



WATER is LIFE



ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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

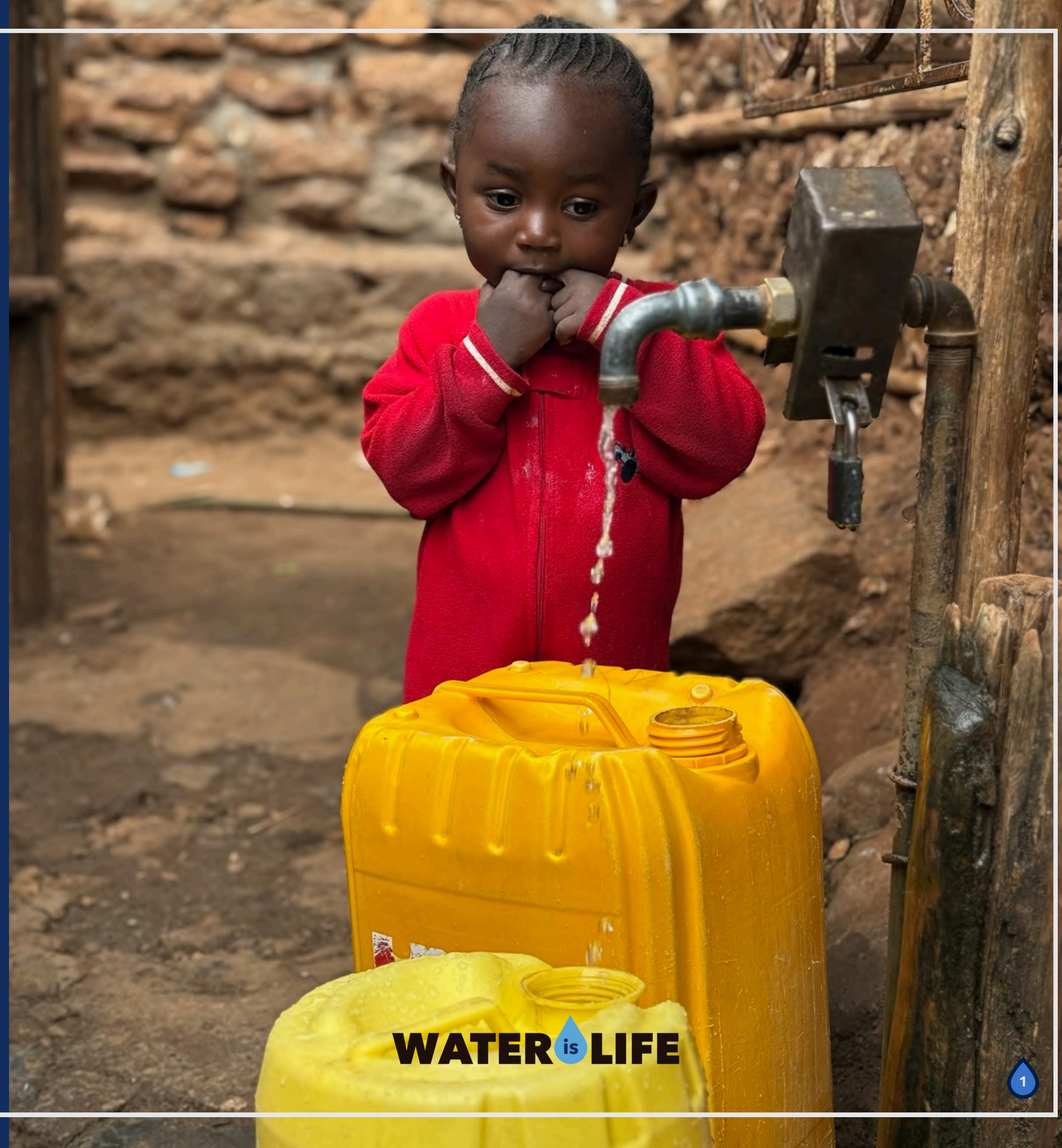
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About WATERisLIFE



