Globally in FY22, with your help, WaterAid achieved*:

- Improved hygiene for **1.7 million** household members
- Access to clean water for **1.6 million** patients of healthcare facilities
- Improved toilet facilities for **100,000** students

* for more information visit https://www.wateraid.org/au/globalimpact

About WaterAid

WaterAid is an international not-for-profit, determined to make clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene normal for everyone, everywhere within a generation.

Find out more: wateraid.org.au

On the front cover: Francisca, 8, washes her hands at a tap connected to a water system in Liquica, Timor-Leste.

Credit: WaterAid/Tariq Hawari

This copy of Oasis was edited and written by Caity Hall and the WaterAid Australia team. For feedback or article suggestions, please email info@wateraid.org.au
The last few years have been challenging for all of us, and it brings me great relief to see the world adapting to the new context/ways of working. We are so grateful for the ongoing support you have continued to show us over this uncertain time, helping to bring clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene to some of the world’s most vulnerable communities.

Challenges still remain ahead of us. With an ever-increasing number of climate related disasters, access to clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene is more important than ever. Without access to these basic human rights, people’s health, safety and dignity suffer, children miss out on education, people are less able to earn a living and gender inequality is reinforced.

Empowering communities everywhere with clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene builds resilience and unlocks potential to make a lasting difference. In short it is essential to addressing these challenges communities face.

It’s a pleasure to be able to demonstrate to you the impact your support has achieved in this Autumn 2023 edition of Oasis. I hope you are as proud as I am reading through these stories. I feel a great sense of optimism and determination for 2023 and the things we are going to continue to achieve together.

Rosie Wheen
Chief Executive – WaterAid Australia
Papua New Guinea

Through our One Netball Program, in partnership with Netball Australia and Netball PNG, we used sport as a way to educate children on topics like self-confidence, communication, leadership, personal hygiene and menstrual health. The seven week program reached 512 students from 15 primary schools, and the shorter four day program reached 237 children from five districts. One Netball is delivered as part of the Australian Government’s sports for development program, Team Up.

“I learned so much from this program. Not only playing but the lessons in the classroom was fun like learning of the five routes that germs pass from the environment and makes us sick.”
– Keruwai, 16 years old

Keruwai and fellow students discuss picture cards on personal hygiene and how germs get passed onto humans.
**Mozambique**

In Mecanhelas, we worked with our partners to pipe clean water into the health centre, as well as construct toilets and handwashing stations. We also delivered training sessions on healthy hygiene practices to healthcare staff and the community. Now patients of the healthcare facility can be cared for safely, without fear of infection.

Rosa Malicha washes her hand at the handwashing station at the health centre in Mecanhelas. Niassa Province, Mozambique

**Cambodia**

2,528 new toilets have been constructed throughout communities in Kampong Chhnang Province as a result of our Civic Champion Program. This program aims to empower communities by improving leadership, management, teamwork, and resourcing skills in order to create positive change.

Yan (84) walking up the ramp to a disabled user-friendly toilet in Kampong Chhnang province
Almost 20% of Timor-Leste’s rural population does not have access to at least basic drinking water.

7 in 10 people do not have access to proper hygiene.

Over 40% of the population of Timor-Leste does not have a decent toilet.

Rosita de Aroujo is 32 years old and a mother of five children, all between the ages of 3-11. She lives in Lesuata, a village high up in the mountains of Timor-Leste. Lesuata’s big lush mountains are beautiful, but cause the village to be isolated, only connected to the rest of Timor-Leste by a rugged dirt road which becomes flooded in the rainy season.

Lesuata does not have a clean water source, so Rosita has to follow a steep and slippery path down the mountain to collect water for her family. She will do this twice a day, carrying two jerry cans on her head, one in each hand, and six on the back of a horse that she leads. The journey back up the mountain once the jerry cans are full is the hardest part.

Though she makes the trip twice a day, Rosita does not have enough water to cater for her family’s needs. With no water in the village, they are still using a traditional toilet, which is
poor water and toilets.

After spending hours every day collecting water, Rosita still has to find time to look after her children, help her husband in their farm, and complete other household jobs. This leaves her with very little time to do the things she loves, like spending quality time with her family, or playing volleyball with her neighbours! With clean water close to home, Rosita would have more freedom to focus on what really matters.

essentially a hole in the ground. They try to save some of their daily water for handwashing, but there isn’t always enough.

“I think if the water is closer to our house it is better and we feel happy and it is easy for us to build our own toilet”, she explains.

Having a sanitary place to go to the toilet along with clean water and soap for handwashing is a vital part of preventing diarrhoeal diseases, particularly for children. One child under five dies every two minutes from diarrheal diseases caused by
Spotlight on Timor-Leste

In Beremana village, just a short distance across the mountains from Lesuata, life is noticeably different. Thanks to generous supporters like you, we were able to install a gravity fed water system and taps in the village a few years ago, as well as a hygienic flushable toilet. Having access to clean water and toilets has been life-changing for the community.

