



**Annual report
2019**



**Join For
Water**

- Protos -

Who would ever have thought that washing your hands would become so important? And moreover that the water itself would be a daily struggle? Imagine you had to walk for 3 hours every day to get water for your household, or that you get sick because only unsafe water is available. Today not less than 785 million people have no access to drinking water, nevertheless a human right.

That is why Join For Water must exist. We stand for a professional approach: thoughtful, involved and concrete measures. I am very grateful to my predecessor Vincent Volckaert for this. It is safe to build on his foundations.

Join For Water will face new challenges and opportunities, and for this I would like to use my extensive experience as development worker and as director. Never alone, always together with you: as faithful donor, partner or volunteer. Thank you very much for that.



Bart Dewaele
Director Join For Water

In Belgium we face another dry summer, the groundwater levels are already low at this moment. Using our precious drinking water economically is the message. But also by shopping consciously we have an impact on the availability of water in the rest of the world.

We have achieved great results in recent years, thanks to the support of our donors. Today however my water adventure comes to an end. I am taking on a new challenge, but I have beautiful memories of the time I spent at Join For Water. I wish the new director Bart Dewaele lots of success, the work of our organization is not finished yet. Access to water remains necessary for a healthy development.



Vincent Volckaert
Director Join For Water 2013-2020

Dear reader,

The world faces unseen challenges. Nearby and in our partner countries we have been confronted with the vulnerability of our existence in the past few months. While in Belgium all means of increased hygienic measures, social distancing up to a highly developed health system were used, our partner countries had to fight with more limited means. Access to water and hygiene plays there as well a key role – something for which Join For Water has been committing itself for over 40 years.

In 7 countries in Africa and Latin-America and in Belgium we are working on sustainable water solutions for drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, and water for the agriculture. We join forces with many other players and together we ensure a crucial human right. This right is now more than ever important to protect underprivileged people, while they are struggling to make a living.

In Belgium we make people more aware of their water footprint with the Water counts! campaign. This campaign does not only inform on the use of tap water, but also on the water that you absorb with the products that you consume. In this way we stimulate a more conscious use of water and we limit the impact of our consumption on the water supplies in Belgium and all over the world. Try it yourself and calculate your own water footprint!

We much appreciate the support we get for our work from many organizations, companies, governments and individuals. Unfortunately water related challenges will not diminish in the future. Together we can make sure that the most vulnerable people will be better protected and prepared to cope with the next crisis. We are ready to keep up the fight and hope we can count on your collaboration in the future.



Antonique Koning
President

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Key figures 2019

Number of people who have gained access to...



Drinking water
52.984



Sanitation and hygiene
24.401



Water for agriculture
836

No infrastructure without management. ^M

In 2019 Join For Water empowered local authorities, committees, associations... to ensure proper management:

^M



Drinking water
163

^M



Sanitation and hygiene
219

^M



Water for agriculture
37

Partners

35



Join For Water works with various local partners. In 2019, 35 of them had a signed convention with Join For Water.

Operating income

2018 € 5.954.020
2019 € **6.920.004**

Expenditure programmes



2018 € 4.716.450
2019 € **5.753.625**

Join For Water doesn't abandon the fragile states

Almost all the countries where Join For Water is active, are 'fragile states', that are regularly in the news with a failing policy, natural disasters, humanitarian crises, ... But what is exactly meant by 'fragile state'? For the OECD, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, fragility or vulnerability is the combination of exposure to risks and insufficient capacity of the country to manage, cope with or reduce these risks. Vulnerability can lead to violence, destruction of institutions, displacement, humanitarian or other emergency situations. Fragile states do not succeed in providing basic services to the population, because they either do not want or are not able to do it.

It is of importance to analyze clearly the impact of the risks. Is the impact felt only locally or is it widespread, are there short or long-term effects, is the impact felt generally or by certain groups, what are the consequences for the families and communities? To get a clear view of this Belgian researchers have developed the FRAME methodology (Fragility-Resilience-Assessment-Management-Exercise). In Mali they have used it in cooperation with Foreign Affairs, Defense and non-governmental actors, Join For Water contributed by sharing knowledge and experience.

A 'pays lock' in Haiti

2019 again was a difficult year for Haiti, but it also brought hope for change. All through the year manifestations took place and the anger of the population reached its peak at the end of 2019. A *pays lock* was the result: blockades paralyzed most of the country. Poverty and the lack of public services on the one hand and corruption and waste by the government on the other hand are the source of the great discontent.

The fragility traps the country, and creates also confusion, since both those in power as the demonstrators demand a fundamental change. But up to now no one has been able to say how this change should look like.

SSAFE-training in Mali

"With the black hood over my head I do not see what happens around me. I do not know where my colleagues are. Sometimes I get hit. My self-esteem feels more painful than my body. I just want it to be over fast!"

With this last exercise – a simulation of a kidnapping in a real situation –the three day SSAFE-training (Safe & Secure Approaches in Field Environments) ends which was organized by the United Nations and the mission of the blue helmets in Mali.

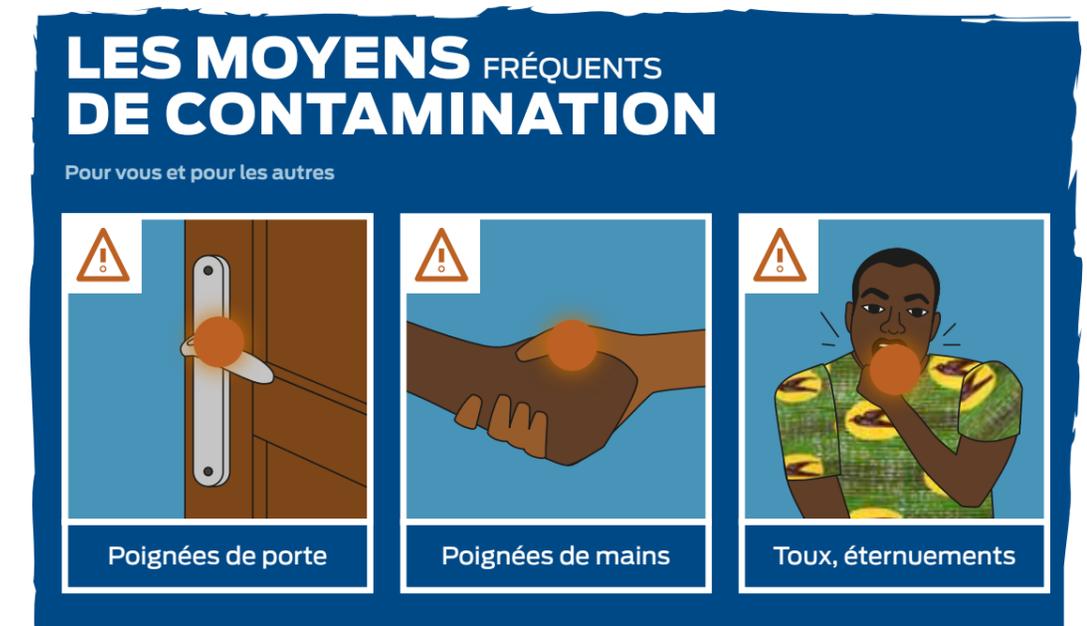
This training – which also covered first aid, extinguishing a fire, react on robberies or crossing an area filled with mines – was tough, but made it possible for our representative in Mali to empathize with situations which in the Mali of today could become a reality.

And then came corona...

For the developing countries the corona pandemic comes on top of all the other concerns. Exactly now a correct hygiene and a good healthcare are crucial, and these are things that are lacking or that are available only for a few people. Moreover the population is often badly informed and do not know which measures have to be taken to contain the spread of the virus. However the governments issue the same strict measures as here in Belgium, but out of ignorance or by pure necessity – if your meager income is lost because you can no longer conduct your business on the street – many do not stick to it.

The colleagues in our partner countries now focus even more on raising awareness and distribute hygienic kits, while respecting the necessary prevention measures such as wearing a mouth mask. We designed and distributed posters with clear drawings, so that also people who cannot read can easily understand the message. Join For Water has also already distributed material so that people can wash their hands with soap. The themes we focus on are more topical than ever.

You can read more about the situation in our partner countries in the newsletters on the website.



SENSITISATION POSTER
IN BENIN.

” Thanks to the fruit trees the soil keeps its nutrients and the soil doesn't simply wash away when it rains.
— Rosemène

Haïti



© Join For Water

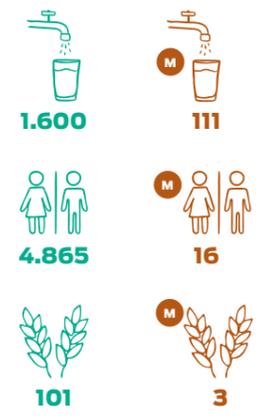


” Today you can get drinking water any time of the day, so there are no more queues.
— Konaté

Mali



© Awa Traore



” I didn't know there was so much water in my clothes.
— Celia

Belgium



© Celia

” A school is an ideal place for EcoSan toilets, since we can combine this with raising awareness in the class.
— Moses

Uganda



© Goedele Opsomer



Join For Water worldwide

Symbols, see p. 4

” What motivated me to participate in the management of the drinking water system, is the example set by my mother.
— Adela

Ecuador



© Piedad Ortiz



The number of persons 'having access to' can only be measured when drinking water, sanitary or irrigation systems are put into operation, so that in the annual reports, considerable fluctuations can be noticed. Join For Water does not work in every country in the 3 sectors either, which explains the lower figures concerning 'water for agriculture'.

