

Annual Report 2018 (January-December 2018)  
Safe Water Program Phase III (2018 – 2020)

Project Partner	<a href="#">ECCA</a> , Kathmandu, Nepal
Sponsoring Partner	Victorinox, Switzerland, CHF 30'000 over three years
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Date	12 <sup>th</sup> April 2019

dropforlife, together with our local partner Environmental Camps for Conversation Awareness (ECCA) has been promoting Safe Drinking Water Campaigns in Nepal by using Antenna's WATA electro-chlorinators. The project aims to improve the hygienic environment by providing safe drinking water to dedicated schools and related local communities.

The project concept is based on four pillars:

1. Hygienic education of teachers, students and communities
2. Establishment of the safe water infrastructure
3. Application of learned lessons, e.g. local production of chlorine solution, hand washing with soap
4. Expanding the learned lessons impact from the schools to the communities



The project phases I and II were completed end of 2017. Phase III of the program started January 2018 and will cover the period until December 2020. The objective of phase III of the project is to on-board additional 15 schools to the existing 25 schools which have been on-boarded and supported throughout the project phases I and II.

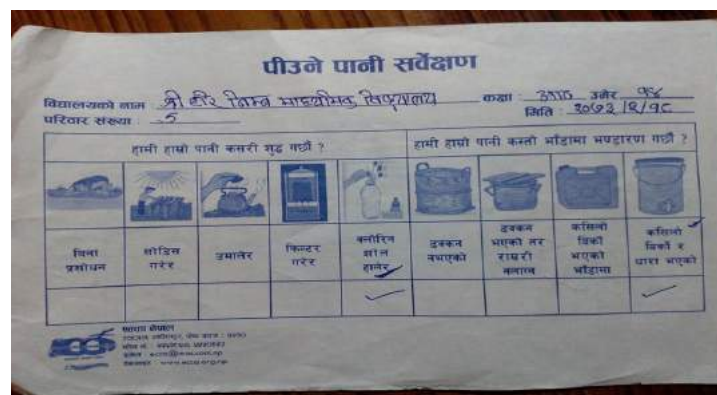
**Project achievements during the period January to December 2018:**

In 2018, five new schools were added to the program, all in Lalitpur district. The total number of schools in the program counts to 30 as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018. All new schools were provided with a Mini WATA device set to produce WATASOL locally inside the schools and within the communities to disinfect drinking water and for sanitation purposes. In the following the districts covered by the project:



Following activities were conducted during 2018 to reach as many people as possible:

- Initial assessment of new schools that should be included in the Safe Water Program based on the criteria (a) need of the school and community of the school and (b) the commitment received from the principal/management. To cover (a) a baseline survey was performed to understand the initial condition and wash aspects of the school. In addition, water quality tests were performed.



- First trainings for the students at the new schools were offered to explain how to use the Mini

WATA device, quality control of the produced chlorine solution WATASOL, WATASOL distribution mechanism, ways of social promotion, establishment of School Nature Clubs and its management. In total 156 students could be reached with the trainings.



- To spread the information amongst the students and in their communities, awareness raising and social promotion activities took place including drawing competitions, door to door campaigns, clean up programs just to name a few.
- The water infrastructure construction work was done by the respective school management with ECCA procedural support. The activities cover set-up of a safe drinking water station with tank and stand, hand washing stations, bio-sand filter for treatment of underground pumped water etc.
- Regular monitoring and follow-ups were done in the schools for quality check and initiate different social promotional activities.
- WATASOL production and sales activities: Produced WATASOL is used inside the schools to disinfect drinking water and for sanitation purposes. Remaining WATASOL as well as WATASOL produced in the ECCA Water Lab is sold to the families and in the communities to foster the entrepreneurial mindset of the students. During the reporting period, total 7,294 WATASOL bottles (60 ml) were sold to school faculty and students, whereas 5,870 WATASOL bottles (60 ml) were sold in the communities adjoining the schools. 991 of WATASOL bottles (60 ml) were distributed free-of-cost.
- Many activities were implemented through local contribution of school nature clubs. The nature club students are conducting different awareness and social promotional activities to educate the community on water contamination and its relation to the health of their family, so that they will take necessary precautions to protect themselves and their family from water borne diseases. So far, students and youths have been the effective medium to make aware the public.

In general, the students divide the responsibilities for different activities (such as, regular production of WATASOL, account keeping, mixing of WATASOL in the water tank, FRC check in drinking water, distribution of WATASOL etc.) amongst each other. Whereby the social promotional activities are done by all of them jointly. ECCA volunteers or students conduct the refresher trainings to the students and orientation on safe drinking water for all the classes.

The overall program also includes the duty for ECCA to perform water quality tests, organise awareness raising activities, develop resource material and make regular follow-up and monitoring visits.

dropforlife's mission is to support projects with a sustainable impact, ideally with an entrepreneurial aspect. As reported with the half-yearly report in 2018, in April 2018, the overall project was evaluated on-site by an independent expert from Swiss Resource Centre and Consultancies for Development. The overall status of the project has been evaluated as successful. However, the aspect of dropforlife's mission to have a sustainable impact and foster the development of an entrepreneurial mindset for students and the communities appear to be more challenging than expected. Nevertheless, for dropforlife it is crucial to work with local partners who are on top of local activities and developments and enhancing information exchange.

Overall, the program has been successful based on its very efficient education and awareness program within schools, and namely with the education of children impacting and shaping the future. ECCA is an excellent project partner for practical and on-the-ground awareness and education program.