

File form: 0593-2117 Final Report for the Eagle Foundation – May 2022

## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) project in rural schools – Kenya

**Funds received:** 21/04/21

**Amount of grant:** GBP 35,580

**Conversion rate:** Exchange rate based on 1 GBP = 1.24 USD (01.04.20)

**Total number of beneficiaries:** 2,681 direct beneficiaries (2,581 children and 100 teachers & school support staff)

**Expenditure:** GBP 35,580 **Balance remaining:** GBP 0

**Background:** Your generous grant was invested in IMPACT East Africa's programme of action to prevent and treat needless disability in Mwingi District, one of the driest parts of Kenya. As previously reported, in the first six months of the grant period, pit latrines were constructed in five rural schools, benefiting 1,800 children and their teachers. During the second phase, IMPACT East Africa has focused on installing Rainwater Harvesting Systems and handwashing tanks to improve access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene. *'Here in eastern Kenya, the environment is hot and dry. Every drop of water is precious and children walk long distances to collect it. This heavy and dangerous task keeps them from their studies, and water from impure sources makes them sick. We are grateful to our generous donors for helping us to change this story – one school at a time. Our WASH interventions help the pupils stay health and learning in school. This brings joy to whole communities'* – **Theuri Wachira, IMPACT East Africa's Coordinator in Kenya**

**Report on activities:** Rainwater harvesting systems – including a 10,000 litre water storage tank and roof guttering – are now located at five needy institutions: Kwa Makaya, Malili, Kairungu, Kamwengi and Wakimuu primary schools. These institutions are remotely located, in the northern part of the District, between 54 and 70 kms from the nearest town and reachable only by partly tarmacked roads. It is an area overlooked by government agencies and NGOs.

These schools were prioritised to benefit from your grant because they had no existing water sources on site and the community are reliant on collecting their daily water from seasonal rivers and hand dug water pools on river beds. The water sources are located between 2-15km from the school, depending on the season, and often contaminated by animal waste and parasites. *'During our survey phase, we prioritised these schools because of their low enrolment and high absenteeism due to water challenges. The high levels of poverty in the area and lack of alternative water sources, means the students have historically been required to each carry a 5 litre container of water every day as they go to school.'* – **IMPACT East Africa**

Each school was carefully vetted by IMPACT to ensure that they would maintain the systems carefully after installation. Parent volunteers and the school administration also had to commit to contributing some of the labour to build the bases for the tanks and to erecting the gutters. Each school also received two handwashing tanks and the IMPACT School Health team provided screening and treatment for ENT and skin conditions and dewormed all the children. Health Education has reinforced the importance of hygiene practices and drinking clean water.

## Wakimuu Primary School

The school has an enrolment of 167 children (72 boys, 95 girls) and faces many water challenges, as the nearest water source is 15kms away.

*'Our school did not have water storage facilities. Our students were therefore required to bring water from home. We have experienced a high rate of absenteeism due to this challenge, as the closest water source is a seasonal river which is 15km away. We are extremely appreciative of the Rain Water Harvesting donation as this will reduce number of school days missed by the students. Thank you and God bless.'* — **Christine Muvea, Head teacher**



*'IMPACT East Africa has been a blessing to our school. They have trained our pupils and teachers on ear care, dewormed our pupils, screened and treated our pupils and teachers for ear problems and donated to us a 10,000 litre tank for rain water harvesting, two hand washing stations and installed gutters for collection of rainwater. Our school did not have any water reservoir and our pupils and parents had to bring each 20 litres jerrycan to school at least two times a week. The donation of the tank, which our parents could not afford, is a blessing and will go a long way to keeping the pupils focused on their school work. We are very grateful. Long live IMPACT East Africa!'* - **Lucy Gitonga, IMPACT trained School Health Patron**



Children in front of their new Rainwater Harvesting Tank





*Example of the water that used to be used for cooking and drinking at Wakimuu School*

*One of the two handwashing tanks installed at the Wakimuu School*

## Kamwengi Primary School

The total school population is 154 children (81 boys and 73 girls). The tank and handwashing facilities are already being well used and there is an active Parent/Teacher Association that is keen to promote health messages in school.

