

Existing¹ Good Practice Case 6:

WATER USER'S FUND MANAGEMENT

A case of Saragonyi Borehole, Dzaipi Sub-county, Adjumani district.

BACKGROUND

'Saragonyi' borehole is found in Dzaipi central village, 20 kilometres from Adjumani town. A Water User Committee (WUC) was created in 2007. It has 7 committee members: 2 women and 5 men. According to Mr. Isidore, the chairperson of the committee, they have not received any specific training in the management of the water source. 48 households collect their water from 'Saragonyi' borehole.

Names of water source committee.

Name	Position
Obuudra Isidore	Chairperson
Mambgi Vicky	Vice chairperson
Ondoa Obudra Betty	Secretary
Wani Grace	Treasurer
Zakary Eriku	Care Taker
Mangwi Charles	Member
Dumbi Betty	Member

Fund collection and management

Each consumer household contributes US\$1,000/= per month as water user fee for operation and maintenance. Thus monthly a total of US\$48,000/- is collected and deposited to their account.

The WUC opened up an interest account with Dzaipi Rural SACCO on 6th of May 2008 where they keep their monthly contribution of water user fees collected. Three signatories are authorized to withdraw money: the chairman, secretary and the treasurer. This money is also available to the water users as a loan.

Expenditures

The water user fees are spent on purchase of spare parts. On the market a water pipe costs US\$ 55,000/- and a rod costs US\$ 25,000/-. At the moment all the monthly contribution is spent on buying spares, especially pipes and rods when the borehole breaks down.

Accountability

The monthly deposit is receipted per individual contribution. The chairman of the WUC Mr. Isidore convenes a monthly meeting where he shares his

accountability with the community of users. Minutes of this meeting are recorded and kept with the secretary.

Rules and Fines (Byelaws)

Any community-of-users member who fails to meet the monthly water user fee is fined US\$ 5,000/-

An individual is offered a maximum loan of US\$ 50,000/- which is to be paid back with a 10% interest within three months.

Grazing of animals around the water source is punishable: for cattle the fine is US\$ 2,000/- and for goats US\$1,000/- .

Challenges

- Poor turn up of members for community work and meetings
- Some people don't pay fines
- Irregular monthly contribution from some water users
- Commitment towards management of the water is still very low

Success factors

Fines have resulted into timely pay back of loans.

Local resources are available both in terms of skills, materials and in kind.

Lessons learnt

- Fines can speed up work
- Saving in a bank is a good practice since the funds are secure and available when needed to solve emergency problems
- The committee has to work very hard to show a good example to other community members

Contacts and information

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¹ Existing means that it was reported a good case in the first Dialogue by the participants