



The Quarterly Dispatch

RWSSD Wrap
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“82% of Uganda’s population lives in rural areas. Rural water solutions best positioned drivers to achievement of the Uganda vision 2040.”

Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Department (RWSSD) Mandate

The RWSSD anchored under the Directorate of Water Development, Ministry of Water and Environment is mandated to provide sustainable safe water and sanitation facilities including hygiene in rural areas and provide and micro water for production (agricultural production, i.e. crop irrigation, livestock and aquaculture) and rural industries.

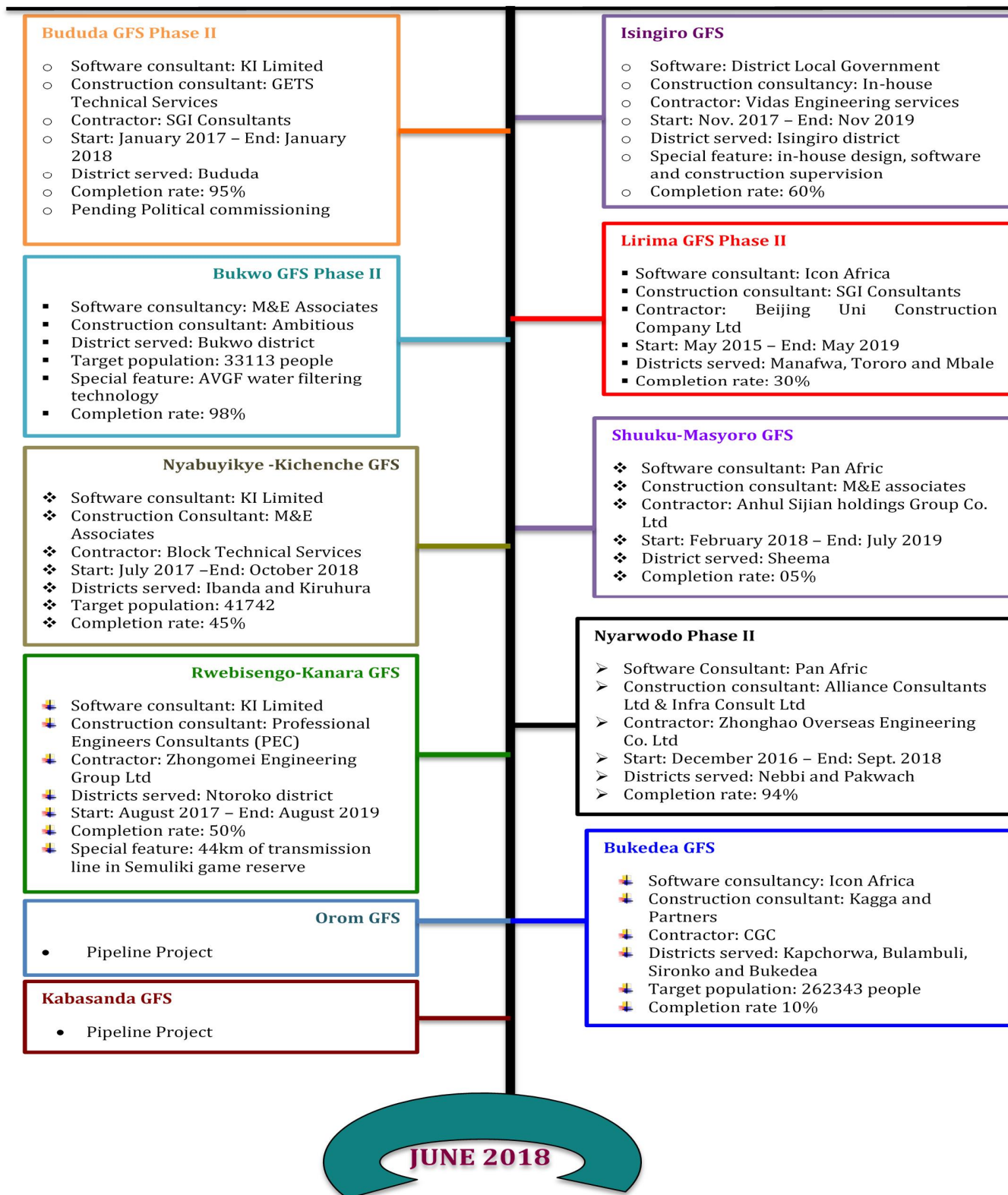
RWSSD Responsibility

In regard to Local Government, the department is responsible for providing support in Planning and development of water supply and sanitation activities in the rural communities and monitoring implementation of these programmes

Uganda’s Vision 2040 Goal

“All Ugandans will have access to safe piped water and modern sanitation facilities”

Gravity Flow Scheme (GFS) Projects under RWSSD



Solar Powered Micro Irrigation Schemes

The Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Department has recently embarked on a project to supply water for small holder farmers as a means to boost their agricultural production. Forty districts are set to benefit from this first phase of the project and at least on site will be constructed in each of the selected districts. The project is structured into three Lots:

Lot 1: Though still at the bidding level, Lot 1 will covers Western region districts of Isingiro, Mbarara, Ntungamo, Rukungiri, Mubende, Kibaale, Kanungu, Masaka, Bushenyi and Mitooma.

