

# Mrs. Florence Awor of Onyut Village

## *Empowering women leaders through safe water*

In partnership with Rural Development Foundation based in Lira, Uganda, Ryan's Well supports school and community water, sanitation and hygiene education projects. Building on our hygiene education pilot project across 73 schools, RDF continues to provide community mobilization, school latrines and hygiene education activities, drilled wells and well rehabilitations to provide access to safe water. Mrs. Awor Florence is just one of the many women we have met as we visit the communities of northern Uganda and learn more about the impacts of access to safe water and sanitation. Florence lives with her husband Mr. Okello Lawrence in the village of Onyut. Approximately 179 households use the new well constructed in early 2010 and an estimate of 1010 students now have access to sanitation with VIP latrines constructed at Onyut Primary School.

As a member of the village water committee, Florence and three fellow female members work along side the male members, providing leadership and representation for the women of Onyut on the village committee who manage and maintain the well. The women of Onyut are now able to collect water in approximately 20 minutes, once in the morning and once in the evening. It used to take over 2 hours per collection and water was collected from an unprotected, unsafe source. With her leadership role towards a healthy community, Florence is better able to care for her family, her home, her farming to bring produce to market for income and be a positive role model for youth in her village – all stemming from access to safe water.