

Making Water Work

2023/24 IMPACT REPORT





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FROM THE DESK OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to present our 2023 Impact Report, highlighting our critical work in Ghana and India. The year brought many highlights, detailed in our **Impact Stories** and **By the Numbers** sections.

A bittersweet moment was bidding farewell to our founding CEO, Kurt Soderlund, after eighteen years of exceptional leadership. We are deeply grateful for his vision and hard work, wishing him the very best in his new ventures.

With the transition to our new CEO, Chris Williams, complete, Chris's extensive experience at the United Nations, has already laid the groundwork for future expansion and enhanced capabilities in Ghana and India, detailed further in the **What's Ahead** section.

In my experience in investment finance at Bain Capital, I have come to appreciate the challenges of scaling operations to meet demand. I am excited about the future direction of the organization and warmly welcome your continued support.



Steve Zide



Chris Williams, CEO Safe Water Network

To: Partners, Donors, and Friends



Mon 08/12/2024

Thank you for your continued support and interest in our work.

In my brief tenure at Safe Water Network, I've been impressed by the caliber of our teams in Ghana and India and their ability – quite rare in the water sector – to combine water access to homes and institutions, water quality, and water resource management. I am equally enthusiastic about how the organization is engaging with the sector and with policy makers to harness the expertise of a range of public and private sector partners showcased here.

This Impact Review highlights the significant progress achieved in 2023 through our field programs, technical assistance projects, sector engagement, and policy activities.

While we've accomplished much together, it's clear our journey is just beginning, as the demand for affordable safe water continues to outstrip supply. I eagerly anticipate working with government, partner organizations, industry, and community networks to explore how we can achieve impact at scale together.

Warm regards,

Chris

Impact Measurements that Matter



Expanding Access

We continue to work in communities without access to safe water with populations often too large for hand-pumps and too small for urban utilities

1.8+ million

people continued to have safe water access through community-led water stations.

DIRECT ACCESS

Over 1.8 million people in 500+ communities continue to have access to affordable safe water through locally-managed stations in Ghana and India developed and supported by Safe Water Network. Many of these stations have operated for many years and will continue to do so. Sustainability is a defining differentiator to our approach.

40+ million

people gain safe water access through our technical assistance program.

INDIRECT ACCESS

With over 400 water experts based in Ghana and India, we provided assistance to governments and other partners in the form of training, troubleshooting, and technical solutions that provide access indirectly to more than 40 million people.

60+ million

people gain safe water access through our sector engagement and policy advisory.

INDIRECT ACCESS

In both Ghana and India we have provided input into their respective national water policies, and in the case of India, we helped guide public investment of 90 billion US dollars for direct-piped access to homes across rural India.

Service Reliability

We are committed to improving our community-led stations to ensure long-term, affordable access to safe water. Stations launched before 2013 still operate reliably.



98%+

Station Uptime.

We keep safe water flowing using state-of-the-art technology including solar energy and remote sensors. Real-time data on hundreds of stations is available to operators, regional, and national managers.

2 hours

The response time by our operators.

Because the digital platform informs station operators about problems in real time, they can quickly troubleshoot and resolve the issue so that customers can access safe water virtually anytime day or night.

48 hours

Complaint resolution time.

We serve customers, not beneficiaries, thus we respond promptly to any issues our customers have to make sure they are satisfied.



Water Quality

Water-borne diseases are a leading cause of death in areas lacking safe water. Our system design is customized to address local contaminants.

98%+

Water quality parameters checked.

Water from community-led stations meet or exceed national water standards. The water is tested for harmful microbial and physio-chemical contaminants daily.

100%

Stations tested for water quality.

Water from these stations is regularly sent to independent local laboratories for thorough analysis quarterly to ensure water meets national water standards.

1000+

Complaint resolution time.

We serve customers, not beneficiaries, thus we respond promptly to any issues our customers have to make sure they are satisfied.

Equitable Access

Our approach was developed on the belief that safe water is a fundamental right, and yet 2 billion globally still do not have affordable, safe water access.



57%

of our operators in India are women.

Government and philanthropy simply can't sustainably deliver solutions fast enough.

492+

number of community-led stations supported by Safe Water Network

Community led solutions ensure fair and equitable access through the local safe water committee: eg. setting pricing, ensuring quality, overseeing operations.

2-6 cents/20 liters

An affordable price for 20 liters of safe water (2 cents/Ghana; 6 cents).

