

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



WATER ENGINEERS FOR THE AMERICAS & AFRICA

Making connections. Empowering communities. Improving lives.



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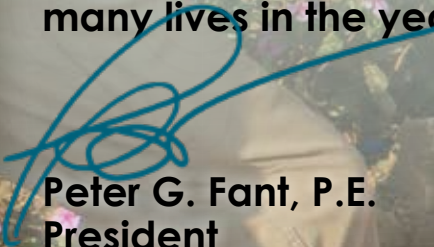
Dear Friends of WEFTA,

A tremendous thank you to all our donors, partners, and volunteers for working and collaborating with WEFTA in 2023 as we collectively work to provide clean water and sanitation to those less fortunate than us. While we are indebted to those directly and indirectly involved with the projects, a big part of the success comes from the communities themselves. While WEFTA volunteers, or our partners, typically provide the technical oversight, most or all the labor comes from the immediate community and surrounding area. Because of this community effort and the associated cost savings, this past year more than others, we've been able to expand the planned system beyond our original design, and construct more to serve the broader community.

In addition to our donors and partners, we are proud of our staff and our volunteers for their time and efforts to improve the water and sanitation situations for hundreds of thousands of people this year. Much of their time is spent working with the communities on the projects, in addition to working with local resources to further develop our circuit rider program to help maintain the water and wastewater systems once they've been constructed. Together we are working to improve access to water and sanitation resources for communities in need in Latin America and Africa. Your involvement with us on this journey, whether big or small, makes a positive impact and helps make all these efforts worthwhile on so many levels.

We encourage you to read through the information contained within this annual report, and trust that WEFTA is working hard for the ultimate goal of improving lives in the communities where we work through the development of sustainable water and sanitation systems.

As we move into 2024, we thank you for your continued support. The importance of our collective role in providing clean water and sanitation will only increase and create bigger impacts on many lives in the years to come. *Thank you!*



Peter G. Fant, P.E.
President



OUR MISSION

Our Mission is to connect water professionals and partners with communities in developing countries to improve water, sanitation, and hygiene resources for the benefit of the people and the environment.

WHERE WE WORK

Bolivia*

Burkina Faso*

Cameroon*

Colombia

El Salvador*

Ethiopia*

Ghana*

Guatemala

Honduras*

Kenya*

Mexico*

Nigeria*

Panama*

Peru

Tanzania*

*Completed or active WEFTA projects during 2023

WASH in HCFs

Across the world's 47 Least Developed Countries (LDCs), an estimated half of healthcare facilities do not have basic water services according to the WHO and UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (JMP). The Report also finds that two-thirds of healthcare facilities in LDCs lack basic sanitation.

To improve these findings, WEFTA collaborates with strategic partners to evaluate healthcare facilities (HCFs) that lack access to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) resources, primarily water supply and wastewater treatment. There is a critical need for WASH resources in healthcare facilities throughout all regions WEFTA serves.

In 2023, WEFTA continued to collaborate with partner organizations to improve WASH resources of HCFs in Africa. In southwest Ethiopia WEFTA is proud to work with Village Health Partnership (VHP) on the assessment and improvement of WASH resources at 12 HCFs in the West Omo Zone. In Nigeria, Cameroon, Burkina Faso, Ghana, and western Ethiopia, WEFTA is proud to work with the Daughters of Charity - International Project Services (DCIPS) on WASH improvements for HCFs. In Tanzania, WEFTA is working with our in-country partner Sanitation and Water Action (SAWA) on WASH improvements and implementation of our Circuit Rider Program. WEFTA is working with our local partners on the development of stakeholder capacity to operate and maintain the WASH systems for overall health functionality and system longevity.



CIRCUIT RIDER PROGRAM

A photograph showing three men working on a water pipe in a rural setting. One man in a maroon shirt and white shorts is standing and looking down at the pipe. Another man in a grey shirt and light-colored pants is bent over, working on the pipe. A third man in a green shirt and blue pants is also bent over, working on the pipe. The pipe is surrounded by lush green vegetation and a small stream of water is visible in the foreground.

Since 2012, WEFTA has supported in-country technical specialists, known as circuit riders, who provide community services related to our water and sanitation projects. WEFTA circuit riders are individuals with exceptional WASH knowledge and experience, and an ability to work directly at the community or system level. By traveling to the same communities and continuously interacting with the community members, these technical teams can easily anticipate and address future issues.

The services provided by the circuit riders involve assisting with project feasibility assessment, on-site project construction management, and post-construction follow-up. Water committee members and operators are also trained in system operation, maintenance, and management. By providing effective follow-up and training, the water and sanitation systems are sustainable over longer periods of time.

WEFTA's Circuit Rider Program is designed to be entrepreneurial in nature whereby the circuit rider can provide technical assistance to multiple systems in a region while charging the water or wastewater system committees for the services provided. On occasion, WEFTA also offers the circuit riders a stipend to ensure our projects see continuity in services, but it is our vision that circuit riders become self-sufficient over time based on the critical community support they provide.

For many years, WEFTA has worked with active circuit riders in Mexico, Honduras, Panama, and Bolivia. In 2022, WEFTA strengthened its circuit rider program and methodology by expanding our efforts into Ethiopia and Tanzania. These innovative programs support operation, maintenance, renovation, repair, and local stakeholder training in the communities, HCFs, and schools where WEFTA is already supporting WASH improvements.

