



Status Community Sensitization & Mind-set Change for Use of Safe Drinking Water (Updated on 23 April 2017)

1. Introduction

From 2005-2011 Tusaidiane Uganda (TUL) followed an institutional approach. A purifier project was donated to a school or a health centre. Maintenance and repair was the responsibility of the beneficiary, being the client. In 2010/11 a three times a year preventive maintenance service agreement at a fee was introduced. In 2012 the target group was changed. Focus shifted from an institution like a school to village communities with an institution as the host; a much larger number of users (2.000-4.000) could be served in that way. Tusaidiane Uganda opened negotiations with existing clients how to maximize access to the clean and safe drinking water to the surrounding community. This “upscaling strategy” of course requires strong involvement of Local Leadership and sensitization of the community.

At the end of 2013 we introduced the concept of exchanging unpurified water for purified water, to secure adequate access to safe drinking water over the year. Participation by the community in the project investments and in the payment for preventive maintenance became a pre-requisite.

Technical provisions and investment for use of a minimum of around 135.000 liters of drinking water every four months (ca. 400.000 liters per year) by the client community were in place by the end of 2015.

The reality early 2016 was that village communities on average were only using ca. 20% of this volume. The invested rainwater harvesting capacity with back-up provisions is only partly used for the production (and so consumption) of clean and safe drinking water.

Based on these experiences Tusaidiane Management organized in May 2016 a Workshop in Kansanga-Uganda with clients to discuss the reasons for the poor use of the water, and –more importantly- to discuss jointly measures to improve the proper and efficient use of drinking water by communities.

At the start of 2016 we developed a new approach for both new beneficiaries and the existing ones who are following a community approach and presented it to the attendees in the Workshop. After discussion and amendments, it was adopted by all present as the way forward (see report on www.tusaidiane.com : 20160521 Workshop on Proper and Efficient Use of Safe Drinking Water.pdf).

The approach is based on mobilization and sensitization of the entire community or “Mind-set Change” by the Local Leaders, supported by Tusaidiane Uganda. The approach is valid for new and existing clients.

Preferably, Community Management is appointing a Mobilization & Sensitization Committee, composed of representatives of Community Leadership, Host of the Purifier, community members, Sub-County and County Mobilizers and representatives of Tusaidiane Uganda.

This Committee is sensitizing community and (school-)youth about the advantages of safe drinking water: better health, more children in the school, more people at work (for income generation) and lower expenses for the doctor and medicines. Villagers and children are taught to use special drinking water jerry-cans and to contribute a small compensation for the safe water to maintain their safe drinking water system.

The Mobilization & Sensitization Committee is pursuing at least 2 community sensitization meetings, is monitoring the results and is mobilizing “front runners” in the community to help to continuously improve the use of safe drinking water. If required sensitization meetings will be repeated.

The role of Tusaidiane Uganda is to attend those community sensitization meetings and to assist the Local Leadership in the sensitization process by delivering native speakers to each meeting.

2. Which clients started “Mind-set Change” after the Workshop in 2016?

- All five new clients pursued “Mind-set Change” meetings with support of Tusaidiane Uganda before the water purifier was installed, viz.
 - The Community around Bishop Ddungu primary School (Lwengo District)
 - The Community around KK Moslem Primary School in Kiwangala (Lwengo District)
 - The Community around BK Memorial Secondary School in Lyazanga (Lwengo District)
 - The Community around Katovu Child Development Centre in Katovu (Lwengo District)
 - The Community around Nakiyaga Primary School in Lwengo District.
- The Leadership of 8 existing clients asked Tusaidiane for support in “Mind-set Change” meetings, viz.



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- The Communities around Ngereko Primary School, St. Mary's Secondary School and Kyanukuzi Parish, all near to each other in Lwengo District
- The Community around Kyazanga Modern Primary School in Lwengo District
- The Community of St. Anthony Kyazanga Secondary School in Lwengo District
- The Community around Kasagama Modern Primary School in Lyantonde District
- The Community around Nakijju Umea Primary School in Bulo (Butambala District)
- Victors High School in Kirugu (Buikwe District)
- The Leadership of 6 existing clients started "Mind-set Change" in the community on own initiative, viz.
 - The Community around Dr. Obote College in Lira
 - The Community around St. Francis SS for the Blind-Madera in Soroti
 - The Community around St. Mary Immaculate Villa Maria Boarding Primary School in Kalungu
 - The Community of Baptist High School in Kitebi (Wakiso District)
 - The Community around Sydney Paul Primary School in Kinoni (Lwengo District)
 - The Community around St. Joseph SS in Nansana (Wakiso District)

So, at the end of 2016 some 19 clients out of 70 clients in service had started community sensitization.

These 70 clients with a service contract could be structured as follows:

- 36 Clients with a relatively good track record in view of management and use; they were using 75% of the purified water with around 5.500 jerrycans of 5 litres.
- 24 Clients, who were performing insufficiently, using 22% of the consumed drinking water, and
- 10 Clients, who were badly performing with only 3% of the consumed drinking water. Those 10 clients will get priority for "Mind-set Change" with increase of drinking water use consequently. If no sensitization is started, the purifier will be relocated to another potential client.

