

Clean water an elusive dream in developing nations: Lessons from International service learning projects in Kenya

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Genesis of International service learning projects in Kenya

- Starting 2003- a colleague and I started taking UW-students to Kenya for Summer study abroad projects/study abroad
- Over the years- more that 150 community members/UW students have taken part in the program.
- Each year's project let to a new project
- 2013- UW- Casper Hillside Water project-
- 2014- Desk projects – 300 desks to serve 500 kids
- 2015- classroom project- Early childhood classroom & staffroom constructed for same school
- 2016/17- Muranga- Kenya- water to support another community- to be completed Summer 2017

Problem: lack of clean reliable water sources in Kenya

- Why-Unreliable rain- droughts
- Causes- climate- strong spells of dry seasons/years

Water in rural poor communities in Kenya

- **Where available**

- comes from unclean sources that are shared by both humans and animals.
- rainy season- abundance of food for families and livestock
- droughts are common in Kenya and many other parts of Africa “Water is essential to life. Safe, abundant water is vital to our ability to prosper and to fulfill our potential. Without it, we face a continual decline in our well-being, poverty and hunger, and increasing levels of conflict” (Chissano, 2010).

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Solutions to water problems

- Financial resources- water drilling
- Climate? Is there a solutions?

Locals bring water to Kenyan village - Planned to serve 2,000, providing water for estimated 18,000 (Dale Boren, 2013, Casper Journal).



- **CURRENT PROJECT**



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING AT CASPER



**KENYA
SUMMER
2017**

Be Global, Learn By Doing. June 3-12 in Muranga County, Kenya

Supporting a community



manually dug out **water well-**
excavation or structure created
in the ground by digging



Bring joy and relief to many families



- <https://www.google.com/search?q=children+in+africa+drinking+water+from+well&tbm=isch&imgil>

What are possible ways of encouraging discussions of controversial issues? (with community members? With students?)

- In these uncertain times
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Nganga & Others: Kenya projects

- UW-Led Group Brings Water to Community in Kenya-
<http://www.uwyo.edu/uw/news/2013/08/uw-led-group-brings-water-to-community-in-kenya.html>
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- Students gain by giving in Kenya-
http://casperjournal.com/news/article_49ba6e9a-d709-51eb-83d7-3a143ba7a9b8.html
-
- Past University of Wyoming Kenya Projects-
<http://kenyalendahand.weebly.com/projects.html>
- Education faculty visit to Kenya continues existing projects, creates new international connections for UW students-
<https://www.uwyo.edu/education/deans-office/college-news/2014/2014%20kenya%20trip.html>

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- Bunten. R. & Dawson V. (2014). Teaching climate change science in senior secondary school: Issues, barriers & opportunities. *Teaching science* 60 (1).
- Chissano, J. (2010). Water and food security inextricably linked
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