

© Rémi Portier/1001fontaines

Water in School Programme | Annual Report 2023 - 2024

Providing safe drinking water for thousands of children around the world

1001FONTAINES

Table of contents


© Rémi Portier/1001fontaines

A word from the CEO 3

The *Water in School* Programme 4

In Focus: Cambodia 6

In Focus: Madagascar 8

2024-2025 Outlooks 10

Financial Report 12

Partners 13

A word from the CEO

Dear Partners and Friends,

In a world where 4.4 billion people[1] still lack access to safely managed drinking water, 1001fontaines continues its mission to provide marginalized communities with safe drinking water through resilient water purification infrastructure and the delivery of reusable 20-liter bottles. In 2024, we proudly celebrated 20 years of impact, having reached 1 million consumers—nearly one-third of them being children.

Since its launch in 2008, our *Water in School* programme has been a cornerstone of our efforts, delivering lasting impact by improving children's health and enhancing their learning environments. During the 2023-2024 school year, we reached 380,240 children across Cambodia and Madagascar. This milestone was achieved amid record-breaking heatwaves, highlighting the critical need for climate-resilient services in our 1,034 partner schools—a commitment ensured by our local teams.

There is still much work to be done collectively. Progress in providing Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services in schools has been frustratingly slow. With just five years remaining to achieve the 2030 SDG target of universal access to safe drinking water in schools, the current rate of progress must double[2]. This challenge drives us to expand our programme annually and explore its replication in other countries where we operate, such as Bangladesh.

We are deeply grateful to our partners and generous contributors, whose unwavering commitment has made these milestones possible. Together, we are working toward a future where every child has access to safe drinking water, good health, and the opportunity for a brighter tomorrow.

In this report, we will reflect on the achievements of the 2023-2024 school year, evaluate the programme's outcomes, and outline future opportunities to enhance and expand its impact in the years ahead.



Julien Ancele
Chief Executive Officer, 1001fontaines

[1] Greenwood, E. E., Lauber, T., van den Hoogen, J., Donmez, A., Bain, R. E. S., Johnston, R., Julian, T. R. (2024). Mapping safe drinking water use in low- and middle-income countries.
[2] Progress on drinking water, sanitation and hygiene in schools 2015-2023: special focus on menstrual health. New York, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and World Health Organization (WHO), 2024.

The *Water in School* Programme in the 1001fontaines model



1001fontaines: About us

Founded in 2004, 1001fontaines is a non-profit organization that designs and deploys innovative safe drinking water solutions. We address the needs of vulnerable communities by supplying reusable 20-liter bottles. Our approach combines impact and sustainability: we build the capacity of our local partners and support them until they reach scale and financial viability. Our solutions have now been adopted by over a million people in four countries of intervention.

Targeting primary school children: the first victims of unsafe water consumption and change agents in their communities

The *Water in School* programme targets primary school children aged 6 to 12, a critical age for promoting good hydration from safe water sources, essential for health and development. Children are particularly vulnerable to water-related diseases, such as diarrhea, which remain a leading cause of death in the communities where we work. Providing free water during school hours has proven to reduce the incidence of these diseases and absenteeism.[3]

Moreover, habits formed during this crucial period have a lasting impact, and although parents may still rely on traditional water sources, we believe the *Water in School* programme can foster safe behaviors within communities. Positive feedback from teachers and parents encourages us to continue on this path, drawing on both local expertise and international knowledge to adapt the programme to diverse local contexts.

[3] (1) 2013, Hunter and al.; licensee BioMed Central Ltd. and (2) Hunter PR, Risebro H, Yen M, Lefebvre H, Lo C, and al. (20140). Impact of the Provision of Safe Drinking Water on School Absence Rates in Cambodia: A Quasi-Experimental Study.

Leveraging existing capabilities and a social business model to ensure lasting impact

The *Water in School* is a complementary programme to our core activities, which leverages the capabilities established by 1001fontaines to initially serve paying households, central to our sustainable business model, to include schools in its outreach. These capabilities include water purification infrastructure, local laboratories for continuous water quality monitoring, and a dedicated team of trained professionals who operate directly in the communities. By providing free water to nearby schools, we achieve significant impact with minimal additional effort, maximizing the effectiveness of philanthropy.

