

# ANNUAL REPORT

Empowering communities through safe water and sanitation in  
Africa and Latin America

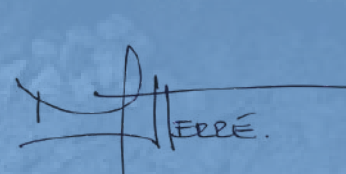
# 2024

# “ MESSAGE FROM THE CEOS

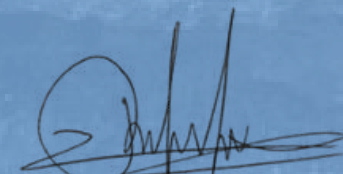
In 2024, we reaffirmed our commitment to one of the most fundamental human rights: **access to safe water and sanitation**.

As the world faces a silent crisis affecting more than **4.4 billion people**—more than double the estimate in 2020—WATERisLIFE continues to work hand in hand with communities across **Africa** and **Latin America** to change this reality from the ground up.

With simple, sustainable, and human-centered solutions, we impacted the lives of **49,604 people this year**. This report is a reflection of what can be achieved when the work is done with feet on the ground—with closeness, transparency, and effectiveness.



**M. JOSÉ TERRÉ**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**RENATO MUÑOZ**  
MANAGING DIRECTOR





# OUR 2024 IN REVIEW

2024 was a year of learning, growth, and meaningful progress. We strengthened our **community water businesses**, working closely with **youth-led groups** to build sustainable models that serve and empower their own communities.

It was also a year of global movement. Our Co-CEO, **Coté**, relocated from Kenya to **New York** to build new partnerships and represent WATERisLIFE at international forums and high-level events—opening doors for future collaborations and global visibility.

In **Brazil**, our team led critical work in the Amazon, expanding efforts to bring clean water access to isolated and vulnerable communities.

We also built our **first football pitch** in Kibera, Kenya—an iconic moment for WATERisLIFE. But this is more than just a field. Our partner, professional footballer **Igor Lichnovsky**, shares the belief that **without hydration, there is no sport—and without sport, talent cannot be developed**. The project includes a safe water point, toilets, and hot showers, proving that infrastructure and opportunity must go hand in hand.



