



ETHIOPIA

LIVING WATER INTERNATIONAL • PO BOX 35496 • HOUSTON, TX 77235-5496 • 877.594.4426 • WWW.WATER.CC



THE PROJECT

Project Location: Butajira, Gurage, Mesker, Ethiopia

GPS Coordinates: Latitude:7 58.514 N Longitude:38 33.154 E

People Served: 400

Report Presented To: H2O Ride

THE COUNTRY

According to the 2008 UNDP report, Ethiopia is ranked 171st out of 182 countries in the United Nations Human Development Index, with one in four Ethiopians living on less than one dollar per day. Ethiopia's economy is based on agriculture, accounting for almost half of GDP, 60% of exports, and 80% of total employment, but the agricultural sector suffers from frequent drought and poor cultivation practices. In the last 20 years, Ethiopia has experienced recurring droughts followed by periods of extreme food shortage and famine. During times of drought, surface water sources like ponds and springs dry up and the incidence of water-related diseases increases dramatically.

Ironically, the country is sometimes referred to as "the water tower of Africa" because of the numerous streams and rivers that are born in and flow out of its borders. Seven major rivers, including the Nile, cross from Ethiopia into other countries. Ethiopia is also endowed with many inland bodies of fresh water, and there is tremendous potential to develop groundwater resources. Unfortunately, most of these assets remain untapped. Poor management, financial shortages, and lack of know-how explain this contradiction of shortage amid abundance.

Health indicators clearly show that Ethiopia has serious problems in the area of health care and disease prevention. High infant and child mortality rates, an HIV/AIDS pandemic, and low life expectancy all point to a lack of basic health services and an underdeveloped infrastructure. Water and sanitation-related diseases, particularly diarrhea, are among the top causes of death in the country. Diarrhea alone currently accounts for around 20% of deaths for children under five; after malaria and AIDS, it is the third highest cause of death in Ethiopia.

OUR WORK IN ETHIOPIA

Since beginning operations in Ethiopia in 2004, Living Water International has completed more than 75 water projects, providing clean, safe water for thousands of Ethiopians. Living Water continues to work with its in-country partner, Selam-Water is Life, in the southern region of the country, where plans are in the works to drill an additional 50 new wells each year. Based out of Awassa, Selam-Water is Life has a trained team of nationals working in the country drilling wells and collaborating with communities to identify and implement sustainable water development methods and technologies that meet local needs.

THE DATA

Population: 80.7 million

- 58% without access to an improved water source
- 89% without adequate sanitation services
- 39% living below the poverty line

Life expectancy: 54 years

Infant mortality rate:

81 per 1000 live births

GNI per capita: \$280 USD

Sources: World Bank, UNICEF, USAID, CIA World Factbook

Official statistics often understate the extent of water and sanitation problems, sometimes by a large margin. Insufficient resources for monitoring population and/or coverage as well as varying definitions of coverage and access contribute to statistical variability.



GENERAL INFORMATION

When the LWI Ethiopia team arrived, community members were dependent on a river located three kilometers away from the community to meet all of their water needs, and because of this, residents were suffering from dysentery and typhoid. The LWI Ethiopia team was pleased to learn of the community's use of an open pit latrine, as this will help prevent further spread of disease in the area. During the team's stay, community members assembled a water committee who assisted the LWI Ethiopia team with the water project whenever possible and helped provide materials for the water project. The community has also committed to financially contributing to the water project and gathered together, \$70 USD that was given to the LWI Ethiopia team. The nearest school is located two kilometers away from the community whose students, teachers and administrative personnel all have access to the new, safe water source. Most community members sustain their families by farming grain and wheat and by herding cattle and sheep. Before leaving the community, the team provided community member, Seufi Sarata, with a LWI Ethiopia contact number in case their well were to fall into disrepair, become subject to vandalism or theft.

TESTIMONY

The LWI Ethiopia team had an opportunity to meet with forty year old community member and farmer, Seufi Sarata, who stated, "We thank God for this project. The families in our community have improved water and are much healthier. Thank you."

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WELL

Project Details

Region/Province/District	Butajira, Gurage, Mesker
GPS Coordinates	Latitude:7 58.514 N Longitude:38 33.154 E
Altitude	2121 m
Total depth	21 m
Static level	9 m
Diameter of casing	125 mm
Casing material	PVC
Pump type	Afridev
Depth of cylinder	20 m
Well yield	20 liters per minute
No. of people served	400

HYGIENE TEACHING

The County (Woreda) Government and LWI Ethiopia's Community Coordinator held classes on hand washing, pump maintenance, and keeping water clean.

CHRISTIAN WITNESS

The LWI Ethiopia team worked in partnership with the Ethiopian Kale Hewitt Church to engage the surrounding community in this water project. Church members were present throughout the well drilling process- from the planning of the location to the opening of the pump. The gospel was shared through Bible stories shared and relational evangelism. The church is committed to being engaged with this community in the future through the local church.

PHOTOS



Community members pumping clean, safe drinking water.



Community members and water committee members served by LWI Ethiopia.



Completed water project and community members gathering to collect clean, safe drinking water.



Community member, Seufi Sarata, interviewed by LWI Ethiopia and who stated, "We thank God for this project. The families in our community have improved water and are much healthier. Thank you."



Completed water project.



Previous water source utilized by the entire community to meet all of their water needs.



Project in process.