



Dear friends and donors of the WaterFoundation,

thanks to your donations and sponsorships, we were again able to realize some projects last year of which we can be proud together with you. The positive effects of the implemented projects are the driving force for our WaterFoundation team helping us to tackle the quite often challenging commitments. The results are clearly visible in families, schools and the rural infrastructure. During our on-site visits, we found that the people in the areas supplied with drinking water are happier, healthier and more confident. Often they do now stay in their home country. Some who have left move back to their villages since chances of survival and living conditions have improved significantly.

In developing countries, about eighty per cent of all diseases and one third of all deaths are due to contaminated water, as Hartmut Böhme, a cultural and natural scientist, points out. This has been drive enough for us for almost twenty years now to continue our work according to the objectives of the United Nations formulated in 1977 and 1992. We are on the right track and always learning new things. Meanwhile, there is a growing awareness that it is not enough just to secure access to clean drinking water for remote villages and towns. In addition, for reasons of climate protection it is our concern to help preserving biodiversity and carry out reforestation. We want to and must continue. For this the WaterFoundation needs your support. Your contribution is more than just a donation. We would also like to thank you on behalf of the people who receive help from us who have plenty of water. On the following pages we present what we have achieved with your support in Ethiopia, Bolivia, Eritrea, Morocco and Tanzania.

With warm regards from your WaterFoundation,

Henner Lang

Dr. Beate Grotehans

Robert Balthasar



"In the industrialized West, it is hard to imagine what it means for people's daily life not to have access to clean drinking water."  
Physicist Philip Ball

*All peoples (...) have the right to have access to drinking water in quantities and of a quality equal to their basic needs.*

United Nations 1977

*Water is needed in all aspects of life. The general objective is to make certain that adequate supplies of water of good quality are maintained for the entire population of this planet, while preserving the hydrological, biological and chemical functions of ecosystems, adapting human activities within the capacity limits of nature and combating vectors of water-related diseases.*

United Nations 1992

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ERITREA

## A NEW SOLAR PUMP FOR DEKI TSENAV

Deki Tsenay is located 43 kilometers south of the Eritrean capital Asmara in the Debub region and belongs to the Debarwa district. The village is situated at an altitude of 2,100 meters and is home to 2,400 people.

1,600 school children attend its school every day. The majority of the population lives from agriculture and livestock breeding. The village has no electricity and is dependent on kerosene and wood for cooking and lighting.

Drinkable water was not available until 2011. Together with the Lutheran World Federation as a local partner, the project of providing clean drinking water was tackled. In 2011, two containers were delivered to Eritrea – with water pipes, pumps, solar panels and the necessary accessories. The trenches for the water pipes were dug by the villagers themselves. In addition, Eritrean craftsmen built an elevated tank as a water reservoir and six wells in the village and at the school. Since 2012, the solar pump station located two kilometers away in the valley has been pumping the water up to Deki Tsenay.

Now the pump is defective and there is no water supply for Deki Tsenay. Therefore, the WaterFoundation will ship a new solar pump to Deki Tsenay in 2019 to replace the old one in 2020.



ERITREA

## NEW WATER SUPPLY PROJECT IN KESAD DAERO

The village Kesad Daero is located in Eritrea on the route from Asmara to Mendefera, about 40 kilometers from Asmara. Following the successful example of Deki Tsenay, Kesad Daero will also be supplied with fresh drinking water in the future. Numerous former residents of the village living in Germany have joined forces, collected money and initiated the project in cooperation with the WaterFoundation. The preparations have now been completed. An application for approval for the project was submitted to the state authorities and the Kesad Daero Water Committee was founded. The inhabitants will have a lot to do. The well has to be dug and the hole has to be filled with cement. Subsequently, the new pump will be installed together with the solar system. Then the trenches for the water pipes have to be dug, the pipes laid and connected to the reservoir. Shipment of the required materials is scheduled for this year, and completion of the entire project is planned for 2020.

## PLEASE NOTE: PROJECT LEADER WANTED FOR ETHIOPIA

The WaterFoundation is looking for a person to supervise projects of the Foundation, especially in Ethiopia, but also in other countries to be defined. Henner Lang, who founded the WaterFoundation together with Ernst Frost in 2000, wants to retire from active project work in 2020 for age reasons. In many countries the lack of drinking water hampers sustainable development and endangers the lives of countless people. For 20 years now, the WaterFoundation has been working to improve this situation in well-established cooperation with local partner organisations.

