



AN
AWARD-WINNING
INTERNATIONAL
NGO

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



UK Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) - 1190730
Ugandan Community Based Organisation (CBO) - 749/2020

Executive Summary

As we write, it is exactly five years to the day, 3 January 2020, that we founded Equal Aqua Uganda with a shared vision for water equality. Over the last five years, our team of passionate volunteers around the world has worked to make this vision a reality, providing improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) for over 50,000 people.

2024, our fifth year of operations, was our most successful to date. We want to express gratitude to our Partners Haileybury Youth Trust and International Lifeline Fund, with whom we have continued to improve our sustainable pit latrines. With continued support from Festival Medical Services and other major donors we increased our focus on schools for people with disabilities, providing water tanks, and essential WASH skills and knowledge.

As we look to 2025, we request that you continue to support us so we can make WASH equality a reality.



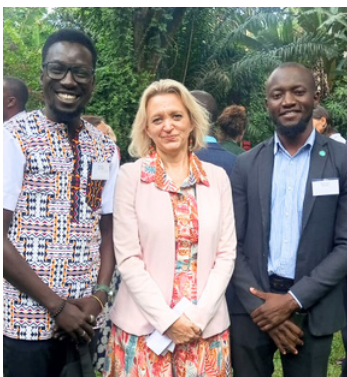
Abel Odeke
Managing Director



Tom Mclenachan
CEO



Sustainable Pit Latrine at Ebenezer Primary School, Eastern Uganda



EAU team and the British High Commissioner

"In Uganda about 50% of the population lack access to safe water. Equal Aqua Uganda are addressing a great need and challenge in Uganda and I am delighted this has been officially recognised with a Points of Light Commonwealth award."

- British High Commissioner to Uganda



Key Outcomes 2024

9,526

people with
improved
access to safe
water

9,460

people with
improved
sanitation

1,180

people with
improved
WASH
knowledge
& skills

1,212

people with
improved
menstrual
hygiene
knowledge

5 YEARS

2020-2024



Our impact to date

EAU formed in January 2020, and we are proud to celebrate 5 years of success operating throughout Uganda.

outputs

30

rainwater
harvesting
tanks

24

pit latrines

132

water filters

16

jobs in
sustainable
construction

outcomes

32,866

people with
improved
access to safe
water

11,044

people with
improved
sanitation

11,755

people with
improved
WASH
knowledge &
skills

3,877

people with
improved
menstrual
hygiene
knowledge

As EAU approaches its sixth year of operation in 2025, we continue to celebrate steady growth in our achievements. The Trustees are pleased to see new levels of income in the UK and, more significantly, in Uganda. It has been gratifying to see our relationship with Festival Medical Services deepen and significant donations from a private donor were also gratefully received.

A successful event with the UK Civil Service Jazz Band put the fun into fundraising at Christmas!

2024 saw a shift in emphasis in the work undertaken in Uganda. We placed greater focus on building ISSB (Interlocking Stabilised Soil Blocks) latrines, completing 16 this year. This is a reflection both of the need, as asserted by the communities we serve in Uganda.



Trustees Report



The equally important activities of delivering our WASH and Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) curricula in schools has continued, with increased numbers of children and adults benefitting from these skills.

Fundraising continues to be difficult in the present financial climate. EAU has set new and realistic targets for some growth in 2025, and we are grateful to our volunteers in the UK and Uganda, but also around the world (Zimbabwe, Belgium, Italy, Indonesia and Kenya) for their continued efforts.

We are very pleased to welcome three new Trustees to the board. Firstly, Daphné Carliez, a Dutch fundraising specialist based in London, and Ekongu Benard and Zion Okama, who have joined us from Uganda. Benard has a focus on community development in Northern Uganda and Zion is an experienced economist working in the energy sector in Kampala. We look forward to gaining from their expertise in their diverse areas.

ISSB Latrine Construction

In total 16 latrines were constructed in 2024, benefiting almost 10,000 people. EAU's sustainable construction team use Interlocking Stabilised Soil Bricks (ISSBs), made from compressed earth. This method has a significantly lower carbon impact compared to standard kiln-fired bricks, as well as other benefits compared to other methods.



