



2025

# Stichting Water.org Netherlands Policy Plan



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# A global crisis

Yet today, 2.2 billion people - 1 in 4 - lack access to safe water.

3.5 billion people - 2 in 5 - lack access to a safe toilet.

Water.org is dedicated to changing this by helping people living in poverty get access to safe water and sanitation solutions at home.



# We are Water.org

For more than 30 years, we've made it our mission to bring safe water and sanitation to the world. Founded by Gary White and Matt Damon, we are a global nonprofit organization that pioneers market-driven solutions to solve the water crisis. To date we've transformed more than 81\* million lives on four continents—giving women hope, children health, and families a future.



\*Data as of August 2025



# Families in need pay a high price for water

In time spent collecting it or money to purchase it. Both options cost families time, money, opportunities and health, keeping them trapped in a cycle of poverty.

What if they didn't have to?

What if they could get access to the funds needed to give their families long term safe water and toilet solutions at home?

They can.

This is where Water.org comes in.





Access to affordable  
financing for water and  
sanitation stands between  
billions of people in need  
and a bright future







**We believe in putting the power of safe water directly into the hands of people who need it.**

Our financial solution is market-driven and people-driven. It's proven, powerful and sustainable.

Water.org provides free financial and technical assistance to financial institutions in 15 countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America to help them offer affordable loans for safe water and sanitation solutions.

Water.org's free technical assistance and grants assist financial institutions to set up or expand loan portfolios in safe water and sanitation solutions including advice and assistance with hiring, training, technology improvements, marketing materials regarding the opportunities, and helping them to understand the marketplace, the need and how to reach those in need.

People in need use these loans for taps, toilets, storage tanks and piped connections to their homes.

98% of loans are paid back. Every repaid loan can empower another family with safe water.

When you put the power into the hands of the people in need, the solution is more likely to succeed and last because they get to select what is best for their families.



# The people we empower

**90%**

are women

**75%**

live in rural areas

**84%**

live under \$6 per day

**98%**

repay on time





# Together we're changing the lives of people like Margaret

There was a time when many hours of Margaret's days were consumed by collecting water. From her Kenyan home to a local pond and back again, Margaret made multiple trips of two kilometers each day to collect water for her family's cooking, bathing, and drinking needs.

Through a small, affordable loan made possible by Water.org's partner bank in Kenya, Margaret was able to purchase a rain storage tank and tap.

With access to safe water just steps from her door, now Margaret has time to sew beautiful dresses to sell and support her family – turning poverty into possibility.



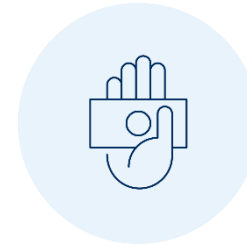
# Our vision: Safe water and sanitation for all



**200 million**

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Water.org aspires to change  
200 million lives with access to  
safe water or sanitation by 2030



**\$20 billion**

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Water.org aspires to mobilize  
\$20 billion in capital for safe  
water and sanitation by 2030



# Foundation Objectives

- Improve the wellbeing of people in need by improving living conditions through ensuring access to safe water and sanitation
- Improve health and help families protect themselves from illness and disease
- Give women and girls time to go to school, start a business, and care for loved ones, instead of collecting water for their families
- Preserve the environment by facilitating efficient use of water treatment facilities, using less energy and serving more people in need
- Preserve and protect the water resource environment and developing sustainable water infrastructure
- Benefit low-income populations in developing countries
- Educate those in developed countries about water supply problems
- Provide financial and technical assistance to financial institutions committed to providing assistance to people living in poverty





# Management Board





# Management Board

The Management Board (MB) of Stichting Water.org Netherlands consists of five people of which the presidency rotates every 4 years. The MB will always consist of at least three (3) members. The organization aims to maintain an uneven number of MB members at all times. All members will be chosen by founding partner Water.org, Inc. The MB will appoint a Managing director who will be responsible for the day-to-day business of Water.org.

## **The Stichting Water.org Netherlands Management Board consists of the following members:**

President (rotating): Jay Schwartz  
General member: Gary White  
General member: Vedika Bhandarkar  
General member: Robyn Miller  
General member: Marion Isleta

Generally speaking, the MB is responsible for the approval of the yearly budget and policy and will ensure that Stichting Water.org Netherlands always acts in line with its strategy and overall purpose. Specifically, the MB is responsible for ensuring (i) spending aligns with the Foundation's objectives, (ii) asset holdings are limited to what is strictly necessary for operations and objectives, and (iii) any incidental excess is fully applied in line with the Foundation's purpose. Furthermore, the board will also activate their extensive network where necessary to assist the foundation in raising awareness for Water.org's programs. Lastly, the board will be the controlling party regarding checks and balances of the agreed budgetary policy.

# Compensation & Decision Power

It's absolutely clear that the foundation's board lacks individual control over the foundation's assets. Each board member possesses only one vote, ensuring decisions are reached by majority consensus. This prevents unilateral allocation of funds – every financial choice is a collaborative effort. Further, all managing directors have equal voting power.