3. Clients who decided to start "Mind-set Change" for their communities in 2017

● The 10 poor users

- The Community of Mt. Carmel Parish in Busega in Kampala got a new Parish Priest, who conducted several sensitization meetings with help of Tusaidiane Uganda for the students and children in the Secondary and Primary Schools and for community members. They bought some 100 5L jerrycans on top of the 700 they already had. February was too early to see a noticeable increase in consumption. We will wait for June/July to see the improvement.
- The Leadership of the Community in Gombe Hospital, confronted with the risk to lose their purifier (their use was zero liters during a large part of 2016!), have started sensitization on their own with the use of 8.000 liters in February 2017. So, the start is there. Let us wait for further improvement in June/July. Tusaidiane Uganda will continue to offer support, if requested.
- The Community of St. Peters Secondary School in Nkokonjeru has a new Headteacher, who is eager to revitalize the water purifier and not to lose it. He is teaming up with his neighbor, the principal of Sancta Maria Primary Teacher College for Girls (see below), in view of organizing "Mind-set Change" trainings for primary pupils, secondary students, parents and surrounding community members. The first sensitization meeting will be on the 6th of May.
- The Leadership of Nalinya Lwantale Girls Primary and Secondary School already visited Tusaidiane Uganda in December 2016 to apologize for the poor management and use of safe drinking water. This resulted in a better use of drinking water in February 2017 (30.000 litres). With help of Tusaidiane a first sensitization session has been held for all pupils, students, teachers and staff on the third of March with a very large attendance.
- The Leadership of St. Theresa Primary School Entebbe (one of the older institutional clients) got a notice of removal of the purifier. In consultation with the Leadership, Tusaidiane Uganda postponed the removal and conducted a sensitization meeting for teachers on the 20th of February. A Committee was formed, which conducted themselves on the same day a sensitization meeting for pupils and parents in presence of Tusaidiane Uganda. Safe drinking water jerrycans were acquired and distributed over all classes. We must wait for the results in June/July.



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- The management of St. Joseph Katabi Primary School in Entebbe asked Tusaidiane Uganda to assist in sensitization of pupils and parents on the 24th of March. The meeting was successful, the charger was repaired and the purifier is running. We expect to see the results in June.
- The purifiers of Busaana HC3, Bukeeka COU Primary School (see next below) and Kirugu COU Primary School has been removed early March. The one of St. Francis Kankobe will be removed early May. We were blocked by Hospital Management of Kayunga Hospital (Government) to remove the purifier and to give it to another user in need of safe drinking water. The Kayunga Hospital purifier is not working as far as we know and is nor serviced anymore by Tusaidiane Uganda.
- The Leadership of Church of Uganda Primary School in Bukeeka has visited Tusaidiane Uganda with the request to re-install the unit. Tusaidiane Uganda has negotiated the following before it can consider to re-install the purifier:
 - The Community and School must pay first the outstanding balances for repairs, service and jerrycans of 1,050.000 shillings;
 - The Community and School should pay 950.000 shillings for renovation and repair of the unit in the Tusaidiane Workshop in Kansanga;
 - The payment schedule is agreed as follows:
 - ✓ 700.000 in Term-1 2017 (is meanwhile),
 - ✓ 300.000 at the end of Term-2 in August 2017,
 - ✓ 300,000 at the end of Temr-3 in November 2017,
 - ✓ 700.000 in 2018.
 - Community leadership has to conduct sensitization sessions for pupils, parents and community members in presence of Tusaidiane Uganda. The first session has been held on Friday, the 21st of April.

So, most probably Tusaidiane could safeguard safe drinking water for the community members of 7 of the 10 badly performing clients. The removal of the purifier in Kirugu COU Primary School (from the group of 34) was long overdue (poor management and use of water and poor service fee payment).

- **The other clients who will start in 2017 “Mind-set Change” sessions with Tusaidane Uganda**

- The Community around Kaboyo CDC in Kinoni (Lwengo District) in April 2017
- The Community around St. Francis Sisters Convent/Sancta Maria Teachers College for Girls in Nkokonjeru (teaming-up with St. Peters SS; see above) in April 2017
- The Community around St. Kizito Bwaise in Kampala in January 2017
- The Community around St. Hildegard PS in Nabugabo (Masaka District) in May 2017

At the end of April 2017 at least 30 (19 in 2016 and 11 in 2017) clients out of 70 in service have started sensitization for community members about the advantages of using clean and safe drinking water. Maybe some more have done so on own initiative.

Final Remark

Of course, Tusaidiane Uganda will push the beneficiaries of the in 2017 newly installed (St. Joseph Mary SS/Mbiriizi) or to be installed (Nyakibale Hospital, Cotton on Foundation) purifiers to start with sensitization before any implementation is done. However, Tusaidiane Uganda cannot make this a condition, when Tusaidiane Uganda is not contributing to the funding of new installations.

The funding of St. Joseph Secondary School in Mbiriizi is fully done by sponsors of the school in Germany. Nyakibale Hospital will be fully funded by Rotary Woerden through the intervention of Tusaidiane Uganda. We are in discussion with the Cotton on Foundation of Australia for an installation in a community with 3 schools and a health centre with around 3.000 users in Rakai District.

For any question, please, send email to

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