



2023 Impact Report

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A Letter from the Founder

Dear Community of Water Advocates,

When I reflect back on 2023, one word echoes in my mind: adapt. In an ever-changing world, this word has guided our priorities—to adjust and respond to the evolving needs of the climate-vulnerable communities we work alongside. Despite Africa only contributing 2% of global greenhouse-gas emissions, it is the continent that suffers the most from climate impacts. This past year, as we navigated unprecedented climate challenges, we pressed onward, launching our regenerative agriculture program alongside our women-led water microenterprises.

As we continue to shift and adapt, our mission remains steadfast: driving locally-led community development through water and agriculture. This year's annual report stands as a testament to our shared commitment and a celebration of the collective impact we've fostered together in the past 12 years—reaching over 135,000 people and counting.

Behind these numbers lie countless stories of hope, resilience, and empowerment.

And it signifies we're a quarter of the way to our 5-year vision of impacting 500,000 lives.

With our shared vision, commitment, and people like YOU who make this work possible, I have no doubt that we'll get there.

Our newest program, regenerative agriculture, was developed and implemented in 2023 by our in-country team to offer climate-resilient farming throughout Kenya. Through agroecology, we're multiplying farm biodiversity by up to 20X, safeguarding communities during periods of flooding and drought, and creating thriving ecosystems. We can't wait to share their progress as these climate-adaptive farms flourish in the months and years to come.

With community voices at the forefront, our targeted focus on women and girls also remains a top priority. During my return to Kenya last year, I met women like Jane and Emily, who spoke of the days when they walked miles for water, taking up hours of their day. I heard the joy within their voices as they described the life-altering ripple effects of their newfound water source for their families. There is no doubt in my mind that our programs are effective and life-changing.

Recognizing the water crisis as a women's crisis, we've strengthened our commitment to women's leadership across our water and agriculture programs. We've partnered with more women-led microfinance groups than ever before, ensuring 80% of all governance committee members are women.

Our team continues to show up every day with dedication, passion, and a strong commitment to creating a more equitable world. I couldn't be more proud of the work being done, from the creative storytelling and inspiring events, to the detailed curriculums being drafted and more.

The extraordinary individuals who make up our strong and nimble team are already bringing that same energy into 2024, to ensure that your investment creates a long-lasting ripple-effect.

As we venture into our 13th year, we recognize the challenges posed by persistent resource inequalities amplified by a changing climate. However, with strong programs in place and your unwavering support, we are poised to continue driving locally-led community development. Thank you for believing in our mission, for showing up for us, and for your continued partnership in powering positive change.



With gratitude,

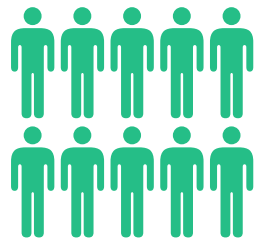
A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lindsey Pluimer". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Lindsey Pluimer
Founder & CEO

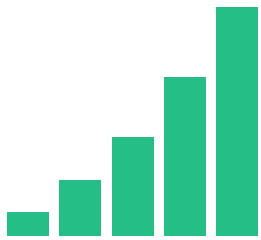
Cultivating a More Equitable World



We're driving locally-led community development through water and agriculture.



137,000
lives impacted across 59 communities.



In 2023, we saw a **10X increase in overall impact from 5 years ago.**

OUR APPROACH

Water + Agriculture = Economic Opportunity

Communities use the revenue generated from water and agriculture solutions to invest in more income-generating projects, facilitating the efficient expansion of our impact.



One acre of regenerative agriculture can generate \$4,000 to \$13,000 per year.



One water borehole project can generate \$9,500 per year.

