

## Proposal to GiveWell

### *A scoping grant for a new water chlorination initiative in Rwanda*

Farmers First

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#### Introduction

One Acre Fund is dedicated to improving the lives of the world's poorest population: smallholder farm families in Sub-Saharan Africa. We share GiveWell's emphasis on cost-effective interventions capable of achieving maximal human impact with each dollar spent, and water chlorination represents one such intervention, given its potential to efficiently reduce all-cause mortality in the rural areas One Acre Fund serves. We see further opportunities for cost-effective impact through leveraging our existing infrastructure across rural Sub-Saharan Africa to scale and maintain chlorination technology.

#### I. Proposal

One Acre Fund proposes a one-year scoping grant of \$450,000 from GiveWell to "ground-truth" the potential to achieve cost-effective impact via in-line chlorinators at rural water points in the Rwandan context. Our main goal will be to evaluate the cost and impact potential of a longer-term partnership to scale up this intervention.

#### II. Timeline

Our scoping process would comprise two phases of work:

- Phase 1: Q4 2022 – mid-Q2 2023
  - Complete thorough desk research
  - Conduct systems mapping for Rwanda's rural water space
  - Launch initial field surveys to visit and test household water quality at eligible water points across Rwanda
  - Initiate project-level government relations with key actors
  - Recruit and hire a full-time operating manager for this project
- Phase 2: Mid-Q2 2023 – Q4 2023
  - Onboard and ramp up operating manager for this project
  - Complete field surveys of a full representative sample of household water quality at most eligible water points across Rwanda
  - Continue strengthening project-level government relations with key actors
  - If all indicators are promising, prepare groundwork for an initial pilot

If successful, the timeline above would position us to launch a one-year pilot in late 2023 or early 2024, tentatively consisting of ~100 in-line chlorinators. If this one-year pilot is also successful, we could begin rapid scale-up the following year, with potential to quickly establish thousands of chlorinators at all water points identified as eligible across Rwanda.

#### III. Deliverables

By the end of Phase 1, One Acre Fund would share with GiveWell:

- A revised project model with all assumptions initially tested through desk research and sample surveys, including:
  - Installation and operating costs
  - Baseline chlorination levels
  - Household density and average distance to water points

By the end of Phase 2, One Acre Fund would share with GiveWell a summary report of all findings from our scoping process. This data would be more thoroughly “ground-truthed,” including by physically visiting most eligible water points in the country. This report would include the following:

- Our full results from desk research and field surveys, including:
  - Data on household water sources, consumption and sanitation behaviors, etc.
  - Market assessment of Rwanda’s water points, types, in-line chlorination status, etc.
  - Projections on baseline incidence of waterborne illness and the potential impact of chlorination
- A full systems map for Rwanda’s rural water space, including:
  - List of actors, mapping who does what
  - Overview of the local “political economy,” mapping who decides what
  - Overview of funding sources, mapping who funds what, as well as notable gaps
  - Overview of regulatory opportunities and challenges, including the Ministry of Infrastructure’s willingness to partner and the feasibility of attaining licensing from the Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Authority (RURA)
- A proposal for next steps

#### IV. Budget

Our proposed scoping grant would fund the following project costs:

	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Total	Notes
<b>Field Costs - Staff</b>							
Project leadership	\$9,063	\$21,250	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	<b>\$150,313</b>	Dedicated project lead (already on staff) and operating manager (to be hired by Q2 2023) to drive and support all key impact activities
Enumerators & Supervisors	\$0	\$7,157	\$17,892	\$17,892	\$17,892	<b>\$60,834</b>	Data capture for all chlorination intervention outcomes, survey design, coding, analysis and communication of results for operational changes
<b>Field Costs - Non-staff</b>							
Tablets & Battery packs	\$0	\$7,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$7,500</b>	Tablets and battery packs for enumerators and supervisors
Transport & Accommodation	\$0	\$14,625	\$36,000	\$36,000	\$36,000	<b>\$122,625</b>	Travel, accommodation and per diem costs for enumerators and supervisors while in the field
Water test kits	\$0	\$45,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$45,000</b>	Kits required to perform water quality tests in the field, and consumables required to run thousands of tests on water points to be surveyed around the country
Systems change mapping	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	<b>\$20,000</b>	Costs related to hosting meetings with stakeholders, focus groups, and government and policy officials to fully understand the water space (including venue rental, transport, etc.)
<b>Support Costs</b>							
Program support	\$3,125	\$10,454	\$10,454	\$10,454	\$10,454	<b>\$44,940</b>	Non-field staff supporting the project through logistics, government relations, human resource management, financial advisory, planning & reporting, sourcing, and leadership.
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$12,188</b>	<b>\$115,986</b>	<b>\$114,346</b>	<b>\$104,346</b>	<b>\$104,346</b>	<b>\$451,212</b>	

#### Conclusion

We are grateful to GiveWell for this opportunity to partner in support of Rwanda’s smallholder families, and we look forward to answering your questions about our proposal.