



REPORT ON CONSTRUCTION OF WATER SYSTEM AT BALIBO CLC

AUGUST 2025

General

Following is a brief pictorial report on the construction of the water supply system at Balibo CLC in Timor-Leste.

The project was funded in the main by the Balibo House Trust.

Brian Boon, an engineer from the charity MiVAC, was the project supervisor.

Labourers were hired locally in Balibo – in numbers as and when required.

Construction commenced on 9 August, and was completed on 17 August 2025.

Water System in Outline

The town water supply is not consistent. For example, NO water was supplied on the weekend of 16 or 17 August.

To allow for this, the existing grey galvanised water tank (approx. 3,000L) was used as a primary holding tank for town water. Water was then pumped up to the “dirty water” tank (3,200L) on the tank stand. (This gives a total holding of around 6,000L of “dirty water” when town water is not available.)

Water was then gravity fed from the dirty water tank through the SkyHydrant into a “clean water” tank of 1,200L. The outlet of this tank was joined to the inlet of the existing pump system – which feeds clean water to the clinic, kitchen and volunteer house.

Water was also gravity fed from the dirty water tank directly to the existing yellow Profile tank (900L) and a new 600L tank for the toilet block.



The newly installed system, including shelter house, tucked out of the way in the corner.



The SkyHydrant and pump in the shelter house.



The Profile tank with supply line and tap, and new taps to the basins.



The base for the toilet tank. The space had been filled with large stones, but then sand laid on top, with no barrier between the two layers. Consequently, the sand then dropped down between the stones creating a very uneven base for the old tank.



The toilet tank stand was refilled with coarse sand, which was then worked down between the stones. A 100mm concrete slab was then laid over it.

The new tank in position, and connected to the toilet wall taps and basins (top blue tap) and, first time ever, to the toilets (bottom blue tap).



Water flowing to the handbasins, via new taps and new flexible lines.



Toilet cistern filling

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