WATERisLIFE is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in the U.S. with international offices in Chile, Kenya, and Mexico. Through filtration technology, water infrastructure, borehole rehabilitation, rainwater catchment, solar energy, constant mentoring, and strong community engagement, **we deliver sustainable WASH solutions to underserved communities in Africa and Latin America.** Since 2020, we have impacted **190,000+ people, through diverse safe water and sanitation initiatives,** with a strong vision of always going Beyond Water. By focusing not only on high-quality design and infrastructure, but also on close community relations, mentoring, and empowerment, we are able to build long-term impact alongside the people we serve. We work with them, not for them, **always looking at both WATER and LIFE.**



Our **impact areas**

BEYOND WATER



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Promoting local participation, partnerships, community ownership, collaborative implementation, and long-term sustainability across all initiatives and projects.



INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADING

Strengthening existing water and sanitation systems through restoration, optimization, resilience, resource efficiency, and improved long-term community access.



HEALTH, HYGIENE & SANITATION

Ensuring safe, potable water through filtration, sanitation infrastructure, hygiene practices, and improved community health and well-being.



YOUTH SUPPORT & PARTNERSHIP

Empowering youth through leadership, training, community participation, skills development, microbusiness initiatives, and long-term local engagement.



ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Community economic strengthening through safe water access, cost reduction, local microbusinesses, and sustainable employment generation.



WATER SUSTAINABILITY & RESILIENCE

Promoting responsible water use, renewable resources, clean energy, waste reduction, resilient systems, and long-term environmental sustainability.



CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Improving children's well-being through safe water access, healthier living conditions, nutrition, education support, and enhanced learning environments.



WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT & LEADERSHIP

Advancing gender equity through women's leadership, economic independence, decision-making participation, and improved access to education and opportunities.



MERCEDES DÍAZ
Global Coordinator
& Mexico Lead

Our team

The people turning water into life

Board of Directors

- Jerry Wilson - USA
- Corina Weikl - USA
- Judit Arenas - USA
- Oliver Soto - Mexico
- Pablo Lopez - Spain

Global Leadership

- Renato Muñoz - co-CEO
- Coté Terré - co-CEO

Global Team

- Mercedes Díaz - Global Coordinator & Mexico Lead
- Byrones Khainga - Global WASH & Kenya Lead
- Pablo Pozarski - Chile Lead
- Emilia Hall - Impact & Admin Coordinator
- Sofía Rocha - Marketing & Content Coordinator
- Dragan Ivetic - Global Legal Counsel



A message from our CEOs

Coté Terré Co-CEO

"Access to safe water is not only a basic human need, it is a foundation for gender equality. When women and girls have access to water, they gain time, opportunities, and the freedom to shape their own lives."

Renato Muñoz Osses Co-CEO

"Sustainability is not just about building solutions, it's about ensuring water resilience. Real impact means staying present, maintaining what we create, and empowering communities to own their future."

About 2025

Studies across the WASH sector continue to highlight a critical challenge: building new water, sanitation, and hygiene infrastructure is only the first step. Research has shown that an estimated 30–50% of WASH projects experience significant functionality or sustainability challenges within their first two years if local ownership, maintenance systems, and long-term support are not in place.¹ This data confirms what WATERisLIFE has long understood: sustainable access to water is not created by infrastructure alone. **Lasting success depends on local leadership, community ownership, ongoing technical support, and economic models that enable services to continue long after a project is completed.**

1. UNICEF. *Programming for Sustainability in Water Services – A Framework* (2023); UNICEF. *Sustainability Checks: Guidance to Design and Implement Sustainability Monitoring in WASH*. These publications emphasize that sustainable WASH outcomes depend on governance, maintenance, financing, institutional support, and community ownership.



Staying, listening, and maintaining what we have built, is the most powerful way to create impact and transform lives

This understanding has guided WATERisLIFE's approach for years and continued to shape our work throughout 2025. Alongside implementing new projects, we increased our focus on strengthening existing systems, supporting local entrepreneurs, training community leaders, and developing sustainable WASH businesses capable of providing reliable services for years to come. By creating local ownership and economic opportunity, we are working to ensure that access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene becomes a lasting solution rather than a temporary intervention.