PROJECT & ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS



MEXICO

LAS PERLAS **Chiapas State**

In the community of Las Perlas located in Chiapas, Mexico, seismic activity destroyed a water supply tank. The tank was constructed over 15 years ago by our sister organization, Waterlines. In early 2022, WEFTA worked with our partners on the ground in the community to construct two new 4,000-gallon water tanks in place of the destroyed tank. In 2023, Ramon Lucero, the WEFTA country coordinator for Mexico, worked with local partners and the community on the next steps for water systems improvements for Las Perlas.

MIGUEL HIDALGO, TIERRA Y LIBERTAD, **AND BENITO JUAREZ** **Chiapas State**

In the region, water supply and sanitation improvements are also needed for the communities of Miguel Hidalgo, Tierra y Libertad, and Benito Juarez. A multi-village system has been proposed and WEFTA is seeking funding to get this project in motion.

HONDURAS

LA IGUALA: LLANO LARGO, QUIOCO, AND GUADALUPE Lempira Department

In collaboration with World Vision – Honduras, Andrew Robertson, long-time WEFTA volunteer engineer and Honduras country coordinator, worked closely with the communities of Llano Largo, Quioco, and Guadalupe to complete the final stages of their water and sanitation improvement projects.

The water systems of the area have been improved to provide a more consistent potable water supply. The last phase of the project, completed in early 2023, was the construction of 102 sanitary modules. The sanitary modules are a combined bathroom, shower, and wash station that are a highly popular sanitary solution for the residents of these communities.

Andrew traveled to Honduras in April to check on the La Igualda: Llano Largo, Guadalupe, and Quioco Communal Water Supply and Bathrooms Project. He visited the completed water system components and the sanitary modules in addition to attending community meetings and the project inauguration.



A photograph of a group of people in a lush, green forest. In the foreground, a man with a mustache and a light-colored shirt is smiling. Behind him, another man with long hair and a blue bandana is sitting on the ground, using a laptop. To his right, a man in a green cap is also sitting. The background is filled with tall trees and dense foliage. The overall scene suggests a field research or data collection activity in a natural environment.

HONDURAS (cont'd)

POLICARPO **Roatan Department**

As part of his trip in April 2023, Andrew also made a stop on Roatan Island in the Bay Islands of Honduras to check in on the status of the water supply improvements for the community of Policarpo.

The WEFTA team has been working closely with partners at Clinica Esperanza on water supply improvements for the community of Policarpo. Clinica Esperanza provides medical care to disadvantaged people living on Roatan.

Funding for additional improvements is still needed.

EL SALVADOR

LAGUNA OLOMEGA San Miguel

In 2023, WEFTA received a grant from a private donor to specifically work with the NGO, Paso Pacifico, in the communities surrounding Lake Olomega in San Miguel. Paso Pacifico is an international environmental conservation organization working on coastal and upland habitat conservation with an emphasis on forest species and marine life.

WEFTA will serve as technical assistance for WASH improvements in the rural underserved communities adjacent to Lake Olomega to connect the communities to the overall plan for conservation of the area resources including watershed protection, and improved water supply and sanitation.

This program is in development for 2024.





PANAMA

In January 2023, the WEFTA team made a trip to the Comarca Ngäbe Buglé and Bocas del Toro regions of Panama to follow-up on multiple water supply projects. The majority of the communities visited during the trip were communities that had a Peace Corps Volunteer (PCV) and a water project in motion before the coronavirus pandemic, in addition to previous Waterlines projects in the indigenous reserve of the Comarca Ngäbe-Bugle. Unfortunately, the PCVs were evacuated due to the coronavirus pandemic in 2020, leaving projects incomplete.

Since then, WEFTA has been able to complete these projects in collaboration with our generous donors, in-country circuit riders, as well as a handful of the Return Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs) who served in the communities in years past.



PANAMA (cont'd)

ALTO CIENEGA and LLANO MAJAGUA Comarca Ngäbe-Buglé, Indigenous Reserve

In collaboration with our in-country partner, Nicolás Arcia, water system improvements in the connected communities of Alto Cienega and Llano Majagua on the Pacific side of the Comarca Ngäbe-Bugle were completed.

The project improved the spring captures for both communities along with the installation of a plastic tank, chlorinator, and replacement of transmission and distribution piping. Time was also spent to ensure that the water committee and operator were re-trained in their functions, bringing greater sustainability to the project life-span.

ZAPOTE #1 Comarca Ngäbe-Buglé, Indigenous Reserve

In early January 2023, Nicolás collaborated with the water committee and community members of Zapote #1 to begin renovating the failing tank and degraded water transmission lines. During the WEFTA team's annual circuit riding site visit (January 2023), the team met with Nicolás and the community to check in on the renovation project that was actively in progress. The old tank had already been completely dismantled and the site was in the process of being prepared for the construction of the new water supply tank.

By early February, the construction of the new 3,350-gallon water supply tank was successfully completed along with the renovation of the 200-meter transmission line that connects the spring water to the 43-home distribution network, serving over 250 people.



PANAMA (cont'd)

QUEBRADA PASTOR Bocas del Toro Province

During 2023, WEFTA in-country partner, José Molina, continued working with the water committee of Quebrada Pastor on the water system renovations. The work in progress includes working with three small family aqueducts serving 14 houses and over 100 people. By renovating these three small systems the intention is to transmit the overflow water directly to the school to alleviate total water demand on the central system from the school, leaving more water in the system for the upstream users. This rehabilitation project serves 94 households (590 people) and over 1,000 students who attend the K-12 school.