Consumers pay a nominal amount to cover station operating costs and on-going maintenance, without that revenue stations would not be able to deliver reliable safe water long term.



Financial Sustainability

Our stations are cost-effectively designed and field tested to cover operating costs, as well as build a reserve for on-going maintenance. A leading contributor to station failure is the inability to cover those ongoing costs and maintenance.

755M

number of liters of safe water sold.

Water revenue collected with 96% efficiency, covering operating expenses and field service maintenance costs.

95%

of community-led stations cover local operating expenses

Local operating expenses supported by Safe Water Network are completely covered by consumer revenue within the first year.

99%

of our community-led stations contribute towards maintenance costs.

Nearly all the stations we support contribute toward field service maintenance within the second year.

Impact Stories from India

A WASH Lesson Plan for Schools

Advancing Best Practice One Drop at a Time

Empowering Women Through
Water Entrepreneurship



A WASH Lesson Plan for Schools

FIELD IMPLEMENTATION: SCHOOL WASH PROGRAMS

Safe Water Network India is dedicated to improving access to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) in schools across the country. Our School WASH program addresses critical needs such as safe drinking water, hand-wash hygiene, clean functional toilets, menstrual hygiene management, and rainwater harvesting.

By the Numbers

100,000+

Schools in India are without toilets and safe water.

58

Schools in our 2023 pilot program.

Safe Water Network India School WASH initiatives are crucial for keeping students healthy, in school, and improving long-term educational outcomes, livelihoods, and prosperity. Globally, lack of School WASH access is a persistent issue. According to UNESCO, one in three schools worldwide lacks basic sanitation, and nearly half do not have handwashing facilities with water and soap. In India, these challenges are particularly acute, with over 66,000 government schools lacking toilets for boys and more than 35,000 without toilets for girls. Without proper

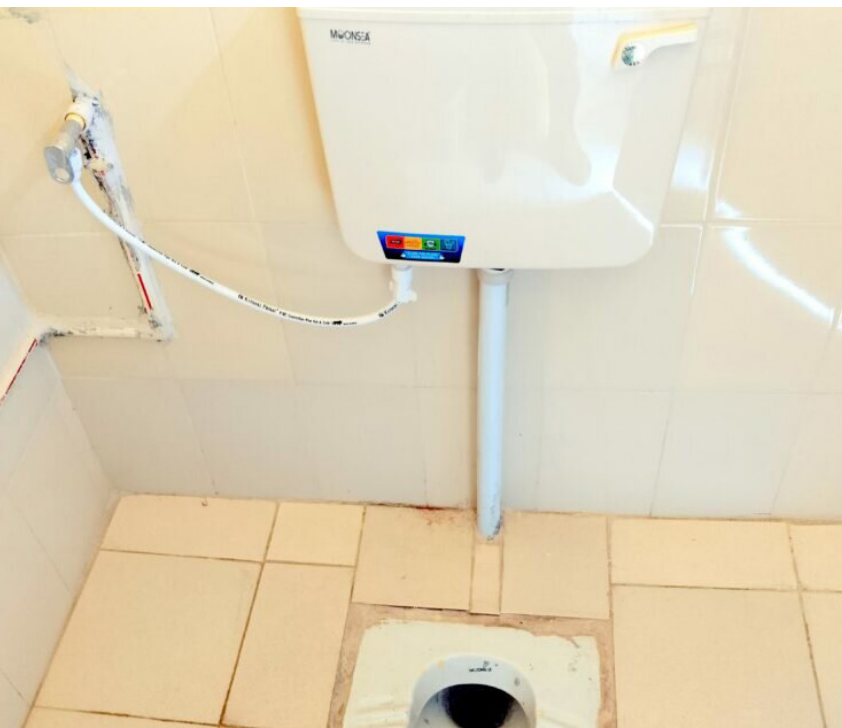
sanitation and hygiene facilities, quality education remains out of reach for many children.

Safe Water Network India, with the support of corporate CSR donors, has significantly contributed to improving School WASH through multi-stakeholder engagement, including collaboration with school principals, staff, students, and cleaning personnel. Our programs are designed to create healthy behaviors for life by providing safe drinking water, improved sanitation facilities, and hygiene education.

IMPACT AND PARTNERSHIPS

One of our partners, Milacron India, has played a vital role in advancing our School WASH program in Hyderabad. For example, in a government school with over 800 students, including 500 girls, the availability of clean, functional toilets has been a game-changer.

Students now have access to well-maintained facilities, sanitary pads, and safe drinking water, leading to improved attendance, health, and confidence.