Virtuous partnership

The *Water in School* programme has become a staple of 1001fontaines' projects in Cambodia and Madagascar. It is highly valued by national public partners, aligning with government WASH targets for schools, and local public partners, such as communes, who recognize the positive contribution we make to their communities. This strengthens our relationships with local authorities and fosters reciprocity, creating a virtuous cycle that amplifies the effectiveness of our programme. It leads to the expansion of new water purification units, increased customer engagement, and greater motivation for our dedicated field teams. This collaborative approach ensures that the programme is not only sustainable but also well-integrated into the local context, promoting a collective effort toward safe water access for all through 20L bottled water as a utility.

2023-2024 Results

In 2024, thanks to your trust, 380,240 children in Cambodia and Madagascar had daily access to safe drinking water in their schools. This marks an 8% increase from the previous school year, during which 352,372 children benefited from the programme.



IN FOCUS: CAMBODIA



Since 2008, 1001fontaines has partnered with its local organization, Teuk Saat 1001, to provide free daily access to safe drinking water for schools. Today, Teuk Saat 1001 is actively supporting a network of 342 community water kiosks in rural Cambodia. The establishment of new kiosks and the professional training of entrepreneurs each year enables the programme to reach more schools, ensuring that an increasing number of children benefit from safe drinking water and its health advantages.

Reaching 20% of Cambodia's rural primary schools, the programme has achieved a critical scale. To ensure ongoing success and maximize its impact, an internal audit was conducted in 2024 with the objective to identify opportunities for improvement.

The audit confirmed high satisfaction levels among schools and the continued commitment of entrepreneurs to serve them. It also recommended the introduction of an online database for easier entry and updating of school data, such as the number of children. This would allow better adaptation of water volumes based on actual need, and improve coordination between Teuk Saat 1001 and local entrepreneurs. The audit also identified a communication gap, with some schools and children not being adequately informed about the programme's objectives nor being engaged in awareness activities.

These insights are inspiring ongoing reflections on how the programme can be upgraded to further strengthen its effectiveness and sustainability, ensuring that every child benefiting from the programme also receives key WASH awareness messages.

2023-2024 RESULTS CAMBODIA

376,000 CHILDREN

1,026 SCHOOLS

241 SCHOOL DAY IN CAMBODIA

41,246,480L OF DRINKING WATER DISTRIBUTED

2,062,324 BOTTLES OF DRINKING WATER DISTRIBUTED



> "The water is free for the schoolchildren. I also deliver free of charge water to the school. This water is very different. It tastes better and doesn't carry diseases like pond waters."

Soy Sareth*

*Interview with a Teuk Saat 1001 entrepreneur from an article in the Phnom Penh Post newspaper on 17/06/2024.

Expanding impact in other geographies: new partnerships for safe water

In March 2024, 1001fontaines launched a new project in Bangladesh in partnership with the local NGO Uttaran: a mid-scale water purification facility in Tala, serving vulnerable households with affordable safe drinking water, and also benefitting two schools. The project, named "Uttaran Paani", provided 900 children with safe drinking water, as southwest Bangladesh faced major flooding and heat waves.

In parallel, our local partner in Vietnam O-We introduced a social programme, providing free water supplies to five local partners, including child care centers and orphanages.

IN FOCUS: MADAGASCAR



© Harry Tiana Teddy/1001fontaines

In Tamatave, our local partner Ranontsika has expanded both its distribution and production capacity to meet a growing demand, all while scaling the *Water in School* programme in the city's schools.

Last year, overall water production increased by 47%, with a portion allocated specifically to schools. We added four new schools to the programme, bringing the total to eight primary schools, benefiting 4,240 children.

In November 2024, the opening ceremony marking the launch of these four new partnerships and held at the City Hall of Tamatave, highlighted the strengthened collaboration between Ranontsika and its key partners, which includes the commune of Tamatave, schools, as well as regional education, water, and health authorities.

The event also offered an opportunity to engage children through artistic activities focused on water-related themes.