Lot 2: Lot 2 covers districts of Northern Uganda including Amulor, Apac, Gulu, Koboko, Nwoya, Oyam, Lamwo, Pader, Luwero and Nakaseke. Construction contract for all Lot 2 sites was awarded to CAA Communications and Accessories International Ltd and work in the respective sites has started.

Lot 3: Lot 3 covers districts of Eastern Uganda including Jinja, Iganga, Luuka, Mayuge, Tororo, Soroti, Namutumba, Kayunga and Wakiso. The Construction contract for all sites under Lot 3 was awarded to Doshnut (U) Ltd in association with GT20 Engineering Co. Ltd and works have started.

In preparation for project implementation, a team from the department together with the State Minister for Water paid a due diligence visit to India to appreciate the low cost technologies for possible adoption in Uganda.

“Address real life challenges! Breaking the code of fear and mystery that hither to surrounded solar technology”



A delegation from RWSSD and the State Minister for Water during a due diligence visit to India

Towards Proper Management of Ground Water Development Activities in Uganda

Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) is committed to ensuring sustainable exploitation of water resources for the benefit of the now and future generation. To this regard a step taken this quarter was the stakeholders meeting to discuss proper management of underground water development activities. This meeting held on the 6th of June was attended by participants from MWE, Licensed drilling contractors, representatives from the Uganda Drilling Contractors Association and academicians among other invited guests.

This same quarter, MWE with financial support from ADB contracted Aquatec Enterprises Uganda Ltd to develop training manuals on design and construction supervision of ground water. The consultancy output will specifically include manuals for;

- Borehole siting
- Drilling supervision
- Test pumping procedure
- Casting and installation

These manuals are expected to provide the guide for the next coming years

The MWE has also continued carrying out quarterly inspection of boreholes using “down-the hole borehole camera” whose main aim is ascertaining borehole data reported in the borehole completion reports. The camera is an active intervention to catalyze professionalism and adherence to standards among contractors and consultants.



Stakeholders meeting at Hotel Africa



Routine supervision of drillers activities



Monitoring of well ...

Up Coming Projects

40 Mini Solar Powered Water Supply Systems

✚ Currently under design

Integrated Water Management and Development Project

✚ Project approved by World Bank

✚ To partly cover refugees and host communities in Northern Uganda

WASH Media Awards

An annual event in which personalities and media houses are recognized for WASH outstanding journalism

The Labour Day Prize: A trigger for information sharing

Information sharing is a catalyst for innovative work behavior and is a driver of productivity however; it has and remains un-explored within the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Department. Reasons for information hoarding are not always provided but loose evidence points to the tight schedules under which staff execute their routine tasks, limited writing and reading culture, lack of motivating rewards and the entire exercise being seen as time consuming. As evidenced, simple triggers such as the “Commissioner’s Labour Day Initiative’ can work wonders to catalyze information sharing.



The untold story behind construction of Bukwo water supply system

A simple call!

It simple call for outstanding Project Implementation Teams moreover with an undisclosed reward however, this got people out of ‘their comfort zones’ to write the best about their projects. The competition lasted for just days but in such a short period we learnt a lot about the different going projects; their scale, strength as well as their weaknesses. I am sure that even a person who had just joined the department found a soft landing with all the information that was shared that time... Kudos to the Commissioner. The moral in this entire experience is that; “people have project information at fingerprints only that there has not been much motivation for vertical sharing”.



Gwentwom solar scheme

It was a competition

Yes it was a competition where people were keen to read submissions from other groups so as to appreciate, critique and out compete with each other.



