



LIRA, DOKOLO, AND AMURIA DISTRICTS: UGANDA



The burden of collecting water falls primarily on women and children who must travel great distances to the closest water source at risk of physical violence

COUNTRY: Uganda
DATES: May 2007 – May 2008
FUNDING: \$729,633 - WADA

KEY PARTNERS:

- Century Bottling Company – local Coca-Cola bottler
- USAID/Uganda
- Christian Children’s Fund
- Cooperazione Internazionale – Italian NGO

ACTIVITIES SUMMARY:

- Provided clean water, sanitation facilities and hygiene promotion for persons displaced by conflict in rural regions of Northern Uganda

BENEFICIARIES:

- 35,090 returning internally displaced persons benefiting from access to improved water supply and sanitation services and hygiene promotion

ALLIANCE OBJECTIVES:

- **Watershed Management**
 - Established community water, sanitation, and protection committees for sustainable infrastructure management and source protection
- **Water Supply and Sanitation Services**
 - Drilled 18 new boreholes
 - Rehabilitated six existing wellheads
 - Installed three solar-powered pump systems
 - Constructed seven latrines and handwashing facilities
- **Hygiene and Sanitation Behavior**
 - Promoted hygiene and sanitation among schoolchildren and health center managers



WADA constructed high volume solar-powered water supply provides populations returning from prolonged conflict with water for drinking and agriculture

RESTORING SERVICES TO REBUILD LIVES

By providing clean water in rural villages, schools, and trading centers in Northern Uganda, the Water and Development Alliance (WADA) has helped facilitate the return of Ugandans who were forced from their homes as a result of prolonged civil conflict. This project has ensured that 35,090 men, women, and children have drinking water and sanitation facilities to help prevent disease, enhance personal security, and stimulate income generation.

Following a major escalation of local violent conflict in 2002, 1.2 million people – approximately 80 percent of the population of northern Uganda – fled their homes and sought refuge with relatives or in squalid camps for internally displaced persons. Once security stabilized, thousands of people have begun the difficult task of returning to their villages and rebuilding their homes, farms, and lives.

The need for water was identified by returnees as critical for successful reintegration to their communities. In villages without improved water sources, residents were required to travel several kilometers for their water supply, placing a huge burden on farmers, leaving women and girls vulnerable to gender-based violence, and exacerbating the risk of water-borne disease.

WADA worked through local partners Christian Children’s Fund and Cooperazione Internazionale to install boreholes with hand pumps for rural settlements or solar-powered mechanized systems that provide a consistent, high-volume supply of water to densely-populated areas around schools and trading centers. Infrastructure investments were complemented by community organization and training for sustainability, as well as outreach to promote the adoption of key hygiene behaviors to reduce diarrheal disease, and promote community safety and protection from violence associated with water collection.