Clean, Functional Toilets

We are renovating or building new toilets for both girls and boys in schools, handling all civil works, including installation, piping, and doors. A cleaner is appointed, and cleaning supplies are provided to ensure the toilets remain clean and functional.

Menstrual Hygiene Management

Sanitary pads are provided to adolescent girls through a dispensing machine. We train a Master Trainer at the school through a structured program to educate pre-puberty and pubescent girls and boys on adolescent growth and health. Additionally, girls receive emergency sanitary pads, along with menstrual health management care and guidance.



Rainwater Harvesting

In schools where the installation of rainwater harvesting infrastructure or groundwater recharge systems is feasible, we are developing these solutions to enhance water security.





Clean Drinking Water

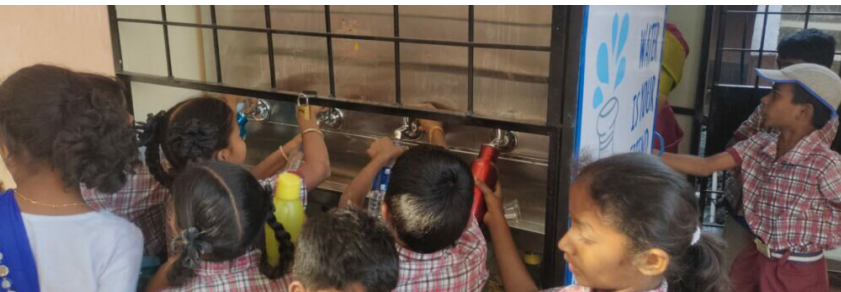
We are installing Point of Use Safe Drinking Water filtration systems in schools, selecting the appropriate size and technology based on raw water quality and specific needs. Three tap dispensers are provided for water service. Students, teachers, and staff are encouraged to fill their water bottles and take the clean water home, as they may not have access to good water quality at home. Through our collaboration with ADP, we are building safe drinking water infrastructure in 20 Hyderabad schools. Pentair is helping us expand safe drinking water in government schools from the State of Telangana and Uttar Pradesh in Goa State.

Additionally, our partnership with CBRE under the “Ek Pehal” program focuses on enhancing WASH services in 10 schools in Gurugram, Haryana. This initiative aligns with Sustainable Development Goal 6 and is expected to directly benefit 5,000 students by upgrading sanitation facilities, installing safe drinking water systems, and integrating menstrual hygiene management.



Handwash Hygiene

We are also refurbishing or creating hand-washing stations so students can wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating.



GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY

To mark Global Handwashing Day (October 15), Safe Water Network India conducted awareness events in schools from October 11-13, supported by Milacron and ADP. These events reached nearly 2,000 students in Hyderabad, emphasizing the importance of proper handwashing with soap and water. Key messages included washing hands before eating, after using the toilet, after playing outdoors, after coughing and sneezing, and after touching animals.



THE BROADER CHALLENGE AND IMPACT

Children worldwide lose 443 million school days annually due to water-related illnesses, according to UNICEF. Poor sanitation facilities and lack of clean water continue to result in dire health outcomes, particularly for young children and teenage girls. Our School WASH program, supported by partners like Milacron, ADP, and CBRE, is working to address these challenges, ensuring that students have access to the essential resources they need to stay healthy, learn effectively, and secure a brighter future. Other

partners contributing to this important initiative include: Dupont, PepsiCo, Oracle, and Pentair.

In 2024, both Milacron and CBRE renewed its partnership with Safe Water Network India, helping to expand our efforts in providing comprehensive WASH services. In addition to providing schools much needed equipment and program materials for teachers in water and sanitation, we will also be developing a nutritional component to the initiative.

“This is a game-changer for the students, especially the girls - the availability of clean, functional toilets.”

- SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS



Advancing Best Practice One Drop at a Time

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: TRAINING

Drawing upon our extensive field implementation experience dating back to 2009, Safe Water Network has developed a comprehensive array of training programs designed to accelerate impact in water management and access. By sharing our knowledge and carefully packaging it for practical application, we empower government agencies and other implementers to quickly and effectively apply this knowledge in the field, driving tangible improvements. Our training is offered in various formats, including on-site classroom sessions, webinars, pre-packaged modules, toolkits, on-demand videos, workbooks, and instructional posters. These materials are regularly updated to ensure they remain relevant and effective.