” With sanimarketing we should be able to gradually get people higher on the sanitation ladder.
— Marienne

Benin



© Dries Moorthaers

” We motivate people to do their share of digging for the pipes. That is hard work.
— Paula

DR Congo



© Cidri



” The manure from the latrines is used on the fields, which get water through the irrigation channel.
— Katrien

Burundi



© Katrien Van Hooydonk



Joining forces for better results

Join For Water brings together all relevant partners to improve access to drinking water, hygiene and water for agriculture in the South, even in difficult contexts.

WATCH THE VIDEO ON OUR SITE : JOINING FORCES FOR BETTER RESULTS



Water out of the fountain in Bubanza, let's celebrate!

Together with our local partner AVEDEC we have been active in Burundi for more than 10 years. Above all 2019 was the breakthrough of the program in a new intervention zone: the municipality of Bubanza, north of Bujumbura, near the border of DR Congo. In August of 2019 the governor of the province of Bubanza laid the first stone of the drinking water system.

Join For Water and AVEDEC built the drinking water system for the villages of Karinzi, Gitanga and Ngara: 4 sources produce 136 m³ of water each day which through 24.5 km of pipes and 6 reservoirs eventually provides water to 23 water fountains for 2200 families, 5 schools, 2 health centers and 4 churches.

The construction progressed quickly and smoothly, only problems with the import of pipes from Uganda caused some delay. End of November 2019 the water flowed out of the water fountains next to the health center and the school of Ngara! What a celebration!

On December 20, 2019 an intense and persistent rain caused floods and the river swept the bridge. The supply pipe of the drinking water system was also attached to this bridge, which meant that the drinking water could no longer reach the water fountains. In January 2020 a temporary solution was found for the supply pipe of the drinking water system. The municipality is seeking for a solution for the bridge. Work to be done for 2020.

2200 FAMILIES CAN NOW GET WATER FROM A DRINKING WATER FOUNTAIN.



© Katrien Van Hooydonk

Protos EC fully on its own two feet

In 2016 we announced the birth of Protos EC, a local independent organization in Ecuador that wants to continue our work. The three year program of the Belgian Development Cooperation and the province of East-Flanders is meanwhile finished, with amazing results realized by the local NGO CEFODI and Protos EC: improvement of the drinking water supply, reinforcement of the local actors in water management, and the realization of a special arrangement for drinking water committees. This arrangement was due to strong lobbying work, by bringing the local experiences to a national level. It concerns relatively small measures, but they mean a world of difference for the local voluntary drinking water committees: a reduced electricity rate for drinking water systems with pumps, volunteers keep their living wages bonus when – as a volunteer – they maintain a drinking water system, ...

After 3 years Protos EC has a portfolio of projects and as of 2020 it can continue independently. Of course we stay in contact to exchange experiences and knowledge. The work in Ecuador continues to inspire many other intervention zones. We wish the team a lot of success!



REFORESTATION IN RIOVERDE.



IT MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE: TO GET WATER FROM THE RIVER WITH A JERRYCAN OR GET WATER FROM THE TAP...

Water from the river, a thing of the past

The drinking water system of the center of Rioverde, in the North of Ecuador, lies upstream of the river and has a large drinking water purification installation which is close to the villages of Zapallo and Zapallito. The proposal of Join For Water and CEFODI therefor was to connect the villages to this system. After the approval of the municipality, meetings were held with the different local actors and the community to start the construction of the extension. The extension includes a pipe from the treatment installation and the reservoir to the villages to connect to the existing distribution network. Water directly from the river is now a thing of the past.



No more queueing at the water well in Talico

The neighborhood of Talico in Bamako (Municipality IV), Mali grew very rapidly the last few years, and the water supply couldn't catch up. For quite a long time there was not enough water for everyone. Many inhabitants had to catch water in the neighboring areas, 3 kilometers away. Or they had to rely on the water wells, which did not always meet the standards of hygiene and moreover they dried up in the dry season.

The local drinking water committee tackled the problem already in 2017. By their own means they installed a reservoir of 2 m³ to extend the capacity of one of the water tanks, and also different private houses were connected. Despite these efforts the queues were still long at the drinking water fountains. Sometimes tensions rose among the people in the queues, as less water became available.

In cooperation with Join For Water the capacity of the drinking water well was again extended in 2019 with a reservoir of 5 m³ and solar panels were installed which supplied electricity to the water pump. Today the drinking water fountain supplies drinking water to 992 people, and together with the other drinking water fountains there is enough water for the entire neighborhood.

Testimony



”

I am responsible for reporting our operations and take part in the meetings of the local development organization. Since water is permanently available here, there are no more quarrels at the drinking water fountain. And thanks to the solar panels the electricity costs have dropped dramatically. Compared to the past we now pay only one third of the rate.

Mamadou Touré
ophthalmologist and secretary of the drinking water committee
Bamako – MALI

Testimony



”

In the past I used to get up at 4 in the morning to fetch water. If I slept longer, most probably there would not be enough water anymore at the drinking water fountain. Today you can get drinking water any time of the day, so there are no more queues. I can sleep longer and have time to take care of my children. Who gets water, gets everything!

Konaté Penda Samaké
mother of 5 children, Bamako – MALI

Solar energy makes the difference

The municipality of Mountougoula in **Mali** counts several villages with less than 500 inhabitants. People there usually get their water from a well, or they use a foot pump. In 2019 2 of these villages got an adapted installation that pumps up water with solar energy

The inhabitants of Koungodian were able to start working with the new system beginning of 2019 and are extremely satisfied. Driven by solar energy the system pumps up water from the drill hole to a water tower. If water is needed for the fields, then a reservoir is filled from the water tower which then flows to the fields. If enough water is available, then also the cattle can be provided with water. Moreover a few taps are installed on the water tower where one can get drinking water. In this way the system meets several needs. People were trained to maintain the solar panels, the water tank and other parts of the installation.

In the course of 2019 the construction of the same system was started in the village of Tangala. With a tank of 5 m³ water will be available for irrigation, as drinking water and for the cattle. 6 reservoirs have been built for agricultural water and there is a water trough for the animals. Practica Foundation gave support with the technical realization.



© Moussa Fofana



Testimony

”

Every day we feel the disastrous consequences of the climate change. The municipality of Mountougoula is mainly an agricultural and cattle breeding area. But the agricultural harvest is barely sufficient to feed the population. The soil is degraded and the people themselves are getting poorer and poorer. Year after year there is less rain and the wells get dry. This pressure on the water supplies gives rise to possible conflicts between farmers, stock raisers and foresters. Since 2017 Mountougoula works together with Join For Water. One of the results is the creation of the local water committees. Join For Water informs and forms the members around legislation on the management of the local water supplies.

The spirits have certainly been awakened when it concerns the challenges around climate change. We encourage everyone to tackle the challenges in their life with simple and yet renewing actions – such as a better protection of the sources and tree planting actions.

N'koro Dombia, council member and president of the municipal committee for water, sanitation and hygiene
Mountougoula – MALI

From source to water tap

In September 2019, the first kiosk of the new Ngongo II drinking water system in Bunia (**DR Congo**) opened. At that time, several kiosks were in the finishing phase. At a kiosk you can pay to fill your jerry can with water and at the same time buy some basic products. The employees of our partner CIDRI sketch a few phases in the process.



Testimony

”

We motivate people to do their share of digging for the pipes. That is hard work, and every family has to do 5 meters. But little by little bit we managed to finish all the trenches.

Paula Dhiro Njabasi, animator CIDRI

Due to the difference in height between the source and the end point, the water that flows downwards is under great pressure. This pressure must be slowed down in an interconnecting reservoir. In this way, the pipes running further down can sustain the water pressure.

Emmanuel Gbombu, technical committee CIDRI

Our technical people draw up a plan and indicate the suitable location for the construction of a kiosk. We'll then negotiate with the landowner to get him to give up 20 square meters. Then the works can start.

Kakani Madudanga, project committee CIDRI

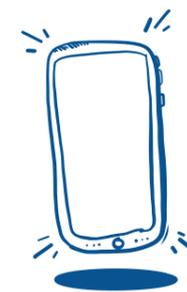


© Vincent Voickaert

No infrastructure without management

Join For Water and its partners provide infrastructure, but also ensure that it continues to function, thanks to proper management.

WATCH THE VIDEO ON OUR SITE : NO INFRASTRUCTURE WITHOUT MANAGEMENT



THE COMMITTEES RECEIVE TRAINING ON HOW TO USE THE APP.



An app for the drinking water committees

In rural areas the management of a drinking water system is not self-evident at all. In **Haiti** this management is mainly in the hands of the community. Among the users of drinking water a management committee is chosen, the CAEPA, *Comité d'approvisionnement en eau potable, hygiène et assainissement*. This committee must maintain the infrastructure, keep the water distribution running and collect the contributions of the users, so that this money can be used for repairs and maintenance. The government recognizes these committees, but in practice this doesn't mean actual support. The managers have to take matters into their own hands, which is not easy for a committee that mainly consists of volunteers. Moreover few resources are available for the committees.

Join for Water, the UCL (*Université Catholique de Louvain la Neuve*) and the state university of Haiti have joined forces to better support the committees. The university students are developing an app for the follow-up of the drinking water system and to keep track of the payments. This means that the DINEPA, the national public service for drinking water and sanitation, will be aware of problems much faster. The departmental services will indeed have access to all data with one click on their telephone. The first version was available during the academic year 2018-2019 and is now being tested in the field. The app will then be refined to optimally respond to the needs of the managers and to enable a smooth communication between users and managers.

The drinking water committees to a higher level

The last few years the associations of drinking water users (ACEP) are indispensable for the good management of drinking water as a public service in **Benin**. Their role is to control: does the municipality perform its role as a project owner and do the private players play their role as managers? The associations identify technical defects and can file a complaint if the management isn't going well.

