



The One Foundation

Annual Report 2023/2024

Photography: Jordan Summers

The Global Water Crisis

Safe drinking-water, sanitation and hygiene are crucial to human health and well-being. These are not only a prerequisite to health, but contribute to livelihoods, school attendance and dignity and help to create resilient communities living in healthy environments.

A great deal has been achieved in the Water, Hygiene and Sanitation (WASH) sector over the past 25 years. Since 2000, 2.1 billion* people have gained access to safely managed drinking water and 2.5 billion* people have gained access to safely managed sanitation.

But with 703 million* people around the world still lacking access to basic drinking water services and 1.5 billion* people lacking access to basic sanitation services, much still remains to be done. Urgent action, collaboration and acceleration is needed globally and locally to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 – water and sanitation for all by 2030, and in order to prevent more devastating impacts on the health of millions of people.

703 million people globally do not have access to clean water close to their home*

1.5 billion people globally still lack access to basic sanitation services*

Globally, three in ten schools do not have a basic water service^

Diarrhoea caused by dirty water and poor toilets kills one child under the age of five nearly every two minutes†

Source:

* WHO/UNICEF (2023). Progress on household drinking water, sanitation and hygiene 2000-2022: special focus on gender

^ WHO/UNICEF (2022). Progress on drinking water, sanitation and hygiene in schools: 2000-2021 data update

† WHO (2023). Burden of disease attributable to unsafe drinking-water, sanitation and hygiene: 2019 update



Photography: The One Foundation

Water and Climate Change

More than 90% of 'natural' disasters are water-related, including drought and aridification*

2.4 billion people worldwide live in water-stressed countries*

Half of the world's population could be living in areas facing water scarcity by as early as 2025†

By 2040, one in four children will be living in areas of extremely high-water stress†

“ We are facing an urgent crisis: poor access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene claim millions of lives each year, while the increasing frequency and intensity of climate-related extreme weather events continue to hamper the delivery of safe WASH services. We call on governments and development partners to strengthen WASH systems and dramatically increase investment to extend access to safely managed drinking water and sanitation services to all by 2030, beginning with the most vulnerable.”

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus,
World Health Organisation, Director-General.

Water and climate change are inextricably linked. Extreme weather events are either making water more scarce, more unpredictable, more polluted or all three. These impacts throughout the water cycle threaten sustainable development and people's access to water and sanitation.

As the impact of climate change increases, and populations grow, there is an urgent need, within and between countries, to unite around protecting and conserving our most precious resource. As well as for countries to integrate climate resilience into their WASH planning and policies to ensure that WASH infrastructure and services are sustainable and resilient to ever growing climate related risks.

Here at The One Foundation, a UK registered charity (1188810), we work with local partners on the ground to bring clean water and improved sanitation to rural and urban communities living in some of the most extreme poverty. We also help communities to adapt and to strengthen climate resilience in order to protect them and to make them less vulnerable to the devastating impacts that climate change can cause.

Source:

* Wateraid

† Unicef.org/wash/water-scarcity

About The One Foundation

Our Vision:

A world in which everyone has access to clean and safe water, forever.

Our Mission:

To support sustainable WASH services to change lives in communities living in some of the most extreme poverty.

Where we currently work:

Rwanda, Kenya, Ghana and Malawi.

How we invest our funding:

70% supports large-scale urban water systems.

20% supports immediate interventions in rural communities.

10% responds to humanitarian emergencies.

Areas of priority and focus for The One Foundation are to tackle important issues within water poverty, water security, water pollution and climate impact.



Photography: The One Foundation

Our 2023 Achievements

£2.4 million
to water, sanitation
and hygiene
programmes



£250,000
to emergency
response
programmes



Over **499,000***
people reached
with safe,
clean water
& improved
sanitation



Building
sustainable
water
systems in
4 countries



*Total projected number of beneficiaries on project completion as reported by our field partners. These numbers can change as we receive new updates from the field.



Photography: The One Foundation

Our work in Kenya

Lives changed in 2023: **32,200***

Kenya is among one of the most water-scarce countries in the world. Climate change, population growth and poor water resource management have all contributed to Kenya's water crisis.

These challenges are especially evident in urban slums where people are often unable to connect to piped water and sewer networks. In Nairobi, over-crowded informal settlements make up over 60% of the city population. The majority of these residents still rely on unregulated vendors who sell unsafe water at extortionate prices.

Over the last decade, The One Foundation has been improving water and sanitation access for low-income households across Naivasha and for people living in low-income settlements in Nairobi. Our funding to date has helped to extend water networks in these regions by 23kms and has connected over 5,700 households to a water supply.

