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**Issue 1, Q3, 2022**

## CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Dear <<First Name>>,

Across the world, over two billion people lack access to safely managed drinking water at home, and 3.6 billion people do not have access to safely managed sanitation. Water stresses and shortages are expected to be exacerbated by the impacts of climate change, putting already highly vulnerable communities under increasing pressure.

Water-Share Ireland, an alliance of Irish water sector stakeholders collaborating with GOAL, is helping to deliver life-changing WASH (Water, Sanitation and Health) programming to the world's most dependent communities. By tapping into the expertise, commitment and generosity of their employees, Irish engineers' companies who specialise in water resources and other stakeholders in the Irish water resources community, are helping to transform thousands of lives every day.

Through collaboration and a shared passion for change, Water-Share has delivered a transformative project in FSM (Faecal Sludge Management) in Freetown, Sierra Leone, clean water projects in rural communities in Uganda and restoration of municipal water-supply for communities in war-torn Syria. We are delighted to present some key achievements to date and our future plans in this new e-Zine.

The best mechanism for successful delivery of Water-Share initiatives is the support of dedicated Project Coordinators, who act as a key link between Water-Share's ambitions and GOAL's ability to deliver life-changing projects in WASH programming. We thank all Project Coordinators who have participated to date, and are always seeking new support, so please do consider offering your expertise.

One final thanks to all for your continued support, and please do share this e-Zine across your organisation and with anyone you may think would be interested in furthering the mission of Water-Share Ireland.

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Jerry Grant  
Chairman, Water-Share Ireland



## WATER-SHARE NEWS

### Sierra Leone's first Faecal Sludge Management plant in country's capital fully operational

Water-Share Ireland is pleased to announce that Sierra Leone's first Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) plant in Freetown is now operating at full capacity. The plant, built with the help of Water-Share, was completed and opened in 2021.

The FSM plant is operating six days a week and averaging the dewatering of 11 trucks of latrine sludge per day. Over 11 Kilotonnes of latrine sludge from 1,500 trucks have been processed at the plant since it opened. Work on the FSM plant was enabled by **Nicholas O'Dwyer** in the design phase and by **EPS (Timmy O'Keeffe)** through construction and commissioning, with civil project management by **Joseph O'Driscoll**. [READ MORE >>](#)



## WATER-SHARE ROUND-UP

- **Community Water Project in Eastern Uganda;** Source assessment has been completed in March and a Feasibility Study is close to completion on Phase 1 development of a piped water system to under-served rural areas currently without safe access to clean water in Namayingo District in eastern Uganda. The initial phase will serve Buwoya parish. GOAL is engaging with donors to develop the scheme.
- **Pilot Mini Pipe Scheme in Mulombi, Eastern Uganda;** Design has been completed and tender documents are under preparation to begin the construction of this mini-pipe scheme to serve 800-1,000 people directly in this rural community in Eastern Uganda. **Ward & Burke** has committed €70,000 to fund construction, which will be completed in Spring 2023.
- **Freetown Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant, Sierra Leone** – Water-Share Ireland is pleased to announce that Sierra Leone's first Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) plant in Freetown is now operating at full capacity. The FSM plant is operating six days a week and averaging the dewatering of 11 trucks of latrine sludge per day. Over 11 Kilotonnes of latrine sludge from 1,500 trucks have been processed at the plant since it opened.
- **O'Toole Family Trust Supporting Clean Water in Uganda;** through the efforts of **Tim O'Connor (Irish Water)** and following media coverage on **Water-Share's work**, a major donation of €100,000 has been received towards delivery of a water supply project in Northern Uganda. This is in memory of the **late Fr Declan O'Toole**, Tim's brother-in-law, who helped provide clean water to the region. GOAL is working with Water-Share to identify how this funding can best deliver WASH benefits in the area.
- **Groundwater Project in Northwest Syria;** Work has commenced on data collection and groundwater utilisation in GOAL's area of operation in Idlib province in northwest Syria. The conflict affected area is experiencing major drought this year, and the project is tasked with advising on viable options for increasing source capacity.

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Share is focused on gathering system data and identifying demand in flow measurement as a basic first step.



