



# Water in School Program Report

## Sustainable access to drinking water in primary schools

School year 2020-2021



# Water in school program : more important than ever

**On the international scene, one of the most important UN goals is to democratise access to safe drinking water for all children. Today, 750 million people still lack access to clean water. The challenge is immense !**

The consequences are dramatic: almost 2 Million people die every year from waterborne diseases, mostly young children. In the countries where we operate (Cambodia, Madagascar, Myanmar and Vietnam), this issue is especially visible in the school absenteeism rates, due to the waterborne diseases induced by drinking unsafe water.

For this reason, 1001fontaines launched the Water In School (WinS) program, aiming to improve the situation in our countries of operation. Along with schools, local authorities and our partners, we provide vulnerable children with sustainable access to free safe drinking water.

The program has a huge positive impact on reducing school absenteeism. The spread of good hygiene practices : this awareness is key on the pandemic periode. And this proven efficiency gives the programm all is strength

We would like to thank all of you for you support which has been game changer for 310,000 children in rural regions. Every year, your engagement allows us to renew our partnerships with the schools, and to extend to new areas.

**Julien Ancele,**  
Chief Executive Director, 1001fontaines



**Children under 15 are 3 times more likely to die of waterborne diseases induced by undrinkable water, than to die from violence in conflicts.**



(Water under Fire, UNICEF Rapport 2019)

# Access to safe drinking water in schools affects education

By providing children with safe drinking water, the Water In School program emancipates children from the vicious circle of poverty, and helps them build a better future.

## Timeline

**2008**



3 years after the launch of our 1st WK, our Water in School program (WinS) is launch to reach the most vulnerable: the children.

**2013**



An epidemiological study confirms the correlation between access to safe drinking water in schools and a decrease in school absenteeism: between 55% and 75%.

**2019 - 2020**



WinS is implemented in Myanmar and in Vietnam with the same goal: targeting vulnerable children drinking unsafe water.

**2010**

The programme is launched in Madagascar. Tamatave pupils benefit from daily access to safe drinking water.



**2016**

The programme registers its highest growth since its launch: 137,000 children beneficiaries.



**2021**

310,000 children now drink clean water and have better perspectives for their future.



# Lack of access to clean water deprives children of education

## The issue

In the countries where we operate, difficult access to clean water is not only an issue for adult populations. In rural areas, children often have to walk several kilometres to reach water sources.

**Lack of access to clean water has direct consequences on children's education.** Estimates are that 227 million school days are lost every year in the world due to waterborne diseases.



## The consequences

In schools where there are no water purification systems, water quality remains an issue. Water is used to cook, prepare drinks, irrigate the soil, and clean facilities and toilets. Children often have to bring their own water bottle, or to buy small bottles from local shops - at a price of \$0.5 per child and per day. Without clean water, it is difficult to stay entire days at school, and the risk of developing diseases is high. **By missing school days, children accumulate gaps, which may lead to school dropouts later on.**



*“When children cannot go to school, the entire vicious circle of poverty persists.”*

# Safe drinking water to help build a better future

Water is a key component of a child's health. While drinking safe water can have a positive impact, unsafe water can have, conversely, a negative one.

When eating and drinking, children get the necessary nutrients for their growth.

Drinking safe water reduces diarrheic diseases, strengthens children's health, and supports education in the long run.

A number of studies have stressed the positive impact of water supply on children's health.

Systematic reviews and cross-national studies have shown that improvements in water quality and increased water supply are effective in reducing the prevalence of diarrhoea in primary schools. In a scientific study we conducted in 2013, we measured that offering free safe drinking water to children reduced diarrhoea and decreased school absenteeism by 55% to 75%, depending on the observed schools.



