



Project Name: T4L – Toilet for Life Project Bugiri Uganda

**Beneficiary Community or Institution**

1. 1 Public Primary schools
2. 2 Public Secondary Schools
3. 2 Vocational institution
4. Health Centers
5. Trailer Operators
6. Tax Operators
7. Commercial Sex Workers
8. Hotel operators and clients
9. Bugiri Municipal Dwellers

**Groups in the Community that would receive a clear, direct, and immediate benefit from the project:**

- Pupils and Students
- Patients and medical Personals
- Commercial sex Workers
- Teaching Staff, Sport staff, Board of Governors and School Management Committees
- Trailers operators and drivers
- Hotel Operators and clients
- Community Members of Bugiri Municipality

**Beneficiaries' demographic information, if relevant to the project.**

Bugiri District Located in the south eastern part of Uganda, Bugiri District has a total area of 5,701km of which 1, 49 3km is land and the remaining 4,207km is covered by water. The district is bordered by Tororo District to the northeast, Iganga District to the west, Mayuge District to the southwest, and Busia District to the east. Bugiri District also borders Kenya in the southeast and borders Tanzania in the waters of Lake Victoria to the south.

Bugiri Municipality is the largest commercial center in the district. This is also the locale of the district headquarters and the district hospital. The town is 172km away from the Ugandan capital of Kampala. The land is generally characterized by gentle undulating hills with few higher residual features. A somewhat higher relief across the district forms two main watersheds; a northern drainage and a southern drainage; the latter of which drains to Lake Victoria.

Public schools have huge pupils/students' enrollment owing to Universal education which places a huge demand on services. Trailer operators move across borders and often times some of them stay overnight in the trucks in the trailer park and lack toilet facilities. Commercial Sex workers usually move from one location to the next without permanent places of a board and have challenges accessing toilet facilities. Hotels and Lodges in this sprawling slum area lack toilets for themselves and their clients, the absence of toilets facilities at health centers Grade II and III, community centers mean clients lack toilets.

**Who conducted the assessment?**

- Host Club Members – Bugiri Municipality Rotary Club
- I.T.T. Vocational Training Center-Uganda ([www.ittafrica.org](http://www.ittafrica.org)) a – Cooperating Organization
- Municipality & District staffs

**Assessment Dates:**

15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024 - 29<sup>th</sup> June 2024

**What methods did you use?**

- Meetings
- Questionnaires
- Focused Discussion interviews

- Key informant Interviews
- Observation

### Who in the community participated in the assessment?

The following people were consulted; Head teachers of public schools, local counselors, religious Leaders, Pupils/Students in public schools, market Vendors, Trailers Operators, taxi Drivers, Parents and Commercial Sex Workers.

- School administrators (Head teachers, Teaching Staffs and Board of Governors/School Management Committee members)
- Representative of students and pupils in both secondary Schools and Primary Schools
- School head Nurses who represented the support staff
- Community Health Staffs
- Trailer operators and Drivers
- Commercial Sex Workers and Lodger operators of Naluwerere Town in Bugiri Municipality
- Hotel operators
- Political leaders

### List the community needs identified that your project would address?

- Inadequate public toilet facilities
- Filled Toilet requiring emptying especially in schools and Public Places
- Lack of access to safe clean water due to absence of water facilities

### List any needs you identified that your project would not address.

- Inadequate classrooms leading to crowded classrooms
- Inadequate teaching staff (high pupils/student ratio)
- Inadequate medicine in health units/centers
- Less staffing in health centers /schools
- Inadequate scholastic materials (high Pupils/students textbooks)
- Maintenance of the existing infrastructures in both Health centers, schools and public places
- Health education mainly to sex workers at Naluwere trading center

### List the community assets, or strength

- Availability of cheap labour to support the project
- Community contribution in terms of building materials and fuels during the implementation
- Good will from community members and local Government to host and support the project
- Availability of land/space/land for project construction
- Availability of technical and administrative staff to support supervises and monitors the project activities.
- Presence of a rotary club in the area to monitor and advise the cooperating organization and implementers.

### Considering the needs and assets you listed, explain how you determined the project's primary goal.

**Primary Goal:** To reduce the disease incidences and improve the hygiene and sanitation by providing septic toilets and safe water facilities in Bugiri District/Bugiri municipality.

The goal was arrived at during debriefing meetings, focus group interviews, key informative interviews, available Government data, and observations of stakeholders who reached a consensus that the main challenge facing the community was inadequate access to toilet facilities, safe water and poor hygiene and sanitation of the community. Due to the following facts;

- Bugiri District in Uganda is one of the most affected areas according to Uganda Bureau of Statistics Bugiri communities suffer from abject poverty and diseases because of lack of toilets and clean safe drinking water (UBOS).
- Bugiri Municipality has the worse figures for access to safe water and sanitation in Uganda. It is the fifth from the bottom in Uganda, by the population to functional safe water source in the district at 24%. 76% of the population are without access to improved safe water, sewage system and Toilets.
- Bugiri Municipality has a total population of 45,650 dwellers, a city without sewage system and two 5 stances public pit Latrine, 1 of the two latrines are almost full and it's almost broken down. The Municipality, also due to the absence of adequate sewerage management system has led to a proliferation of pit latrines in the town and with a high population, sewerage has found its way into water sources.