## WATER-SHARE FUNDING & SUPPORT

To date this year, we have been delighted to receive the financial support of many of our regular patrons and to welcome on board a number of new companies contributing €5,000 as patrons or €1,000 as supporters. The major sponsorship by **Ward & Burke** and the **O'Toole Family Trust** is game-changing in terms of enabling Water-Share to go beyond feasibility planning and technical support to include direct delivery of water supply infrastructure. As important as funding has been, the sustained technical support of key people & organisations has also been vital:

- In **Uganda**, the earlier groundwater studies were enabled by **Malcolm Doak** and **Arup (Gerry Baker)** supporting the local Uganda project team led by **Joseph Akotch**. Technical design support was provided by **TJ O'Connor** and **Ryan Hanley**.
- The Phase 2 work, including Mulombi borehole in eastern **Uganda**, has been led by **Malcolm Edger**, supported by a team in **Ryan Hanley**, notably **Sanket Balikai**.
- The work in Freetown, **Sierra Leone** was enabled by **Nicholas O'Dwyer** in the design phase and by EPS (Timmy O'Keeffe) through construction and commissioning, with civil project management by **Joseph O'Driscoll**.
- In **Syria**, the hydrogeological work is again led by **Malcolm Doak** and the **Arup Groundwater Team** in collaboration with GOAL Syria. The water conservation work is facilitated by **RPS**, led by **Alan Curran**, with technical support from **Cully Automation**. **Suzanne Dempsey** has agreed to provide local coordination support to these projects going forward.
- In **DCU**, the **Water Institute Team**, led by **Fiona Regan**, is supporting GOAL across their WASH portfolio in researching areas of particular interest.
- We have been supported with technical help on specialist topics by experts in **Veolia**, led by **Tom O'Reilly**, and by **Tim O'Connor** of **Irish Water**.
- Our Communications efforts have been greatly assisted by **Dr Roisin Bradford (Irish Water)**, supported by the **RPS Communications** team, led by **Neasa Kane-Fine**, working with Jane Curtin and Courtenay Pollard in **GOAL**.

## ENGINEER SPOTLIGHT



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### Joe O'Driscoll – Sierra Leone

With his extensive civil engineering background, Joe O'Driscoll, was a significant contributor to the delivery of the Freetown Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant.

Through a classmate from UCC, Joe was asked to join the Freetown Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) plant project team. The project had already commenced, but it was clear that an experienced supervisor was required. Joe's role included scheduling, quality control, planning and regular team meetings.

The site and civil works progressed well, but on the ground mechanical and electrical experience was urgently needed. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the overseas Water-Share engineering team was unable to travel to Freetown. Having previously worked in Africa, Joe reached out to a former African-based colleague from PW Ghana, who put the team in touch with a Sierra Leone based person to provide electrical engineering training and leadership. This in situ electrical expertise was key in ensuring the treatment plant came to fruition.

Many companies and individuals across Ireland, UK and Sierra Leone ensured the successful delivery of this essential project. Joe is looking forward to volunteering with Water-Share into the future.



### WATER-SHARE AND SDGs

The UN General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in September of 2015. This included 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs represent an urgent call for action for both developed and developing countries towards ending poverty and other deprivations. They recognise that the only way to achieve this is to combine strategies that improve health and wellbeing, tackle environmental issues, and support economic growth. The United Nations General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in September of 2015. This included 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs represent an urgent call for action for both developed and developing countries towards ending poverty and other deprivations. They recognise that the only way to achieve this is to combine strategies that improve health and wellbeing, tackle environmental issues, and support economic growth.

Delivery on the SDGs and their related targets is central to the work of Water-Share Ireland. Delivering safe and clean water to vulnerable communities in developing countries is crucial to end

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## SUPPORT WATER-SHARE APPEAL

Dear <<First Name>>,

The Water-Share concept has proven to greatly expand the scope of what GOAL can achieve in its WASH programming. The months and years ahead will see existing and highly vulnerable communities continue to benefit from safe, clean water and sanitation in Sierra Leone, Uganda and Syria. But we still need your support.

We are extremely interested in any on-the-ground support with experience in sludge operation, as well as financial support, to deliver on the full vision for the FSM plant in Freetown, Sierra Leone - into composting of sludge and beneficial re-use.

In Syria, we expect that the data gathering stage will raise the need for practical support in areas such as metering equipment and data logging, as key enablers to developing local understanding and capability.

So, we continue to appeal for financial support from individuals and organisations, through the Water-Share patron scheme. In addition to sludge operation expertise, we also continue to appeal for other technical expertise, especially in the areas of solar power, flow measurement, leakage detection, supply chain management and procurement.

<<First Name>>, please do make contact if you would like to discuss a financial contribution and/or if you can offer technical resources and expertise. Let's work together to tackle chronic water borne health and hygiene diseases and support people living in critical need of clean water and sanitation with smart WASH programming. Let's share this Irish Water sector's success story which is one about resilient water for all and is a crucial collaboration to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6).

I look forward to hearing from you.

Warm regards

Courtenay Pollard  
**Partnerships Manager, GOAL**  
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