



ANNUAL REPORT

2013

water1st
international



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A MESSAGE OF THANKS

The generosity of the Water1st community turned 2013 into a year of extraordinary success. Together, we raised \$1.6 million enabling us to reach our goal of clean water and toilets for over 100,000 people.

Because we share and support a belief that water is a basic human right, thousands of lives around the world have been transformed, and communities are moving on a path out of extreme poverty.

Thank you for being part of Water1st and for bringing health, hope, and opportunity to the world's poorest.

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MARIA BEFORE



MARIA 2013



নি দৃষ্টি দুই হাত ধোব।

This is Maria Eva Estacantos from San Jose, Honduras. From the time she was a young girl, Maria has spent hours each day carrying 40 pounds of water. She did not have the time or money to go to school. She lives on less than \$1 per day.

Our approach to development is built around answering one essential question: **“What does Maria want?”**

We asked her. She told us that she wants to end the walk for water for herself and for her daughters. And not just because carrying water is hard work, but because time spent carrying water is a major obstacle that prevents her family from escaping abject poverty.

We support projects based on the priorities of the people who will use the project. We listen, we involve community members in the process, and we fund solutions that are most effective in the long run.

This is why the community of San Jose has completed the construction of a piped water system delivering water 24 hours a day to Maria’s home. Maria’s walk has ended, giving her precious time to invest in activities that lift her family out of poverty.

Piped water is more expensive than a simple hand pump, but we know that the additional investment is worth it. It’s not just that clean water is a basic human need. It’s that we believe Maria is no different from you or me. She doesn’t want a partial solution. She wants clean, convenient water so that she can build a better life.

The international water sector is one with a high project failure rate. Typically, 35 to 50 percent of projects fail in two to five years. Water1st projects endure. This is, in part, because we build what people want and need. When people value something, they tend to take care of it.

Our projects last. We know this because we systematically visit them. We make sure each project is providing the intended benefits and generating the best possible outcomes for the world’s poorest. It’s important to us that your money is being spent wisely and is making a real difference in the lives of people like Maria.

OUR PROGRESS THROUGH 2013:


\$9.3 million total raised
964 water projects completed
106,290 lives transformed


IN 2013 ALONE:


\$1.6 million raised
228 water projects completed
24,185 lives transformed


Every project includes water, toilets, hygiene education, and community development — the training that empowers people to successfully operate and maintain their water and sanitation systems in perpetuity.

PROJECT UPDATES

 **BANGLADESH: 223** water systems completed, serving **20,503** people in the urban slum settlements of Dhaka and Chittagong.

 **ETHIOPIA: 2,143** people now have piped water and toilets in Gonbisa Kussaye, a rural farming community in Oromia.

 **HONDURAS: 789** people in San Jose, San Simon, Canfura, and San Antonio now have piped water and toilets at every household. Our local partner also established a new revolving loan fund.

 **INDIA:** Our revolving loan program has served **750** people within the Sundarbans region of West Bengal.



TOGETHER WE TRANSFORM LIVES

In 2013, Water1st supporters gave in honor of birthdays, rallied their schools and churches, sold LemonAID, ran and biked long distances, and participated in our Carry5 Walk for Water event. In a single evening, the Seattle Give Water Give Life benefit raised a record \$910,000. Marla Smith-Nilson was recognized as a **SELF Magazine Women Doing Good Honoree**, appearing on **NBC's Today Show** and featured in SELF's September issue.

ANNUAL ETHIOPIA WATER TOUR: GAINING A NEW PERSPECTIVE

Travelers accompanied Water1st staff to our project sites in rural Oromia, Ethiopia. We visited communities with and without clean water, collected and carried water with women and girls, and dug pipeline trench alongside villagers. This unique opportunity allows people to see firsthand the tremendous impact a water project has on the lives of the world's poorest.



