FINAL PROJECT REPORT

Transforming Lives Through Safe Water and Dignified Sanitation

Our Lady of The Holy Rosary Shiseso Parish

Serving communities with safe water, sanitation, and hope.

Funded By:	Implemented By:
WEFTA	SAWASHI
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We sincerely thank WEFTA for their generous support and belief in this vision. What began as a pressing need is now a reliable source of water, dignity, and hope for thousands. Your partnership has made a lasting difference.

We are grateful to the Catholic Diocese of Kakamega and the leadership of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Shiseso Parish for their strong commitment and hospitality throughout the project. We also appreciate the parish community, Bishop Obanyi School, and Shiseso Model Health Centre for their active participation and valuable in-kind support.

Our thanks go to the Kakamega County Directorate of Water and Sanitation for their technical guidance and collaboration in capacity building the water user committee/water board.

We recognize the dedication of the SAWASHI team, whose professionalism and close work with the community ensured successful delivery.

Most importantly, we celebrate the Shiseso Parish Community Water Board and every community member who gave their time, effort, and support. This project is theirs. It reflects their ownership and commitment to a better future.

Because of this collective effort, lives have improved, health has been strengthened, and a foundation for lasting change is in place. Thank you for making this possible.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Reliable water at our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Shiseso Parish and the neighboring community had become a daily struggle. Rainwater tanks stayed dry for months. An unprotected spring exposed families to disease. Shiseso Model Health Centre went six months without running water, putting patient care at serious risk.

With support from WEFTA, SAWASHI worked alongside the parish, community, and county government to change this reality. Together, we delivered a practical, climate-resilient water and sanitation solution that now serves about 3,000 people across the parish, Bishop Obanyi School, the health centre, and nearby homes.

The results are clear and immediate:

i. A solar-powered borehole now provides a steady supply of safe water, delivering 60 litres per minute. Water is stored in a 10,000-litre elevated tank and distributed through ten access points, bringing it closer to where people live, learn, and receive care.
ii. A new two-door girls' VIP latrine at the school is restoring dignity and helping keep girls in class.
iii. Water has been fully restored to Shiseso Model Health Centre, improving hygiene, infection prevention, and the quality of care.
iv. A trained Community Water Board is now in place, with a clear plan, tariff system, and maintenance schedule to ensure the system remains functional and community-owned for years to come.

The impact is already being felt. Children are healthier. Mothers feel more secure. Health workers can do their jobs with confidence. Families no longer fear the dry season. The parish has become a dependable source of support for the wider community.

The project also delivered strong value for money. WEFTA's contribution of USD 21,144 was matched by meaningful community support and careful cost management, generating savings that have been reinvested into training and follow-up support to strengthen long-term sustainability.

This work contributes directly to Kenya's development priorities and global goals on clean water, sanitation, and health. More importantly, it shows what can be achieved when committed partners come together around a shared purpose.

We are grateful to WEFTA for their trust and partnership. This project is not just about infrastructure. It is about dignity, health, and opportunity. Clean water is flowing, and with it, a stronger and more hopeful future for Shiseso.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and Rationale

Nestled in the heart of Idakho North Ward, Ikolomani Sub-County, Kakamega County, Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Shiseso Parish serves as a vital spiritual and communal anchor within the Catholic Diocese of Kakamega. The parish complex encompassing the main church, priests' residence, sisters' convent, and Bishop Obanyi School stands as a beacon of hope for the surrounding community. Just adjacent lies the government-run Shiseso Model Health Centre, which provides essential healthcare to the parish faithful and neighboring villages. Countless households nearby also depend on the same scarce water sources, making reliable access a shared daily struggle.

Prior to this intervention, the parish institutions depended entirely on rainwater harvested from rooftops and stored in tanks a fragile solution that often failed during the region's extended dry seasons. Local households, including those near the health centre, turned to an unprotected spring prone to contamination from runoff, animals, and human activity. The health facility itself faced acute shortages that compromised basic hygiene, patient care, equipment sterilization, and overall sanitation standards. At the time of our assessment, its borehole had been non-functional for six months, severely undermining infection prevention and control efforts.

