



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



GLOBAL WATER STRATEGY 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

USAID WATER SECURITY, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE ACTIVITIES



Letter from Nancy J. Eslick

USAID's Global Water Coordinator

Over the past year, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) helped over 6 million people gain access to safe drinking water services and nearly 4 million people secure access to sanitation, meeting or exceeding minimum standards. Women and girls make up approximately half of each group. The Agency has nearly doubled the U.S. government's \$475 million investment in water and sanitation through foreign assistance by mobilizing \$848 million from other partners to maximize impact. The 2024 annual report not only celebrates and shares these achievements but also marks a major milestone that has driven this progress: the tenth anniversary of the Senator Paul Simon Water for the World Act.

In 2014, the U.S. Congress passed this landmark bipartisan legislation with a bold vision: to strengthen water security in the world's most vulnerable communities. Serving as the guiding framework for the U.S. federal government over the past decade, the Water for the World Act continues to chart an ambitious course for USAID to accelerate the reach, deepen the impact, and extend the sustainability of water and sanitation improvements globally.

The visionary policy objectives of the Water for the World Act are woven into the very fabric of USAID's water and sanitation activities. With two iterations of the [U.S. Global Water Strategy](#) providing a blueprint for our work, USAID and our partners across the federal government and around the world have turned this legislation into concrete action that is transforming lives. All told, USAID has helped 76 million people gain access to sustainable drinking water services and another 59 million people gain access to sustainable sanitation services. Additionally, since tracking began in 2018, USAID has helped mobilize \$1.4 billion in new funding for water and sanitation around the world.



However, our work is far from complete. Eighty percent of the places where USAID works are fragile or conflict-affected. In some of the world's most active conflict zones, such as Sudan and Ukraine, USAID's water and sanitation programs are providing urgently needed support. USAID also leverages water and sanitation activities as vehicles to promote democratic values. Our programs incorporate and emphasize inclusivity and transparency in everything from service delivery and water allocation planning to policy reform and civil society empowerment.

To accelerate progress, USAID is deploying evidence and data. Through the [Global Water Strategy Action Research Initiative](#), USAID is generating applied research and learning to increase the effectiveness of water and sanitation programming and maximize each and every taxpayer dollar to the sector. USAID is also developing and deploying innovative tools like the new [WASH Atlas](#), which provides unprecedented detail on the location of households without sustainable water and sanitation services. This data-rich tool allows USAID and other decision makers to target future programming to benefit those with the highest levels of unmet water and sanitation needs.

This year's report provides snapshots of USAID in action. It takes you around the world from South Asia to sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East, and provides insight into how the Agency, in collaboration with our partners, advances different facets of the Global Water Strategy.

As we look forward to the next ten years of designing, funding, and implementing high-impact water and sanitation activities, we are grateful for the bipartisan support and strong foundation of the Water for the World Act of 2014. The progress achieved thanks to this landmark legislation underscores that water security is a cross-cutting issue that transcends boundaries and transforms lives. We invite you to dive into this report and discover how USAID's water and sanitation investments are improving lives around the world every day.



Nancy J. Eslick

Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator
Bureau for Resilience, Environment, and Food Security
Global Water Coordinator
United States Agency for International Development



▶ OUR GOAL

The U.S. government works with its partners around the world to improve health, prosperity, stability, and resilience through sustainable and equitable water resources management and access to safe drinking water and sanitation services and hygiene practices.

CONTENTS

Results Over Time



76 million people gained access to sustainable **drinking water** service as a result of USG assistance since 2008.



\$1.4 billion in new **funding** was mobilized to the water and sanitation sectors as a result of USG assistance since 2018.



58.6 million people gained access to sustainable **sanitation** service as a result of USG assistance since 2008.



985 water and sanitation sector **institutions** were strengthened to manage water resources or improve water supply and sanitation services as a result of USG assistance since 2023.

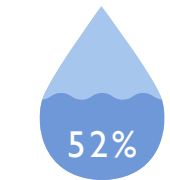
Latest Results



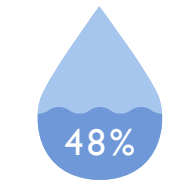
6.2 MILLION PEOPLE gained access to sustainable drinking water service



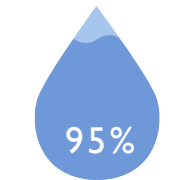
3.9 MILLION PEOPLE gained access to sustainable sanitation service



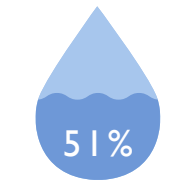
received first time access



was access for women and girls



received first time access



was access for women and girls

First time access: When a person receives access to a higher level of water or sanitation service (i.e., first time to access that service level), as defined by the Joint Monitoring Program (WHO/UNICEF). This includes people who receive access at both the basic and safely managed service levels.

Women and girls' access: Calculated as a percentage of women and girls with access compared to the total number of people with access. Data were included for any of the three service level indicators if the operating units reported both total people and women with access for that indicator.



\$848 MILLION in new funding mobilized to the water and sanitation sectors



985 WATER AND SANITATION SECTOR INSTITUTIONS strengthened to manage water resources or improve water supply and sanitation services
124 of which were strengthened for the first time

All results are from U.S. Government assistance as reported by USAID Operating Units for Fiscal Year 2023



▶ IMPACT INNOVATIONS

Leveraging for Impact in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

No single actor can tackle the immense challenge of expanding access to services, safeguarding the water resource base, and meeting the \$1 trillion financing gap to achieve global water security. Bridging the gap requires additional resources from government and development partners, as well as reforms to increase the effectiveness of public financing and to attract private investment to water and sanitation.

Partnerships between donors can increase efficiency and leverage global expertise, while keeping local governments in the driver's seat of their own development priorities. In 2024, USAID launched two major partnerships in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) that exemplify how USAID is leveraging its resources for greater impact.

