

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES ENGINEERING

FINAL YEAR PROJECT REPORT

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A DRILLING MACHINE FOR SHALLOW WELLS

(CASE STUDY: SHYAULE VILLAGE, BUSIA DISTRICT)

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A final year project report submitted to the Department of Water Resources Engineering as a Partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of a Bachelor of science degree in Water Resources Engineering of Busitema University.

ABSTRACT

Access to safe and portable water remains a major concern in Uganda. The government's limited efforts to provide adequate water supply demands the extensive usage of borehole drilling. However, manual drilling methods including hand digging frequently result in poor water quality. Furthermore, the exorbitant cost of imported drilling rigs makes them prohibitive to domestic drillers. To address this challenge, this project will design and build a drilling machine for shallow wells that will meet the needed drill diameter and depth of up to 20 meters while being economically feasible. The domestically manufactured drilling equipment provides a practical and cost-effective option for improving water accessibility, fostering technological growth in the country, and reducing reliance on costly imports.

DECLARATION

I ESINGU EZEKIEL, LULE DAVID, AND AFOYORWOTH SHIELLA declare that all the material portrayed in this project proposal report is ours and has never been submitted for award of any degree, certificate, or diploma to any university or institution of higher learning.

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APPROVAL

This is to certify that the final year project report was written under the guidance our supervisoror on the topic "DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A DRILLING MACHINE FOR SHALLOW WELLS"

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List of acronyms

WOB-Weight on Bit

RPM - Rotational speed of revolutions per minute

UCS - unconfined comprehensive strength

SDGs – Sustainable Development Goals

USD – United States Dollar

GWPZ – Ground Water Potential Zones

USGS - United States Geological Survey

MCDM – Multicriteria Decision Making

MCDA – Multicriteria Decision Analysis

NMC- Natural Moisture Content

OMC – Natural Moisture Content

CBR- California Bearing Ratio

PL – Plastic Limit

PI – Plasticity Index

LL – Liquid Limit

LS – Linear Shrinkage

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

This chapter is the general overview of the entire research study and it elaborates the background of the study, problem statement and objectives of the study, scope and justification of the study.

1.1 BACKGROUND

Water is one of the necessities of mankind hence both local governments, states, and nationals in every country work towards making portable water available for their populations (Dienagha *et al.*, 2013). Groundwater is critical for sustaining ecosystems and ensuring human adaptation to extreme and unexpected global environmental changes, particularly as surface water systems become increasingly unsustainable in the face of rapid population growth and climate change (Scanlon *et al.*, 2023). Globally, groundwater meets the domestic needs of approximately half of the world's population and its abstraction accounts for 33% of total withdrawals and provides water for agricultural (42%), domestic(36%), and industrial(27%)needs(Dangar, Asoka and Mishra, 2021). At least 20 countries have globally installed millions of pumps mounted on tube wells (drilled wells with pipe casing) to access shallow groundwater resources for machinated farming. More than 8 million hand-drilled wells in Bangladesh have been constructed, largely by small private businesses(Rural and Supply, 2017)

In Africa, the major source of water for agricultural and domestic use are surface and subsurface water sources. For most rural populations, surface water is readily available and water from this sources is not reliable for an all year round availability most times and could constitute health hazards(Babalola *et al.*, 2018). Ground water sources with exception of shallow wells however are for long term sustainable water supply because of their unique characteristics of all year around availability(Factors *et al.*, 2018). Accessing groundwater for domestic use includes digging a hand well, manually drilling a well, or using mechanized well drilling. In order to reach shallow groundwater resources, manual effort is required for both hand digging and manual drilling of wells. In specific geophysical circumstances, manual well drilling is the most suitable low-cost alternative available for individual small households to access groundwater resources(Weight, Yoder and Keller, 2013).

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