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Sustainable Water Solutions for Humanitarian and Disaster Relief

SKYSTATION WATER TREATMENT PLANT NAGIGI SCHOOL - FIJI

Background: The village of Nagigi is a 45 minute bus ride from the main town of Savusavu; a town in the Fijian Province of Cakaudrove on the island of Vanua Levu.

Water Issues: The Nagigi Community School of 153 pupils plus teaching staff is located in an idyllic tropical setting surrounded by lush vegetation, coral reef and pristine sea water, however potable water supply had been an ongoing concern for the local Nagigi School and surrounding community. Their drinking water was sourced from an untreated local stream which was continually contaminated with animal waste (predominantly wild boar) and as a result the school and local community regularly suffered from diarrhoea and dysentery. The major contaminant of rural drinking water in Fiji is microbial contamination therefore the SkyHydrant water filtration unit.

The Project: There is little likelihood that mains water or electricity will be supplied to the area in the near future. The Lower Blue Mountains Rotary Club in NSW worked in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Savusavu and the SkyJuice Foundation to provide safe and reliable access to clean water for Nagigi School and the surrounding community. Rotary purchased a SkyHydrant water filtration unit, solar panel and pump which now provides a sustainable safe water supply of approximately 3500 litres per day for the school students plus associated families in the district. The school is receiving a greater number of enquires for enrolment now that it is able to offer safe reliable access to clean water.

The Outcome: A collaborative community project such as the safer water project for Nagigi School involved the corporation of a large number of different stakeholders, at all levels. This included the involvement of Rotary Clubs in Fiji and Australia, the local school children, teachers and community in Nagigi and the SkyJuice Foundation. At the grass roots level school children gave willingly of their time to assist in preparation of the pipe work, the teachers operate and maintain the SkyHydrant with Rotary Club of Savusavu maintaining a constant. Through the involvement of the various stakeholders in this project, substantial capacity building and new skills have been acquired

Project Manager: Mr Jeff Mather – Rotary Club of Savusavu Mr Larry James – SkyJuice Foundation Photos courtesy Rotary Club of Savusavu A snapshot of FIJI



Population Fiji 2002: 832,000
Population under 15 yrs: 33%
Infant Mortality Rate: 17/ 1000
Under 5 Mortality Rate: 22/ 1000
Age Structure: 33% < 15 yrs
Life Expectancy Male: 68 years

Female: 68 years

Per Capita GDP 2005: \$6375 Access to improved Sanitation (2000): Urban 75% Rural 12%

Access to improved water access: Urban 43% Rural 51%



School children digging a new water supply line



Nagigi Community School



The new pipes being laid in the school grounds under the watchful eye of head teacher



Dedicated volunteers from the Rotary Club of Savusavu and school children complete the Safe Water shelter ready to install the SkyHydrant water filtration unit



Rotary Club of Savusavu officiating at the dedication ceremony attended by local health official, teachers, school children and local families



School children enjoying continual clean safe water



School children assisting with laying a concrete base for the SkyHydrant Safe Water shelter



Contaminated water from the mountain stream is gravity fed under low pressure through the SkyHydrant water filter to produce safe potable water. The water is then pumped to two tap stands for easy access for the school children



Local school families await the dedication ceremony



School children queue at one of the two safe drinking water taps at Nagigi School