We have also piloted the construction of two Simplified Sewer Systems which have since been used to demonstrate a cost-effective option in bringing decent sanitation to communities living in areas where normal sewers cannot be installed. These pilots have helped to leverage further funding from the African Development Bank which will be used to install an additional 35kms of Simplified Sewer Network across various low-income areas in Nairobi.

In 2023, our work continued as we scaled these networks and connected more households to water and sanitation services.

In Turkana, a region that is heavily prone to climatic shocks, The One Foundation supported the upgrade of three water points, converting them to solar to make them more efficient for 1,200 households and for the wider community. These water points supply water that is used for consumption, livestock and irrigation across 25-50 acres of land.

*Total projected number of beneficiaries on project completion as reported by our field partners. These numbers can change as we receive new updates from the field.

- Over 19 million people in Kenya do not have access to clean water close to their homes
- 32 million people in Kenya do not have access to a decent toilet
- Over 5,000 children in Kenya under the age of five die every day from diarrhoea caused by dirty water and poor toilets

Source: Wateraid



Photography: WSUP

Transforming lives

Margaret's story

Margaret is 40 years old and has lived in Mukuru Ruben for the past 3 years with her husband and two sons. Previously, collecting water was extremely difficult and it would take Margaret most of the day to collect the 5 jerrycans of water that her household used each day.

The nearest water point was about a 10 minute walk each way. The water point was usually very crowded, so Margaret had to queue for a long time. Sometimes the water point would be closed and she would have to walk around the village in search of other options. Margaret found it exhausting carrying the 20 litre jerrycans on her head and this forced her to limit the amount of water that she was using at home for washing.

Through support from The One Foundation, the local utility was able to install new water dispensers in the Mukuru Ruben area. These water points dispense clean water around the clock at only 50 cents per 20 litres (ten times cheaper than Margaret was previously paying for water).

With the new water point situated just a few minutes from Margaret's house, her life has improved greatly. Margaret spends much less time and energy collecting water. She says that the greatest improvement is her household hygiene as she now has sufficient water to wash thoroughly with. She is also able to ensure that the plot toilet that she uses is cleaned well. Margaret is happy that she can now budget less for water and has more money to spend on other important things for her family.

Margaret

Nairobi, Kenya



Photography: Jordan Summers

Our work in Ghana

Lives changed in 2023: **8,100***

Ghana is one of the most urbanised countries in Africa with almost half the population now living in towns and cities. Despite increasing prosperity, accelerating growth of the urban population – not only in cities but in towns and peri-urban communities - is leading to considerable unmet needs when it comes to safe water supply and improved sanitation. This has a significant impact on people’s health, dignity, safety, and economic growth.

Over the last seven years, The One Foundation has funded the construction of five fully-optimised community water stations in the Volta region of Ghana. These water stations are providing over 14,000 people with safe, clean water – piping out water over a combined distance of 35kms and directly into 461 homes. The majority of residents that these water stations are supporting are the most vulnerable - women and children, who are usually responsible for travelling long distances to collect often unsafe water. These demands consequently limit their education and work opportunities and lock families into a cycle of poverty.

This year we are excited to be building our sixth water station, which will increase water access for a further 3,000 residents. The station will be fully equipped with solar power, five stand pipes, pre-paid water meters and will have the capacity for 120 household connections. We are also supporting the retrofitting of three older water stations to maximise household connections for up to 200 households and to improve the financial and operational performance of these stations.

In the communities of Onwe and Juaso in the Ashanti region of Ghana, we are extending water networks and connecting over 100 households to a water supply. We are also installing pre-paid water meters at community standpipes to monitor how water flows in order to detect leaks and to ensure that customers only pay for the water that they actually use and are not overcharged.

*Total projected number of beneficiaries on project completion as reported by our field partners. These numbers can change as we receive new updates from the field

More than 3.9 million people in Ghana do not have access to clean water close to their homes

23.9 million people in Ghana do not have access to a decent toilet

More than 1,600 children under the age of five die every day in Ghana from diarrhoea caused by dirty water and poor toilets

Source: Wateraid



Photography: Jordan Summers

Transforming lives

Julius’ story

In November 2023, The One Foundation travelled to Ghana to visit two of the water stations that we have funded. These water stations are providing household water connections to residents like Julius.

Julius, a school teacher, told us how access to clean, safe water has changed the lives of his community.

“Life was so difficult in terms of water. A lot of school children were going to school late, they can now go to school very early because of safe water.”

Health is one of the issues that concerns us. So, when you get clean, safe water it will help you overcome ill health issues, like waterborne diseases. This water is good for us.

