WaterAid is an international not-for-profit, determined to make clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene normal for everyone, everywhere within a generation. Only by tackling these three essentials in ways that last can people change their lives for good. Learn more about WaterAid at wateraid.org.au

Our vision
WaterAid's vision is a world where everyone, everywhere has safe water, sanitation and hygiene.

Our mission
WaterAid's mission is to transform the lives of the poorest and most marginalised people by improving access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene.

Our values
Everything we do is shaped by six values:
• Accountability
• Collaboration
• Courage
• Innovation
• Integrity
• Respect

WaterAid wishes to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land our Melbourne office is located on, the peoples of the Kulin Nations. We wish to acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.

We value your feedback and address any complaints promptly. If you would like to provide us with feedback or would like to lodge a complaint, please contact us via the details listed on the back page of this report and your message will be directed to the appropriate staff for action and resolution. Our complaints policy is available at wateraid.org.au/complaints

This Annual Report was written and edited by Kevin Hawkins

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The water, sanitation and hygiene challenges facing the world are as important as ever, reinforcing the critical role played by WaterAid.

As Chair of WaterAid International I’m proud of what this organisation continues to achieve on a global scale. Since 1981, WaterAid has reached over 27 million people with clean water and decent toilets. Closer to home, WaterAid Australia plays a unique role in the Asia-Pacific region, which encompasses many countries that have historically performed poorly against the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) indicators. The growing threat of climate change is set to exacerbate water scarcity issues, meaning now is the time to help our neighbours in this region invest in sustainable solutions and improve their resilience.

As our teams in Cambodia, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste and Australia continue to help people access clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene for the first time, the Board is also keeping an eye on the future and thinking about the strategic shifts we need to make if we are to achieve our mission.

One of these shifts, which you can read about on page 18, is the changing role of our water sector partners. For many years of these generous organisations have contributed financially; this year, we’ve started to explore ways of using the expertise and technical skills of these partners to deliver innovative solutions. We know that reaching the SDG targets for water and sanitation will require support from the private sector so we look forward to this collaboration increasing over the years ahead.

To all our partners and supporters reading this report, thank you for your contribution to our work; we could not do this without you. And to those of you thinking about increasing your support for WaterAid, we hope this report inspires you to support our life-changing work.

A recent day trip in Cambodia reminded me once again why WaterAid does what we do.

I was just 10 minutes off a main road in Kampong Chhnang, but the simple raised house, scruffy chickens and parched rice fields made me feel like I had travelled miles. I sat on a bamboo platform with a woman my age. She sat with her seven year old son perched on her knee. I asked her “How do you access water?” Mrs Seng* responded in a way I’d never before witnessed in my 15 years with WaterAid: she burst into tears.

Mrs Seng explained to me that she and her husband are HIV positive. Because of the stigma associated with this, she can’t use the nearby tap stands with clean water. She walks one hour each way to collect dirty water from a disused well. A humiliating journey and a heavy burden.

As Mrs Seng spoke and cried, I looked to Mrs Pou, the commune leader. Mrs Pou is an inspiring woman who is not only determined to ensure good water and sanitation facilities reach this community, but that social barriers affecting Mrs Seng and her family are broken down. Earlier that day, Mrs Pou vowed “I won’t rest until everyone has a toilet.”

Meeting Mrs Seng you see why it’s critical that WaterAid leaves no one behind. Seeing the determination of Mrs Pou, I know that Cambodia has the leaders to make this happen.

Over the pages ahead, you’ll see evidence of this in action - WaterAid collaborating to drive change, bringing the best in people and leave nobody behind. I hope it inspires you as much as it inspires me.

*Name changed to protect identity

The four strategic aims below reflect the way WaterAid believes it can best influence change in this world. The following pages will discuss WaterAid’s approach and success with regards to these areas of focus.
Our Achievements this year

The start of something new!
This year marked the starting point of our partnership with the Water for Women Fund, an $18 million five-year program funded by the Australian Government that aims to improve the health, equality and wellbeing of Asian and Pacific communities. Our three Water for Women-funded projects in Myanmar, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste are united in their aims of advancing gender equality and strengthening the local water, sanitation and hygiene sectors.

Water and toilets a national priority
At a national conference in August, the Timor-Leste government reaffirmed its commitment to making clean water and sanitation a top priority. Months later, it more than doubled its water and sanitation budget.

Edging towards ‘Open Defecation Free’
Almost everybody living in Manufahi and Liquiçá, the two municipalities in Timor-Leste where WaterAid works, now have a toilet in their house. These districts are expected to celebrate ‘Open Defecation Free’ status next financial year. WaterAid has been working closely with these communities over the past few years and we've been delighted to see the role that local leaders have played in pushing towards this goal.

Schools due for water and toilet upgrades
All schools in Papua New Guinea are now mandated to have clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene after the country’s Department of Education launched a new policy in August. WaterAid supported the development and drafting of this policy, which also includes a focus on accessibility and the needs of female students. The government has now taken this forward and—through the development of their Sports Policy—they will ensure that all sporting facilities in the country also have an appropriate level of water, toilet and handwashing services.

12 down, 1088 to go...
Following improvements we've been helping to make to 12 healthcare centres across Cambodia, we've successfully advocated for all 1100 public health centres across the country to have a similar level of water, toilet and hygiene facilities. The development of national guidelines in healthcare centres was the outcome of years of advocacy in an often-ignored area of work. At a World Health Assembly meeting in January, the Australian Government recognised the importance of this work.