In response to a heartfelt request from parish leadership and informed by a thorough participatory needs assessment, SAWASHI, in valued partnership with WEFTA, was privileged to deliver a climate-resilient WaSH project. Thanks to generous donor support, we installed a reliable solar-powered pumping system that now provides safe, sustainable water to the parish institutions and the neighboring government health facility. Complementary sanitation enhancements further strengthened hygiene practices. The parish community demonstrated remarkable ownership, contributing significantly through trenching labor, hosting project activities, and offering in-kind resources. To safeguard the system's longevity, SAWASHI invested in building local capacity by establishing and empowering dedicated governance and management structures for ongoing operation and maintenance.

This project directly addressed deep-rooted barriers to health, education, and human dignity in this rural setting, where safe water remains a persistent challenge. This initiative now serves Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Shiseso Parish, Bishop Obanyi School, neighboring households and Shiseso Model Health Centre, bringing meaningful benefits to approximately 3,000 people including parishioners, school children, patients, and community members across Idakho North Ward.

This project aligns seamlessly with Kenya's national WaSH priorities and global development aspirations. It advances the goals of the Ministry of Water, Sanitation

and Irrigation, supports Kenya Vision 2030 and the National Water Master Plan 2030 through sustainable, climate-resilient systems, and bolsters Kakamega County Government priorities by expanding safe water access, enhancing public health services, and strengthening water user committees for effective, long-term governance. Above all, it contributes directly to Sustainable Development Goal 6 (clean water and sanitation for all) and Sustainable Development Goal 3 (good health and well-being) by improving access to safe water, advancing sanitation, and strengthening infection prevention outcomes.

1.2 Project Goal and Objectives

Goal

To provide reliable, safe, and sustainable access to water and improved sanitation for Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Shiseso Parish and the neighboring community.

Specific Objectives

1. To install a solar-powered borehole to supply safe water year-round to the parish our Lady of the Holy Rosary Shiseso Parish and the neighboring community;
2. To eliminate water shortages at Shiseso Model Health Centre by ensuring continuous water supply to support hygiene, patient care, and infection prevention;
3. Establish and build the capacity of a water user committee to oversee system operation and maintenance, ensuring long-term functionality and sustainability;
4. Advance national and global WaSH priorities by improving access to safe water and sanitation, supporting Kenya Vision 2030 and SDGs 3 and 6.

2.0 PROJECT DESCIPTION

2.1 Project Location and Beneficiary Profile

Located in Idakho North Ward, Ikolomani Sub-County, Kakamega County, within the Catholic Diocese of Kakamega, this project serves the parish complex church, priests' residence, sisters' convent, and Bishop Obanyi School adjacent to Shiseso Model Health Centre. It provides sustainable water and sanitation access to about 3,000 people, including parishioners, schoolchildren, healthcare staff, patients, and neighboring households who previously relied on unsafe or unreliable water sources. By linking faith-based, educational, and health facilities, the intervention strengthens community health, supports learning, enhances hygiene, and fosters social cohesion, while demonstrating a climate-resilient model for rural WaSH solutions.