This project came to WEFTA by way of Alex Litofsky, an engineer who was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Quebrada Pastor many years ago. As a volunteer in Panama, Alex worked with engineering students from Michigan Technical University (MTU) to design the main water system of Quebrada Pastor. WEFTA and its partners coordinated with Alex to complete the main water system back in 2022. Alex is still serving as a WEFTA volunteer working on the design for the final touches of the family aqueduct project.

NUDOBITI Bocas del Toro Province

José also worked in cooperation with the Ngäbe community of Nudobiti and was able to procure considerable monetary and labor support for a water system renovation project. This project included spring capture renovations, new transmission lines, and an additional water storage tank.

The community of Nudobiti has had significant support from Peace Corps/ Waterlines collaboration dating back to 2008. These improvements increased overall water supply to the community of 120 homes (510 people).



PANAMA (cont'd)

BUENA VISTA Coclé Province

WEFTA volunteers, John Workman and Patrick Sephton, returned to Panama in April for final rehabilitation on the Buena Vista water system originally constructed through the Waterlines/Peace Corps relationship. Using an on-the-job training style, John and Patrick trained the community water committee and community laborers to complete repairs and improvements on the high-pressure transmission line from the spring capture to the water supply tank.

With adequate training on pipe gluing and the installation of thrust blocks along the more vertical sections of the line, John and Patrick, in collaboration with the community, have solved issues the system was experiencing due to pressure and inconsistent gluing of PVC joints.

SAN ISIDRO Coclé Province

WEFTA volunteers Alexis and Erik Medina (RPCVs) who served in the community of San Isidro prior to the COVID evacuation, returned to the community in May 2023. They checked in on the small gravity-flow water system improvement project they worked on pre-pandemic.

The original project was funded by Waterlines, through the Peace Corps Partnership Program. Alexis and Erik reviewed the project completion and connected with their community contacts. Although the community was able to finish the water project, Alexis and Erik found that there is a need to improve total source supply by capturing an additional spring. Planning is in motion for these improvements for 2024.



PANAMA (cont'd)

BAJO ALGODÓN

Comarca Ngäbe-Buglé, Indigenous Reserve

A water system for the community of Bajo Algodón was under construction by PCV, Hanna Brosky, and the community water committee, with assistance from our in-country coordinator, Nicolás Arcia, when Hanna was evacuated due to the pandemic. At the time of evacuation, the water source capture and half of the storage tank were complete. In 2022, Hanna, and her friend Jacob Ford (also a Panama RPCV), returned to Bajo Algodón as WEFTA volunteers to complete the water storage tank and transmission line. In 2023, the community, in collaboration with Nicolás, continued their work on the distribution system.

This project is still in motion. Hanna and Jacob will return to the community in 2024 to finalize the pending distribution improvements.

Upon completion, this project will positively impact 34 families (170 people).

DEVELOPMENT OF A NATIONAL NGO - ARAGUAS

In 2023, WEFTA country coordinator for Panama, Tim Wellman, in collaboration with engineering students at the University Technological Panama (UTP), initiated development of a local NGO called ARAGUAS. This partnership will help continue work on rural water and sanitation systems in the most disadvantaged communities of Panama.

Although in its infancy, ARAGUAS, will combine water and sanitation engineering studies at UTP with real world investigations and action in rural communities in Panama with the objective of increasing access to potable water and adequate sanitation resources while building the capacity of engineering students to work on these complex projects.





BOLIVIA

PACAJES MUNICIPALITY Altiplano

Our efforts continue to provide safe drinking water for Indigenous families living on the Altiplano of Bolivia. Since 2004, our in-country partners, Suma Jayma, have worked to construct new wells and hand pumps for families while the communities, in turn, contribute labor and materials.

In May 2023, through partnership and financial support from the Wheaton Franciscan Sisters, 100 wells and hand pumps were completed in the communities of Casquiri, Llujturi, Lanquiri Pirapi, Romercaty and Huañuma in the Pacajes Municipality.

The completion of these wells benefited 100 families (over 524 people).

BOLIVIA (cont'd)

COPATAMAYA Caqueaviri Municipality

In early 2023, Suma Jayma successfully completed the construction of 11 wells and hand pumps for 11 Indigenous families of the Copatamaya Community in the municipality of Caqueaviri. This project was completed through partnership and financial support from The Spirit of Christ Church based in Colorado.

Suma Jayma continued to circuit ride and perform post-construction follow-up for previously completed well projects on the altiplano.

CONSES

Great progress continues as our in-country partner organization, CONSES, works closely with local NGOs and peri-urban communities in Bolivia to bring an effective solution to sanitation problems.

In collaboration with the Wheaton Franciscan Sisters and CONSES, the construction of 30 ecological bathrooms is underway for families of rural communities in Cochabamba. These ecological bathrooms function in a way that can be sustainable, and also beneficially transform waste into a resource that can be used as a fertilizer. The installation and renovation of these bathrooms will positively impact 33 families (over 200 people).



BURKINA FASO

CLINIC NOTRE DAME DE ESPERANCE Nouna, Boucle du Mouhoun Region

The Clinic Notre Dame de Esperance, run by the Daughters of Charity (DOC), is located in Nouna, approximately 80 km southeast of the Mali border. The clinic serves a catchment population of over 90,000 people.

In collaboration with our in-country coordinator, an engineering professor from the National University, Samuel Pare, and his colleague, Adama Sawadogo, phase 2 of this project was completed in May 2023. This WASH improvements project included new bathrooms and handwashing stations for staff and patients, and distribution piping upgrades. Solar panels were also installed to provide the clinic with much needed electricity.

The northwestern region of Burkina Faso continues to struggle with civil unrest. Thousands of refugees have flooded over the border into the nearest city of Nouna.

