





TABLE OF CONTENTS

4

THE GLOBAL CONTEXT

5

REFLECTIONS ON A
RENEWED MODEL

7

BWW IN FIGURES

10

EXPERTISE IN ACTION

11

A DEDICATED TEAM

12

SHARING AND SCALING
THE BWW MODEL

14

PROJECTS TO DEEPEN
SOCIAL IMPACT

19

FOCUS ON KENYA

21

FOCUS ON THE PHILIPPINES

25

FOCUS ON BANGLADESH

28

FINANCIAL REPORT

30

PARTNERSHIPS



2025: A turning point in renewing our intervention model

2025 was a significant year for *better with water* (BWW), despite a global context marked by geopolitical instability and a reduction in development aid.

In practical terms, this resulted in a decrease in public funding allocated to organisations working on the ground to meet essential needs and uphold the fundamental rights of vulnerable communities.

More than ever, BWW's teams worked tirelessly to mobilise the resources needed to sustain and expand our impact for the families we serve.

Our overall objective remains unchanged: to sustainably improve living conditions in underserved urban communities through access to safe water at home and complementary essential services, thereby fostering the inclusion of residents within the wider urban environment.

To achieve this, we renewed our intervention model by defining a core programme of action, complemented by high-impact projects tailored to specific needs. This approach enables BWW to adapt its activities to the local context, priorities and available resources in each community where we operate.

We also refined our Theory of Change, a key tool for measuring the impact of our programmes on the people participating in our projects.

Having worked in the Philippines for 17 years, 2025 marked a further step in the integration of representatives from our local partner organisations into the overall governance of the BWW network. A fifth regional office is also in the process of being established in northern Manila.

In an especially challenging environment, we reorganised our teams in Bangladesh to enhance efficiency and maximise impact.

Meanwhile, prospects in Kenya are encouraging, with the team actively laying the foundations for future development.

Thanks to the dedication of all our teams and the support of our partners, 67,454 people now have access to safe, piped water in their homes.

A heartfelt thank you, and congratulations to everyone involved.

Let us remain committed and continue working together to extend our impact.

Chloé Wagner, Chairwoman



THE GLOBAL CONTEXT

1 in **3**

1 in 3 people will live in a slum by 2050

1,000

more than 1,000 children die every day from water-related diseases

2.1

billion people lack access to safe drinking water

Water is a vital resource, yet access to it remains deeply unequal across the globe. To this day, **2.1 billion people still lack access to safely managed drinking water services.**

A reality that is particularly acute in informal settlements.

These inequalities are compounded by intersecting factors: **rapid population growth, unplanned urbanisation, conflict, climate-related disasters, degradation of natural resources, and poor governance.**

Climate change further exacerbates the situation. Prolonged droughts, flooding, groundwater salinization, and source contamination all threaten already fragile water supply systems.

The consequences are staggering: every day, more than 1,000 children under the age of five die from diseases linked to unsafe water and poor hygiene.

Women and girls, in particular, **spend hours each day fetching water.** It's time lost to education, personal development, and economic empowerment.

Access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) is not just a matter of survival it is a cornerstone of public health, dignity, equity, and sustainable development.

That is why BWB has been working for over 17 years alongside residents of informal settlements.

REFLECTIONS ON A RENEWED MODEL

In 2025, without changing its core principles, BWW decided to transition to a renewed model.

Originally designed as two separate entities, a social enterprise and an NGO working together towards a common mission, it became clearer and more effective to view them as two complementary functions and to organise accordingly:

- A **core intervention program** combining the paid social water service with all the essential social services needed for its deployment and sustainability in the complex contexts of slums: community and stakeholder mobilisation, basic civil protection training, and the promotion of good water-use practices. All of this aims for gradual financial viability (excluding Capex).
- A **deeper impact projects** building on the momentum generated by the piped water service to develop initiatives aimed at enhancing impact. These may include projects on hygiene training, community strengthening, and disaster risk reduction, as well as actions related to waste management, sanitation, and the development of other essential services, in line with the community mobilisation capacity.

Our vision



Cities where people living in deprived neighbourhoods have access to sustainable and quality essential services promoting their inclusion.