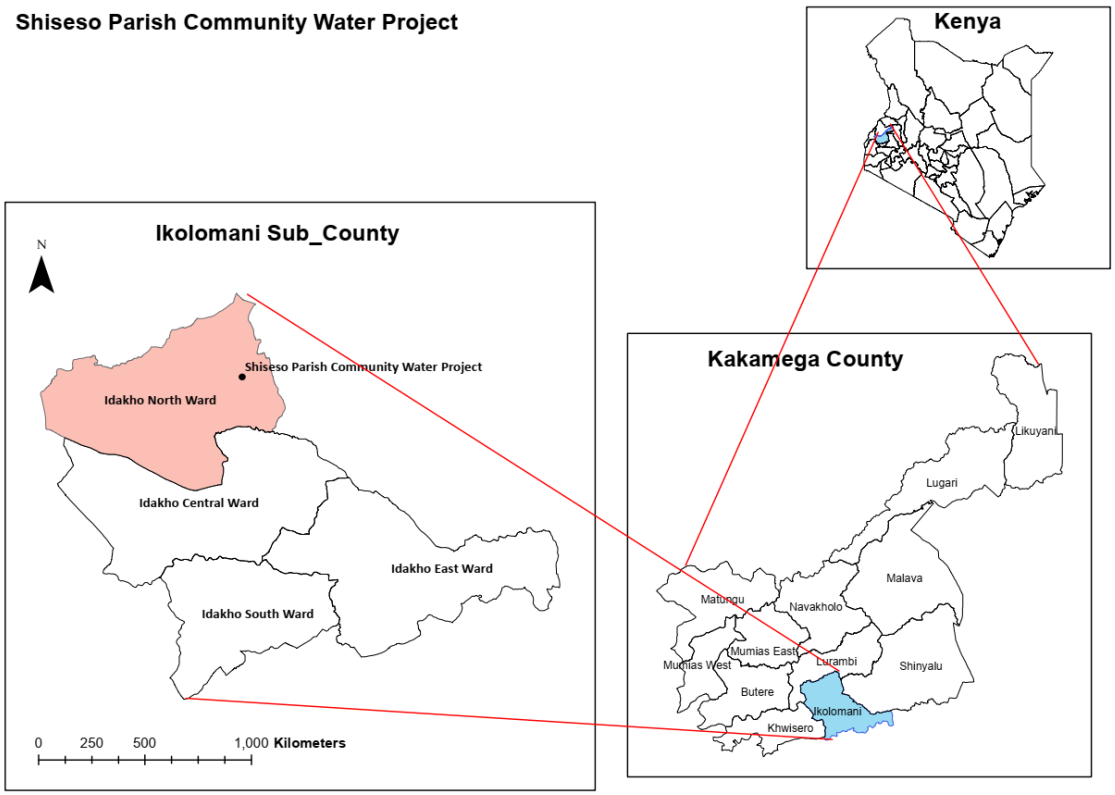

Figure 2.1: Map of the project area

2.2 Technical Components and Interventions

The project provided a complete, climate-friendly water and sanitation solution. It included a solar-powered borehole and improved sanitation facilities. Each part was planned to suit the rural parish, making sure the water is reliable, sustainable, and supports better health.

2.3.1 Hydrogeological Assessment

A comprehensive hydrogeological and geophysical survey identified the site as having fair groundwater potential, with deeper fractured and weathered rock formations expected to yield sustainable water in sufficient quantities for the parish and surrounding community. Four geophysical profiles were conducted, and quantitative analysis using GeoWin software highlighted Point 3 as the most promising drilling location due to thicker, high-potential water-bearing zones. The survey confirmed that shallow soils are unreliable, while the deeper aquifers within the Nyanzian rock formations are capable of providing consistent, good-quality water. The geologist recommended we target deeper aquifers to ensure a durable, reliable, and safe water supply for the schools, health center, and parish institutions.

2.3.2 Borehole drilling and development

A 100-metre-deep borehole was drilled to access a dependable, high-quality aquifer, using a Rotary Percussion (DTH) drilling rig with air compressor for precision and efficiency. Initial water strikes were encountered at 18 metres and 36 metres, while the main aquifer was reached at 63 metres, confirming a robust water source. The section from 18–75 metres comprised weathered meta-sediments, an excellent indicator for aquifer potential.

To ensure stability and long-term functionality, the borehole was cased with durable U-PVC Class D pipes, with surface casings installed from 0–35 metres to secure loose formations. Drilling and development were completed seamlessly over three days, with no major challenges. The borehole was thoroughly flushed until the water ran clear and sealed, awaiting pump testing.

2.3.3 Pump Testing and Water Quality Assessment

Comprehensive pump testing was conducted to evaluate the borehole's yield, sustainability, and hydraulic performance. The static water level (SWL) was measured at 17 metres before pumping. The borehole was then pumped continuously for 24 hours, with the pump intake set at 72 metres. During the test, the pumping water level (PWL) stabilized at 60 metres, and the well recovered to its static water level of 17 metres within 60 minutes after completion of the exercise, demonstrating strong aquifer recharge capacity. The borehole consistently discharged approximately 60 litres per minute, confirming its ability to meet the water demand of the parish, school, and health facility.