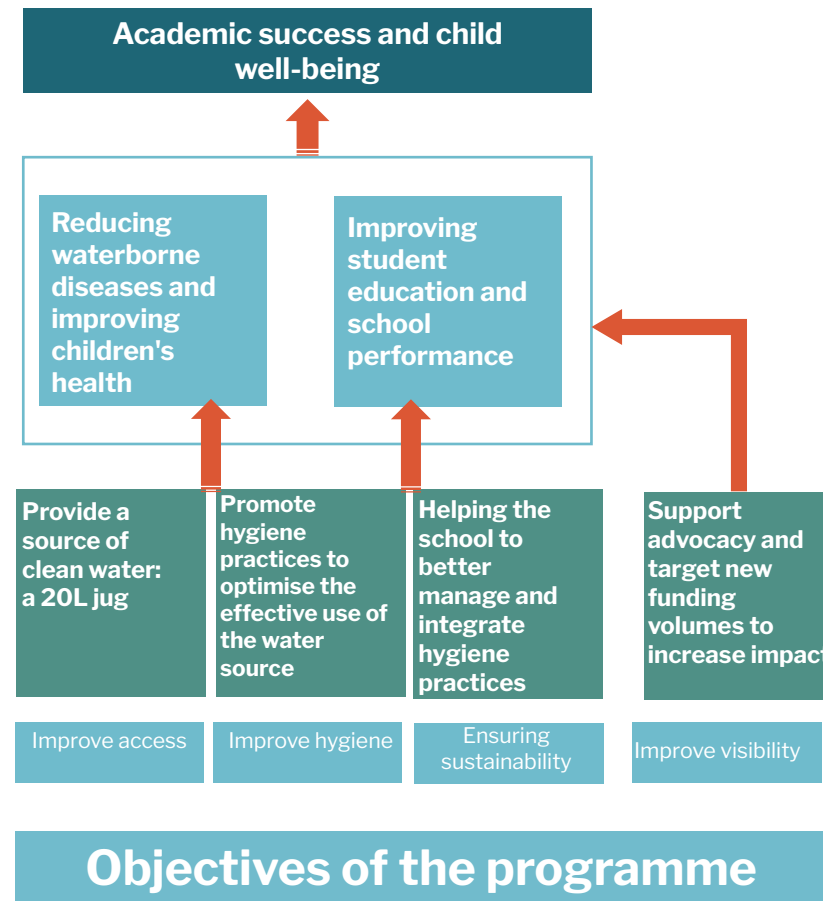
*“The availability of clean water has a significantly positive impact on children's attendance in school.”*

# Safe drinking water to help build a better future

**Health and education are two catalysts for change to improve the lives of children**

Through the programme, we have observed a causal effect between health, education and improved living conditions for children.

Drinking water provides a virtuous and systemic response. Promoting and providing access to safe water is a bulwark against the vicious circle of poverty in emerging countries.