Our mission



Ensure permanent access to an affordable, fee-based domestic water social service of reliable quality. Achieving immediate impact while fostering long-term sustainability in complex environments requires the implementation of complementary social interventions: engaging and mobilising communities and stakeholders, providing training on the fundamentals of civil protection, and promoting good water use practices.

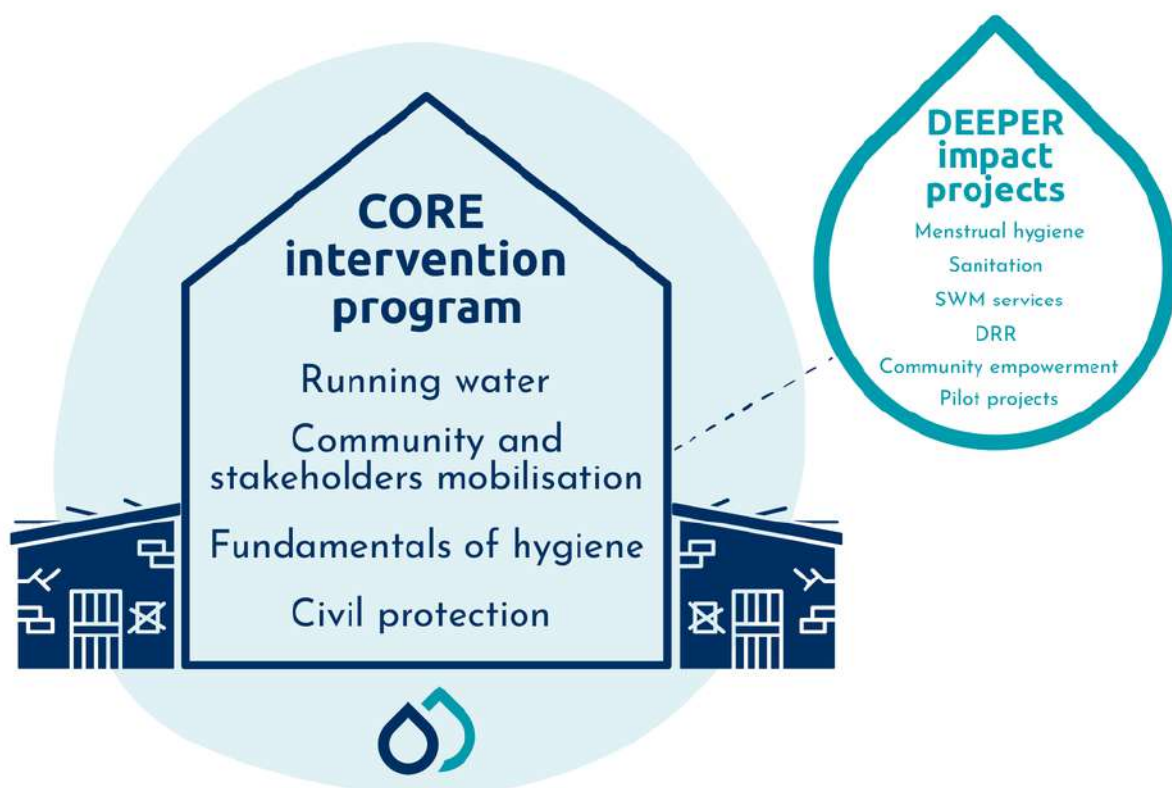


Based on systematic needs assessments and taking into account available resources over time, build on the momentum generated by the permanent water service to deploy initiatives that deepen social impact. These may include training projects on hygiene, community empowerment, disaster risk reduction, as well as actions related to waste management, sanitation, and the development of other essential services, aligned with community mobilisation capacities.



