



Wherever the Need

Wherever the Need: Sierra Leone

Water: Wells and Pumps

1.1 billion people on the planet do not have access to clean drinking water



Why Water?

One in six people do not have access to safe drinking water. Unsafe water and lack of basic sanitation cause 80 per cent of all sickness and disease and kills more people every year than all forms of violence, including war. Many people in the developing world, mostly women and children, walk more than three hours every day to fetch water that is likely to make them sick. Not only does this take up time when they could have been working or attending school, but it also puts them at greater risk of sexual harassment and assault.



Village Children

Children are especially vulnerable to the consequences of unsafe water. Of the 42,000 deaths that occur every week from unsafe water and a lack of basic sanitation, 83 per cent are children under 5 years old. Cholera, typhoid, dysentery and other diseases caused by polluted water and poor sanitation are common across the developing world, killing 5,000 children every day. With your help we can make a significant impact on these figures.

Many aid programmes pour money into projects that fail because the local people are not healthy enough to make use of them. Those living without clean water and sanitation are often too sick to go to school regularly, grow sufficient crops or earn a living. From being locked into a cycle of poverty and disease, their economic position often improves dramatically when they gain access to clean water and effective sanitation.

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Water Provision, Pujehun District:

Eleven years of civil war wrecked Sierra Leone. Pujehun district, in the southeast of the country, suffered particularly badly, as most of the rebel forces came over the border from Liberia, decimating villages and communities in the area. Water pumps were stolen, wells contaminated, houses destroyed, agriculture ruined. Although the civil war ended in 2002, many communities are still functioning at bare subsistence levels, not having the resources or support to rebuild their lives. Their most urgent need is for wells and pumps, which provide the building blocks for a sustainable future.



Completed Well

So the need is clear – almost half the people of Pujehun district are using a river or stream as their primary source of drinking water. Clean water is urgently needed, to stop entirely preventable disease and death.

We visit sites and talk to local communities to evaluate whether a new pump, well or borehole will best provide a reliable, clean source of water.

Your donation can directly save lives. With such basics in place, a community can take the very first steps towards a better life and start to work their own way out of poverty.

A Pump (250 people): A new pump, to cap an existing well, where the original has been damaged or stolen. The cost of a pump is £1,200.

Drill a Well (250 people): To create a new well, the first task is to sink a borehole. The cost of a borehole (18 metres) is £1,800.

A Pump and a Well (250 people): Sinking a borehole and capping with a hand pump will provide clean drinking water for a minimum of 250 people. Clean water instead of river water means fewer worms and parasites, and better health means better lives. The combined cost is £3,000.

Wherever the Need is committed to using your donation effectively and its experience has shown that there is no better usage than providing the essential for life, safe, clean drinking water.

Please donate today.



Drilling for Water, Pujehun



Clean water, Gbongay village

United Kingdom

Wherever the Need, Limpley Mill,
1 Lower Stoke, Bath, BA2 7FJ

T: +44 (0)1225 723673

F: +44 (0)1225 723105

E: info@wheretheend.org.uk

www.wheretheend.org.uk



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Eco-Sanitation · Water · Livelihoods · Environment · Empowerment