Here are highlights of some of the 2023 training programs offered in India:

By the Numbers

13,000

Government officials trained by
Safe Water Network. in India

SOLAR-POWERED WATER SYSTEMS (SPWS) TRAINING

Safe Water Network is collaborating with the Global Water Center (GWC) to train the Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Department (RDWSD) of Karnataka on solar-powered water systems (SPWS). This initiative includes the establishment of two SPWS demonstration sites. SWN has carefully tailored the training content to meet local needs, and we continue to support the project through close coordination with RDWSD, active participant engagement, and oversight of the demonstration sites' progress.



Capacity building workshop on setting up a safe water enterprise.

OTHER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TRAINING PROGRAMS

We provide support to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in implementing the AMRUT 2.0 program.

We aid the Government of Karnataka in operationalizing their 18,000 water stations, reaching 40 million people.

Participants and Program Details for India:

- **Number of master trainers trained:** 20 RDWSD engineers
- **Total trainees:** 400-500 GoK officials
- **Training of Master Facilitators began:** July 2023
- **Current status:** Ongoing
- **Program end:** 2025

Our comprehensive training programs in both Ghana and India are a testament to our commitment to enhancing water management skills and ensuring sustainable access to safe water for underserved communities. These programs reflect our dedication to long-term capacity building and the continuous improvement of water systems across diverse regions.



Solar workshop in the field.

In addition to these training programs our digital platform and knowledge hub comprise digital tools, sector reports, assessments, and best practices designed to build capacities and promote knowledge sharing. You can learn more about the Knowledge Hub here.

MEET ONE OF OUR TRAINERS: SIDDHI MOHTA

Siddhi Mohta, Senior Program Associate, is a core team member of Safe Water Network India's Advisory Support Unit to the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.

She has conducted several in-person and online training programs on water quality management systems for Urban Local Body officials with over 100 participants from seven states. This includes a two-day workshop on Water Body Rejuvenation at the

Indian Institute of Technology in Madras with 40 participants from 11 states in India.

Siddhi also hosted a workshop on achieving water-secure cities through effective groundwater management with the National Institute for Urban Affairs (NIUA) for 177 participants from over 80 ULBs as part of the organization's monitoring guidance under the AMRUT 2.0 Operational Guidelines in India.



AMRUT 2.0 program is paperless mission and we are building capacities of urban local bodies to develop water secure cities in 10 states of India and monitoring the program progress.

- SIDDHI MOHTA, SAFE WATER NETWORK INDIA SENIOR PROGRAM ASSOCIATE



Empowering Women Through Water Entrepreneurship

SECTOR ENGAGEMENT & POLICY ADVOCACY: EMPOWERING WOMEN

Safe Water Network has a variety of programs to empower women, recognizing that in many underserved populations, women play a vital role in achieving change in a community. Some of this work takes place within the Safe Water Enterprise Alliance (SEWAH), a national platform of 45 safe water enterprise implementers that USAID and Safe Water Network helped form in 2019.

By the Numbers

60

Knowledge Centers Established.

548

Number of Female Water Entrepreneurs Trained.



Scan QR code to view Empowering Women Video



The SEWAH alliance's Water Aunties program empowers women as social entrepreneurs in the water sector. By transforming women from water carriers to Water ATM entrepreneurs, the program challenges gender roles and creates sustainable livelihoods. Currently, 548 women operate Water ATMs across 23 cities in 11 states, providing affordable safe drinking water to their communities.



The program also includes innovative features like IoT-enabled Water ATMs, which enhance operational efficiency and reduce the need for constant station management. Water Aunties have demonstrated stronger financial discipline, better volume growth, and superior ATM maintenance compared to their male counterparts, further solidifying their role in the water sector.



Safe Water Enterprise Alliance

A Safe Water Network India Initiative

USAID-SEWAH: ACHIEVING IMPACT THROUGH COLLABORATION 2020-2023

SEWAH (Sustainable Enterprises for Water and Health) was a three-year engagement under a USAID grant aimed at scaling up safe water enterprises across the country through convergence, policy advisory, and knowledge sharing. Concluding in June 2023, the program successfully expanded and sustained safe water enterprises and established the digital platform swealliance.org, which continues to serve as an active resource. The safe water enterprise model is now scale-ready for global expansion to South Asia, Southeast Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

Through this effort we also established 60 Water Knowledge Resource Centers across 30 cities and 12 states in India, providing safe drinking water to over 212,000 people. We also introduced several innovations to reduce direct contact among consumers, operators, and technicians—especially critical during the pandemic. These included updated protocols, comprehensive training, and essential toolkits to maintain safety and service continuity. Many of these protocols continue today. The programs was also featured on USAID's GlobalWaters website.



