



# TOSHIBA CARBON ZERO SCHEME

## UN Sustainable Development Goals

- > The UN has 17 measurable Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Toshiba supports these goals. This report focuses on **SDG 2: Zero Hunger** and explains the impact of the Toshiba CarbonZero Scheme and its link to this goal.
- > SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) aims to end hunger and achieve universal food security by 2030. This includes promoting knowledge of nutrition and access to nutritional foods, and promoting sustainable agriculture techniques to enable communities to achieve strong yields despite the challenges presented by climate change.
- > The Toshiba Carbon Zero Scheme supports the ongoing activities to rehabilitate and maintain boreholes in Uganda. These are mainly boreholes which have fallen into disrepair, denying communities access to safe water and forcing people to boil water in order to make it safe, thereby contributing to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

### FACTS

- > Undernourishment affects 1 in 9 people around the world, of whom the vast majority live in developing countries.
- > Globally, poor nutrition causes 45% of deaths in children under the age of 5, accounting for 3.1 million deaths per year. In Uganda, 5.76% of children do not reach the age of 5.
- > Agriculture is far and away the largest employer in the world, providing livelihoods for 40% of the world's population. In Uganda, over 60% of people are directly involved in agriculture, the majority of which is on a small-scale household level. This activity is becoming increasingly challenging, with unpredictable rainfall and declining soil quality due to the loss of tree cover having a very negative impact on yields.

### Ugandan Borehole Case Study

In Uganda, as in much of Africa, rural women face a double burden of having the main responsibility for ensuring their household's agricultural output whilst also caring for children and fulfilling other domestic tasks. This is the case for Brenda Okello from Bung village in Kole district, Uganda. At only 22, she is responsible for looking after and feeding a family of five.



Before the rehabilitation of the borehole, the family had no access to safe water and would collect water from the swampy areas surrounding the village. They were then left with a stark choice between drinking unsafe water or spending large amounts of time gathering firewood to boil the water to make it safe. Brenda would gather firewood whenever she could, but this presented a major challenge as it stopped her from spending time tending to crops to ensure that the family had food. However, when she didn't boil water to make it safe, family members would very often become sick, meaning that a lot of money had to be spent on medicines for illnesses such as diarrhoea and bilharzia.



Brenda farms maize as the staple food for her family in addition to various vegetables and reports that: *"I now have enough time to spend on my farm which means the yield of my crops has improved. I don't have to spend money on medicines so I can invest more in the tools and resources I need for farming, and my family is secured from food shortages."*

Finally, Brenda says: *"Thanks Toshiba in partnership with CO2balance for supporting us with clean and safe water. This has improved our condition and is eliminating poverty and hunger from our communities!"*

### Toshiba's contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals

This case study shows how the project activities in Uganda contribute to SDG 2 in the following ways:

- The time previously spent gathering firewood can now be spent working on the farm to increase crop yields for home consumption.
- Reducing the dependence on firewood removes a cause of deforestation, allowing forests to naturally regenerate, which increases soil quality and therefore improves agricultural yields.
- Ensuring access to safe water removes a cause of illness, meaning that money that would otherwise have been spent on medicine can now be spent on agricultural inputs such as tools and seed, thereby contributing to food security and diversifying diets.

For more information about the Toshiba Carbon Zero Scheme please visit our website:  
[www.toshibatec.eu/about/sustainability/carbon-zero/](http://www.toshibatec.eu/about/sustainability/carbon-zero/)

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