



## MEET OUR PARTNER: **Literacy Action and Development Agency (LADA)**

Location: Rukungiri, Uganda

Year Established: 2003

FCDE Partner Since: 2015

*LADA believes that small communities working together can change the face of the world.*

### OUR PARTNERSHIP

LADA seeks to empower and support members of disadvantaged communities by promoting greater human rights awareness and sanitation and hygiene development in remote regions of western Uganda. Established in Rukungiri in 2003, LADA began with only two staff members. They are now working in six districts, employ more than 70 staff, and reach more than 86,000 beneficiaries. LADA has seven strategic focus areas, including water and sanitation, child survival and development, clean energy, clean watershed/catchment conservation, HIV/AIDS, reproductive health, and human rights. According to LADA staff, one of the most helpful resources provided through FCDE's partnership is advanced training in grant writing. LADA staff have attended numerous FCDE workshops and have been supported in their responses to various calls for proposals. They have since won several competitive grants, including more than \$1 million in USAID funding.



In 2015, FCDE awarded a grant to LADA to promote greater access to clean and safe water in Nyamayenje Village, Rukungiri. Funding was used to conduct trainings on sanitation and hygiene best practices and to construct a well for drinking water. Previously, this community's only water source was shared with their livestock, putting them at risk of numerous diseases and infections. Women and children would often walk over two kilometers to access clean water, which they would carry by hand back to their homes. Funding from the small grant also supported the formation of a water use committee which

will be responsible for the supervision and maintenance of the well to ensure it remains functional in the future. As a result of this project, nearly 60 households now have nearby access to clean drinking water. In addition, 80% of these households are practicing improved sanitation and hygiene techniques such as increased hand washing and the use of drying racks for utensil, as well as constructed additional bathrooms and pit latrines.

*Before the well was constructed (above), the community had been sharing an open water source with their livestock. Now the community now has access to a safe drinking water source.*