At the G20 summit in Brazil, USAID announced the launch of its new trilateral partnership with German investment and development bank KfW and the Government of DRC. The partnership leverages KfW's decades of support to the Government of DRC and the national water utility, REGIDESO. Since 2005, KfW has significantly improved water supply access for over 2.5 million people across DRC. With USAID funds, KfW and REGIDESO will rehabilitate infrastructure in secondary cities to enhance sustainable water supply access for these populations.



[Read remarks by Assistant to the Administrator, Michele Sumilas, at G20.](#)

In August, USAID and the World Bank announced an agreement to enhance the \$1.25 billion Water Supply and Sanitation Access Program recently launched in the DRC with wraparound technical assistance through the Global Water Security and Sanitation Partnership (GWSP). The USAID–World Bank partnership will put global knowledge into country-led implementation, while capitalizing on the strengths of global initiatives under the GWSP, and will focus on supporting the implementation of water sector governance reforms, improving local private sector capacity, and enhancing the performance of REGIDESO through targeted technical assistance.



[Read more about the GWSP.](#)

These partnerships, reinforced by country commitment and buy-in, demonstrate how USAID is leveraging its comparative advantages and finite resources to accelerate sector progress in DRC.

Global Water Strategy Action Research Initiative

The USAID Global Water Strategy Action Research Initiative (GWS ARI) generates timely and practical evidence to strengthen water, sanitation, and hygiene and water resources management programming. Through the GWS ARI, USAID is fostering innovation, generating new evidence for decision makers, and applying findings adaptively in its programming. The GWS ARI's focal areas align with the Global Water Strategy and drill deep into everything from water and sanitation subsidies and professionalizing rural water services to source water protection, cholera prevention and response, and more.



[Explore the latest GWS ARI research and evidence.](#)

Moving from Insights to Impact: GWS Action Research Finds Cost-Effective Ways to Improve Water Quality

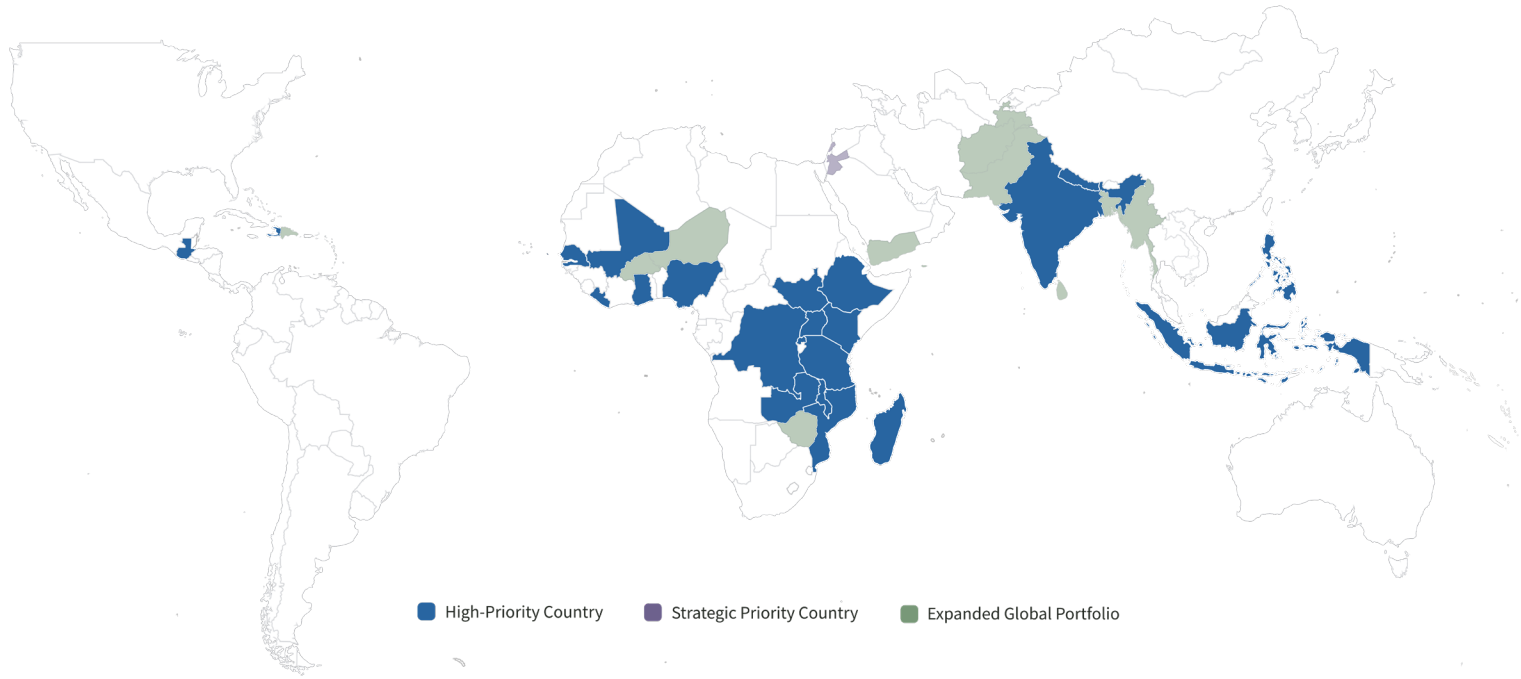
In 2021, WHO and UNICEF estimated that 2 billion people worldwide lack access to clean water. But in August 2024, a new study published in Science reported that 4.4 billion people—over half of the world's population—do not have safe household drinking water. Water quality was the biggest problem.

Through the GWS ARI, USAID is exploring cost-effective ways to improve water quality through incentives for more frequent water quality testing. The [action research](#) focuses on a Water Quality Assurance Fund being piloted in Ghana, Kenya, and Tanzania that incentivizes urban labs to conduct water quality tests for rural water systems. Initial findings suggest that rural drinking water systems should rely on water quality testing from nearby professional laboratories rather than expensive field test kits. This method leads to changes in operator behavior and dramatically improved water quality.



Where We Work

Following a data-driven process that considered lack of access to water and sanitation, along with opportunities to make significant progress in meeting these challenges, USAID designated 22 high-priority countries under the 2022–2027 Global Water Strategy. In 2024, these 22 partner countries were the primary focus of the U.S. government’s investments to build a more water-secure world.