*'We were happy to work along with IMPACT where we contributed towards the construction on the tank base. We collected sand and ballast for the construction of the base. As a mason, I was happy to work with IMPACT in this project. I am a happy parent with four of my children schooling here. One is a candidate next year and I am sure the more plentiful water will help him focus more on his studies. Thank you IMPACT.'* – **Palitia G Kimanzi**, Parent at Kamwengi Primary School.



*The handwashing tanks and Rainwater tank installed at Kamwengi School*





### Kairungu Primary School

The school has a population of 167 children (86 boys and 81 girls). Previously it had no water tank and pupils fetched water from shallow wells dug along the seasonal river, located 3kms away. The community surrounding the school is currently experiencing many challenges due to the rising costs of food items, and the recent dry spell has affected crop yield. According to IMPACT's School Nurse, many children in the area are underweight and malnourished. The good news is that an earlier IMPACT deworming programme at the school seems to be keeping parasitic infections at bay and this intervention will be further strengthened by the new handwashing facilities.

*'Through Kairungu fraternity we appreciate IMPACT East Africa for selecting our school as their beneficiary. Before, our schools was in a critical condition of water shortage and illness of ears, skin and so on.'* **Stellah Mumbe – Deputy Head teacher**



### Malili Primary School

There are 122 children currently enrolled at Malili Primary School (63 boys and 59 girls). IMPACT East Africa began working with the school as soon as it reopened after the pandemic, and children have also benefited from deworming treatments, medical screening and treatment and health education.



*IMPACT's School Nurse Mildred teaching the children about the importance of hygiene measures during the pandemic*



The children at Malili Primary School with their new Rainwater Harvesting Tank

### Kwa Makaya Primary School

Kwa Makaya is a school with 221 children (103 boys and 118 girls) and the community were grateful to benefit from IMPACT East Africa's School Health interventions, having also benefited from new latrines in the earlier stage of the project.

*'My name is John Nzia. I am 13 yrs old and my home is very far from the school. I am a health monitor taught by IMPACT East Africa. We are very happy to receive a tank in our school. We will use the water to clean the classroom floors and also to drink. Thank you for this gift. It means we will have a lot more water to use throughout the term. We will not be carrying water to school and we will be able to read more and perform better and not get sick. May God bless you.'* - IMPACT-trained pupil Health Monitor



*'When we go to install the water tanks, there is often a festive atmosphere as it is unloaded from the truck ready for installation. It is clear as local people came out to dance and sing that the intervention brings great joy to the community who under regular circumstances labour each day to fulfil their water needs'*—  
IMPACT East Africa





**Thank you** for entrusting this grant to IMPACT East Africa. 2,681 children and teachers now have access to improved hygiene facilities and clean water. Importantly, children have also benefited from health education about the dangers of using unsafe water sources and practising open defecation. The infrastructure that has been put in place will be well-cared for by the school communities, so that it may continue to benefit even more children into the future.

We invite you to view a short You Tube film showing the installation of the tanks and including testimonials from pupils, teachers and parents: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WHu-ebihC8E>



#### Expenditure:

Water and sanitation	Budget (£)	Expenditure
Rainwater harvesting system 5 schools (including tanks, labour, cement, guttering etc)	9,843	9,843
Pit Latrines (boys' and girls' blocks) 5 schools	22,310	22,310
Handwashing equipment (2 medium size tanks in each school + fitting costs) 5 schools	1,733	1,733
Subtotal	33,886	33,886
UK support costs (5%)	1,694	1,694
TOTAL	£ 35,580	£ 35,580

*Exchange rate based on 1 GBP = 1.24 USD (01.04.20)*