

CARE Water News – March 2014 Bulletin

Dear Colleagues,

We are excited to share the latest edition of the CARE Water News Bulletin with you, which includes a synopsis on a new partnership with Keurig Green Mountain, Inc., an interview with Nick Brooks, a feature of CARE Guatemala in the Lazos de Agua Program and much more. We hope this monthly email will help keep you up-to-date on the latest water+ happenings. If you have contributions for inclusion in subsequent bulletins, we would love to receive them. Please send any interesting documents, videos, photos, articles, opinion pieces, or other news highlighting your work in water to csandoe@care.org

Table of Contents

+[Around the CARE World](#)

[...New Partnership with Keurig Green Mountain, Inc](#)

[...Africa's 'hidden water': can it secure agricultural growth and food security](#)

[...WASH Advocacy Day in the U.S. Congress](#)

[...Travels with Jonathon Annis](#)

[... Get to Know: Nick Brooks](#)

[... Featured Program: Lazos de Agua Program](#)

+[Featured WASH Technologies](#)

[...Muruganatham's Sanitation Machine](#)

[...Resources for WASH Financial Products](#)

+[Other Updates](#)

[...Updating Country Profiles](#)

[... New! Governance into Functionality Tool and Gender Analysis Tools are now available in French](#)

[...“Harvesting our Futures” Video](#)

[...The Water Team has Grown](#)

[...Rural Water Supply Network \(RWSN\)](#)

[... Be involved in the UNICEF Tap Project campaign](#)

[+\[For More Information\]\(#\)](#)

Around the CARE World



New Partnership with Keurig Green Mountain, Inc!

CARE a member of the [Global Water Initiative](#) (GWI), is pleased to announce our involvement in a partnership with Keurig Green Mountain, Inc, a leader in specialty coffee, coffee makers, teas and other beverages with its innovative brewing technology. As part of its focus on water stewardship, Keurig Green Mountain, Inc. recently announced a multi-faceted effort to address the long-term, interconnected challenges of the water crisis, starting with a commitment of \$11 million to support leading nonprofit organizations working domestically and internationally to promote water security, including through the GWI. GWI-East Africa ([GWI-EA](#)), which is implemented by CARE, is now in its second phase and focused on improving agricultural practices related to water use and retention for the benefit of smallholder farmers, especially women. GWI-EA, along with the GWI programs run by our partner organizations in Central America and West Africa, will work with Keurig Green Mountain, Inc. to help drive global advocacy to improve management of water resources.

Africa's 'Hidden Water': Can It Secure Agricultural Growth and Food Security? Event

On March 21, 2014, the Overseas Development Institute's Water Policy Programme (WPP), CARE's Global Water Initiative East Africa (GWI-EA) and University of East Anglia's Water Security Research Centre (UEA's WSRC) hosted an event in the U.K. to facilitate discussion on Africa's groundwater resources.



International experts from a range of disciplines gathered to discuss how the resources could attribute to agricultural growth and food security while avoiding the pitfalls of over extraction seen in South Asia and northern China. CARE Uganda's very own Alan Nicol and Violet Alinda gave presentations based on their experiences with the Global Water Initiative. [Read](#) about or watch the [video](#) of event.



Photo credit: <http://spectrum.ieee.org/>

WASH Advocacy Day in the U.S. Congress

In Washington D.C. on March 13th, 2014, 150 individuals met with Congressional staff to advocate for the Water for the World Bill. The bill seeks to refine and improve the already existing act so that WASH investments can continue to be an effective tool in emergency response, environmental protection, education and health. The advocates were split into groups of 3-5 people and sent to different congressional offices to discuss the importance of WASH interventions and emphasize the need for their support in the Water for the World Act. Among these advocates were Peter Lochery, director of the CARE USA Water+ Team, and Stephanie Ogden, Senior Water Policy Advisor for the CARE USA Water+ Team. After visiting approximately 120 congressional offices, the bill was co-sponsored by 42 congressional staff and supported by 5 subcommittee chairs of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.



A man digging a well in Mali

Photo credit:

<http://rwsnblog.wordpress.com/2014/03/07/musings-from-mopti/>

Travels with Jonathan Annis

Jonathan Annis, CARE's Sanitation and Innovation Advisor at [WASHplus](#), spent two weeks in late February visiting a WASHplus WASH & Nutrition initiative led by CARE in Mali. The project aims to improve the nutritional status of reproductive age women and their children (especially those under 2) through the adoption of complementary WASH and nutrition behaviors: fixed point defecation; hand washing with soap; safe water treatment, handling, and storage; exclusive breastfeeding; and improved infant feeding practices. Shortly after his trip, Jonathan blogged about the challenges of maintaining handpumps in the context of rural Mopti. [Read](#) his personal experience.