New skills, new data, new insights
WaterAid has trained 40 staff from district and local government in East Sepik, Papua New Guinea to collect water samples and conduct surveys in 366 rural communities where service levels were previously unknown.

Who Gives A Crap about WaterAid?
Our good friends at Who Gives A Crap made their biggest donation to WaterAid to date, generously supporting our work building toilets for those in need. The Who Gives A Crap team also had a chance to learn more about our programs when they spent time with our Cambodian team in May as part of their team’s annual planning.

A transformative approach to partnerships
WaterAid’s partnership with the water sector is moving in exciting new directions with some of our members contributing their technical expertise to our country programs.

Driving internal organisational change
We recognise that change starts in our office and have made intentional steps this year to reinforce our commitment to our values. We commissioned a gender audit in all our offices to better understand our staff’s commitment to gender equality and to identify ways of improving in this area. Furthermore, in response to reports of sexual misconduct in the aid sector, we’ve reviewed and updated our safeguarding procedures. In acknowledging that we work and live on stolen land, we’re in the process of developing a Reconciliation Action Plan to understand how we can take active steps in being more respectful towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
Our Global Impact

We worked with governments to change 14 national policies, strategies or standards.

We improved water service management in 25 urban public utilities.

We strengthened management capacity to deliver clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene in 84 rural districts.

The water, sanitation and hygiene crisis is a global problem, so it’s important that we tackle these issues at a global scale. WaterAid’s impact extends far beyond Australia and the Asia-Pacific region; we are an international organisation with a presence in 34 countries.

All of our federation members, country programs and regional offices are united in their commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals, the United Nations’ development agenda for building a better world by 2030. Of the 17 goals, we are particularly invested in Goal 6, which aims to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for everyone.

One of the benefits of being a global organisation is the way in which we are able to collaborate with one another to maximise our collective impact towards these goals. On this double page, we celebrate some of our global achievements from our last global reporting period (the 2018-19 financial year) as we get closer to a world where everyone, everywhere has access to the basic human rights they deserve.

Globally, between 1 April 2018 - 31 March 2019, WaterAid reached:

- 385,000 household members¹ with clean water and 433,000 with decent toilets.
- 206,000 school students¹ with clean water and 182,000 with decent toilets.
- 1,238,000 people with clean water through healthcare centres².
- 1,080,000 people with decent toilets through healthcare centres².
- 1,503,000 household members¹ with good hygiene³.
- 695,000 school students¹ with good hygiene³.
- 991,000 people with good hygiene³ through healthcare centres².

¹ Number of people who use these services every day.
² The population each facility exists to serve, adjusted to reflect the scale of alternative / private provision.
³ People reached either through facilities or sustained promotion. Hygiene promotion numbers are estimates of people reached with hygiene promotion messages at least three times in a year through local marketing campaigns in communities, in schools and via local health services.

The figures below refer to the people we directly reach through services delivered together with our partners. They only show part of our impact.

To make lasting change happen on a massive scale, we also convince governments to change laws; link policy makers with people on the ground; change attitudes and behaviours; pool knowledge and resources; and rally support from people and organisations around the world. Through this work we benefit many more people than those shown below.

WaterAid/Ernest Randriarimalala

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In every program we’re part of, in every country we work, there’s an opportunity to think about how we are bringing about better outcomes for the most marginalised people in society. This includes people with a disability, people of diverse sexualities, older people and people living in remote areas.

Unfortunately many women and girls also experience inequality and discrimination simply on the basis of their gender. Women and girls are disproportionately affected by inadequate access to water, toilets and hygiene by having to collect water from distant water sources, give birth in unhygienic environments, or manage their menstrual periods without proper support.

Our work acknowledges and addresses the inequalities that women and other marginalised groups face, but also goes one step further by ensuring that these people are actively involved in the solutions. In our work of building better water, sanitation and hygiene systems, we identify opportunities to empower marginalised people and ensure they are involved at every stage of the process. In Timor-Leste we’ve been working closely with local women’s groups and supporting them to advocate for and get a seat at the table in decision making processes around water, sanitation and hygiene, which are typically dominated by men. The increase in women’s leadership means that women’s specific needs and interests are better understood, resulting in toilet designs being more female friendly and more women’s voices being heard at a local level where decisions are being implemented.

Our goal is not just to improve women's leadership but to challenge the negative attitudes and tackle stereotypes that prevent women from being involved in the first place. That is why it is so important to work with women's groups rather than individual women.

Our focus going forward is on shifting our practice from focusing on inclusion to focusing on transformative change. That is, how do we not only ensure that people who experience marginalisation are included in decisions, but how can we change the structures, norms and power which are the root causes of exclusion, marginalisation and discrimination? We see water, sanitation and hygiene efforts as a powerful platform to adopt a transformative change approach.

In our ‘Keeping Girls in School’ project (funded by the Australian Aid program’s Gender Action Platform), we’re working with teachers to bring boys into conversations about menstrual periods as we recognise men and boys need to be involved if we are to eliminate the social taboos around periods.

We’ve applied a transformative lens to our new Water for Women-funded program, particularly in Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste where we’re encouraging our stakeholders to consider the impacts on gender equality and women’s empowerment across every single decision they make.
A popular image of WaterAid’s work is a tap stand or toilet block in a village and the smiling faces of locals who get to use that service. That’s the end goal we all aspire towards, but it’s an image that’s far more complicated than simply turning up to a village, installing some infrastructure and leaving.