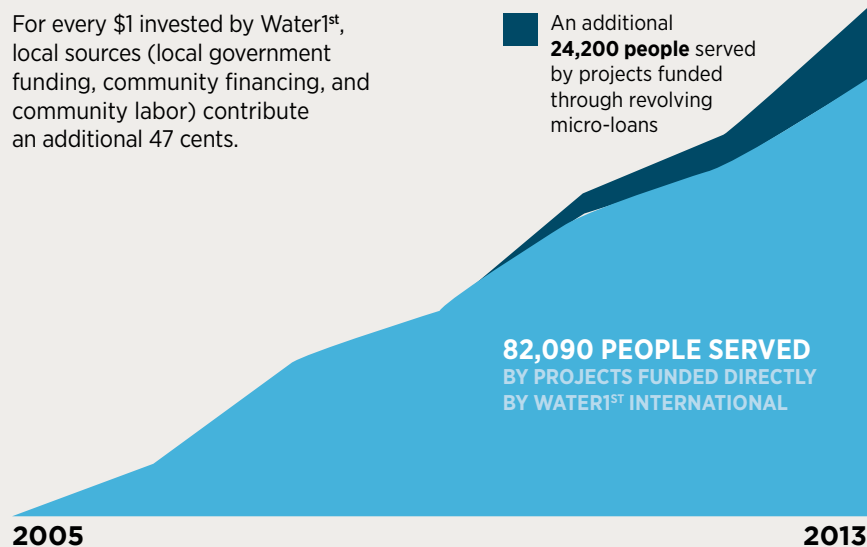


PEOPLE WITH CLEAN WATER: 106,000

DID YOU KNOW? EVERY DONATION YOU MAKE IS MATCHED BY THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE.

For every \$1 invested by Water1st, local sources (local government funding, community financing, and community labor) contribute an additional 47 cents.

An additional **24,200 people** served by projects funded through revolving micro-loans

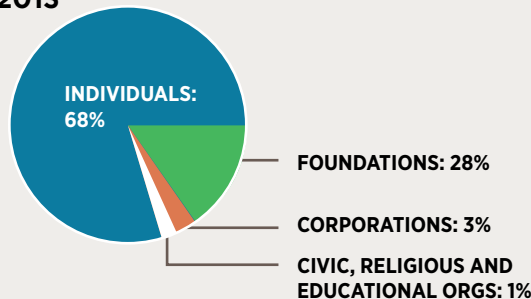


TOTAL RAISED: \$1,586,000

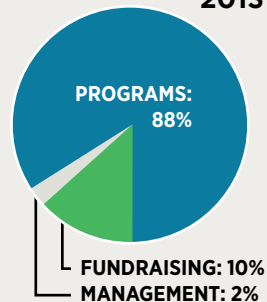
HOW YOUR MONEY WAS SPENT

Our 2013 total expenditures were \$1,443,004 of which \$1,268,165 (88%) supported our program activities. And 82% of our funding came in the form of unrestricted funds. Unrestricted funds are critical to our mission, allowing us to make long-term commitments to our country partners. This in turn allows them to be more efficient and effective in their work. These funds also permit us to customize our follow-up and capacity building with each partner.

REVENUE 2013



EXPENDITURES 2013



DISTRIBUTION OF SUPPORT TO COUNTRY PROGRAMS



We thank those who generously contributed to Water1st from January 1 to December 31, 2013. Through the support of individuals, foundations, schools, civic and religious organizations – people of all ages and backgrounds – together, we raised \$1.6 million.

While space does not allow us to acknowledge all of our supporters, every gift is valued and adds up to fund entire community projects.

Your support has a lasting impact on thousands of lives and sends a message of hope to the people we serve around the world.



15-year-old Giuliana raised over \$5,000 to sponsor this water point in Gonbisa Kussaye, Ethiopia

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ACCESS TO CLEAN, CONVENIENT WATER: BREAKING THE CYCLE OF POVERTY

Convenient water sources create opportunity. With the burden of illness and water-fetching lifted, community members have time and energy for income-generating activities, such as agriculture and small business. Girls can go to school, breaking the cycle of illiteracy among women. And money previously spent treating water-related illnesses can be redirected to other needs.

Addressing the water and sanitation needs of the world's poorest is the one activity that, when done properly, saves lives and generates benefits that can break the cycle of extreme poverty.

**VISIT WATER1ST.ORG TO LEARN MORE, TO DONATE
OR TO BEGIN YOUR OWN CAMPAIGN TO SAVE LIVES.**

water1st international

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