

Integrated Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project



Project Sites Uzumba, Maramba, Pfungwe, Hwedza

1. Background of Project

In the rural area of Zimbabwe, there still remains difficulties in obtaining safe water, causing many disadvantages such as the spread of waterborne diseases, or having to walk long distances to reach the places with water. Since its independence, the Government of Zimbabwe has placed the supply of safe water to citizens as an important policy matter. In recent years, the Government formulated the "Integrated Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Program" (1985 – 2005), which focused comprehensively on the water and health issues of citizens. Based on such situation, the Government of Zimbabwe requested Grant Aid from Japan with the aim of the setting water sources by drilling to improve the rural water situation. In the past Japan has implemented similar projects (1983 and 1988), and this project targeted East Mashonaland.

2. Project Overview

(1) Period of Cooperation

FY1993 – FY1994

(2) Type of Cooperation

Grant Aid

(3) Partner Country's Implementing Organization

Department of Water Development (DWD) Ministry of Health and Child Welfare (MOHCW) Ministry of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing (MOL-GPWNH) Ministry of Land, Agriculture, and Water, State Office of Mashonaland.

(4) Narrative Summary

1) Overall Goal

By improving the access to safe water, to reduce the outbreak of waterborne diseases.

2) Project Purpose

By improving the water supply situation, to supply safe drinking water to the people in the target area.

3) Outputs

The necessary equipment for deep well drilling is installed.

4) Inputs

Japanese Side

Grant	941 million yen
	(E/N amount)

Zimbabwean Side

Approx. 29 million yen
(Management and maintenance costs)

3. Members of Evaluation Team

JICA Zimbabwe Office
(Commissioned to Ernst and Young Associates (Private) Ltd.)

4. Period of Evaluation

February 2001

5. Results of Evaluation

(1) Relevance

Since its independence, the Government of Zimbabwe has made efforts to achieve safe water supply for all citizens. It formulated "The Integrated Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Program" as a basic plan in 1985 – 2005 and focused on the implementation of the Program as one of the most important policy measures. The access ratios to safe water, for example, were as low as 18% in the UMP and 46% in the Hwedza, the two targeted areas of

this project. Therefore, there used be chronic occurrence of waterborne diseases and water drawing labor entailed by women and children due to the poor access to water. This project was useful for the improvement of such conditions, and met with the needs of the local people.

(2) Effectiveness

In the project, a total of 432 boreholes with the planned depth were completed, with the initiative of the DWD staff in carrying out the drilling. Out of these, 364 holes successfully provided water at the time the boreholes were drilled. This represents a success rate of 77% of drilled boreholes, which was higher than the estimated rate of 70% at the planning period.

The number of the people that benefited from this situation was estimated as 156,283 at the Basic Design Report of the project, however; it reached up to 195,391 according to the survey in December 1999. Therefore, it can be said that the project purpose has been achieved.

(3) Efficiency

Prior to the actual drilling in the project areas, test drillings of 40 boreholes were conducted mainly by the Japanese contractors. These test drillings were primarily meant to provide training for the the DWD staff. The necessary techniques such as how to operate the equipment were transferred, and thus all drillings in the project areas by DWD staff were completed smoothly. However, the cost per borehole of the drilling was about 70,000 yen, which was higher than the estimated cost of 56,000 yen in the initial plan. Moreover, it took about four years to drill around 400 wells due to the lack of the DWD budget, not the one year in the original plan.

(4) Impact

As for the socio-economic impact of this project, the average distance to water supply points has significantly reduced from the previous 5-7 km to around 1.5 km. Moreover, the incidence rate of waterborne diseases decreased because more people became able to access safer water than before. The number of people who suffered from diarrhea caused by water was 5,877 in the UMP area in 1996, it decreased to 4,133 in 2000. Also, in the Hwedza area, the 4,529 in 1997 decreased to 2,273 in 1999. Moreover, the advantage of borehole water has gradually been recognized by the local beneficiaries for the prevention of water-born diseases such as cholera.

(5) Sustainability

In the project areas, an increasing number of local peo-

ple were willing to be involved in activities such as making fences for preventing accidents around the boreholes or repair and maintenance of the pump system. Therefore, it can be said that ownership among the people is becoming stronger. Moreover, because the project selected the boreholes and the pumps taking the sustainability into consideration, the maintenance would not be difficult either technically or financially. Hence, the sustainability of the effect of the project is deemed to be high.

6. Lessons Learned and Recommendations

(1) Lessons Learned

Awareness that borehole water is useful for preventing waterborne disease from spreading quickly among the people. Therefore, health education to provide the knowledge such as the relationship between water and health are desirable to be conducted to make projects more effective. Furthermore, community-based management systems for the maintenance and the reserve fund system should be established in accordance with projects.