For instance, if a tap stops working after a few months or years, who in the village will fix it? If the village has a mechanic, where are they learning the appropriate skills? And if they need a replacement part, who are they buying it from? If we zoom out from this picture, more questions start to emerge: if a neighbouring community wants access to the same facilities, who is implementing it and where is the funding coming from? Who is deciding which communities get priority, where are they getting their data, and who is collecting the data?

WaterAid’s ‘sector strengthening’ approach is about identifying all of these questions and making sure they all have satisfying answers. It’s about eliminating all the gaps in the process so that a community’s water, toilet and hygiene services are sustainable and will continue providing health benefits for generations to come. All of our country programs follow this approach.

In the municipalities of Liquiçá and Manufahi in Timor-Leste, we’ve been working towards achieving ‘Open Defecation Free’ status. To get to this point, whereby everyone in the community has a toilet they can access at home, our activities have involved adapting international toilet guidelines to Timorese contexts, conducting research on the types of toilets locals are most likely to use, introducing affordable toilet-building materials to local supply chains, and influencing governments to make toilets a priority.

Our next step in Timor-Leste is to look beyond households and ensure that locals in Liquiçá and Manufahi have access to quality facilities wherever they go, whether that be schools, healthcare centres or markets.

In Papua New Guinea, our Water for Women-funded program has commenced with a baseline data collection survey. This might not sound sexy, but the work is crucial. This year we upskilled a group of 40 local government staff, who made their way through the Wewak district to collect previously unknown statistics on the quality of water, toilets and hygiene in 366 rural communities, 90 schools and 30 healthcare centres. With this data we can now see which areas of Wewak have the greatest need and can help local decision makers in Wewak decide where they want to prioritise their work.

We are also working together with other charities and development organisations working in Papua New Guinea to share our lessons and learn from each other. When you combine this with the relationships we are building at a national level, there is no limit to how many Papua New Guineans we can help reach with quality water, toilet and hygiene services that can last not only for a few years, but a lifetime.
An Integrated Approach

If asked to identify which of the Sustainable Development Goals relate most to WaterAid’s work, most people would jump straight to Goal 6, which focuses on ‘Clean Water and Sanitation’. But if you examine the other 16, you’ll start to notice there are plenty of other contenders.

As we’ve seen already in this report, our work on menstrual hygiene management incorporates ‘Gender Equality’ (Goal 5) and ‘Quality Education’ (Goal 4), while ‘Good Health and Well-being’ (Goal 3) and ‘Reduce Inequalities’ (Goal 10) are also integral to our success.

This interconnectedness was an intentional feature of the goals, which emphasised that an integrated approach is needed to address the world’s biggest challenges. Likewise, WaterAid recognises that the only way that everyone, everywhere can gain access to clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene by 2030 is if we work closely with and through other sectors.

The most obvious example of this has been our work with the health sector. Traditionally, the organisations that work in this space focus more on the medical or treatment side of things; as such, the quality of water, toilet and hygiene facilities are not typically at the forefront of their minds and their advocacy efforts. It’s not because it’s not essential to human health; it’s just been overlooked. That’s where we come in, lending our expertise to make sure these fundamental services are given the attention they deserve.

In Cambodia, we’ve been working with the health sector at both a local and national level. Working with the Ministry of Health and through our local partners Rainwater Cambodia and Teuk Saat 1001, we’ve been testing affordable technologies at 12 health centres across the country. Using these centres as evidence of our success, we’ve successfully advocated for targets to be set at the national level so that similar improvements can be implemented in all 1100 public health centres across the country. These changes will allow more mothers to give birth in a safer and more hygienic environment with less risk of infections.

Following on from our success and learnings from working with the health sector in Cambodia, we’re now trying to emulate a similar program in Timor-Leste where we know that many healthcare facilities are lacking basic services.

Simultaneously, our global voice in this area is rising in volume. Our contributions are well-respected and sought after by the World Health Organization and UNICEF, the global leads in this area, as we advocate for clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene to be a priority in healthcare services all across the whole world. These calls are becoming more urgent than ever due to the rise of antibiotic-resistant superbugs; the more that health workers and patients have access to soap or clean water, the more they can curb the spread of superbugs by not over-relying on antibiotics.

Nutrition is another area with clear connections to our work, given the links between diarrhoea, malnutrition and stunting.

Our collaboration with Hamutuk in Timor-Leste has specifically focused on reducing the prevalence of stunting in children under two.

In Cambodia, we’re playing more of an advocacy role, building on existing programs that incorporate nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene. The Cambodian government and partners are currently acting on a set of jointly agreed recommendations we put forward on how they can better coordinate and align these two program areas and scale up the most successful elements across the country.
Improving Hygiene Behaviour

They say good things come in threes, and that principle certainly applies when it comes to WaterAid's work. As important as clean water and decent toilets are, good hygiene is the final and essential piece of the puzzle when it comes to ensuring that people have a healthy, high quality life that is free from diseases.

Changing people’s behaviour isn’t easy, particularly when it comes to making that behaviour stick for a lifetime. It’s worth thinking about the kind of behaviour change campaigns you see here in Australia, like those targeting drinking and driving; these messages need to be reinforced constantly and require more than one-off campaigns.

WaterAid invests a lot of time into identifying which approaches are the most successful at driving change. In Papua New Guinea, we’ve been learning on the job about the need for combining high quality and appropriate infrastructure with different approaches to increasing handwashing. At each school where we’ve introduced handwashing stations, we examined the impact of ‘nudges’ and sporting-based interventions to learn which ones lead to the highest uptake in handwashing. The results of this will inform our future behaviour change projects in the country.

