



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



GLOBAL WATER STRATEGY

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

USAID Water Security, Sanitation, and Hygiene Activities





Letter from Nancy J. Eslick, USAID's Global Water Coordinator

Climate change, geopolitical conflicts, and an uncertain global economic outlook pose significant challenges to achieving global water security, demanding we accelerate progress toward a water-secure future for all. This past year, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) responded to these challenges by working with its partners across the U.S. government and around the world to lay the foundation for a water-secure future that supports and strengthens global health, prosperity, stability, and resilience.

USAID's efforts to increase access to safe and sustainable drinking water and sanitation services necessitated a focus on climate resilience, inclusivity and gender equality, locally-led development, and private-sector engagement. Together, these focus areas underpin continued progress toward UN Sustainable Development Goal 6 to achieve universal access to clean water and sanitation in the critical years ahead.

Water security is a national security priority. To achieve a water-secure future means employing the full suite of U.S. government tools at hand—foreign assistance, diplomatic engagement, and scientific capabilities. In early 2023, the U.S. government announced a once-in-a-generation commitment to global water security at the 2023 UN Water Conference, which included a \$700 million investment by USAID in its 22 High-Priority Countries over the next three years. Meanwhile, in 2022, the White House launched its Action Plan on Global Water Security, which was soon followed by the Department of State and USAID's joint release of the updated U.S. government Global Water Strategy (2022–2027) to guide water-related interventions across the federal government and world over the next five years.

The updated Strategy details USAID’s multi-faceted approach for achieving a water-secure future for all, including the ambitious goal of supporting 22 million people to gain access to sustainable water and 22 million with sustainable sanitation services by 2027. Throughout the year, USAID has released 22 Global Water Strategy High-Priority Country plans that outline how it will achieve these targets in these priority countries.

In this year’s annual report, we are excited to share stories of our progress and the results of our partnerships and investments. You can read about Robby, an Indonesian water safety planning expert improving the performance of water utilities in his country; learn about Vola, a seamstress in Madagascar with a physical disability who has expanded her business to sell menstrual health and hygiene products; and see how our unique partnership with the Government of Senegal has supported the installation of 2,100 household piped connections, something that I had the opportunity to work on firsthand while visiting Senegal this past fall.

In a rapidly changing world, reaching all people with access to water, sanitation, and hygiene services and infrastructure will not be easy. But in partnership with host governments, local partners, civil society, and readers like you, we know we can build on our considerable recent momentum, advance the Agency’s water investments, and make great strides in pursuit of a water-secure world.

We look forward to continuing this vital work.



Nancy J. Eslick
USAID Global Water Coordinator
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and Food Security

United States Agency for International
Development



Our goal: *The U.S. government works with its partners around the world to improve health, prosperity, stability, and resilience through sustainable and equitable water resources management and access to safe drinking water and sanitation services and hygiene practices.*



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Delivering on the U.S. government's vision of a water-secure world



70 million
people gained access
to sustainable drinking
water services
since 2008



54.8 million
people gained
access to sustainable
sanitation services
since 2008



\$590 million
new funding mobilized
to the water and
sanitation sectors
since 2018