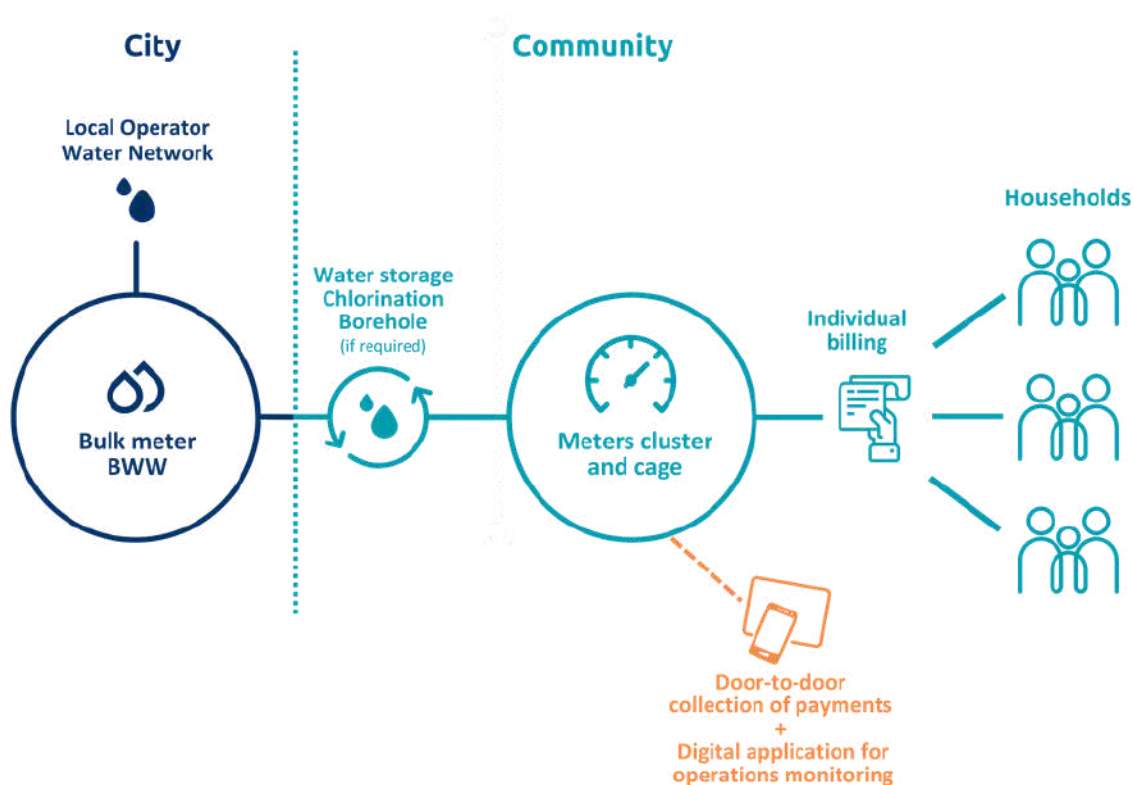
Engage and mobilise all stakeholders to design and implement high social-impact projects that are economically viable and self-sustaining in the long term.

THE RENEWED MODEL



services operated by a registered social enterprise and the local branch of BWW

Our water network



BWW IT IS...