Our team in Cambodia are continuing to see the success of video and social media as a way of spreading positive messages around handwashing with soap. In the lead up to Global Handwashing Day and the Pchum Ben Festival in October, a short film about washing hands with soap before preparing rice cakes was watched by more than 200,000 people and was shared over 1300 times.

This approach has been particularly popular among young people, who we are also targeting via school and community workshops. The decision to reach this audience follows evidence that shows young people are likely to pass on knowledge to their family that they learn in school.

Outside of handwashing, we’ve always been looking at ways to influence attitudes around menstrual hygiene, a topic that continues to grow in global momentum.

- Our ‘Keeping Girls in School’ project with Marie Stopes International helps teachers educate their classes about menstrual periods and sexual reproductive health, helping to fill a gap in the Papua New Guinean education system where these vital topics are hardly mentioned. Through our government relationships, we are now advocating for this to become part of the school curriculum.

Until recently, Nelson has had few opportunities to practice good hygiene. The 12-year-old boy lives in Manufahi, a municipality where taps and toilets have been in short supply. This has all changed recently thanks to WaterAid, who have funded the installation of a new water system and formed a community group to maintain it. WaterAid also runs community education sessions on the importance of following good sanitation and hygiene behaviours, which has led to plenty of positive changes in Nelson’s life. “Because we have running water near our house now, we can wash our hands before eating,” he celebrates.

Nelson, 12 (right)
When world leaders adopted Sustainable Development Goal 6 ("Ensure access to water and sanitation for all") in September 2015, they made it clear that achieving such an ambitious goal is everyone’s responsibility and requires a joint effort between civil society, political actors and the private sector.

Partnership with the private sector is at the core of WaterAid’s operations: after all, we were established by the water industry in 2004. More recently, we have been working closely with two of Australia’s leading national water sector umbrella organisations—the Australian Water Association (AWA) and the Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA).

Alongside these organisations, we have been promoting awareness in the industry on the importance of the Sustainable Development Goals and why they matter, not just in developing countries but also for all water operations in Australia. This has led to collaborative advocacy work and policy influencing from the Australian water sector to help ensure that water, sanitation and hygiene are prioritised and rank high in Australia’s international political agenda.

WaterAid’s presence in the water industry has historically focused on strong collaboration through fundraising. Our amazing group of corporate members and sponsors have been instrumental in supporting our programs overseas through the funds they have raised.

We are now shifting towards a more transformative approach to partnerships. This means capitalising on the expertise and knowledge of our partners to help us design and implement joint programs in the countries where we work. This year, we launched three new initiatives with our corporates partners in mind: one focused on the future for Indian water utilities; another promoting the next generation of water, sanitation and hygiene professionals in Cambodia; and a third centred on co-creating water monitoring systems in Papua New Guinea.

Key players in the industry have already come on board to help WaterAid design sustainable and impactful solutions for communities overseas, using their technical expertise and resources to implement programs on governance, capacity building and policy influence.

For example, gold members GHD and Arup are working to build capacity among government staff in Papua New Guinea to design, develop, test and scale their own monitoring system to track the provision and maintenance of rural water, sanitation and hygiene.

Corporate Partnership Highlights

Our corporate partners play a vital role for WaterAid, providing valuable inputs into our programmatic work, running fundraising events for us and helping us connect with their audiences. Here are some of the highlights from the past year.

After winning Winnovators, our signature global employee development programme, Sydney Water’s Team Praan (opposite page) visited India to present their innovative ‘Poo Switcheroo’ sanitation solution to WaterAid India, community leaders and local water utilities in Delhi and Lucknow.

Our major corporate partner Who Gives A Crap is continuing to make their mark with their toilet paper, tissues and paper towels becoming ubiquitous in toilets and kitchens across the country. Seven WaterAid members (and counting) have started using Who Gives A Crap as their toilet paper supplier. They are the only independent certified social enterprise toilet paper company in Australia.

Through their participation in our bill insert program over 7 years, Yarra Valley Water have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for WaterAid. Big thanks to Coliban Water, Gippsland Water, Goulburn Valley Water, Hunter Water, North East Water, South Gippsland Water, Unity Water and Western Water who also included WaterAid donation asks in their water bills this year.

Together with Sydney Water, we have engaged with the Lucknow water utility in India and are supporting the utility in strategic areas such as asset management by providing policies, guidelines and tools that represent best practices in Australia.

We’d like to offer a special acknowledgment and thank you to our WaterAid Committees in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia. These Committees raised more than $1.5 million this year through fundraising initiatives including gala dinners, golf days, soccer and beach volleyball tournaments and trivia nights. The Committees are composed of senior managers, mainly from the water industry, who decide to devote their spare time to WaterAid’s cause. To these volunteers, and their families, we give our most sincere and grateful thanks and congratulations for their amazing support.
Our progress this year in Cambodia has reinforced the importance of the ‘sector strengthening’ approach that informs so much of our work.

Broadly speaking, this approach involves stepping back from just individual communities and influencing change from a whole range of levels. It has seen us collaborate with national and local governments, water sector staff, community groups and others who can together reach far more communities with sustainable water and toilet services than we can alone.

- Our Civic Champions program, in partnership with WaterSHED, has delivered better results than we could have expected. This program creates a space for commune leaders to come together and learn new skills, share experiences with one another, and compete to see who can get the most toilets built in their area. Both the participants and the staff providing the training have reported an increase in their confidence, motivation and skills, which has resulted in local government staff on the whole viewing their district’s water, sanitation and hygiene issues as a higher priority. We aim to expand this program next year by introducing additional targets for water supply, hygiene and social inclusion. Our eventual goal is for this program to be owned and run by the government themselves.

