

OUR STRATEGIC VISION



2026-30



Together, we can create a world where water, sanitation and hygiene are available for all

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Executive Summary

We want to live in a world where water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) are available to all, irrespective of age, gender, ethnicity, socioeconomic status and other characteristics. Equal access to WASH is not only a human right; it is fundamental to health, education, livelihoods and climate justice.

We have seen remarkable progress in WASH over the past decade. However, with just five years remaining, the world is radically off-track to meet Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 targets.

At Equal Aqua, we know the transformative impact that WASH equality can have. **Since 2020, our holistic WASH programmes have improved the lives of over 60,000 people.** We are now the leading provider in Uganda of WASH for schools for people with disabilities, and are uniquely placed to meet the WASH needs of refugees and internally displaced peoples. We are also recognised leaders in technology and innovation, having won the Ugandan 2025 WASH Awards for our low-carbon, adaptive approaches to sustainable WASH construction.

This document shows our strategic intent to partners, donors, supporters, governments, and most importantly those in Uganda who our programmes are designed for. It outlines our contribution to SDG6 between 2026 and 2030 through our participatory, inclusive and sustainable WASH programmes. **Our headline target is to reach a further 100,000 people in the next five years.**

For this, we need your help. Only by working together can we realise a collective vision of WASH equality and low-carbon development in the WASH sector. Let's act today! Water we waiting for?



Tom McLenachan
CEO

Abel Odeke
Managing Director

Our Vision

A world in which everyone has equal access to WASH, irrespective of age, gender, ethnicity, socioeconomic status and other characteristics.

Our Mission

To become a leading organisation in addressing inequalities in WASH, and interrelated issues of gender, environmental sustainability and climate justice.

Our Objectives

1. To improve access to safe and sustainable WASH for those facing the greatest inequalities in Uganda
2. To strengthen the participation of local communities in WASH, in particular women and girls, and displaced peoples
3. To take action to protect the natural environment, reduce pollution and tackle climate change






Our Main Goals

2026-2030

-  100,000 people with improved access to WASH facilities, knowledge and skills
-  Reach the most marginalised, disadvantaged groups facing the greatest WASH inequalities.
-  Build sector-leading expertise in WASH mitigation and adaptation, and empower others.

The Why

-  In Uganda fetching water can take up to two hours per day – a burden often carried by women and girls.
-  Waterborne diseases are highly prevalent, especially among young people.
-  There is a drop-off rate of 15% in girls' school attendance when menstruation begins.

These overlapping WASH inequalities have devastating impacts on health, education, livelihoods and climate justice.



WASH Inequality

EAU specialises in tackling WASH inequalities, such as gender, income, age, ethnicity and status (displaced peoples and people with disabilities).

By designing inclusive, community-led programmes, EAU ensures that marginalised groups are not only reached but actively empowered through skills, knowledge and leadership opportunities.

This approach strengthens health, education and livelihoods while promoting long-term equity and resilience.



The Who

We work in close partnership with schools, refugee and displaced communities, women's groups and people with disabilities, delivering inclusive WASH programmes that address intersecting inequalities and create lasting social, health and educational impact across entire communities.

Schools

Tengweng Primary School
753 students in marginalised Otuke District with improved sanitation



Ebenezer Primary School
1,098 students with access to safe, sustainable water



People with Disabilities

Mbale School for the Deaf
378 children, many with multiple and complex disabilities and needs



Saint Francis, School for the Blind
The only dedicated school in Uganda for visually impaired



Displaced Peoples

Kyaka II Refugee Settlement
120,000 Congolese refugees displaced by conflict



Bunambutye Resettlement Camp
3,102 climate refugees, victims of flooding, drought and landslides