**Varies based on location & season*

Pathway of Investment



SOLUTIONS

Our Water and Agriculture Ecosystem



Water First

Each clean water system comprises of:

- Deep-drill borehole
- Solar tower
- Water kiosk
- Solar-powered pumps
- WASH clinic partnership



Climate Forward

Each regenerative agriculture farm fosters:

- Drip-irrigation vegetables
- Agroforestry fruit trees
- Grains and cereals
- Soil amendments
- Bee apiaries



Leaning Into Green



Nurturing Climate-Resilience

In 2023, we elevated our commitment to climate by launching a new regenerative agriculture program with a dedicated focus on soil health, biodiversity, and carbon drawdown.



Expert-led Training

We introduced regenerative skills training workshops to complement our existing agribusiness and shared investment programs, utilizing a 60-page curriculum developed by our team of in-country experts.

Why Regenerative Agriculture?

We've always made it our mission to collaborate with the world's most climate-vulnerable communities, and our regenerative agriculture program is designed to further enhance their climate resiliency. Our initiative listens to community needs and revives indigenous practices that have been overshadowed by industrialized approaches.

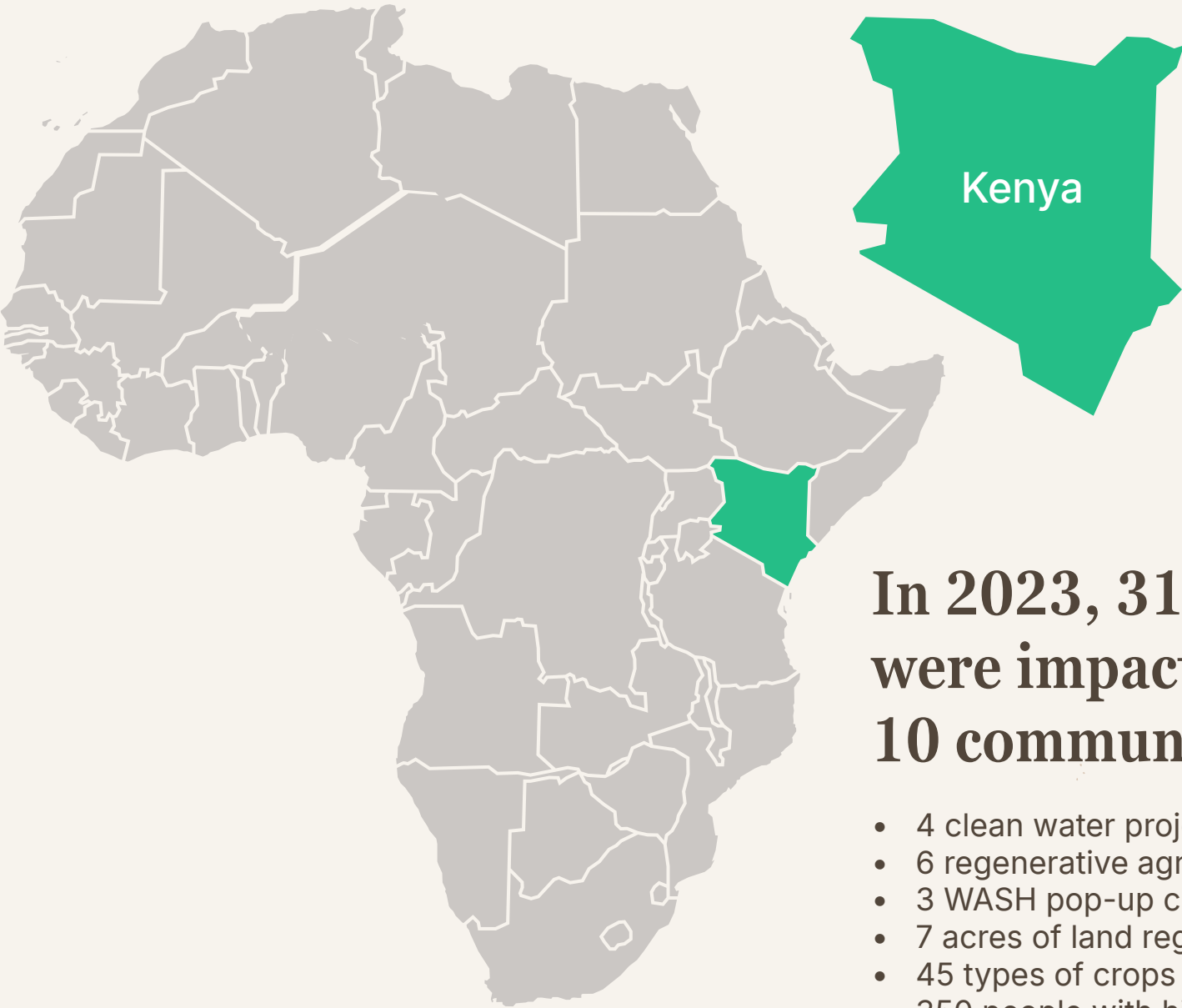


How it came to be?

Our lead agronomist, Patrick, and our team have worked tirelessly to develop a comprehensive program that includes community buy-in and field training for sustainable regenerative solutions.

In 2023, Patrick deepened his expertise and vision by participating in a regenerative farm apprenticeship on Mount Kenya. This hands-on experience became the final step before launching our new program.

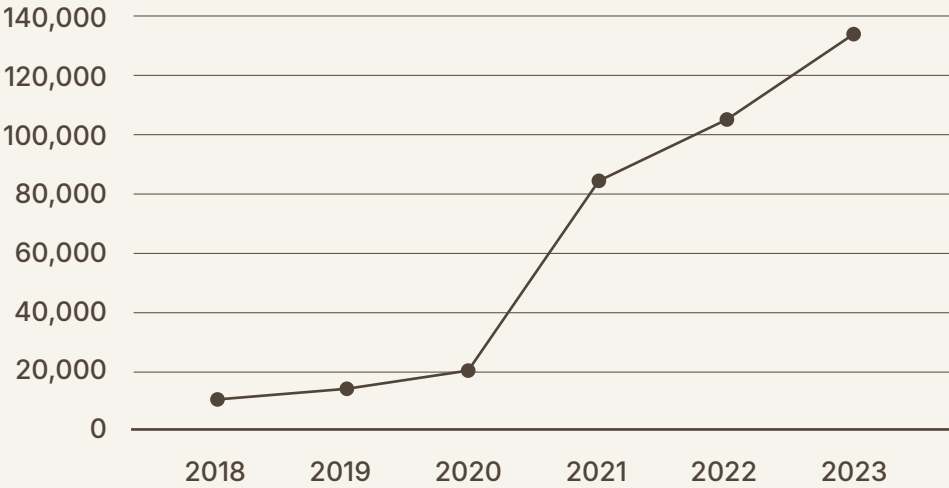
Impact in Action



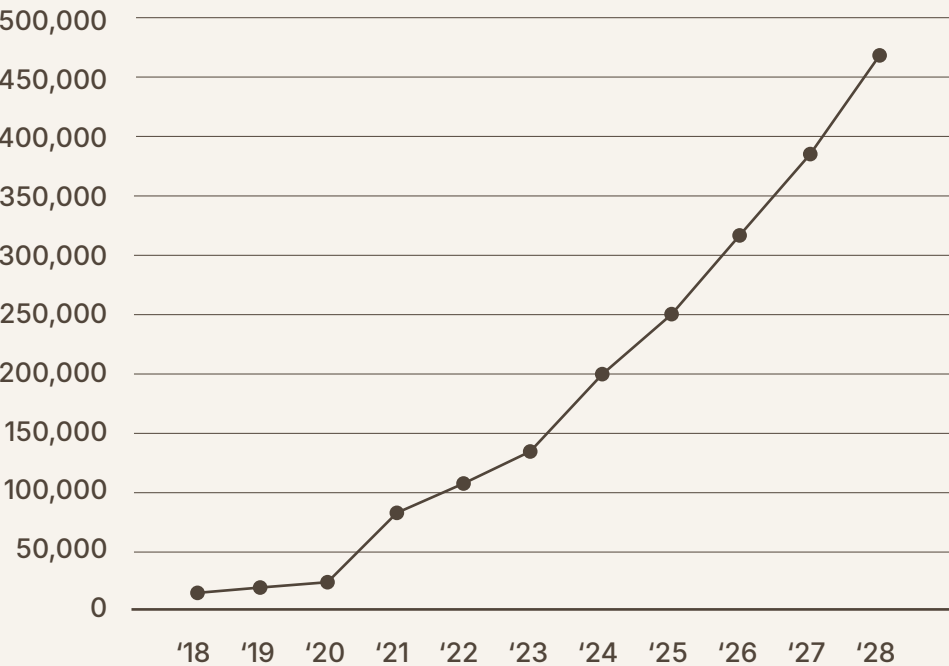
In 2023, 31,820 lives were impacted across 10 communities.