- At a national level, our ongoing advocacy efforts led to the development of national Cambodian guidelines relating to water, sanitation and hygiene in healthcare facilities. These guidelines outline the quality of facilities needed in healthcare centres so that nurses can deliver safer births and less infections can be spread among mothers and babies. This is something we’ve been working towards since 2015, having gradually built support among key Ministry officials over the past few years. The lack of official guidelines up until now has made it difficult for us to drive change at the pace we desire. Now that they have been endorsed, we’re working closely with the government to make sure every healthcare centre across the country has the appropriate level of water, toilet and hygiene facilities.

- As we continue to advocate for better policies, particularly on behalf of the poorest and most marginalised Cambodians, we are embracing the power of storytelling. We have helped our partners—such as the Cambodian Disabled People Organization—better communicate their challenges and success stories through photos, videos and case studies, which has helped them make toilets more accessible in public and private buildings. We’ve also been working with local journalists to build their knowledge of water, sanitation and hygiene issues so that these issues are able to receive the coverage they deserve.

- Another focus of ours has been building up Cambodia’s next generation of water sector leaders. One of the challenges holding back Cambodia is that its water and sanitation sectors are under-resourced and are not seen as an attractive career option for talented graduates. To address this, WaterAid has been working with our local partners to provide opportunities for students, professionals and local government officials to gain experience in water, sanitation and hygiene related fields. Through this work, we’ve been particularly mindful of ensuring women are given the opportunities to work in technical and leadership roles, where there is a great need for increased gender diversity.

Expenditure: AUD $2,709,000

List of funders
Australian Government’s Australian NGO Cooperation Program
Australian Government’s Water for Women Program - Type II Research Award
Global Sanitation Fund – Plan International Australia
Grand Challenges Canada – Stars in Global Health
GIZ - The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency - SIDA
Swedish Postcode Lottery
UNICEF - Accelerating Sanitation and Water for All
H&M Foundation
NIRAS International Training Program
Corporate, foundation and supporter contributions

Locations of project
Phnom Pehn, Siem Reap, Kompong, Kratie, Kampong Thom, Kampong Chhnang, Prey Veng, Tbong Khumum, Battambang

Local partners

Sokmal (far right) and Soeymom (2nd right) and their family live in Kratie province, alongside the Mekong River. They use the river for everything from bathing to fishing to collecting water. The river water is not safe to drink and has been contaminated by local industries. When the water hasn’t been boiled for long enough, it gives the children a stomach ache and makes them sick.
Strong partnerships have been a core theme of our Timor-Leste program this year; we’ve consistently found ourselves able to expand our impact and our level of influence by working with others in the sector and by gaining buy-in from national and sub-national leaders.

This has been evident in our work in Liquiçá and Manufahi, two municipalities we’ve been helping to achieve ‘Open Defecation Free’ status. This milestone is ascribed to communities where the entire population uses a toilet rather than defecating in the open, and is used as a progress measure for Goal 6 of the Sustainable Development Goals. Achieving this status is critical for the health of individuals and communities as it makes the environment cleaner and reduces the likelihood of children and families contracting fatal diseases and infections like diarrhoea.

This year, we’ve been delighted to see the municipal government play a leading role in this work. We always knew that government leadership was going to be fundamental towards this goal being realised and it’s showing in the response from community members. We’re noticing locals are enthusiastic to participate, keen to share information and building strong relationships with their official representatives. This has also been motivating for other non-government organisations like us, knowing that our vision for clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene is shared by locals and leaders alike.

As of the end of March 2019, more than 12,000 thousand households in Liquiçá had been surveyed by local government with 98% recording access to toilets and the other 2% sharing toilets with other families, making it on track to become the 4th municipality in the country to reach ‘Open Defecation Free’ status. Manufahi is expected to follow shortly afterwards; only 5 of 29 villages in this region are yet to reach this status.

While Timor-Leste’s water and sanitation situation is improving each year, we know we can’t be complacent and we can’t let the government be either. One of our goals has been to ensure water, sanitation and hygiene projects continue to receive the funding they need, and we’ve continued to use our relationships with key government ministers to make this a budget priority. These efforts were vindicated at the 2nd National WASH conference in July 2018, when key government leaders reaffirmed the country’s commitment to making clean drinking water and sanitation a top priority, and stressed that water systems need to be “shared equally and be accessed by everyone”. These words were matched by a financial commitment, with the Timorese government more than doubling their allocated investment in this sector in 2019 compared to 2018.

Similar to our work in Cambodia, where we’ve been helping people break into the water, sanitation and hygiene sector, we’ve been collaborating with the Women in Engineering group to increase female participation in engineering activities. Through our connections, we’ve helped this group get involved at high-level national discussions on water, sanitation and hygiene. This culminated in Maria Martins, one of the women involved in this program, raising the profile of female engineers in a speech to over 500 global representatives at an International Women’s Day celebration event in Liquiçá.

63-year-old Ana Maria no longer has to walk long distances to collect water, now that there is a water source in her village in Manufahi. “Thank you for providing us clean water!” she exclaims.

WaterAid’s work in Manufahi and Liquiçá will continue as part of our new Water for Women-funded program. This program aims to make gender equality, social inclusion and improvements in nutrition an integral part of the water, sanitation and hygiene solutions implemented. This means that in addition to 725,000 people in these districts having access to the basic facilities they need, we hope to see women and men sharing roles and responsibilities in decision making at a household and community level, and municipal leaders using a gender transformative approach when delivering services.