49,604  
people impacted  
across 5 countries



20  
Urgent Relief projects



2  
Community Water Businesses



1  
Social Long-Term project

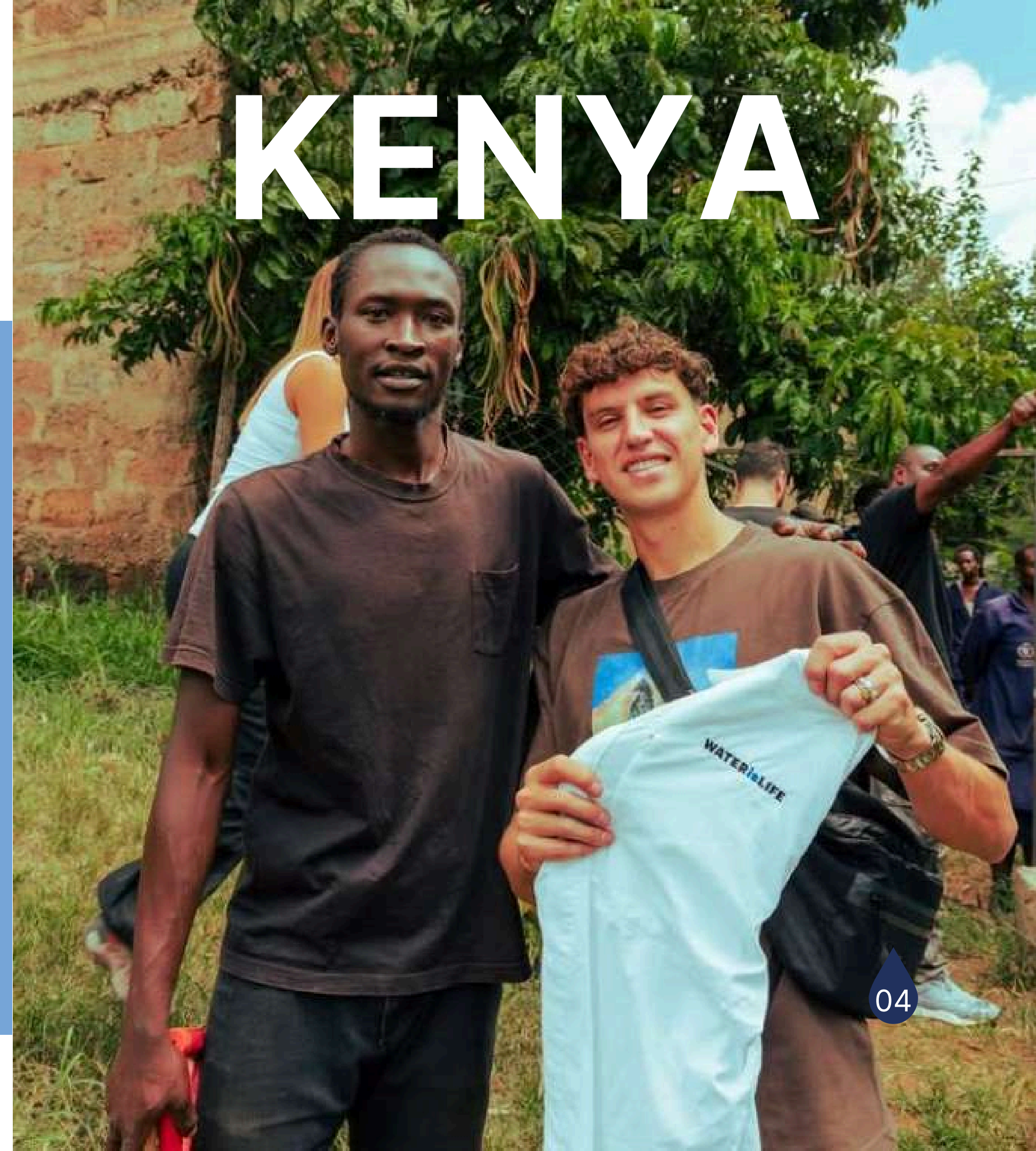


3  
Maintenance interventions

# A LEGACY WITH PURPOSE

Football Pitch + WASH  
Facilities in Kibera

# KENYA







10,000  
people impacted

**Type:** Social Water Business  
**Funded by:** The Lichnovsky Family  
**Local Partners:** Salama Sport Centre  
Committee, Whispers Youth Group





# A LEGACY WITH PURPOSE



At the end of 2024, WATERisLIFE launched a community football pitch and WASH infrastructure in Kibera—one of Africa’s largest informal settlements—thanks to the generous support of Chilean professional footballer Igor Lichnovsky and his family.

During a visit to Kenya in 2023, Igor met the Salama community and saw young people playing football with passion, discipline, and impressive talent—despite not having an adequate space. Inspired by their potential and driven by the desire to leave a legacy, Igor decided to take action and support the creation of a space where talent could truly thrive.

***“Building these courts in Africa with my family is about so much more than just creating a space for sports—it’s about opening doors to new opportunities, a better quality of life, and hope. We want every child who steps onto this court to feel that their dreams matter, that hard work pays off, and that their future can be as big as they dare to imagine.” — Igor Lichnovsky***

This project created more than just a sports venue. It delivered a dignified, inclusive space for recreation, youth development, and community connection. The intervention included a synthetic turf pitch, bleachers, a drainage system, and WASH facilities with toilets, hot showers, and a safe water point.

A local management committee—with gender representation—oversees the operation and care of the space. The Salama Sport Centre Committee manages the football pitch, while Whispers Youth Group leads the coordination and sustainability of the WASH component.

Because without water, there is no sport. And without opportunity, talent cannot grow. Igor’s story is a reminder that powerful impact begins with a personal commitment to believe in others—and leave a lasting mark.



# Impact



**10,000**

people  
impacted



**3**

women in  
leadership roles



**1**

youth group leading  
operations



**2**

social businesses  
created



**40+**

meetings and training  
sessions held



**50+**

local workers  
employed



**100+**

volunteers  
mobilized



**50+**

trees  
planted



**RESULTS**



Photos from July 2025



# AN UNFORGETTABLE JOURNEY OF GRATITUDE

Community Water Access  
in Mathare and Ukunda

# KENYA







**15,000+**  
people impacted

**Type:** Water Infrastructure & Empowerment

**Funded by:** BottleNo30

**Local Partners:** Mathare Community  
Leaders







In mid-2024, WATERisLIFE implemented a transformative project in **Mathare**, one of the most densely populated informal settlements in Nairobi. Before the intervention, most residents had access to water only **two days a week**. Through the installation of a high-capacity pump and solar energy, the community gained access to water **every day**—improving hygiene, health, and dignity.

This project was made possible through a fundraising event held in New York, led by **Corina Weikl, founder of BottleNo30** and member of the WATERisLIFE Global Board. The campaign united artists and tattoo professionals under one cause: safe water. Corina personally joined the field mission, along with Pablo López, also a board member—showing WATERisLIFE’s commitment to having leadership with their feet on the ground.

