ORGANIZATION PROFILE

WATER FOR SOUTH SUDAN
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Overview

Water for South Sudan (WFSS) is a registered NGO with an Operations Center in Wau, Western Bahr el Ghazal, South Sudan. WFSS seeks to water the seeds of change in South Sudan through our programs, including providing water wells so villagers can access fresh water, hygiene education, and sanitation services.

Using local leadership and staff, WFSS helps remote, rural villages develop, thereby helping to develop the young nation of South Sudan and bring greater stability to the country and region. WFSS employs 66 people, with 100% being South Sudanese. Staff receive ongoing training to build the capacity of the team. Operations are led by our Country Director Ajang Abraham Agok, from our operations center and compound in Wau.

Our support comes from individuals, schools, faith-based organizations, civic organizations, and small foundations in the US and in 53 other countries. WFSS seeks to grow our programs and further our impact by collaborating and partnering with other NGOs, the Government of South Sudan, and international funders seeking to aid development in South Sudan.

History

2003: Founded as 501(c)(3) US not-for-profit in Rochester, NY by Salva Dut
2005: Drilled first water well in South Sudan
2014: Launched WFSS Hygiene Education Team
2015: Initiated monitoring and evaluation program
2017: Launched WFSS Well Rehabilitation Team
2018: Launched sanitation project at the Zogolona Primary School
2018: Purchased two new drilling rigs
2019: Launched second drilling team
2020: Obtained NNGO registration status in South Sudan
Well Drilling

Water for South Sudan (WFSS) has consistently delivered water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) programming since 2005, when the first well was drilled. Our local leadership has navigated country changes without interruptions to the work. WFSS has drilled in the Upper Nile, Bahr el Ghazal, and Equatoria regions. To date, the organization has drilled 456 wells and aims to drill a minimum of 40 new wells each drilling season.

Prior to WFSS building a well, these isolated villages have extremely limited access to clean water, and often only have access to a contaminated source. WFSS works with local governments and community leaders to determine the placement of wells. Our goal is to create sustainable systems, incorporating well maintenance and training as part of the installation of a well. In each village, WFSS trains one to two people on simple well maintenance and repairs, and connects villages to local supply chains to help acquire spare parts if needed.

Wells drilled by WFSS have a borehole diameter of 20 centimeters with slightly smaller casings. WFSS drills up to 100 meters (300 feet) deep. Recently, the team upgraded the design of the well to be more durable and better protect the aquifer. The WFSS drilling team requires three to four days to drill a new well. At the time of drilling, WFSS tests the water to ensure it is safe for human consumption. All wells drilled by WFSS have gone through water testing analysis and have been deemed safe.
Sustainability

Water for South Sudan (WFSS) aims for sustainability in all we do. WFSS wells are drilled in consultation with local governments. Village elders make final decisions in placement of wells, which then become community assets, owned and managed by the communities that use them every day. WFSS trains villagers to maintain and do simple repairs of wells, leaving behind spare parts, ensuring their long-term sustainability. If a well breaks down, the village reports this to their county leaders who then call WFSS directly. If additional support is needed, WFSS is available to assist the village.

WFSS also aims to continuously improve our drilling methods. We now use diesel-powered concrete mixers, resulting in stronger concrete well platforms and drainage channels. Wire mesh is also used within the structure to prevent the concrete from crumbling. WFSS is now using longer-lasting stainless steel riser pipes, replacing galvanized steel. We are also using more scientific drilling methods measuring PH and viscosity of mud, to adjust the amount of polymer needed in each well.

Upon completion of a new or rehabbed well, WFSS tasks village members with creating a fence around the wells to prevent animals from entering. This fencing protects the water source from contamination and prevents crushing of the concrete.
Well Rehabilitation

In response to the need for sustainable water sources, Water for South Sudan (WFSS) launched the well rehabilitation program in 2017. The purpose of this program is to bring WFSS’s older wells to a higher design standard with repairs to broken parts, upgrades to cement well platforms, and new animal watering troughs.

The rehabilitation team is always ready to respond to requests to repair wells originally drilled by other organizations. The team visits the broken well and employs necessary measures to return the well to full functionality. Rehabilitating these wells provides a sustainable and reliable source of water for years to come.

To date, the team has rehabilitated 167 wells and aims to rehab at least 40 wells each drilling season.

Before rehabilitation

After rehabilitation
Hygiene Education

Launched in 2014, the WFSS hygiene teams address the critical need for hygiene education in South Sudan. Working alongside the drilling and rehabilitation teams, hygiene team members train community members using the participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation (PHAST) program. This program engages local individuals and encourages women to participate in the training. WFSS continuously improves and strengthens the hygiene training program to ensure community needs are met.

The hygiene education training is a two-day long program. The four main areas of hygiene training are: handwashing, water safety, safe disposal of feces/stools, and prevention of disease. Trainers educate a minimum of four males and four females from each village or school to share the information with others in the community.
Sanitation
Sanitation services and hygiene education are a critical need across the country, particularly for schools. To mitigate this need, WFSS completed its first school sanitation project in 2018 at the Zogolona Primary School.

In planning our first school latrine project, sustainability was a cornerstone of the design and the site selection. Our latrines are sustainable because they are built over a septic system that can be pumped out. The first school latrine site in Wau was chosen knowing there is a local company that can pump out the sewage.

The school site was chosen after the school and community pledged to establish a plan to keep the latrine clean, and the school was required to have a hygiene club. The design also includes a mandatory handwashing station outside the latrine. The school must see that soap and water for handwashing are provided on a daily basis. The Zogolona latrine design was built to allow for expansion for additional latrines in the future.

