Proposal to GiveWell
A scoping grant for a new water chlorination initiative in Rwanda

September 2022

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Q4 2022</th>
<th>Q1 2023</th>
<th>Q2 2023</th>
<th>Q3 2023</th>
<th>Q4 2023</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Field Costs - Staff</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Project leadership</td>
<td>$9,063</td>
<td>$21,250</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$150,313</td>
<td>Dedicated project lead (already on staff) and operating manager (to be hired by Q2 2023) to drive and support all key impact activities</td>
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<td>Enumerators &amp; Supervisors</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$7,157</td>
<td>$17,892</td>
<td>$17,892</td>
<td>$17,892</td>
<td>$60,834</td>
<td>Data capture for all chlorination intervention outcomes, survey design, coding, analysis and communication of results for operational changes</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Field Costs - Non-staff</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tablets &amp; Battery packs</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td>Tablets and battery packs for enumerators and supervisors</td>
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<td>Transport &amp; Accommodation</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$14,625</td>
<td>$36,000</td>
<td>$36,000</td>
<td>$36,000</td>
<td>$122,625</td>
<td>Travel, accommodation and per diem costs for enumerators and supervisors while in the field</td>
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<td>Water test kits</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$45,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$45,000</td>
<td>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</td>
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<td>Systems change mapping</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>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.)</td>
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<td><strong>Support Costs</strong></td>
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<td>Program support</td>
<td>$3,125</td>
<td>$10,454</td>
<td>$10,454</td>
<td>$10,454</td>
<td>$10,454</td>
<td>$44,940</td>
<td>Non-field staff supporting the project through logistics, government relations, human resource management, financial advisory, planning &amp; reporting, sourcing, and leadership.</td>
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<td><strong>Total Costs</strong></td>
<td>$12,188</td>
<td>$115,986</td>
<td>$114,346</td>
<td>$104,346</td>
<td>$104,346</td>
<td>$451,212</td>
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</table>

**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.