

# Global Water Presentation

## SLIDE 1

### GLOBAL WATER

Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and this presentation is about Global Water, an international, non-profit humanitarian organization founded in 1982. They're focused on creating safe water supplies, sanitation facilities and hygiene-related facilities for rural villagers in developing countries. This presentation will show you what these facilities look like and why they're important.

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## SLIDE 2

### GW STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Water affects every aspect of life. At Global Water, they believe lack of access to safe water is the primary cause of hunger, disease and poverty throughout the world today.

For the most part, hunger problems are due to inadequate water for agriculture and livestock. Without water, crops and livestock wither and die. People go hungry and become weak. Weakness allows disease to run its course and finally the "Quiet Killer" – hunger, takes its toll.

Daily, tens of thousands of men, women, and children die from preventable diseases directly related to drinking contaminated water.

When you're suffering from hunger and water-borne diseases, poverty is a forgone conclusion. You just don't have the energy to lead a productive life.

So this is why they say - Hunger, disease and poverty relate directly back to water problems.

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## SLIDE 3

### THE LACK OF SAFE DRINKING WATER IS THE PRIMARY CAUSE OF DISEASE IN THE WORLD TODAY

Simply put - the lack of safe drinking water is the primary cause of disease in the world today. Everyday, *tens of thousands of* people die from causes directly related to contaminated water. And for those who survive, without good health, there is little chance for a normal and productive life. A surprising statistic to many is that contaminated water causes 80% of the health problems throughout the world. Much of the reason is because in rural areas of developing countries, the only water source for people to wash with and drink from is often a badly polluted shallow well or mud-hole used by both animals and humans.

## SLIDE 4

### COLLECTING WATER IS A TIME INTENSIVE AND LABORIOUS TASK EVERY DAY IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

Without a safe water source in their community, villagers are hiking to rivers or streams or puddles to fill jugs with contaminated water. Women and children normally have the responsibility to fetch water for the family and as a consequence, walk great distances to obtain their daily needs of water for drinking, bathing and cooking. This is a very laborious and time consuming task, which leaves little time to pursue other opportunities such as education or work.

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**SLIDE 5****EVERYONE DESERVES THE RIGHT TO SAFE WATER**

These rural villagers have no political power, have no visibility and have no voice in the discussion of the human right to water. At Global Water, they believe it is one of our responsibilities to give a voice to the rural poor of the developing world and to say: "Yes, everyone deserves the right to safe water."

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**SLIDE 6****GLOBAL WATER'S OUTREACH HAS BEEN GLOBAL**

Although Global Water has worked in many parts of the world in the past, today they focus primarily on the Continent of Africa and Central & South America.

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**SLIDE 7****PICTURE OF WELL DRILLING IN AFRICA**

Global Water's approach is designed to work through local groups so they can develop the construction expertise and program management skills to build water-related facilities in their own country. With this approach, they do not send teams of volunteers to work in developing countries like many other organizations do.

In Africa, most of their work involves drilling water wells and installing hand-pumps as you see here. Normally the rural populations they work with in Africa are too spread out to try to distribute water to individual homes, so they use centralized well locations such as this.

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**SLIDE 8****PICTURES OF HAND DUG WELL AND HAND PUMP IN CENTRAL AMERICA**

In Central America, some of Global Water's work involves hand digging shallow wells and also installing hand-pumps for them.

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**SLIDE 9****PICTURES OF NATURAL SPRING IN RURAL AREA AND SPRING PROTECTION BOX IN CENTRAL AMERICA**

But more commonly in Central America, they often find natural springs to provide water sources for rural villages. In this case, the spring needs to be protected from becoming contaminated by animals and human interaction. Most often, spring water is not contaminated as it exits a hillside and a "Spring Protection Box" is built to protect a water source from future contamination. It's built right into a hillside as you can see here.

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**SLIDE 10****PICTURE OF PVC PIPE IN TRENCH AND MEN DIGGING TRENCHES**

From the Spring Protection Box, PVC piping is installed to allow water to gravity-flow down a hill or, in some cases, a mountain to a village below. Often, the spring is a considerable distance from a village.