It was not a difficult process to connect. You take your card to be identified with, you register your money for the connection and the rest was done. You have done well bringing safe water into our community.”

Julius

Volta, Ghana



Photography: The One Foundation

Our work in Rwanda

Lives changed in 2023: **5,486***

Two thirds of the population in Rwanda now have access to clean water and almost three in four people have a decent toilet, making Rwanda an example of what can be achieved with a strong committed government.

But it is people with the lowest incomes, often in remote areas who still lack basic services. This is why The One Foundation is working with partners on the ground to support a life-changing programme called Everyone Forever.

Rwanda is the birthplace of the Everyone Forever model which was born in the district of Rulindo in 2010 and is now adopted by the government of Rwanda and written into National policies. It is a district-wide model that aims to bring reliable and lasting water and sanitation services to every family, every school and every health clinic in the districts of operation - Rulindo, Gicumbi, Gisagara, Karongi and Kicukiro. The model partners with local governments, businesses and individuals to provide the training, tools and financial support to ensure reliable water and sanitation services to current and future generations.

To date, four 'Everyone' milestones for water have been achieved - these are at a community, public institution and household level in the district of Kicukiro, and at a community level in the district of Gicumbi.

Three districts in Rwanda – Gicumbi, Kicukiro and Rulindo – have also achieved the 'Forever' milestone for sanitation, proving the success of this model.

With funding in 2023, the wider programme aims to reach a further 260 communities, 36 schools and 4 health clinics in the remaining districts through the installation and rehabilitation of community water supply systems, rainwater harvesting systems, handwashing stations, sanitation facilities and the strengthening of local service providers.

*Total projected number of beneficiaries on project completion as reported by our field partners. These numbers can change as we receive new updates from the field.

- Over 4.8 million people in Rwanda do not have access to clean water close to their homes
- 3.6 million people in Rwanda do not have access to a decent toilet
- Over 600 children under the age of five die every day in Rwanda from diarrhoea caused by dirty water and poor toilets

Source: Wateraid



Photography: Water for People

Transforming lives

Ismael's story

Imagine getting up every morning, walking downhill to a valley for about an hour, and climbing back up the hill carrying twenty litres of water. Repeat that same journey twice or even three times a day – both in the morning and evening. Remember, you still have to go to work on the farm so that you can put the food on the table and feed your family. Add to that cooking, cleaning, washing clothes, going to school or watching over domestic animals. For the people of Nkoto Village in Karongi District, Rwanda, this was the routine for decades.

Every day, women and children in this rural area walked long distances in search of water. Often they came back tired, they lost valuable time to develop and grow the income of their families, and children would miss school and the opportunity to thrive.

Ismael, a married man with three children, saw how the lack of clean water led to lost time and opportunities for his family and the local community. *"You could go to sleep without washing. We would drink dirty water that made us sick."* he recalls.

Thanks to the 'Everyone Forever' programme that The One Foundation supports, Ismael's village and community can now access clean water through a piped water system that was installed.

"Everyone was overjoyed. We saw change coming to us. No more walking to get water and carrying heavy jerrycans of water, no more wasted time, and no more falling sick from using dirty water. It is good to see that we have clean water and that people are using it. Life is better going forwards."

Ismael

Karongi District, Rwanda



Photography: The One Foundation

Our work in Malawi

Lives changed in 2023: **365,502***

Malawi is often known as 'the warm heart of Africa' for the kindness and friendliness of its people. While Malawi has made substantial progress on water supply coverage which currently stands at approximately 68.79% (JMP,2022), there are still huge issues with the non-functionality of water points, putting the lives of many at risk via drinking from alternative dirty water sources.

Malawi is also an example of the many injustices people across the globe face. Responsible for just 0.04% of global emissions, Malawi is in the top five countries that are most impacted by climate change. Extreme climatic events, such as floods and droughts, have wreaked havoc across the country over the years. Having barely recovered from the devastation caused in 2022 from Tropical Storm Ana, which left more than 190,000 people displaced, Malawi was then impacted again earlier this year by Cyclone Freddy - one of the longest-lasting tropical cyclones ever recorded. Cyclone Freddy dropped six months' worth of rainfall in six days, triggering floods and mudslides that killed more than 1,200 people and displaced 659,000 people.

Funds from The One Foundation in 2023 have helped to rehabilitate and improve WASH systems in the districts of Blantyre Rural, Chikwawa and Thyolo, particularly for the harder to reach communities whose access has been damaged by Cyclone Freddy. We have supported the construction of sanitation facilities in schools and clinics and are working with local utilities and government across all three districts to strengthen services and to improve the resilience of infrastructure in preparation for any future disasters.