USAID General Development Office visits the Safe Water Network Knowledge Resource Center in Gurugram.

FOR FURTHER READING:

Rethinking Gender Equality Through the Lens of Economic Empowerment in Water

This 2023 report shares the success of the shift in women’s traditional roles, from carrying water on their heads to owning and operating local water stations. Women are becoming the leaders of change in communities by providing safe water, WASH education, and promoting environmental sustainability. [Download the report.](#)

“We are committed to empower women in all enterprises, especially safe water. We need more NGOs like Safe Water Network to mainstream grassroots women in water enterprises and water quality surveillance.”

- D. THARA, IAS, ADDL. SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF HOUSING & URBAN AFFAIRS

Impact Stories from Ghana

**Prepaid Household Connections:
Pioneering the Future of Water Infrastructure**

Sharing Our Expertise

Bringing the Ghanaian Water Sector Together



Prepaid Household Connections: Pioneering the Future of Water Infrastructure

FIELD IMPLEMENTATION: OPTIMIZED PIPED CONNECTION PROGRAM

Scaling up piped connections faces several challenges, including the perception that residents in underserved communities are unwilling or unable to pay for connection services. This perception has led to limited public and private investment in piped-connection models. However, through partnerships and innovative models like the Optimized Piped Connection (OPC), we've made significant strides, improving household connection rates and demonstrating the model's potential for achieving financial sustainability and social impact at scale.

By the Numbers

500+

Number of direct piped connections each Safe Water Enterprise can provide.

85%

Community participation in the direct to home program.

9000

Total Direct Connections to Date.



Scan QR code to view the Partner Spotlight Video



Two billion people worldwide still lack access to affordable safe water. Even in towns and villages where such water is available from a central location, usage rates fall well below those of families with water piped directly to their homes. While sporadic use of safe water is better than none, it falls short of achieving the full health benefits of consistently drinking and cooking with safe water.

In 2023, our efforts surpassed the one-year connection target within just four months, achieving over 80% penetration rates. This not only significantly improves the health and livelihoods of communities but also generates sufficient revenue to cover operating costs and maintain reserves for long-term maintenance. That means going forward, the community owned and operated enterprise will require no further financial support. At a time when too many well-intentioned efforts fail after a year, this is a game changer.

Safe Water Network's Optimized Piped Connection (OPC) stations feature a robust and equitable design, with strategically placed connection points throughout the community, greatly enhancing connectivity capacity. This approach has expanded service reach, substantially reduced connection costs, and ensured equitable access for all households. As a result, the community participation rate soared from 45% to 85%, marking a significant achievement in our mission to provide widespread and accessible water connections.

PARTNERSHIPS

Our partnerships play a crucial role in providing the funding and expertise needed to demonstrate in several communities how to scale the optimized piped connection program. Safe Water Network partnered with Whitten & Roy to develop an ethical and effective sales team, employing behavior-changing practices to



drive consumer adoption. Collaboration with Engineers Without Borders and Envicom Corporation facilitated the implementation of technological and infrastructure advancements, enabling us to serve a greater number of households while enhancing customer service.

The Stone Family Foundation continues to provide funding and strategic input on the initiative's processes and protocols. In 2024, foundation founder John Stone visited our H2OME! Water Station in Adawso, located nearly 90 kilometers from Ghana's capital, Accra (watch John's interview from March 2024 shortly after making that visit).

The Adawso station launched in 2020 and was retrofitted in 2023 with solar power, additional production capacity, and piping infrastructure.

Today, the station delivers safe water to about 6,000 residents. This includes direct piped connections with prepaid metering and mobile money payments to over 500 homes and 5 public standpipes.

To learn more about this ground-breaking program, read our Field Insight released in February 2024: Making Piped Water to Households Affordable and Available. Also, to hear more about our next steps for this program, check out the What's Ahead section of this report.

Special thanks to our partners who make this work possible: Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, Engineers Without Borders, Envicom Corporation, Stone Family Foundation, and Whitten & Roy Partnership.

Seeing the projects firsthand and understanding the operations, I now have a much greater appreciation of the achievements to date, but it also highlighted the importance of continuing to optimize and reduce costs to achieve long-term system viability.

- BEN SHERGOLD, INVESTMENT MANAGER AT THE STONE FAMILY FOUNDATION



Sharing Our Expertise

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: TRAINING

We've been helping Ghana's Community Water and Sanitation Agency (CWSA) improve their water-quality management program.

