

A large green graphic of a tree with a white cloud at the top and a white trunk at the bottom. The text 'TOSHIBA CARBON ZERO SCHEME' is written in white, bold, uppercase letters across the canopy of the tree.

TOSHIBA CARBON ZERO SCHEME

UN Sustainable Development Goals

- > The UN has 17 measurable Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Toshiba supports these goals. This report focuses on **SDG 1: No poverty** and explains the impact of the Toshiba CarbonZero Scheme and its link to this goal.
- > SDG 1 (End poverty in all its forms everywhere) aims to eradicate extreme for all people everywhere by 2030, as well as building the resilience of the poor to respond to extreme shocks such as climate-related extreme shocks and other economic, social or environmental disasters.
- > The Toshiba Carbon Zero Scheme supports the Uganda Borehole Rehabilitation Project, which identifies and fixes broken boreholes and ensures the long-term supply of clean water. As a result, it saves families time in collecting or buying firewood for purifying the water as well as time spent looking to water sources. This time can be spent on income generating activities.

FACTS

- > Globally, 836 million people live on below \$1.25 per day, which is defined by the UN as the extreme poverty line .
- > The project in Uganda contributes to lifting people above this line by reducing the time spent collecting water, enabling more time to be spent on generating income.
- > The latest Toshiba CarbonZero Impact Report showed that the Scheme has positively impacted 37,739 people in Uganda.

Ugandan Borehole Project Case study

A lack of access to safe water is a major cause of poverty for people like Vincent Ogwong and his wife and 3 children. Before the CO2balance project began, the family only had access to an unsafe water supply and had to spend 3 hours per day collecting water to meet household needs.

Vincent says: *“Before this project we used to spend a lot of time looking for firewood and boiling water to make it clean. Sometimes due to the scarcity of firewood we would drink water without boiling it. This meant we frequently suffered from diarrhoea and other illnesses and would spend a lot of money treating them.”*

This situation had a terrible impact on the financial situation of Vincent and his family, with the time spent collecting water every day detracting from time that could be spent on income-generating activities and the money spent on medicine placing an additional burden on the family.

The situation has greatly improved, however, with the rehabilitation of the communal borehole, which means that the family only needs to spend 30 minutes per day collecting water, and can do so from a safe water supply which does not cause them to become ill. Vincent is now able to devote himself full time to growing sunflowers and harvesting their seeds, for which he receives an excellent price from cooking oil producers: *“With the coming of the Toshiba WASH project [a hygiene training on WAter, Sanitation & Hygiene] in our area, I*



now have much time to spend in my garden and on my business. The money realised from the sale of sunflower seeds has enabled me to open up a grain store where I am able to sell grains to traders from far off towns.”

From sunflower seedlings costing 34,000 Ugandan shillings (8.70€) to buy, Vincent is able to harvest seeds worth 250,000 shillings (64€), an income over 7 times greater than his original investment! This provides vital cash for the family to spend on essentials such as school fees, books and uniform, and allows them to put money aside in case they should need to buy food in times of hardship. The experience of the Ogwong family powerfully demonstrates how a safe water supply can lift communities out of poverty.

Toshiba's contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals

This case study shows how the project activities in Uganda contribute to SDG 1 by lifting beneficiaries like Vincent out of poverty because:

- › They no longer need to spend money on medicine.
- › Due to the time saved on collecting, time can be spent on income-generating activities.
- › The additional income generated enables people to invest in their families' future by ensuring that their children are well-educated, and saving money to invest in future business opportunities or to buy food in times of shortage.

Enabling the rural poor to save money each month is a very important contribution to SDG 1 because it builds people's resilience to cope with future shocks. For example, if a community like Vincent's is affected by drought in future meaning that crop yields decrease, he will have a small supply of money to buy food, meaning that his family should not go hungry.

For more information about the Toshiba Carbon Zero Scheme please visit our website:
www.toshibatec.eu/about/sustainability/carbon-zero/

In cooperation with



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