The MB operates voluntarily, showcasing dedication to our mission. This ensures resources maximize beneficiary impact. Board members receive no compensation except reasonable incurred expenses, highlighting their focus on objectives and responsible resource management.



# The Management Board & Director

The MB will meet at least quarterly with the Managing Director of Stichting Water.org Netherlands in order to be informed about the progress, obstacles and budget. In this meeting, the Managing Director will: (a) provide insights into fundraising activities and grant projects engaged in and (b) identify possible needs or necessary support from the MB in order to achieve the annual goals. In the yearly meeting, the former year will be evaluated and a plan will be presented to the MB for the upcoming year, including charitable objectives, budget and resources.

The President of the MB can call for a meeting when they deem it necessary. Also, two (2) out of (3) members of the MB can call for a meeting without the approval of the President of the MB.

## **Employees**

Stichting Water.org Netherlands will have no paid employees in the foreseeable future. Water.org, Inc. will provide services on a voluntary basis to Stichting Water.org Netherlands including fundraising, marketing and PR, finance and managing director activities.

The Managing Director will be responsible for the daily governance and yearly output (achieving the set goals). The Marketing & PR Manager will be responsible for the marketing strategy, execution and PR reach. The Finance Manager will be responsible for overseeing the books and assets of the foundation.

# The Team

## Board:



Gary White



Vedika  
Bhandarkar



Jay Schwartz



Robyn Miller



Marion Isleta

## Officer:



President: Vedika  
Bhandarkar

## Trust Officer:



Jan Hendrik  
Siemssen

## Operation:



Managing  
Director: Jay  
Schwartz



Fundraising:  
Lina Bonova



Finance:  
Marion Isleta



Marketing/PR:  
Erin Prock



# Budgetary Policy



# Financial Administration & Fundraising

Stichting Water.org Netherlands is a nonprofit foundation. The financial administration is executed by the foundation itself. The foundation will ensure accurate recordkeeping and compliance, and it will seek third-party support where necessary.

## **Contemporary situation**

Water.org, Inc. is the exclusive founding member which will initially capitalize and fund the foundation until the foundation is able to raise its own funds through fundraising efforts in the European Union.

Stichting Water.org Netherlands will hold a minimum amount in cash, where such amount will be limited to a sum that is deemed to reasonably be necessary to safeguard the continuity of and to be able execute its foreseen activities, where such activities will have the purpose of serving the public benefit, in line with the foundation's statutory objective. The amount held may vary depending on the specific needs of the foundation at any specific point in time, yet Stichting Water.org Netherlands shall strive to keep excess amounts of cash as low as possible. Any sporadic surplus in funds will be used for scaling-up its program activities of providing access to safe water and sanitation, raising awareness about the United Nations Sustainability Development Goal 6.



# Financial Administration & Fundraising

## Budgetary management

Each year, the Managing Director in conjunction with the Finance Director, will analyze the Foundation's funding needs including what funding support is expected to be available from Water.org, Inc. as well as from the Foundation's fundraising efforts.

The Managing Director of Stichting Water.org Netherlands will prepare and present the Foundation's draft financial plans to the MB. After approval by the MB, the executive authority of the budget will be delegated to the Managing Director in close cooperation with the President of Stichting Water.org. Netherlands.

On a quarterly or six-month basis, Stichting Water.org Netherlands will present to the MB a financial progress report on the budget and set goals and milestones of the foundation which will allow for financial tracking and checks and balances.

## Fundraising

Water.org, Inc. will provide free fundraising assistance to Stichting Water.org Netherlands through its fundraising capacity in the European Union. In addition, Water.org, Inc.'s corporate fundraising team will engage corporate donors in the European Union.

Water.org, Inc. will provide funds to the Foundation which the Foundation may use to support Water.org's work of providing access to safe water and sanitation around the world.

# Absence of Profit





# Absence of Profit

The foundation shall not charge for services or sell products and thus not earn any income. The foundation's assets and funding will come from gifts, bequests, legacies, subsidies from its founding partner Water.org, Inc., sponsorships, donations, grants, and other investments as defined in article 4 of the deed of incorporation. Fundraising activities will have the purpose of enabling the foundation to execute and/or expand its activities, where such (expanded) activities will have the purpose of serving the public benefit in line with the foundation's statutory objectives. Any (incidental) surplus earnings will solely be used to serve such public benefit in line with the foundation's statutory objectives. The foundation's activities are not intended to be profitable on a structural basis.

This absence of profit is in accordance with article 3 of the deed of incorporation.

# Assignment Liquidation Balance





# Assignment Liquidation Balance

At liquidation or winding up, any assets left in the foundation will be designated to a foundation which has been designated as an ANBI that pursues an objective that is in line with Stichting Water.org Netherlands' own objectives.

This is in accordance with article 13, paragraph 4 of the deed of incorporation.

Together, we will see the day  
when everyone in the world  
has access to safe water  
and sanitation.

