

Project WATASOL Nepal

Final report covering the 3-year period of the project

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1. Executive summary

The pilot project WATASOL over the last three years (2012–2014) has shown an excellent result in several areas. The total number of users within the 20 schools in scope of the project has increased to almost 9'000 since 2012 (students and staff members). The sale of WATASOL within the schools has steadily increased and the total number of bottles sold for 2014 amounted to more than 4'500. The increase in sales in the communities outside the schools has been even more impressive and rose to over 3'600 bottles for year 2014. This positive result was possible thanks to the various initiatives taken by the “Nature Clubs” to promote and raise awareness on the topic of safe drinking water and hygiene in general. Overall, 13'399 WATASOL bottles have been sold over the three years and globally, several ten thousand people have benefitted from the project¹. In addition to the WATASOL devices, 50 tulip filters have been distributed over the three years, whereof 20 in 2014 to families being part of the “Chepangs”, one of Nepal's most disadvantaged indigenous groups.

Budget wise we are happy to see that prudent management has allowed to remain within budget and even leave approx. CHF 120 to use in the second phase of the WATASOL project (Safe Water Program). Thus, every year and in total, budget has clearly excelled.

Additional benefits to the project were the impact on students being part of the Nature Clubs, the so-called “life skills” they acquire during their time with the “Nature Clubs” (refer to visit report October 2014 for further details).

The lessons learned from the project can be summarised in four categories: 1) Continuous effort in motivating and educating the students is necessary; 2) Continuous awareness raising with stakeholders is needed and impacted the budget distribution with regard to field implementation cost; 3) Social entrepreneurship remains difficult due to several factors; 4) Calculation of beneficiaries remains a challenge. Overall, we are though very happy with the outcome of the pilot project and are taking corrective measures, where possible, for phase II of the Safe Water Program running from 2015 to 2017.

¹ Refer to various tables and graphs in the appendix for more detailed information

2. Key Take-away based on the latest report (January–December 2014)

Results and achievements over 3 years of project activity

- The initial target of 19'800 beneficiaries for the total program duration of 3 years has been largely exceeded, not only regarding school beneficiaries, but also through extensive sales outside the schools;
- The percentage of buyers within the school has arisen to 52% in average, but does not take into account repeat buyers;
- The community sales have increased by over 300% compared to 2013;
- The calculation of WATASOL beneficiaries is difficult due the following main reasons: repeat purchases are not always registered and/or reported; some users inside the schools buy not only for themselves;
- The total number of WATASOL beneficiaries based on the bottles sold amounts to 45'301 for the year of 2014 (without considering of repeat sales):
 - 8'800 users within the schools (students and staff)
 - approx. 18.2K family members and friends of school users
 - approx. 18.3K users within the community (bottle sales outside school);
- Orientations on safe drinking water in 2014 were conducted by ECCA volunteers for 1'934 students and 58 teachers;
- 7 Refresher trainings on the use of chlorinator for a total of 176 participants;
- In 2014, 20 tulip filters have been distributed completing the planned number of 50 for the whole project duration – the 20 filters benefiting directly 146 people being part of one of the most disadvantaged population, the Chepangs;
- To strengthen children clubs, ECCA has organised the Third National Conference of Children Clubs with a number of positive outcomes:
 - o Attendance of 116 children and 33 adults from 20 districts of Nepal,
 - o Provision of knowledge, skills and methodology to help the clubs to get self-sustainable,
 - o Press coverage showing importance of the children club's role within schools and the community,
 - o Kirtipur Declaration 2070 determining a number of principles out of the conference's discussion;
- WATASOL information published in Nuwagi Book;
- Follow-up and monitoring visits were conducted on a regular basis;
- A various number of additional activities have been possible thanks to local contribution and third party support, such as WATASOL stalls, competitions to encourage usage of safe water, clean-up programs;
- According to reporting received for year end 2014, CHF 10'960.56 of remaining CHF 11'082.42 have been used, thus leaving a spare amount of CHF 121.86 to be used for Phase II of Safe Water Program.

Key challenges / Corrective measures taken

- Continuous interaction with key stakeholders and beneficiaries is necessary and, thus, field work requires more effort than originally planned and estimated;
- Students have to be motivated and educated to make a permanent change in knowledge, attitude and behaviour towards water, sanitation, and hygiene practices;

- Social entrepreneurship remains difficult due to several reasons;
- Calculation of beneficiaries remains difficult. New reporting indicators have been defined for Phase II.

Quality of the report

The report provides comprehensive information on all the activities related to the project.

Key dates / Sequence of Events

Date	Description
03.12.2008	Memorandum of Understanding ECCA-Antenna
August 2010	Sponsoring Agreement with Victorinox for a three-year period
23.08.2011	Project approval Investment Committee dropforlife
05.01.2012	Agreement ECCA-Antenna
16.01.2012	Budget Sub-Project dropforlife Year 1-3 (2012-2014)
Feb. 2012	Start of field activities according to reporting
03.04.2012	Agreement dropforlife/Antenna
11.05.2012	1 st payment CHF 10'000 dropforlife to Antenna
31.07.2012	Controlling: January - Mid-July 2012 Report
Jan/Feb.2013	Controlling: Mid-July - December 2012 Report
04.03.2013	Controlling: Additional information re. Mid-July - December 2012 report
07.04.2013	Controlling: 1 st interim report memo
30.08.2013	2 nd payment CHF 10'000 dropforlife to Antenna
09.10.2013	Controlling: January – September 2013 Report
Nov. 2013	Visit to Nepal & Visit Report established in December 2013
21.01.2014	Controlling: January – December 2013 Report
15.02.2014	Controlling: 2 nd interim report memo
10.06.2014	3 rd and last payment CHF 10'000 dropforlife to Antenna
05.08.2014	Report R. Graser on market study WATASOL in Nepal
11.08.2014	Controlling: January – mid-July 2014 Report
26.08.2014	Controlling: 3 rd interim report memo
13.-19.10.14	Onsite visit by Manuela Balma
11.02.2015	Controlling: January – December 2014 Report from ECCA
Feb 2015	Controlling: Review and beneficiary table correction
June 2015	Controlling: Final report of pilot project WATASOL