High-Priority Countries

- ◆ Democratic Republic of Congo
- ◆ Haiti
- ◆ Madagascar
- ◆ Nigeria
- ◆ Tanzania
- ◆ Ethiopia
- ◆ India
- ◆ Malawi
- ◆ Philippines
- ◆ Uganda
- ◆ Ghana
- ◆ Indonesia
- ◆ Mali
- ◆ Rwanda
- ◆ Zambia
- ◆ Guatemala
- ◆ Kenya
- ◆ Mozambique
- ◆ Senegal
- ◆ Liberia
- ◆ Nepal
- ◆ South Sudan



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE I
Strengthen Sector Governance, Financing, Institutions, and Markets

NEPAL

While rich in water resources flowing from the rivers of the Himalayas, Nepal has increasingly faced water security challenges. Together, USAID and the Government of Nepal have teamed up with a diverse array of stakeholders throughout the Karnali River Basin to leverage its man-made and natural assets, calculate existing risks and future demands, and deploy integrated solutions for greater water security.

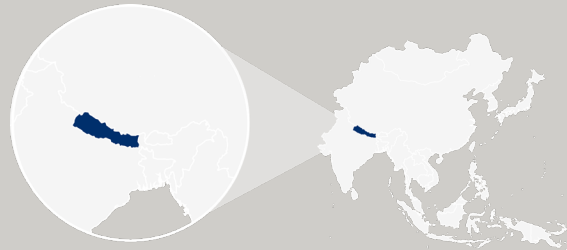
One important way USAID and the Government of Nepal are strengthening water security is through governance and water management reforms in alignment with the national Water Supply and Sanitation Act. To jumpstart reforms, the Agency mapped and modeled four watersheds and over 11,000 water sources at the municipal level to determine both current and future water availability. These data have served as a foundation for uniting a diverse group of stakeholders to manage and protect shared resources.

With the help of this new information, local governments were able to more effectively organize stakeholders, resulting in the development of 29 municipal water-use master plans and 26 municipal-level water and sanitation bills (“WASH bills”). These achievements help clarify and codify water service delivery, complementing and strengthening the Water Supply and Sanitation Act. The impact of these policy and governance initiatives is already clear.

“During my tenure as a member of the previous Water Users’ Committee (WUCs), we lacked the legal framework for efficient implementation of WASH initiatives and were unsure of what to do and what not to do,” said Mr. Manrup Hamal, Chairperson of the Tallo Matela Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme in Khandachakra Municipality, Kalikot. “We now have the national Water Supply and Sanitation Act and municipal-level WASH bills, and I can confirm that things are now much easier because we have clarity on many areas related to water source registration, formation of WUCs, and our rights and responsibilities for drinking water services. Comparatively speaking, it is much simpler to work with these [policies in place].”

The mapping has also informed sub-watershed-level steering committees that are valuable forums for sharing timely water availability data across different portions of the watersheds. This collaborative approach to WRM helps local authorities manage water in a way that is more responsive to changing conditions, particularly during times of drought or flood. Since the 2015 Constitution did not address management of natural resources that cross municipal boundaries, these steering committees fill a gap in the regulatory framework for water management.

 [Read more about the USAID Karnali Water Activity.](#)



“*We now have the national Water Supply and Sanitation Act and municipal-level WASH bills, and I can confirm that things are now much easier because we have clarity on many areas related to water source registration... and our rights and responsibilities for drinking water services.*”

MANRUP HAMAL
Chairperson, Tallo Matela Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme

RWANDA

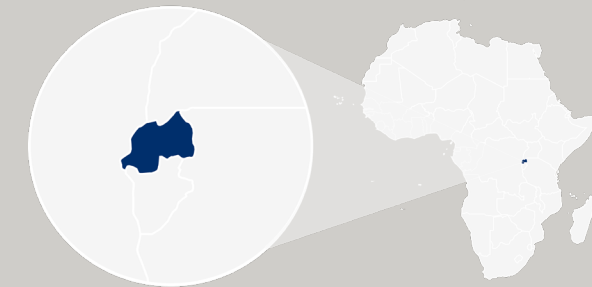
Achieving universal access to safely managed water and sanitation services in Rwanda by 2030 will require an additional \$235 million per year—or quadruple the current expenditure—as well as strengthening key institutions such as the national utility, the Water and Sanitation Corporation (WASAC). USAID is working with district governments and the national utility to help Rwanda bridge this funding gap and bolster critical institutions.

With district governments at the helm, USAID has supported area-wide water and sanitation planning processes that enable districts to more effectively mobilize funding and coordinate efforts. These planning processes have helped district governments develop tailored WASH investment plans that identify infrastructure needs and the associated costs to achieve their goals. Even before the plans were finalized, WASAC promised an additional investment of \$2 million in one district, which demonstrates the value of a coordinated planning process with associated investment plans.

“District WASH investment plans and detailed engineering designs help us address critical challenges in water and sanitation access, align with global and national goals, and promote sustainability of WASH infrastructures in communities,” said Jean Claude Habanabakize, Vice Mayor, Nyabihu District. “With more than 2.5 billion RWF (approximately \$1.84 million) now mobilized, ten water supply systems are in the process of rehabilitation and extension based on the detailed designs.”

USAID is also working to strengthen the capacity of WASAC to meet its recently expanded responsibilities overseeing all rural water service providers. Specifically, USAID is helping WASAC implement a new digital management system, which will provide a bird’s eye view of every utility’s performance, improving efficiency and enhancing billing and revenue collection in real time. This system helps WASAC hold both itself and providers accountable to deliver quality water services to water users. The new digital management system also helps WASAC identify systems that may need more attention and investment to maximize impact.

