



Project Impact Report

Uplift a Village #2
 Divine Dambwe School
 Wakiso, Uganda



Summary

Divine Dambwe is the second village “adopted” in the Uplift a Village program. Funding was provided by the [Melissa Prandi Children’s Foundation](#). Execution was carried out by the [Nsawo Community Development Project](#) (Uganda), and [The Global Uplift Project](#).

The project cost \$11,361. It consisted of seven subprojects as listed in the table, below. Six have been completed. The seventh, the Garden of Eatin’ project, is postponed until March, 2025, when the planting season begins. Over the full duration of the project, it will benefit more than 22,000 people.



Beneficiaries, Uplift a Village #2, Divine Dambwe

Sub-Project	# helped Directly	# helped Indirectly	Duration, in years	Helped over life of project
Water well*	216	3,500	10	10,910
Latrines--6 units	216	0	10	2,160
Garden of Eatin'**	203	1,015	10	4,568
Save a Girl ™ kits***	200	600	3	1,050
Solar electricity	216	0	10	2,160
Two swing sets	203	0	5	1,015
Women's co-op loans	10	100	10	350
Total	1,264	5,215	8	22,213
Project Cost				\$11,361
Cost per Person Benefitted				\$0.51

* 3,500 community members will also access the water
 ** estimate 5 additional family members benefit
 *** saves family from spending money on sanitary supplies

More information can be found at the [Uplift a Village webpage](#), including an explanation of [What is Uplift a Village](#), and [details of the project itself](#). **Importantly**, the cost per person benefited by this UaV project (#2) and UaV#1 are *significantly lower than historic costs* with TGUP's more than 500 other projects in the developing world. In other words, the **Uplift a Village model is more cost effective than traditional development project funding assistance models**.

The Community and School

The Dambwe village is located in Uganda's Wakiso District. It has approximately 10,000 people in over 900 households. The population is young: 27% are under the age of 18; 43% are between 18 and 50. Access is limited by poor roads. There was scant electricity and a single bore hole providing water for the entire community. Most make their living farming small plots or working as unskilled laborers on local commercial farms.

The education level of community residents is low. In that way, the Dambwe Primary School is an oasis in the middle of the larger community. There are 203 students from ages 3 to 14, 10 teachers, and 3 support staff. There was a small playground with broken equipment, no electricity, unsanitary latrines, and limited access to clean water.

Detailed Sub-Project Analysis

Water Project: We dug an 80-foot borehole and put a solar-powered pump on top. This pumps water into a 1,000-liter storage tank, providing the first reliable, clean water the school and its students have ever had. All the school's 216 are helped directly, as well as 3,500 community members. Over its expected 10-year duration, this will help almost 11,000 people, directly and indirectly.



Latrines: You cannot run a school without working latrines because the children have nowhere to go. We dug a 2,000 cubic foot (5' x 8' x 50') pit and built an engineered six-stall latrine on top; three for boys; three for girls. It will last for 10 years and serve more than 2,000 people with state-of-the-art sanitation over its duration.

Save a Girl™: Two hundred [Save a Girl™](#) (SaG) sanitary kits were given, free of charge, to adolescent girls at the school. SaG kits help girls manage their period so they don't miss any days of school. A SaG kit costs \$6 to make and lasts for three years, usually long enough for girls to finish school. Documented results in other settings include improved attendance, higher grades, higher test scores on nationally normed exams, higher graduation rates, and reduced pregnancies.



Solar electricity: The school had no electricity. The plan was to bring it in from the electrical grid, just over a mile away. But we encountered problems, making that impossible. So, TGUP provided funds to install a solar-based system with three rooftop solar panels. It also includes batteries for storage and LED lights in every room. Now, the school has electricity without any ongoing recurring costs. It will last for 10 years and serve more than 2,000 people.

Garden of Eatin': This project will develop the school's garden space into a teaching space, teaching the children small-scale horticulture skills. The vegetables will help feed the children at the school. Additionally, the skills will be taken home in a structured program so the children might help feed their own families. Experience with other Garden of Eatin' projects shows that they help feed families with 5-6 members, contributing to the more than 4,500 people expected to be helped. Implementation is delayed until March 2025, awaiting the beginning of the planting season.





Swing sets: Two sets of steel swings were purchased and installed for the children to play on. TGUP paid for this sub-project. They are expected to last for five years and will benefit more than 1,000 people.



Community Women Club Loan: A \$1,000 loan was granted to the Community Women's Club to foster entrepreneurship and self-sufficiency among the Club's women. The women in the club, mostly single mothers, make sandals, knitted baby clothes, liquid soap, wash sponges, bracelets, hair accessories and other items to support their children and families. It is expected that

the loan will be repaid in four months.

The Project is a success by all measures. Especially noteworthy, the cost-per-person-helped—51 cents—is among the lowest TGUP has recorded in more than 17 years of development work. This owes to the unique density and cross-pollination of beneficiaries in the Village setting. See more details in [What is Uplift a Village?](#)

Project Partners:

Melissa Prandi Children Foundation (MPCF) located in Marin County, CA. MPCF is a 501c3 founded to transform living conditions in Kampala, Uganda's poorest slums. It empowers youth and young women through education, vocational training, college scholarships, and economic independence programs.

The Global Uplift Project (TGUP) builds educational infrastructure projects in developing countries. Since its founding in 2007, TGUP has completed more than 500 such projects in 26 countries in Asia, Central America, and Africa. Over their duration, those projects will help more than 3 million people. TGUP is a 501c3 nonprofit.

Nsawo Community Development Project (NCDP) was founded in 2023 to empower underprivileged people in Nsawo, Uganda. NCDP worked with MPCF and TGUP to create a *Save a Girl*™ sewing center, which made the *Save a Girl*™ kits distributed here. It has since completed more than 30 projects including classrooms, latrines, playgrounds.