

Beneficiary highlight:

Taban Joseph Lino, hand pump mechanic

KEY IMPACTS

- + Hand Pump Mechanics Associations (HPMAs) created, bringing the knowledge required to maintain hand pumps into communities
- + Trainings and tools provided to members of the HPMAs, leaving long-term local capacity
- + Work in tandem with Water Management Committees to encourage a cycle of local investment in maintaining water points
- + Connect with Water and Farm Service centres to procure the required spare parts, tools, and become agents of the centres



Strengthening local capacity for long-term sustainability of water infrastructure

Taban Lino is one of nine members of the HPMA of Lafon County. He built his skills through on-the-job training. Since the formation of the two HPMAs, the mechanics offer hand pump repair and maintenance at cost. Taban has helped provide these services near where he lives, making them more accessible - once, a mechanic would have had to travel from a major city to do repairs.

The HPMA approach works well, as the communities contribute in the form of water user fees, collected by the Water Management Committees, (WMCs), which are then used to pay the association as well as paying for the minor spare parts required.

Showing off the tools of the trade - a demonstration table with tools to repair India Mark II hand pumps at the consolidation conference in Torit in September, 2019.

"We have been repairing hand pumps since even before 2016, but everything became more effective when we were trained by NIRAS' contracted partner, organised into an association, and registered in 2016 to work as a group.

It's not actually so expensive, or so hard to do, if you're trained and have the skills. It's minor repairs, but sometimes also the county authority assigns us to do supervision. We do this work in the locations where we are living.

The mechanics are paid in kind with grains, with goats, with cash, sometimes with chickens, by the community. The WMC and the water users make provision to pay the hand pump mechanics association ... we have done this before, and I know it will continue."

Taban Joseph Lino, hand pump mechanic, Lafon HPMA

Below, a young boy gets water from a water point powered by a hand pump. The hand pump mechanics ensure that these water points remain operational.

