

## **Preventing shallow-well contamination in Uganda.**

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Development of rural water supplies in Uganda is mainly done by the construction of wells and protection of spring discharges. This dependency arises from the more widespread occurrence, superior quality and reduced susceptibility to contamination, of groundwater supplies compared to surface water resources.

In Uganda, ground water development has been targeted at two main aquifer units: a deep aquifer of fractured bedrock and a shallow, muddy-sand aquifer comprising of detrital bedrock and alluvium. However monitoring of water quality in South Eastern Uganda, a region of intense shallow ground water commonly exhibit levels of Coliform bacteria and nitrate exceeding W.H.O. health guidelines. This paper depicts a case study taken in East and Central Uganda. Particular attention has recently been directed at developing the shallow well aquifer since the formation is less costly to develop and a recent study has found it to be more productive than the deeper, bedrock aquifer.

The paper also elaborates the steps taken to minimise the possibilities of contamination.