The varied and multi-faceted international project work is embedded in the joint efforts of a small but highly committed, sympathetic team of professional and interdisciplinary members who have been supporting the WasserFoundation for years. The WaterFoundation can offer a two-year contract for future international projects, part-time employment is also possible.

Contact: [info@wasserstiftung.de](mailto:info@wasserstiftung.de) or [h.lang@wasserstiftung.de](mailto:h.lang@wasserstiftung.de)

## THE OFFICE OF THE WATERFOUNDATION HAS A NEW ADDRESS

In recent years, the Foundation's office was located without costs in the offices of Knorr Rechtsanwälte AG in Munich. We would like to express our sincere thanks for this support. Please note the new address for correspondence:

WaterFoundation Office  
c/o Balthasar  
Pörschacher Strasse 27  
D-80687 Munich, Germany

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Henner Lang  
Dr. Beate Grotehans  
Robert Balthasar

### PATRONS

Seine Heiligkeit der Dalai Lama  
Friedensreich Hundertwasser †

## WATER SUPPLY IN BILAA

In April 2008, together with our partner Environmentalists Development Association – Ethiopia (EDA-E), our project in Birbirsa in the Tokke-Kuttaye district in the Oromia region was inaugurated, which is still functioning today. People from a nearby region came up with the request to realize a similar project in their district Gudayya Bilaa. Bilaa did indeed have an insufficient water supply. But Jarree, located in the same county with the villages Iffa Biyya and Kalala, was in an even worse state of emergency. The officials and the WaterFoundation agreed that Jarree should be given priority: Since 2012, we have been supplying approximately 16,000 people with clean drinking water through 11 spring wells and approx. 20 km of

pipes leading to 41 tapping points. Thanks to the great success and trust in the competence of the WaterFoundation with its Ethiopian partner, the local heads of Bilaa and Bilo Ejere reminded us once again of their need. With a coherent concept, we succeeded in obtaining the majority of the financing from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. The implementation of the project started in autumn 2017 – at a time of serious political unrest – also in this region. Various uprisings threatened to interfere with our work. In one case, our Ethiopian project manager Fekadu Aleka succeeded to convince the rebels of the importance of water supply and stop their blockading our

transport route when he said, “This project is not mine, it’s yours. You can burn the pipes if you want to!” An essential part of the project is the engagement of those involved in the construction phases, including technical training, definition of concrete work steps, agreement on responsibilities and ongoing inspections. The construction period lasted over two years. Some things had to be changed due to new findings and had to be adapted accordingly in training courses, construction work, material requirements, etc. The new knowledge was then used as a basis for the new project. It is simply a large-scale craft project, which is implemented with technically simple means and little



trained local people in a more or less undeveloped area. Everything was completed by 2019. In order to supply the currently more than 10,000 people with clean drinking water, to improve existing irrigation systems and also to meet the needs of a growing population, eight springs were dug, a 100 m<sup>3</sup> large tank was built and 18 new tapping points were connected, twelve of which are outside the city – as close as possible to the next villages – and six on the premises of the primary school, secondary school and vocational school. The project will be inaugurated on 22 February 2020 – after thorough practical testing.



ETHIOPIA

## IN 2019, THE WATERFOUNDATION HANDED OVER THE 1,000 DONKEY

The lucky recipient Kabai Dalara called her new donkey “Roba”, which means the gift from heaven. The thousandth was one of fifty donkeys distributed by the WaterFoundation in spring 2019 to needy settler families around the community of Arsi Negele in Ethiopia. The women and girls in particular are especially grateful. From now on they will be able to fetch the drinking water from distant locations with the help of the pack animals. Since more frequent and longer periods of drought cause wells in Ethiopia to dry up the difficult paths to water points become longer and longer. Since 2004, the WaterFoundation has been distributing donkeys every year in remote areas of Ethiopia where there is an acute need for water. One animal costs the WaterFoundation about 150 euros, including carrying harness, blanket and water container. So far donkeys with a total value of over 120,000 euros were handed over to needy people in small villages in the regions of Oromia and Amhara. The distributions are supported by our local partners: Pastor Yemaneberhan Endale (Ethiopia Gospel Deliverance Church) and Pastor Workanem Wake (Eternity Gospel Church Ethiopia). They buy the animals at the nearby Sunday markets, take them to the distribution centre, supply them and organise the distribution as well as the registration, an act which usually takes place in combination with a small celebration.