As we expand this model, we continue to invest in regions where the need is greatest and where long-term, community-driven solutions can have the greatest impact. In 2025, one of our most significant milestones was the opening of our new headquarters in Mexico, strengthening our presence in a country where an estimated 12 million people still lack access to safe drinking water.² Mexico now joins Kenya as one of WATERisLIFE's primary impact territories, providing a strategic foundation for expanding sustainable WASH solutions across both Latin America and Africa.

2. National water access estimates for Mexico (CONAGUA and related national statistics) indicating that approximately 12 million people lack reliable access to safe drinking water.

A photograph showing a man in a blue WATERisLIFE vest and red sunglasses smiling and interacting with a group of people, including a woman in a black t-shirt and a man in a blue cap. The background shows an outdoor setting with other people and a green crate.

Because lasting change is built with a community, not for a community

People impacted in 2025

11,990

across 6 countries

190,000+ people impacted since 2020



Our 2025 impact

3 Micro-business projects

3 Community access projects

6 Urgent relief projects



2025 Key Milestone:

Opening in Mexico

Expanding impact, crossing borders, reaching more lives



Why Mexico?

With more than 12 million people lacking reliable access to safe drinking water, Mexico represents a critical intersection of urgency and opportunity, where the need for safe water solutions is high, and the potential for long-term impact is equally strong.

In response to this urgent reality, we officially began operations in Mexico in July 2025, initiated our registration as an authorized non-profit, and strengthened our regional presence by incorporating local talent, including Mercedes as our new Global Project Coordinator. **In just six months, we successfully launched and implemented two fully functional local projects**, marking the beginning of our long-term commitment in the country.

WATER  LIFE



Urgent Relief

Huixquilucan, Mexico

Our projects worldwide



100% locally operated water systems



Young leaders managing the projects



100% solar-powered water systems



Economic empowerment of communities

Types of projects

1 Micro-business

Through the construction and rehabilitation of water systems, these **projects create reliable WASH service hubs operated by local groups**. With training and ongoing support, community members (especially youth) manage these systems as small-scale businesses, providing affordable services while generating income.



USAFI BOYZ

Kibera slum, Kenya

2,000 people benefited with access to safe and potable water

The UsafiBoyz Project in Kibera, Kenya—one of Africa's largest informal settlements—revitalized critical water and sanitation infrastructure through a partnership with Usafi Boyz, a youth-led community group committed to service, responsibility, entrepreneurship, and local development. The project restored a non-operational borehole, rehabilitated sanitation facilities with showers and toilets, rebuilt the entire piping system and installed high-capacity solar power.

The initiative reestablished reliable WASH services for the surrounding community. Beyond improving living conditions, the project created sustainable income-generating opportunities for local youth, enabling them to manage the facility as an enterprise. This model addresses immediate needs and strengthens local ownership and empowerment.

YOUTH X WASH

Kibera slum, Kenya

PHASE II - PROJECT MAINTENANCE

The YOUTH x WASH project in Kibera, Kenya, **strengthened a youth-led model providing safe drinking water, sanitation services, and economic opportunities for the community**, benefiting more than 5,000 people. In 2025, Phase II focused on infrastructure rehabilitation, expanded solar energy capacity, operational improvements, and community training to increase sustainability and long-term impact.

3x INCREASE IN WATER STORAGE CAPACITY

2x INCREASE IN SOLAR ENERGY CAPACITY

9+ COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS & BUSINESS TRAINING WORKSHOPS



WATER X EL HERRADO

Chiapas, Mexico

In November 2025, WATERisLIFE implemented the Agua x El Herrado project in Acapetahua, Chiapas, to improve safe water access in an Afro-descendant community facing infrastructure and energy challenges. The project rehabilitated the community well and installed purification, storage, and solar-powered systems, creating a reliable and sustainable source of safe water for the community.