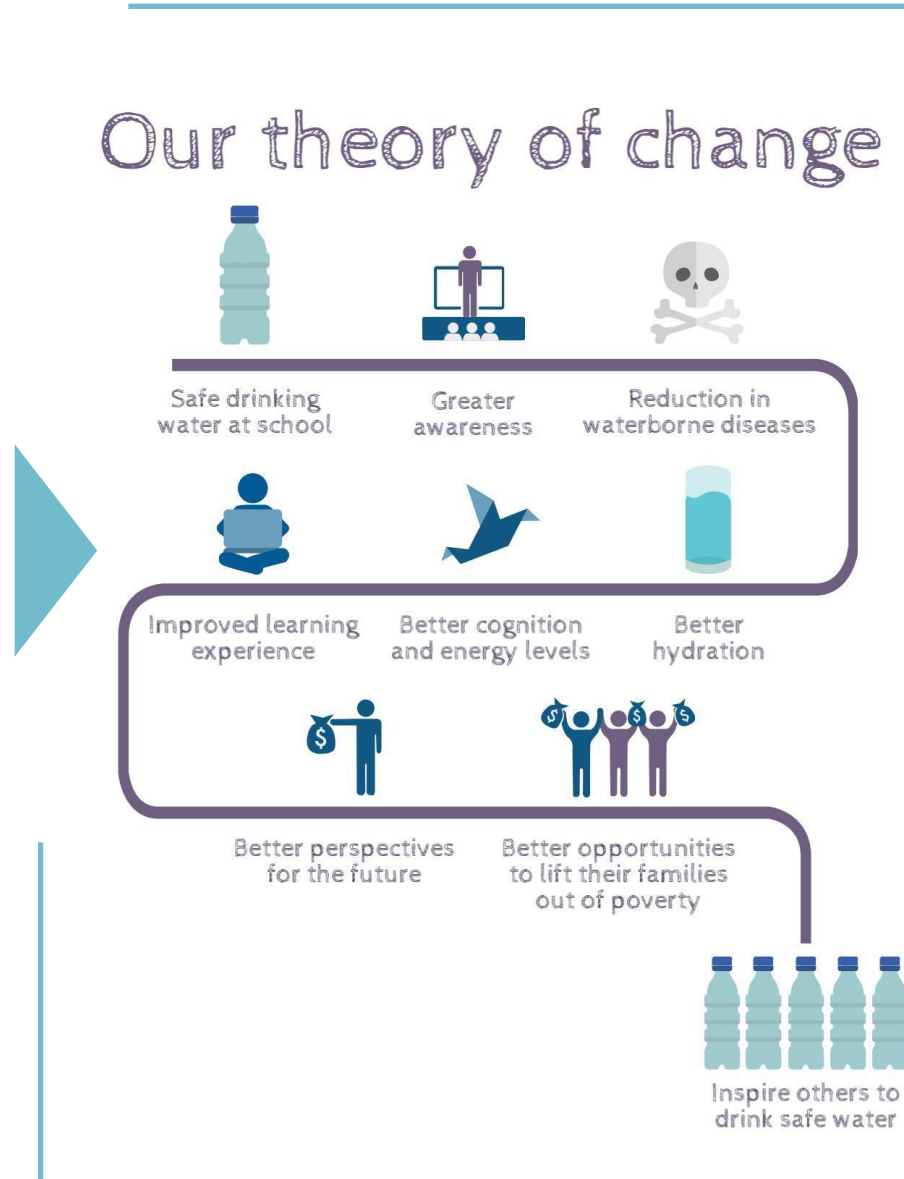
*“The United Nations considers improved access to safe drinking water to be essential to ameliorate children's health and reducing school drop-out.”*

# Theory of change: avoiding educational disaster

Since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic in March 2020, intermittent school closures have had a severe impact on children's education.

By September 2021, when children returned to school, thousands had unable to read and write.

**The stakes are high to limit the educational catastrophe.** Children need more than ever to have all their concentration and cognitive capacities to recover their lost level and make up for the loss of one year of schooling.



# Our results: a record impact in 2021



## Answering needs

In 2021, we extended the programme to a record number of schools, with **875** schools.



## Keeping children at school

Your donations helped support **311,500** children, who received daily safe water every day in 2021



## Supporting communities

**24,704,000 L** produced and delivered to the schools thanks to our entrepreneurs.



## Encouraging children's learning

Up to **75%** decrease in children's school absenteeism.



# Cambodia: reaching out the ID-Poor

In a context of schools closure due to Covid 19, 1001fontaines and its partners have decided to allocate part of the donations to a temporary philanthropic action. The initiative aimed at protecting the health of very poor families- the ID-Poor - through the provision of free drinking water during a 3-month period.

In conjunction with the Cambodian government and local communities we have targeted ID-Poor.

## Why targeting the ID-Poor families?

Program targeting ID Poor households, i.e. families living below the poverty threshold (less than 2\$/day). In each commune where we have an operating water kiosk, 50 households were provided with a free 20L bottle and subsidized safe water refills for a period of three months, enabling them to access this essential service during the peak of the pandemic.



**13,200** rural households  
in **17 provinces** received free drinking water for 3 months and  
were educated on safe behaviour regarding the spread of  
Covid-19



**263** entrepreneurs  
mobilised for this action in **263 villages**



## ID-Poor

The Identification of Poor Households (ID-Poor) programme, run by the Cambodian government, serves as a social register of poor and vulnerable households and aims to help the poorest access social assistance operations in health and other sectors with a special focus on women and children.



# Madagascar : Pursuing our social impact

The closure of schools in Madagascar led to the suspension of the Water In School programme.

To maintain our impact on the most vulnerable, we created the "Hydrate, Feel great" programme in partnership with the NGO LCDM. This partnership, supported by the community of Tamatave, aimed to provide free access to safe, quality water to patients with sickle cell disease, an endemic disease in Madagascar. Indeed, dehydration is one of the factors that increase the risk of pain attacks and accelerate the aggravation of the disease. In 2021, 26,000 litres of drinking water were distributed.

