

THE *Rulindo Challenge*

SAFE WATER AND SANITATION SERVICES FOR ALL
MARCH 2020



water for people
RWANDA

THE DISTRICT'S JOURNEY TOWARD UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO WATER

In 2010, a partnership between the district of Rulindo, the Ministry of Infrastructure, the Water and Sanitation Corporation (WASAC), and Water For People launched the Rulindo Challenge Program – an ambitious plan to bring full water and sanitation coverage to Rulindo. At that point, only 29% of the district population had clean water access.

Today, Rulindo District has reached full water infrastructure coverage and demonstrates a journey of deep transformation that concludes with access to water, improved sanitation, better health and more opportunities for its population.

100%
INFRASTRUCTURE
COVERAGE

QUICK FACTS

ABOUT RULINDO DISTRICT



567

SQ KM District Size



337,820

District Population



494

Villages/
Communities



Partnership
Since

2010

OUR IMPACT

| | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Total water infrastructure coverage | 100% |
| Total sanitation coverage | 58.6% |
| Health facilities reached | 33 (100%) |
| Public schools reached | 94 (100%) |
| Number of public water points installed | 1088 |
| Total number of water supply systems | 50 |
| Number of pumping stations | 18 |
| Jobs created | 5,680 |
| Total program investment cost | 24,903,396 Usd (Approx. 23 bn Frw) |



THE RULINDO CHALLENGE PROGRAM

The Journey

in 2010...

The district of Rulindo, together with the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water For People, launched an ambitious program known as the “Rulindo Challenge Program” with the aim to bring full access to water and sanitation services to the entire population of Rulindo District. This dream has become a reality!

The Rulindo Challenge Program is the first effort of its kind at this scale, anywhere in a low-income country, to bring full and sustainable access to water and sanitation services to every school, every health care facility, and every community in a district.



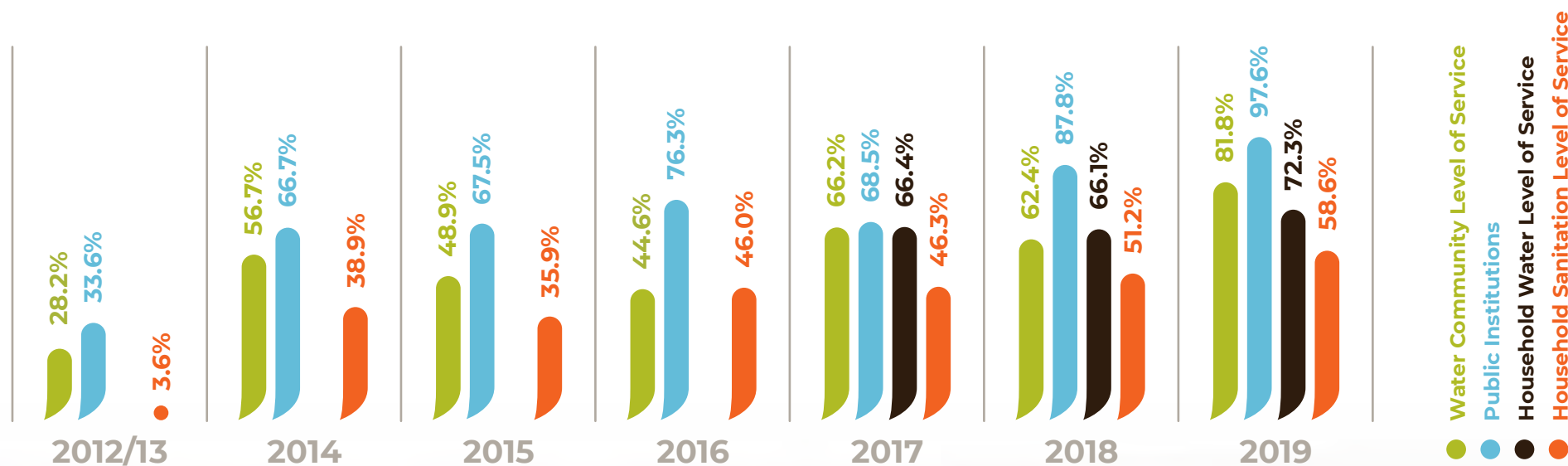
When the Rulindo Challenge Program started, it was common for children to miss school or skip classes while they searched for water. Women spent hours out early in the morning and late into the evening climbing and descending hills in search of water. The water related disease burden was heavy as well. At the time, only 29% of the district population accessed clean water, and only 4% had improved latrines in their households; 50% of schools and clinics lacked proper water and sanitation facilities.

