

RURAL INIIVIATIVE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT
WEST NILE
(RICE-WN)

Erekpea Water for Production Project implemented by RICE-WN with funding from Walter Solbach Metallbau (WSM)



WATER IS A RIGHT NOT A PRIVILEGE

Clean safe water is a basic human right that every human being is entitled to because it is necessary for survival and for productive activities. For decades this has been a nightmare in residents of Maraju, Alia and Orivu villages in Arua District of Uganda.



A young girl caring water for construction on her head form Enyau river which is 2km away fro her home

Maraju, Alia and Orivu village are some of the vil-lages in Aiiyu Sub-county Terego County Arua Dis-trict that have limited ac-cess to clean and safe wa-ter for both domestic and production use. The area has a population of about 3,000 people. Although

national Water and Sewerage Corporation of Uganda made effort to pass a water pipeline along the main road that passes through the vil-lages, the water connection costs are clearly unaffordable to majority of the households and they continue to face water crises issues.

Quote: Mr. Stephen Obiter Arua District Water Officer explained. “The nearest water source was about 2km when a borehole was constructed in 2007 in the area to serve about 800 people. Previously the community members have been fetching water from Bechumu, Ozua and Lokia seasonal wells.”

During dry seasons the residents in the three villages have to walk long distance in search of clean safe water for domestic use. Some of them have to trek to river Enyau which is about six kilometres away.

Quote: Ms Tashila Amaniyo a resident at Maraju village “We as the residents have to go on a long arduous journey in

search for clean water. The journey starts as early as 4:00am and we come back home late at night around since the queue is very long at water points. This exposes us to risks like dangerous animals that move at night.” Ms Tashila Amaniyoa resident at Maraju village Alia Parish narrates. ‘We also share this water sources with animals. So we have to chase away the animals before the water gets dirty, if you find the animals taking water you have to wait until the water settles down then you fetch the water. This crisis has partly contributed to domestic violence and conflict at water points.’ She continue.



20 solar Panels with 265watts each

Women in these areas spend 4-6 hours looking for clean water, and this leads to domestic violence, girl-child dropout of school

The community is also exposed to infectious diseases like Typhoid, Diarrhoea, Chlorella and other waterborne

diseases.

On Sunday 2 December 2018, a water project was launched and commissioned to extend water pipes to the three affected villages.

Erekpea Water for Production Project implemented by RICE-WN with funding from Walter Solbach Metallbau (WSM), was a three-month project that is located in Maraju village Aiiwu Sub-county Terego County.

The well is 120 meters deep and pumped using automated solar system. The solar system pumps 4, 000 liters per hour using a motor

pump of 2.2kws which is installed 75metres deep in the borehole and can take 5-6 hours to fill 20,000liters tanks depending on the cloud cover for the day. The water pumping system is supported by 20 solar panels of 265 watts each and an inventor of 3.7kws making it fit for the purpose.

The water is not only used for domestic use but also for irrigation and animal rearing which will lead to increase in agricultural production in the area hence increase in income for residents. The right to clean and safe water is fulfilled and opportunity for raising incomes from farming is also created thus fulfilling the mandate of RICE-WN in rural Community Empowerment and also contributing to SDG 6.



The two 20, 000 liters each at Erekpea Water for Production



Part of the irrigation scheme at Erekpea Water for Production