The ACEP still experience some difficulties in their performance and representativeness. In response to this Join For Water has made a toolbox with guidelines and model forms to better organize their work. There is for example a model guideline for complaints and evaluations, inspection guidelines for hygiene and sanitation, ... Everything is put together in a box and is suitable for every drinking water committee in Benin and every structure that wants to help the ACEP to get stronger.

Since the responsibility for the drinking water supply has recently been moved again to the national authorities, also the ACEP have to be organized on a higher level to be able to keep defending the rights of the users of drinking water. With the help of Join For Water the ACEP in the departments of Atacora and Donga (North-Benin) have united. They are, just like Join For Water itself, member of the national platform of non-governmental actors in the water and sanitation sector. Our partner PNE (*Partenariat National de l'Eau*) presides the platform.

At the same time during the last few years Join For Water also helped to create municipal Consultation Frameworks Water and Sanitation, in which the ACEP are represented. Exchanging experiences and submitting proposals to improve the drinking water supply to the municipality, are on the agenda.

"The Consultation Frameworks Water and Sanitation have drawn our attention to different things to which we ourselves would never have paid any attention," says Adama Issifou, public servant of the municipality of Djougou.

THE TOOLBOX CONTAINS SEVERAL MODEL FORMS.

FICHE DE SUIVI DU SERVICE PUBLIC DE L'EAU

Developpée conjointement par ACEP et protos

Commune: _____ Arrondissement: _____ Village: _____
 Localité: _____ Localisation de l'ouvrage: _____
 Gestionnaire de l'ouvrage: _____ Contact: _____
 Observateur: _____ Contact: _____

Constats faits par rapport à l'ouvrage

	Fonctionne bien	Propreté	Organisation	Périmètre de protection	Délai de réparation	Bagarre autour	Droit de l'eau	Heures d'ouverture
Observation (+ ou -)								
Date de dysfonctionnement	Jours							
	Mois							
Dysfonctionnement à signaler par rapport au service de l'eau	Détails:			Suite donnée				
Suggestions								

Je certifie sur honneur l'objet de mon constat et je suis prêt à répondre devant qui de droit

Signature de l'observateur

The first of its kind

Ituri is the first province in **DR Congo** which can present a sector plan for 'drinking water and the hygienic handling of water in the households', as required by the new Congolese Water Law. CIDRI, partner of Join For Water, participated in the inventory of the current systems, and also several (public) services and management committees for drinking water played an important role in putting together the sector plan.

The plan lists the gaps in the drinking water supply in the province. It concerns the unequal spreading of the availability of water - sources, wells, drillings, tap points, ... - compared to the population density, the very long distances to fetch water, the sometimes insufficient quantity of water, the poor quality of the drinking water and the bad hygienic habits.

This plan is not an action plan. But it does show the framework so that the provincial authorities can have the noses of everyone concerned pointing in the same direction and make the efficiency increase. It is a guideline for any party that supports the idea that each inhabitant has a right to drinking water.

The sector plan describes as realistically as possible the desired situation within the next 5 years and the role of everyone to achieve the goals.



THE SECTOR PLAN IS A GUIDELINE FOR ANY PARTY THAT SUPPORTS THE IDEA THAT EACH INHABITANT HAS A RIGHT TO DRINKING WATER.



Testimony

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What motivated me to participate in the management of the drinking water system, is the example set by my mother. She was often involved in activities that were meant to improve the living conditions of our community. In the beginning I didn't like this work much, but little by little I realized the importance of the organization. Before, I had to fetch the water from the river and bring it home. Then we had to boil it, because there were maggots in the water. CEFODI taught us how to treat the water.

Adela Charcopa

treasurer of the drinking water system of the communities of Walte, Milagro and Palmar – ECUADOR

CEFODI is a partner of Join For Water / Protos EC

Testimony

”

It had been 2011 since I was in Isale, and when I returned there in February 2020, I was quite surprised: the steep slopes are no longer barren and empty, but with infiltration trenches transformed into green fields full of crops, the cheerful and healthy people are in contrast to the poor and malnourished children I remember. The EcoSans we built are still cared for and operational. The manure from those latrines is used on the fields, which get water through the irrigation channel. On the market you'll find a multitude of locally produced fruits and vegetables and besides the water kiosk homemade soap is sold. It's great to see how water can be a real lever for development.

Katrien

Join For Water, visiting Isale – BURUNDI

Join For Water was active in Isale from 2011 to 2016.



© Katrien Van Hooydonk

Everything goes well in Ampitatafika

The messages we get from **Madagascar** are positive. Join For Water together with its partner in Ampitatafika and Ambatomiady, centrally located in Madagascar, has built a huge drinking water system and the management of it is going well. The sustainability of the drinking water supplies have been assured after Join For Water left (end of 2018). The municipalities had outsourced the management to a professional company, Lova velu, and they keep up the good work.

The service is available 24/7. The number of connections has increased to 780 in Ampitatafika and to 907 in Ambatomiady. The consumption of drinking water remains stable with peaks in the dry season and an average monthly consumption of more than 3 m³ per family for 2/3 of the subscribers. The price of the water has not gone up and almost all connected families pay their contribution on time.

Of these revenues the manager transfers 3 % to the municipality which gives them the means to follow up the drinking water distribution. And 7 % of the revenues go to a fund to extend the system. Lova velu also talks to the municipalities about the protection of the water sources. The families are happy with this professional approach.



© Francesca Rossi

THE SERVICE OF THE DRINKING WATER SUPPLY IS PROVIDED 24/7, AS A RESULT OF A PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT.

For all users, today and tomorrow

Join For Water works on sustainable water and soil management - with climate change as an important challenge - and takes into account the various water users.

WATCH THE VIDEO ON OUR SITE :FOR ALL USERS, TODAY AND TOMORROW



Starting from the base offers the best opportunities for success

Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) is only integrated when all of the stakeholders are involved and has more impact with a participatory planning from the base. In the IWRM-project in the Ouémé valley in **Benin** the inhabitants of the selected villages themselves drew the maps of the situation and all the stakeholders and the influencers were identified.

A role-play has been developed on the basis of this, adapted to the local physical and social context. In this way the mayor could become a poor widow and the widow a rich entrepreneur. Since the villagers themselves participated, the pain points around IWRM came clearly to the surface and some concrete proposals for action were already made.

With representatives (m/f) from the villages we held a planning workshop to analyze these proposals for action. After the discussions and analysis with other parties such as local authorities, technical services, social organizations, ... we went back to the villages. So we were able to propose the results and select the priority actions which are now included in the municipal plans for action.

For each action there will be a detailed information sheet with the location of the action, the possible social and environmental effects, any corrective action to be taken, ... Also the ecosystem services are mentioned, these are the material and immaterial benefits which man derives from the ecosystem. This allows people to make a living from fishing, because the ecosystem provides fish, but to enable this it is also important that water hyacinth is harvested to prevent suffocation. Taking the ecosystem services into account is crucial to keep in mind the full picture.



AS FROM THE START AND IN EACH STEP THE VILLAGERS ARE INVOLVED.

Healthy food throughout the year

The extremely big carrots and the many tomatoes prove it: in 2019 significant progress has been made in the horticultural activities of the Amsana project, in the north of **Benin**.

On 9 sites the plots are arranged on a surface of 20.25 ha, where farmers can grow their vegetables. The total production was 141 tons of which 119 tons could be sold on the market. For the farmers and their wives this meant an immediate increase of their income of approximately 80%. Amongst the 370 growers there are 242 women and about 1800 people from their families benefit from the good results.

These results were due to the availability of water through pump installations with solar energy, thanks to irrigation, but also by making use of appropriate ecological growing techniques. This means that food security, the situation in which “people at any moment have physical and economic access to sufficient safe and nutritious foods to meet their eating needs and preferences for an active and healthy life” has been achieved for the families of the farmers (m/f) involved.

In other words: by having enough food available throughout the year the health of these people will only improve.



A MAJOR PART OF THE VEGETABLES CAN BE SOLD ON THE MARKET.

© Adam Samba



THANKS TO THE TREES THE SOIL DOESN'T WASH AWAY WHEN IT RAINS.

© Join For Water

Working on a scale

Integrated water resources management (IWRM) is an approach that needs a certain scale to have sustainable effects. Nevertheless you can also start with IWRM on a small scale and zoom out to the bigger picture.

The river basin of the Moustiques in the northwest of **Haiti** is 222 km² in size. It is a dry area with an annual rainfall of 700 mm and a dry season of 6 to 8 months. All precipitation falls within a few months and this often leads to flooding. The hurricanes that struck Haiti every year only make this worse.

The Mousiques is the only source for the farmers to irrigate their fields, but the amount of water available varies whether you live upstream or downstream. This leads to conflicts between the different communities that use water from the river. That is why in 2008 the river basin committee was created. It organizes consultation between all parties. Working out a strategy to manage the entire river basin in an integrated way, was also one of the ambitions.

A heavy task in a vulnerable context. And it appeared to be difficult to motivate all players to participate. Therefore they started to work on a smaller scale as from 2014. In this way certain zones immediately took advantage of the protection measures and the local population is directly involved in the management of their sub-stream basin.

This approach already paid off in the sub-basin of Matha and this experience is now used in the one of Couteau. With all these findings the committee can convince those involved in other sub-basins that IWRM is necessary and achievable. At the same time the river basin committee can also keep in mind the big picture of the entire river basin of the Moustiques. There are heading in the right direction but there is still a long way to go.



Testimony

”

I now cultivate an area of 500 m² and I can also grow vegetables during the low season. I no longer need to fetch water, because the water is now available at my plot. I now also apply better cultivating techniques and I have learned to grow onions and tomatoes. I am very happy that we can now eat vegetables during all seasons and that I can pay the school fees of my children with the revenues of my horticultural activity.

