

# SAFE WATER NETWORK 2013 PROGRESS REPORT



Children in the village of Aveme, Ghana, enjoy safe water during the launch of a Safe Water Station which utilizes a new modular slow sand filtration design.

# 2013

## IN REVIEW

As we wrap up 2013, we are pleased to report that together with our global and in-country partners, we are making significant progress towards developing a cost-effective and reliable source of safe water for millions of people in need.

This progress is grounded in the practical experience gained from implementing and operating 56 Safe Water Stations in Ghana and India. Of those stations open more than a year, 90% now cover their direct operating costs and are on the critical path to local

As we move ahead into the New Year, we're reminded of what Paul Newman, one of our co-founders, was known to remark: "Nice start, now let's get to work."

With this in mind, the year ahead for Safe Water Network is both wide ranging and ambitious: extensive field expansions, continued refinement and standardization of our approach, and further collaboration with our partners old and new.



“  
What is exciting about Safe Water Network’s approach is that it’s sustainable.”

– Former U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan

sustainability. These results set the stage for our three-year expansion plans to demonstrate viability at scale with in-country partners.

Among the individuals who took an interest in our work this year was former Secretary-General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, who visited us in Obeyeye, Ghana in August. Prior to implementing a Safe Water Station there, Obeyeye’s 2,500 people drank contaminated water; today 85% of its households buy safe water.

We invite you to review our key 2013 accomplishments, 2014 plans and visit us at [safewaternetwork.org](http://safewaternetwork.org) for more. As always, we welcome and greatly appreciate your ideas, partnerships and financial support.

Sending our best wishes to you and your families during this holiday season.

– All of us at Safe Water Network

# Key 2013 Accomplishments



## Transforming Lives with Safe Water

We implemented 33 new Safe Water Stations benefitting 150,000 people in Ghana and India. Our 56 Safe Water Stations now provide reliable, affordable access to safe water for 290,000 people.



## Simple, Cost-Effective Technology

This modular slow sand filtration system in Akateng, Ghana, is an example of how we are utilizing new technology that cost less to install and is more simple to use and maintain. With low operating expenses, a community Safe Water Station provides affordable safe water while ensuring quality and long-term availability.



## Standardizing & Documenting for Training & Replication

This year we released our *Tools for Safe Water Stations*, a comprehensive series of standardized training modules and materials for the design, construction and operation of a Safe Water Station, to enable broad-scale replication of our model.



## Tablet-Based Health & Hygiene Education

Women are powerful influencers of behavior. Through our innovative tablet-based awareness and educational campaigns aimed at rural communities, women in Andhra Pradesh, India, are learning about the importance of safe water. This low-cost approach to education provides customized messaging to accelerate household usage of safe water.



## Field Insight Series

We launched this series to provide critical insights into specific aspects of our approach and inform future scale initiatives with our public and private sector partners. Each report describes a challenge to local sustainability, the approach we took to address it, and the analysis conducted to distill key learnings.



## Engaging the Sector

Core to our mission is convening leaders from the public and private sectors on topics important to local sustainability. In 2013 we hosted several successful forums and panels, including *Unlocking Consumer Demand for Water: a Collaborative Project* at World Water Week in Stockholm and our annual "Beyond the Pipe" forums in Ghana and India.



## Collaborating for Impact

Our network of public and private sector partners provides us with the funding we need to implement our work, and the technical expertise to help us overcome the obstacles to local sustainability. Core funders include the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, Merck Foundation, Newman's Own Foundation, PepsiCo Foundation and the Starr Foundation.

# 2014

## THE YEAR AHEAD

In 2014, we will launch an ambitious multi-year expansion plan, implement key initiatives and advance our partnerships to prove the viability of our model at scale. This expansion establishes clusters in geographic proximity to leverage economies of scale for maintenance and management and refine the model for various conditions including geography, source water, affordability and population size.

### Expanding in Ghana and India

Our multi-year expansion begins in 2014 with:

- 40 Safe Water Stations in India
- 8 Safe Water Stations & 14 Sub-Stations in Ghana
- Access for an additional 120,000 people

### Key Initiatives

Complementing these new Safe Water Stations are the following key 2014 initiatives:

- Implementing a Water Services Entity to deliver technical services and spare parts for long-term system sustainability.
- Launching our tablet-based Project Management and Assessment Tool to improve village assessments, operational planning and implementation tracking.
- Introducing alternative energy as a Safe Water Station power source to lower costs, increase reliability and diversify income streams.

### Partnering for Scale

Our success depends on implementing market-based approaches at scale. In 2014 we will identify opportunities for scale replication through collaborations with in-country government agencies and international NGOs. Through these partnerships, we will leverage other stakeholders' operational capabilities to reach many more thousands of people in need of access to safe, affordable water.



**“Nice start, now let’s  
get to work!”**

**- Paul Newman, co-founder, Safe Water Network**