







## The WaterSchool®

How can we independently improve critical and problematic water situations? This is the question students and teachers at the WaterSchool are exploring. Here, children learn – in practice and in theory – how to utilize existing and as yet untapped water resources in a sustainable manner.

With the WaterSchool project, the WaterFoundation is pursuing its goal of helping people in regions with insufficient or polluted drinking water to improve their living conditions by their own means.



### The Goal of the WaterSchool

In collaboration with experts, partners and locals, the WaterFoundation seeks to develop a comprehensive concept for the regional water economy targeted at a defined area in the vicinity of a school. This includes water procurement and supply, wastewater management, water conservation, and reforestation. Involving children and students is of vital importance. As the most important disseminators, they are at the very core of the concept. Students will learn to understand every aspect related to the theme of water and ecological relationships in an approach that engages their minds, hearts, and bodies.

Reforestation strategies and agricultural techniques will provide the knowledge and expertise to preserve and protect the soil and the groundwater. The goal is to not only foster consciousness and awareness in the students, but also in their families and in the population at large. Young people will be encouraged to influence how their environment is shaped and to become initiators of measures that will secure the future in their homeland.



### Paths toward the Goal

Wherever water shortages diminish people's quality of life, the WaterFoundation can be an initiator for sustainable development.

#### First Step

- The school will be equipped with: water supply, clean water for drinking, washing and school garden irrigation;
- a biological sewage treatment plant;
- WCs and showers;
- a school kitchen;
- a school garden as a resource for self-sufficient food supply.

#### Second Step

- Teaching materials will be provided for: water economy, water management, erosion-, soil- and groundwater pro-

tection; reforestation, agriculture, irrigation technology, preventative health care, and cultural heritage with reference to nature and water.

- Practical implementation of theoretical knowledge in the vicinity of the school and through the WaterClub.

#### Third Step

- Young people may study to become "rural water suppliers." The course teaches the construction of wells, cisterns and sanitary installations, the erection of fog nets to procure drinking water, as well as the installation and maintenance of solar pump stations.



### The WaterClub

In each school, students will form WaterClubs to translate their knowledge into practice. The WaterClub comprises four groups.

#### 1.School garden group

- Planting, cultivation and upkeep of a fruit and vegetable garden;
- measures for soil improvement and water storage (mulching, composting, fertilizing, superabsorbers etc.);
- modern irrigation techniques;
- surplus fruit and vegetables to be sold; income is earmarked for school purchases;
- creation of an arboretum (optional) to document which trees and shrubs are or were indigenous to the region.

#### 2.Reforestation group

- Cultivating seedlings (trees for firewood, lumber for construction, fruit trees, Neem or Margosa trees as potential malaria prevention);
- landscaping for the school grounds;
- reforestation of selected areas in or near the village to prevent erosion and create new forested areas.

#### 3.Environmental protection group

- Upkeep of the school grounds;
- waste reduction and waste management;
- protection of sources, bodies of water and wells.

#### 4.Water construction group

- Measures for rainwater collection;
- construction and maintenance of micro-dams and gabions;
- terracing.

### The WaterFoundation®

The WaterFoundation is a registered and charitable organization that provides assistance to people in regions with too little or polluted drinking water so that they may help themselves.

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