- 4 clean water projects
- 6 regenerative agriculture projects
- 3 WASH pop-up clinics
- 7 acres of land regenerated
- 45 types of crops grown
- 350 people with high-skills training

In the past 5 years



We're on track to reach our 5 year vision of over 500,000 lives impacted



Harvesting Hope: Our 2023 Highlights



Women Leadership

We remain committed to amplifying women’s voices across our partner sites to uphold gender equality.

- 100% of our 2023 partners are women empowerment groups that lead their community’s water and agriculture microenterprises.
- Across all programming, each project’s governance committee is 80% women.



Income Generation

The revenue generated from project sales empowered our partners to independently expand their community impact beyond our direct investments, leading to:

- 6 outdoor farm expansions.
- Water filtration system.
- School and socioeconomic learning center.
- Greenhouse and cattle.



Health & Hygiene

We organized WASH pop-up clinics within three regions of Kenya, incorporating community gatherings, disease testing and hygiene education. Activities included:

- Health tests and referrals.
- Nutritional education about vegetables.
- Awareness on local WMO2H clean water projects.
- Emphasis on hygiene beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.



Program Reach

We expanded our program reach through community-led initiatives and knowledge-sharing.

- Our regenerative agriculture and financial workshops were opened up to surrounding communities.
- We hosted 6 water ceremonies with our partners to raise awareness about their clean water projects.
- Our average project reach has grown by 60% over the past 5 years, advancing us towards our 5-year vision of reaching 500,000 lives.



Flourishing Farms

In 2023, we established seven acres of flourishing farms using our new regenerative agriculture program. In total, we planted:

- 7 drip-irrigation plots with soil amendments.
- 3,500 mixed fruit and biomass trees.
- 14,000 vegetables.
- 2,100 erosion-reducing grass.
- 350 legumes.
- 280 cereals.

We're Making History Here

Celebrating a Decade of Storytelling & Impact

In 2023, we celebrated an unforgettable evening of storytelling and impact at our 10th Annual Film Gala in Laguna Beach, CA. We experienced the world premiere of our 10th documentary, indulged in an elegant dinner, bid on incredible auction items, and raised over \$250,000 - transforming the lives of 25,000 people across East Africa. On this inspiring evening under the stars, the room was moved by a speech from our newly appointed Executive Director, Sara Myers.



"Not only does our approach set us apart, but it underscores the catalytic impact of our programs. It means that access to water and food directly transforms local economies, empowers women and girls, and promotes sustainable community development. The world's water crisis - and its devastating effects - are huge, but they are solvable."

- Sara Myers



The Water Between Us

Amidst the heart-wrenching realities of climate change, hope perseveres in East Africa. Our 10th short documentary, "The Water Between Us", delves into personal stories of resilience, showcasing how Pascalina, a student from Kenya, and Naomi, a Maasai mother of 5, have found empowerment through access to clean water and flourishing agriculture. [Watch Our Film](#)

1% for the Planet

In 2023, we celebrated becoming an environmental partner of 1% for the Planet, allowing us to partner with businesses to address our planet's most pressing issues.

