



GreenWell Program Report by Wells of Life: Comprehensive Analysis and Outlook

1. Presentation of the GreenWell Program

The **GreenWell Program**, spearheaded by **Wells of Life**, was designed to transform rural water system management in Uganda by introducing a more sustainable and professional model for operation and maintenance (O&M). Traditionally, the **Community-Based Management System (CBMS)** has been the go-to model for managing rural water facilities in Uganda. While successful, CBMS faces challenges such as **financial sustainability**, **lack of technical expertise**, and **community participation issues**.

The program adopts a **professional management model based on the O&M Framework** issued by the Ministry of Water and Environment¹, referred to as **CBMS+**, which aims to overcome the challenges of CBMS by integrating **Area Service Providers (ASPs)**. These ASPs, including **Wells of Life**, are responsible for the **preventive maintenance** of rural water systems, ensuring the long-term functionality and financial sustainability of water infrastructure. The GreenWell Program integrates **financial transparency**, **community involvement**, and **professionalized water management practices** to ensure the success and scalability of rural water systems in Uganda.

Key Features of the Program:

- **CBMS+ Model:** A professionalized approach to rural water system management, focusing on sustainability and financial viability.
- **Area Service Providers (ASPs):** Responsible for preventive maintenance and technical support.
- **Mobile Money System:** Used for transparent and efficient fee collection, reducing financial mismanagement and dependency on external funding.

Video presentation of the program:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/cudqito6i2da3xpw66dq5/GreenWell-by-Wells-of-Life-4K-Video.mp4?rlkey=f0aem7dmflqj34kswi8q879jj&st=92kq0g0h&dl=0>

¹ <https://www.mwe.go.ug/library/national-framework-operation-and-maintenance-rural-water-infrastructure-uganda>

2. Starting the Program in Early 2023

The GreenWell Program officially launched in early 2023 with a solid foundation. This phase focused on **asset acquisition, staff recruitment, and setting up operational infrastructure** to ensure a smooth rollout. Some of the key assets acquired during the startup phase include:

1. Vehicles and Equipment:

- **Trucks and Motorcycles:** Essential for mobility and rapid response to maintenance requests across rural areas.
- **Laptops:** Used for administrative tasks, data collection, and reporting.
- **Service Phones:** Dedicated phones for seamless communication between Wells of Life and Water Source Committees (WSCs).
- **Monitoring Sensors and Meters:** Installed on the wells to track functionality and detect faults proactively.

2. Staff Recruitment and Training:

- **Compliance Officers:** Hired to oversee maintenance operations and ensure regulatory compliance.
- **Community Mobilization Officers:** Engaged with local communities and WSCs to foster participation and ensure smooth fee collection.

3. Partnerships and Collaboration:

- **MOUs with Districts:** Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) were revised with district authorities to establish Wells of Life as an Area Service Provider (ASP).
- **Media and Local Government:** Leveraged media partnerships and government collaboration to raise awareness and engage local communities in the program.

This groundwork ensured that by mid-2023, the GreenWell Program was ready to begin its mission of providing consistent and reliable water services to Uganda's rural communities.



3. Current Work and Progress

As of 2024, the GreenWell Program has made substantial progress in improving water service management across rural Uganda:

- **Wells Under Management:**
 - The program is currently **managing and performing preventive maintenance** on over **300 wells** across central and southwestern Uganda, covering regions like Mityana, Kassanda, Mubende, Kabale, and Rubanda Districts
- **Preventive Maintenance:**
 - The focus on preventive maintenance has significantly reduced well breakdowns and increased water access reliability for rural communities. This proactive approach addresses minor issues before they become major, ensuring continued access to clean water.
- **Community Involvement and Fee Collection:**
 - **Water Source Committees (WSCs)** have been trained to collect user fees via a **cashless mobile money system**. This system ensures financial transparency and reduces misuse of funds, increasing community trust in the program.