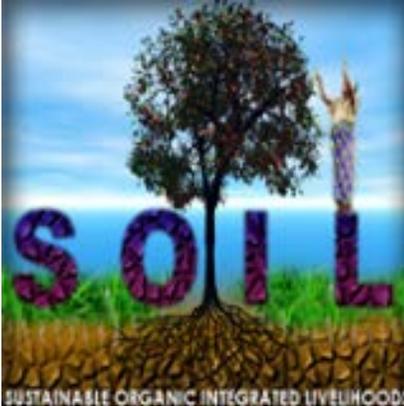
Get to Know: Nick Brooks

Provide your job title and a brief description: I am the acting Team Leader for CARE's Emergency Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) team. I have responsibility for ensuring quality technical and strategic support on emergency WASH to CARE country offices worldwide, line management of advisor and surge capacity staff, and representation of CARE within the Global WASH Cluster.

How did you become interested in water issues? My first humanitarian work was with Oxfam in Indonesia after the tsunami in 2005. At that point, I specialized in solid waste management, as that was my professional background. However, I quickly became aware of how the whole WASH sector was interrelated, and I've worked in WASH / public health roles since 2006.



What is the most interesting part of your job? There is a lot of working with people – other emergency staff (e.g. sector specialists, HR, capacity building), WASH focal points in country Offices, WASH leads from other agencies within the Global WASH Cluster and private suppliers. This provides a good balance of human interaction to being based from home.



Have you worked with CARE in the past? Prior to my current role I was CARE’s Regional Emergency WASH Advisor for Asia-Pacific. My first deployment with CARE was to Sierra Leone as WASH Advisor for a cholera response in 2012 – it was a great introduction to CARE and a really enthusiastic and committed country office to work in.

What do you feel are the largest challenges confronting the WASH sector in Asia-Pacific in the next 5 years? I would suggest the challenges of climate change, and the need to massively scale up disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation projects.

What is your favorite regional dish/meal? I love the curries and slow cooked meat in Pakistan, the vegetable curries in India, and the variety of flavors in Vietnamese cooking. I was lucky enough to visit all of these places with CARE in 2013.

What is your favorite jet lag remedy? As a friend once told me in Gaza ... “just move up a gear!” This is actually pretty easy with the adrenaline of the 1st few days of an emergency response.

If you could have a significant impact on one WASH related behavior, which would you choose? Handwashing – because although it seems so obvious to many of us, we still struggle to get it recognized and properly invested in (by donors and agencies) during emergencies. Handwashing can also be difficult to accurately monitor (without influencing behavior), so much of our data on it is of limited quality/utility.

Which is your favorite toilet or sanitation technology? Great question! I’m a big fan of urine diversion (UD) toilets, and was happy to partner with UD toilet gurus in Haiti. We used [SOIL](#) after the Haiti earthquake to implement UD toilets in an urban emergency response for the first time. SOIL put a huge focus on community mobilization and the technology worked well for our needs (there was limited ability to dig latrines in the urban setting, so we needed a technology which allowed easy means to collect the feces and then transport them for treatment off-site). I also worked with PeePoo in Haiti, and really appreciate their product - I recently took PeePoo samples with me on a camping trip with my 4 year old daughter to get some real life experience of ‘in-tent use’, and she thought they were fine!



Nick’s 4 year-old daughter, Violeta with the PeePoo samples while camping



Community leaders in Doce de Mayo show the map they developed with CARE Guatemala

Photo Credit: [Susan Davis](#)

Featured Program: Lazos de Agua Program

Project purpose and objectives: The Lazos de Agua program is a Millennium Water Alliance (MWA) program, starting in 2012, that focuses on increasing water access to 110,000 beneficiaries in five countries within Latin America. Lazos de Agua is formulated by six MWA partners with most of their projected beneficiaries occurring in Mexico. The program seeks to both provide infrastructure and resources for water access and promote WASH behaviors within communities through health education.

CARE Guatemala, as one of the MWA partners, is working to increase water access and water conservation for approximately 6,000 beneficiaries in San Marcos communities by developing a gravity-fed water supply system. The CARE Guatemala Project of Lazos de Agua started by creating a participatory mapping process in order to determine accurate locations of homes, water sources and watersheds. With these maps, CARE collaborates with community leaders to determine areas of importance, identify strategic zones, and define priorities for improvement. Additionally, in order to restore watershed restoration, CARE Guatemala built a community nursery with endemic trees. Local families help plant trees within the nursery and are compensated with their own tree.

Project partners: Excluding CARE Guatemala, the other Lazos de Agua MWA partners include Water for People in Honduras, Water Aid in Nicaragua, AguaAyuda in Columbia, World Vision in Mexico and Living Water International in Mexico. Each partner has unique strategies and priorities for increasing water access within their country. For example, Water for People in Honduras is working with the government to establish sanitation policies and create a municipal Association of Water Directives (this association will act as a supplier of sanitation parts and technical assistance).

