



Safe-water shortages, gender perspectives, and related challenges in developing countries: The case of Uganda

David Baguma ^{a,*}, Jamal H. Hashim ^{a,b}, Syed M. Aljunid ^{a,c}, Willibald Loiskandl ^d

^a United Nations University International Institute for Global Health, UNU-IIGH Building, UKM Medical Centre, Jalan Yaacob Latif, Bandar Tun Razak, 56000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

^b Department of Community Health, University Kebangsaan Malaysia, UKM Medical Centre, Jalan Yaacob Latif, Bandar Tun Razak, Cheras, 56000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

^c International Case-Mix and Clinical Coding Centre, Faculty of Medicine, UKM Medical Centre, Jalan Yaacob Latif, Bandar Tun Razak, Cheras, 56000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

^d Institute of Hydraulics and Rural Water Management, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Muthgasse 18, A-1190 Vienna, Austria

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Water management carried out by women supports quality of life in communities.
- ▶ Technologies that provide efficient energy sources support household chores.
- ▶ Emphasis on female-related activities is important for achieving a sustainable, safe water supply.
- ▶ Active water associations tailored toward women's roles can be important.
- ▶ Family size and gender dimensions have a significant impact on water management.

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



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ABSTRACT

The need for water continues to become more acute with the changing requirements of an expanding world population. Using a logistical analysis of data from 301 respondents from households that harvest rainwater in Uganda, the relationship between dependent variables, such as water management performed as female-dominated practices, and independent variables, such as years of water harvesting, family size, tank operation and maintenance, and the presence of local associations, was investigated. The number of years of water harvesting, family size, tank operation and maintenance, and presence of local associations were statistically significantly related to adequate efficient water management. The number of years of water harvesting was linked to women's participation in household chores more than to the participation of men, the way of livelihoods lived for many years. Large families were concurrent with a reduction in water shortages, partially because of the availability of active labour. The findings also reveal important information regarding water-related operations and maintenance at the household level and the presence of local associations that could contribute some of the information necessary to minimise water-related health risks. Overall, this investigation revealed important observations about the water management carried out by women with respect to underlying safe-water shortages, gender perspectives, and related challenges in Uganda that can be of great importance to developing countries.

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* Corresponding author. Tel.: +60 3 9171 5394; fax: +60 3 9171 5402.
 E-mail addresses: david.baguma@unu.edu, bagusha2000@yahoo.com (D. Baguma).

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