The women pictured above remember what it was like to travel long distances to collect water. They would travel down the mountain to the water source, then carry it back up to the village in heavy bamboo baskets.

“We are very happy because the water source is close to us now. We have more time for household work and cooking, and now we are able to bath ourselves and our children more regularly”.

The women also explain how having a clean water source in the village also allows the children to be better prepared for school each day. Travelling to collect water in the morning is a common reason children are late to school in Timor-Leste and all around the world. Beremana’s new water system means children arrive at school on time, well fed, well rested, and ready to learn.

Communities thrive with access to water, toilets and hygiene...
Best of all, the new taps throughout Berema were also built with ramps, making them accessible for people with a disability, like Darsia (pictured above). Darsia was born with a disability that left her confined to a wheelchair. She is one of seven children and her parents are both farmers. It has made a huge difference to their life having a clean water source close to home, especially one Darcia can access without support.

Children like Zelmonia, pictured above, live healthier and happier lives when they have access to clean water.
A big thank you to Hills Grammar School

In October last year, the year nines at Hills Grammar School in NSW built their own professionally tested water filtration system. With the importance of clean water front of mine, they were feeling extra inspired to help bring clean water to communities around the world and decided to participate in our annual fundraiser, Walk for Water.

Walk for Water took place between 10-14 October 2022 and encouraged participants to walk, run or ride every day for five days and raise money for those who have to travel long distances to access water. The event is supported heavily by our valued members and partners in the water sector but we love to see schools get involved also in this great event!

Last year it raised almost $160,000 and 82 teams participated. We were thrilled to have the year nines of Hills Grammar School sign up for the challenge! The year level had 20 groups sign up and raised an impressive total of $1242.

“A with the support of resources provided by WaterAid Australia, the students were made aware of the serious lack of clean drinking water in many countries and the hardships people endure every day to try and obtain this precious resource that we all need to live the lives each one of us deserves.” – Michelle, Head of Science Department, Hills Grammar

We hope the Hills Grammar teams inspire other schools to jump on board Walk for Water in 2023. For more info on how you can take part email info@wateraid.org.au

A gift for a healthier, happier future

Our Gifts for Life are a collection of cards and gifts that support the world’s poorest and most vulnerable people with water, sanitation and hygiene.

We have gifts for a variety of occasions, each available to be sent as a physical card or delivered as an e-card. And best of all, your donation will go towards projects that help give people taps, toilets and water tanks. Those things help save lives!

Mother’s Day is just around the corner! Shop Gifts for Life at wateraidgifts.org.au
Interflow was founded in 1936 and is now regarded as one of Australia and New Zealand’s leading providers of trenchless pipeline solutions, specialising in watermains, wastewater, stormwater and culvert sectors.

Interflow has been a supporter of WaterAid for over a decade now. They are a gold corporate member, a long time sponsor of our Gala Balls, and in the top three teams on the Walk for Water fundraising leaderboard for the past three years.

We began our relationship with Interflow when Geoff Weaver was Managing Director. Now he has passed that position onto his son Daniel, and taken up the role of Chair of the Board. Daniel was one of our Water Leaders for Walk for Water in 2022, leading the organisation to achieve a fabulous fundraising result.

“Interflow has supported WaterAid for many years. For us, water and the water industry has always been such an important part of our lives, our business and our family. It’s been part of who we are and what we do since the business was founded by my great grandfather in 1936.

For our family, supporting WaterAid is a way of giving back and playing our part in improving the lives of other families and communities, making a difference both now, and also for future generations.

My parents visited Timor-Leste in 2013 and saw firsthand the difference even the most basic amenities can make to the health and happiness of the people within these communities.”

For more information on corporate membership opportunities, visit wateraid.org/au/get-involved/corporate-engagement
Your support makes a difference

You can help provide clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene to the world's poorest communities. Simply complete this form. Thank you.

Please return to:
WaterAid Australia
Reply Paid 93092
MELBOURNE VIC 3000
Or call 1300 858 022 or visit www.wateraid.org/au

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Email receipt

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Card Holder’s Name  Expiry Date   /

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Address of Financial Institution

BSB  Account No.

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Cheque/Money Order (enclosed) payable to WaterAid Australia.

Donations of $2 or more are tax-deductible.

Please send me information about including a gift for WaterAid in my Will.

Please send me information about Workplace Giving.

Please note that all donations are used to support programs including, but not restricted to, the ones described in this mailing.

WaterAid Australia (ABN 99 700 687 141) uses your information to process donations and communicate with you about your support and our work. We will only disclose this information with service providers to fulfil activities relating to our fundraising or if required by the law. To update your information or subscription, please call 1300 858 022 or to view our privacy policy visit our website at wateraid.org.au