Over the last nine (9) years, this partnership has brought water infrastructure access to the entire population, including 94 (100%) schools and 33 (100%) health care facilities. In addition to increasing access to drinking water through infrastructure development, the initiative is also addressing sustainability challenges through capacity and knowledge development at all levels to ensure that systems built today last well into the future.

Outside the district, the Rulindo Challenge Program has inspired a policy shift from traditional sporadic water provision projects to more sustainable and comprehensive interventions. The Government of Rwanda is now using this model to scale-up and deliver water service to the entire country under the “District-Wide Approach” banner. Following the proven success of the Rulindo Challenge Program, Water For People now applies the model in all nine of its country programs under the name, Everyone Forever.

EVERYONE • FOREVER

TRENDS IN WATER & SANITATION SERVICES IN RULINDO DISTRICT



PROGRAM RESULT: FULL DISTRICT WATER INFRASTRUCTURE COVERAGE

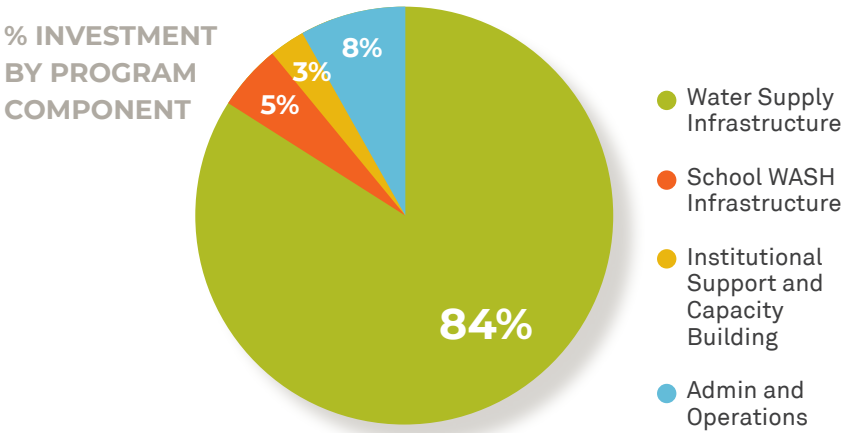
- At Community level, water service increased from 28.2% in 2012 to 81.8 % in 2019 while at household level, water level of service increased to 72.3 % in 2019.
- At Public institutions, the level of service grew to 97.6 % in 2019 up from 33.6% in 2012.
- Through sanitation marketing approaches and behavior change programming, household sanitation level of service improved from 3.6% in 2012 to 58.6% in 2019.

THE PROGRAM INVESTMENT

To successfully achieve the Everyone (bringing water to every community, household, clinic, and school) and Forever (sustainable water services) targets, Water For People, the Government of Rwanda (GoR), and the Rulindo District co-financed the investment required. For water infrastructure development, Water For People, Ministry of Infrastructure via WASAC, and District of Rulindo contributed 55%, 30% and 15% respectively.

