHIS believes that every family in a community has a dream to fulfill and the right to better life. The organization is therefore committed to empowering communities through education and skills building to enable them realize their full potential.

The overall objective of the project is “Improving the learning environment and quality of life due to access to clean water and adequate sanitation schools”. The long term goal of the project is improved quality of life due to access to clean water and adequate sanitation in selected school/s in Teso North district in Busia County. Below are the sub- objectives of the project;-

- a) Facilitate access to clean water at St. James Koteko primary school in Teso North, Busia County by supporting the drilling of a borehole.
- b) Enhance access to adequate sanitation in St. James primary school in Teso North district, Busia County by supporting construction of three toilets, one wash room and one urinal for girls.
- c) Empower the Koteko community in Teso North, Busia County on sustainable livelihood and capacity building.

Beneficiaries

The project benefits the teachers and pupils directly while parents and other community members are the secondary beneficiaries.

Purpose and scope and of the final report

The purpose of this evaluation and end of project report is to:-

- 1) Determine whether the objectives of the project were achieved
- 2) Review factors contributing to or hindering the project's success
- 3) Share any lessons learnt

Summary of achievements:

Objective 1: Facilitate access to clean water at St. James Koteko primary school in Teso North, Busia County by supporting the drilling of a borehole

After serious discussions and considerations, a borehole has been drilled at St. James Koteko Primary School. Water from the borehole was taken for testing and it was found to be pure water safe for drinking. The borehole produces water that can serve a large population of up to 1,000 people. It produces 2.5 cubic liters and this is a very good yield. Currently it is serving the whole community. The girls therefore no longer walk long distances for water and the school is kept clean.



Elizabeth Akinyi testing water after installation of the borehole while the area chief pumps the water at St. James Koteko primary school

Objective 2: Enhance access to adequate sanitation in St. James Koteko primary school in Teso North district, Busia County by supporting construction of 3 toilets, 1 wash room, 1 urinal for girls.

COGICHIS constructed two toilets and one bathroom instead of three toilets, one bathroom and one urinal. The planned washrooms we're not be done due to the high costs of construction in the area. In the Koteko area, pit latrines are constructed from down and hence a lot of materials needs plus labour costs. The soils there sink if not constructed with a very firm foundation right from underneath. The girls therefore have additional two toilets and one bathroom. Even though they still do not meet the Ministry of Education guidelines, their sanitation has been enhanced. The girls can now bathe when in their menses and they can also use the bathroom for changing after physical education or games.



The contractor doing the final works on the sanitation block (two pit latrines and one bathroom)

Objective 3: Empower the Koteko community in Teso North, Busia County on sustainable livelihood and capacity building.

The project started with consultative meetings with the key stakeholders in the County, /Sub County and the project site which is the school. The School management committee members were sensitized on the project and their role in the implementation of the project. A total of 30 people participated including girls and boys from the school.

The history of the community, what they want done and how was discussed. This is included the water and sanitation situation in the area, what was done in the past and by whom, their current situation and what they can do as a community to access clean drinking water and adequate sanitation in the school/s.

The stakeholders workshop led to the formation a water and sanitation committee for the project which comprised of 12 people representing;- the school, provincial administration, the school head teacher, NGO/CBO representative, public health, water ministry, Patron/sponsor of the school,

community development etc. The nominated members formed a committee and the committee held more than three planning meetings during the implementation of the project. Among the responsibilities of the committee members include;- planning for the project, request of quotations and selection of contractors, monitoring of the work being done and reporting.

The community members participated right from the beginning of the project hence they are now fully informed and are capable of tackling issues affecting them as a community especially water and sanitation matters. Through the public health officer, the committee members, teachers and pupils were sensitized on hygiene issues including cleaning of the classrooms, water containers, washrooms, and the general compound among others. We can therefore say proudly that the meetings promoted community participation and ownership right from the beginning of the project.

Challenges encountered during implementations:

- The borehole contractor was not trust worthy especially the initial days after signing the contract. He kept on promising for two months and this made everyone involved in the project uneasy. This made the project take longer as he had already been paid and therefore the project could not enter into another contract with another contractor with any other party.
- There was a national teachers strike in January 2015 and in September 2015. As a result, the project implementation was put on hold because the head teacher was not available. This further affected the completion of the project. Painting or any other pending work could not be done until teachers are back.
- Koteko area soil is different from other places in Busia County. Construction of a toilet needs more materials and has to be right from the pit. This affected the plan hence only two out of the three planned toilets were constructed and the urinal was also left out.

Important lessons learned:

- Without water, women and girls are exposed to many dangers including sexual exploitation, accidents and diseases among others.
- Teacher's strikes affect not only learning in the institutions but also other school projects.

Conclusion:

The project was successful. The girls are now happy as they can wash themselves while in school, additional latrines and plenty of water. Teachers, parents and other community members can now draw clean drinking water without walking long distances and their health situations improved.

The general community including the school, the parents, community members and other stakeholders are very grateful to Good Water Foundation, Solwodi e.V and COGICHIS.

St. James Koteko Primary school Water and Sanitation project
Financial report - September, 2015

No.	Particulars	Budget line	In	Out
	Bal/CFD		222.157,65	
72	Kenshop - Printing	2.2		80,00
73	Morfow enterprises	2.2		1.600,00
74	Elizabeth Akinyi - Transport costs	3.1.8		1.900,00
75	John okiring - Construction of the sanitary block	3.1.6		219.500,00
76	Bank charges	3.2		418,00
			222.157,65	223.498,00
			<i>Balance</i>	<i>-1340,35</i>

Summary:

2.2	Photocopy /printing	1.680,00
3.1.8	Monitoring (project leader travel expenses)	1.900,00
3.1.6	Digging and construction of toilets/washrooms	219.500,00
3.2	Others - Bank charges and others	418,00
		223.498,00