95% REDUCTION IN HOUSEHOLD WATER ACCESS COSTS

12.5k LITER STORAGE CAPACITY UPGRADED

100% SOLAR-POWERED WATER EXTRACTION AND TREATMENT SYSTEM

2,000 people & children benefited with access to safe and potable water





Focus on
Children's Health



Women-led
water projects



Key Community
Organizations



Reduced water-
related expenses

Types of **projects**

2 **Community access**

Through the construction or **rehabilitation of water systems**, these projects provide access to safe water and sanitation services for communities, with a **special focus on children**. They are designed to ensure a reliable water supply for daily use, both within these spaces and for the surrounding community, generating contributions that are reinvested into maintenance and long-term operation.



WATERisLIFE

DROPS of LIFE

Buenos aires, Argentina

The Drops of Life: Argentina project, implemented at Los Panchitos community kitchen in Buenos Aires, Argentina, improved access to safe water for children and families by upgrading outdated water infrastructure. Through a new water supply, storage, distribution, and treatment system, the project addressed critical health and hygiene challenges while creating more sustainable community conditions.

350+ CHILDREN SUPPORTED DAILY

75% INCREASE IN WATER AVAILABILITY

4.7k+ LITERS/DAY STORAGE CAPACITY

2,000 people & children benefited with access to safe and potable water



DROPS of LIFE

Ecatepec, Mexico

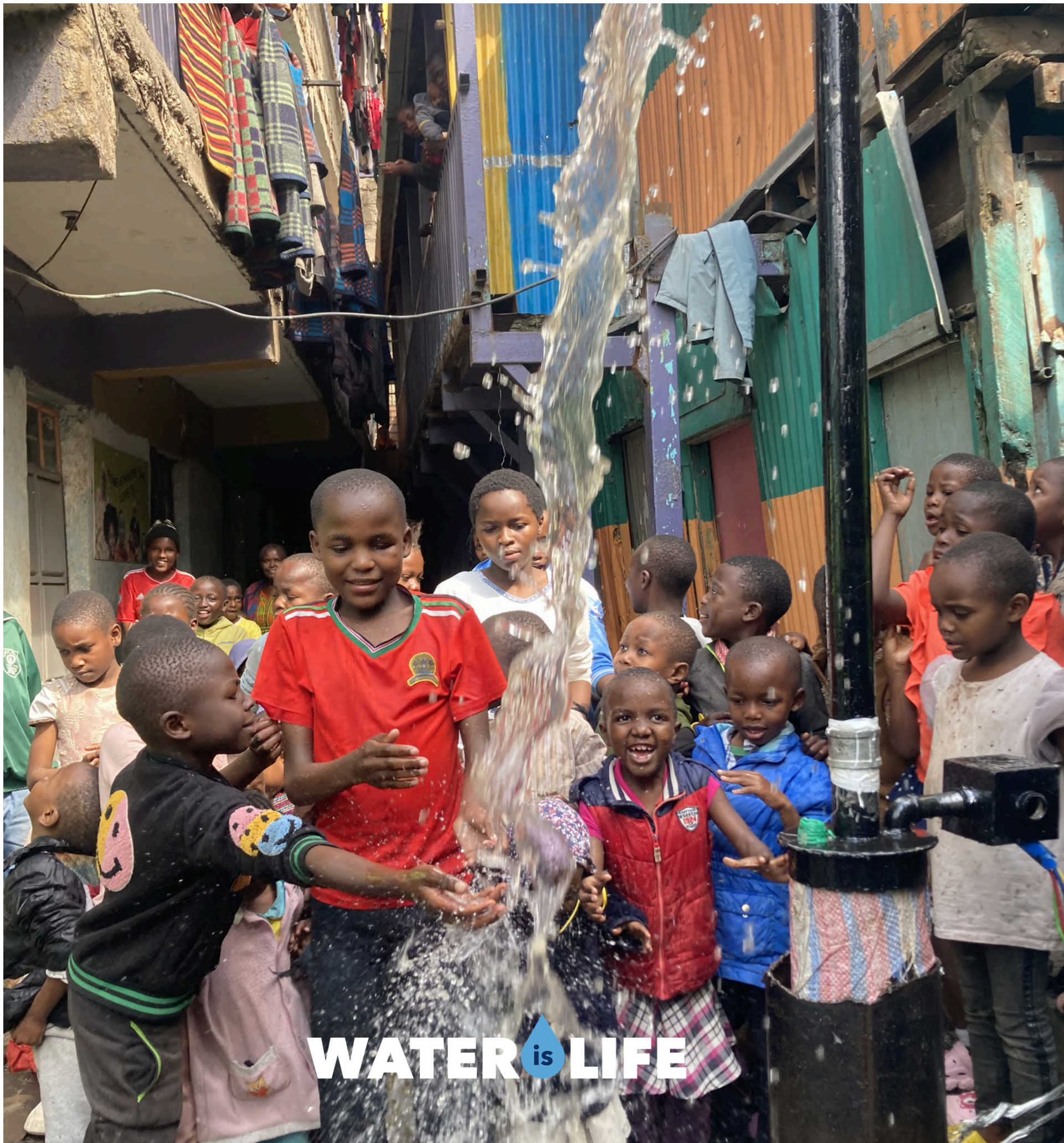
The Drops of Life: Mexico program, at Juan Amos Comenio Kindergarten in the State of Mexico, addressed severe water scarcity affecting school operations and hygiene conditions. By installing a rainwater harvesting, filtration, and storage system, the project created a reliable and sustainable source of safe water for students and staff.