In Fiscal Year 2022 alone, USAID supported



5.2 million people
to gain access to sustainable
drinking water services



was first
time access



was access for
women & children



4 million people
to gain access to sustainable
sanitation services



was first
time access



was access for
women & children

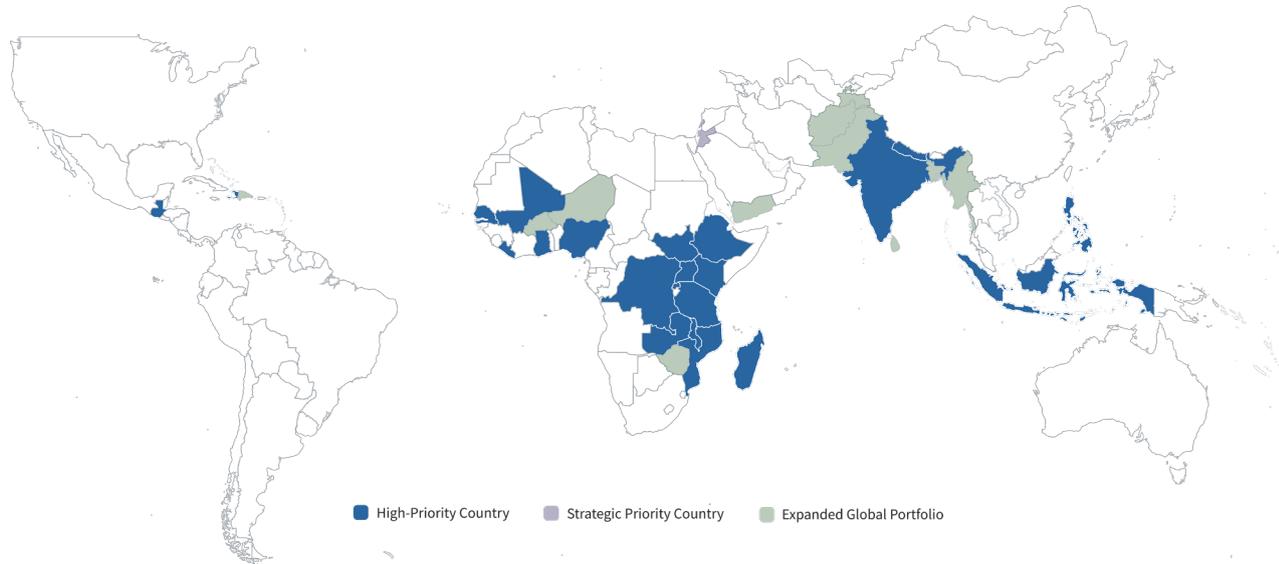


\$133 million in funding mobilized
to the water and sanitation sectors



Where We Work

Following a data-driven process that considered lack of access to water and sanitation, along with opportunities to make significant progress in meeting these challenges, USAID designated **22 high-priority countries** under the 2022-2027 Global Water Strategy. These 22 partner countries are the primary focus of the U.S. government's investments to build a more water-secure world.



High-Priority Countries

- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- Guatemala
- Haiti
- India
- Indonesia
- Kenya
- Liberia
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mali
- Mozambique
- Nepal
- Nigeria
- Philippines
- Rwanda
- Senegal
- South Sudan
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Zambia



ACTIVITY SPOTLIGHTS



Strategic Objective I:
Strengthen sector
governance, financing,
institutions, and markets



Senegal | Government to Government Assistance

Malado Diallo recalls when she did not have access to piped water in her home. Malado and other women in her village in Tambacounda, Senegal often had to travel far to fetch water, lugging it back on donkeys. Through a USAID Government to Government (G2G) agreement, the Government of Senegal has now extended piped water services to all 340 households in Malado's village. Malado says, "Good pressure water is available each and every day and this has made life much easier."

USAID's G2G assistance is redefining the development relationship between USAID and partner governments. In Senegal, USAID and the Government of Senegal co-designed and funded a water and sanitation project to extend piping to benefit 150,000 people.

G2G assistance places the Senegalese government at the helm to procure goods and services, construct water towers, dig boreholes, install chlorination devices, expand services, and coordinate across government offices. By implementing large-scale WASH investments, in partnership with USAID and its technical assistance, the Government of Senegal is further strengthening its own systems and processes, gaining even more sustainable improvements in water and sanitation services.



Since 2022, USAID has supported the Senegalese government to extend piped water supply to 18,900 people.

Malado Diallo (left) speaks with USAID Global Water Coordinator, Nancy Eslick, about her newly gained access to water in her home. Photo credit: USAID

Indonesia | Urban Resilient Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (IUWASH Tangguh) Activity

Raised in a remote Indonesian village, chemist Robby Supatra knows what it is like to depend on contaminated water sources. Drinking and washing with water from rivers, ponds, and rain collectors seemed routine until he studied the connections between water and health at university. That experience fuels his motivation to ensure customers of the water utility where he now works receive safe water. Doing so is a challenge: the Kapuas River, Pontianak City's central water source, faces intrusion from the sea during the dry season and peatlands during the wet season—chronic threats now exacerbated by climate change.