Expenditure: AUD $2,189,000

Donors:
Australian Government’s Australian NGO Cooperation Program Gender Action Platform
Australian Government’s Australian NGO Cooperation Program
Australian Government’s Water for Women Program Partnership for Human Development
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
Latter Day Saints Charities Australia
WaterAid UK
Corporate, foundation and supporter contributions

Local partners: CARE International, Marie Stopes International, Engineers Without Borders, Women in Engineering, Disability Peoples Organisation (RHTO), local implementing NGOs LBF, FHTL and NTF, FAS (Women Action for Sustainability), LBM (Struggle for Change), CBM, University of Technology Sydney, Institute for Sustainable Futures (ISF), Association of Water User Groups, Government of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste and local government departments in Liquiçá and Manufahi.

Location of projects: Dili, Liquiçá, Manufahi

63-year-old Ana Maria no longer has to walk long distances to collect water, now that there is a water source in her village in Manufahi. “Thank you for providing us clean water!” she exclaims.
This year was one of transition for WaterAid Papua New Guinea, with our innovative WaSH and Sports for Development program drawing to a close and our Water For Women-funded project getting underway.

Reflecting on our Sports for Development program that has recently concluded, there’s been a lot of progress for which we can feel proud.

- At a school level, the Hamamas Lo Pilai (“Happy to Play”) project, which combines netball activities with hygiene education, has proven to be an effective way of educating girls about handwashing and menstrual hygiene. We’ve found that netball provides a soft entry point for girls to discuss the highly sensitive issue of menstruation, which is otherwise a taboo topic in the classroom. Given this success, we are working with Netball PNG on developing a new proposal that will allow us to continue partnering together into the future.

- Our Sports for Development program has also positioned us in a unique role to influence national policies as it has allowed us to combine our expertise in water, sanitation and hygiene with our proximity to sporting events and organisations.

The insights we captured at the 2017 PNG Games in Kimbe informed our WASH in Sports Facilities Policy Brief, which we released in the final months of the program. There is strong evidence that our recommendations, which include raising the minimum standards of the water, sanitation and hygiene facilities available to athletes and spectators at sporting venues across the country, will be taken on board in Papua New Guinea’s new Sports Policy. Given the huge cultural role sport plays in PNG, our work here has the potential to positively impact a large percentage of the population.

- Our Water for Women-funded program ‘Inclusive WASH for Wewak’ similarly has the potential to change thousands of lives for the better. Our activities are concentrated in the Wewak District of East Sepik Province, home to 107,000 people. In this largely remote and rural part of the country, water, sanitation and hygiene access is limited, as is the quality of data that government can access. Our goal is to build the government’s capacity to collect this data, make informed decisions and deliver sustainable services. Simultaneously, the design of this program involves ensuring women are empowered through every step of the process.

Papua New Guinea

Locations of projects
Port Moresby, Central Province, East Sepik Province

Local partners

Expenditure: AUD $1,904,000

List of funders

This year we commenced our five-year program with Water for Women, where our goal is to support safer births in the Ayeyarwady region.

- Our work is targeted at five hospitals, where we will be improving water, sanitation and hygiene services, as well as infection prevention and control practices. Doing this will make the birth process safer for women and babies, a critical piece of work for Myanmar, where the maternal and neonatal mortality rates are high and many deaths are preventable.

- Elsewhere in Myanmar, we’ve been helping upskill the country’s next generation of water leaders as part of the Myanmar Young Water Professional Program. We’ve been working with 14 young people through this program, giving them access to the skills and knowledge they need and supporting them with mentoring and leadership training.

- We’ve also been delivering training to the Department of Rural Development, providing them with a more reliable way of collecting data on the quality of water, sanitation and hygiene services. We have piloted our approach with them across three states, and will soon help them scale this across the country.

Myanmar

Expenditure: AUD $327,000

List of funders
Australian Government’s Water For Women Program The Australia Water Partnership (AWP) WaterAid UK Corporate, foundation and supporter contributions

Location of projects
Yangon Ayeyarwady Region

Local partners
HIC – Hydro-Informatics Centre, National Water Resources Committee, Jhpiego, Soapbox

Before WaterAid installed new toilets at Jemima’s school, the ones she used were “dirty, unhealthy and smelly”. The girls and boys shared a wooden hut with a thin partition, the only thing separating them. The girls often felt too embarrassed to use them because the boys would make holes in the wall to spy on them and tease them. “Now that the toilets are separate... we feel much more comfortable and safer,” Jemima says.
Thousands make water commitment

11-year-old Annie was among 4,000 Australians who committed to making water their only beverage for the month of March as part of the Water Challenge. “I was very keen to give it a go because I knew I’d be helping kids in need,” Annie said. “I live in an area suffering from the drought, so I understand the importance of water”. Annie exceeded her target of $280 to raise $434, contributing to a fundraising total of $200,000 which will go towards WaterAid’s work.

Elyse shares her India adventure

Model and ambassador Elyse Knowles visited WaterAid’s programs in Delhi, India, sharing our work with her 900,000 Instagram followers while raising awareness of our Water Challenge event. Her experiences in India were covered by the Herald Sun, Channel Seven’s The Morning Show and Daily Mail Australia, among others. Elyse also shared about her passion for WaterAid in her book From Me To You.

School students build their own loo

As part of the annual Melbourne Water Kids Teaching conference, students from Beaumaris, Carrum and Harkaway Primary Schools prepared musical and dramatic skits to educate their peers about the 2.3 billion people worldwide who don’t have a decent toilet of their own. The students also constructed their own toilets out of recyclable materials, while raising over $2,000 for WaterAid.