We continue to work closely with Daughters of Charity International Project Services (DCIPS) in support of WASH improvements in HCFs.

Due to ongoing refugee crisis and terrorism concerns, the current WASH in HCF project is on hold. We estimate that 80% of the project is complete but we are awaiting the final touches once the region stabilizes.

In the meantime, WEFTA and DCIPS are working with local partners to develop a water well and public bathroom project for the refugees now occupying portions of Nouna.



GHANA

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY HEALTH CENTER Kongo-Logre, Northeast Region

The Immaculate Conception of Mary Health Center is run by the Daughters of Charity and is located in the community of Kongo-Logre, serving a catchment population of over 16,000 people.

In collaboration with our in-country partner, Fati Alhassan, a local field engineer, the final phase of the WASH improvement project was completed in May 2023.

WASH improvements for the Health Center included a protected borehole, an elevated water storage tank, installation of distribution lines, construction of community tap stands, an incinerator, installation of toilets and handwashing sinks, a new generator, and upgraded facility electrical and lighting.

Post-construction follow up is planned for 2024.



NIGERIA

ST. MARY MAGDELENE'S HOSPITAL & PRIMARY SCHOOL Tungan Gero, Niger State

St. Mary Magdelene's Hospital and Primary School is in the town of Tungan Gero located in northern Nigeria, and is run by the Daughters of Charity. The Healthcare facility serves a catchment population of over 500,000 people. This facility is one of few that serves Leprosy patients in Nigeria, as well as providing basic medical care. The primary school is a boarding school that serves the student population coming from Tungan Gero and outlying areas. Estimated annual school population is just over 100 students.

In May, through collaborative efforts of Dom Nwachukwu, our in-country partner, and his team from Groundwater Development and Engineering Ltd., the first assessment of the Hospital to identify possibilities for water well development was completed. The team on the ground is currently researching the area's groundwater formations and well records from the surrounding villages. The proposal is to drill one large water well that will supply water to the hospital compound and the primary school. The remaining WASH improvements will include a new elevated storage tank, piping, hand washing stations, and bathrooms.

Funding is still needed to complete this project.



CAMEROON

ST. THERESE HOSPITAL Moutourwa, Far North Region

Located in Moutourwa, the Far North region of Cameroon, St. Therese Hospital serves over 5,000 people each year. The Hospital is run by the Daughters of Charity and currently lacks access to a sufficient supply of safe water to treat patients.

In collaboration with the DCIPS, and our in-country partners, an assessment was performed in November to identify the WASH resource improvements needed. The critical items for this project planned for 2024 will include a new protected groundwater well, elevated storage, water distribution, community water points, and bathrooms for the HCF patients and staff.

KUEKA MEDICAL CENTER Foumban, Northwest Region

Also run by the Daughters of Charity, Kueka Medical Center is located in the northwestern region of Cameroon in the town of Foumban. The Medical Center serves over 1,250 patients each month. This healthcare facility and the surrounding community of Kueka are in dire need of access to safe water.

In collaboration with the DCIPS and our in-country partners, an assessment was performed in November to identify the WASH resource improvements needed. The critical items for this project will include a new protected groundwater well, elevated storage, water distribution, community water points, and bathrooms for the HCF patients and staff.



ETHIOPIA

WEFTA SUPPORT OF WASH IN HCFs WITH VILLAGE HEALTH PARTNERSHIP West Omo Zone

In collaboration with Village Health Partnership (VHP), WEFTA volunteers Scott McKittrick, Emily Parker, Stephen Parker, and Phil Candela are working on multiple interventions at the clinics where VHP is implementing their maternal/infant care program in Ethiopia's West Omo Zone (WOZ). WEFTA's interventions include water well and storage tank construction – including solar powered wells with solar arrays inside the clinic fence. In addition, WEFTA and VHP have developed a partnership with PATH (path.org) to work on a collaborative project which includes liquid chlorine production for the Mizan Hospital in the WOZ.

WEFTA is also working with in-country hydrogeologist, Tilahun Azagegn, to survey well sites for the HCFs with the objective of identifying groundwater source sites for Siz Hospital, and the Chebera, and Kuju health centers, in addition to a water quality study at the Maji Hospital. This project is in the evaluation phase of priority projects investigated by the VHP/WEFTA team during their visit in 2023. Projects completed with VHP and WEFTA volunteer collaboration in 2023 include new wells, and storage at the Siz Hospital and Bachuma Hospital. The Hospital at Bachuma also has a new well and solar array to power the well pump and facility electricity.