This partnership developed with Dr. Johanita Ndahimananjara, former Malagasy Minister of Health, also generated strong benefits for 1001fontaines in terms of visibility and awareness (importance of drinking healthy water). It strengthens our image and our position in the ecosystem of Malagasy health actors.



## Sickle-cell disease

is a serious inherited blood disorder affecting the red blood cells. A disease of pain and a major contributor to mortality, morbidity, disability and poverty, this genetic disease affects over 50 million people worldwide. This makes it the most common genetic disease in the world. In Madagascar, the average prevalence rate of sickle cell disease across the island is estimated at 9%. It is even as high as 18.5% in certain regions of the south-east of the island.

# 2022: A new dynamic in all countries

## Amplifying the virtuous circle

Access to clean water generates systemic change. We have been nominated by the United Nations to achieve 8 SDGs, including:

- Health (SDGs 3,6)
- Economy (SDGs 1, 4, 8)
- Environment (SDGs 7, 12, 13)

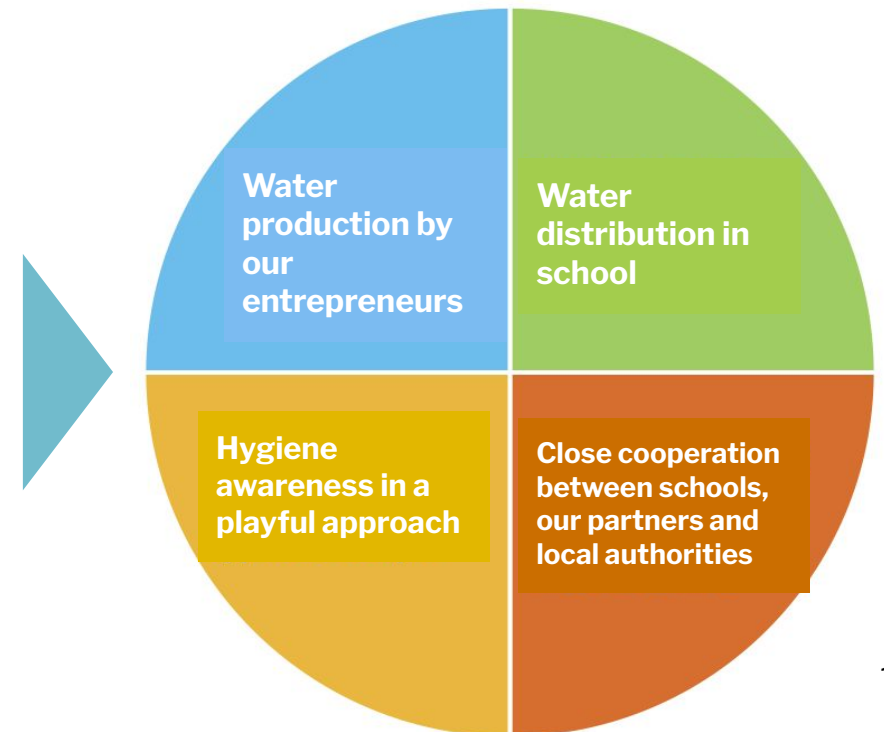


*The programme will continue to improve access to safe drinking water and basic hygiene education in four countries with very low primary school access and retention rates, particularly among girls, due to waterborne diseases.*

## Continuation and extension of the programme

Our priority for 2022 :

- ensure the resumption and strengthening of the programme in Madagascar, Myanmar and Vietnam, notably through new awareness-raising workshops.
- focus on advocacy with national authorities.
- increase the number of beneficiaries.