Edwige Mara
horticulturalist
Barka-Cobly – BENIN

© Adam Samba



Testimony

”

A soil without trees suffers from a lot of erosion. Thanks to the fruit trees the soil keeps its nutrients and the soil doesn't simply wash away when it rains. We eat the fruit ourselves or we sell it. With the revenues we can buy small things for the children, such as school material.

Rosemène

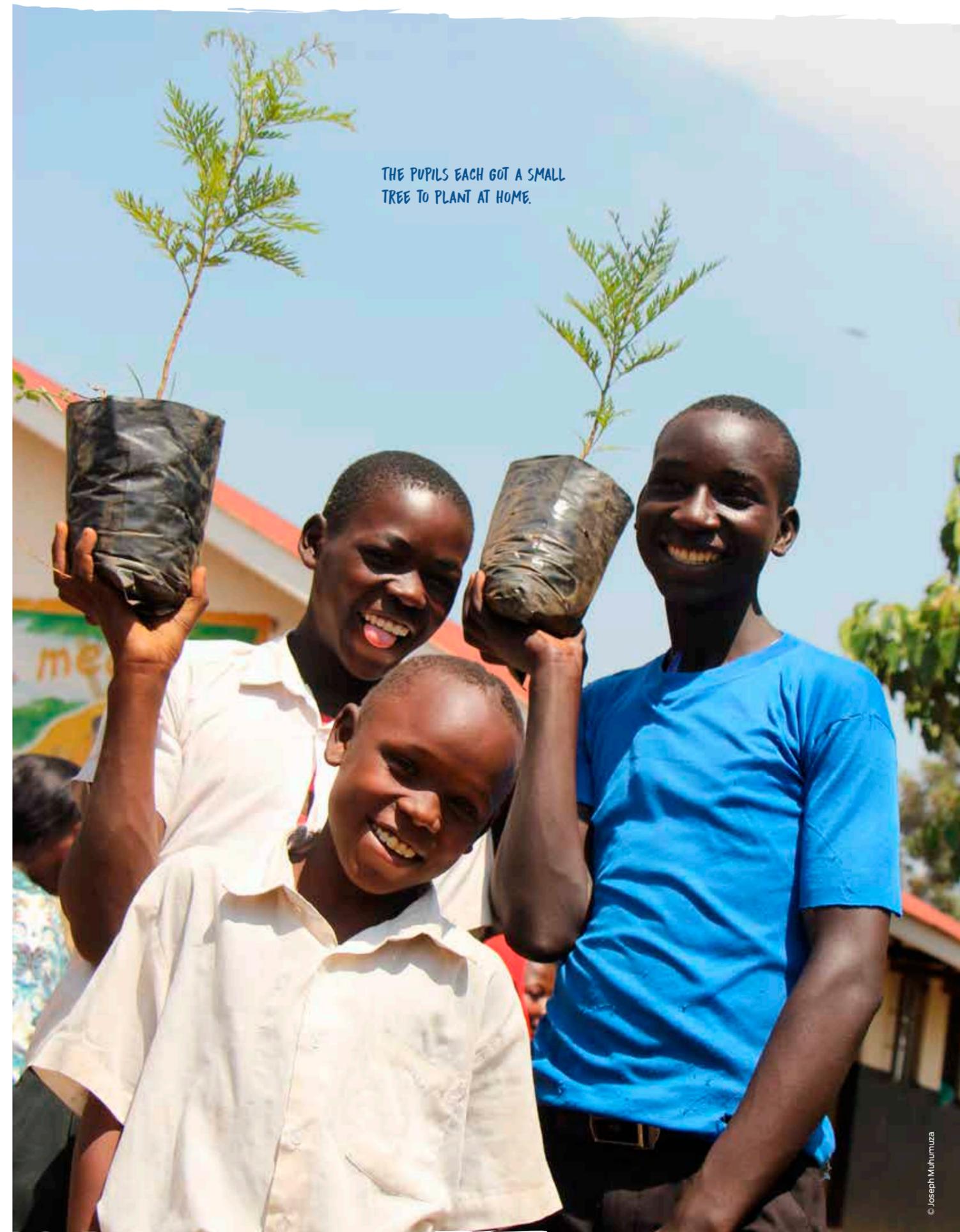
plant cultivator in the tree nursery of Couteau
Passe Catabois – HAÏTI

Protect the Mpanga river, lifeline for many people

The Mpanga river is the source of life for about 1.2 million of Ugandans, it rises in the Rwenzori mountains and flows into Lake George. The activities of Join For Water in **Uganda** are mainly situated around parts of the Mpanga. No wonder that Join For Water took the lead in the Mpanga Event, from March 11 to 15, 2019. This event was one of the regional sensitization moments preceding the Uganda Water and Environment week, end of March 2019, an organization of the ministry of Water and Environment.

The Mpanga event focused on recovery, preservation and sustainable management of the Mpanga river. After all, the Mpanga and its banks are severely affected by human activities. The water of the river is used by families, the industry and the agriculture.

Awareness was paramount, with broadcasts on regional radio stations, and through lectures, tree planting actions, art and music in the schools. The students each got a tree to take home and in 2 schools a total of 50 trees were planted. In Kihondo, Karago and Fort Portal cleaning activities took place in different spots near the river, in schools, businesses, hotels, banks ... The event ended with presentations and speeches about the relationship between water, sanitation and hygiene and about Integrated Water Resources Management.



THE PUPILS EACH GOT A SMALL
TREE TO PLANT AT HOME.



Waste management, the challenge of the future

Join For Water and its partners are working to improve water quality and ecological waste management. We inform about the relationship between health and hygiene.

WATCH THE VIDEO ON OUR SITE : WASTE MANAGEMENT, THE CHALLENGE OF THE FUTURE



The story continues

Clean Impact – the private emptying service with which we started working in March 2015 in Toamasina (**Madagascar**) – continues to perform well. Former Join For Water colleague Niry is now working for Impact and brings along his expertise. Clean Impact is still the only emptying service in Toamasina and also started with waste collection. The capacity of the company has increased. Clean Impact can now collect and treat more sludge: 100 m³ per month. The customer base is varied, but almost half of the customers are humble households with a latrine with a well of not more than 1 m³. The price of the emptying service has remained unchanged. The small company is profitable and has a management contract with the municipality.

Clean Impact is working on a partnership with the municipality to allow them to build also public latrines and to use the humus of the treatment station for the open green space. The visit of the municipality of Mahajanga proves that Clean Impact has really become a reference in Madagascar. Mahajanga has an emptying service but they fail to do a good job. Mahajanga would like to appeal to Impact and their expertise.

THE CAPACITY OF THE PROFESSIONAL EMPTYING SERVICE HAS INCREASED.



© Join For Water

Hygiene at school? Check!

Hygiene at school and at home? Let the children themselves take responsibility and give the example, and the chance of success will immediately be greater. That is the simple starting point of the HAMS method, *Hygiène et Assainissement en Milieu Scolaire*, or Hygiene and Sanitation at school. Join For Water has been using this method for many years, among other things in the north of Benin, where in the departments of Atacora and Donga 18 schools are taking trainings and workshops around hygiene.

How do you create a HAMS-club? First of all a responsible teacher is appointed, the *maître d'hygiène*. Then a 'brigade' of 3 pupils per class is formed, of which at least 1 girl. 1 pupil supervises personal hygiene and clothing, a second one is responsible for the drinking water in the classroom, and the third takes care of the cleanliness of the playground and latrines. The larger HAMS-club is then formed by the members of the brigades. The underlying intention of this HAMS-club is at least as important: the children take home the good habits and show their parents and other family members how it should be done.

With a checklist in their hands the pupils themselves assess the situation: is the playground clean, is there a garbage bin, is the access to the latrines clean, is water and soap available to wash hands, do the pupils already have the reflex to wash their hands after going to the toilet and before eating, does the food stand on a platform in the dining room, are the bowls for the food covered, does the drinking water point work, is there a budget for its maintenance? Etc.

The primary school of Tchouléoudji with 146 pupils is preparing for a 'concours'. Soon they will compete the school of Houndrome: a competition for the best song, the best play, the best poetry reading about hygiene. In Houndrome they are ready for it. Watch their theatre play. A pupil plays the role of the mother with three children. Child 1 comes home, gently washes the hands, takes a plate and starts eating. Child 2 and 3 start eating without washing their hands. Child 1 shouts at them that they have to do that immediately. Afterwards the children tell their 'mother' why it is so important that they wash their hands.



IN A PLAY THE PUPILS SHOW THE PRINCIPLES OF GOOD HYGIÈNE.

© Dries Moorhamers



Testimony

”

We are the *comité de santé* of our school, and we ensure that the school remains clean. We sweep the playground and collect the garbage. We keep the latrines clean. Also at home we make sure that our small courtyard stays clean. Every week we go around the school with a checklist, on which we indicate for example whether the latrines are clean and whether there are garbage bins in the classrooms.

Wolfgang Akakpo (13), Gnonna Tchigo (11), Jacques Todegnon (12)
pupils at the basic school Tchouléoudji
Dogbo – BENIN



© Dries Moorhamers

Testimony

“Together with the *comité de santé* I keep our school clean: the classrooms, the courtyard, the latrines, the urinals... We encourage our pupils to also build a tippy-tap at their house and to emphasize the importance of a good hand hygiene to their parents. We monitor this closely: I visit the parents to see whether the tippy-tap is really there and I ask them whether their children told them about the good hand hygiene practices they learned at school. The people of AVPN, the partner of Join For Water, often give us advice when we encounter problems. Twice a month they come by. We notice a real difference through our follow-up: there are less pupils absent due to illness.”