By the Numbers

30+

The number of CWSA water systems nationwide impacted by the program.

300,000

Total Indirect Access.



A core part of Safe Water Network's mission is to translate our field learnings into workshops, webinars, and publications, providing the water sector with opportunities to learn from our experience in delivering affordable safe water to communities in need.

Over the years, we've closely collaborated with Ghana's Community Water and Sanitation Agency (CWSA). Initially, CWSA operated primarily as a regulatory body overseeing water and sanitation activities, and we regularly shared data and insights based on our work in rural and peri-urban communities across Ghana.

Recently, CWSA has transitioned into a water utility, taking on the responsibilities of a water operator. In partnership with the Global Water Center (GWC) and the Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology (CAWST), we developed a series of programs to support their field operators in water quality protocols, ongoing testing, maintenance, and best practices to ensure compliance with national water quality standards.

Safe Water Network conducted workshops to design world-class water quality management skills for rural water professionals in Ghana, using a multi-barrier approach and introducing new and adapted micro and modular learning assets for CWSA operators.

The program's initial rollout covered three of Ghana's 16 regions, blending classroom, field learning, and virtual training for maximum reach. We utilized a participatory facilitation model, starting with a Training of Trainers workshop, followed by a comprehensive training program for CWSA water system managers, engineers, and safety specialists. This initiative has positively impacted over 30 CWSA water systems across the country, with Safe Water Network providing both the training content and trainers.

Participants received alumni support, mentoring opportunities, and access to an online training module facilitated by the GWC. Post-training evaluations showed that over 90% of participants found the course well-organized with clearly explained concepts. A similar program was also successfully implemented by our team in India.

[Download our On-Site Water Quality Assurance report here.](#)



“Safe Water Network’s comprehensive training programs in both Ghana and India exemplify their commitment to enhancing water management skills and ensuring sustainable access to safe water for underserved communities. GWC is grateful for our partnership.”

- GLOBAL WATER CENTER



Bringing the Ghanaian Water Sector Together

SECTOR ENGAGEMENT & POLICY ADVISORY: THE BEYOND THE PIPE FORUM

Since 2010, Safe Water Network has hosted Forums in Ghana and India. In 2023, Ghana held its 9th Forum, followed by the 10th in 2024. These annual gatherings in Ghana have become a premier water event, bringing together key stakeholders from the public and private sectors to address critical issues, inform government policy, and foster best practices.

By the Numbers

155

Number of Attendees.

2011

Year of our 1st Forum.

13

Number of Forums held in Ghana to date.



Scan QR code to view
Beyond the Pipe
Forum Ghana Video



Safe Water Network Ghana hosted its 10th annual Beyond the Pipe Forum in Accra, under the theme “Safe Water: The Power of Enterprise.” This pivotal event convened nearly 200 leaders from the public sector, private sector, and development partners to engage in critical discussions on the expansion of Safe Water Enterprises (SWEs) and the strategic delivery of water services. The Forum emphasized the ambitious goal of reaching an estimated 3.2 million people across more than 1,000 peri-urban communities and small towns in Ghana by 2030.

The Beyond the Pipe Forum is not just a platform for dialogue; it serves as a catalyst for action. Following each Forum, working groups are formed, consisting of both public and private sector stakeholders. This collaborative effort led to the establishment of the Safe Water Enterprise (SWE) Alliance. The Alliance plays a crucial role in coordinating the work of implementers and enhancing their engagement with the Government of Ghana and other organizations involved in water services.