[1% for the Planet](#) is a global movement that links businesses, individuals, and nonprofits so that we can join forces to accelerate transformational and critical, environmental giving.



Uplifting Community Voices



"My favorite activity is working on my business and selling the kale we have grown. Before the water project, I would buy produce but it was very expensive. Water is the source of life; with water we are now able to get our food and we are saving a lot of time. I have a dream that one day our community will be greener with this water. The income we have generated will support us because we shall use it for more farming and education."

-Quinter

Kajiado County, Kenya
Digital Women's Group



"We are happy because now that we are able to use clean water, we don't fall sick. When we go pick fruits from the garden and eat, we know we'll have good health because those fruits that we've eaten are also healthy. If we want to eat spinach, we go to the farm, harvest and eat our kales. We're able to eat and develop and grow."

-Pascalina

Samburu County, Kenya
Wamba Girls Rescue Center

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lindsey Pluimer
Chief Executive Officer

Abdou Niang
Secretary

Stacy Shi
Treasurer

Matthias Weber

Juliana Vélez

Sharon Park

Brian Janssen

Ali Iravani

Kyle Green

Chris Wilson



"I've been working alongside WMO2H for over 5 years, witnessing the remarkable growth and impact of the organization. My commitment stems from a belief in empowering global communities by extending a helping hand. It goes beyond meeting basic needs; it's a journey toward sustainable development and resilience."

-Matthias Weber





Funding Freedom

In the past 3 years, our budget has grown an average of 45%, exceeding our 12% annual growth goal needed to reach our 5-year vision.

Revenue

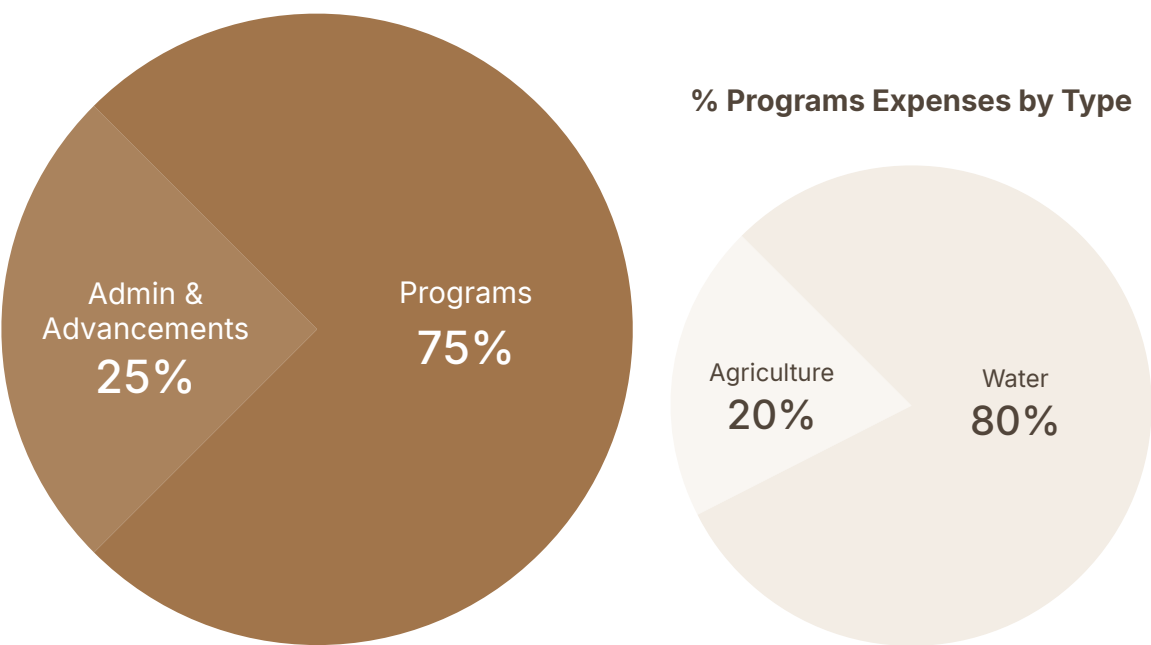
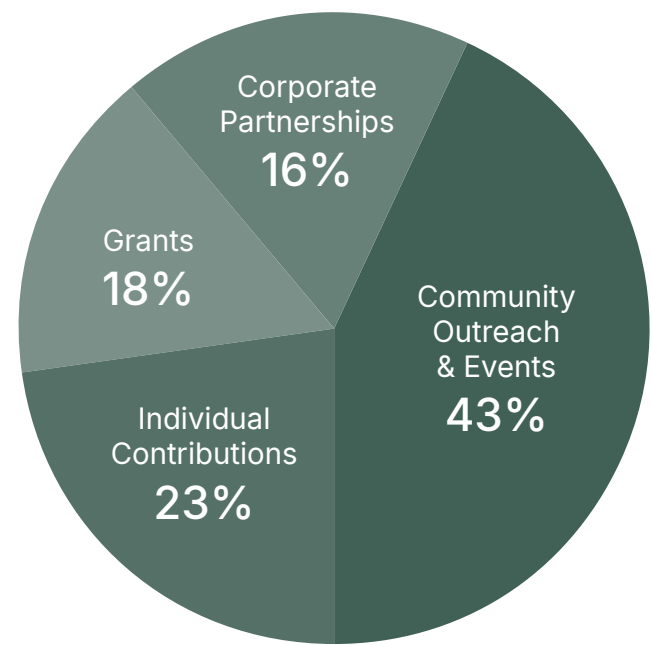
Individual Contributions: \$136,258
Corporate Partnerships: \$97,628
Grants: \$109,941
Community Outreach & Events: \$252,438