Félix Koussahoue
maître d'hygiène
school in Tchouléoudji – BENIN



© Dries Moorhamers

Sometimes it doesn't work

It looked promising, innovative and ambitious. Join For Water signed a contract with the company Denys for the construction of a sludge treatment plant in Bamako (**Mali**), financed by various actors: the European Union, the Belgian Government, the VPWO (Flemish Partnership Water for Development). The installation should also be able to generate biogas, a new technology for Join For Water for which we got a lot of support from Aquafin.

So the plans were ready, the financing was completed, the population knew what was coming, but then ... it went wrong. It is difficult to exactly put the finger on it, but it was clear that the station had become the toy in a political game. The employees of Denys were no longer allowed on the site, the consultation meetings with the local residents were brutally disrupted, houses were built on the site, previous agreements were ignored.

Consultation with all those involved and on all levels did not help. We have explored all the possibilities thoroughly, but finally we had to stop the intervention in October 2019.

We do not like this, but in this case we had no other choice. We want to thank all the partners who have shown a constructive and cooperative attitude in this matter, and we will learn the necessary lessons from this to avoid such a situation in the future.

Testimony

”

We now have a block with toilets for boys and a sanitary block for girls. A school is an ideal place for EcoSan toilets, since we can combine this with raising awareness in the class, and the training of teachers and educators. Also the drawings with information in the toilets contribute to a correct use. Since the installation we notice that the hygienic situation has improved enormously, which is not obvious at all in a school with 700 pupils.

Moses
director primary school
Itongi – UGANDA



© Goedele Opsomer

”

On an ordinary day around 30 people come here to use the toilet or the shower, but on the weekly market day that is easily 80. For this they pay 50 FCFA (0.08 EUR). I also operate a drinking water kiosk a bit further away. For 3.50 FCFA (0.005 EUR) people can fill a small jerrycan.

Marie Bleossi
manager of a drinking water kiosk and latrine block at the *Sanimarché*
Dogbo – BENIN



© Dries Moorthamers

Testimony

“I go to villages where people no longer use nature as a toilet, but use self-built latrines instead. For these families the latrine at the *Sanimarché* is too expensive, but I explain them that together they can also buy a professionally built, hygienic latrine. With sanimarketing we should be able to gradually get people higher on the sanitation ladder.

Join For Water helps us in monitoring our actions. It sometimes happens that our initiatives are counteracted, or that for some reason we are stuck for a while. Then the technical assistants of Join For Water are there to give us advice and get things going again.”

Marienne Dokpo
animator sanimarketing with *Association Vive le Paysan Nouveau* (AVPN),
partner of Join For Water
Dogbo – BENIN



© Dries Moorthamers

Do, learn, share

Join For Water is strongly committed to knowledge acquisition and sharing in and between the partner countries. We keep water and related themes high on the political agenda.

WATCH THE VIDEO ON OUR SITE : DO, LEARN, SHARE



Colleagues learn from each other



© Yannick Foly

A SANIMARCHÉ IS AN IMPORTANT LINK IN BANNING THE DEFECATION IN THE OPEN AIR.

In December 2019 Malian colleagues travelled to **Benin** to exchange views with their Join For Water colleagues, and to learn from the experiences with the *Sanimarchés* and the marketing around WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene).

Also in Mali we want to start with *Sanimarchés* – where people can take a look at latrines and buy them - and strongly focus on WASH-marketing. In this way we want to ensure the sustainability of the sanitary facilities.

What we learned from this visit: How can we use traditional marketing techniques to promote sanitary products and services? (By intensive public campaigns: a decent toilet is a status symbol, door-to-door advertising, with radio spots.) What do we have to take in mind when choosing a location for a *Sanimarché*? (On an existing market or another busy spot, so that enough people pass by.) How do we adjust the *Sanimarché* to the local socio economic context? (With discount actions and by using different formulas.)

Back in Mali we went on with the reflection, because we want to guarantee the continuity of the call center *Allô Vidange* in Bamako and make sure that the villages which received the status of “ODF”, or Open defecation free, keep this status.

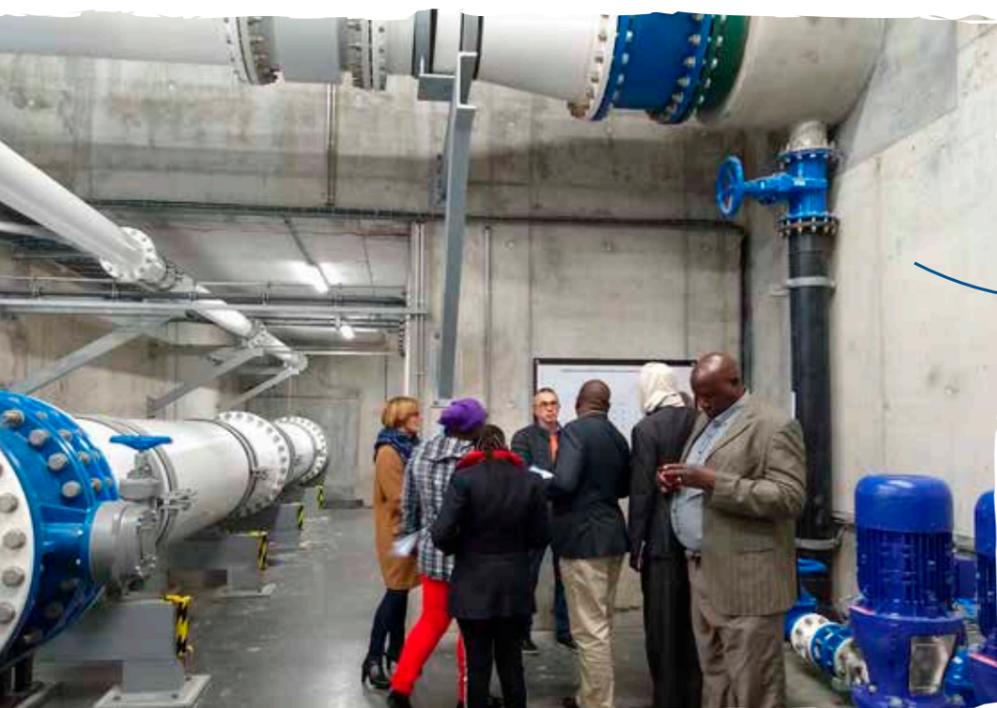
A safe drinking water supply: a long process

Also in Flanders the drinking water supply wasn't completed in the blink of an eye, that is what the Malian delegation learned when they visited Belgium in October 2019. The purpose of the visit was sharing experiences around context, the organization, and the price regulation of the water supply in Flanders as well as **Mali**.

The Malian delegation was formed by a colleague of Join For Water, different actors from the water sector, such as the National Directorate that supervises the quality of the drinking water, the Regulator for Water and Energy, the Malian drinking water company, and the mayor of Mountougoula, where a project of join For Water is running.

A visit to the installations of the drinking water company FARYS and a consultation with FARYS and VMM, the Flemish Environmental Association, made it clear that also in Flanders it took a long time to have a smooth and safe drinking water supply. A visit to the water treatment plant of Aquafin in Drongen provided a better insight in the challenges of the water treatment. The group was able to exchange thoughts with the University of Antwerp on a better application of Integrated Water Resources Management in the municipality of Mountougoula.

This exchange got the support of the Flemish government through the 'Flemish Partnership Water for Development'.



A VISIT TO THE INSTALLATIONS OF THE DRINKING WATER COMPANY FARYS GAVE AN INSIGHT IN THE CHALLENGES OF THE DRINKING WATER SUPPLY.

© Johan Slimbrouck

Exchange leads to cooperation

Capacity building for the municipalities remains an important point of attention for Join For Water. The cooperation with VNG International opens new perspectives. VNG International is the department of international cooperation of the Association of Dutch municipalities. Since 2017 VNG is running a program in Mali with the name IDEAL (Inclusive decisions at local level) and is doing this through the Association of municipalities of Mali.

This program is aimed at Integral Water Resources Management (IWRM) in five pilot municipalities. First of all IDEAL wants to improve the role of municipalities in the management of water supplies and the service to the users. Furthermore, attention is also paid to the quality of the decision-making and its follow-up. VNG International asked for the support of Join For Water in the organization of a 3-day training in March 2019. The target audience were individuals as well as organizations such as municipalities that are responsible for the service in IWRM.

This activity was the start of a real synergy between our two organizations, since some of the municipalities where Join For Water is active, now also take profit from the IDEAL program. For example, two members of the Committee for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene of our partner municipality Mountougoula were able to make a study trip on IWRM to Burkina Faso as part of this program.



ASSISTING THE MUNICIPALITIES TO PROVIDE A GOOD SERVICE TO THEIR INHABITANTS, REMAINS A PERMANENT TASK.

A certificate to evaluate

For the Belgian government it is important that NGO's have their programs evaluated by external evaluators and that they possess the necessary abilities to start and guide the entire evaluation process. In July 2019 Join For Water received the certificate from the Special Evaluation Unit that we indeed possess the necessary capabilities.

We didn't get the certificate just like that, it was preceded by an intensive process in which we had to evaluate ourselves and have the results ratified by an external assessor. Nothing is of course perfect, and we developed an improvement plan for our evaluation quality. Two examples of this plan are: refining the internal division of tasks and a better involvement of the partners in determining the themes and methods with an evaluation.

Drinking water management is also: gender equality

Encourage women to take a key post in the management organs of the drinking water systems. Encourage them to manage a water point or to become a pump repairer. Make women stronger so that they can defend their rights and interests.