Payroll giving

We are so grateful to employees who personally donate from their own pay. A number of companies also offer matched giving, doubling the employee’s contribution. Companies participating in our payroll giving program are:


Another successful year of fundraising

Individual supporters’ donations increased by 22% in 2019. The Water Challenge continued to grow and our tax appeal—which focused on Balbina’s (left) eight hour walk for water—raised the most money of any WaterAid appeal to date. WaterAid supporters also gave generously in response to our Oasis magazine, with this piece of communication bringing in more than double the income of the year prior.

We continued to invest in our monthly giving program, introducing a number of new initiatives to reach more donors and to welcome and thank our wonderful supporters.
Our Corporate Partners

WaterAid receives substantial and essential support from the corporate sector.

Membership provides engagement on important global issues and access to valuable corporate programs. Many members are also generous sponsors and their staff are active fundraisers for the cause.

Global Corporate Partners

We recognise and thank the following organisations for their support of WaterAid globally:

Major Corporate Partners

We recognise gratefully the following companies who partner specifically to support WaterAid Australia’s work in Cambodia, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste:

We acknowledge the following Australian companies who sponsor our events and programs across multiple States and years:

Platinum Members

Gold Members

Silver Members

Trusts and Foundations

Thank you to the following Trusts and Foundations who generously supported our work in the past year:

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Financial overview: 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Where did the money come from in 2018/19?

WaterAid Australia’s 2018/19 total income was $13.8m, an increase of $1.8m or 15% compared to the prior year. In 2018/19 we successfully completed the first year of our major grant—Water for Women—funded by the Australian Government’s Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). DFAT contributed significantly to our mission, by funding $4.56m of our work, representing 33% of our total income (2017/18: $2.96m or 25%).

2018/19 fundraising income was $6.3m, an 11% increase on the prior year (2017/18: $5.7m). Support from the water sector remains an enormously positive component of our fundraising effort, most notably through our state fundraising committees. WaterAid Australia also received total funding of $2.1m via other members of the WaterAid International Federation (2017/18: $2.1m) including a bilateral investment of $500k from WaterAid UK (2017/18: $500k).

Where did the money go in 2018/19?

Total expenditure in 2018/19 was $13.6m, up $2.2m or 19% from the prior year (2017/18: $11.4m). Our programmatic work made up 70% of our total expenditure, fundraising costs were 22% and accountability and administration totalled 8%. We efficiently and effectively maintained our commitment to the Australian public of being a transparent and accountable organisation.

Income: $13.8 million

- 45% Fundraising
- 33% DFAT grants
- 7% Other grants and income
- 4% WaterAid UK
- 11% Other WaterAid member funds

Expenses: $13.6 million

- 70% Our work
- 22% Fundraising costs
- 8% Accountability and administration

Program expenditure: $10 million

- 27% Southeast Asia
- 19% PNG and Pacific
- 22% Timor-Leste
- 22% Program support
- 5% Community education

Our Board

Rob Skinner AM, Chair, is also Chair of WaterAid International and a Professorial Fellow at the Monash Sustainable Development Institute, Monash University, Melbourne. Rob has extensive experience in organisational leadership, including six years as Managing Director of Melbourne Water and ten years as CEO of Kingston Council in Victoria. Meetings attended/eligible to attend: 4/4

Wendy Rose AM, Deputy Chair, is an international development specialist. Wendy has over 25 years’ experience and is a senior member of the international aid community representing Australia on various world bodies for many years. She has served as Chief Executive Officer of Save the Children, Australia and on the boards of ChildFund Australia and Anglicard. Wendy is also one of the founders of the International Women’s Development Agency. Meetings attended/eligible to attend: 4/4

Rhonda Chapman is a community development, civil society and partnerships advisor with over 25 years’ experience working in the aid and development sector internationally. She is also the co-founder of a co-working and enterprise support space in her home town of Castlemaine. Meetings attended: 3/3

Dr Robert Glasser is a Visiting Fellow at the Australian Strategic Policy Institute and Honorary Associate Professor at ANU. Until early 2018 he was United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Head of the United Nations Office of Disaster Risk Reduction. Earlier roles include Secretary General of CARE International, Chief Executive of CARE Australia and Assistant Director General at AusAID. Meetings attended: 3/4

Francois Gouws is managing director of the TRILITY group of companies which operate across Australia and New Zealand. He has over 20 years’ international experience in the water industry. Francois is a Director of the Australian Water Association (AWA) and Chair of the Infrastructure Partnerships Australia (IPA) taskforce. Meetings attended: 4/4

Ann Lund is an international development consultant with developing country and not-for-profit board experience. Ann’s experience includes 15 years in Cambodia, and consulting across South and South East Asia and the Pacific, Africa and the Middle East in business operations and development planning including water, sanitation and hygiene. Meetings attended: 4/4

Kate MacMaster has two decades of cross-cultural experience, consulting in 16 countries across Australia and Pacific, designing, implementing and evaluating capacity building and leadership programs for organisations across many sectors including international aid and development, the Defence and Intelligence communities, and the Australian and Asian water sectors. Meetings attended: 2/2

Alexandra Owens is a Principal Legal Officer at the Department of Premier and Cabinet (NSW). She has over 15 years’ experience in law, international relations and development. She has worked in the public, private and not for profit sectors, and has particular expertise in relation to Asia. Meetings attended: 4/4

