

# DISTRICT 9211 ROTARY CLUB OF KAMPALA NORTH

# SIRIBA ADOPT A VILLAGE ROTARY PROJECT KIRYANDONGO SUB-COUNTY, KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT

RCKN Water Sanitation & Health (WASH) Sub-Committee

# BENEFICIARY REQUEST FOR SWITCH TO VIP LATRINE FROM ORIGINAL ECO-SAN

#### 1. Introduction

Water, Sanitation and Health (WASH) Sub Committee is responsible for the implementation of the project component that seeks to develop through a participatory demand-driven choice for sustainable and affordable technology options to address the community needs for adequate potable water for domestic use, general hygiene and safe disposal of human waste. The WASH Sub-Committee conducted two specialist facilitated rapid assessments and awareness to capture information on the current/pre-project water and sanitation status in the project community. The data so collected has enabled the WASH Sub Committee to proceed in a rather expeditious fashion to deliver the first output in the form of piped water.

#### 2. Water Component

The following activities have been carried out:

- (i) Collected data on the available types of domestic water sources in Siriba village.
  - The households were depending on the swamps to the East and West ends of the village as the source of water,
  - About five households and a Health Centre were using the shallow well (fitted with a hand pump) located at the Health Centre
  - A modern home (Okello's Home) had piped water within its enclosed compound however, this was not a source of water for the community
  - The homes whose houses were roofed with iron sheets reported practicing rain water harvesting. A few of these homes had houses fitted with rainwater collecting gutters
  - Siriba Primary School has its classroom buildings fitted for rain water harvesting and storage
  - There is a NWSC water main running along the Kafu-Karuma highway



- (ii) Confirmed land ownership in the area and community willingness to cede land for the way leave and/or the tap stands,
  - The households have bought the land but have no titles
  - The community expressed willingness and firmly committed to accommodate the pipes through their land and community /public pipe stands in their homes
- (iii) Assessed need and determined the demand,
  - All households that were visited reported the unmet need for clean water for consumption and other domestic uses,
  - A number of homes had at least one elderly person whose access to water and sanitation were critical to their vulnerability.
- (iv) Established the distance to the current water sources and to the current sanitation facilities,
  - The study modelled the adjacent neighbourhoods into a cluster for purposes of determining the location for a public tap stand and toilet.
  - The shortest distance from the existing water main to the location proposed for the public tap stand was determined by taking measurements
  - The civil works and the quantity of water pipes was thus determined
- (v) Established household solid waste disposal,
  - Participants were aware of the need to practice segregation of polythene (kavera) from the waste that they dispose of by burning, as manure or by simply dumping at a designated rubbish heap usually a shallow pit on the property.
  - Practiced recycling of bottles, plastic containers and kavera

### 3. Facilities Design Options

Based on the findings above we developed proposals for:

- (i) Improving potable water supply in the community;
- (ii) Community volunteers to maintain the system;
- (iii) Local partnerships especially at the district level, finding out what their contribution would be in the implementation of the project;
- (iv) Training for sustainability
- (v) Indicators of immediate impact



**DISTRICT 9211** 

## 4. Technology Choice for Water Access

The community was taken through a series of awareness mobilization to make a choice between borehole development, with its attendant risk of sinking a dry hole, and a piped water connection system that would take advantage of the proximity of the water main.

Figure 1 below presents the participatory community decision for piped water connection to key population centres. With community participation in the trenching for the pipe line to each of the five Public Stand Points, water supply connections were made through the procurement procedures of the Rotary Club of Kampala North at a total cost of UGX 12 205,000.- Each Public Stand Pipe was handed over to the respective Water Management Committee previously set up by members of the community following the training by the Club members. The water supply management was to follow the community approved procedures.



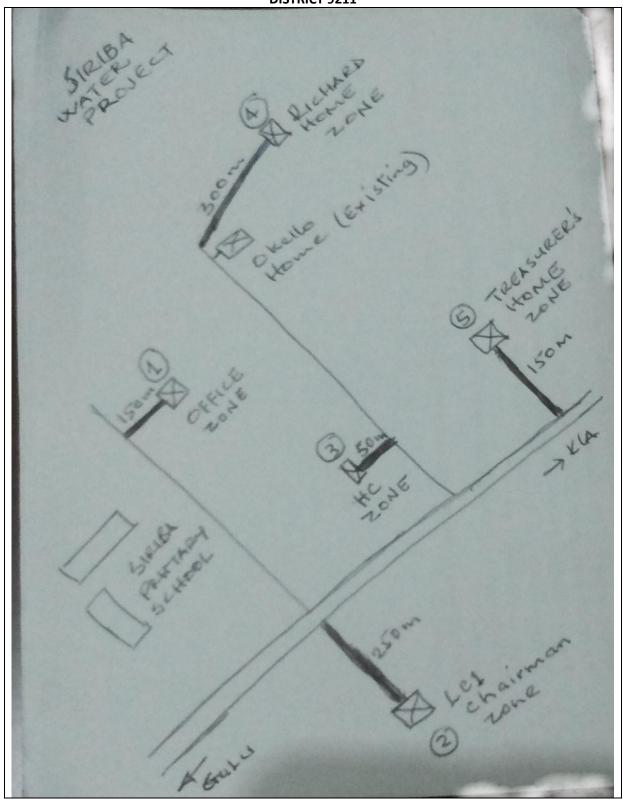


Figure 1: Proposed Piped Water Connections



# 5. Sanitation Component

# (i) Baseline Survey

The findings from the survey were as follows:



