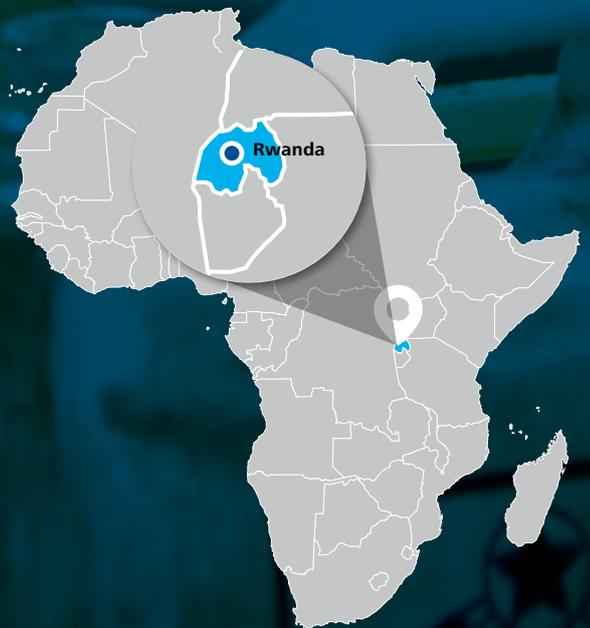




# Safe Community Water Supply Rwanda



**Climate protection starts with clean water**

*The lack of safe water typically leads to poor sanitation, hygiene and health, meaning it is a huge often but overlooked driver of poverty. In rural areas, people may have to walk long distances to fetch water and boil it over wood fires to purify it. This project addresses these daily challenges by repairing and maintaining existing boreholes, increasing access to safe water sources.*



### The Context

The quality of water in Rwanda is typically not safe to drink; for clean water, families must either boil it over inefficient wood-fuelled fires or travel long distances. The burden to source water, sometimes hours each day, or suffer respiratory illnesses from inhaling smoke from the indoor fires, especially impacts women and children. Boreholes offer an excellent solution, however, communities are often unable to maintain them over the long term.

### The Project

This project restores and repairs existing boreholes to provide clean drinking water to Rwandan communities, removing the need to boil water for purification. Each borehole is up to 100 metres deep, and can be operated with a simple hand pump. The boreholes will be maintained over the project lifetime.

### The Benefits

By providing safe water to communities, this project sparks a chain of positive benefits. Children do not have to spend as much time gathering water or firewood, so they can dedicate time to studying. Families resources are freed up as they don't have to spend money or time on firewood, instead they can take part in other income-generating activities, household tasks or taking care of each other. Water-borne and respiratory diseases are reduced thanks to better sanitary conditions. By removing the need to boil water the project significantly reduces greenhouse gas emissions as well as deforestation pressures on surrounding forests where firewood is sourced.

Ensuring access to clean water leads to improved health and productivity in Rwandan communities



**68,000**  
people

benefit from project benefits, improving the livelihoods of communities



**50 million**  
litres

of clean water is supplied by project boreholes annually



**125,000**  
tCO<sub>2</sub>e

mitigated on average annually by removing the need to boil water on wood fires for purification



**85,000**  
tonnes

of wood saved, relieving pressures on surrounding forests

For more information on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, please visit: <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

**Official name:** Improved Kitchen Regimes Multi-Country PoA Master Project | **Registry link:** <https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/155> | **Registry:** 155  
**GS ID:** GS 1247