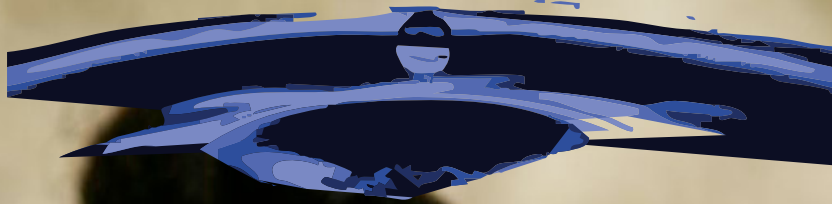


GLOBAL WATER



Magazine

Clean Water
for
Haiti





A house is surrounded by flood water from the Artibonite River in Grand Dessalines, Haiti.

UN Photo/UNICEF/Marco Dormino

At a glance: Haiti

Clean water brings fresh hope to poor neighborhoods

By Thomas Nybo

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 27 March 2012 - All day long, a steady stream of residents, young and old, queue to fill their buckets with affordable, clean water at the water kiosks of Cité l'Eternel, a neighborhood in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

Bejonét Joseph is here several times a day. The 24-year-old single mother moved here two months ago because there were no jobs in her mountain village. She left the baby in the care of her mother so she could come here to find work. The money Ms. Joseph earns is sent home to pay for her son's food and clothing.

She spends her days as a maid, cleaning and preparing food for other families. Without the water kiosk, which is just a two-minute walk from the small room she shares with her cousin, Ms. Joseph says

survival would be much more difficult.

"The water kiosk is good for me because otherwise I would need to travel far to find water," she said.

Sustainable post-quake improvements

The water project is run by GRET, a French NGO that receives support from UNICEF. The project targets 50 of the poorest neighborhoods in Port-au-Prince, assessing and mapping water systems, and providing repairs where necessary. There are about 300 kiosks in these neighborhoods, which are connected to the municipal water lines, and their rehabilitation represents a sustainable, concrete move to reduce post-earthquake reliance on expensive water brought in by truck.

Here's how it works: Residents are charged less than two cents for five gallons of water. The money

Please see HAITI, Page 8



Fresh water that was sent in FDA approved 3.5 gallon rugged WaterBrick containers. .

Courtesy of WaterBrick

Clean water in works

WaterBrick's containers and chlorine combat cholera

The passing of Hurricane Sandy has caused rain to pour for three days straight in Haiti, the most rain experienced since the devastating earthquake in 2010. Over 300,000 Haitians are still living in tents and are at risk of flooding and mudslides. Sandy has also created a setback in the progress towards fixing the major cholera epidemic that has devoured the country since 2010.

Cholera, a water-borne disease, has killed over 7,500 Haitians and infected nearly 600,000 since the epidemic broke out in October 2010, according to government figures. Limited access to clean drinking water and poor sanitation in urban and rural areas means that cholera will continue to pose a public health risk, experts say. WaterBrick, with your donations, has been working with MPHISE (Haiti Medical and

Public Health Information Sharing Environment) on their clean water initiatives to bring clean drinking water to the country to fight this epidemic.

WaterBrick has donated 400 gallons of chlorine and 12,000 WaterBrick containers in Haiti to date. The chlorine has been used for cleaning and disinfecting water in 6 out of the 8 Cholera Treatment Centers (CTC). The WaterBrick containers have provided a portable and easy way to clean and store the disinfected water for a long period of time. Since the CTCs rely on clean water to treat its patients, WaterBrick's safe water storage containers and chlorine donations have been praised for helping to reduce the spread of Cholera in Haiti. Feel free to call us at 877-420-WA-

Donations

WaterBrick has donated 400 gallons of chlorine and 12,000 WaterBrick containers in Haiti to date.



UNICEF's WASH Program

Clean water is fundamental for everyone, especially children.

Children's rights to an adequate standard of living and to the highest attainable standard of health are enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The fulfilment of these rights is the ultimate goal of UNICEF's water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programmes.

WASH is a central component of the millennium development agenda. Without significant improvements in water and sanitation access and hygiene practices the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) related to child mortality, primary education, disease reduction, and poverty eradication will not be achieved.

"Safe drinking water and adequate sanitation are crucial for poverty reduction, crucial for sustainable development, and crucial for achieving any and every one of the Millennium Development Goals" – UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon

The MDGs include the specific water and sanitation target of halving, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. According to the latest estimates, the water component of this target was met in 2010. However, 783 million people still lack access to improved drinking water, and the world is not on track to meet the sanitation component. UNICEF is also working to meet a second target of ensuring that all schools have adequate child-friendly water and sanitation facilities and hygiene education programmes. To meet these targets, UNICEF is guided by a new set of [strategies](#) that defines the shape of UNICEF WASH programmes to 2015.

UNICEF is part of a growing global effort to meet this challenge. Together with governments, NGOs and other external support agencies, UNICEF is expanding its efforts to meet the WASH challenge.



Children learn about sanitation in a UNICEF-funded school in Haiti Courtesy of UNICEF



A girl fills a container with water at a hand-washing station in a child-friendly tent.

LeMoyne

UNICEF WASH Strategies

One objective

The overall objective of UNICEF in the area of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) is to contribute to the realization of children's rights to survival and development through promotion of the sector and support to national programmes that increase equitable and sustainable access to, and use of, safe water and basic sanitation services, and promote improved hygiene.

Two measurable targets

Target 1: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation (MDG Target 10)

Target 2: Ensure that all schools have adequate child-friendly water and sanitation facilities, and hygiene education programme.