Foundation Funding for Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

MARCH 2012 RESEARCH BRIEF

WASHfunders.org

A project of the
FOUNDATION CENTER
Knowledge to build on.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene: A Global Crisis

Worldwide, 780 million people do not have reliable access to clean water, and a staggering 2.5 billion, including nearly 1 billion children, do not have adequate sanitation. The repercussions are severe and far-reaching.

- ◆ Diseases from unsafe water and lack of basic sanitation kill more people every year than all forms of violence, including war. A major culprit is diarrheal disease, which is the second leading contributor to the global burden of disease—ahead of heart disease and HIV/AIDS.¹
- ◆ In several sub-Saharan African countries, more than 25 percent of the population must travel more than 30 minutes to the nearest water source.²
- ◆ Lost productivity and increased health care costs take a heavy economic toll. Africa alone experiences economic losses of \$28 billion/year (or about 5 percent of GDP) due to lack of safe water and inadequate sanitation and hygiene.³

Changing this reality will require the collective effort of governments, corporations, non-profits, and organized philanthropy. This research brief takes a closer look at the role of foundation funding in addressing this global crisis.

U.S. FOUNDATION SUPPORT FOR WASH IS GROWING...

...BUT STILL MAKES UP A SMALL PORTION OF GIVING FOR INTERNATIONAL ISSUES.

U.S. FOUNDATION FUNDING FOR WASH: 2003-2010

WASH FUNDING BY SUBJECT AREA, 2009–2010 (percent of grant dollars)

The Foundation Center's WASH-related taxonomy corresponds closely to the OECD taxonomy, which is used to classify bilateral and multilateral aid. However, because OECD categories do not fully capture the unique nature of foundation giving, several supplemental "foundation only" categories (noted with *) were created. Some grants encompass more than one category. To avoid double-counting of grant dollars, only the *primary* subject area is represented. For definitions of each WASH category, visit the FAQ section of WASHfund.org.

For more detailed information on foundation funding, visit WASHfund.org. Launched in October 2011, WASHfund.org includes an interactive funding map that displays grants information by country and subject area. Grants information is overlaid with key development indicators, such as access to water, as well as data on international aid funding.

TYPE OF SUPPORT, 2009–2010 (percent of grant dollars)

Totals exceed 100 percent because grants may be for multiple types of support and thus counted more than once. Because type of support is double-counted, while subject areas are not, a larger percentage of grant dollars are counted for research as a type of support (44 percent) versus research as a subject area (14 percent).

WASH Grantmaking by Country, 2009–2010

U.S. FOUNDATION FUNDING, 2009–2010

\$144.2M GRANT DOLLARS	348 GRANTS	41% GRANT DOLLARS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES/ GLOBAL PROGRAMS (UNSPECIFIED) ¹	30% GRANT DOLLARS FOR AFRICA	18% GRANT DOLLARS FOR ASIA	9% GRANT DOLLARS FOR CENTRAL/ SOUTH AMERICA
----------------------------------	----------------------	--	---	---	---

¹Includes grants broadly for programs in “developing countries” or grants for “global programs,” where individual countries have not been specified.

²Some grants serve multiple countries. Funding bubbles represent dollars awarded *solely* to the country and do not include “partial” grant dollars that may have been distributed among several countries. Several countries received partial dollars, rather than sole grant dollars, and thus do not have a funding bubble on the map. These countries are: Belize, Dominican Republic, Laos, Myanmar, and Sri Lanka. More detailed grants information, including data on grants awarded to multiple countries, can be found on WASHfunders.org.

The **Conrad N. Hilton Foundation** has supported the WASH sector for two decades, investing more than \$90 million in providing access to safe water for nearly 2 million of the world's poorest people. In 2011, the Foundation strengthened its commitment to safe water with a five-year, \$50 million initiative.

In 2011, the **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation** launched its Reinvent the Toilet Challenge, designed to increase access to sanitation, reduce diarrheal disease, and improve the lives of the world's 1.1 billion people who do not have access to a toilet.

The **PepsiCo Foundation** has given nearly \$34 million since 2005 to combat the global water crisis. The Foundation's recent \$8 million grant to Water.org to scale the WaterCredit initiative in India was the largest award in the Foundation's 50 year history.

Several notable U.S. foundations are embarking on new grantmaking initiatives related to WASH including the **Margaret A. Cargill Foundation**, the **Rockefeller Foundation**, and the **Skoll Global Threats Fund**.

TOP FIVE PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS, 2009–2010

Among private foundations, the top five WASH funders awarded 94 percent of total grant dollars and 38 percent of total grants.

TOP FIVE CORPORATE FOUNDATIONS, 2009–2010

Among corporate foundations, the top five WASH funders awarded 88 percent of total grant dollars and 45 percent of total grants.