Since the completion of the first school sanitation project and hygiene education, the school now receives daily meals from the World Food Programme, received sports equipment from UNICEF, and repairs to classrooms by the Peace Corps. Plans for a second school sanitation project are in place for the 2020-21 season.
Monitoring and Evaluation

Water for South Sudan (WFSS) is committed to ensuring its projects are sustainable and provide long-term solutions to the people they serve. The organization strives to improve efficiencies through regular and deliberate evaluative activities to examine progress towards goals.

The WFSS monitoring and evaluation program focuses on all of our programs. Regular activities for this team include, but are not limited to, regular visits to previously drilled and rehabilitated wells to monitor their status and to retest the water to ensure it is still safe, follow-up with villages that have received hygiene education to assess behavior change, and visits to the school sanitation project to evaluate proper maintenance by beneficiaries. Monitoring and evaluation data are then used to improve processes and procedures for future projects.

Administering water testing
Evaluating well rehab site
Monitoring previously drilled well
COVID-19 Hygiene Awareness Campaign

Knowledge of and access to information about the COVID-19 pandemic is limited in South Sudan. UNICEF asked our team to provide hygiene awareness training to communities and towns in Wau, South Sudan, in order to prevent the virus from spreading to communities throughout the country, where access to healthcare is limited or nonexistent.

Provided with personal protective equipment and while practicing social distancing, our team is communicating detailed information about the virus and its symptoms. Using information from the World Health Organization (WHO), our team is able to share the importance of being prepared for quarantine, best practices for handwashing, and social distancing. The training is being administered in four languages: Arabic, Dinka, Luol, and English.

The team is visiting markets and livestock auctions along the Eastern Bank of Wau—where crowds of people gather. The trainees are taking these messages seriously. WFSS has delivered these critical messages to 17,602 community members (8,350 males and 9,252 females), as of June 19, 2020.

As part of the COVID-19 campaign, the WFSS team delivered handwashing supplies to 25 Primary Health Care Centers (PHCCs) throughout Jur River County. While visiting these centers, the team identified ten centers lacking access to water. The team rehabilitated six existing wells and drilled four new wells to address this need. Additionally, WFSS trained 52 health workers on the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) of coronavirus.

*Data as of June 30, 2020
Drilling Equipment

PAT 431T
Water for South Sudan (WFSS) has two PAT drill rigs, built for sandier terrain. The 431T rig has pull-back of 10,800 pounds and torque of 2,660 pounds per foot. The nominal depth of the rig is 200 meters.

PAT 501
The larger PAT drill rig owned by WFSS is the PAT 501. This rig has pull-back of 14,100 pounds and torque of 3,920 pounds per foot. The nominal depth of the rig is 300 meters.

DR 150
The Deep Rock 150 is the larger of the two Deep Rock drill rigs owned by WFSS. The Deep Rock 150 drill rig has pull-back of 16,000 pounds and torque of 5,000 pounds per foot. The nominal depth of the rig is 300 meters.

DR 100
WFSS has two drill rigs equipped for deep rock terrain. The Deep Rock 100 drill rig has pull-back of 8,835 pounds and torque of 660 pounds per foot. The nominal depth of the rig is 150 meters.

Compressors
WFSS has two compressors, both Atlas Copco products. The Atlas Copco XAHS 186 has a flow rate of 370 cubic feet per minute (CFM) and pressure of 12 bar. The Atlas Copco XAHS 500CD C6.6 has a flow rate of 504 CFM and pressure of 12 bar. The compressors are transported using a tipper truck.

Borehole Development Compressor
The borehole development compressor is hand-started with a 10 HP YANMAR diesel engine with 3600 rpms. It is a 3-cylinder piston compressor with a max pressure of 10 bars.
**Fleet of Vehicles**

All vehicles are owned, operated, and maintained by Water for South Sudan.
**Compound**

The WFSS compound is owned and operated by the organization. Twenty-four-hour security ensures safety of our equipment, supplies, and staff. The construction of the multi-use building was completed in 2019 and contains a kitchen, offices, and training rooms.
Compound

WFSS maintains all vehicles on-site in the compound garage. Solar panels, batteries, and a satellite dish ensure continuous lights and internet access for our staff. The water storage tower was added in 2018.
Future Projects

In addition to drilling wells, WFSS is exploring the following to increase access to clean water:

Water towers: Using solar-powered pumps, which allow for continuous pumping, water is stored in the water tower for distribution.

Water distribution: Pipes from water towers will transport water over a greater distance, allowing more people to access water.

Water filtration: Options to treat nearby sources of water will provide families with clean water for their daily needs.

Microfinance projects - To contribute to the sustainability of wells, these projects will help villages plan for and manage repairs.

Second compound in Juba - An additional compound will allow our team to serve a greater number of South Sudanese over a larger area, and pursue collaborations and partnerships across the country.

View from outside the WFSS compound
Accomplishments

- 456 wells drilled serving more than 300,000 people
- 167 older wells repaired and rehabilitated
- 449 hygiene programs (including COVID-19), training 20,994 community educators
- 1 sanitation project completed serving 800 students

*Data as of June 30, 2020

Social Media

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Water is the first step to transforming lives!

1. Water well installed and hygiene training completed in rural South Sudanese village
2. Individual and community health improves
3. Women start small businesses and economy improves
4. Children are able to attend school
5. Stability in the newest country in the world