In December 2022, Supatra represented his water utility as a high-performing participant in a training of trainers on water safety plan implementation and risk management facilitated by [USAID Indonesia Urban Resilient Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene \(IUWASH\) Tangguh](#). Supatra has used what he learned to train and assist his colleagues in state-of-the-art water safety planning and ensure their utility has clear procedures in place to mitigate risks to water quality. The training of Supatra and others from 12 water utilities is part of USAID's long-term commitment to strengthen service providers' adaptive capacity to respond to the uncertainties posed by climate change. USAID is supporting capacity building and infrastructure improvements, empowering Indonesian water professionals like Supatra to act as catalysts for community-level change. [Read more about Robby's journey and USAID's work in Indonesia.](#)



In 2022, USAID provided 300,000 Indonesians with improved access to drinking water.

Chemist Robby Supatra tests water quality at the Pontianak water utility where he works. Through USAID-sponsored training, Supatra became a certified trainer in water safety planning, a systematic approach to assessing and managing risks throughout a water supply chain. Photo credit: USAID/IUWASH Tangguh

Democratic Republic of the Congo | USAID and GIZ Collaboration

Strong donor coordination that draws on decades of shared knowledge, mutual expertise, and pooled funding improves the delivery, impact, and sustainability of water and sanitation funding. Working in concert with the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the German International Development Agency (GIZ), USAID supports the Government of the DRC to undertake critical water and sanitation sector reforms that will improve sustainable service delivery. Through this collaboration, USAID supports institutions at both the national and the provincial levels. At the national level, this support has helped the government to strengthen the country's water and sanitation institutional framework. At the provincial level, USAID and BMZ support the operationalization of Provincial Water Authorities and strengthen their capacity to mobilize investment in water infrastructure from domestic, multilateral, public, and private sources, enforce standards, and fulfill their role as project owner.



In 2022, USAID humanitarian and development assistance in the DRC increased access to drinking water for over 440,000 people.

*A chief in Lomami province meets with GIZ staff in charge of strengthening the capacity of the Provincial Water Authority in Lomami province, Democratic Republic of the Congo.
Photo credit: Sam Huston, USAID*

Guatemala | Local governance program (Nexos Locales)

Local governments play a critical role in providing sustainable services, like drinking water, to their communities that contribute to local development. [USAID's Nexos Locales activity](#), which ended in June 2023, increased the capacity of municipal governments to raise revenue, respond to citizen concerns, and improve public financial management. The activity supported municipalities' revenue generation and water plan development, enabling them to make sustainable investments in their water systems.



With the support of USAID, communities in the Guatemalan Western Highlands have invested \$1.2 million in their water systems, benefiting 416,000 citizens. Additionally, nearly 500 rural communities have developed water chlorination systems, benefiting 315,440 people.

A municipal worker demonstrates an on-site, mobile water usage reader and printer. This USAID-supported water billing process increases transparency and reduces administrative costs and reading errors. This new system reduced the billing process from 44 days to nine days, saving municipalities roughly \$4,000 a year on expenses. Photo credit: Benjamin Ilka, USAID



Strategic Objective 2:

Increase equitable access to safe, sustainable, and climate-resilient water and sanitation services, and the adoption of key hygiene behaviors



Madagascar | Rural Access to New Opportunities for WASH (RANO WASH)

“People are still reluctant to work with disabled people,” acknowledges Vola, a seamstress in rural Madagascar who has long known the barriers that marginalized and underrepresented groups face daily. Vola has navigated a physical disability since childhood. Though she knew she had the skills to excel professionally as a seamstress, Vola struggled to find reliable employment as an adult after she lost her job as a pharmacy technician.

