

NEHEMIAH CONSTRUCTION MINISTRIES U.K. (NCM)

Community Impact Report – Lobok

Lobok is a village in the tribal area of West Pokot in the remote far north-west of Kenya, not far from the Ugandan Border where in many respects, the way of life has not changed for generations. Reliable safe water is a major issue in this area and there are numerous villages which need boreholes. Obtaining clean, safe water is especially acute in the dry season of when the rains fall.

NCM UK drilled and equipped a borehole with a hand pump. A matched-funding partnership took place with Step 30, a Taiwanese charitable organisation.

Lobok village is a home to upwards of 5500 people. It is difficult to be accurate with numbers of people that the borehole serves. Replacement of pump parts took place sooner than was expected, due to the excessive use by local communities and unfamiliarity of the correct use of the pump. Philip the local Chief reports that the borehole has made a great difference to many families in the area not only for their own consumption but also for the watering of the livestock which are an extremely important part of life in the Pokot culture.

One of the benefits for the children is the run-off pool at the boreholes. It is the source of water for us and other insects. Before the borehole was drilled, bees were attracted to the children's eyes in search of moisture which resulted in children being badly stung in and around the eyes. Surprisingly, bees are found in large numbers in this area. The honey from the hives is a source of income for the community.