TANZANIA

## CLOUDFISHER MINI ARRIVED IN DAREDA

Five CloudFisher Mini arrived in Dareda, Tanzania in early 2019. Together with our partner ped-world e.V. they will be set up in January 2020. The fog collectors supply five schools on the high plateau around Umagi and Gameyu with clean water. The villages are located in the Babati district. Around 20,000 people live in the project area with the cities of Gameyu, Umagi, Endow, Endabok and Gidn'gata. None of the district's schools is connected to a public water supply. The drinking water is taken from contaminated ponds far away from the schools, which means that the pupils miss their classes when they are asked to transport water to their schools. The families live mainly from subsistence agriculture. We would like to thank the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development for a transport subsidy and the Handelshaus für Tiefbau und Industrietechnik, HTI Gienger in Markt Schwaben, Germany, who generously supported the purchase of the five fog collectors. The WaterFoundation has succeeded in embedding this project in a large-scale project supplying 14 schools on the Tanzanian plateau with water. In 2019 a cooperation agreement with Viva con Agua e.V. and ped-world e.V. was signed. In 2020 it is also planned to set up further CloudFisher Mini at eight other schools. We like to thank the Oswald Foundation, Germany, for their generous support.



## BOLIVIA

### AROUND 250,000 EURO IN FUNDING FOR A FOG COLLECTOR PROJECT OF NGO ZABALKETA

In order to support the development of projects on extracting water from fog, the WaterFoundation, together with the Munich Re Foundation and the support of the Oswald Foundation, provided a grant at the beginning of 2019 for the provision of new respectively the improvement of existing fog collector projects and called for applications worldwide.

The race was won by an NGO based in northern Spain, which has already gained a great deal of experience in the use of fog nets with partners in Peru, Colombia and Bolivia. Zabalketa convinced the jury with the Agua-de-Niebla project in the highlands of Bolivia.

The NGO Zabalketa was founded in 1990 in Getxo near Bilbao, Spain. Their goal is to give people access to clean drinking water and teach them how to use the resource efficiently. Their proposal convinced the jury members Prof. Dr. Martin Grambow/Dr. Klaus Arzet (Bavarian State Ministry for Environment and Health), Prof. Dr. Otto Klemm (Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster), Prof. María Victoria Marzol Jaén (Universidad de Laguna, Tenerife), Peter Trautwein (Aqualonis GmbH), Christian Wiebe (Viva con Agua e.V.), Thomas Loster/Martina Mayerhofer (Munich Re Foundation) and Kerstin Anker/Dr. Beate Grotehans (WaterFoundation) – not least because Zabalketa was able to prove that their projects in South America are sustainably successful and scientifically accompanied. Together with the Instituto de Capacitación del Oriente (ICO) from Valle grande/Bolivia, they have been testing the fog net technology in pilot projects since 2012 and explored the economic, ecological and social potential for the region and the local population.

#### **Water for a school and 160 farming families**

The Alto del Veladero project area belongs to the municipality of Moro Moro in a mountainous region with widely scattered villages. In Veladero, at an altitude of 2,800 metres, there is a school whose 368 pupils and teachers as well as about 160 farming families can benefit from the fog collecting devices.

#### **First terrain soundings carried out**

As planned, existing sites with fog collectors in the vicinity of Vallegrande were inspected and further possible sites were explored. However, the region is not only very windy, but also very stony and has a rocky subsoil, so that the CloudFisher Mini requested in the tender cannot be set up as planned. Now a CloudFisher Midi with 24 instead of 18 m<sup>2</sup> collector area will be developed. Their supports can be anchored in a slimmer concrete foundation. Construction is to begin in April 2020. The implementation including the planned training of the village population on maintenance and handling of the expensive resource water will be accompanied until June 2021 and then completed.

## MOROCCO

### NEW FILM ABOUT POSITIVE EFFECTS OF THE FOG COLLECTOR SYSTEM

Peter Trautwein can be very persistent when he is pursuing a goal. Thanks to this characteristics, after two years of construction, Mount Boutmezguida is now home to the world's largest fog collector, which supplies 1,600 people with clean drinking water. Since it is equally important to illustrate that all the effort was worth it there is now an eight-minute video about grateful children, happy women and proud men in the Berber villages in the southwest of the country.