Mal Shepherd is General Manager, Water Services at John Holland Pty Ltd. Mal has over 30 years of experience in the water industry working in both the public and private sector across Australia, New Zealand, Southeast Asia and the Middle East on engineering, procurement, construction and management of complex multidisciplinary engineering projects. Meetings attended: 3/4

Mark Stewart is Head of Fundraising, The Children’s Hospital at Westmead, Sydney, and has extensive experience within the national and international NGO environment, having held roles across marketing, fundraising and organisational development. Meetings attended: 1/4

Kevin Young is Managing Director of Sydney Water. Kevin has over 40 years’ experience working for the private sector and government authorities within Australia and overseas. Meetings attended: 3/4
WaterAid’s full financial statements are available at: wateraid.org.au

These summary financial reports have been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. For further information on the Code please refer to the ACFID Code of Conduct Implementation Guidance available at: www.acfid.asn.au

**Income statement for the year ended 31 March 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019 $'000</th>
<th>2018 $'000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXPENDITURE</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>International aid and development programs expenditure</td>
<td>$'000</td>
<td>$'000</td>
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<tr>
<td>International programs</td>
<td>7,245</td>
<td>5,735</td>
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<td>Program support costs</td>
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<td>1,676</td>
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<td>Community education</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>514</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising costs</td>
<td>2,082</td>
<td>2,620</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government, multilateral and private</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting and administration</td>
<td>1,169</td>
<td>842</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL INTERNATIONAL AID AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS EXPENDITURE</td>
<td>13,611</td>
<td>11,388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECEIPTS</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations and gifts</td>
<td>$'000</td>
<td>$'000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monetary</td>
<td>6,058</td>
<td>5,652</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-monetary</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bequests and legacies</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)</td>
<td>4,561</td>
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<tr>
<td>WaterAid UK</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>1,063</td>
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<tr>
<td>WaterAid other members</td>
<td>1,487</td>
<td>1,107</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Australian grants</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>562</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other overseas grants</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>587</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment income</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL RECEIPTS</td>
<td>13,800</td>
<td>12,076</td>
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**Statement of financial position as at 31 March 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019 $'000</th>
<th>2018 $'000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>5,809</td>
<td>5,737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and other receivables</td>
<td>1,017</td>
<td>1,187</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other financial assets</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>84</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>171</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</td>
<td>7,044</td>
<td>7,179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-current assets</td>
<td>Property, plant and equipment</td>
<td>232</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intangible assets</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL ASSETS</td>
<td>7,279</td>
<td>7,408</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Statement of changes in equity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019 Retained earnings</th>
<th>Total $'000</th>
<th>2018 Retained earnings</th>
<th>Total $'000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 1 April 2018</td>
<td>2,562</td>
<td>2,562</td>
<td>Balance at 1 April 2017</td>
<td>1,874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess/(Shortfall) of revenue over expenses</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>189</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 31 March 2019</td>
<td>2,751</td>
<td>2,751</td>
<td>Balance at 31 March 2018</td>
<td>2,562</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Directors’ declaration**

The Directors of the Group declare that:

1. The consolidated financial statements and notes of WaterAid Australia Ltd for the year ended 31 March 2019 are in accordance with the Australian Council for International Development Code of Conduct and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Act 2012, including:
   a. complying with Australian Accounting Standards, the Australian Council for International Development Code of Conduct and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulations; and
   b. giving a true and fair view of the financial position as at 31 March 2019 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date;

2. In the Directors’ opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Rob Skinner, Chair

Wendy Rose, Deputy Chair

Dated 4 July 2019.
Independent auditor’s report

WaterAid Australia Ltd and Controlled Entities
ABN 99 700 687 141


Opinion

The summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at 31 March 2019, the summary statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income and a summary statement of changes in equity for the year then ended, and related notes, are derived from the audited financial report of WaterAid Australia Ltd and Controlled Entities for the year ended 31 March 2019.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report.

Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Australian Accounting Standards – General Purpose Financial Statements, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the ACFID Code of Conduct. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor’s report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report and the auditor’s report thereon. The summary financial statements and the audited financial report do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited financial report.

The Audited Financial Report and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial report in our report dated 4 July 2019.

Board’s Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

The board is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the summary financial statements.

Auditor’s Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810 Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

Saward Dawson

Partner: Peter Shields
Chartered Accountant
Date: 4 July 2019
Blackburn, Victoria 3130

WaterAid Australia places accountability at the forefront of our work and upholds the highest standard of practice. We are an active member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID), making us a signatory to their Code of Conduct, which prescribes the highest standards of development practice. Information about how to make a complaint on breach of conduct can be found at: www.acfid.asn.au

WaterAid Australia is fully accredited by the Australian Government’s Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. This status represents the Australian Government’s confidence in our organisational effectiveness, governance and development programs. We are an active member of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission and the Public Fundraising Regulatory Association. We are also committed to the Fundraising Institute of Australia’s Principles and Standards of Fundraising Practice.

We adhere to the ASX Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations and ISO31000 Risk Management Practice, and we undergo both internal audits by WaterAid International and an annual external audit.

People in local communities are at the centre of our work and WaterAid Australia has an organisational Code of Conduct, Ethical Guidelines and a strong commitment to child safeguarding to ensure the best interests of our local partners and community members are always our priority.

Through WaterAid’s work in Cambodia, people like Non and her daughter Sokren will soon gain access to clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene.
This annual report is printed on Maine Recycled Silk paper, which is made with fibre derived only from sustainable sources and produced with a low reliance on fossil fuel energy. The paper is certified carbon neutral and FSC certified.