4. Assessment of the Program for 2024

The GreenWell Program's operational performance for 2024 has shown promising results, though some challenges remain:

- **Operational Efficiency:**
 - The **preventive maintenance approach** has proven effective, leading to a **reduction in downtime** and **increased well longevity**. However, some challenges persist in terms of spare part procurement and the logistics of managing well performance across a wide geographical area.
- **Financial Sustainability:**
 - The program is making progress in achieving **financial independence**. While user fees now cover a large portion of maintenance costs, further optimization is needed to ensure the program becomes fully **self-sustaining** in the near future.
- **Stakeholder Collaboration:**
 - The program has established strong **partnerships with local authorities, NGOs, and district water management boards**, which has facilitated smooth implementation and maintenance. However, further strengthening of district-level collaboration would optimize operations and improve monitoring.

Challenges for 2024:

- **Limited Spare Parts Availability:** A few supply chain disruptions have delayed maintenance schedules.
- **User Fee Collection:** While successful in many areas, some districts still face challenges in consistently collecting fees.

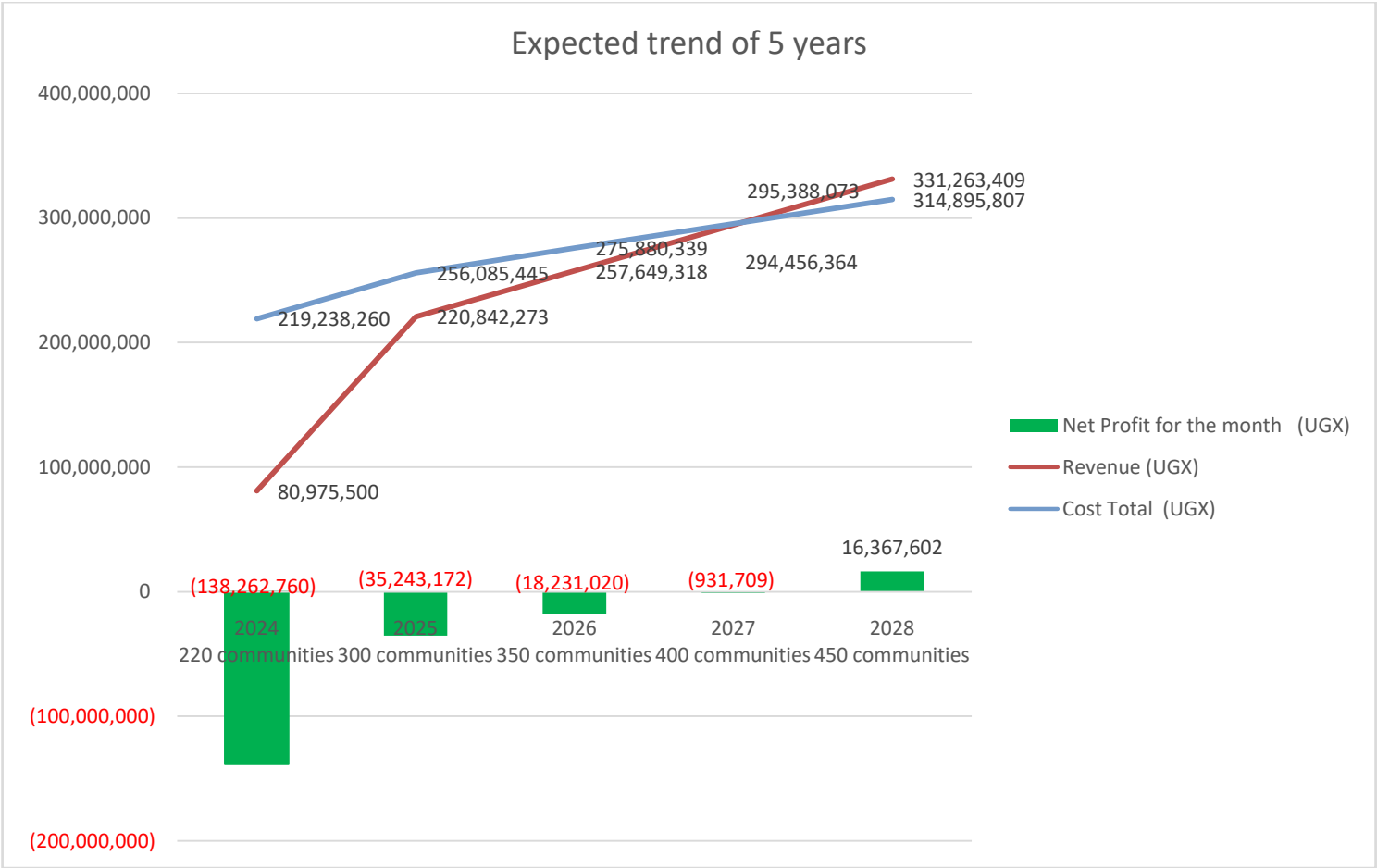


5. Five-Year Prediction (2024-2028)

Item	2024 220 communities	2025 300 communities	2026 350 communities	2027 400 communities	2028 450 communities	Remarks
Revenue (UGX)	80,975,500	220,842,273	257,649,318	294,456,364	331,263,409	Revenue between 2025 and 2028 was calculated based on the result of 2024
Costs (UGX)						
O&M staff (4 members)	67,200,000	67,200,000	67,200,000	67,200,000	67,200,000	the cost was calculated based on the result of 2024
Driver (1)	9,000,000	0	0	0	0	
Care Taker	13,557,220	39,751,609	46,376,877	53,002,145	59,627,414	the cost was calculated based on the result of 2024 (18 % of revenue)
SUNDA 15% of income	0	33,126,341	38,647,398	44,168,455	49,689,511	Commission for Sunda needs to be considered again
HPM (repair cost)	17,292,000	44,168,455	51,529,864	58,891,273	66,252,682	the cost was calculated based on the result of 2024 (18 % of revenue)
Spare pars	59,712,840	59,712,840	60,000,000	60,000,000	60,000,000	the cost is calculated based on the result of 2024