Women's Groups

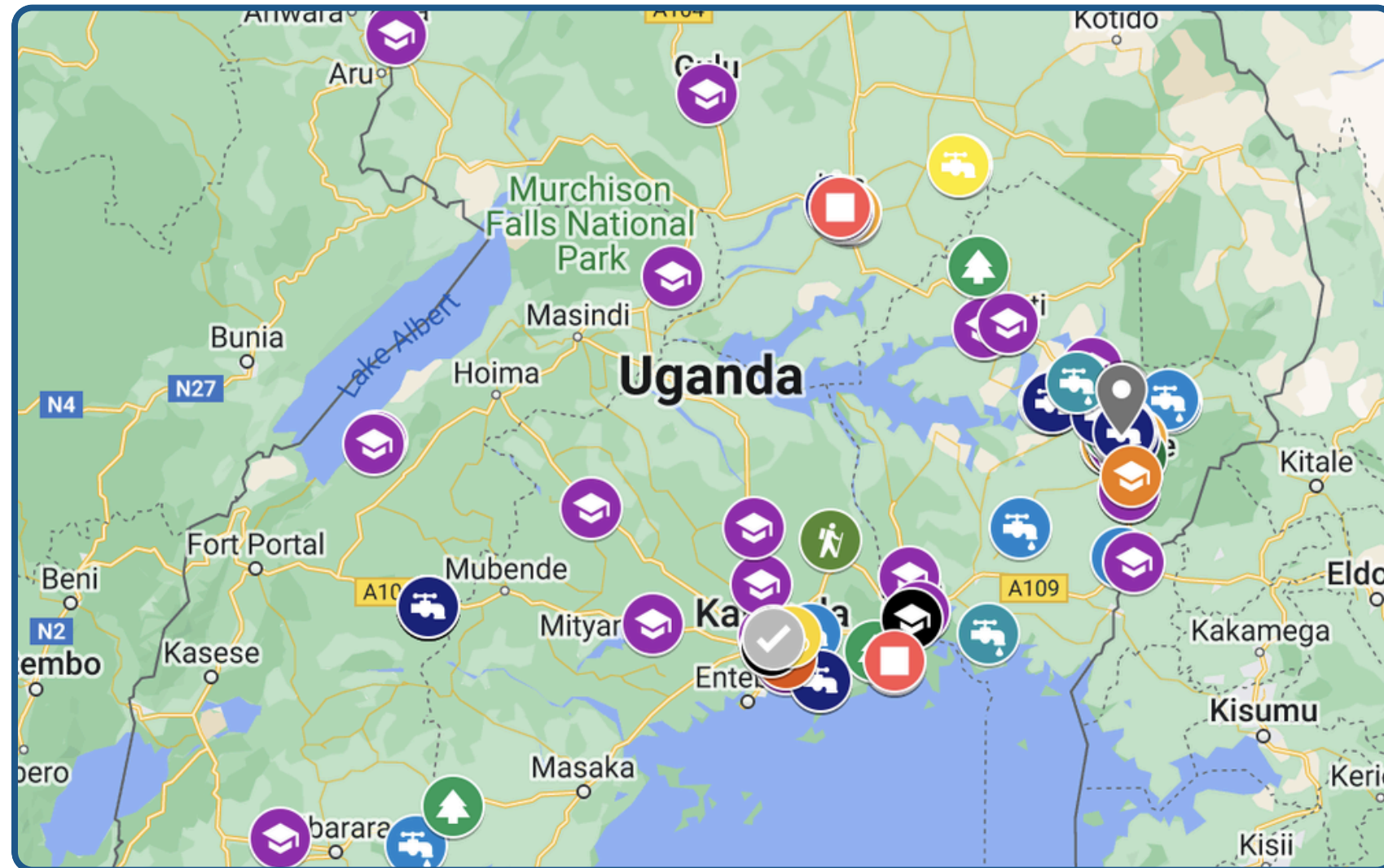
Hope for Women in Crisis
Victims of domestic abuse and other trauma



Batwa Women's Group
3,102 climate refugees, victims of flooding, drought and landslides



The Where



To see an interactive map of our projects click [here](#)

EAU works in some of the most WASH-insecure regions of East Africa, focusing on areas where inequality, poverty and climate vulnerability intersect most acutely.

Our primary focus is Eastern and Northern Uganda, where rural communities face chronic shortages of safe water and sanitation due to climate impacts, underinvestment and high levels of poverty.

We also work in refugee settlements in Western Uganda, where displaced populations experience severe strain on already limited WASH infrastructure.

Building on this expertise, we are extending our work into neighbouring Kenya, where similar challenges affect marginalised and climate-affected communities.