Today, thanks to her participation in USAID’s [Rural Access to New Opportunities for Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene \(RANO WASH\) activity](#), Vola’s prospects have begun to change. As RANO-WASH and local partner organizations have increased access to safe drinking water and improved latrines, they have also promoted improved menstrual health and hygiene at schools, health centers, and businesses. This effort is facilitating girls’ access to the classroom and unlocking economic opportunities for women like Vola, who finally launched her sewing business after attending a USAID training with people with disabilities and later learned how to sew affordable, reusable menstrual products. Now, her new business is booming. While her sales initially totaled a modest number of 100 menstrual products monthly, she is now selling about 600 such products a month, catering primarily to customers struggling with limited mobility or illness. Paying it forward, Vola is mentoring other seamstresses as well. [Read more about how USAID designs inclusive sanitation services.](#)



In 2022, USAID assistance in Madagascar helped 11,508 people gain access to basic drinking water, 158,994 gain access to basic sanitation, and helped 447 seamstresses to sell 44,771 washable sanitary pads.

Vola, a professional seamstress with a physical disability, has benefited from USAID’s elevation of menstrual health and hygiene as a key development priority. Photo credit: Dahery Razaka Rafenomanana, USAID/RANO WASH

Ethiopia | Transform WASH Activity

“It’s more than just a job now, it’s my passion and my lifeline,” says Khaleel Ahmed, founder of the Taayo Mason Business in Ethiopia, a [USAID Transform WASH](#) business partner dedicated to selling and installing sanitation products. Khaleel participated in one of USAID’s training programs focused on improving the business acumen of masons and installers. The sales approach centers on meeting customers where they are: masons visit households and talk with potential customers about their sanitation needs and offer them low-cost, tailored solutions.

Since pivoting to promote this business model, USAID has seen a rapid increase in sanitation product sales of business partners. This is just one of USAID’s methods for improving access to sanitation in Ethiopia. USAID-supported business partners sold over 100,000 basic sanitation products between 2017 and 2022, and more than 80 percent of these partners remain active product and service providers today. By stimulating demand at the community level, strengthening supply chains, and improving the enabling environment for a vibrant private market, USAID provides opportunities for Khaleel and others like him to grow their businesses and make a positive impact in their communities. [Read more about Khaleel’s experience.](#)



In 2022, USAID supported 260,031 people in Ethiopia to gain access to basic sanitation services and supported local business partners to sell 48,151 basic sanitation and hygiene products.

Khaleel Ahmed stands next to concrete rings used in latrines in the Somali region of Ethiopia. Khaleel sells and installs these rings, among other affordable toilet upgrades, using sales techniques he learned from a USAID-supported training. Photo credit: PSI/Ethiopia

India | Scaling up fecal sludge management through mobile treatment units

India has made great strides in increasing access to toilets for its population. However, this success has given rise to a new challenge: limited access to wide-scale and affordable emptying and treatment systems for the fecal sludge collecting in the country's 90 million septic and holding tanks. As a result, safe waste services are prohibitively expensive, leading to the emptying or dumping of untreated and unsafe waste on land and into waterways.

Through a USAID grant, India's WASH Institute (a local NGO) has responded to this issue by developing Mobile Treatment Units capable of emptying and treating liquid waste on site. Onsite treatment of waste dramatically reduces service costs and distances the units must travel because they can service many more tanks on each trip than traditional emptiers. Additionally, this localized solution reduces the need to build and maintain expensive sewerage infrastructure. USAID support will help to scale up the Mobile Treatment Units, potentially providing a more affordable option for fecal sludge management and reducing the threat of illness for hundreds of millions of people in India. [Read more about this program.](#)



In India, a truck is outfitted with a Mobile Treatment Unit, a wastewater treatment system mounted on the bed of a truck that treats septic tanks onsite. Photo Credit: WASH Institute



Strategic Objective 3: Improve climate-resilient conservation and management of freshwater resources and associated ecosystems



Philippines | Safe Water Activity

Healthy watersheds serve as natural buffers against the impacts of increased water extraction, climate change, and pollution. They also ensure people downstream have access to clean and reliable drinking water. In the Philippines, USAID, through the [Safe Water Activity](#), is improving the resilience of upstream water supplies through a set of integrated water resources management approaches to manage forests, watersheds, and water resources.

