



Amount granted to charity: water	Country
\$85,608	ETHIOPIA
Project Start date	Status
May 2011	Funds granted!

We're excited to inform you that your funds have been sent to the field! Over the next year your investment will be put to work to bring clean and safe drinking water to thirteen communities and one health clinic.

Appropriate solutions

Field teams have spent months surveying some of the most remote areas on earth to help us determine the most feasible and appropriate water solution for every community. This can often depend on water availability, geographical conditions and the capacity of the community members to operate and maintain the project overtime. A spring protection can be a low-cost, high impact solution for a community living in a mountainous area. Once field teams have identified the spring, they need to spend time studying the surrounding conditions to make sure it can produce a reliable flow throughout the year and best serve the needs of the current (and future) population.

In Ethiopia, hand-dug wells, spring protections, shallow boreholes and rehabilitations are common and appropriate solutions.

Keeping it local

We're committed to water projects that last. Over the next several months our partners will spend time with these communities, preparing them for their new water project. To instill a sense of ownership, a Water Committee will be established to manage each water point - at least half of that committee will be made up of women. Committee members are elected by the community and are trained directly by our local partners to be ambassadors for hygiene, sanitation and proper use of the project. They're encouraged, and often institute, a collection of monthly or lump sum fees to be deposited in a bank account and used for minor repairs. Each committee will also be responsible for electing two project caretakers, each provided with a tool kit at the end of their training on basic maintenance. Each local government is also provided a tool kit and spare parts.

This kind of participation is essential to lasting behavioral change and proper care of the project once it's fully handed over the community under the care of their local government.