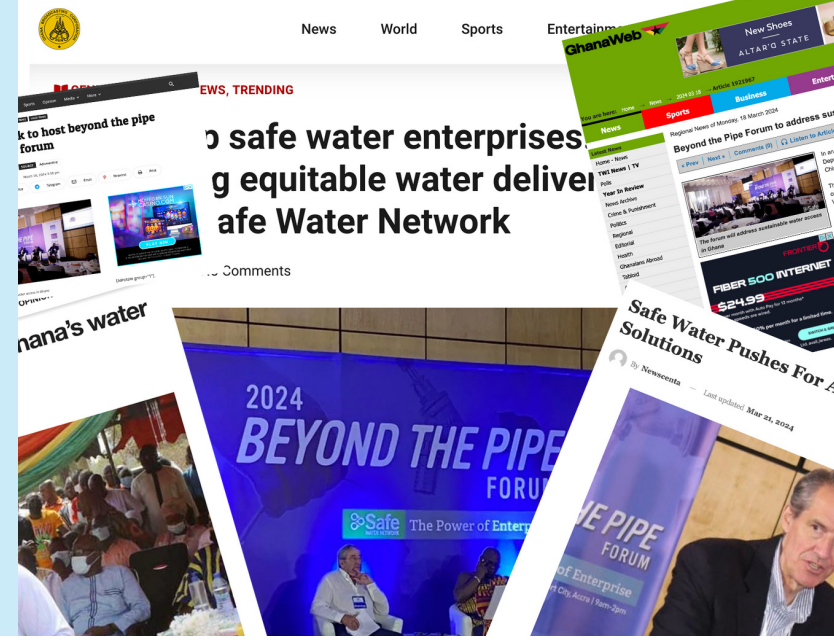
The impact of this cooperation is both real and measurable. For instance, our head of partnerships recently delivered a solidarity message on behalf of the Alliance at the launch of the National Water Policy by the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources (MSWR). This significant national event brought together key stakeholders in Ghana’s water sector, underscoring the growing recognition of SWEs as vital contributors to the nation’s water service delivery.

The new National Water Policy is a landmark achievement, recognizing the essential role that safe water enterprises can play as water service providers. It introduces a new licensing regime for non-state water service providers, paving the way for greater inclusion and participation in the sector. Safe Water Network is fully committed to supporting the implementation of this policy, working closely with the government and other partners to ensure its success.



The 2023 and 2024 Forums and the subsequent actions of the SWE Alliance reflect our unwavering commitment to driving progress in water access and management across Ghana, and to contributing meaningfully to the country's broader development goals. These events also garner a lot of national press:

The event generated a lot of pre and post event press.



SPONSORS INCLUDED

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, the Stone Family Foundation, the One Foundation, Osprey Foundation, Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust, and USAID.



The Safe Water Network team in Ghana responsible for the 2024 Forum.

What our Community Says About the Work

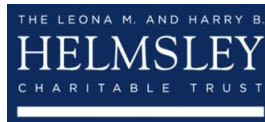


“The SEWAH program on technical training and specs has really helped us develop our team in a very mannered way.”

- KAPIL SHARMA, IT HEAD, JANA JAL

“Before iJal Station was set up in our village, we used to drink water from open wells which had fungus, leaves, and sticks. Now we have 24/7 access to clean water which tastes good and is available at a reasonable price.”

- MACHA MAMATHA, ANGANWADI WORKER, VELLAMPALLY VILLAGE,
WARANGAL DISTRICT, TELANGANA, INDIA



“Access to safe water is a basic human right, and we are committed to supporting Safe Water Network in efforts to transform communities with reliable, affordable water.”

- WALTER PANZIRER, TRUSTEE OF THE LEONA M. AND
HARRY B. HELMSLEY CHARITABLE TRUST

“We’ve noticed a drastic improvement in the community’s health since the Vellempally iJal station opened in 2013.”

- MS. NP SWAPNA, ASHA DIDI VELLAMPALLY VILLAGE,
WARANGAL DISTRICT, TELANGANA, INDIA

What's Ahead

BRINGING SUSTAINABLE SAFE WATER TO NEW MARKETS

Progress in Ghana and India has sparked interest in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia for SWN's approaches. A recent stakeholder assessment conducted in Kenya revealed that 35% of the population lacks access to large utilities, with high demand for safe drinking water in rural and peri-urban areas. Kenyans are receptive to the SWE model and eager to learn from SWN's successes in Ghana and India.



As SWN responds to growing demand in Africa and Asia, it will pursue a multi-pronged approach. First, it will continue innovating in Ghana and India, developing tools, monitoring progress, and providing policy advisory services. Second, SWN will extend support to other countries through technical assistance, strategic partnerships, and new country programs. Third, we will foster collaboration among financial institutions and the water sector to mobilize investment for decentralized water operators, focusing on capital expenses.

What's Next in India

Building upon the work we've been doing in School WASH and Integrated Water Resource Management, we have renewed funding from several sources and are pleased to announce a significant new partnership with American Express. Together we are developing an environmental sustainability and biodiversity enhancement program. Vasundhara, a three-year program, aims to revive, restore, and rejuvenate two critical water bodies and associated land areas benefiting over 30,000 people living in Gurugram, Haryana, and Bengaluru, Karnataka.