These are a few examples of 'gender management' that were discussed in the training that our Join For Water colleague Awa took in **Mali**. During 3 workshops she learned about the most effective ways to achieve changes in behavior. The purpose is to form a core group within the Join For Water team with special attention for the role of women and gender equality. After all, women are the main figure in the household, they take care of the children and they provide a large part of the income of the family. And when drinking water is involved, the women are also the main figure. Sensitization and training are strongly needed so that in each project gender aspects are sufficiently taken into account.

This training was offered by Oxfam Mali in cooperation with Oxfam Belgium within a program of the Belgian development cooperation for local capacity strengthening.



WOMEN ARE THE MAIN FIGURE WHEN IT COMES TO WATER.

A Flower Toilet: more than a latrine

Human urine and feces contain, just like animal manure, a large number of fertilizers. In **Uganda**, a trainee investigated the reuse of it. The reuse of human manure could be an important asset in the marketing of the Flower Toilets. Many families in West Uganda have their own little garden, but growing vegetables in the exhausted tropical soils is certainly not always efficient and predictable.



THE FLOWER TOILETS PROVIDE A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT AND IF USED CORRECTLY, THEY PROVIDE USEFUL FERTILIZERS.

Join For Water and its partner JESE promote the use of Flower Toilets. Thanks to these ecological toilets the environment stays clean and the groundwater does not get polluted. Today many inhabitants have no toilet and make use of traditional latrines (with a well in the ground). In the Flower Toilets urine and solid feces are collected separately. Ashes are added to the solid feces to dry them out. The trainee investigated whether this method was sufficient to kill the germs in the feces and the urine. Furthermore, it was also investigated whether this human manure could be useful for the agriculture, by analyzing the chemical composition of the material, but also by looking at the perception with the users. This study proved that generally speaking, people are positive about the use of this manure and that the manure can also be useful for the agriculture. If the toilets are used correctly, the number of germs can be efficiently reduced.

Our approach is part of SDG 6

Join For Water embeds its activities within SDG6, the Sustainable Development Goal for water and sanitation.

WATCH THE VIDEO ON OUR SITE : OUR APPROACH IS PART OF SDG 6



Follow the compass

The Sustainable Development Goals or SDG's are the guideline for the global development agenda until 2030. Governments, companies, organizations and NGOs all over the world are making an effort to realize the SDG's. DGD, the Belgian directorate general for development cooperation commissioned a study named 'SDG as a compass for the Belgian development cooperation'. Join For Water gave the necessary input and welcomed the researchers during their site visit in Benin. With this site visit, and a 2nd one in Uganda, the DGD wanted to find out what the current practices, challenges and chances are to integrate the SDG's in the activities.



The great principle for the SDG's is '*leaving no one behind*'. Three things are crucial in this: erase poverty in all its forms, make an end to discrimination of individuals or certain groups, and to catch up as soon as possible with those furthest behind.

Join For Water has always considered the access to drinking water and sanitation as a human right, even before this was recognized as such by the UN. This approach of human rights – which many organizations adopted – and the fact that Join For Water involves the entire community in the planning, execution and follow-up of its programs are clearly meant to 'leave no one behind'. Solidarity within a community and inclusion of the most vulnerable are key concepts for Join For Water.

Several SDG's are strongly associated with the water sector, and not only SDG's around water and sanitation. Just think of health, poverty reduction or climate change. But being a small organization it is not easy to pursue that indivisibility of the SDG's. That is why Join For Water is eager to sign up for multiparty programs and why we pursue synergies. Also the activities in Belgium around sustainable use of water and the water footprint in cities, municipalities and schools, fit within the realization of the SDG's.

READ THE REPORT ON BENIN, IN WHICH JOIN FOR WATER IS REGULARLY MENTIONED.



“This world is not on track to reach SDG6”

This statement was heard on the first ever event “*Water without borders*” in October 2019 of the Belgian Water Platform, of which Join For Water was a co-founder. More than 90 Belgian water actors from the public, non-governmental and private sector active around water & sanitation in development cooperation were present at the event.



The participants didn't have to be convinced of the importance of water and sanitation and the important position of SDG6 vis-à-vis the other SDG's, nor about the fact that there is a lot of knowhow and expertise about water in Belgium. Success stories around water could be heard, the participants could explore collaborations and the Platform collected input for a coherent vision on water in a context of development.

This event was a first step towards a better collaboration. The participants signed a statement for engagement around more coherence in strategy, more solidarity, to keep on calling to tackle the water crisis in the South through the realization of SDG's, ...

The research platform Water Nexus will propose the first Belgian water strategy by the end of 2020. In Water Nexus several Belgian universities work together to support the Belgian development cooperation in the design and execution of an effective and coherent water strategy.

[READ THE STATEMENT HERE.](#)



A source of inspiration



HAVING ENOUGH AND
SAFE DRINKING WATER IS
A HUMAN RIGHT.

In August 2019 Join for Water participated in the annual 5-year water event in Stockholm: the World Water Week, organized by the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI).

Such an event is important to meet new people and organizations, to be inspired by other methods or technologies, such as innovatory payment systems for drinking water kiosks, technical solutions for filtering, latrines suitable for women, ... And you can hear numerous success stories there, or stories full of trial and error, but from which there is a lot to learn.

After an intensive five days your bag is filled with new contacts and ideas! And some statements show new directions, because also development cooperation is constantly moving ...

“When supply is limited, every time someone wants more, someone else has to take less.”

“We need to prevent exclusion, instead of increasing inclusion.”

“We need to shift from infrastructure approach to service approach.”

A success story is certainly that of Cenagrap from Ecuador, which Join For Water and Protos EC presented in Stockholm. Cenagrap has been around for over 15 years and was the first public-municipal alliance for drinking water management in rural area in Ecuador. Cenagrap came about and was able to grow through intensive collaboration, coordinated by Join For Water/Protos EC and the Ecuadorian organization CEDIR. The success was due to active social participation in the planning, decision-making and construction of drinking water infrastructure, throughout the entire process.

Consumer awareness in Belgium

Join For Water encourages conscious water use and a smaller water footprint. In this way, we limit the impact of our consumption on water resources in Belgium as well as in the South.

WATCH THE VIDEO ON OUR SITE CONSUMER AWARENESS IN BELGIUM



Inspiration on our website



To inspire, that is what we stand for. For the primary as well as the secondary schools we have developed inspiration bundles with teaching packages around the water footprint. Teachers can either completely take over the material or translate working forms into their own teaching practice. To calculate their own water footprint together with the children in their class, or to find out together with the pupils what the impact of that delicious hamburger is on the water supplies worldwide, all that is possible. The inspiration bundles (only available in Dutch) can be found on our renewed educational website, such as:

- teaching material for the schools from 'Project W'
- ideas for short activities
- images
- interactive web quests

www.joinforwater.ngo/nl/educatie (IN DUTCH)



Project W: the pupils in action

'Project W' encourages young people to reflect critically and to find solutions for sustainability issues. In Athena Campus Drie Hofsteden (**Kortrijk**) they went for it all the way. Pupils of the fifth year nutrition-care investigated the link between water and nutrition. After interviews and a ballot box of their colleagues, this was the result to reduce the water footprint: replace the snack dispenser by a fruit dispenser. Really clever!

World Water Day@school 'Everybody a water carrier'

The 'Walk for water' on World Water Day (March 22nd) has been a fixture for many years: thousands of pupils walk 6 kilometers to call for attention for the water carriers: children and women in the South that walk miles to fetch clean, drinking water. In 2019 together with Good Planet, the Thrift Shop and MOS we launched the campaign 'everybody a water carrier' with a new action model for schools: "If you care about water, care about (giving) a T-shirt."

Because also we are water carriers! Maybe we do not carry the liters yet on our head, but they are hidden in, amongst others our clothes. To make one cotton T-shirt on average 2.700 liters of water is used. Cotton is mainly produced in the South, often in countries that already have a shortage of water. By consuming consciously here, we have a great impact on the availability of water in the South.

Over 300 Flemish and Brussels schools collected T-shirts to give them a second life in the Thrift Shop in the neighbourhood. In this way almost 200 million liters of water has been saved.



"EVERYBODY A WATER CARRIER"

'Where is the water?!'



For younger people the water footprint seems to be 'far from their bed'. The Serious Urban Game Where is the Water?! brings the water theme to the town where young people are at home.

Young people use a tablet in this educational city game in their own town or municipality. They carry out missions and are challenged by dilemmas on the use of water and their own water footprint. As they do so young people discover the connection between their own consumption choices and the water supplies worldwide.

The game is a co-creation between Join For Water and {ew32}. The game was developed for and with the young people, who gave feedback in testing labs which enabled us to further develop the game. In this way Where is the Water?! is perfectly tailored for young people.

"I knew that you could save water by showering for a shorter time, but I didn't know there was so much water in my clothes."

– Celia, 5 Animal Care VABI - Roeselare

"Borrowing a book in the library is a better option than buying one, I never really thought about this."

– Nand, 3 Technical Gardening VABI - Roeselare



Time for a party

In May 2019 8 schools in **Kortrijk** and **Roeselare** finished Project W with a celebration. Per city around 100 children came together. They showed their peers, teachers, school boards, a few civil servants and the councilor for sustainability what they learned about the water footprint and which actions they took to reduce their water footprint at school. All this included: presentations, receptions with self-made vegetarian appetizers, craft workshops with scrap paper, clothing swaps with the entire school, visits to second hand shops, etc.



The party moment ended with a delicious reception with a low water footprint and with the signing of a commitment statement. In small groups the pupils chose themselves the actions they wanted to continue to further save water, such as not leaving the tap open unnecessarily and avoiding food waste.

The celebration was certainly not the end of the Project W, but the start of a sustainable commitment.

THE PUPILS CHOSE THEMSELVES THE ACTIONS THEY WANTED TO CONTINUE.