Fig. 2 Eco-san Toilet at Siriba Community Chairperson's home

- An eco-san toilet exists at the Siriba office as shown in Fig 2 above
   This facility is owned by the Chairperson of the community organization and we established that unlike the day of the WASH visit, the facility is always under lock and key and is thus restricted to community access.
- Respondents noted that the eco-san toilet would be an expensive facility in terms of construction costs and running expenses
- Each homestead visited had a dug out hole for a latrine whose specs and finishes ranged from open hole through wattle and mud to concrete slab; majority lacked a proper roof and did not have plastered walls
- Respondents identified themselves with an improved pit latrine. Eight households had already excavated the pits which they showed to the study



team ready to receive a slab. They liked the VIP latrine for its simplicity and cost friendliness.

# (ii) Change From Eco-San to Ventilated Improved Latrines

Between 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017 and December 2017, the WASH committee held various engagement with the community. This was through Participant observations and Community mapping activities for the five water stand points and the 4 proposed Eco-san Sites. As we carried out WASH community sensitisation, community leaders and other members were able to open up in the trainings. They put forward their suggestions through verbal communication that Eco-san latrines be changed to Ventilated Improved Pit (VIP) Latrines as shown in Fig 3 overleaf.

The outstanding reasons recorded for preference for VIP latrine technology were two. One is that the eco-san latrines do not match the community perception of human waste disposal even when we had informed the community that scientifically through use of eco-san, human waste would be transformed into compost manure. However when we had a discussion with the community along the lines of sustainability through recycle, they stated that they found human waste (faeces), "disgusting". They reported that "people only accept the smell of their own waste whilst actually using the toilets but find the smell from stored waste very un-acceptable".

A second reason they gave was that the eco-san would only benefit a few households yet through WASH training, it was noted water and toilet use are inseparable.

The pros highlighted for selection of VIPs was that they will benefit a lot more households than the four eco-san toilets. Households that had no pit latrines were willing to excavate the pits so that "the project facilitates them with slabs". This was evidenced when the team visited in May 2018, for we found that eight households had dug pit latrines but had no resources to make slabs.

Other pros for VIPs, are "culturally acceptable and easy to adapt for use in this community, there is significant reduction in pathogens, flies and odour, and most significantly they can be built and repaired using locally



available materials and have a long service Life for Sustainability purposes after the project exit". This was confirmed through the two community reaffirmation meetings that took place in February 2018 and May 2018 respectively when the team was inspecting the community water points.

In keeping with the community's expressed preference for the VIP technology rather than the rather costlier and maintenance-heavy ecosan, the WASH team agreed to seek higher level approval and authorisation of change from ECO-SAN to VIP Toilets. The team regards this as a community demand driven technology option decision. At institutional level the team recommends the option shown in Fig 4.

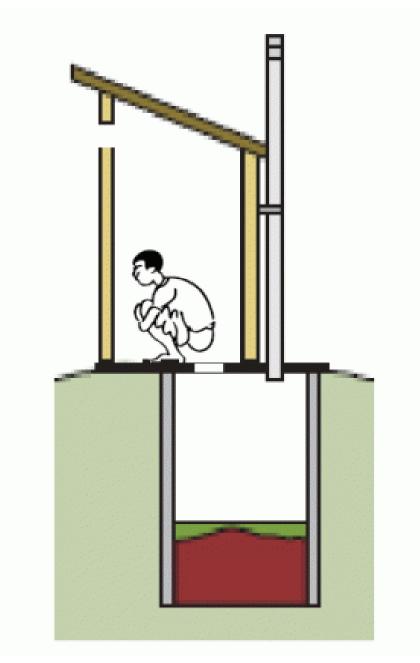




Figure 3: Ventilated Improved Pit latrine

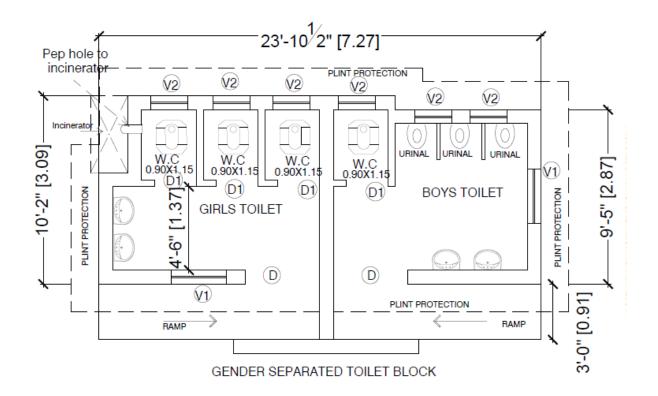


Fig. 4: Institutional VIP Latrine Plan

It is against this background that the WASH Component Committee requests the Chairman to process the approval of our request for the changes demanded by the beneficiary communities to be fast tracked for implementation as soon as possible.

The youth in the community will be trained in basic masonry and casting of slabs. A total of eight homes will benefit and each will get a two stance VIP latrine instead of only four two stance eco-sun latrines. The members of the community (listed below) have already dug two stance pits and are therefore ready to be facilitated with slabs and roofing materials. They will be responsible for walling bricks:



Ajok Florence, Acellam Richard, Aparo Jesca, Akong Grace, Muno Christine,

Aciro Florence, Laker Grace Odoch, Betty Oola.