Hope Spring completes first borehole project in Northern Nigeria

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Hereford water poverty alleviation charity, Hope Spring Water, has announced the completion of its first borehole project of 2026 and its first-ever clean water initiative in the northern part of Nigeria.

In a blog post published on the charity's website, spokesperson Bolu Olorunfemi confirmed the milestone, stating: "We are pleased to announce the completion of the Akwanga project. The community is delighted to have their very own clean water on tap for the very first time in their history."

The charity is funded entirely by donations from supporters. Among the initiatives supporting its work is its digital platform, Hope Spring eCards, which enables supporters to send electronic greeting cards for occasions such as birthdays and seasonal celebrations. The organisation noted that engagement with sections such as the March birthday eCards has contributed to its broader fundraising efforts.

The newly completed borehole project in Akwanga represents a significant development for the community, where access to safe and reliable drinking water has historically been limited. For many residents, clean water has meant long walks to distant sources, reliance on seasonal streams, or the use of untreated water that carries health risks. The installation of a functioning borehole now changes that reality in a practical and immediate way.

Access to clean water is widely recognised as one of the most critical foundations for public health, education, and economic stability. Without it, communities often face recurring outbreaks of waterborne diseases, reduced school attendance among children tasked with fetching water, and limited opportunities for small-scale agriculture or local enterprise.

Hope Spring Water, based in Hereford in the United Kingdom, has been working with water-poor communities in West Africa for more than a decade. Over the years, the charity has supported the drilling of boreholes, rehabilitation of broken water systems, and implementation of community-led water management structures designed to ensure long-term sustainability.

According to the organisation, the Akwanga project is particularly significant because it marks the charity's first clean water intervention in northern Nigeria. While Hope Spring has previously delivered projects in other parts of West Africa, expanding into northern Nigeria reflects a strategic effort to reach underserved regions where the need for safe water infrastructure remains acute.

Community engagement formed a central part of the project's implementation. Local leaders and residents were involved throughout the planning and execution stages, helping to identify the most suitable site for the borehole and establishing basic management arrangements to safeguard the facility. This participatory approach, the charity says, helps foster a sense of ownership and responsibility within beneficiary communities, increasing the likelihood that the water system will be properly maintained over time.

While the eCard platform is one of several funding channels, the charity stresses that all proceeds are directed toward water poverty alleviation projects. Supporters who choose to send eCards are, in effect, contributing to the delivery of tangible infrastructure such as the Akwanga borehole.

For residents of Akwanga, however, the impact is measured less in fundraising mechanisms and more in daily life. Clean water on tap means children can spend more time in school rather than walking long distances to fetch water. It means reduced exposure to contaminated sources and the illnesses that often follow. It means households can plan their days with greater certainty, knowing that a reliable supply of safe water is available within their community.

The completion of the borehole also signals the beginning of a new phase rather than the end of a project. Ongoing monitoring and community coordination will be essential to ensure the system continues to function effectively. Hope Spring Water has indicated that it will maintain communication with local contacts to track usage and address any technical challenges that may arise.

As 2026 progresses, the charity says it intends to build on this milestone with additional projects aimed at

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reaching other water-poor communities. For now, the successful completion of the Akwanga borehole stands as a clear example of how targeted intervention, sustained donor support, and local collaboration can come together to deliver meaningful change.

For Hope Spring Water and the community it has served, the message is straightforward: access to clean water is not a luxury, but a necessity, and in Akwanga, it is now a reality.

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