Our WASH program is on its five-year track to bring safe water to over 26,000 students in 174 schools. This program, which includes rainwater harvesting structures (conserves an average of 30,000 liters of rainwater annually), a Menstrual Hygiene Management program, and functional toilets for girls will be expanded to include a nutritional program. Both Milacron and CBRE India renewed their commitment to the program in 2024.

CONNECTING HOSPITALS TO SAFE WATER

Building on the success of the first Water ATM at the Telangana Government's 1600-bed Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences in Hyderabad, Safe Water Network has been invited to establish another Water ATM in the upcoming 2000-bed maternity ward. This expansion aims to further enhance access to safe drinking water in medical facilities.

INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (IWRM)

SWN also helps at-risk communities and local governments manage water resources, balancing the needs of industry, agriculture, and households. Our IWRM solutions include pond rejuvenation, soil and water conservation, and reduced chemical fertilizer use. SWN also offers real-time, weather-

based agricultural advisories and precision agriculture, which are vital for drought-prone areas adapting to climate change. As a risk mitigation strategy, SWN is invested in community-led tree plantation and afforestation.

Before Pond Rejuvenation Intervention



After Intervention



We promote SWEs and IWRM by applying principles of inclusion, climate resilience, and financial viability through its field operations to ensure proof of concept and scalable results. This program is supported by NABARD.

Also in 2024, the Merck Foundation will deepen its partnership with Safe Water Network by conducting a Health Impact Assessment of the iJal community

water treatment plants. Through the work of Senior Research Fellows, this assessment will measure the long-term effects of safe water access on public health in rural communities. This initiative builds on our earlier efforts, where Richard T. Clark Fellows helped lay the groundwork with baseline assessments, consumer engagement, and advocacy strategies.

Safe Water Network India would like to acknowledge the following partners for their funding, expertise, and support:

ADP, PepsiCo, Pentair, Uptime Catalyst, India Water Partnerships, CBRE, American Express, Azeem Premji Foundation, Dupont, Milacron, NEWRI – Lein Foundation

What's Next in Ghana

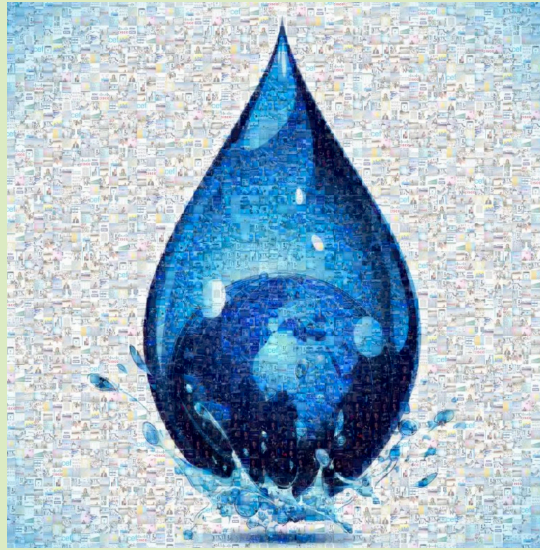


Our **Field Expansion** program will bring safe, reliable and convenient water services to homes, schools and health care facilities, through direct piped connections, reaching over 10,000 people.



Our **Technical Assistance and Advisory** program will continue to deliver training to Ghana's Community Water and Sanitation Agency, local government authorities, and other water service providers.

Our consolidated **advocacy** program will focus on mobilizing investment for Safe Water Enterprises (SWEs) by leveraging alternative financial models and partnerships with the SWE Alliance. We will collaborate closely with Ghana's Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources and other stakeholders to strengthen the policy framework and ensure effective implementation of the National Water Policy. This effort aims to drive sustainable investments that enhance safe water access across Ghana while fostering a more inclusive regulatory environment.



Safe Water Network Ghana would like to acknowledge the following partners for their funding, expertise, and support:

FUNDERS

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, Global Water Centre, Poul Due Jensen Foundation /Grundfos, Stone Family Foundation, The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust, One Foundation, United States Agency for International Development, Uptime Catalyst

PARTNERS

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PepsiCo volunteers in India help us clean-up a school in Telangana.

Who We Are

We are a passionate and committed team of engineers, health experts, development specialists, and business professionals, working together across Accra, New Delhi, and New York to drive impactful change through safe water initiatives.

Together We Make a Difference

Meet the SWN Team



Working for Impact

We develop solutions to the global water crisis through collective action, adaptive learning, inclusion, and accountability.

Learn More About Us



Financials

We are committed to integrity, transparency and accountability at all levels across our organization.

2023 Audited Financials



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