



MedWater 2016



2016 IMPACT REPORT

www.medwater.org

Local solutions to the global water and sanitation crisis.

Dear Friends

At MedWater, relationships are at the foundation of the work we do. We find that when you make personal connections, knowledge is more easily accepted, trust is built, and work gets done. With this approach, 2016 turned out to be an exciting and successful year.

With routines set in the use of our safe water systems, our five pilot communities started to look at other ways to improve the health of their families. Significant time and investment was made in building latrines, an effort that should cut open defecation and improve safety. Above ground latrines helped reduce ground water contamination in San Pedro, and multiple pit latrines across Galeras created access to toilets where there were previously none. Runashitu began an exploration for improving septic systems for existing toilets.

This year, MedWater also made the investment of time and labor to establish Fundación MedWater, an Ecuadorean branch of our organization. This organization is now acknowledged by the Ecuadorean Government as an official local non-profit.



The status allows easier collaboration with local governments as well as increased local ownership and buy-in.

We are so proud of the work of our community health promoters and Fundación MedWater Technicos. This team, comprised of individuals from our first set of communities, are now leading the way building relationships in new communities. The communities of Selva Viva and Raya Yaku were our first new community partners formed through these relationships. MedWater will be adding additional communities to our MedWater family in 2017. With our local community health promoters leading the way, information is shared in the context of local culture, not through the often ill-informed outsider's lens. We couldn't do this work without them.

Thanks so much for your continued interest and support of MedWater. With communities leading the way we know there is a brighter, healthier future ahead of us.

Sincerely,

Darrell Adams

Executive Director



OUR GOAL



Local solutions to the global water and sanitation crisis.

1.

We believe that all communities deserve access to safewater and a clean, healthy environment.

2.

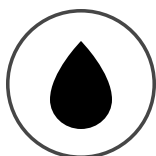
Partnerships are the foundation to successful public health programs.

3.

Safe water, good hygiene, and accessible sanitation are the foundation to a healthy, prosperous community.

MedWater partners with Ecuadoran communities, municipalities, and medical organizations to tackle challenges around safe water, sanitation, and hygiene.

OUR WORK



Create access to safe water through the use of a locally managed chlorine generator.



Identify appropriate solutions for sanitation in every community.



Promote hand washing to prevent the spread of illness.



2016 Highlights



The creation of Fundación MedWater as an Ecuadorean nonprofit organization will facilitate the growth of MedWater. Local community health promoters are taking the lead to build relationships in new communities with a new sense of ownership.

- Local Community Health Promoter, Jaime Tapuy demonstrates the three legged table of good health: water, sanitation, and hygiene at a training.



Toilets were an important part of 2016 as community members sought to reduce open defecation through the construction of four above ground composting latrines in San Pedro and twelve pit latrines in Galeras.

-The community of Galeras pulled a minga together, a day of shared labor, to construct their toilets.

- Local laborers construct a latrine for Doña Anotonia of San Pedro



The community of Selva Viva now has access to safe water due to the work of local community health promoters, Jaime Tapuy and Lucilla Vargas.

-Lucilla demonstrates the tap on the water pack to community members during a training.



During a Community WASH training at Raya Yaku, a representative from the local ministry of health applauded the work of MedWater. The physician stated that collaborations like this are critical for helping improve health outcomes in a district with limited funding and capacity.





Community Health promoters continued to strengthen skills during in-service trainings.

- Health promoters Jeremias and Jaime explore methods for improving teaching skills.

MedWater Explored the development of new partnerships for 2017.

- The families associated with Misahualli schools voted to develop a partnership with MedWater, investing their own money in the creation of safe water and sanitation for their community.



Highlights beyond the communities



When an earthquake hit Ecuador, April 16, 2016, MedWater packed up a truck with supplies and headed to the coast. Working with local authorities, MedWater helped communities access thousands of liters of water during this time of crisis.

- MedWater engineer, Lynn Smith, works with local truckers to distribute water.

MedWater Worked with intern Abdoul Hais Amadou from the Indiana University School of Public Health to help him identify and achieve goals for improved water and sanitation measures in Niger. Abdul plans to continue pursuing a career in community led public health interventions.

- Children at Koira Kano Primary School learn about the importance of good hygiene and sanitation practices.



OUR PLANS



Widening Our Reach & Impact

MedWater continues to explore collaborations with new communities, governments and health based agencies. As we grow, we hope to have a positive influence on the region, ultimately increasing the numbers of individuals with access to safe water and sanitation.



Eradicating water borne disease

MedWater continues to strive to reduce water borne disease through established interventions in water, sanitation, and hygiene. By investing in prevention, we hope to see greater returns in health. When children feel good, they can get back to school, and adults can get back to work, improving the economy and strengthening families.

GET IN TOUCH WITH US



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