Across all locations, our work prioritises areas where need is greatest and where inclusive, community-led WASH interventions can have the most transformative impact.

The What

We deliver holistic WASH programmes that combine facilities, knowledge and skills:

1

ISSB Drainable Pit Latrines

Improving health outcomes with clean, sustainable sanitation facilities

2

ISSB Rainwater Harvesting Tanks & Boreholes

Providing free and convenient access to safe, sustainable water

3

Sustainable Water Filters

Driving better health outcomes with ceramic water filters that remove 99.9% of bacteria.

4

Menstrual Hygiene Curriculum

Enabling girls to stay in school with EAU's Menstrual Hygiene curriculum

5

WASH Skills Curriculum

Teaching students practical skills, such as making soap, shampoo and other products



Sustainable WASH



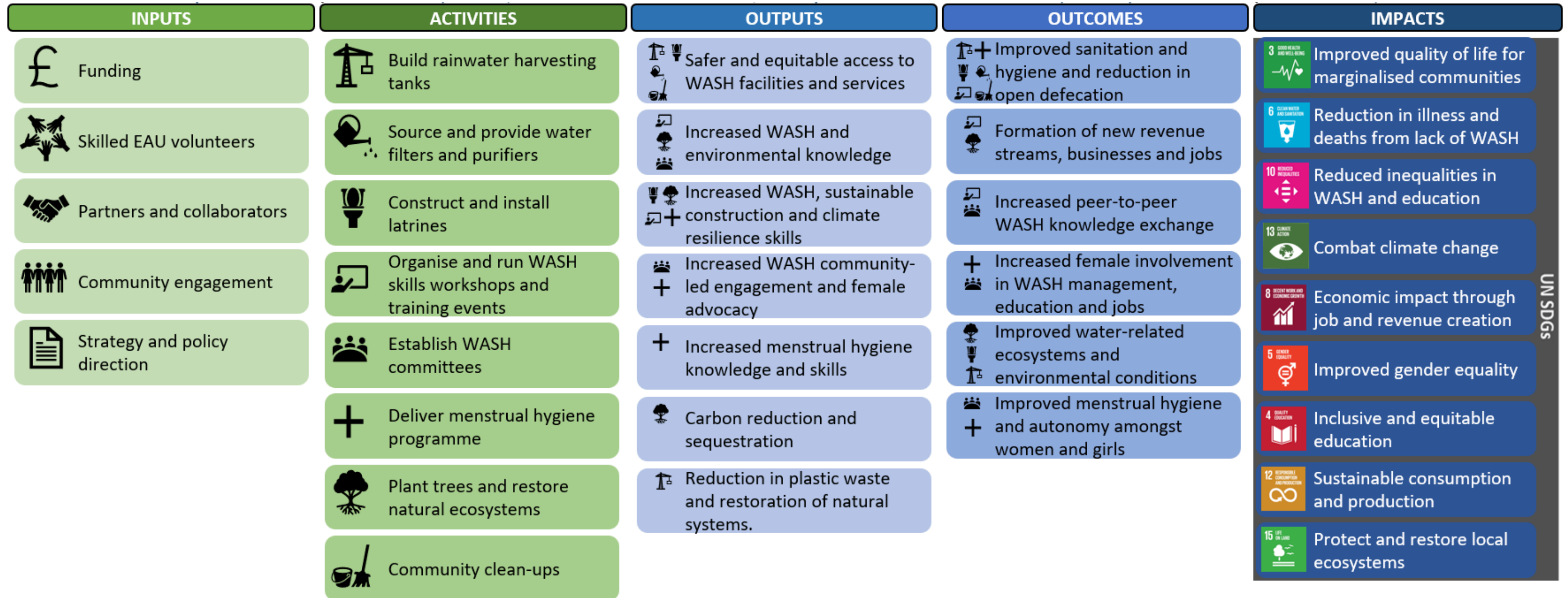
Our water tanks and latrines are built using Interlocking Stabilised Soil Blocks (ISSBs), a low-carbon alternative to traditional kiln-fired bricks that reduces emissions by up to 75%. These blocks require no mortar or plastering, minimising cement use while delivering strong, durable and high-quality structures.