 [Read more about the USAID Isoko y’Ubuzima Activity.](#)



“*With more than 2.5 billion RWF (approximately \$1.84 million) now mobilized, ten water supply systems are in the process of rehabilitation and extension based on the detailed designs.*”

JEAN CLAUDE HABANABAKIZE
Vice Mayor, Nyabihu District



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2
Increase Equitable Access to Safe, Sustainable, and Climate-Resilient Water and Sanitation Services, and the Adoption of Key Hygiene Behaviors

GHANA

For women like Barikisu, a native of Mandari, in northern Ghana’s Bole District, the daily struggle of collecting water from faraway, unreliable, or unsafe sources used to dominate life. Small towns and rural communities in Ghana rely on a combination of piped systems and boreholes equipped with hand pumps. In Mandari, however, local boreholes often could not meet the community’s needs during the dry season as demand outstripped the pace of groundwater recharge. To manage the perennial water shortages, community leaders shut down boreholes temporarily to allow the groundwater to replenish. This forced many women, who are disproportionately responsible for water collection, to trek to the Black Volta River to fetch water for their households—sometimes into the night and with young children in tow.

Today, USAID and its partners are working with the Government of Ghana and other stakeholders to increase access to sustainable water and sanitation services. This includes Mandari, where a new piped water system is transforming life for the 5,000 people who live there.

“We no longer trek for hours in search of water,” Barikisu reflected. “It’s right here, within our reach. This [water system] is a blessing, a game changer.”

Boasting a 100,000-liter storage capacity, the water supply system is primarily solar-powered, with a fallback to the national electrical grid to ensure reliability. It pipes water directly to homes and features smart taps, or Water ATMs, at public standpipes, where water can be dispensed using a key fob preloaded with money.

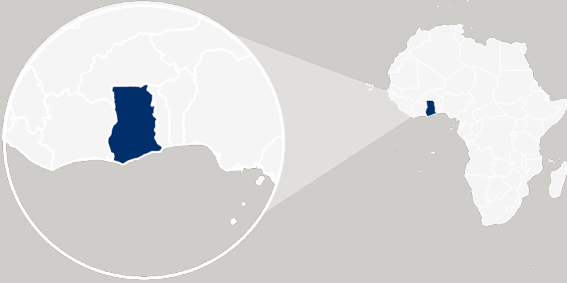
Ms. Memuna Dari, who leads the local Water Management Committee in Mandari, has recruited a primarily female executive team to lead and operate the water supply system. The committee has already accrued approximately \$3,000 in revenue and is working to address emergent challenges that come with professionalizing services, including customer nonpayment. To address this challenge, the committee is considering options such as utilizing prepaid smart meters for on-premises connections, instead of billing customers retroactively for water used.

Mandari’s new water supply system has not only improved daily life, but has also made the community a model for others, attracting locals from greater Bole to see it for themselves. For the people of Mandari, especially the most vulnerable who receive a water subsidy, the convenience and reliability of water services is game-changing.

“We are healthier now,” said Barikisu. “We no longer live in fear of sickness caused by contaminated water.” For women, the water supply system’s impact has been especially profound, as it offers them more control over their time and family’s lives.

As Barikisu attested, “I can spend more time with my children, and they can attend school regularly. I’ve even started a small farm, growing vegetables to support my family. This water project has opened doors of opportunity for us.”

 [Read more about the USAID Enhancing Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene \(En-WASH\) Activity.](#)



I can spend more time with my children, and they can attend school regularly. I’ve even started a small farm, growing vegetables to support my family.



BARIKISU
Mandari resident

LIBERIA

In the coastal town of Robertsport, Liberia, the water system was failing the town's 12,000 residents, as well as the local fishing and tourism industries. Given the existing revenue base, water treatment plants were too expensive for authorities to maintain. Neither sufficient resources nor incentives existed to enable improvements in operations, management, or customer service. As a result, many people resorted to using water from local creeks or wells—a stopgap that routinely risked their health and well-being.

Together with Liberian counterparts, USAID helped establish a public-private partnership for the operation and maintenance of the Robertsport water system. A local private company, Warkolor Utilities Corporation, mobilized quickly when the opportunity emerged; it now manages the water treatment plant, driven by its vested interest in the community's well-being.

"We live here," said Warkolor CEO Prince E. Herbert. "We are local and we have people who understand the system to manage it."

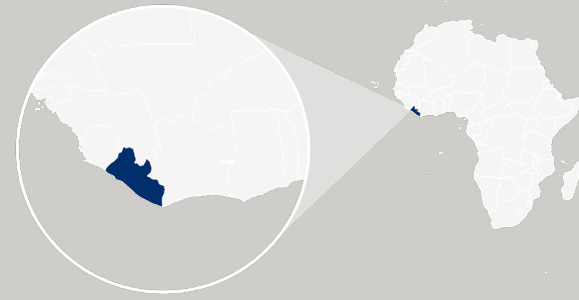
The company began engaging the community with appearances on weekly radio shows, where they emphasized the connection between safe drinking water, improved health, and reduced health care costs. To better serve customers at the outset, Warkolor partnered with those interested in piped household connections and advised them on materials to procure for the job.

Within the first three months, Warkolor constructed a brand-new water kiosk in Fanti Town and now provides safe water to the local fishing community. Warkolor also assumed control of and rehabilitated four additional kiosks in Robertsport that had been out of order for five years. Bringing these kiosks back online shortened the walk to water to under 15 minutes for more than 200 people. And in the last eight months, Warkolor more than doubled the number of piped household connections in Robertsport, from 36 to 74.

Improving the availability and quality of water services has "changed everything, and people see this new development as a huge improvement," confirmed Herbert. "Now we can walk to the different kiosks in our community and access safe drinking water, as compared to going to the creek, consuming water that is not treated, and risking or even losing our lives. And in Fanti Town, the presence of the kiosk has brought dignity and safety to fishermen and their families."

The early success of Warkolor Utilities Corporation in Robertsport underscores the power of public-private partnerships in driving change. With its local expertise and vested interest in the communities it serves, this local company is helping to lead more sustainable improvements in essential water services.

 [Read more about the USAID Safe Drinking Water in Liberia Activity.](#)



The presence of the [water] kiosk has brought dignity and safety to fishermen and their families.