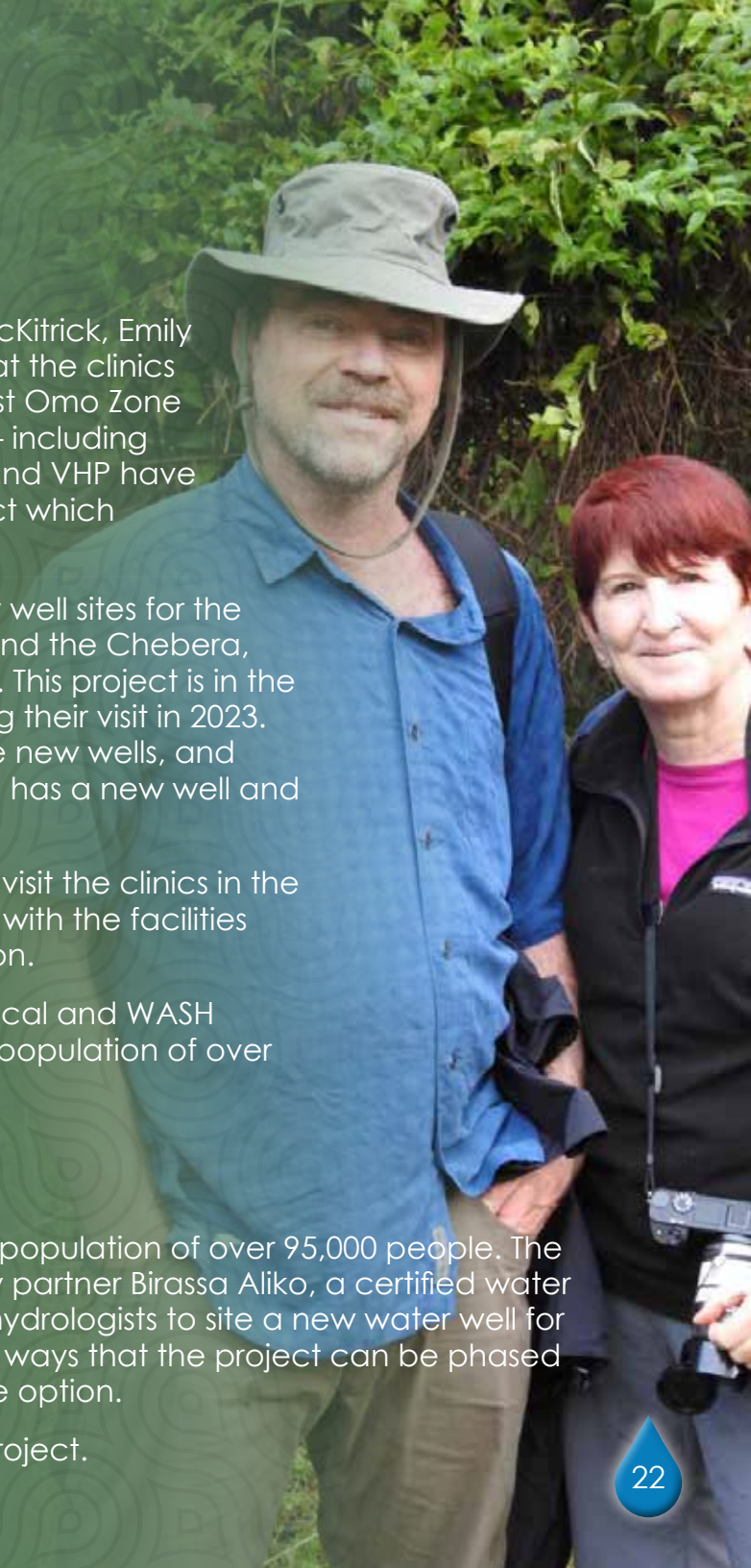
Scott McKittrick and Migs Muldrow (VHP) traveled to Ethiopia in October 2023 to visit the clinics in the WOZ, run further assessments on the WASH and CLINICAL survey tools, and work with the facilities engineering staff at the Mizan Hospital on the pilot project for chlorine production.

The overall impact of this collaborative effort with VHP, working on all of the clinical and WASH interventions at these HCFs in the WOZ, will positively impact a total catchment population of over 3.2 million people.

DANKA CLINIC Dembi Dolo, West Welega Zone

The Danka Clinic is located in the town of Dembi Dolo and serves a catchment population of over 95,000 people. The clinic is run by Daughters of Charity. WEFTA continues to work with our in-country partner Birassa Aliko, a certified water technician in Ethiopia. Mr. Aliko worked with local engineers and groundwater hydrologists to site a new water well for the clinic. Serving as the project liaison, he has worked with the sisters to identify ways that the project can be phased effectively, as well as contacted drilling companies to find a more cost-effective option.

We are currently waiting for donor funding for the overall WASH improvement project.



KENYA

KITANY WATER IMPROVEMENTS Elgeyo Marakwet County

Located in the Marakwet District, Kitany sits approximately 300 km northwest of Kenya's capital city of Nairobi.

The community of Kitany includes 3 healthcare facilities, 11 schools, and 10 churches. The population of 6,000 people in Kitany do not have access to safe water, or adequately managed sanitation. The community uses pit toilets and fetches water at the river.

In November, WEFTA volunteers, Don, and Janelle Tubbs, visited the community for a preliminary assessment of needs. Planning has been initiated for a water system and wastewater management project, including the installation of water storage tanks and distribution pipelines.

Funding is needed to complete this water and wastewater system improvement project for the community of Kitany.



KENYA (cont'd)

LOLKINGERET DISPENSARY WASH IMPROVEMENTS **Nandi County**

Through collaboration with our Waterlines contacts in Kenya, WEFTA entered into an agreement with David Kurgat, a WASH specialist, to provide circuit riding and project development for multiple WASH in HCFs projects originally developed by Waterlines. One of which is a new WEFTA WASH in HCF project at the Lolkingeret Dispensary located in Nandi County, part of the Rift Valley Province of Kenya. The proposed project will expand the existing 20 houses to the adjacent 150+ households in the system service area. This expansion will help provide reliable water service daily, eliminating the need for women and children to spend hours collecting and fetching water. This will improve the quality of life for families and increase school attendance. It will also enable the maternity wing to operate and serve the needs of mothers during delivery times.

Funding is still needed to complete this project.