Evergem and Brasschaat

Evergem and Brasschaat started in 2019 as 5th and 6th Project W-municipality. Thanks to our experiences with working at a sustainable use of water in Kortrijk, Roeselare, Merelbeke and Bierbeek, both municipalities took a flashy start.

In **Evergem** Join For Water gave an interactive session on the water footprint to the department heads who immediately got some homework to do: to make their team mates eager to participate in an online water quiz and to brainstorm on how their department can reduce their water footprint. 103 employees participated in the quiz. The departments of youth, municipal works, management support, buildings & logistics, IT and human resources came up with a lot of sustainable ideas: changing from bottled water to tap water, also take into account the use of water of a tree when choosing new trees, printing less documents, choosing sustainable textile for T-shirts for the youth monitors, installing taps with sensors... Will certainly be continued in 2020!

That'll be 605 litres, thank you

A picture says more than words. On the website of Join For Water a lot of images can be found around the water footprint. Price lists for example. They show how much water it 'costs' to make certain drinks and meals. Nice to use for awareness-raising.

These price lists about food, clothing and paper are also displayed in Superette Wa(l)ter where you can shop virtually and then your water bill is presented.

PRIJSLIJST BROODJES

Bruin broodje met groenten	288 LITER WATER	
Wit broodje met rundsvlees	980 LITER WATER	
Wit broodje met varkensvlees	780 LITER WATER	
Wit broodje met gevo gelte	605 LITER WATER	
Wit broodje met kaas	495 LITER WATER	
Wit broodje met vis of garnalen	345 LITER WATER	

A MULTIGRAIN SANDWICH WITH VEGETABLES.

Bruin brood 22 LITER KORTING
Volkoren brood 45 LITER KORTING

Do not say P... but Join For Water!

On March 22, 2019 it was not only World Water day, it was also the day on which we announced our new name to the general public: Join For Water! To our loyal supporters we revealed the name already one week earlier, during a great event in the Minard theater in Ghent.

The name attracted a lot of attention: we won free air time for a TV spot on Eén (VRT) and we could count on visibility via the newspapers *De Standaard* and *De Morgen*. The name was also communicated many times during the major public campaign *#ikdrinkkraanwater* (*#Idrinktapwater*) from our partner Aquaflanders, in which dozens of Flemish public figures participated. We could also count on our other partners for a broad announcement of our new name.

Of course we ourselves also came out with it: via our social media and our interactive Superette Wa(l)ter (Min-market Wa(l)ter) and during different large and small events, among which the climate marches. We always get the same feedback: Join For Water is fresh, activates and it says what we stand for. We will continue to focus on our brand awareness, and we are convinced that our efforts will pay off faster thanks to our new name.



IN A TV SPOT NIC BALTHAZAR MAKES THE LINK BETWEEN CLIMATE CHANGE AND WATER. AND TALKING ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE: THE RECORDING TOOK PLACE ON THE WARMEST DAY IN FEBRUARY (20°C!) SINCE THE START OF THE MEASUREMENTS IN 1901.

© Dries Moorhamers

Successful tests of fundraising

At the end of 2019 the cooperation with marketing agency DSC was stopped, because the results declined too much. As from 2020 Join For Water will organize the recruiting of donors itself via postal campaigns, and will bind the donors that supported us via DSC to the organization. New donors were recruited via recruiting attachments to the newspapers *De Standaard* and *De Morgen* and a successful test was made around telemarketing in which a number of our donors were called and motivated to structurally support Join For Water via a monthly direct debit. We will further investigate the potential of these fundraising channels in 2020.

The other channels for private fundraising yielded record revenues in 2019. The revenues via our own direct mail actions (the DSC-campaigns disregarded) are increasing. The Warmest Week ended with a result which was 4 times higher than the previous years, thanks to among other things, a fundraising activity by our partner De Watergroep. And we found not less than 13 enthusiastic Join For Water fans who joined us on the immersion journey to Benin and together they collected an incredible amount for the local projects.



IN 2019 13 FANS OF OUR ORGANIZATION WENT TO BENIN ON AN IMMERSION JOURNEY TO MEET THE PARTNERS AND SEE THE REALIZATIONS OF JOIN FOR WATER.

© Join For Water

Partnerships and networks



Vlaams Partnerschap Water voor Ontwikkeling (VPWvO) (Flemish partnership Water for Development) is a platform for players of the Flemish government, the public (drinking) water companies, private companies active in the field of water, the Flemish academic and research world, NGOs and non-profit organisations. By working together, they contribute to the realisation of SDG 6 "Ensure access to sustainable water and sanitation for all".



Entrepreneurs for Entrepreneurs wants to stimulate and strengthen socio-economic business projects and initiatives in Africa and other developing countries. Companies can do this through a project of a Belgian NGO or directly by supporting a SME in a developing country.



The Shift is the Belgian network for sustainability. The aim is to work with members and partners to achieve the transition to a better society and economy. The method: Connect. Commit. Change.



ngo-federatie is the federation of Flemish NGOs and offers its members quality work, representation of interests and a wide range of training courses.



11.11.11 is the umbrella organisation of the Flemish North-South movement, carries out joint political action for the development of the South and informs the public about just North-South relations.



Centre National de Coopération au Développement (CNCD) is the French-speaking North South umbrella organisation.



Perspective 2030 is a partnership for a better world by 2030. A coalition of Belgian NGOs with joint action on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and follow-up of the Belgian contribution to the realisation of those goals.



The Province of East Flanders realizes its international cooperation in 3 regions. One of these regions is the province of Esmeraldas in Ecuador. Join For Water and its local partner CEFODI are working together to implement this cooperation agreement.



The Province of Flemish Brabant is putting extra effort into climate actions in the South with a number of projects. Together with Join For Water, they are investing in the project: "Improved water management for a better adaptation to climate change in Haiti".



European Pact for Water is a European network of organisations active in the field of water that wants to put SDG 6 (water and sanitation) higher on the European political agenda through advocacy, information and awareness-raising campaigns.



CoEH – Coordination Europe-Haïti is a platform for European NGOs and networks active in Haiti. The platform defends the interests of and gives a voice to Haitian civil society concerning the policies of Europe and its member states.

The Belgian Water Platform is a group of Belgian water actors: public, non-governmental, academic and private players who have met on a regular basis since 2018 to reflect and provide advice on how to strengthen development cooperation on the theme of water. Join For Water is one of the initiators of this informal and horizontal platform. In 2019, the platform organised a meeting and inspiration day "Water Without Borders". It clearly showed the demand for such a platform within the water sector.

Thanks!

Only thanks to your contributions, Join For Water was able to realize the programmes for drinking water, sanitation and water for agriculture. We really appreciate that support.

A heartfelt thank you to all!

All donors, volunteers, supporters and fans!

Provincial authorities

Antwerp
Limburg
East-Flanders
Flemish-Brabant
West-Flanders

City and municipality authorities

Berlare
Bierbeek
Ghent
Hoogstraten
Ranst

Provided free knowhow and expertise for the realization of our programs

Arcadis Belgium
Antea Group Belgium
AquaFin
De Watergroep
FARYS
KU Leuven, Departement EES
pS-Eau
Stichting Hubi & Vinciane
UGent, Vakgroep Toegepaste Ecologie en Milieubiologie
Universiteit Antwerpen IMDO (Antwerp University)
VMM
VVSG



For the financing of the programme and partner operation

Federal Administration, DGD Directorate-General for Development Cooperation and the Belgian Fund for Food Security (BFFS)
European Commission
Flemish Administration, department for Environment (via Vlaams Partnerschap Water voor Ontwikkeling)
Facilité africaine de l'Eau via Banque Africaine de Développement
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
Fondation SADEV
Misereor
Stichting Aqua For All (VIA Water)
SNV Netherlands Development Organisation
Enabel
Fiabel
ESF (European Social Fund)

Companies, organisations and foundations:

11.11.11
4UCAMPUS
ACLVB - CGSLB via ALIMENTO
ADPO via Entrepreneurs pour Entrepreneurs
Antea Group Belgium nv
AquaFin via Entrepreneurs pour Entrepreneurs
Association Sud-Nord
Ayuda en Acción
beMatrix via Entrepreneurs pour Entrepreneurs
Co-Valent via Entrepreneurs pour Entrepreneurs
Denys via Entrepreneurs pour Entrepreneurs
De Watergroep
Duror (Terre Bleue) via Entrepreneurs pour Entrepreneurs
Ecobeton Water Technologies
Exxonmobile via Entrepreneurs pour Entrepreneurs
Familie en vrienden Elise Delsaerd
FARYS
Filip Roels Management consulting
Ghent Dredging
Herbosch-Kiere
HidroPLUS PIDPA
Koning Boudewijnstichting - Music for Life
Koning Boudewijnstichting - Fonds Elisabeth en Amélie
KrisKras
Lions Club Scaldis
Nature Solutions
North Sea Port Ghent via Entrepreneurs pour Entrepreneurs
Renotec via Entrepreneurs pour Entrepreneurs
Sopra Steria
Stichting Gillès
TREVI nv
UEBH
Water Circle
Wienerberger via Entrepreneurs pour Entrepreneurs
Willemen Groep via Entrepreneurs pour Entrepreneurs



Notes to the financial statements 2019

Introduction

Join For Water has an integrated annual account which is the sum of the figures of the head office and 5 regional offices. These financial statements are the end product of a process of internal and external audits:

- The annual accounts of the head office are audited by Clybouw Bedrijfsrevisoren.
- Following internal audits by headquarters, the accounts of each regional office are audited separately by a local external auditor.
- The head office integrates all the annual accounts. Clybouw Bedrijfsrevisoren then checks the audit reports of the regional offices and, finally, the integrated annual accounts

The audited 2019 annual accounts are approved by the General Assembly of 25 June 2020 and can be consulted on the website of the National Bank under company number 0417.299.047.

