



# Case Study

## Community case notes.

### The children of Kole

One of the Gold Standard projects our customers have helped to support is the Kole district borehole rehabilitation project in Uganda. Gold Standard project ID GS 1359

The co2balance community borehole project is unique in that it concentrates efforts to find existing but damaged water supplies and boreholes and repairs them to restore the water supply to the community. Utilising carbon finance as a long term funding mechanism ensures security for the continuation of the borehole safeguarding the community into the future.

In the Kole District of Uganda co2balance clients have funded the initial repair and ongoing maintenance of water boreholes during the early summer of 2013. The restoration of clean water supplies to these communities has a significant impact on the lives and health of the people. These are some of their stories.



#### About co2balance UK Ltd

Established in 2003, co2balance UK Ltd is a leading, UK based, carbon management provider offering carbon calculation, management and reduction services to leading blue chip companies including, BSKyB, Toshiba Europe, Gaz De France, Fiat and Flybe. As a project developer co2balance UK Ltd creates African Gold Standard and CDM projects that focus on social, health and community benefits to the families within the project area, in addition to carbon savings.



The co2balance country coordinator Andrew Ocama attended the repair program in Kole District Uganda and interviewed members of the community to illustrate the impact of client support for this project.

The co2balance borehole rehabilitation project supports local business and engineering teams to repair broken water supplies for communities in developing countries. Unlike some projects that create a onetime activity, this program incentivizes the maintenance team to ensure a long term quality repair and maintain maximum availability of the restored supply to the community.

The process is monitored on the ground by the co2balance team and independently verified each year by The Gold Standard.

The impact of this project is profoundly felt by women and children in particular, who are responsible for the daily chore of collecting water. Without a properly maintained supply in the community this can often be really tough, involving long distances away from the village carrying heavy loads.

Pius is a pupil at Abari primary school in the Alemi Parish. His family uses about 180 liters of water a day. He used to fetch water from 2km away before repair of the borehole and it would take about 2 hours to do this. Now he only collects water from 150 meters away from his home and it takes much less time.

Tracy and Olivia plus their friend Suzan Okello (pictured right) also live within the same area and had to face the daily ordeal of collecting water far away from the safety of home. Often they would leave school during mid afternoon, the two extra hours collecting water would leave them with only the dusk hour to do their homework. Like much of rural Uganda this is an area without electricity for lighting, and they had little time in a day for reading their school books or playing with their friends. With the borehole repaired and time saved, they can reclaim some of their playtime and hopefully they will be able to do well at school too.

Pictured right. The local head teacher Mr Raphael Aguma offers advice to Tracy and Olivia about the importance of clean water and washing their containers.

The beneficial effect of supplying clean water to a community cannot be underestimated. In Eastern Africa the diseases causing diarrhoea, attributed to dirty water, result in the deaths of 1.4 million children annually — more than AIDS, malaria and measles combined (WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Program [JMP], 2010).

Diarrheal disease accounts for 27 % of deaths in Uganda, and inadequate water and sanitation contributes to 17 % of the disease burden (Prüss-Ustün et al, 2008).

By supporting these projects through carbon finance co2balance clients are helping to prevent disease and support communities to help themselves.