Following the hydraulic assessment, comprehensive water quality testing was conducted to ensure compliance with national regulations and World Health Organization (WHO) standards. Samples were analyzed at the Water Resources Authority laboratory for both physio-chemical and bacteriological parameters. Results confirmed that the water is of high quality and safe for domestic, institutional,

and healthcare use, providing a dependable and healthy water source for the community.

2.3.4 Distribution Network and Consumer Points

A robust water distribution network was established to deliver reliable and convenient access across the parish complex, Bishop Obanyi School, and the Shiseso Model Health Centre. The system features a main elevated storage tank with a 10,000-litre capacity, mounted on a fabricated steel tower 6 metres high, enabling gravity-fed flow to all consumer points.

A total of 10 consumer points were constructed or connected to the main distribution line, strategically located to serve the different beneficiaries efficiently. Within the parish complex, water was routed to raised storage tanks supplying the priests' residence and the sisters' convent. The system was also connected to an existing but previously idle tank at the health facility, ensuring uninterrupted supply for critical services.

Consumer water points were designed with multiple taps to reduce congestion and improve convenience for users during peak drawing periods. The entire network was carefully planned to optimize flow, accessibility, and ease of use for all targeted beneficiaries.

2.3.5 System Installation and Testing

The borehole was fitted with a high-performance Solarpex submersible pump (Model 3JTC6.5/120-D72/1300), capable of delivering up to 6,500 litres per hour with a maximum head of 120 metres and powered at 1,300 watts. Its brushless motor minimizes mechanical wear, making it well-suited for remote rural sites where frequent maintenance is difficult.

Three 580-watt solar panels were mounted on a fabricated array atop the 6-metre steel tower supporting the 10,000-litre main storage tank, providing a reliable, fully off-grid energy source. The system underwent thorough testing and calibration to optimize hydraulic performance, and the control unit was fitted with a simple on/off switch for easy operation by local attendants, ensuring both efficiency and user-friendliness.

2.3.6 Sanitation Block

Bishop Obanyi School benefitted from a new, two-door VIP latrine block dedicated to girls, significantly enhancing hygiene and privacy for students. The parish leadership supported the project by excavating the pit, while SAWASHI expertly constructed the superstructure, ensuring a durable and safe facility. This collaboration not only strengthened sanitation infrastructure but also reinforced health and hygiene

practices, contributing to a healthier learning environment and long-term behavior change.

2.3.7 Water Board Strengthening

SAWASHI, in partnership with WEFTA and the Kakamega County Directorate of Water & Sanitation, delivered a targeted capacity-building program for the Shiseso Parish Community Water Board to secure the long-term sustainability of the project. The training strengthened skills in governance, financial management, and operation and maintenance, aligned with the Water Act 2016 and sector standards. As a result, the Board developed its first Annual Action Plan and established clear systems for budgeting, tariff setting, record-keeping, and preventive maintenance, while initiating legal registration as a Water User Association. With a strong commitment to inclusive leadership and accountability, the Board is now effectively managing the project ensuring reliable service to the parish, school, health facility, and surrounding community, and positioning the project as a scalable model for community-led, climate-resilient water governance.

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3.0 PROJECT IMPACT

This intervention has transformed more than infrastructure it has reshaped daily life, restored dignity, and strengthened resilience across the Shiseso parish community and its surrounding institutions. The impact is already visible, measurable, and deeply felt.

3.1 A Climate-Resilient Source of Water

Today, the parish stands transformed. A solar powered borehole now delivers a steady flow of 60 litres per minute of safe, WHO compliant water, reliably available every hour of every day, throughout the year. The uncertainty that once came with changing seasons and prolonged dry spells has been replaced with confidence and stability.

With a 10,000-litre elevated storage tank and a well-designed distribution system, clean water now reaches every corner of the parish complex, from the priests' residence and sisters' convent to Bishop Obanyi School and nearby households. What was once a daily struggle has become as simple as turning on a tap.

This is more than improved access. It is dignity restored, health protected, and time reclaimed. For the first time in generations, the community enjoys true water security and an enduring, climate smart solution.