500k LITERS OF RAINWATER CAPTURED AND REUSED ANNUALLY

300+ CHILDREN AND STAFF DIRECTLY IMPACTED

8.5L OF HARVESTED WATER AVAILABLE PER PERSON PER DAY

1,200 people & children benefited with access to safe and potable water



WATER is **LIFE**

WATER X CHILDREN

Mathare, Kenya

The Water x Children Project at the Good Samaritan Children's Home in Mathare, Kenya, improved unreliable water access for children and staff through the rehabilitation of a borehole, solar-powered pumping, water filtration, and upgraded sanitation facilities. The project created a sustainable source of safe water while supporting long-term health and well-being.

100%

SOLAR-POWERED FOR WATER PUMPING, HEATING AND ELECTRICITY

26

SHOWERS AND TOILETS FULLY REHABILITATED AND FUNCTIONAL

16k+

LITERS OF SAFE WATER PER DAY AVAILABLE

3,150 people & children benefited with access to safe and potable water



WATER is **LIFE**



Community and
volunteers
involvement



Single-use
plastic
reduction



Immediate
access to safe
water



Reduced water-
related
expenses

Types of **projects**

3 Urgent Relief

Through rapid-response actions, these **projects provide immediate access to safe water for communities facing urgent needs** or crisis situations. Rather than focusing on infrastructure, interventions include the distribution of filtration systems, safe water, and essential supplies that can be used right away at the household level.

Bucket System:

Volunteering initiatives

Our **Bucket System: Volunteering Initiatives** provide immediate access to safe drinking water through portable ultrafiltration systems that remove 99.99% of bacteria and improve daily water security for families. These initiatives bring together volunteers from different organizations and community members to distribute systems and deliver hands-on training on the ground. These projects create meaningful experiences while generating tangible impact.

\$65+ USD IN MONTHLY SAVINGS PER FAMILY

5.8k+ SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BOTTLES AVOIDED PER BUCKET SYSTEM

1 to 2 YEARS OF CLEAN WATER WITH OUR LONG-LIFE FILTRATION SYSTEMS



RIPLEY I VOLUNTEERING

Viña del mar, Chile



60 bucket systems delivered

240 people benefited with immediate access to safe and potable water

175,200 of 1L bottles avoided within a year*

VIÑA DEL MAR VOLUNTEERING

Viña del mar, Chile



140 bucket systems delivered

560 people benefited with immediate access to safe and potable water

408,800 of 1L bottles avoided within a year*

*The estimate of single-use plastic bottles avoided assumes that all drinking water comes from the Bucket System filter and that each beneficiary consumes 2 liters per day for 365 days.