Throughout the 2023-2024 school year, 162 teachers were trained to raise awareness among children on proper water and hygiene practices.

Feedback gathered through a year-end survey was overwhelmingly positive, with reports indicating improved attendance, concentration, and student engagement.

Strong support from children and parents[4]:

- 100% of children know Ranontsika and drink an average of 4.5 glasses per day on school premises.
- 97% of parents notice positive health impacts, including fewer stomach aches.

Feedbacks from school directors:

- 35% reduction in absenteeism.
- 12% increase in success rates thanks to better hydration and thus improved concentration in the classroom.

2023-2024 RESULTS MADAGASCAR

4,240	**CHILDREN**
8	**SCHOOLS**
190	**SCHOOL DAY IN MADAGASCAR**
237,060L	**OF DRINKING WATER DISTRIBUTED**
11,853	**BOTTLES OF DRINKING WATER DISTRIBUTED**

"My name is Nomenjanahary Augustine, I'm 13 years old and I'm in second grade at Maurice Guyot school. Before, I was often sick with headaches, stomach pains and fever. Ever since I started drinking Ranontsika water, my health has improved a lot. This program provides us with quality water that's good for our health."

Augustine NOMENJANAHARY,
Student at Maurice Guyot school.



[4] Ranontsika, 2024. Annual Report 2023-2024. *Water in School* Programme

Strengthening the core

We just kicked off a new school year last November in Cambodia, Madagascar and Bangladesh, with a two-fold approach:

1 Expanding reach – scaling to benefit more schoolchildren



CAMBODIA

- We aim to deliver 2.2 million bottles of water across 1,072 rural primary schools, reaching 387,560 children.



MADAGASCAR

- The programme is in its early stages in Tamatave but growing rapidly year-over-year. Four new schools have been enrolled, adding 1,760 children and bringing the total number of beneficiaries to 6,000 children.



BANGLADESH

- We plan to scale the *Water in School* initiative by developing new water purification facilities in partnership with Uttaran, incorporating valuable lessons from our work in Cambodia and Madagascar.

2 Strengthening impact – enhancing awareness

We will build on the insights from the Cambodian audit to strengthen awareness and behavioral change initiatives, while aiming to establish a partnership with the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport. A key goal is to develop and implement specialized training materials across the country.

Exploring new avenues for impact on health

While the *Water in School* programme has demonstrated its ability to generate impact at scale, we've been piloting additional social activities especially in Madagascar, such as providing free safe drinking water to vulnerable populations whose health conditions benefit significantly from improved hydration.

The *Hydrate Feels Great* programme supplies safe drinking water to 140 families affected by sickle cell disease: we aim to collaborate further with health-focused NGOs to identify populations that would benefit most from free water.





Another avenue for creating impact is through sector expertise sharing, particularly our capabilities in water quality analysis via our lab.

Since 2019, a partnership has been established with the University of South Florida to conduct research on water contamination, with a particular focus on lead. The goal of this research was to identify contamination sources, address them, and raise awareness among households about the associated health risks. These initiatives have resulted in significant changes in local practices, a reduction in lead levels in children's blood, and a positive, lasting impact on the health of the population.[5]