We are proud to be recognised as leaders in innovative, sustainable WASH delivery at the annual UWASNET WASH CSOs Forum, reflecting the collective impact of our team and partners in improving access across Uganda.

The How?

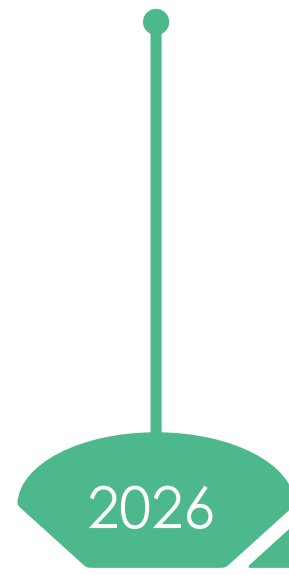
Our theory of change demonstrates how we tackle WASH inequalities through inclusive, community-led solutions that generate cross-cutting impacts across health, education, gender equality, livelihoods and climate resilience.



UN SDGs

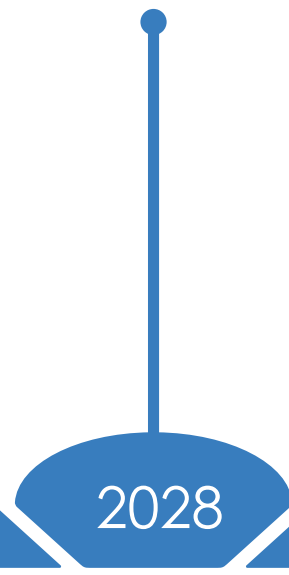
The When?

16,000 people with improved WASH



EAU Community Centre Opened

20,000 people with improved WASH



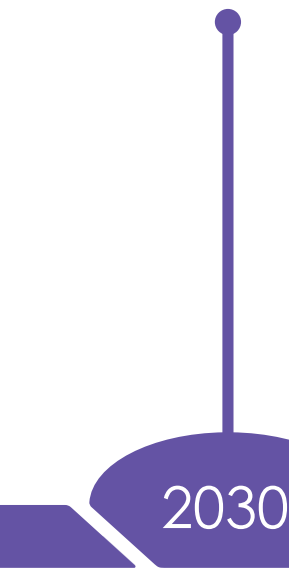
18,000 people with improved WASH



22,000 people with improved WASH



24,000 people with improved WASH



EAU - 10 Years of Operations

100,000 people with improved WASH

Our Values

Working Together

W Equal Aqua actively fosters an inclusive working environment across our international team of volunteers. By ensuring everyone has a voice, we encourage diversity of thought, meaning we are best placed to drive equitable WASH approaches for diverse communities.

Agency

A Equal Aqua champions grassroots change by providing agency for those facing the greatest inequalities to shape the solutions needed. By empowering WASH changemakers, we can co-deliver culturally empathetic WASH programmes and sustainable knowledge exchange.

Transparency

T Equal Aqua is committed to transparency in all its operations, upholding honesty & integrity, ensuring that we are fully accountable in the eyes of our partners, donors and the communities we serve.

Environmental Stewardship

E We are leaders in environmentally sustainable WASH solutions that protect people and planet for generations to come. We hold ourselves to account on our own organisational environmental footprint.

Respect

R Equal Aqua operates with deep respect for all its volunteers and community partners. Through empathy and kindness, we build trust and mutual understanding to build a culture where everyone can succeed in making a difference to WASH inequality.

Our Model



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

Our projects are driven by a grassroots vision, as identified by the Ugandan Team, who design and deliver the solutions.

This vision is supported by a passionate team of international volunteers based in the UK and 10 other countries.

We operate in the UK at near-zero cost, with 99% of funds being spent directly on our projects in Uganda.

People Objectives:

- Strengthen resourcing through volunteer training, better management, and greater team independence.
- Implement succession planning and effective remote, global coordination.
- Promote cross-border collaboration and shared resources.
- Review and develop systems to enable future growth.
- Retain key volunteers to preserve knowledge and sustain delivery.



WORKING TOGETHER WE CAN PROVIDE
WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL



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