3.2 Restored Care with Confidence

Shiseso Model Health Centre that had nearly ground to a halt after its borehole failed for six months is now fully functional again. Reliable water has restored proper infection prevention and control, enabled safe sterilization of medical equipment, improved ward cleanliness, and ensured dignified hygiene for patients.

Healthcare workers can now deliver services with confidence, and the quality of care has significantly improved. Mothers are no longer hesitant to bring their children for treatment, knowing the facility can maintain basic hygiene standards.

This investment has strengthened healthcare delivery and reduced the risk of waterborne diseases in Idakho North Ward, reaffirming the facility's role as a trusted centre for care in the community.

3.3 Restored Dignity and Keeping Girls in School

The construction of a dedicated girls' VIP latrine block at Bishop Obanyi School has transformed the daily experience of learners. Girls now have access to a clean, private and secure space, replacing the discomfort and risks they previously faced.

This simple but critical improvement is already making a difference. There is a renewed sense of pride, with pupils taking responsibility for keeping the facilities clean.

With reliable water available for handwashing, the school is fostering healthier habits that extend beyond the classroom. This investment is not just about sanitation, it is about protecting dignity, supporting education, and giving girls the opportunity to stay in school and pursue their future with confidence.

3.4 A Parish Empowered to Serve

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Shiseso Parish is no longer only a place of worship. It has become a dependable source of safe water for the surrounding community. Families who once relied on unsafe sources now draw clean water from the same system serving the church, school and health facility.

The parish community has embraced this transformation with commitment and pride. Their active involvement and willingness to contribute labour demonstrate a strong sense of ownership and responsibility to sustain the system.

This intervention has strengthened the parish's role in the community, turning it into a centre of both faith and service. Beyond meeting its own needs, the parish now supports others, fostering unity, improving livelihoods and creating a shared sense of progress.

3.5 Secured Local Ownership

Sustainability is no longer a promise. It is already taking shape. Through focused training delivered in partnership with WEFTA and Kakamega County, the Shiseso Parish Community Water Board has grown into a confident and capable team ready to lead.

Guided by a structured Annual Action Plan with clear timelines for key milestones including setting tariffs, establishing a preventive maintenance schedule, and formal registration as a Water User Association, the board is already managing the system with accountability and direction.

Although the project awaits official handover, the system is fully operational and serving the community. One of the parish staff has been trained as the local technician, capable of operating and maintaining the solar powered system, ensuring reliability.

3.6 Driving National Development Through WaSH

This project now directly benefits around 3,000 people while supporting key national and regional objectives. It advances Kenya Vision 2030 and the National Water Master Plan 2030, strengthens Kakamega County's health and WaSH priorities, and contributes to SDG 6 on clean water and sanitation as well as SDG 3 on good health and well-being. At the same time, it builds climate resilience in a region increasingly affected by unpredictable rainfall.

The intervention stands as a practical, scalable example of collaboration between faith-based institutions, government, and donors. It demonstrates how targeted, smart investments can transform systems, not just provide water, creating lasting impact that reaches well beyond the parish.

4.0 FINANCIAL REPORT

4.1 Budget Overview

The Shiseso Parish, Health Center, and Community Water and Sanitation Project (Diocese of Kakamega, Kenya) was implemented with a revised total budget of USD 27,886.49, comprising:

- USD 21,144 in direct donor funding from WEFTA
- USD 5,200 in structured partner support (WEFTA project support USD 1,100; SAWASHI project support USD 1,100; post-construction follow-up & education USD 2,000; WEFTA in-kind contribution USD 1,000)
- USD 6,742 in community contributions, including labour, venues, local materials, and excavation.

Through careful planning, efficient local contractor management, active community participation, and adaptive project oversight, the team successfully controlled costs. Core infrastructure was delivered with savings of approximately USD 1,800 against the approved budget, allowing resources to be redirected toward post-construction support, hygiene education, and long-term monitoring.