Technology demonstration at during the crowning of sanitation week in Kole

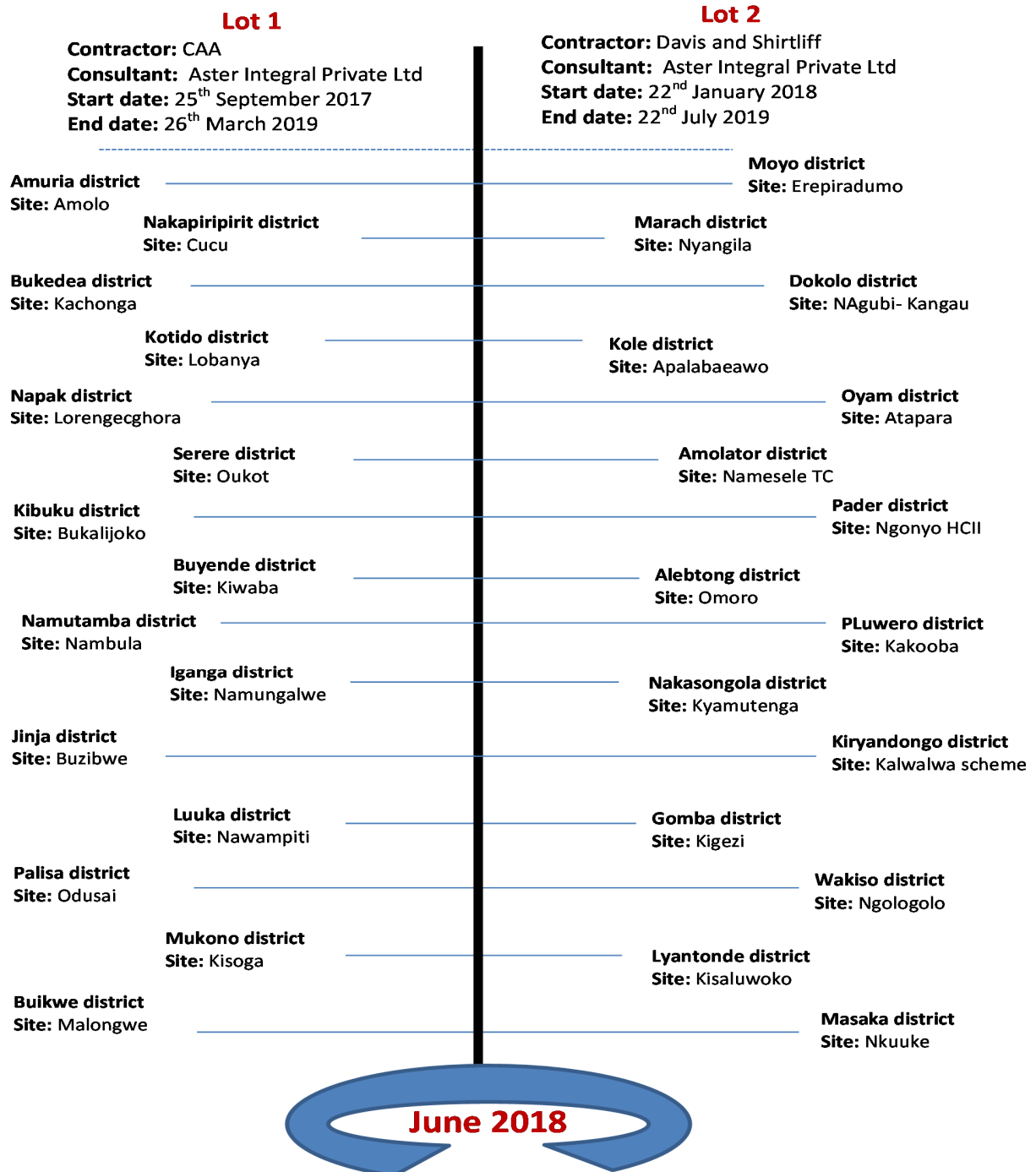
Winners!

At the end of an exercising exercise, the first prize went to Lirima Phase I Team, the second prize went to Bokwo GFS Team and an individual prize went to Ms. Damalie Baliyana. Congratulations to the winners and to all other teams, keep up the spirit. Without your participation the exercise would not be the same.



Political commissioning of Nyabuhikye-Kichenche water supply system

Ongoing Mini Solar systems under Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Department



Synergizing Operation and Maintenance for Rural Water Sources and Improved Sanitation and Hygiene: A pilot by JICA in partnership with MWE

The project that started way back in 2015 is a technical cooperation between the government of Japan through JICA and MWE with a mission to improve functionality of water sources. The project aims at strengthening management of rural point water sources rather than building new operational structures.

Uniquely designed on the principles of a randomized control experiment; the project covers Mubende district where interventions are carried out and three districts of Kiboga, Butambala, and Mpigi as used as controls. Baseline studies carried out highlighted challenges of increasing number of completely broken down boreholes, a dis-functional safe water chain, and substandard sanitation and hygiene facilities in communities.

To address the challenges the project intervened with new approaches that are implemented respectively in the control and intervention districts.

Control districts (Kiboga, Butambala and Mpigi)

In the control districts efforts are centered at rejuvenating and reviewing Community Based Maintenance Systems (CBSMS). This is done on 15-20 boreholes per district. The project implementation team goes into communities, identifies broken down boreholes and take the community members through the software steps. During this process, possible triggers for borehole breakdown are identified and

together with the communities thereafter rehabilitation and sustainability solutions are agreed upon/undertaken.