Although the water source remained non-potable, plans to install our Black Box filtration system were paused following community concerns around water sales. Instead of pushing forward, WATERisLIFE listened and adapted. The focus shifted to community-led management, emphasizing women’s leadership through training and inclusive governance.

As part of the same Gratitude Trip, the team traveled to Ukunda, on Kenya’s southern coast, where they visited three public schools. There, **600 straw** filters were distributed to children, and a nutrition and **health pilot program** was launched with 45 students. The outcomes were remarkable:

- **53%** of children gained weight during the 3-month study
- **100%** recovered from gastrointestinal symptoms in the first month
- **All students** reached a healthy weight range by the end

This journey was about more than just water. It was about **purposeful travel**—connecting people, building empathy, and creating visible change. **Gratitude Trips** are a reminder that when we travel with intention, we return not only with memories, but with the deep satisfaction of having helped transform lives.







## WHY SAFE WATER MATTERS FOR NUTRITION

Safe Water and Nutrition Program  
for Children







**3,000**  
people impacted

**Type:** Health Program

**Funded by:** Betterfly

**Local Partner:** Leche para Haití





# WHY SAFE WATER MATTERS FOR NUTRITION



In 2024, WATERisLIFE implemented a comprehensive water and nutrition program in Haiti, reaching more than **3,000 people** across the districts of **Hinche, Anse-à-Pitre, and Belle-Anse**. The initiative was made possible through a partnership with Chilean NGO **Leche para Haití** and the generous support of **Betterfly**.

The project addressed a critical, often overlooked link: the connection between **safe water and child nutrition**. In vulnerable communities, unsafe water is a key factor behind chronic **gastrointestinal infections**, which prevent children from absorbing nutrients—even when food is available.

To tackle this, WATERisLIFE distributed **3,000 Magic Straw filters to children and families in schools and communities**, ensuring daily access to potable water. The intervention allowed thousands to drink water safely, directly impacting health and quality of life.

In Hinche, where close monitoring was conducted, the results were extraordinary. In just **three months**:

- **Severe malnutrition in children dropped from 7.1% to 0%**
- **47.7% of children reached optimal nutritional status**

*“In 15 years of work, this is the first time we’ve seen results of this magnitude in such a short period.”*

— Dr. María Paz Guzmán, Health Program Lead

This project reaffirms that addressing safe water access is not only about hydration—it’s about survival, development, and equity. When children grow up drinking safe water, their bodies grow stronger, their minds stay focused, and their chances in life multiply.

**Investing in water is investing in nutrition. And investing in nutrition is investing in the future.**



# THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP IN TIMES OF CRISIS

Emergency Water Relief in Rio  
Grande do Sul

# BRAZIL







**6,750**  
people impacted

**Type:** Immediate Relief

**Funded by:** Greenpeace

**Local Partners:** Projeto Saúde e Alegria,  
ArpinSul, APIB, 342 Artes







In 2024, **devastating floods** hit the southern state of **Rio Grande do Sul**, displacing thousands and leaving entire communities without access to safe drinking water. **The crisis quickly escalated into a public health emergency**: over half of the affected population reported illnesses linked to water contamination.

In the midst of this disaster, WATERisLIFE partnered with Greenpeace and a coalition of grassroots and Indigenous organizations to bring immediate relief. In Caxias do Sul, we distributed **5,000 Magic Straw** filters and **350 ultrafiltration bucket filters**, prioritizing Indigenous communities, displaced families, and local schools.

The intervention reached **6,750** people—**more than 5,000 of them children**—and helped mitigate the risk of waterborne diseases at a critical moment.

This response showed the power of action, but above all, the power of alliances in times of crisis. When disaster strikes, collaboration is not optional—it's essential. Thanks to Greenpeace's leadership and the tireless work of local partners, thousands of lives were protected and dignity was restored.

This project is a testament to what's possible when organizations act with urgency, respect, and a shared commitment to the most vulnerable.



# CHILE

## 3 ESSENTIAL INTERVENTIONS FOR EFFECTIVE RESPONSE

Urgent Relief and Community Support  
in Viña del Mar





**1,920**  
people impacted

**Type:** Immediate Relief & Infrastructure

**Funded by:** Betterfly, Nido de Águilas Chile, Rheem Chilena Spa, Easy Tienda, WATERisLIFE

**Local Partner:** Municipality of Viña del Mar







In early 2024, **wildfires** devastated Viña del Mar, exposing thousands of families to unsafe conditions and limited access to safe drinking water. WATERisLIFE responded with a series of targeted interventions in **Reñaca Alto**, reaching **1,920 people**.

