

The Meter Setter



Water For People

From the Water For People Strategic Plan

In February 1991, the American Water Works Association formally established Water For People as a natural extension of what its 57,000 members do on a daily basis in bringing safe, sufficient water to their own communities. In 1995, Water For People-Canada, a sister organization, was established as a charitable organization to better involve the Canadian water sector and public.

As an international development nonprofit organization, Water For People responds to the conditions associated with unsafe drinking water, inadequate sanitation, and poor hygiene that result in 6,000 deaths every day, mostly children (Source: WHO/UNICEF Global Water and Sanitation Assessment Report 2000).

Since its beginning, Water For People has facilitated more than 500 community based projects including:

- Supporting rural communities in Guatemala, Honduras, Bolivia and Malawi by funding gravity-fed systems, hand pumps, maintenance training, and hygiene education classes so villagers always have a safe glass of water.
- Helping the poor in the cities, slums and settlements of Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi and Zambia have a voice with local officials and donors to obtain safe drinking water and increased sanitation for their families.
- Responding with timely volunteer, water-related, technical assistance and training to places such as island communities in Micronesia so that existing water systems reach their full potential to provide safe drinking water to thousands of people.
- Alleviating the pain and suffering caused by arsenic in the groundwater of India by underwriting the cost of filters on community wells.
- Supporting projects in Vietnam and Ecuador.



A young boy is pictured taking a drink from a water pump in the rural community of Engocwini, Malawi. This project in southern Africa was facilitated by Water For People.

Photos courtesy of Water For People.

From the beginning, Ford Meter Box has enthusiastically supported Water For People. Water professionals know how important water is to the success of any community. No other charity complements our interest and dedication to water like Water For People. As we celebrate their achievements, we encourage your new or continued commitment to Water For People. It is necessary that their important work of providing water for a developing world continues and grows.



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