The project is the largest of its kind in Morocco – and thus the consistently positive effects of the largest project to date, which the WaterFoundation team has jointly managed, from the acquisition of resources to the entire project and financial management.

#### **Thanks to all supporters**

“Are you the people who brought us the water”, a little boy asked and said, “Thank you!” Dr. Jarmila Bargach, director of the Dar Si Hmad Foundation in Morocco, describes this small incident at the beginning of the film. There is no better way to sum it up. Without the commitment of a dedicated team, it would not have been possible to produce this video, which is available in German and English. That is why the WaterFoundation would like to express its sincere thanks to everyone involved!

## INTERNATIONAL HUNDERTWASSER PRIZE 2020: WATERFOUNDATION HONOURS ETHIOPIAN ENGINEER FEKADU ALEKA

On 24 February 2020 the Water-Foundation will be awarding the International Hundertwasser Prize for the seventh time. The winner is the 59-year-old Ethiopian engineer Fekadu Aleka with a German passport, who with his organisation Environmentalists Development Association – Ethiopia (EDA-E) has rendered outstanding services to the improvement of the water supply for numerous people in Ethiopia. The ceremony will take place in the country of the award winner Fekadu Aleka. Host will be the German Ambassador in Addis Ababa, Brita Wagener.

### **The prize is named after Friedensreich Hundertwasser**

The International Hundertwasser Prize is awarded in memory of the artist, architect, ecologist and philosopher Friedensreich Hundertwasser, who promised the WaterFoundation the patronage shortly before his surprising death in 2000.

The prize, endowed with a total of 5,000 Euros, commemorates the fact that Friedensreich Hundertwasser has dedicated his entire life to the protection of nature and wanted to enable people to live a life in dignity and peace.

### **The prize winner 2020**

Fekadu Aleka was born in 1959 in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa. As a young man he became involved in the resistance. At the end of 1983 he fled to Germany. From 1986 to 1993 he studied mechanical engineering at the University of Karlsruhe. After successfully completing his studies with a degree in engineering, he returned to Ethiopia in 1993 to use the knowledge he had acquired in Germany to improve the living conditions of his compatriots. In 2006 Fekadu Aleka founded the Environmentalists Development Association – Ethiopia (EDA-E), of which he is Managing Director.

Since then he successfully completed more than 40 drinking water supply projects for 45,600 people. He installed toilets, showers and hand washing facilities, carried out training projects with schoolchildren, supported women in the procurement of income and equipped schools with solar power. The school has set up washing facilities and hand washing facilities, carried out training projects with schoolchildren, supported women in the procurement of income and equipped schools with solar power.

### **Environmentalists Development Association – Ethiopia (EDA-E)**

The EDA-E ([eda-e.org](http://eda-e.org)) is a non-profit



organisation founded by individuals, consisting mainly of engineers and ecologists with many years of experience in rural development projects. Registered with the Charities and Societies Agency in Ethiopia in 2006, it aims to achieve social development in harmony with its natural environment. Its main concerns are environmental protection, the promotion of environmentally friendly resource management, the provision of schools, drinking water and sanitary facilities as well as the promotion of income-generating activities for women.

[www.wasserstiftung.de/en/hundertwasser-prize](http://www.wasserstiftung.de/en/hundertwasser-prize)

## TRANSPARENT CIVIL SOCIETY INITIATIVE

Transparency is particularly important to us. For this reason, we have joined the Transparent Civil Society Initiative (ITZ) and signed a voluntary commitment. The ITZ was founded in June 2010 by Transparency International Deutschland in order to increase transparency in the civil society sector.

By joining the initiative the WaterFoundation ensures to make information available to the public and to keep informations up to date, such as statutes, mission statement, funding criteria and activity reports, as well as information on the source and use of funds and personnel structure. [www.wasserstiftung.de/en/about-us/transparency](http://www.wasserstiftung.de/en/about-us/transparency)

## COMMUNICATION

### **Social media: @wasserstiftung**

Since January 2019, the Water-Foundation has opened a new communication channel. Interested parties can now follow our activities via Twitter: [twitter.com/wasserstiftung](https://twitter.com/wasserstiftung)

### **English Websites**

Just in time the English version of the WaterFoundations Website went online on 22 March 2019 – the global World Water Day:

[www.wasserstiftung.de/en](http://www.wasserstiftung.de/en)