RIPLEY II VOLUNTEERING

Lima, Peru



50 bucket systems delivered

200 people benefited with immediate access to safe and potable water

146,000 of 1L bottles avoided within a year*

AMAZONIA MISSION

Rio negro, Brazil



100 bucket systems delivered

400 people benefited with immediate access to safe and potable water

292,000 of 1L bottles avoided within a year*

*The estimate of single-use plastic bottles avoided assumes that all drinking water comes from the Bucket System filter and that each beneficiary consumes 2 liters per day for 365 days.

Bahía blanca

Buenos aires, Argentina

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Following the severe flooding in Bahía Blanca, Buenos Aires, in March 2025, we partnered with Chubb and local institutions to provide safe water, sanitation products, and cleaning supplies to affected families, supporting rapid community recovery through coordinated local action.

240 people provided with emergency support through access to safe water and hygiene supplies





AGUA ES VIDA

Haiti

CONTINUED IMPACT

Although launched in 2024, the partnership between WATERisLIFE and Fundación Leche para Haiti continued creating impact throughout 2025 by improving safe water access for children and families. Through household filtration systems, the initiative supported child nutrition, reduced waterborne infections, lowered medical expenses, and strengthened healthier daily living conditions.

589 HOUSEHOLD WATER FILTERS DISTRIBUTED

100% OF THE 163 CHILDREN SUPPORTED SHOWED IMPROVED NUTRITIONAL STATUS

65 CHILDREN FULLY RECOVERED FROM MALNUTRITION



Beyond the Projects

DRIVING AWARENESS & ACTION



Turning Awareness Into Commitment

With a vision to connect people with impact and provide an opportunity to witness firsthand the power of water, we organized another **Gratitude Trip**, inviting philanthropists, humanitarians, and visionaries to experience WATERisLIFE's work on the ground. **This year, the Davis, Lee, and Shapiro families from New York City visited our projects in Nairobi, Kenya**, gaining insight into the challenges of accessing safe water and sanitation, as well as the sustainable solutions our work provides. Inspired by what they experienced, the three families committed their time and resources, bringing together friends, family, and colleagues to **fully fund two of our most impactful projects in the slums of Nairobi, reaching over 5,000 people.**



Art Supporting Water

In 2025, we relaunched our presence in Chile through a special event hosted by renowned artist Ignacio Gana. Bringing together members of Chilean society, the gathering strengthened partnerships, expanded local support, and raised awareness that nearly 10% of the population still lacks access to safe drinking water, inspiring renewed commitment to addressing the country's water challenges.



The Drop Effect

In September 2025, WATERisLIFE hosted an event at the Columbia University Lab in New York to launch The Drop Effect, an initiative built on the idea that every person can inspire action and amplify impact. Bringing together entrepreneurs, artists, and community members, the event fostered awareness and connection while highlighting, through firsthand stories from Kenya, how individual voices can help drive meaningful change.

Advocating for Women Leadership in Water

In 2025, our Co-CEO, **Coté Terré**, attended the **Commission on the Status of Women** event at the United Nations in New York to help raise awareness about how the global water crisis disproportionately affects women and girls—impacting health, education, safety, and daily opportunities. The event brought together global leaders and organizations committed to advancing gender equality and empowering girls as drivers of change within their communities.