- Most of the people in Bugiri municipality fetch their water from wells which make them prone to water borne diseases.
- Bugiri is highly hit by typhoid fever and it has experienced two spells of cholera in the period 2008 – 2018. This has been mainly due to the poor status of latrines coupled with poor hygiene and sanitation practices.
- Public places with huge population like markets, schools, hospitals, parks and other health centers have been found without toilets or have inadequate sanitation facilities.
- Inadequate toilets and lack of water facilities at schools has been a major factor of girl child dropout from schools.

#### How would your project's activities accomplish this goal?

- Given the high population using poor latrines which makes them vulnerable to disease incidences, the project will help them access improved septic toilets and proper disposal of excretes. Reduces incidences of diseases will lead to high productivity among the population which will reduce dependence and increase beneficiary ability to meet costs of social services. Not having a proper toilet means you have no way to prevent your faeces from contaminating your environment. This is one-way street to illness – one gram of faeces carries up to 1 million bacteria and 10 million viruses. When faeces are let loose in the environment, the minute small amount contaminates the hands, food and water, and spread diseases. This faecal-oral transmission of disease, which happens when the barriers of toilets, safe water and hygiene are not in place, can be illustrated by 5Fs. **Faeces** which get into **Fingers**, are spread by **Flies**, picked up in **Fields** and spread through **Fluids** then ingested, either directly or when a person eats contaminated **Food**. In addition, Flies carrying faeces can land on faces, spreading infections or blinding eye disease. This transmission has a far wider impact than many people realize.
- Demonstration and construction of septic toilets will help beneficiaries and neighboring communities establish similar structures which will lead to economic developments and health benefits realization.
- The number of schoolgirls dropping out of schools because of diseases due to poor hygiene and sanitation will go down with the installation of water facilities and improved toilets. Water, Sanitation and hygiene in schools create an enabling environment which secures children's dignity, safety, health and attendance increase in classes.
- Government and donors will reduce its expenditures on health services and shift resources to other developmental programs.

#### All these will be accomplished through;

- Construction of septic toilets in schools, public places and health centers
- Installation of safe water facilities in schools, communities and health centers.
- Emptying of filled latrines at schools and public places like Markets, Bus parks, Trailer Park and Taxi Park.
- Establishment of technical toilet workers and Training them including Water User Committees plus beneficiaries.

#### What challenges have prevented the community from accomplishing the project's goals?

- Lack of funds to finance project activities.
- Lack of support organizations to help establish such projects.
- Cultural fix that placed low premium on the ownership and use latrines
- Negligence to adopt good hygiene and sanitation practices because of low awareness due to high illiteracy among the community.

#### How is the community addressing these challenges now?

- Government is constructing schools pit- latrines but With Pit-latrines faecal disposal penetrate the ground and contaminate the water sources and the environment that course more health hazards to the population which calls for the need to transform the pit-latrines systems to septic toilet systems
- Use of pit latrines that were constructed by government are inadequate, and poorly constructed for the girl child. is one of the special conditions that prevent girls from full participation, achievement in schools and force them out of school plus the available latrines in most school are about to get full.
- Prior water and sanitation project from Eastern Centre that constructed the piped water system and compost pit latrine in Bugiri Municipality has grown old and cannot meet the current population demand at the national Growth rate of 4.6% pa (MFPED)
- Water for use in most schools are drawn from wells and at a distance of 1KM in average for example Bukooli Collage drawing from Kagali, St. Steven S.S at Kikonko. And Hindocha P/S from Gamulunka.

## Why the project's activities are the best way to meet this community needs?

### Because this project's activities will:

- Increase equitable community access to septic toilets and basic sanitation
- Strengthen the ability of communities to develop and maintain sustainable toilets and sanitation systems
- Educate communities about toilets, sanitation, and hygiene
- Improve the capacity of local health care facilities and professionals
- Combat the spread of diseases, and other major's developments
- Enhance the health infrastructure of local communities
- Educate and mobilize communities to help prevent the spread of major diseases
- Support activities related to disease prevention and hygiene.
- Strengthen the development of local entrepreneurs and community leaders, Particularly women by not dropping from school, in the Bugiri impoverished communities
- Develop opportunities for decent and productive work, particularly for women in markets
- Reduce the mortality rate mainly for children under the age of five
- Reduce the maternal mortality rate
- Improve access to medical services and trained health care providers stay at their jobs instead of running far away from the health facilities to toilet facilities.