One project Global Water funded in Guatemala recently had a spring 5-miles from the village, so 5-miles of hand trenching and pipe laying was done in order to build the water system. Can you imagine walking miles just for a cup of water? It took all the men of the village working together about 3 months to accomplish this project.

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**SLIDE 11                      PICTURE OF WOMEN & CHILDREN BATHING & DOING LAUNDRY IN RIVER**

Other water projects include laundry and bathing facilities.

The woman and children in the upper left picture are bathing and doing laundry in a river in Nicaragua because they had no community facilities to go to that would provide privacy and safety. In the picture to the left is the laundry and bathing facility that was built for the community.

In the lower left picture, the women shown are endangering their lives doing laundry and washing corn in a puddle next to the road, but not for the reason you might think. This same location is where pesticide sprayers fill their tanks and their tanks overflowed routinely into the same puddle where laundry and food washing was going on side by side. This is a classic example of an accident waiting to happen. Global Water usually starts a village project with a water system, but for this particular community, when work was started they built the laundry facility first to get these women away from that road and the pesticide sprayers. The picture to the right shows the type of laundry facility that was built for the community.

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**SLIDE 12                      PICTURE OF SCHOOL HAND-WASHING STATION**

When Global Water first started working in Guatemala, they met Peace Corps volunteers that were teaching kids how to wash their hands and brush their teeth in air because there was no water at their school.

As the right-hand picture shows, once they install a hand-washing station at a school, it gets a lot of use since they're used for everything – drinking water, hand-washing, brushing teeth and dishwashing.

They fund quite a few of these facilities in rural Guatemalan schools within a program called "Healthy Schools Program."

This program is a partnership between Global Water, Peace Corps volunteers and a local group they work with in Guatemala.

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**SLIDE 13                      PICTURES OF LATRINES**

Global Water routinely funds the building of latrines to create proper sanitary facilities as a complement to installing a new water supply system. In addition, they also support hygiene and sanitation education wherever they support water supply projects. The lack of adequate sanitation is a major reason why many existing water supplies in developing countries are so contaminated. Once introduced into a water source as a result of inadequate sanitary facilities, protozoan, bacterial and viral microorganisms can live in water supplies for very long periods of time. These microorganisms are often the primary cause of disease and sickness throughout rural areas of developing countries.

These efforts (safe water, proper sanitation, hygiene education) are synergistic and go hand-in-hand to create a safe environment for rural populations. In particular, latrine facilities and hand-washing stations are constructed in the proximity of schools and other children-oriented facilities.

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**SLIDE 14      TECHNOLOGY PUSH PROGRAM – Technologies Currently Being Used & Evaluated**

What has been shown thus far are relatively simple water systems, because they are always the most sustainable.

However, there are technologies that Global Water works with in a program they call “Technology Push Program”

This program is focused on developing and providing filtration and disinfection equipment that’s effective and maintainable in a remote, developing world environment.

For example:

- They’ve installed a liquid chlorine injector at a rural hospital in Guatemala and this was the first time the hospital ever had disinfected water.
  - They provide chlorine tablet dispensers to rural villages as this is the simplest form of disinfection today.
  - They’ve funded Biosand biological filters in the Amazon River Basin and they’re currently funding similar Biosand filters in Peru.
  - And they’re testing membrane equipment that can produce high-quality water for use in rural hospitals.
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**SLIDE 15      FINAL SLIDE: PICTURES AND WEBSITE ADDRESS**

In summary,

Nothing changes a community like providing a source of clean water for the first time. It creates a complete transformation. It has the power to actually stop the cycle of poverty. The entire community becomes healthier. For the first time, children become eager to learn while young men and women are able to work harder to produce an income and more food. Everyone can envision better futures and begin working towards them. Giving clean water to a poverty stricken community is like giving a blood transfusion to a dying man. Clean water and latrines gives people the opportunity and the dignity to lead healthy lives, pursue education, and fulfill their lives to the fullest. This leads to new potential, new hope for a better tomorrow and a new life.

Global Water’s projects have an immediate life-changing impact, particularly on women and children, who most often have the responsibility of collecting water for the family each day of their lives. Successful Global Water projects utilize water and sanitation as a tool to create sustainable socioeconomic development in these poor rural communities.

The bottom line is –

Together, we’re changing the world, one village at a time.

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