CIRCUIT RIDING FOR WASH IN HCFs & SCHOOLS **Nandi, Kakamega, and Bomet Counties**

In mid-2023, WEFTA's in-country partner and circuit rider, David Kurgat, and previous Waterlines volunteers, Krista Peterson and Ivan Cornejo, worked to evaluate the WASH status of the Kapkeringon Dispensary (HCF), Beraldo Family Medical Center, St. Mary's Dispensary, St. Lazarus Buyanga Mission Health Center, Kaptich Dispensary, and the Philip Biwott School and Namgoi Primary School. Most of these facilities have been running for many years with prior investment for WASH improvements. As a result of these evaluations, work will begin in 2024 to repair and renovate the WASH improvements for these facilities. These small-scale WASH repair and renovations will serve a total catchment population of over 200,000 people.



TANZANIA

MPAPA HEALTH CENTER Mbinga District

In collaboration with Sanitation and Water Action (SAWA), our in-country partners, the final phase of a large-scale water system improvement project for the Mpapa Health Center and the surrounding communities was completed in July 2023.

This final phase included an extension of water supply to multiple health center buildings and staff houses, the Arusha primary School, and neighboring communities. It also included construction of a new water tower, rehabilitation of 8 toilet blocks, construction of 2 new toilet blocks, installation of handwashing stations, and the construction of a wastewater treatment system.

The Mpapa Health Center, located in the southwest region of Tanzania, is a Catholic facility run by the Benedictine Sisters and serves a catchment population estimated at over 8,000 people from Mpapa and the surrounding villages.

Post-construction follow up will continue in 2024 as part of WEFTA's WASH in HCF Circuit Rider Program.



TANZANIA (cont'd)

NJOMBE AND MBINGA REGIONS

In September 2023, volunteer engineer and WEFTA co-founder, Peter Fant, traveled to Tanzania to check in on completed projects at Mpapa Health Center in the Mbinga region, and St. John's Hospital Lugarawa in the Njombe Region (completed in 2021). Peter also visited the Lundu Health Center (Mbinga) to assess the need for WASH improvements.

Lundu is one of 4 additional healthcare facilities in the Mbinga region at which WEFTA is collaborating with SAWA to help improve water access and sanitation management.

Funding is still needed to complete the improvements for these additional healthcare facilities.



A photograph of three children in a rural setting. A young girl in a green traditional dress with red embroidery stands on the left. In the center, a boy is drinking water from a public tap. To his right, another boy is looking on. The background is slightly blurred, showing more people and a simple structure.

OTHER COUNTRIES WEFTA SERVES

WEFTA continues to maintain contact for follow up and future project planning with our partners in Guatemala, Colombia, and Peru. However, at this time there is no project activity to report in these areas.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

SAFE CLINIC TOOLKIT

WEFTA is proud to collaborate with Village Health Partnership (VHP) on the development of a new application called the Safe Clinic Toolkit. The Safe Clinic Toolkit is designed to streamline the monitoring and evaluation of important metrics around WASH, equipment, and clinical skills, with the goal of improving maternal health in underserved communities.

Since 2016, WEFTA has partnered with VHP to improve water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) resources for maternal healthcare facilities in the West Omo Zone of Ethiopia.

WASH IN CATHOLIC HEALTHCARE INITIATIVE PRESENTATION

WEFTA is proud to be part of the WASH in Catholic Healthcare Initiative, as we continue working with our partners towards improving WASH resources in healthcare facilities in the countries we serve.

On June 1, 2023, Catholic Relief Services hosted a meeting in collaboration with the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, Caritas Internationalis, Daughters of Charity International Project Services, and the Sister Ministers of the Sick of St Thomas, to discuss the progress of this initiative.

WEFTA was proud to present the key component of sustainability during this event.





PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT



Daughters of Charity – International Project Services (DCIPS)

WEFTA is working in collaboration with DCIPS to provide technical assistance to the Sisters working abroad on WASH improvements within their facilities. WEFTA is committed to supporting DCIPS in all ways possible. The network of Daughters and capability of the Sisters to undertake WASH projects is amazing. Notable projects are the existing WASH in HCF improvement projects and proposed projects under the Vatican WASH in HCF initiative. In 2023, WEFTA continued to work with DCIPS on WASH in Healthcare facilities in Ghana, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Ethiopia, and Cameroon. WEFTA is working with local partners to help facilitate the efficient and effective delivery of these critical WASH projects.



Village Health Partnership
safer motherhood in rural Ethiopia

Village Health Partnership (VHP)

WEFTA is working in collaboration with VHP on the improvements of Healthcare Facilities (HCFs) in the Western Omo Zone of Ethiopia. This collaborative relationship began in

2016 when WEFTA volunteers were recruited by Waterlines to travel to Ethiopia with the VHP team to evaluate groundwater supplies for the HCFs.

VHP was founded by Dr. Migs Muldrow who grew up in Ethiopia. After a return visit to Ethiopia many years later, Dr. Muldrow started collaborating with other NGOs to focus on maternal and infant care at the government-run HCFs. The majority of the HCFs where VHP works need improved water and sanitation facilities.



Suma Jayma

WEFTA is proud to work with Suma Jayma on the evaluation and implementation of groundwater wells for Indigenous families living in the Altiplano of Bolivia. WEFTA has been working with Suma Jayma since 2004. Both our board member, Jason Gehrig, and field engineer, Jason Obergfell, maintain consistent coordination with Suma Jayma on their field projects. In 2023, with WEFTA's assistance and funds from our donors, SJ was able to complete multiple groundwater well installation projects for the communities they serve.