To ensure an evidence-based approach to water security planning, USAID supported hydrologic studies to provide information on watersheds, forest cover, and water resource conditions. Realizing the threats to watersheds and the critical link between water provisioning and water resource management, local governments used the studies to integrate forest protection and reforestation programs into their respective water security plans and allocate resources for their implementation.

In Bago Watershed in Negros Occidental, USAID's assistance enabled 1,423 community members and government officials to plant more than 58,000 seedlings of indigenous trees in over 90 hectares of land in 16 barangays located in eight cities and municipalities. These direct actions, combined with integrated planning, sustainable financing, forest patrolling, and environment-friendly livelihoods, help protect forests and restore damaged ones. In turn, they help increase the water storage capacity of watersheds and foster crucial upstream water resources.



In 2022, USAID's assistance in at least 30 watersheds in the Philippines benefitted more than 156,000 people.

A coffee farmer in Sarangani, Philippines, picks coffee fruits that have ripened on their farm. USAID's Safe Water Activity is helping indigenous farmers' associations adopt and grow alternative sustainable livelihoods that help protect upland forests and watersheds, ecosystems critical for sustaining water supply services for lowland areas while reducing carbon emissions. Photo credit: Romwell Mari "Owie" Sanchez, USAID/Philippines Safe Water

Central Asia | Regional Water and Vulnerable Environment (WAVE) Activity

To help raise awareness of the urgent need for transnational cooperation to manage limited water resources, in December 2022 USAID's [Regional Water and Vulnerable Environment \(WAVE\)](#) activity brought together 30 young water specialists from five Central Asian countries to the Syr Darya River basin, home of the Aral Sea. Once the fourth-largest lake in the world, the sea has shrunk to a fraction of its size in part due to diversions of river water for agricultural use. Where better for future decision-makers to see firsthand the consequences of sectoral competition for resources and understand the potential benefits of joint action to address the region's water and climate challenges?

This WAVE “study tour” is just one of many initiatives designed to strengthen current and future regional capacity and coordination to manage water resources and mitigate environmental risks in the Syr Darya and Amu Darya river basins that supply 90 percent of the river water used in Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. Other initiatives include:

- Convening the first Aral Sea Donor Coordination Conference attended by more than 130 representatives from national governments and international organizations, to strengthen cooperation around transboundary, multisectoral water management;



- Developing 24 long-term water and energy modeling scenarios for use in evidence-based decision-making; and,
- Awarding grants to 13 local non-government organizations.

Together, these initiatives help to strengthen the health of ecosystems, improve socioeconomic well-being, and inspire more equitable, effective water governance.

By engaging Central Asian faculty and today's university students, USAID is helping to lay an educational foundation for improved water management and climate change resilience. Photo credit: USAID/WAVE



Strategic Objective 4: Anticipate and reduce conflict and fragility related to water



Sudan | MOMENTUM

Integrated Health Resilience

Repairing and maintaining water pumps that provide drinking water in rural areas is always a challenge. In conflict-prone and water-scarce settings, challenges like this become more acute and unpredictable. In Sudan's South Kordofan State, residents have a limited and unstable water supply which can exacerbate existing tensions and increase women and girls' vulnerability to sexual violence due to their need to travel farther to find safe water. Through the MOMENTUM Integrated Health Resilience project, USAID is providing training and equipment (a motorcycle, generator, tools, fuel, and spare parts) for residents to become "circuit riders"—trained individuals who travel through nearby communities on a defined route, or "circuit," to repair and maintain water pumps that provide 230,000 residents with water.

