



Sustainability action · Project Water

DelAgua Public Health Program in Rwanda

In cooperation with the Ministry of Health the DelAgua Public Health Program delivers a magnitude of significant community benefits. This includes, improving local communities' livelihood in rural Rwanda by providing 3 million people with 600,000 water filters and fuel-efficient cooking stoves, while limiting deforestation.

Project

The DelAgua Public Health Program reaches low-income families that cannot normally afford to purchase improved cooking stoves and water treatment technologies. The project addresses several critical health challenges, as many families in East Africa suffer from respiratory diseases caused by indoor pollution. In addition, many families face serious health problems, as they are forced to drink untreated water due to a lack of available fuel. This program addresses these challenges, while also working towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 6: Ensure access to water

and sanitation for all. The distribution of fuel-efficient cooking stoves and water filters are complemented by education initiatives and follow up visits led by Ministry of Health community health workers.



Checklist	Additionality and permanence	3 rd party verified	Transparency	Annual CO ₂ -reduction	Social and environmental benefits	Marketing material
Project 301 891	According to the rules of the CDM	By DNV	Provided by the CDM Registry	67,600 tCO ₂ e	As documented in our database	Pictures available



Location

The project is located in the Rubavu District in the Western Province in Rwanda, where the majority of the population is reliant on firewood for cooking and boiling water.

Project achievements

Socio-economic impact

- The leading causes of death for children under the age of 5 in Rwanda are diarrhoea and acute lower respiratory infection. Inadequate and unsafe drinking water is the leading cause of diarrhoea and household air pollution causes acute lower respiratory infection. The project has reduced diarrhoea in children under the age of 5 in the project area by 46%.
- The fuel-efficient cooking stoves reduce indoor air pollution by 73%, which leads to fewer cases of respiratory and eye diseases.
- Households save money, while women and children in particular save time due to the diminished need for firewood.
- The project has invested in local human resources, creating new employment opportunities; 800 jobs have been created so far comprising of community health workers, administrative assistants and sales executives.
- The project supports economic development in the region by building a local retail market for cooking stove and water filter manufacturers.
- Education and training around health issues is provided at a local level in order to ensure consistent and correct use of the water filters and cooking stoves.

Environmental impact

- The project generates an estimated annual emission reduction of 67,600 tCO₂
- The fuel-efficient cooking stoves save 39% to 54% of fuel compared to the traditional stoves, which contributes to reducing deforestation and preserving biodiversity in the project area.