St Joseph Primary

During construction of the new EAU ISSB drainable latrine, the existing latrines (boys and girls) collapsed in extreme winds and the school was closed for several weeks. This made the timing of this intervention particularly fortuitous! The school was able to reopen on completion of the new latrine, benefitting 592 students in total (shared by boys and girls). The school's Headmaster described it as "the best sanitation facilities in the town council."

Ebenezer Primary School

Co-funded with Festival Medical Services, EAU constructed a fully drainable 5-stance ISSB pit latrine at Ebenezer Primary School in Eastern Uganda. This provided essential sanitation facilities for 315 students, with specialised access for students with disabilities.



St Francis School for the Blind

EAU provided a 10,000 litre ISSB rainwater harvesting tank to diversify the sources of water available to the school. This tank is mainly used for non-consumptive water use, such as cleaning, washing clothes or toilet flushing. To increase access to safe drinking water we also provided three ceramic water filters that remove 99.9% of bacteria.





Menstrual Hygiene Management



Jovia Namihanja
Project Officer

In Uganda, menstrual hygiene management (MHM) remains a critical challenge, particularly for women and girls in rural areas. As of 2024, while we have made progress in raising awareness and providing resources, many barriers continue to affect menstrual health. An estimated 60% of girls in Uganda struggle to access affordable menstrual products, and many are forced to use unhygienic alternatives such as rags, leaves, or old clothes, which increases the risk of infections.

Cultural taboos, lack of education, and societal shame often prevent open discussions about menstruation, leaving many girls and women ill-informed and unprepared. As a result, many girls miss school during menstruation, contributing to higher dropout rates, especially in rural and low-income areas.



Mukomo School for Special Needs & Sir Apollo Kagwa Secondary School

In 2024 we were able to reach more disadvantaged young women and girls through our 5-part MHM curriculum, totalling over 1,200 people. Our curriculum opens up conversations about MHM to break the stigma and teach essential MHM knowledge and skills.

Please consider sponsoring our MHM curriculum in 2025 so that we can reach out to more schools in Uganda and keep girls in school longer.

Change Stories 2024



WASH Skills Training

As a highlight of our WASH skills programme in 2024, Amus Primary School in Bukedea District became a hub of empowerment for a total of 268 students and teachers. Our team facilitated hands-on training, offering two distinct workshops: liquid and bar soap making, and reusable sanitary pad making.

The liquid and bar soap making workshop drew 148 participants, comprising 86 girls, 54 boys, and 8 teachers. Meanwhile, the reusable sanitary pad making workshop attracted 120 participants, including 98 girls, 12 boys, and 10 teachers. Throughout the training, the enthusiasm and eagerness to learn was palpable. The students and teachers actively engaged in all activities, mastering the skills and techniques shared by our facilitators. A notable highlight of the training was the support from the teachers, who translated complex procedures into the local language, ensuring everyone grasped the skills.

As a result, 120 individuals acquired the skills to make reusable sanitary pads, while the liquid and bar soap making workshop empowered participants with practical knowledge. This initiative also fostered a sense of confidence and self-reliance. As we continue to empower marginalized communities, we're reminded that even the smallest actions can spark profound change.



Financial Report

Equal Aqua, UK-registered CIO

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the Period 1/1/24 to 31/12/24

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Prior Period Funds (2023)
RECEIPTS				
Grants	£ -	£ 12,123.15	£ 12,123.15	£ 35,718.00
Donations	£ 30,743.09	£ -	£ 30,743.09	£ 13,277.85
Fundraising, Events & Campaigns	£ 1,869.17	£ -	£ 1,869.17	£ 4,668.13
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£ 32,612.26	£ 12,123.15	£ 44,735.41	£ 53,663.98
PAYMENTS				
Programme Expenses	£ 29,262.46	£ 20,498.15	£ 49,760.61	£ 42,877.71
Public Relations & Administration	£ 1,693.27	£ -	£ 1,693.27	£ 1,612.12
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£ 30,955.73	£ 20,498.15	£ 51,453.88	£ 44,489.83
Net Surplus/ (Deficit)	£ 1,656.53	-£ 8,375.00	-£ 6,718.47	£ 9,174.15
Cash In bank Funds as at 1 Jan 2024	£ 935.18	£ 9,875.00	£ 10,810.18	
Cash In bank Funds as at 31 December 2024	£ 2,591.71	£ 1,500.00	£ 4,091.71	
Statement of Financial Position at the end of the period				
Cash in Bank	£ 4,091.71			£ 10,810.18