PRINCE E. HERBERT
CEO, Warkolor Utilities Corporation

MOZAMBIQUE

Unlike Maputo and other urban centers in Mozambique, small towns and peri-urban areas often have inaccessible and unreliable sanitation services. USAID is working to remove these barriers by focusing on increasing demand for sanitation services, building managerial capacity for public sanitation agencies, and strengthening supply chains. This includes identifying sanitation retailers and service providers, introducing new products, and helping local entrepreneurs access financing—ensuring that high interest rates (up to 25 percent) do not discourage new businesses.

Alberto Naharipo is one of the entrepreneurs who has capitalized on this opportunity. He recently started to sell SATO Pans, which are low-cost latrines that block odors and use small amounts of water to flush.

"So far, I've already received a stock of SATO Pans valued at approximately \$350," said Naharipo. "This alleviates the pressure on my working capital that would have existed if I had to pay cash or navigate the cumbersome bank loan process."

Local masons like Marisol Rafael, who participated in entrepreneurship training provided by USAID, are also seizing new opportunities.

"After the training, I felt motivated to start my own business," said Rafael. "I've already worked on five households in two different neighborhoods in my town. I feel motivated and would like to invite more women entrepreneurs to join this initiative."

USAID's efforts to improve sanitation beyond big cities have not only paid off for entrepreneurs and masons, but also for families of those like Italiano Cebola, who lives in Monapo in northern Mozambique.

"I was approached at my home by a mason who introduced me to this new latrine," Italiano explained. "When installed, it changed the whole family's experience with the toilet. It dramatically reduced odors, eliminated mosquitoes and flies, and lowered water usage. I totally recommend the usage of this modern latrine. It is an effective way of preventing diseases in our community."



[Read more about the USAID Small Town Sanitation Activity.](#)



I felt motivated to start my own [sanitation] business...and would like to invite more women entrepreneurs to join this initiative.

MARISOL RAFAEL
Mason



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3
**Improve Climate-Resilient Conservation
 and Management of Freshwater Resources
 and Associated Ecosystems**

TANZANIA


Shifting temperature and precipitation patterns have jeopardized the availability of freshwater in Tanzania. Compounding the challenge are the diverse, competing, and growing demands from agriculture, tourism, and hydropower. To help Africa’s fifth most populous country safeguard its water supply against these threats, USAID partners with water stakeholders at the national, regional, and district levels, with a focus on empowering Tanzanian women as water resource managers. This focus is because women’s experience and knowledge are critical for watershed management, and yet are often overlooked.

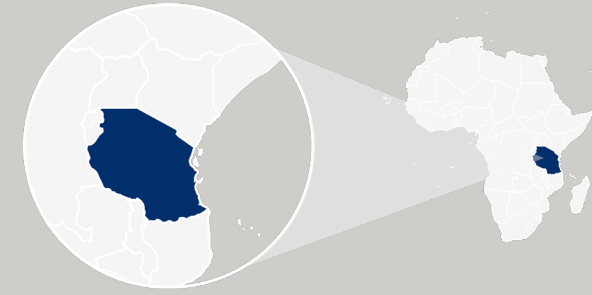
Specifically, USAID is collaborating with basin water boards to increase women’s participation in both the management of the board and its activities. With USAID support, women’s representation on water basin management boards has substantially increased. Forty percent of USAID-supported boards are now women-led. Their leadership has enhanced water governance in meaningful ways—streamlining water permits processes, fostering accountability within management systems, and increasing community engagement. The Lake Rukwa Basin Water Board, led by Director Grace Chitanda, has established two women’s groups to raise community awareness on water source protection.

“Women are more committed. When they are given an opportunity and fully involved in water management, they deliver beyond expectation,” said Chitanda.

Women are also playing a crucial role in basin water board activities, including performing water quality and quantity assessments that will ultimately inform design of 43 water systems serving 250,000 people.

To further institutionalize this progress and foster peer support, USAID, together with Tanzania’s Ministry of Water, established the WASH Gender Champion Network. This network engages members in ongoing knowledge sharing and training on issues such as gender norms that inhibit women’s participation in water and sanitation. With representatives from the central government, basin water boards, and other partners, this network is quickly becoming integral to the institutional landscape—helping water and sanitation leaders guide initiatives to enhance gender equity in the sector now and in the future.

 [Read more about the USAID Maji Safi Activity.](#)



Women are more committed. When they are given an opportunity and fully involved in water management, they deliver beyond expectation.



GRACE CHITANDA
 Director, Lake Rukwa Basin
 Water Board

CENTRAL AMERICA

El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras share one of the longest rivers in Central America and a surrounding watershed that provides critical health, economic, and ecological value to all three countries. Yet the Upper Lempa Watershed faces threats from a variety of pollutants—from man-made trash to industrial agrochemicals to harmful algal blooms.

Francisco Arita, a farmer who grew up on the banks of the Lempa River in Concepción, Honduras, said he remembers when “[the Lempa] was a beauty. I took water directly from the river for my livestock. It was a great resource. It was a clean river... Currently, it’s a river full of bags and bottles.”

USAID is working alongside national water authorities and civil society organizations in all three countries to effectively and inclusively enhance water security in the river basin. Through this work, USAID is safeguarding the drinking water for 1.5 million people in San Salvador, the hydroelectric power for nearly everyone in El Salvador, and tens of thousands of other water users, who, like Francisco, rely on the river for their livelihoods and well-being.

Excessive growth of microalgae in the Lempa River affects the water’s color, taste, and odor. To combat this issue and improve water quality monitoring, USAID partnered with the National Administration of Aqueducts and Sewers in El Salvador to deploy ultrasonic buoys at the Torogoz Drinking Water Treatment Plant. These buoys use solar energy and ultrasound pulses to eliminate up to 90 percent of microalgae within a 1,500-meter diameter, reducing overall contamination and preventing further proliferation of toxic levels of microalgae.

As an added bonus, the buoys also provide real-time data on water quality, which means authorities can manage this area of the river more efficiently and with fewer chemicals. In fact, the national water authority has used nearly 50 percent fewer chemical reagents to control algal blooms for an annualized savings of \$36,000.