WATER is **LIFE**



Our **Supporters** 2025

CHUBB



BETTERFLY

enhōl

RIPLEY

Z ZAUNER GROUP

#BottleNo30

KIRKLAND & ELLIS

CABAL

Rheem®

urbanhydration



KEY PROPERTIES

Our Implementation Partners 2025



Isla Urbana

WATER is LIFE

fundación **gracias.**
Hoy podés cambiar el mundo



2025 memories

Photo Album





USAFI BOYZ

Kibera slum, Kenya



YOUTH X WASH

Kibera slum, Kenya



DROPS OF LIFE

Buenos Aires, Argentina



DROPS OF LIFE

Ecatepec, Mexico



WATER X EL HERRADO

Chiapas, Mexico



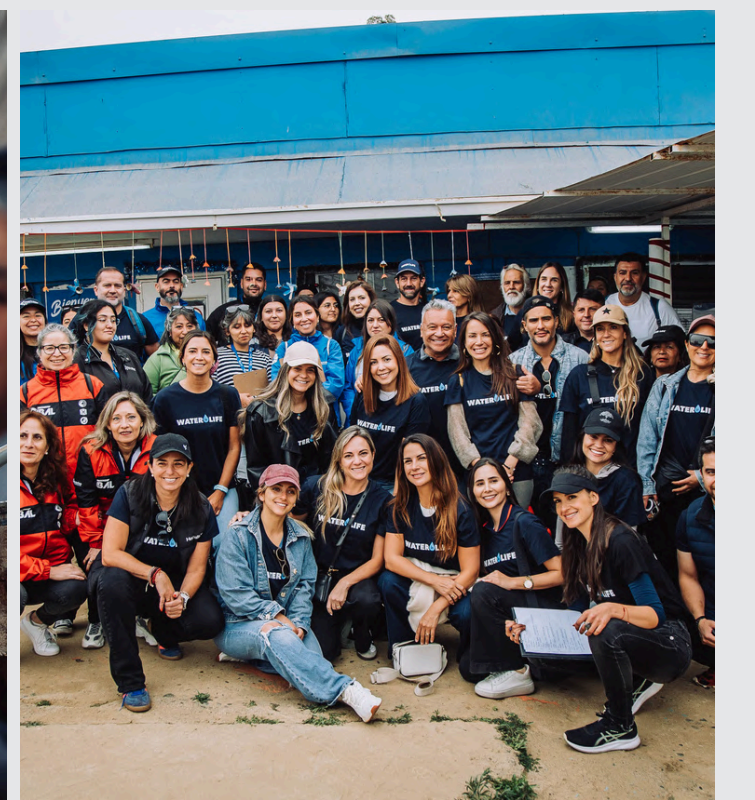
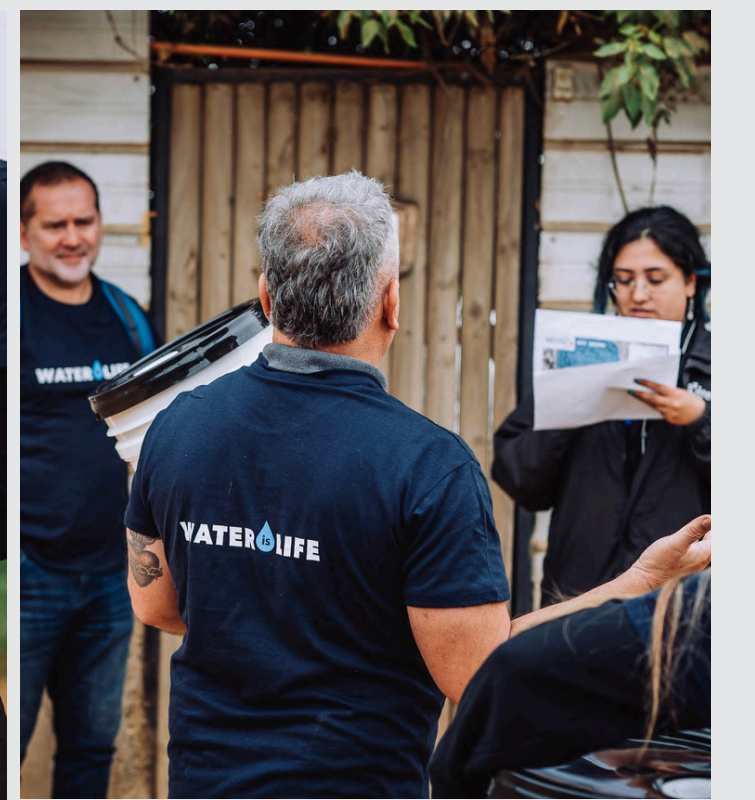
WATER X CHILDREN

Mathare slum, Kenya



RIPLY | VOLUNTEERING

Reñaca alto, Chile



VIÑA DEL MAR VOLUNTEERING

Viña del mar, Chile



RIPLY II VOLUNTEERING

Lima, Peru



AMAZONIA MISSION

Río negro, **Brazil**



GRATITUDE TRIP

Kenya



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