Training for these circuit riders includes short-term financial support and ongoing technical assistance to set trainees up for success and to earn an income. Abdulnabi Hassan Abdallah, one of the first trained circuit riders in South Kordofan, said he appreciates the ongoing support he receives through this program, unlike his previous experiences where there was limited assistance after the initial training. The success of this approach has spurred the expansion of the program to additional locations in South Kordofan. [Read more about the Sudan circuit riders.](#)



Abdulnabi Hassan Abdallah, one of MOMENTUM Integrated Health Resilience's first circuit riders, demonstrates the components of a water pump. Photo credit: USAID/MOMENTUM Integrated Health Resilience

Ukraine | Maintaining critical drinking water services in a war zone

In November 2022, Russian forces bombed critical infrastructure in Ukraine's capital of Kyiv, leaving most residents without running water or wastewater services for 48 hours. USAID and its partners had been preparing for such an attack with local officials by providing generators to communities for use in the event of heat and power outages. After the bombing, USAID and its partners ramped up efforts to keep power, water, and heat flowing to Ukrainians, including delivering energy repair equipment to facilitate rapid restoration of critical services.

By early 2023, USAID's development and humanitarian assistance partners had delivered approximately 4,000 generators, more than 60 kilometers of heating pipes, and 60 excavators across Ukraine. USAID humanitarian partner, UNICEF, is also supporting the rehabilitation of water supply networks, including repairing more than 500 water infrastructure facilities destroyed by Russian bombs. As of October, USAID partners have helped provide access to safe drinking water and hygiene support to more than 3.3 million people across Ukraine in 2023, including in hard-to-reach areas on the front lines. In anticipation of the winter months, USAID's [Energy Security Project](#) (ESP) is providing \$5 million worth of critical back-up power equipment for water utilities. Water is also key for the network of district heating systems, which provides a vital source of heating and hot water for many Ukrainian homes.



This year, USAID humanitarian assistance helped provide access to safe drinking water and hygiene support to more than 3.3 million people across Ukraine.

USAID's ESP activity and local partners are leading efforts to ensure continued operations of these systems. [Read more about USAID's work providing critical drinking water services to Ukraine.](#)

USAID Administrator Samantha Power visits a power plant in Kyiv in July 2023, demonstrating USAID's commitment to keeping water and heat running for residents. Photo credit: USAID.

Results by Mission

Sustainable drinking water and sanitation service results are inclusive of three service levels: limited, basic, and safely managed. See [Global Water Strategy Indicator Handbook](#) for more information.

Operating Unit	Number of People Gaining Access to Sustainable Drinking Water Services	Number of People Gaining Access to Sustainable Sanitation Services	Funding Mobilized
AFRICA			
● Burkina Faso	4,800	9,919	-
▲ Democratic Republic of the Congo	481,987	59,374	-
▲ Ethiopia	39,533	260,031	-
▲ Ghana	15,326	11,336	\$1,557,051
▲ Kenya	69,795	301,881	-
▲ Liberia	32,184	-	\$25,000
▲ Madagascar	292,307	158,994	\$424,554
▲ Malawi	27,825	2,549	-
▲ Mozambique	85,210	124,925	-
● Niger	86,799	107,398	-
▲ Nigeria	81,085	-	-
▲ Rwanda	-	5,516	\$22,833
▲ Senegal	26,679	22,858	-
▲ South Sudan	8,750	264	\$1,507,286
▲ Tanzania	5,083	-	-
▲ Uganda	273,694	375,010	\$993,919
● USAID Sahel Regional Program	75,427	-	\$45,616
● USAID West Africa Regional	-	55,811	\$1,398,426
▲ Zambia	171,866	921,191	-
● Zimbabwe	6,872	12,731	-
SUBTOTAL	1,785,222	2,429,788	\$5,974,685
USAID WASHINGTON			
● USAID Bureau for Resilience and Food Security	109,826	356,329	\$84,086,712