In addition to technological solutions, USAID has focused on strengthening community involvement in water management. For people like Francisco, who struggles not only with garbage but also with coffee farming byproducts and chemical contaminants that hinder his farm’s use of the river, the problem is rooted in a lack of community dialogue, buy-in, and consensus on water resources management. As Francisco explained, “We have not had a sense of responsibility for the river. And I am concerned about that.”

So is USAID—which is why the Agency helped organize local water boards, civic leaders, entrepreneurs, and social and environmental NGOs into working groups around water security and governance, starting with 12 of the most vulnerable municipalities along the Lempa River. These inclusive working groups undertook consultative water-security planning exercises that resulted in action-oriented Municipal Water Security Plans. Thanks to the active participation of stakeholders like Francisco, these Municipal Water Security Plans mark a significant achievement and a vital first step toward improved water security in the region.



[Read more about the USAID Upper Lempa Watershed Project.](#)



USAID is safeguarding the drinking water for 1.5 million people in San Salvador and the hydroelectric power for nearly everyone in El Salvador.



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4

Anticipate and Reduce Conflict and Fragility Related to Water

LEBANON

Like much of North Africa and the Middle East, Lebanon is well acquainted with chronic water scarcity. As the country navigates cascading economic, political, and health crises, water security has become an increasingly prominent issue impacting all facets of Lebanese life. To better anticipate and mitigate conflict and societal fragility associated with water access, USAID is partnering with local utilities to safeguard water quality and enhance water treatment capacity.

Electricity plays a major role in keeping Lebanon's water distribution systems, quality assurance labs, and wastewater facilities running. The Government of Lebanon relies on fuel from abroad, and with dramatically rising energy costs, the national utility has been forced to restrict electricity to a meager two to three hours each day. Pump stations, labs, and treatment plants are not able to operate under these circumstances. This has resulted in a water crisis, with water shortages affecting more than 4.5 million people and untreated sewage spilling into the Mediterranean Sea and Lebanon's inland waterways.

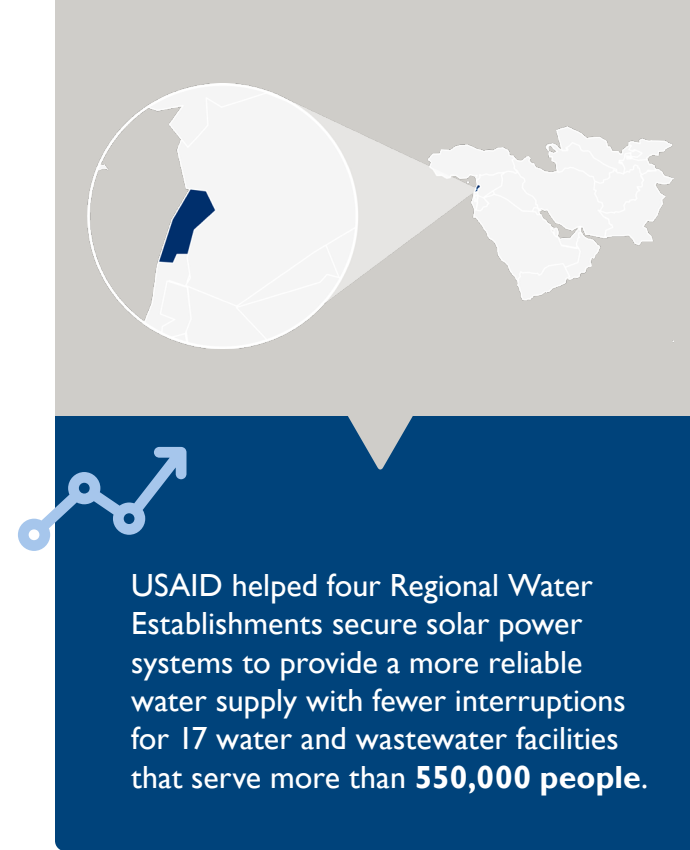
In response, USAID focused on ensuring that utilities could provide customers with at least basic water and sanitation services. Harnessing Lebanon's ample sunshine, USAID helped four Regional Water Establishments (RWEs) secure solar power systems to reduce dependency on the national grid for distribution systems, labs, and treatment plants. This provides a more reliable water supply with fewer interruptions for 17 water and wastewater facilities that serve more than 550,000 people.

"The solar power systems are very important for the big water stations," said Jean Gebran, Director-General of the Beirut and Mount Lebanon Water Establishment. "They are even more important for laboratories because they cannot stop working. In fact, labs are the foundation of trust for water establishments. If people do not trust the water quality, they will not subscribe."

Leveraging solar technology to keep the pumps for distribution systems, laboratories, and wastewater facilities running, USAID and RWEs are helping to mitigate at least one source of fragility, while investing in a greener energy future to power the sector in the years to come.



[Read more about the USAID Lebanon Water, Sanitation, and Conservation Activity.](#)



USAID helped four Regional Water Establishments secure solar power systems to provide a more reliable water supply with fewer interruptions for 17 water and wastewater facilities that serve more than **550,000 people**.

GLOBAL

Public health crises, protracted conflicts, economic shocks, and entrenched poverty exacerbate societal fragility and threaten water security across the globe. Today, a quarter of the world's population lives in conflict-affected areas, with women, persons with disabilities, and children experiencing disproportionately negative impacts from water insecurity. In these fragile settings, accessing safe water, sanitation, and hygiene is often unmanageable.

To deliver water security and sanitation in fragile and conflict-affected settings in nimble ways, USAID is working globally across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, bringing together funding and the expertise housed within the Bureaus for Resilience, Environment, and Food Security; Humanitarian Assistance; and Conflict Prevention and Stabilization. With this effort, USAID recognizes the systemic, interdependent, and coordinated solutions required for high-impact water security and sanitation programming in fragile settings.

USAID has deployed this novel approach in quick and varied ways. For instance, in Haiti, where cycles of natural disasters and political instability predominate, USAID is leveraging qualitative and climatic data to understand and inform local water management challenges. This information helps guide local farmers, governments, and other stakeholders in managing water resources and facilitating dialogue among competing water users.