# Keeping children in school: testimonies



Somary Thuon, Director of Operations  
Cambodia

“

*Many children go home during school hours to drink, but they don't come back afterwards. I find it incredible that a school day can be interrupted because there is no water available for the children. But you understand, after a few hours of lessons in 35 degrees, the pupils are thirsty, the need is great. The children arrive at school at 8am and leave at 4pm. Eight hours without water is unbearable, especially with the dust and this temperature.*



Chavy Lun, Entrepreneur, Battambang  
province, Cambodia

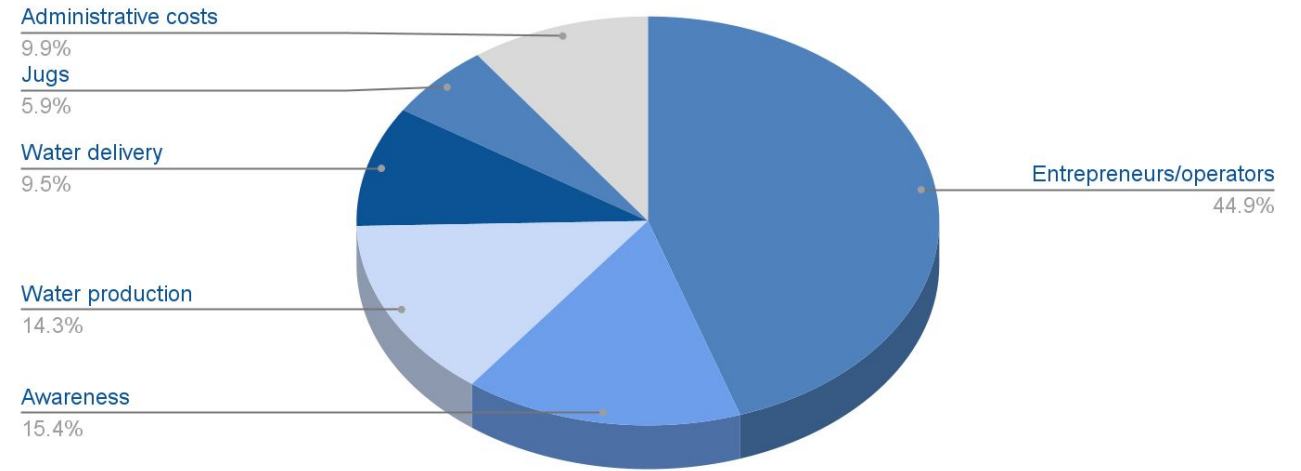
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*The 100fontaines programme for school children in the village is very important. The children recognise us in the village and sometimes they even come to see us. This year has not been easy and we are very proud that we have been able to provide them with this quality water as the need for water in schools is increasing.*

# Budget

In 2021, the programme represented a total cost of **€405,800**.

The 2022 budget for the “Water in School” program is **€530,000**.



# Thank you

With our partners and donor' support, we have provide safe drinking water to more than 310,000 children. Your trust and involvement are essential to help us in this task. We look forward to carrying on this mission with your help, and to keep improving vulnerable children's lives.

AIR LIQUIDE  
AMPLEGEST  
ANTIN INFRASTRUCTURE  
PARTNERS  
ARKEMA  
CA-CIB  
CAILLIAU DEDOUIT & ASSOCIÉS  
CHRISTIAN BACHSCHUSTER  
STIFTUNG JONA  
CID + CD CHARITY FOUNDATION  
CONNY-MAEVA CHARITABLE  
CULLIGAN  
DANONE WATER  
DÄSTER-SCHILD STIFTUNG  
DIEHL METERING  
EY  
FLEURANCE NATURE

FONDATION ALFRED ET EUGENIE BAUR  
FONDATION ANBER  
FONDATION CÉCILE BARBIER DE LA  
SERRE  
FONDATION COLLEGE CHAMPITTET  
FONDATION COROMANDEL  
FONDATION MADELEINE  
FONDATION MERIEUX  
FONDATION RAM ACTIVE PHILANTHROPY  
FRIBOURG FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN  
GANESHA FOUNDATION  
GIFFARD  
GIFT FOR CHANGE  
GREEN LEAVES EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
GROUPE FILATEX  
HARTMUT AND ILSE SCHNEIDER  
FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN

INTERMARCHE  
INDEX FOUNDATION  
ISOTONER  
J&K WONDERLAND FOUNDATION  
LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION  
LIL WINSTON CHURCHILL  
MAZARS  
MICRODON  
MONDISAN STIFTUNG  
NUXE  
OPTEVEN  
PING & AMY CHAO FAMILY  
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