For interventions in schools and health care facilities, Water For People and the district contributed 80% and 20%, respectively, of the total investment required. To ensure sustainability of the program, Water For People fully finances capacity building for all entities responsible for providing water and sanitation services. This includes training service authorities and service providers to conduct ongoing monitoring to ensure the sustainability of services.

| PARTNER | CONTRIBUTION IN USD |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Water For People | 15,258,748 |
| WASAC | 6,262,378 |
| Rulindo District | 3,382,274 |
| TOTAL | USD 24,903,393 |





THE RULINDO CHALLENGE PROGRAM

The Impact



We chose to name the Program “The Rulindo Challenge” to highlight the challenges that we would have to overcome in the journey to bring water to all the district’s population. Achieving the program’s targets seemed like jumping a high bar. It would only be possible when every school, every clinic, and every household had access to reliable safe water. It was a dream. But you know, even when the situation seems impossible, Rwandans find a way out. Today, our dream has become a reality.

- Justus KANGWAGYE, Former Mayor of Rulindo District



We started this journey in 2010 and we knew it would take a lot of efforts to reach our goals. At the time, only about 29% of the district population accessed clean water. Only 4% of all households had improved latrines and 50% of schools and clinics lacked water and proper sanitation facilities. Today, all children go to school and don’t have an excuse to skip classes while looking for water. Some households have installed faucets in their own homes, while others access safe water less than 500 m from their homes. Women who in the past bore the heavy duty to look for water have regained their time, and are working hard with their husbands for their development.

- Prosper MULINDWA, Vice Mayor for Economic Affairs, Rulindo District



We paid 300 Frw per jerrycan. When you couldn’t afford that, you had to walk for almost an hour or more to go get water downhill . Today, we access safe water near our homes at a little cost of 20 Frw per jerrycan. Our children are clean and healthy and have more time to focus on their studies and their future. It is a huge achievement.

- Beatrice ICYIMANIZANYE, Resident of Tumba Sector, Rulindo District



Very often, we missed classes as we went to look for water. But the situation was much worse for girls. When we had our periods, it was hard to get water to keep ourselves clean, and be able to continue following our lessons. Sometimes girls had to leave school and go home. Now that water was brought to our school, we can focus more on our studies.

- Emilienne MUKAKANANI, Student at GS Remera



We used to have cases of children with waterborne diseases. Today, children use safe water, eat clean food, bathe, and have good health.

- Augustin MUGENGA, Director, Tare Health Centre



It was a dream for us to think of reaching everyone in Rulindo District, but we said we are going to do it; and we made it! Rwanda is now replicating the Rulindo Model nationally as it works to bring sustainable water and sanitation to all its population. This is a model we believe everyone should adopt if we want to bring safe water and sanitation services to all.

- Perpetue KAMUYUMBU, Water For People, Rwanda Country Director



When the Rulindo Challenge Program was being initiated, we knew it was time to think differently. Thus, we set out to do what we knew was right; but we also knew it wouldn't be easy. I am very proud that we have made it possible for every citizen of Rulindo to access safe water.

- Eugene DUSINGIZUMUREMYI, Program Manager for Water For People in Rwanda and Rulindo Challenge Program Manager



Rwanda is the shining model of doing what was considered impossible; of succeeding at such a level that the world now knows Rulindo. The world knows what you've done, and you are inspiring people all over the world and it just brings real tears to my eyes... because you did it. You just did it.

- Ned BRESLIN, Former CEO, Water For People



Having the Rulindo Challenge is a time to pause and say: "If we have made it for one district, we can make it for the rest of the 29 districts". Rwanda is seeking to bring water to all its population by 2024, and the Rulindo Challenge Program is a testimony that we can reach that target.

- Gisele UMUHUMUZA, Deputy CEO, WASAC Ltd



This is really a big deal, because Rwanda could be the first country in Africa to reach Sustainable Development Goal 6, Sustainable Water and Sanitation for All. As we reach this milestone, I think the people of Rulindo should feel very proud of where we are. It's been a very long, hard journey, and we've learned a lot together.

- Eleanor ALLEN- CEO, Water For People

Thank You



charity: water



James Percy
Foundation

RICHARD & NANCY
Moskovitz



thewaterloofoundation*

...and countless other individuals.





water for people
EVERYONE • FOREVER