"We hope to gain valuable insights into how better water management can help reduce tensions between different water users, thus promoting peace and cooperation within communities," said Professor Ones Jean, Coordinator of the Center for Water Resilience at the State University of Haiti in Limonade.

In climate-vulnerable Vanuatu, USAID is partnering with local stakeholders to develop an action framework to reduce climate and water security risks. In Burkina Faso, where there are significant internally displaced populations, USAID is strengthening the resilience of local service providers in the face of a fluctuating customer base and challenging operating context. On a global scale, USAID is also examining how to make utilities more resilient to both shocks and extended crises to sustain gains from humanitarian investments.

"The breadth of this programming is no accident," said Carmelita Francois, a USAID WASH Advisor. "While we anticipate many challenges working more collaboratively [across bureaus] and in fragile contexts, now we are positioned to address them with greater creativity and agility."



[Read more about the USAID Fragile Waters Activity.](#)



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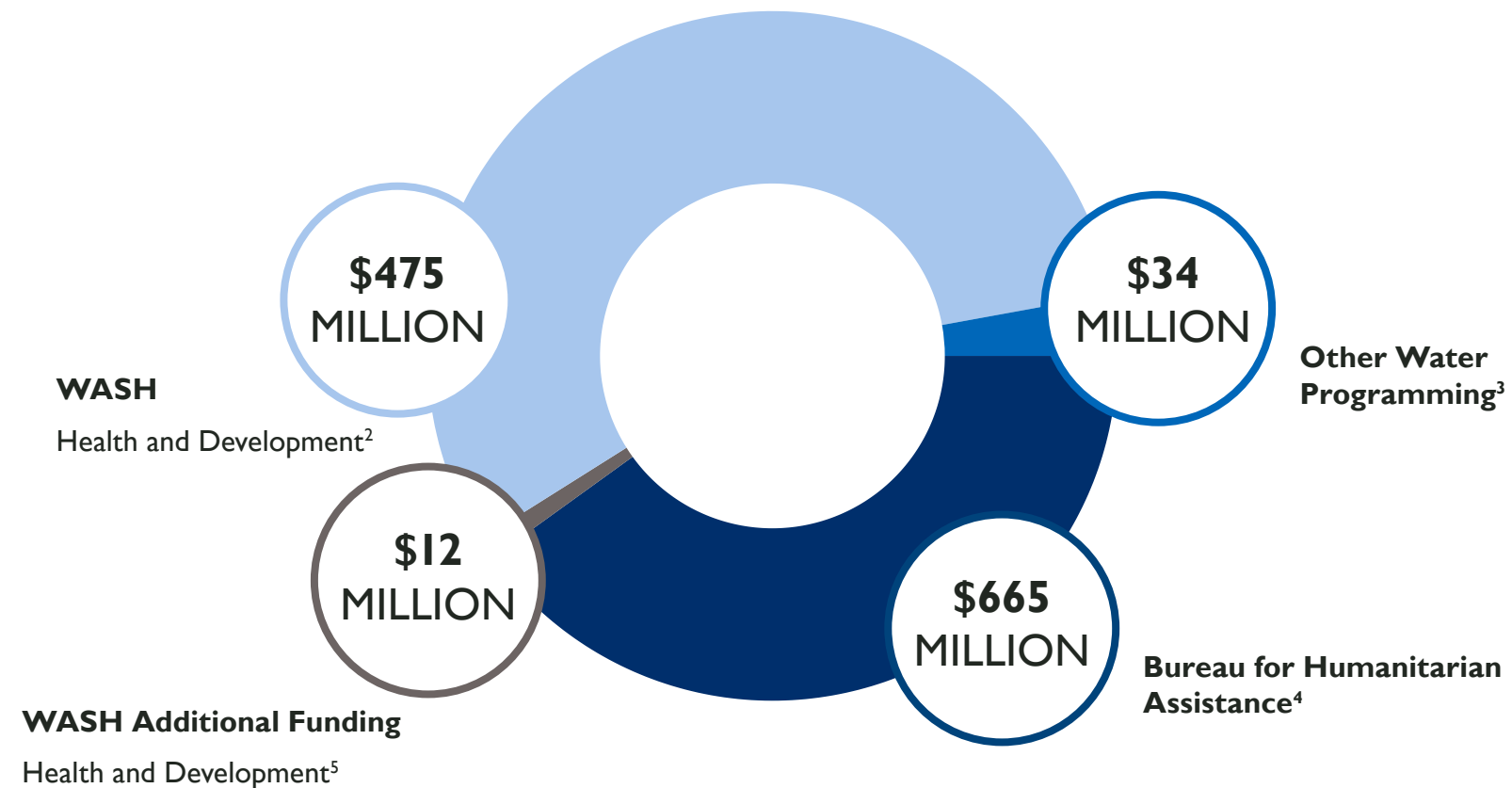
▶ USAID'S FY 2023 WATER FUNDING DIRECTIVE

Each fiscal year Congress appropriates funding for water supply and sanitation projects and activities, pursuant to the Water for the World Act of 2014. In Fiscal Year 2023, that amount was \$475,000,000, which USAID invested in more than 43 countries. Additional funding is made available for WASH-related humanitarian assistance and other water-related programming, as shown on the following page.



\$1.2 BILLION TOTAL FUNDING FOR WATER PROGRAMMING

FY 2023



¹ Countries with funding invested through USAID's regional and technical Bureaus and operating units, as well as countries with funding provided through the U.S. Department of State, are not included in the 43 countries counted above.
² Funding allocated to the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Congressional Directive. Also includes \$12.5M of Humanitarian Assistance funding that meets the requirements of the water directive.
³ Funding allocated to the water (non-WASH) key issue in USAID's FY 2023 Operational Plans.
⁴ Includes International Disaster Assistance (IDA), and food for Peace Title II Grants funds in FY 2023.
⁵ Funding attributed to the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Key Issue from funding sources other than the Water Directive.