4.2 Revised Approved Budget Breakdown

Table 4.1: Approved Project Budget – Shiseso Parish WaSH Project (Revised)

Item Description	Community Contribution (USD)	Donor Cost (USD)	Total (USD)
Trainings, initial assessments, mobilization & follow-up	0	1,500	1,500
Hydrogeological Survey & Drilling Permit application	149	781	930
Borehole drilling and development	307	7,921	8,228
Fabrication, welding & installation of 6M high steel tower	538	1,163	1,701
Supply & installation of uPVC main storage tank	346	729	1,075
Supply & installation of submersible pump & electrical components	461	1,306	1,767
Supply & installation of solar panels	432	1,197	1,629
Plumbing works (excavation, distribution lines, backfilling)	450	785	1,235
Supply of local materials (bricks, stones, gravel)	700	0	700
Excavation of toilet in the school	600	0	600
Construction of public toilet at the school	222	1,398	1,620

Item Description	Community Contribution (USD)	Donor Cost (USD)	Total (USD)
Handwashing stations & tap stands (school, church, community, health facility)	37	1,665	1,702
Sub-Total – Core Project Activities	**5,742**	**16,944**	**22,686**
WEFTA project support + in-kind	1,000	1,100	2,100
SAWASHI project support + post-construction follow-up & education	0	3,100	3,100
Grand Total Project Value	**6,742**	**21,144**	**27,886**

4.3 Budget Utilization – Actual vs. Approved Donor-Funded Components

This budget summary reflects disciplined financial management and efficient delivery, achieving approximately USD 1,800 in savings from the revised USD 21,144 donor budget through strong community engagement, favorable site conditions, negotiated costs, and smart resource use.

The savings strengthen post-construction support and sustainability, securing greater long-term impact for the water and sanitation initiative.

Table 4.2: Budget Utilization Summary – Actual vs. Revised Donor Budget

Budget Item	Approved Donor Cost (USD)	Actual Expenditure (USD)	Variance (USD)	Key Remarks
Initial assessments, trainings, permits & mobilization	2,281	858	+1,423	Strong community involvement reduced costs significantly.
Borehole Drilling & Development	7,921	7,410	+511	Favorable site conditions delivered savings.
6M Steel Tower Fabrication & Installation	1,163	1,014	+149	Local fabrication and material optimization.
uPVC Main Storage Tank	729	663	+66	Negotiated pricing advantage.
Submersible Pump & Electrical Components	1,306	1,147	+159	Negotiated pricing advantage.
Solar Panels	1,197	975	+222	Negotiated pricing advantage.
Plumbing Works	785	1,053	-268	More coverage than initially planned.

Budget Item	Approved Donor Cost (USD)	Actual Expenditure (USD)	Variance (USD)	Key Remarks
Toilet Construction (school)	1,398	1,131	+267	Support from parish leadership.
Handwashing Stations / Tap Stands	1,665	1,443	+222	Leveraged on the existing system.
Post-Construction Support, Monitoring & Education	3,100 (combined)	1,858 (to date)	+1,242	Phased approach adopted.
Total Cash Expenditure	**21,144**	**~19,344**	**+~1,800**	Approximately USD 1,800 overall savings.

4.4 Donor Return on Investment & Lasting Impact

WEFTA's investment of USD 21,144, strengthened by partner and community contributions, has delivered a reliable solar-powered borehole serving the parish, school, health facility, and surrounding community, along with improved sanitation facilities and well-placed handwashing stations to promote better hygiene. The project also includes a strong post-construction support programme to ensure the system continues to function well over time and delivers lasting health benefits. Savings of about USD 1,800 were carefully reinvested into extended monitoring, community education, and small quality improvements, further increasing the project's durability and impact. We are grateful for WEFTA's partnership and trust this project now stands as a sustainable, community-owned solution that will continue to provide clean water, dignity, and better health for years to come.

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5.0 LESSONS LEARNT AND WAYFORWARD

5.1 Lessons Learnt

The Shiseso Parish WaSH Improvement Project has provided valuable lessons that will shape how we design and deliver future water and sanitation interventions in rural and faith-based settings.

5.1.1 Community ownership is the foundation of sustainability

Strong community involvement from the beginning proved critical to the project's success. The parish's contribution through labour, local materials, and logistical support went beyond cost-sharing. It built a strong sense of responsibility and pride. Today, this ownership is reflected in how well the facilities are maintained and in the proactive role the Water Board is taking in managing the system.

