

**COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY OF GRAVITY  
WATER FLOW SCHEMES IN RUBANDA DISTRICT, UGANDA**

**BY**

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**ABSTRACT**

The study examined community management and sustainability of gravity flow schemes in Rubanda district. A cross sectional survey and descriptive research design was adopted, in which quantitative and qualitative approaches were used to gather and analyze qualitative and quantitative views regarding gravity flow schemes. A target population of 212 respondents was selected among water users, water committee members, civil society members, and district officials in the water department. Using zero order correlation and multiple regression models, the study found a weak correlation between community management and sustainability of gravity flow schemes ( $r = .258$ ). Only the financial function of community management was found to be significant in supporting sustainability of water projects, though it was negatively contributing. The study concluded that rural water facilities can easily be sustained if there is a sense of gender quality, participation and communities have people to turn to for help in case of major repairs and maintenance, though government does not have adequate standby staff to provide such services. It was recommended that government should consider employing staff who are technical in water management to provide standby services to rural water communities. Community leadership in Rubanda district should consider involving women in water management and to sensitize and encourage them in participating in making decisions that affect the longevity of water facilities.