

Engineers Without Borders Maryland Sustainability Engineering

Nathan Jacobs | Mechanical Engineering College Park Scholars – Science & Global Change Program nathansjacobs@gmail.com | College Park Scholars Academic Showcase, April 30, 2021



Engineers Without Borders -Nakifuma, Uganda Project

Site Information:

Site:

St. Anne Grace School Nakifuma, Uganda Email:

ewb.nakifuma.pl@gmail.com

Website:

http://ewb.umd.edu/nyaka-uganda/

Mission:

EWB builds a better world through engineering projects that empower communities to meet their basic human needs.

The Nakifuma, Uganda Project is focused on the design and implementation of latrines, and other sanitation and water distribution systems for the St. Anne Grace school, located in Nakifuma, Uganda. Our project aims to successfully implement satisfactory water and sanitation systems in the St. Anne Grace School.

Introduction:

The Tanzania Project is focused on the creation and installation of backup electricity and water systems at different sites in the Morogoro and Pwani regions. We are primarily focused on creating these systems for the healthcare facilities, but similar systems could be implemented for use elsewhere in the future.

Issue Confronting Site:

» In need of renovated latrines and satisfactory water distribution systems.

Boys' and Teachers' Latrines from site visit report

-Dec. 6th, 2019 (right)

Water Quality Treatment and Sanitation Workshop—3/25/2021 (below)

What we test for

- World Health Organization (WHO) water testing standards:
- Fluoride: 0.5 1.5 mg/L Arsenic: 0.01-0.05 mg/L
- Nitrates: <50 mg/L
- o pH: 6.5 8.5
- Total Dissolved Solids (TDS): 1000 2500 micro S/cm
- Turbidity: 5 15 TCU





The St. Anne Grace school currently has an insufficient number of adequate latrines, those of which experience routine flooding, & are inaccessible to students with disabilities.

We hope to be able to install water and sanitation systems which are safe and effective for the use of the school and surrounding community.

Impact:

Healthcare facilities there use the municipal power & water, which experience frequent blackouts which last up to 8 hrs, in addition to water shortages. This heavily impacts patient care and the capabilities of the healthcare infrastructure.

We hope to implement backup electricity and water systems to allow the healthcare facilities to operate even when the main sources are not up and running.

We primarily worked on the preassessment trip plan document for the duration of the Fall 2020 semester. The Spring 2021 semester has consisted of a variety of project field related workshops team building activities, and planning our future work following our assessment trip.

Activities:

This past Spring 2021 semester has been spent on increasing our team's skills, competencies, and resources. We have taken part in a wide variety of project related workshops including workshops on:

- . Solar powered systems,
- . Remote implementation,
- Water quality testing/sanitation,
- . CAD, and
- Cultural competency

The next step in our project is the Assessment Trip, which will be a 4 day trip to Nakifuma. While there, we will,

- Discuss the Community Partnership Agreement
- Take GPS/altitude data collection,
- Complete analysis of current latrines,
- Assess current boreholes and,
- Take rainwater/flooding data collection

Future Work:

Next semester we are aiming to design and construct small scale water distribution systems and models on campus. We also plan on taking our implementation trip to each of the four current sites

during Winter 2022



Assessment Trip

Winter 2020

(left)

Workshop Planning Zoom 3/22/2021 (above)

<u>Issue Confronting Site:</u>

» In need of backup electrical and water systems to rely on during blackouts/dry seasons

Site Information:

Site:

Morogoro/Pwani Regions, Tanzania Email:

http://mdse.umd.edu/tanzania/

Website:

ewb.tanzania.pl@gmail.com

Mission:

MDSE is an organization dedicated to sustainable development locally and abroad.

MD Sustainability Engineering -Tanzania Project

Acknowledgements:

I would like thank the Tanzania project leads, John Lathrop, and Brendan Hughes, and the Nakifuma project lead, Rishi Parikh, for their dedication to the projects and all of their hard work to get us to where we are today. Additionally, thank you to the Nakifuma Latrine Design Subteam leader, Elizabeth Carlson, for her mentorship and guidance to me in my start of EWB and MDSE. I would also like to thank Dr. Jungho Kim and Dr. Peter Chang for their roles as Chapter Advisors of EWB and MDSE and making sure everything is running smoothly, with a special thanks to Dr. Jungho Kim for being my faculty supervisor throughout the duration of my practicum capstone project. Lastly, a tremendous thank you to Dr. John Merck and Dr. Thomas Holtz for their incredible wisdom, guidance, and unmatched energy throughout my two years of SGC!