Intervention district (Mubende)

In the intervention district a new approach; the District Direct Management System (DDMS) is being piloted.

Initial focus is on 100 boreholes with plans to cover the entire district. Under the DDMS community members are only obliged to pay a monthly service maintenance fee of UGX 2000/- per household. This money is paid at the Service Centre that is responsible for meeting all the operation and maintenance costs including; facilitation and supervision of the water source caretaker, doing preventive maintenance, identifying and facilitating Hand Pump Mechanics to rehabilitate the water source in case of breakdown.

Sanitation and Hygiene

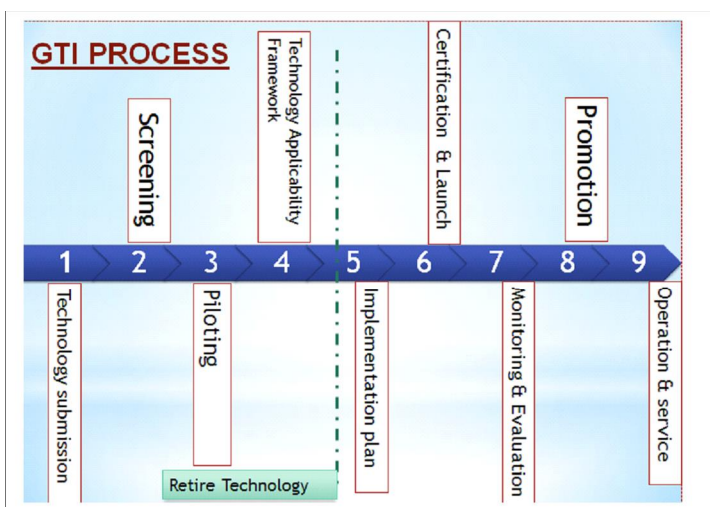
Sanitation improvement campaigns are basically implemented in Mubende district and these rotate around enhancing the safe water chain and proper waste disposal. Specific interventions under sanitation improvement include behavior change campaigns that are implemented at institutional and community level and the Open Defecation Free (ODF) drive. The project implementation team clusters community members into small self-help groups and encourage them to upgrade their toilets using locally available materials. The project will run till November 2019 and in September this year an affirmative evaluation will be carried out to document evidence of change as well as inform the remaining project period.



Guideline to Technology Introduction in Uganda (GTI)

Several technologies are introduced in Uganda and we only get to know about them when they are already in communities. Of the many technologies introduced, only a small number i.e., U2 pump have gone to scale. Technologies such as the Urine Diversion Dry Toilet (UDDT) and Rope Pump for water lifting are considered “failed technologies”. There has also been a tendency of perpetual piloting and failure of the “would be successful technologies”. Absence of GIT and lack of regulatory framework cannot be overlooked as potential reasons for the technology failure. Research indicates that these “failed technologies have evidence of success not only outside but even in specific communities within Uganda.

The GTI is a well-researched guide by a consortium of stakeholders including; Cranfield University, SKAT Foundation, IRC, WaterAid, NETWAS and ATC in consultation with relevant sector stakeholders in effort to streamline technology introductions and promotion within the country and it is envisaged to facilitate synergy creation. GTI supports the vision of sustainability of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene services. Two tools embedded in GTI that is; screening tool and Technology Applicability Framework (TAF) are used by ATC in technology profiling and monitoring.



i) Screening Tool

Screening is a rapid assessment stage in which the producer/promoter show case of the product attributes. The screening tool is used to identify tests to be carried, possible area for pilot and stakeholders to be involved in the process.

ii) Technology Applicability Framework (TAF)

The TAF is a detailed assessment based on indicators categorized under six dimensions; technology, skills and know how, institutional and legal, environmental, social and economic. The technology promoters meet all the assessment costs.

Let us make it work

For Uganda as a country to achieve the envisioned change, there is need to have effective structures and as far as the water sector is concerned GTI is very crucial. Let us all support this initiative and we shall together celebrate the success.

Facts and Fiction

Facts

- ✚ The average human body is made of 50-65% water
- ✚ An inch of water covering one acre (27154 gallons) weigh 113 tons
- ✚ There is more water in the atmosphere than in all our rivers combined
- ✚ 70% of the human brain is water
- ✚ 40 billion hours are spent collecting water in Africa

Fiction

- ✚ Drinking water helps you loose weight
- ✚ Drinking water at night speeds your metabolism
- ✚ Reverse osmosis is the only way to filter out fluoride
- ✚ There will be a global shortage of water
- ✚ Hygiene education will change hygiene behavior