



# Community Participation and Outreach Strategies in Water Quality Improvement Projects Amongst Rural Ugandan Communities: A Mixed-Methods Study

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## Abstract

Water quality in rural Ugandan communities remains a significant public health concern due to inadequate access to safe drinking water and poor sanitation facilities. A mixed-methods study combining quantitative data from surveys and qualitative insights through interviews to analyse the outcomes of water quality improvement projects implemented by local NGOs over five years. Community engagement significantly enhanced project success; participation rates were as high as 75% in some communities, leading to a notable reduction in waterborne diseases (40%) compared to non-participating areas. Outreach strategies that prioritise community involvement and provide ongoing support are critical for sustained improvements in water quality among rural Ugandan populations. Local authorities should integrate participatory approaches into future water projects, leveraging existing community networks and resources to ensure long-term sustainability of initiatives.

**Keywords:** *African Geography, Community Engagement, Participatory Research, Qualitative Analysis, Quantitative Methods, Health Impact Assessment, Sanitation Systems*

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