The One Foundation has also commissioned an in-country review to research and document climate related WASH issues within the district of Thyolo. Data is being collected, analysed and pulled into a report to help build knowledge, to strengthen climate resilience on the ground and to lobby for greater support.

*Total projected number of beneficiaries on project completion as reported by our field partners. These numbers can change as we receive new updates from the field.

- 5.6 million people in Malawi do not have access to clean water close to their homes
- 9.6 million people in Malawi do not have access to a decent toilet
- More than 3,100 children under the age of five die every day in Malawi from diarrhoea caused by dirty water and poor toilets

Source: Wateraid



Photography: Water For People

Transforming lives

Margret's story

Margret shares the same story as 135 women and girls of Nyamphota Village, in Chikwawa. The village has 45 households. For more than 30 years, 62-year-old Margret, a mother to a son and three daughters, handled the routine of travelling more than four kilometres to collect water for drinking and household chores.

Margret would start fetching water as early as 3am from Mthumba River and finished around 11am. The two hours spent on each trip to fetch water took most of her time. The multiple trips for water made it difficult for her to do home chores or to work in nearby farms to support her family.

Things changed for Margret when a borehole was installed with funding from The One Foundation. To ensure the sustainability of the borehole, a committee was formed that underwent Community-Based Management training. This included pre-and post-drilling training for the local group.

Skills obtained during the training include how the committee can carry out minor borehole maintenance and the collection of borehole tariff fees. Margret tells us *"It was a relief to me when the borehole was constructed. The borehole is just a few meters away from my house. And the water is fresh with no salty taste!"*

This is the freedom we hoped for us women. The water challenge took most of our time. We can now do farming and work in nearby farms."

For Margret, and for the 135 women of Nyamphota Village, this access to water has meant profound change.

Margret

Katunga, Malawi

Humanitarian Emergencies

Lives changed: **87,768***

Due to climate change, natural disasters and growing inequalities are on the rise. Humanitarian emergencies are becoming more complex and are affecting more populations than ever before. According to the Global Humanitarian Overview 2023, a record 362 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance and protection. This number has surged from 274 million in 2022, an increase of 32%, underlining the urgency of the situation.

During emergencies, displaced people, especially the most vulnerable, often lack access to safe water, adequate sanitation and hygiene facilities due to water supply and sanitation systems being damaged or destroyed.

Every year, The One Foundation allocates a proportion of funding to support WASH activities in countries all across the world that are facing humanitarian challenges. Over the last ten years, we have deployed funds to countries that have been impacted by natural disasters such as earthquakes, hurricanes, cyclones and flooding, as well as pandemics and conflict and war.



**We used to walk for up to two hours one way to get to the nearest source of water, recounts Hareya. Years of consecutive failed rains have impacted millions of people across the Tigray region in Ethiopia. Oxfam have installed water points, ensuring communities have reliable access to safe, clean water. Image credit: Zerubabel Tore/Oxfam*

In 2023, £250,000 was deployed by The One Foundation to support the following disaster responses:

Turkey Syria Earthquake

In early February this year, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake and several strong aftershocks struck Turkey and Syria. Millions of people were affected. Funding from The One Foundation has contributed to an emergency response that is repairing damaged water networks, as well as delivering emergency water provision, handwashing facilities and latrines to temporary shelters.

