

International President's Appeal Women, Water and Leadership (WWL) Update on Projects supported – December 2018

Five projects have been selected to benefit from funds raised by the four Federations in support of the International President's Appeal 2017-2019, "Women Water and Leadership" (WWL). The following is an update on the amount raised and what has taken place for each project by the end of the first year.

Funds raised by the four Federations in Year 1 of the 2 year Appeal

Donations through Federations amount to £ 138,856

- SIGBI raised £19,685
- SI Europe raised £31,300
- SI South West Pacific raised £14,071
- SI Americas raised £73,800

In addition, there have been several private donations (not made through the Federation HQ) which amount to £55,685, plus £12,000 made from the sale of pins and pendants, making the total raised at the end of the first year **£206,541**.

Project 1 – Continent Africa – Kenya – SI Union Kenya "Mwihoko Women Group".

As the area was hit by a very bad weather which affected the crop severely a Field Day on 29th of November had to be cancelled to a later date during the rainy season in 2019. The plan is to showcase the project to the community and stakeholders. Part of the activities that day will be presentation of certificates to the farmer members of the first group who were trained in Egerton University. Other partners and suppliers will also be showcasing their products and services.

Project 2 - Continent Europe – Bulgaria – Earth Forever together with SI club Plovdiv "WeWash (Women empowerment through water, sanitation and health)".

The project implementation goes smoothly and in a flexible way to reflect the identified specific needs of each project village. Project activities involved more than 370 women and members of their families who took part in village meetings and events in all project villages. More than 120 women stay permanently involved in the project awareness raising meetings, training activities, sharing sessions and learning-by-doing events.

Five videos have been made that shows what is being done and how the project benefits the women participating. Next videos will be on the vocational sanitation training and the construction of the model toilet. After receiving their report of the first project phase the second payment was made to Earth Forever on November 8th of € 26,300.

Project 3 - Continent Asia – SI region of Malaysia (SIROM) project “Clean Water for Rural Communities”.

Kg Gana in Kota Marudu, Sabah

The setup of a Gravity fed water system to supplement the current water supply has been completed, so now the villagers are enjoying a regular supply of clean water. The intention was to officially launch the project by the Chief Minister of Sabah on 17th November, but it was postponed to 19th of January 2019. Instead the first Workshop on “Personal Hygiene and Sanitation” was conducted and attended by about 30 women as well as some men from the village.

Phase Two will see the project assist the village women in setting up an organic farm, over a two-acre plot of land. Permission from local authorities to use the land for farming has already been granted, and now that a regular supply of water is set up, irrigation pipes can be installed and the women can be educated in planting crops for their own consumption such as leafy greens, corn and tomatoes.

Long Tanyit in the Belaga District of Sarawak

The 5 Penan girls from Long Tanyit went back to their village in November to help with the setup of the rain water harvesting as part of their practical training to finish their diploma in welding that will take place in February 2019. The young welders worked with the contractor and his team constructing metal support stands for the water tanks, which will store water for the villagers to use during the drought season. Next it is the reconstruction and strengthening of an existing dam, together with the installation of new pipes and a gravity-fed water system that will be completed beginning 2019.

Three Soroptimists from the SIROM Water Committee and one from SI Kuching made a visit to Long Tanyit from 19 - 20 Nov to check on the progress.

Project 4 - Continent Asia; Indonesia - Sulawesi and Lombok

During SIGBI’s conference end of October we met with Anusha SISWP’s President to decide on how to divide the work and responsibility between SI and SISWP.

SISWP will focus on an emergency fund for immediate needs. SI will focus on the WWL project, and collect money for that. An agreement will be signed between SISWP and SI on that project, but as the project will not have finished before end of WWL, SISWP will take on the responsibility of finishing.

1. Focus our water and sanitation project work in 2 locations. Mamboro in the coastal area and Sigi, in the hilly area where government is setting up temporary housing for next 2-4 years. These are areas where all homes were destroyed, no safe drinking water, no toilets, no schools and no livelihood/ income for women. In Sigi, there are no toilets and everyone has to use the river.
2. Conduct Community Education Programmes to change behaviour of people on WASH - water conservation and responsible consumption, sanitation and hygiene.
3. Build toilets and teach maintenance and repairs of toilets. Ensure toilets have solar energy to provide lighting at night. These areas do not have electricity and it would be unsafe for women and children to use these toilets at night.
4. Urgent need is for water tanks, water pumps and water filters in these project areas. SI Indonesia team are sourcing for economical and reliable supplies.

A budget and project description will be made by SI Indonesia and SISWP in January 2019 to be discussed by the PA Committee.

Project 5 - Continent North America

Women, Water and Leadership provided a \$1,000.00 grant for Victoria Hinojosa to participate in H2O Global Leaders and Water Innovation Lab training.

H2O Global Leaders and WIL-Canada brought together a socio-technological vision of water with the development of soft skills for communication and participatory leadership in a series of experiences designed to accelerate collaborative innovation. The H2O Global Leaders training covered an extensive theoretical and practical curricula to develop skills in strong inclusive leadership.