5.1.2 Integrated approaches deliver greater impact

Bringing together the parish, school, health facility, and surrounding community into one system significantly expanded the project's reach and value. Instead of serving isolated groups, the project created a shared resource that meets multiple needs at once. This approach maximizes benefits, strengthens institutions, and creates a model that can be replicated in similar communities.

5.1.3 Investing in quality technical design ensures long-term reliability

Careful planning and informed technical decisions were key to building a system that will last. The choice of a reliable water source, combined with solar-powered pumping and adequate storage, has resulted in a dependable and cost-effective solution. This reduces the risk of system failure and eliminates recurring costs associated with less sustainable alternatives. Getting the technical design right from the start saves both time and resources in the long run.

5.1.4 Targeted investments in sanitation improve dignity and participation

Providing safe and appropriate sanitation facilities especially for girls has had an immediate positive impact. Improved access to clean and private facilities has enhanced dignity, encouraged better hygiene practices, and supported consistent school attendance. Small, well-targeted investments in sanitation can lead to meaningful social outcomes.

5.1.5 Strong partnerships and flexibility increase value for money

Collaboration between partners and a flexible approach to implementation allowed the project to be delivered efficiently. Cost savings achieved during implementation were reinvested into additional hygiene promotion and follow-up activities, further strengthening impact. This demonstrates that trust, coordination, and adaptability are essential for delivering high-quality, cost-effective WaSH programmes.

5.2 Way Forward

Building on these lessons, future interventions will prioritize deeper community engagement, integrated service delivery, and high-quality technical design. Greater emphasis will also be placed on strengthening local management structures, expanding hygiene behaviour change efforts, and ensuring continuous monitoring of system performance.

By applying these insights, we are confident that future investments will achieve even greater impact, sustainability, and value for money delivering lasting benefits to communities that need them most.

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6.0 CONCLUSION

The Shiseso Parish WaSH Improvement Project demonstrates what is possible when donor support, strong technical delivery, and community ownership come together.

A solar-powered borehole now provides safe, reliable water to the parish, school, and health facility. A girls' sanitation block has improved dignity and school attendance, while the health centre has regained its capacity to deliver safe care. A trained and motivated Water Board is already managing the system with confidence.

These results are tangible: improved health outcomes, consistent school attendance for girls, and reliable access to clean water for households. The parish has also strengthened its role as a vital community hub.

WEFTA's investment of USD 21,144, combined with community contributions and partnerships, delivered a total value of USD 27,886 and sustainable services to approximately 3,000 people. Importantly, the systems and structures now in place ensure long-term impact and value for money.

We are deeply grateful to WEFTA for this partnership. Beyond infrastructure, this investment has strengthened local institutions, restored hope, and demonstrated a practical model for sustainable rural WaSH development. Together, we have created lasting change and a reliable source of life for years to come.

ANNEX

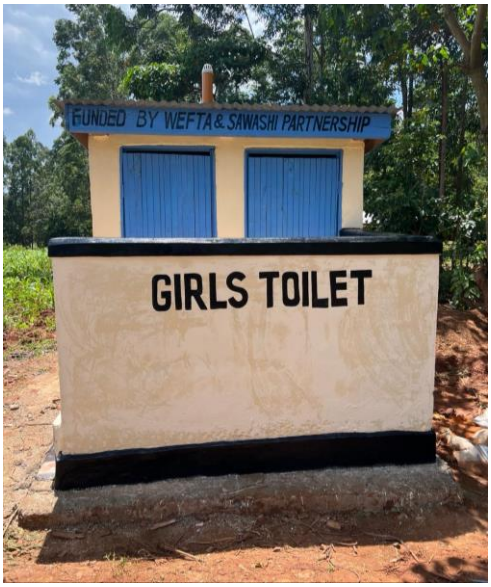
Photo Gallery


CHURCH WATER POINT


FUNDED BY WEFTA&SAWASHI PARTNERSHIP
HEALTH CENTER WATER POINT


FUNDED BY WEFTA-SAWASHI PARTNERSHIP
COMMUNITY WATER POINT


SCHOOL WATER POINT


FUNDED BY WEFTA & SAWASHI PARTNERSHIP
GIRLS TOILET