Sanitation and Water Action (SAWA)

WEFTA has been working with SAWA, based in Tanzania, since 2019 on the WASH in HCF initiative. SAWA has the capability to assess the water and sanitation status of a healthcare facility, then propose improvements to elevate the HCF's WASH status. SAWA continues to assist WEFTA to improve the water and sanitation resources in HCFs in Tanzania, including circuit riding to perform post-construction follow-up on completed projects.



Waterlines

Our sister organization, Waterlines, closed its doors after serving rural communities throughout Latin America and Africa for over 20 years. All remaining project follow-up was transferred to the responsibility of WEFTA in 2021. We are grateful for the relationship developed over the past 20 years and will continue the rigorous Waterlines methods for post-construction project follow-up.



Wheaton Franciscan Sisters

Wheaton Franciscan Sisters (WFS)

WEFTA is proud to work with WFS to collaborate on water and sanitation improvements for rural communities and HCFs. In 2023, WEFTA received another round of funding from WFS to work on projects in Bolivia and Africa. In Bolivia, these projects included improvements of groundwater wells for Indigenous families in collaboration with Suma Jayma and improved bathrooms for peri-urban communities in collaboration with CONSES. In Africa, assessments and planning for WASH improvements in HCFs continued in collaboration with the Daughters of Charity.



Spirit of Christ

The Spirit of Christ Catholic Church of Denver, CO has teamed with WEFTA on community development projects in El Alto, Bolivia and is committed to an ongoing relationship with WEFTA in support of the poor of the altiplano region and their water and sanitation needs.

WALLACE GENETIC FOUNDATION



Wallace Genetic Foundation (WGF)

WEFTA is grateful for the relationship we continue to foster with WGF. Our collaborative relationship allows for operational funding to ensure we can cover costs in fulfilling our combined missions.



CORNELL DOUGLAS
FOUNDATION

Cornell Douglas Foundation (CDF)

Since 2021 WEFTA has partnered with CDF for WASH in HCF improvements in Tanzania. We are grateful for the support and the opportunity to continue working together and achieve mutual goals.



Peace Corps

WEFTA continues to build off the relationship cultivated by Waterlines over the last 20 years to ensure that Peace Corps Volunteers working on WASH projects in their host communities have access to technical assistance and funding.



Catholic Health Association (CHA)

In 2021, WEFTA connected with CHA by way of our friends at the Daughters of Charity-IPS. WEFTA is proud to support CHA's activities that support the Vatican Initiative for WASH improvements in HCFs in countries where the need is greatest.





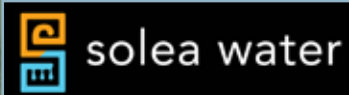
CONSES

Through our field engineer and project partner working in Bolivia, Jason Obergfell, we have cultivated our relationship with the director of the local NGO, Julio Sanchez at CONSES, to work on community water and sanitation improvements. Julio brings a new component of improved sanitation to projects for the rural Indigenous communities of Bolivia.



Aqua Engineering

With direct assistance from our Board of Director's Vice-President, Scott Rogers, WEFTA collaborates with Aqua Engineering staff for project mapping and in-country project design. Aqua also is a long-time donor to WEFTA overhead expenses.



Solea Water

Solea Water walks alongside vulnerable communities to implement, operate, and maintain public utility services (water, sanitation, energy). WEFTA collaborates with Solea Water on small-scale water projects, training, and post-construction follow-up in the eastern regions of Panama.



THE LOYOLA FOUNDATION

Loyola Foundation

Thanks to the support of the Loyola Foundation, WEFTA continues to work on WASH in HCF projects in Tanzania.



The Pittsburgh Foundation

Since 2016, WEFTA has partnered with The Pittsburgh Foundation. We are grateful for this continued partnership which has enabled us to dedicate our time to matching the need for water and sanitation systems with the resources required to construct them.



**Michigan
Technological
University**

Michigan Tech University (MTU)

WEFTA works with Professor David W. Watkins, Ph.D., P.E. of the Department of Civil, Environmental, and Geospatial Engineering, to cultivate a graduate student design class focused on our efforts in WASH resource development. The students helped with multiple phases of the Mpapa Health Centre Water & Wastewater System Improvements project in Tanzania.



National Peace Corps Association (NPCA)

NPCA is a mission-driven social impact organization that encourages and celebrates lifelong commitment to Peace Corps ideals. NPCA supports a united and vibrant Peace Corps community, including current and returned Peace Corps volunteers (RPCV), current and former staff, host country nationals, family and friends, in efforts to create a better world. WEFTA has partnered with NPCA through their 'continuation of service program'. RPCVs are able to engage with WEFTA on our many projects and programs. Multiple WEFTA volunteers served in the Peace Corps prior to volunteering on WEFTA projects.



WASH Rotary District 5450

WEFTA and 5450 WASH have partnered to improve monitoring and evaluation of WASH projects. 5450 WASH is a Rotary Action Group based in the Denver metropolitan area focusing on improving WASH programming in multiple countries worldwide.



Paso Pacifico

Paso Pacifico is an international environmental conservation organization working on costal and upland habitat conservation with an emphasis on primates and sea turtles. WEFTA is partnering with Paso Pacifico for a program in development to provide technical assistance for WASH improvements in the rural underserved communities adjacent to Lake Olomega in efforts to connect the communities to the overall plan for conservation of the area resources including watershed protection.



Desert Research Institute (DRI)

WEFTA works with the Center for International Water and Sustainability at DRI on the development of circuit rider programs for water systems and healthcare facilities. The Desert Research Institute is based at the University of Nevada – Reno and is a recognized world leader in basic and applied environmental research.



EOS International

EOS International empowers rural families in Central America with access to safe drinking water and opportunities to generate income through simple technology solutions and education. WEFTA collaborates with EOS on water projects and circuit riding in rural Honduras.