Total:
\$596,265 (\$7,997 Reserve)

Expenses

Programs: \$405,601
Administration & Advancement: \$138,772

Total:
\$544,373



What's next?



11th Annual Film Gala

September 21, 2024 | Orange County, CA

Join us for our 11th annual fundraising event and film premiere, where we harness the power of storytelling to drive powerful change. For sponsorship and volunteer opportunities, please visit our event page: [11th Annual Film Gala](#)



Explore Kenya with Us

We actively include our US network in our journeys to Kenya.

Supporters have a unique opportunity to gain insights into the challenges and sustainable solutions local communities are pursuing in Kenya. To learn about future insight trips, please email us at info@withmyown2hands.org



Our THRIVE Community

People like you give what they can to drive generational change.

THRIVE is our passionate group of monthly givers on a mission to end the water crisis and equip communities with nutritious food and income-generating opportunities. Help communities THRIVE all year long: [Join THRIVE](#)



Expert-Led Coffee Chats

We come together to listen and learn directly from experts.

Join us in 2024 as we come together to celebrate important observance days and discuss major human rights topics as a global community. For updates on this year's coffee chats, please visit our event page: [Coffee Chats](#)



Invest in Clean Water, Change the World

\$25 provides water independence
for 1 person in East Africa.

[Transform Lives Today](#)

Making Waves to 500,000



In 2023, we pioneered climate-forward techniques, hosted impactful regenerative farming workshops, and expanded in-country outreach around our clean water solutions. The outcomes have been nothing short of extraordinary, with our impact reaching new heights and laying the groundwork for exponential growth.

Looking ahead, we are on track to positively impact the lives of 500,000 individuals by 2028.

Your support here is not only instrumental in achieving this ambitious goal, but also serves as a beacon, inspiring others to unite with us in tackling the global water crisis and poverty. To each and every water champion, thank you for being the heartbeat of change toward a brighter, more sustainable future.

    /withmyown2hands

 withmyowntwohands.org

With My Own Two Hands is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Tax ID number: 45-2021595.