The auditor has provided the financial statements with an unqualified audit report.

A more detailed explanation of the annual accounts can be obtained with Tom Mestdagh, tel. +32(9)235 25 16.

More information on our organization and the development sector can be found on www.ngo-openboek.be.

Balance sheet

Intangible fixed assets

The costs incurred in 2017 and 2018 in recruiting new donors contribute to the income from fundraising over several years and are capitalised in the balance sheet under the heading intangible fixed assets. This investment is depreciated over a period of 3 years.

Tangible fixed assets

This concerns only goods purchased with Join For Water's own funds. The investment goods purchased with programme funds are not included in the balance sheet because the subsidy providers require them to be recorded as an expense in the year of purchase.

Allocated funds

In 2016, a start was made on setting up a fund for social liabilities. In the longer term, the objective is to build up this social liability to 20% of the total personnel costs. In 2019 the allocated fund was replenished and today it amounts to 10% of the total personnel cost.

Provisions

In 2019, the provisions were modified as follows:

- the provision for returning expats was used for an amount of EUR 148.715 EUR to cover costs related to returning expatriates from Madagascar;
- the provisions for unexpected costs were increased with an amount of EUR 32.591.

Prepayments and accrued income - deferred accounts

On the assets side, these are mainly project funds yet to be received per 31.12.2019 and on the liabilities side these are mainly allocated project funds, not yet spent as of 31.12.2019 and transferred to 2020.

Balance 2019 (in €)

Assets	2019	2018
Fixed assets	74 460	274 811
Intangible fixed assets	49 342	250 080
Tangible fixed assets	4 024	3 386
• Land and buildings	0	0
• Plant, machinery and equipment	2 235	3 386
• Furniture and vehicles	1 788	0
Financial fixed assets	21 094	21 345
Current assets	6 237 764	6 143 294
Amounts receivable within 1 year	745 675	472 156
• Trade debtors	1 947	0
• Other amounts receivable of which non-interest bearing or at a low rate of interest	743 728	472 156
Cash at bank and in hand	5 263 992	5 418 582
Deferred accounts	228 096	252 555
Total assets	6 312 224	6 418 105
Fixed assets not integrated in the balance*	96 394	68 564
<small>*Fixed assets purchased with programme funds which have to be fully considered as an expense at the request of the institutional donors.</small>		
Liabilities	2019	2018
Funds	1 174 525	1 092 316
Permanent funds	667 335	667 335
Allocated funds	246 804	170 298
Result carried forward (*)	260 385	254 682
Provisions	316 818	432 943
Provisions for liabilities and charges	316 818	432 943
Amounts payable	4 820 881	4 892 846
Amounts payable within 1 year	655 364	616 828
• Trade debts	97 665	120 460
• Taxes, remunerations and social security	157 964	142 040
• Other amounts payable	399 735	354 327
Deferred accounts	4 165 518	4 276 018
Total liabilities*	6 312 224	6 418 105
<small>*after differences due to conversion</small>		

Income statement

The result for appropriation for 2019 amounts to EUR +5.703 (including differences due to conversion).

The total operating costs of 2019 amount to EUR 6.838.365 and were spent as follows:

- 84,1% for direct achievement of the programme's objectives;
- 10,1% for general management by the head office;
- 5,8% for fundraising.

Results 2019 (in €)

	2019	2018
Operating income	6 920 004	5 954 020
Fundraising & Subsidies	6 859 857	5 914 067
• Fundraising	1 241 146	1 433 316
• Subsidies	5 618 710	4 480 751
Other operating income	19 143	20 201
Financial income	5 007	3 104
Extraordinary income	35 997	16 648
Operating charges	6 838 365	5 939 216
Services & other goods	872 942	832 139
Remunerations	2 468 044	2 319 480
Depreciations	203 907	258 371
Provisions	-116 125	-26 314
Other operating charges	3 393 300	2 526 253
Financial charges	15 884	27 970
Extraordinary charges	413	1 317
RESULT excl. differences due to conversion	81 638	14 804
Differences due to conversion	571	1 357
RESULT after differences due to conversion	82 209	16 162
Addition to allocated funds	76 506	-
Positive result carried forward	5 703	16 162

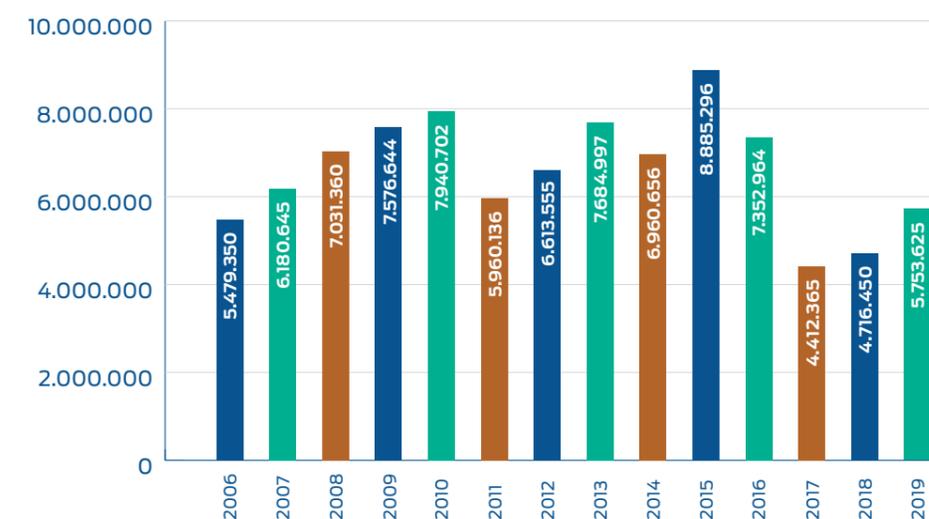
Fundraising

In addition to the government subsidies, Join For Water applied its own funds for EUR 1 241 146 in 2019 for:

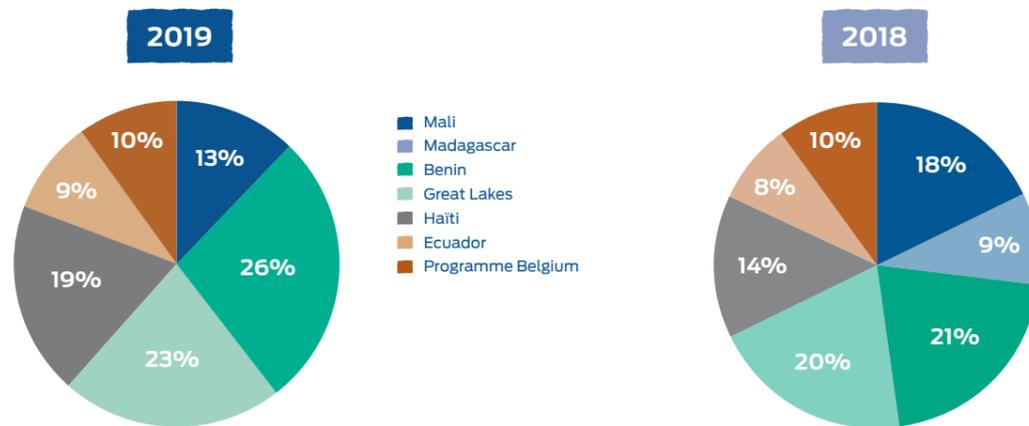
- NGO contributions for subsidized programmes;
- the financing of projects which were not linked to traditional public financing;
- the financing of non-eligible costs related to the programmes;
- the financing of part of the general management costs by the head office..

Join For Water gets part of the required NGO contribution for programmes from institutional cofinancing, and does so in a transparent way.

Evolution of the direct expenditure for our programme activities (in €)

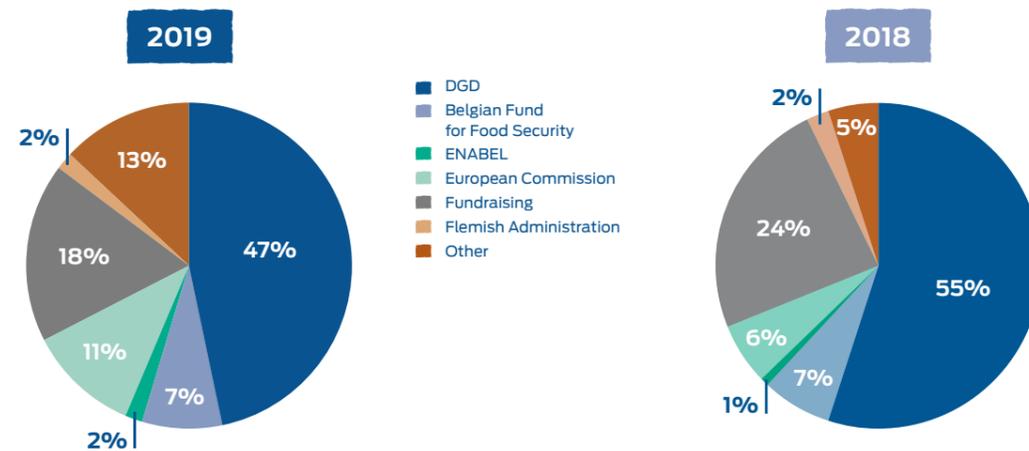


The regional distribution of the expenditure for our programme activities



At the end of 2018, we ceased our activities in Madagascar. Madagascar is therefore no longer included in the 2019 diagram.

Origin of financing



Join For Water is committed to diversifying its sources of income, thereby reducing dependence on our main donor, DGD, the Directorate General for Development Cooperation.





Join For Water

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Join us!

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Company registration number



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