Project successes: CARE Guatemala is successfully implementing Participatory Community Mapping through Google Earth. CARE prints all satellite maps of each community within its micro-shed on large laminated fabric. These maps are extremely beneficial in updating water sources and program decision making. The original fabric map stays within the community, but CARE aids the local government to update information electronically through Google Maps.

Project challenges: There is no consistent programmatic approach between the five Latin America partners. Consequently, each partner is conducting individual approaches in different settings. This lack of cohesion can be challenging. Luckily, each partner has agreed to implement a common monitoring and data collection framework, which should help limit some inconsistencies. Read the Lazos de Agua Newsletter [in English](#) or [in Spanish](#).



Sanitation Committee Members

Photo Credit: [Carlos Lobo](#)

Featured WASH Technologies*



Indian women making their own sanitary pads with Muruganatham's machine.
Photo Credit: <http://www.bbc.com/>

Muruganatham's Sanitation Machine

Muruganatham, a school drop-out from a poor family in Southern India invented a simple machine to make cheap sanitary pads. The machine grinds down the hard cellulose into fluffy material, which is later packed into rectangular pads. The pads are wrapped in cloth and disinfected in an ultraviolet treatment unit. The whole process can be easily learned within one hour. One machine costs around 75,000 Indian rupees, provides employment to 10 people, converts 3,000 women to pad usage, and produces around 200-250 pads a day. More than 1,300 villages in 23 states within India now use this machine since its benefits include empowerment, employment and education for Indian women. Read [Muruganatham's story](#).

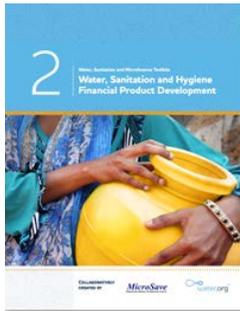


Photo Credit:
<http://www.washmicrofinance.org/>

Resources for WASH Financial Products

Global Water Crisis, Water.org and *MicroSave* partnered to develop five tools for institutions to development microfinance products for water and sanitation investments. The toolkits include necessary information, principles, and practices for the successful development of WASH financial products. Toolkit 1 is an introduction to WASH microfinance and Toolkit 2 is an overview on the development of a WASH financial product. Download [resources](#).

***CARE does not endorse or promote any particular technologies. This section is for informational purposes only.**

Other Updates



Photo Credit: maps.com

Updating Country Profiles

We are updating the country profiles on our Water+ Wikispace to include CARE's History, Current Programming, Program Archives, Informational Documents, and Profile Pictures. Thank you for those who have taken the time to update their country profiles. We encourage all countries to update their profiles on our [Water Wiki Country Profile](#) page. Contact csandoe@care.org for any questions.

New! Governance into Functionality Tool and Gender Analysis Tools are now available in French.

The Governance into Functionality Tool provides a snapshot of the governance and functionality status of water and sanitation schemes. It is a way to explore current preparedness schemes and practices in order to strengthen governance for longer-term sustainable functionality. The Gender Analysis Tool helps investigate the perceived levels of gender equity within communities. Click [here](#) for electronic copies in French.



“Harvesting our Futures” Video

CARE Uganda, Global Water Initiative East Africa (GWI-EA), and the Howard G. Buffet Foundation partnered to create “Harvesting our Futures”, a video portraying how local farmers in Northern Uganda are coping with every day Water challenges to agricultural livelihoods. Watch the [video](#).

The CARE USA Water Team has grown

Learn about our new and veteran team members on our [Water Wiki Contact Us](#) page.

Rural Water Supply Network (RWSN)

[RWSN](#) is a global network of professionals and practitioners working to raise standards of knowledge and evidence, technical and professional competence, practice, and policy in rural water supply. RWSN is a leading global community of practice for rural water supply professionals. CARE staff are encouraged to visit the website and browse the extensive list of technical resources available, some of which are in French. Please consider joining one or more of the thematic groups: Accelerating Self supply, Sustainable Groundwater Development, Equity and Inclusion and Management & Support, which will allow you to participate in e-discussions and webinars and receive updates about these topics throughout the year. If you have questions about joining RWSN please contact Jonathan Annis at jannis@care.org.



UNICEF Tap Project

Photo Credit: <http://www.unicefusa.org/>

Be involved in the UNICEF Tap Project Campaign!

UNICEF Tap Project donors and sponsors have committed to providing clean water and adequate sanitation to children around the world. For every 10 minutes a participant goes without using their phone a child in need gets a day worth of water. Learn [more](#).

For More Information

[CARE Water Wiki](#) | www.care.org/water | [Pinterest](#) | [YouTube](#)

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