TOP 10 RECIPIENTS, 2009–2010

The top 10 recipients received 57 percent of total grant dollars and 15 percent of total grants.

RECIPIENT ORGANIZATION	TOTAL RECEIVED
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development	\$12.6M
University of California	\$11.2M
Professional Assistance for Development Action	\$9.7M
CARE USA	\$9.4M
Catholic Relief Services	\$9.0M
Water for People	\$7.1M
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine	\$6.3M
Water.org ¹	\$6.0M
SOS SAHEL International UK	\$5.4M
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit	\$5.0M

¹ WaterPartners International, founded in 1990, merged with H2O Africa in July 2009 resulting in the launch of Water.org.

Grantmaking by International Foundations

The Foundation Center's database includes a growing number of foundations outside of the United States. While the Center's international data are not comprehensive, it shows a number of foundations active in WASH funding. In the coming year, the Foundation Center will be collecting new data on WASH grants from foundations outside of the United States. To submit grants information or share a lead, send an e-mail to washfunders@foundationcenter.org.

SELECT INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATIONS, 2007-2010

FUNDER	LOCATION	TOTAL GIVING	NUMBER OF GRANTS	YEAR(S) OF GRANT AWARDS
Nationale Postcode Loterij	Amsterdam, Netherlands	\$4.8M	2	2009, 2010
Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development	Kuwait	\$1.2M	2	2007
Pro Victimis Foundation	Geneva, Switzerland	\$0.6M	6	2009
King Baudouin Foundation	Brussels, Belgium	\$0.5M	14	2009, 2010
Welfare Association	Multiple Locations ¹	\$0.5M	1	2008
Starr International Foundation	Zurich, Switzerland	\$0.3M	1	2010
Oak Foundation	Geneva, Switzerland	\$0.2M	1	2009
Narada Foundation	Beijing, China	\$0.1M	5	2008, 2010

¹ The Welfare Association maintains offices in Geneva and multiple Middle Eastern locations.

About the Foundation Center Grants Sample

The data presented in this brief is based on the Foundation Center's grants set, which includes all grants of \$10,000 or more awarded to organizations by more than 1,000 of the largest U.S. foundations, including the top 15 funders in most states.

Endnotes

1. World Health Organization, *UN-Water Global Annual Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS) 2010: Targeting Resources for Better Results*. (Switzerland: WHO Press, 2010): 11. whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241599351_eng.pdf
2. UNICEF and World Health Organization, *Drinking Water: Equity, Safety and Sustainability*. (USA: 2011): 28. www.unicef.org/wash/files/JMP_Report_DrinkingWater_2011.pdf
3. UNESCO, *United Nations World Water Development Report: Water in a Changing World*. (UNESCO Publishing, 2009): 8. unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001819/181993e.pdf#page=5
4. World Health Organization, *UN-Water Global Annual Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS) 2010: Targeting Resources for Better Results*. (Switzerland: WHO Press, 2010): 30. whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241599351_eng_Part1c.pdf

Photo courtesy of WaterAid/Eva-Lotta Jansson

Children playing with clean water collected by a spring protected by WaterAid in Zambezia, Mozambique

About WASHfunders.org

In October 2011, the Foundation Center launched WASHfunders.org, a web portal for funding and needs-related data for donors, policymakers, and other stakeholders interested in water, sanitation, and hygiene. With dynamically updated information, news, and knowledge relating to philanthropy and sustainable access to safe water, WASHfunders.org seeks to facilitate better collaboration and more strategic decision-making among funders and aims to raise awareness about water and the full WASH continuum among donors.

About the Foundation Center

Established in 1956, the Foundation Center is the leading source of information about philanthropy worldwide. Through data, analysis, and training, it connects people who want to change the world to the resources they need to succeed. The Center maintains the most comprehensive database on U.S. and, increasingly, global grantmakers and their grants—a robust, accessible knowledge bank for the sector. It also operates research, education, and training programs designed to advance knowledge of philanthropy at every level. Thousands of people visit the Center's web site each day and are served in its five regional library/learning centers and its network of more than 450 funding information centers located in public libraries, community foundations, and educational institutions nationwide and around the world. For more information, please visit foundationcenter.org or call (212) 620-4230.

Source for all data: The Foundation Center, *Foundation Funding for Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene*, 2012.

Download this report at foundationcenter.org/gainknowledge/research/pdf/washfunders_brief_2012.pdf. For more information about this research brief or WASHfunders.org, please contact Seema Shah at sms@foundationcenter.org.

WASHfunders.org and this research brief are made possible through the generous support of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation.

FOUNDATION
CENTER

Knowledge to build on.

Conrad N. Hilton
FOUNDATION