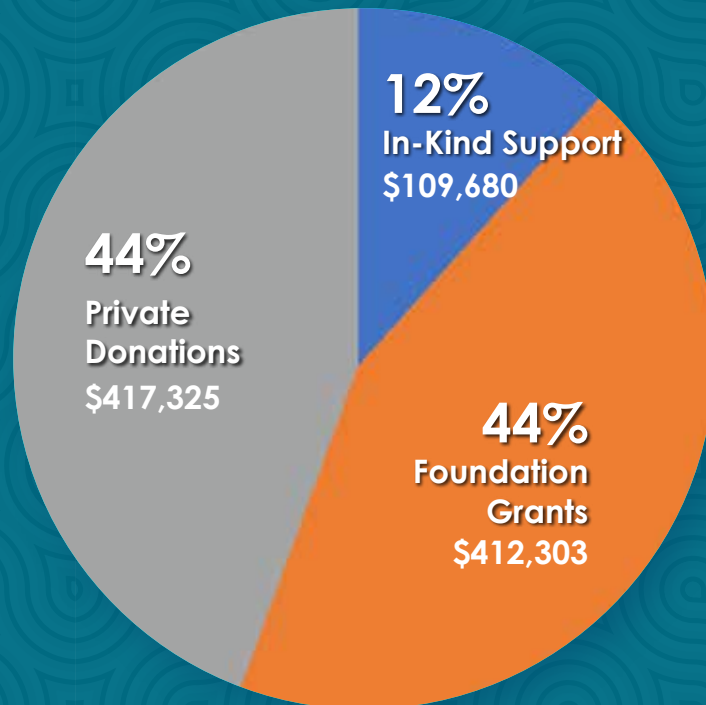
Special thanks to
all our partners,
collaborators,
circuit riders, donors,
supporters and
amazing volunteers!

**Many lives are
positively impacted
because of YOU!**

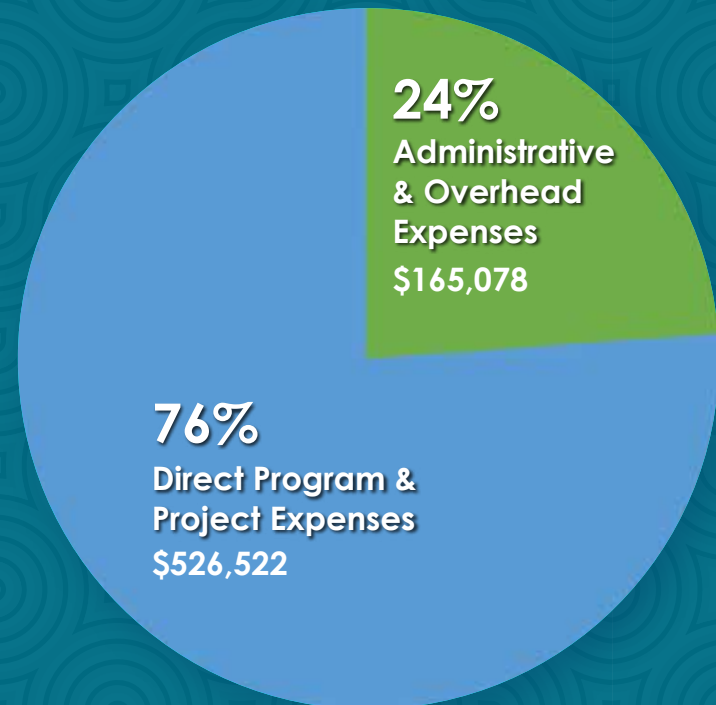
OUR COMMITMENT

WEFTA is committed to developing reliable water and sanitation systems that serve the communities we work with, while empowering project beneficiaries to manage these systems sustainably for the betterment of the systems and users. We also remain dedicated to WASH improvement projects in healthcare facilities and continue to collaborate with stakeholders to improve access to water and sanitation for all.

We have multiple new projects and renovation of old projects on the horizon for 2024 in many of the countries we have served for over 20 years, as well as opportunities for technical assistance in new regions.



2023 OPERATING REVENUE
\$939,308



2023 OPERATING EXPENSES
\$691,600



Together, we have
directly impacted
and improved over
230,000 lives in
2023!

Thank
you!



WEFTA

wefta.net

Making connections. Empowering communities. Improving lives.

LINKS TO MORE 2023 WEFTA ACTIVITIES & ARTICLES

[A Celebration of Success in Tanzania](#)

[Spotlight on Stephen Parker: WEFTA Volunteer Intent on Improving Lives](#)

[National Legislative Assembly of Bolivia Recognition](#)

[Bishop Ndimbo Shares Gratitude on Behalf of the Mbinga Diocese](#)

[Spotlight on Emily Parker: WEFTA Field Engineer and Remote Designer](#)

[Introduction to the SafeClinic Toolkit](#)

[Spotlight on Lam Ho: "WEFTA Impacts Lives"](#)

[WEFTA's WASH Circuit Rider Program Helps Ensure Long-term Sustainability](#)

[Spotlight on Alex Litofsky: Volunteer Keen on Building Local Capacity](#)

[Progress of WASH in Healthcare Facilities](#)

[Water is Life](#)

[A New Water Supply Tank is Complete for Zapote #1](#)

[Working Together to Make a Positive Impact](#)

[PRIORITY PROJECTS IN NEED OF FUNDING](#)



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WATER ENGINEERS FOR THE AMERICAS & AFRICA

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