Airtime	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	the cost is calculated based on the result of 2024
Fuel for repair	45,350,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	using bodaboda or own motercycle
Miscellaneous costs	6,646,200	6,646,200	6,646,200	6,646,200	6,646,200	
Cost Total (UGX)	219,238,260	256,085,445	275,880,339	295,388,073	314,895,807	
Net Profit for the month (UGX)	-138,262,760	-35,243,172	-18,231,020	-931,709	16,367,602	

Based on the program’s progress and the 5-year plan, the GreenWell Program is projected to achieve significant milestones over the next five years:

- **Expansion Goals:**
 - By **2030**, the program aims to **manage 600 wells**, doubling the current coverage. The program will expand to other regions of Uganda, ensuring access to clean water for more rural communities.
- **Financial Independence:**
 - **By 2027**, the GreenWell Program targets achieving **close to full financial sustainability** through user fees. This will reduce dependency on donor funding and ensure long-term financial viability for water infrastructure management.
- **Technological Integration:**
 - **Advanced Monitoring Systems** will be deployed to improve real-time tracking and performance evaluation of wells. This will include **AI-driven analytics** for predictive maintenance, ensuring proactive response times.
- **Community Impact:**
 - The program will increase **water access for over 1 million rural residents** by 2030. Enhanced community ownership and participation will be integral to scaling operations, ensuring that local communities are actively engaged in the management of their water resources.



Conclusion

The **GreenWell Program** has made impressive progress in improving water system management in Uganda, especially with its adoption of the **CBMS+** model and focus on professional management through **Area Service Providers (ASPs)**. The program has already achieved substantial impact, managing over 300 wells and engaging communities effectively in maintaining water infrastructure.

Looking ahead, the program is set to grow and achieve **financial independence** by 2028 through strategic investments in **Sunda meters** and further scaling up operations. With continued community engagement, transparent financial management, and technological advancements, the GreenWell Program is well-positioned to improve access to clean water for millions of rural Ugandans.

