

# Global Water's Rural Hospital Water Disinfection Project

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## Technology Push Program

### Objective

Generally, our water, sanitation and hygiene related projects utilize simple systems, which use local materials, require minimal servicing and therefore create more sustainable projects. These simple solutions make it possible to efficiently work in rural areas and easier for the communities to maintain the facilities, thereby extending the viability of our projects.

However, there are technologies that Global Water works with in the Technology Push Program that makes effective use of state-of-the-art technology to solve water quality issues. This program is focused on developing and providing filtration and disinfection equipment that's effective and maintainable in a remote, developing world environment. One example is a liquid chlorine injector that was installed at a rural hospital in Guatemala several years ago. The introduction of chlorine represented the first time the hospital ever had disinfected water. Through the success of this project, our objective is to expand our outreach to other hospitals in Guatemala as well as other countries. This project has the potential to become a major program that could support disinfection of water in rural hospitals not only in Central America, but around the world.

### Description

The Rural Hospital Water Disinfection Project focuses on providing disinfection for water at hospitals through chlorination, which is widely used around the world as the simplest form of disinfection today. Chlorination, when applied and controlled properly, is the most practical and effective means of removing and/or inactivating disease-causing organisms. It is disease-causing microorganisms (bacteria, virus and protozoa) that create life-threatening diarrhea diseases largely responsible for the death of children under the age of 5 years old throughout the developing world. Therefore, Global Water believes that disinfection of drinking water holds the highest priority for any water supply technology to be implemented in a developing country.

### Solution

The Rural Hospital Water Disinfection Project has the potential to become a major program that could support water disinfection projects for rural hospitals around the world. Global Water would work through local non-governmental organizations and Peace Corps volunteers to identify rural hospitals lacking disinfected water supplies. Due to the lack of safe water in hospitals in remote, rural parts of developing countries and Global Water's ability to manage technical projects, this proposed project could have far reaching positive impacts.

The rural communities that Global Water works with in developing countries have no political power, have no visibility and have no voice in the discussion of the human right to water. In all of our projects, we try to give them a voice in the world to say: "yes, everyone deserves the right to safe water."