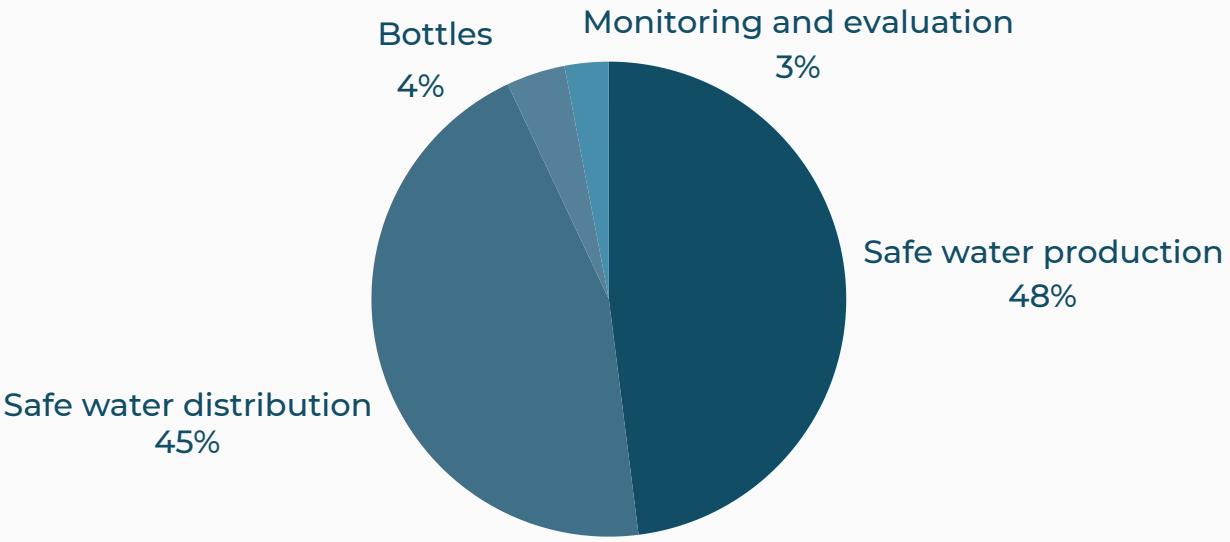
In 2025, we plan to expand such academic collaborations by partnering with top-tier universities, further advancing research and knowledge dissemination in our other countries of operation.

[5]Buerck AM, Khaliq M, Alfredo K, Cunningham JA, Barrett LJP, Rakotondrazaka R, Rakotoarisoa L, Champion WM, Mihelcic JR. Reductions in Children's Blood Lead Levels from a Drinking-Water Intervention in Madagascar, Sub-Saharan Africa. Environ Sci Technol. 2023 Oct 31;57(43):16309-16316. doi: 10.1021/acs.est.3c03774. Epub 2023 Oct 18. PMID: 37850908.

FINANCIAL REPORT

For the 2023-2024 school year, the total cost of the *Water in School* programme amounted to €678,000, compared to €616,481 in the previous year. Notably, 98% of these costs correspond to the programme implemented at scale in Cambodia.

The detailed costs repartition is as follow:



2024-2025 BUDGET

The provisional budget for the 2024-2025 school year is projected at €688,000.



PARTNERS

We deeply appreciate the support of our partners and individual donors. Their generosity enables us to implement our Water in School initiatives and create a meaningful, lasting impact in the communities we serve.

Alfred und anneliese Sutter-Stöttner Stiftung
Anne Frank Fonds
Azickia
Brachard & Cie
CA-CIB UK
Chao Foundation
COGEM
Culligan
Danone Intermarché
Däster-Schild Stiftung
David Bruderer Stiftung
Edith Walder Stiftung
Educational & General Charitable Trust
Fleurance Nature
Fondation Alfred et Eugenie Baur
Fondation Coromandel
Fondation Gertude Hirzel
Fondation Madeleine
Fondation Menton
Fondation RAM Active Philanthropy
Giffard
Green Leaves Education Foundation
Index Foundation
Isotoner
J&K Wonderland Foundation
La Rosée
Lighthouse Foundation
Lombard
Miscellaneous
Oakdale Trust
Pierre Fabre Oral Care
RG Hills Charitable Trust
Rotary Club Nyon
S&P Global Foundation
Souter Charitable Trust
Stiftung Nau Mai
Tauro Stiftung
The Angus Lawson Memorial Trust
The Big Give Trust
The Carmela and Ronnie Pignatelli Foundation
The Coca-Cola Foundation
The Haramead Trust
The Pat Newman Memorial Fund
The Reed Foundation
The SMB Charitable Trust
The Waterloo Foundation
Third World Foundation





1001FONTAINES

CONTACT FRANCE
JULIEN ANCELE, CEO
JU.ANCELE@1001FONTAINES.COM

CONTACT SWITZERLAND
MALIK BAFOU, MANAGING DIRECTOR
MALIK.BAFOU@1001FONTAINES.COM

CONTACT UK
ROSEMARY O'MAHONY, CHAIR
RO.OMAHONY@1001FONTAINES.COM