We distributed **200 ultrafiltration filters** to families in informal settlements, **built a community kitchen and dining hall to support food security**, and delivered **2,700 jerry cans of drinking water** to the most affected households. These efforts were carried out in close coordination with the Municipality of Viña del Mar and supported by engaged corporate partners such as Betterfly, whose team participated in the field.



In moments of crisis, our mission is clear: **act quickly, partner locally, and bring safe water and dignity where it's needed most.**





# Milestones 2024

Milestones are more than highlights—they are defining moments that reflect who we are, what we value, and how we grow. In 2024, each step we took beyond the project sites—whether building new relationships, raising our voice in key spaces, or engaging communities in new ways—helped shape the future of WATERisLIFE.





## PRESENCE AT THE GLOBAL WATER SUMMIT IN LONDON

In 2024, WATERisLIFE's Co-CEOs, **Coté Terré** and **Renato Muñoz**, participated in the prestigious **Global Water Summit in London**, a leading international forum focused on **innovation, sustainability, and strategic collaboration in the water sector**.

Their active involvement in key discussions and high-level sessions provided **valuable insights** and opened the door to new partnerships with **private-sector companies committed to social impact**. The summit reinforced the urgency of building resilient, people-centered solutions and highlighted the critical role of NGOs like WATERisLIFE in shaping the future of global water access.





In 2024, an extraordinary event in **New York City** brought together tattoo and street artists in support of WATERisLIFE's mission. Organized by renowned artist **Trudy Lines** and the team at **BottleNo30**, the initiative combined art, community, and purpose to raise funds for the "**Safe Water for Mathare**" project in Nairobi, Kenya.

Thanks to this powerful collaboration, the event successfully funded a water infrastructure project that has already impacted **15,000 people** in one of Nairobi's most underserved informal settlements.

This milestone demonstrated the **power of creative industries and international solidarity** to generate real, measurable change—reminding us that when purpose meets passion, lives are transformed.





# OUR FIRST VOLUNTEER DAYS

In 2024, we launched our **first two community volunteer days**—a milestone for WATERisLIFE’s engagement model. These events brought together **local youth groups, neighbors, and international volunteers** in Nairobi, with over **100 participants** in total.

**The purpose was twofold:**

- To encourage community ownership of the new shared spaces.
- To foster connection and understanding between local and international communities.

Together, we:

- Planted over **50 trees** around the football pitch
- Collected more than **150 large bags of trash** from public spaces

The volunteer days were co-led by **Whispers Youth Group** and **MSI**, demonstrating the strength of youth leadership and the lasting impact of collective action.



A photograph of two women standing side-by-side against a red background. The woman on the left is wearing a dark blue dress, and the woman on the right is wearing a grey sleeveless top and white pants. Both are smiling.

## WATERISLIFE AT WEF CHILE

In 2024, WATERisLIFE's Co-CEO and Executive Director, Coté Terré, was a featured speaker at **WEF Chile**, the Women's Economic Forum—a global platform that amplifies women's leadership and innovation across sectors. At WEF Chile, **she was also honored with the “Women Leaders Creating a Sustainable World” award**, which recognizes women leaders who, with a conscious commitment to the environment, accessibility to basic services, and the promotion of equality, are driving efforts to combat climate change and build a better world for future generations.

During her talk, Coté shared the journey of WATERisLIFE, the challenges of expanding access to safe water in vulnerable communities, and **the importance of empowering local women and youth to lead sustainable change**. Her participation underscored the role of women not just as beneficiaries, but as agents of transformation in the water sector.

A photograph of Coté Terré speaking at a podium. She is holding a microphone and looking towards the audience. Behind her is a large screen displaying text in Spanish, including "América Latina" and "de recursos hídricos en Latinoamérica".

## WATERISLIFE AT THE LATIN AMERICAN GREEN ECONOMY FORUM

In 2024, WATERisLIFE's Executive Director, **Coté Terré**, was invited to **speak live at the II Latin American Green Economy Forum**, organized by **EFE**. The event brought together leaders from across the region to **discuss sustainable solutions** to pressing environmental challenges.

During her presentation, Coté shared WATERisLIFE's work in the **Amazon** region, highlighting practical, community-driven approaches to expanding access to safe drinking water in one of the world's most fragile ecosystems. The session emphasized the need for simple, replicable technologies and long-term engagement with **Indigenous and isolated communities**.



# Our supporters 2024

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*BETTERFLY*

Nash family

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## Our implementation partners 2024

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