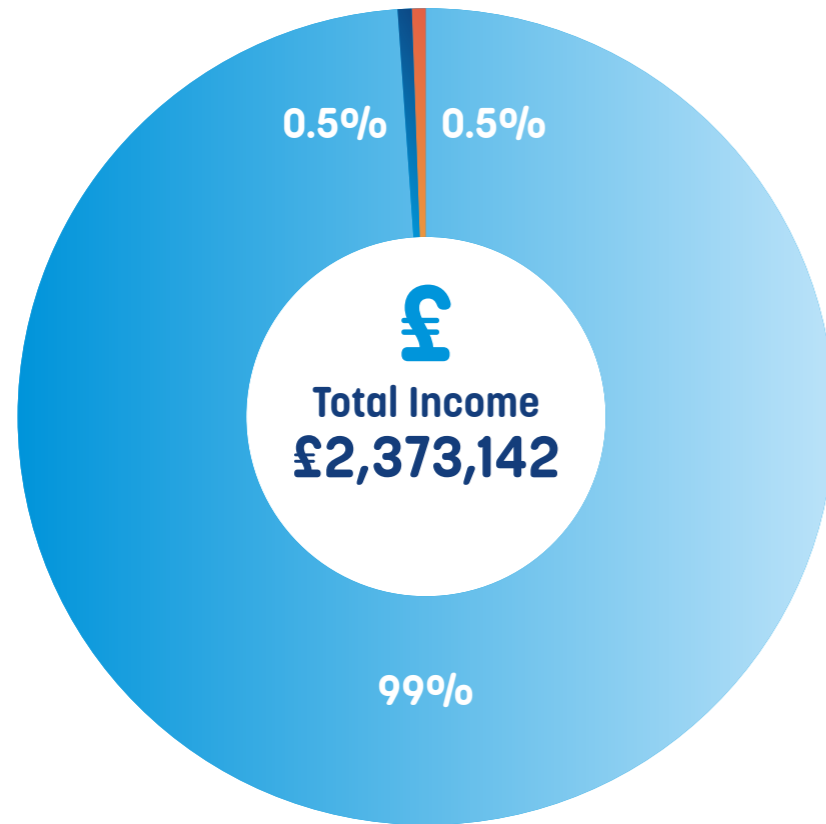
Horn of Africa Drought and Famine

The Horn of Africa is one of the epicentres of the climate crisis. Drought in Somalia has continued for over a decade; Ethiopia has faced back-to-back droughts for over seven years; and Kenya has experienced a cycle of drought that dates back to 1975.

After five consecutive failed rainy seasons, this most recent drought was the worst to hit the region since 1981. Water shortages destroyed thousands of acres of crops, killed livestock and dried up water sources across Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia and Sudan.

Funding from The One Foundation has contributed to an emergency response that is providing clean water, handwashing facilities and latrines for displaced populations impacted by this crisis.

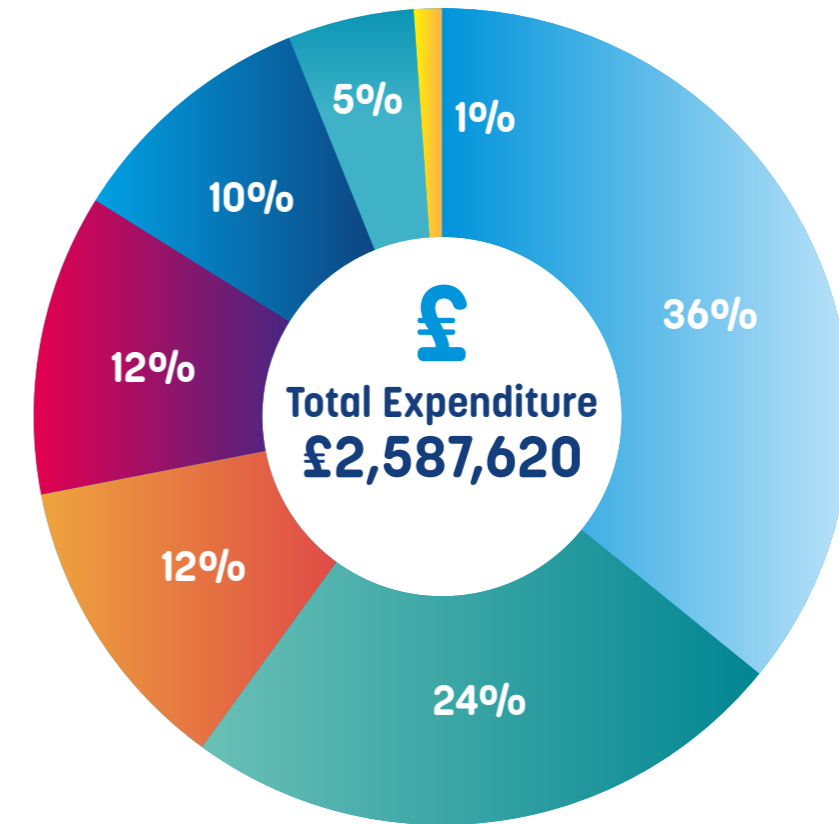
The One Foundation 2023 Finances



Total Income – £2,373,142

- £2,354,662 – Corporate Donations (99%)
- £10,442 – Individuals, Trusts and Foundations (0.5%)
- £8,038 – Other Income (0.5%)

The One Foundation 2023 Finances



Total Expenditure – £2,587,620

- £323,000 – Ghana Programmes (12%)
- £932,147 – Malawi Programmes (36%)
- £606,084 – Kenya Programmes (24%)
- £320,000 – Rwanda Programmes (12%)
- £250,000 – Humanitarian Emergencies (10%)
- £22,806 – Raising Funds (1%)
- £133,583 – Other Charitable Expenditure (5%)

*Total expenditure in 2023 was higher than income received due to funds carried forward from 2022.

A huge thank you to all of our supporters this year and to our programming partners for helping us to change lives.