Equal Aqua Uganda, Uganda-registered CBO

Statement of Receipts for the Period 1/1/24 to 31/12/24

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	GBP Equivalent
RECEIPTS				
Grants	£ -	UGX 42,799,700	UGX 42,799,700	£ 9,196.70
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£ -	UGX 42,799,700	UGX 42,799,700	£ 9,196.70

The accounts were approved and authorised by the Equal Aqua Board of Trustees on 3 March 2025.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees of Equal Aqua



Nishay Nathwani
Chair of the Board



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Independent examiner's
report on the accounts**

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
EQUAL AQUA

**On accounts for the year
ended**

YE 31/12/2024

**Charity no
(if any)** 1190730

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2024**

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date: 25/04/2025

Name:

JEYAVATHANY LOGATHASAN

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

J. Logathan FFA, FIPA

IFA Member No: 218635

Logan Accountants Ltd

Address:

LOGAN ACCOUNTANTS LTD

Milton Keynes Business Centre, Suite 34
Foxhunter Drive, Milton Keynes, MK14 6GD

Tel: 07957 714850, Email: jeya@loganltd.co.uk



2025 Forward Look

We believe our 2025 targets demonstrate realistic growth following on from our best annual performance to date, in 2024. Notable progress was achieved in adaptation and innovation, to overcome challenging local factors. Our construction team are empowered to continue this development, specifically with our latrines and water tanks (Targets of 12 and 6 respectively). Our newly modified drainable, long-lasting ISSB latrines and a more secure tap system for the water tanks means our work is more effective in achieving our WASH objectives, primarily in schools. We anticipate helping in excess of 11,000 Ugandans with improved sanitation and access to WASH.

An associated target is to further expand our WASH and MHM educational classes, aiming to reach a total of 3,000 school children during the year.

To achieve these targets, we must increase the impact of our fundraising team. One initiative during 2025 will be an ambitious 'Water Wheel' cycling challenge. Our two founders, Tom McLenachan and Abel Odeke, will be cycling the 3,300+ miles from Kampala to Cape Town. Your support for this charitable endeavour would be most appreciated.





Support us

want to tackle the climate emergency?



EAC
EQUAL AQUA UGANDA

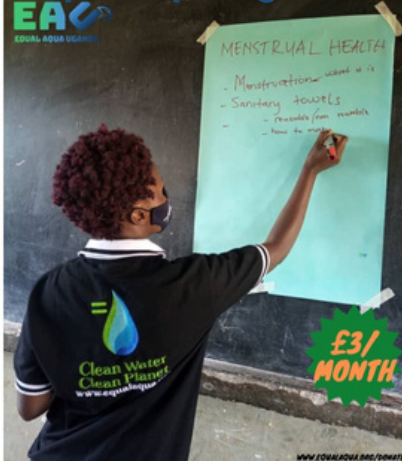
£2/ MONTH

for just £2 per month you can plant 20 native trees EACH MONTH

WWW.EQUALAQUA.ORG/DONATE

want to break the taboo around menstruation?

EAC
EQUAL AQUA UGANDA



£3/ MONTH

for just £3 per month, you can sponsor a girl to complete our menstrual hygiene curriculum.

WWW.EQUALAQUA.ORG/DONATE

children spend on average two hours per day collecting water in Uganda



£20/ MONTH

for just £20 per month you can ensure 200 children have clean water in schools.

Transform lives

To have an enduring impact on more communities, please visit our website to set up a monthly donation

DONATE



www.equalaqua.org/donate

do you want to empower women and girls to become financially independent?



£5/ MONTH

for just £5 per month you can sponsor one young woman to enrol on our WASH skills programme so they can start their own business.

EAC
EQUAL AQUA UGANDA

do you want to provide access to clean drinking water for families in Uganda?



£10/ MONTH

for just £10 per month, you can provide a natural water filter for 10 families



PLEASE CONTACT US FOR
FURTHER INFORMATION



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