Operating Unit	Number of People Gaining Access to Sustainable Drinking Water Services	Number of People Gaining Access to Sustainable Sanitation Services	Funding Mobilized
ASIA			
● Afghanistan	40,356	474,000	-
● Bangladesh	17,666	57,970	-
● Burma	-	428	-
▲ India	910,446	-	\$11,955,120
▲ Indonesia	303,075	101,355	\$6,308,026
▲ Nepal	-	-	\$11,081
● Pakistan	5,100	100,786	-
▲ Philippines	404,240	75,671	\$21,532,273
● Sri Lanka	4,417	-	-
● Tajikistan	16,665	3,603	\$75,776
SUBTOTAL	1,701,965	813,813	\$39,882,276
LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN			
● Dominican Republic	2,374	-	\$94,748
▲ Guatemala	19,087	1,170	-
▲ Haiti	81,138	78,162	\$70,000
SUBTOTAL	102,599	79,332	\$164,748
MIDDLE EAST			
■ Jordan	1,291,972	228,125	\$2,600,000
■ Lebanon	34,114	1,640	-
● USAID Middle East Regional (MER)	-	-	\$305,000
■ West Bank and Gaza	87,170	-	-
● Yemen	88,571	52,849	-
SUBTOTAL	1,501,827	282,614	\$2,905,000
TOTAL	5,201,439	3,961,876	\$133,013,421

▲ **High-Priority Country:** Designated under the criteria of the Water for the World Act of 2014 as a high priority for water, sanitation, and hygiene assistance based on needs, opportunities, and strategic considerations.

■ **Strategic Priority Country:** USAID anticipates continued water and sanitation programs due to a combination of strategic considerations and water-related development needs.

● **Expanded Global Portfolio**

● **Multi-Program Country (regional and DC Bureaus)**

Funding

Each fiscal year Congress appropriates funding for water supply and sanitation projects and activities, pursuant to the Water for the World Act of 2014. In Fiscal Year 2022, that amount was \$475,000,000, which USAID invested in more than 43 countries. Additional funding is made available for WASH-related humanitarian assistance and other water-related programming.

\$475
MILLION

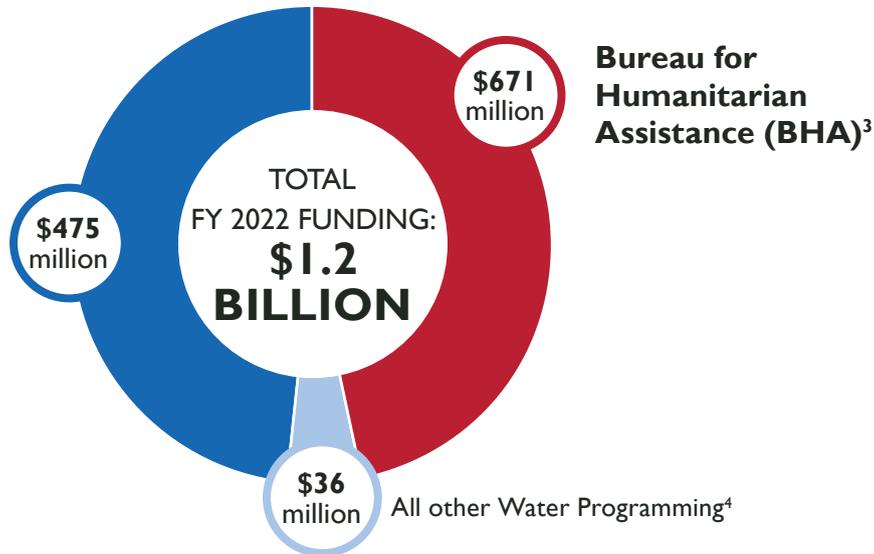


INVESTED IN



MORE THAN
43 COUNTRIES¹

WASH²
Health and Development



¹ Countries with funding invested through USAID's regional and technical Bureaus and operating units, as well as countries with funding provided through the U.S. Department of State, are not included in the 43 countries counted above.

² Funding allocated to the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Congressional Directive. Also includes \$10M of Humanitarian Assistance funding that meets the requirements of the water directive. Based on USAID data as of 6/2023.

³ Includes International Disaster Assistance (IDA), Title II, and Economic Support Fund—American Rescue Plan Act funds in FY 2022.

⁴ Funding allocated to the water (non-WASH) key issue in USAID's FY 2022 Operational Plans.

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