RESULTS BY MISSION



Definitions and more information on each indicator can be found in the [Global Water Strategy Indicator Handbook](#).

Operating Unit	Number of People Gaining Access to Sustainable Drinking Water Services	Number of People Gaining Access to Sustainable Sanitation Services	Funding Mobilized	Institutions Strengthened
AFRICA				
○ Burkina Faso	6,399	2,544	-	-
▲ Democratic Republic of the Congo	-	-	-	5 <i>3 for the first time</i>
○ Djibouti	10	-	-	-
▲ Ethiopia	51,759	328,449	\$11,314,737	77
▲ Ghana	57,958	48,392	\$1,047,526	17 <i>17 for the first time</i>
▲ Kenya	425,021	673,284	\$25,082,677	65 <i>37 for the first time</i>
▲ Liberia	13,258	3,773	\$10,373	101
▲ Madagascar	113,264	16,566	\$872,508	-
▲ Malawi	57,961	464,788	-	-
▲ Mozambique	49,186	27,815	-	47
○ Niger	114,616	99,191	-	-
▲ Nigeria	355,990	229,299	\$8,461	47
▲ Rwanda	4,100	29,325	-	16 <i>16 for the first time</i>
▲ Senegal	29,093	-	\$1,657,082	41 <i>38 for the first time</i>
▲ South Sudan	9,802	8,193	-	13 <i>9 for the first time</i>
▲ Tanzania	-	-	\$447,634	-
▲ Uganda	254,809	58,831	\$260,785	-
● USAID Sahel Regional Program	146,378	-	\$1,031,272	284
● USAID Southern Africa Regional Program	8,256	2,258	\$508,385	52
● USAID West Africa Regional	3,000	69,116	\$2,845,772	16
▲ Zambia	68,347	633,608	-	-
○ Zimbabwe	41,647	28,822	-	-
SUBTOTAL	1,810,854	2,724,254	\$45,087,212	781 <i>120 for the first time</i>
USAID WASHINGTON				
● Bureau for Resilience, Environment, and Food Security	-	261,831	\$3,425,000	-

Operating Unit	Number of People Gaining Access to Sustainable Drinking Water Services	Number of People Gaining Access to Sustainable Sanitation Services	Funding Mobilized	Institutions Strengthened
ASIA				
○ Afghanistan	325,112	330,654	-	7
○ Bangladesh	22,928	64,616	-	-
○ Burma	-	960	-	-
▲ India	808,608	2,365	\$2,183,750	37
▲ Indonesia	-	-	\$9,960,887	-
▲ Nepal	924	-	\$502,113	-
○ Pakistan	235,721	65,218	-	-
▲ Philippines	414,777	100,636	\$29,761,822	30
○ Sri Lanka	8,894	-	-	-
○ Tajikistan	52,319	4,395	\$46,700	4 <i>4 for the first time</i>
SUBTOTAL	1,869,283	568,844	\$42,455,272	78 <i>4 for the first time</i>
LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN				
○ Dominican Republic	3,609	323	\$231,307	3
▲ Guatemala	236,573	-	-	25
▲ Haiti	63,307	-	\$600,000	19
SUBTOTAL	303,489	323	\$831,307	47
MIDDLE EAST				
○ Egypt	-	-	-	5
■ Jordan	2,054,721	183,250	\$754,296,722	6
■ Lebanon	81,855	1,640	\$1,290,943	-
● USAID Middle East Regional (MER)	-	-	\$1,090,416	-
○ Yemen	30,285	122,687	-	-
SUBTOTAL	2,166,861	307,577	\$756,678,081	11
TOTAL	6,150,487	3,862,829	\$848,476,872	985 <i>124 for the first time</i>

▲ **High-Priority Country:** Designated under the criteria of the Water for the World Act of 2014 as a high priority for water, sanitation, and hygiene assistance based on needs, opportunities, and strategic considerations.

■ **Strategic Priority Country:** USAID anticipates continued water and sanitation programs due to a combination of strategic considerations and water-related development needs.

○ **Expanded Global Portfolio**
● **Multi-Program Country** (regional and DC Bureaus)

PHOTO CREDITS

- Front cover:** A patient washes her hands at a healthcare facility in Nepal. *Photo credit: DevWorks International.*
- Page 2:** Technical teams assessing the wetlands in Peru. *Photo credit: José Palomino.*
- Page 4:** Vicente Lamar Núñez enjoys household water access in the Dominican Republic. *Photo credit: Roira Sánchez.*
- Page 6, top left:** A maintenance worker repairs a sink at a healthcare facility in Nepal. *Photo credit: DevWorks International.*
- Page 6, bottom left:** Desta Abo sells a latrine in Ethiopia from his shop. *Photo credit: USAID.*
- Page 6, top right:** Mrs. Mopukori Lekipila and Katenge Lekipila use a water ATM in Kenya. *Photo credit: USAID.*
- Page 6, bottom right:** Luong Sophea stands outside her thriving sanitation business in Cambodia. *Photo credit: Chann Tet.*
- Page 8:** World Bank funded pump station in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo. *Photo credit: Sam Huston, USAID.*
- Page 11:** Gloria collects and tests water samples from households in Kenya. *Photo credit: USAID.*
- Page 13:** Staff from the Imo State Water and Sewerage Corporation in Nigeria stand in their water quality testing laboratory. *Photo credit: USAID.*
- Page 16:** Students in Tanzania wash their hands. *Photo credit: Marian Siljeholm.*
- Page 17:** *Photo credit: Lawrence Quarcoo, Global Communities.*
- Page 20:** Senzeni Moyo waters her farm in Zimbabwe from a solar-powered irrigation scheme. *Photo credit: Khumbulani Mpofu.*
- Page 21:** *Photo credit: George Rwegalulila.*
- Page 23:** Joceline Marcellus transports water from a kiosk to her home in Haiti. *Photo credit: Nadia Todres.*
- Back cover:** A water committee verifies improvements to a local water system in Guatemala. *Photo credit: Ana Lucía Cano.*



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