67,454 people have gained access to running water since 2008

3,914 new people gained access to running water in 2025

including

1,937 in Bangladesh

1,977 in the Philippines

1.157 billion liters of water distributed in 2025



8,993 attendances at hygiene awareness sessions (hand and water) in 2025

5,486 attendances at menstrual hygiene awareness sessions in 2025

7,009 hygiene kits distributed

14,353 attendances at environment and SWM awareness sessions in 2025





21

fires or fire outbreaks
contained in 2025

752

community fire
volunteers trained and
equipped overall

Bangladesh:
2 programmes

Philippines:
4 programmes

32

slums

99%

payment collection
rate

150

staff members globally,
with 30% recruited
from intervention areas



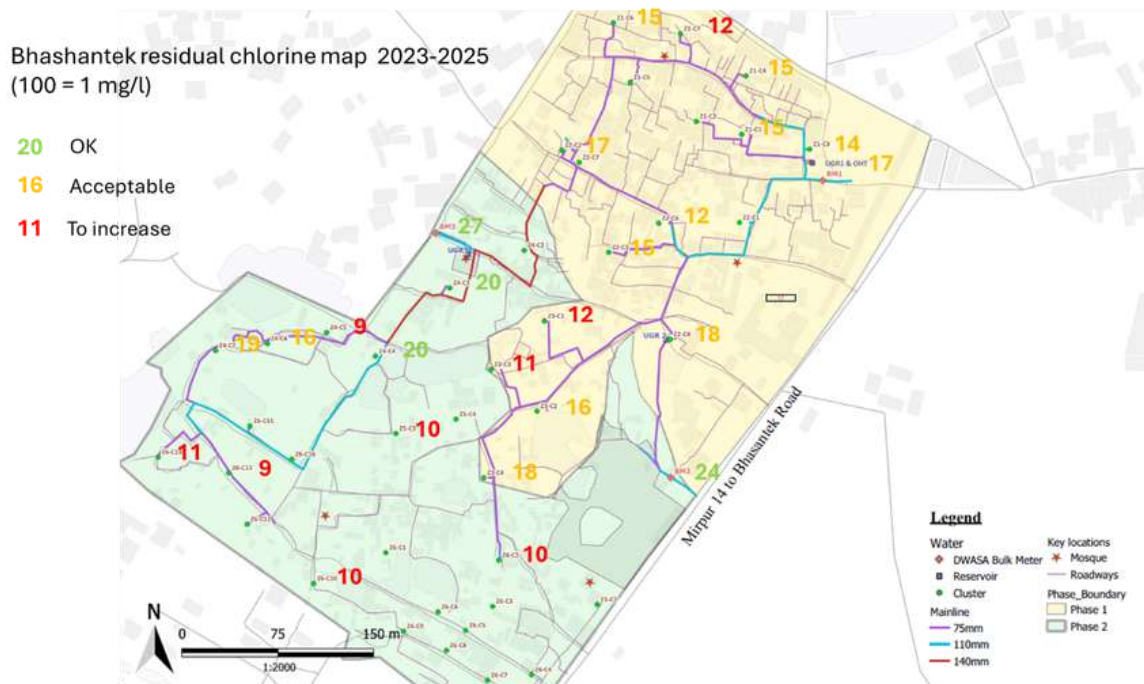
EXPERTISE IN ACTION

Water treatment and quality control: The case of Bangladesh

In Bangladesh, BWB systematically disinfects all water supplied, whether sourced from the municipal network or from BWB-managed boreholes, in order to prevent any risk of bacterial contamination.

Chlorine dosing is adjusted based on regular measurements of residual chlorine, complemented by awareness-raising activities with users, some of whom may express reluctance due to the smell of chlorine, even at low concentrations. Our teams therefore carry out continuous outreach to explain its essential public health role.

Bacteriological water quality is also monitored using portable laboratory kits such as Potakit.



For example, in the Bhashantek area, **mapping of residual chlorine levels between 2023 and 2025 shows a consistent presence of chlorine within the network** (values always above zero), confirming effective disinfection. However, the results also highlight room for improvement in the most remote areas of the network, where chlorine levels could be optimised.

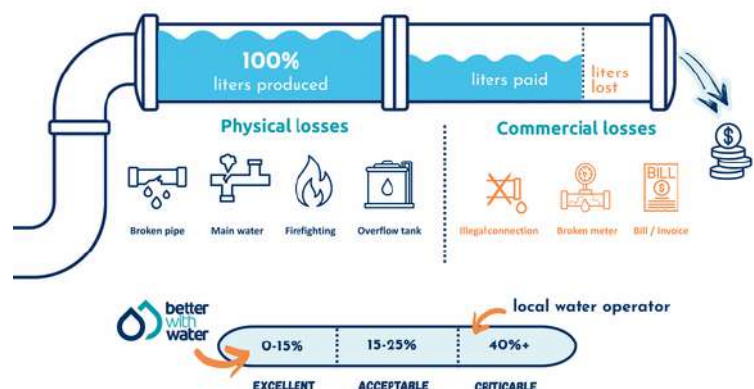
In addition, iron content represents a water quality challenge in certain boreholes, particularly in Chattogram.

This parameter is monitored regularly using portable colorimeters. The main corrective measure implemented consists of blending borehole water, which is high in iron, with municipal network water, which is iron-free, in order to reach levels compliant with drinking water standards.

Control of Non-Revenue Water

In 2025, BWB maintained a level of non-revenue water (NRW) losses below 7% across its intervention areas in the Philippines and Bangladesh.

This achievement was made possible in particular through the training of field teams in the use of new portable flow meters provided by our partner Georg Fischer, as well as through regular monitoring of suspected leaks.



A DEDICATED TEAM

United teams for sustainable impact

In continuity with 2024, BWW **continued to share best practices and strengthen the links between headquarters and programme teams**, particularly in the context of the implementation of the renewed model and the necessary upskilling of teams to meet the requirements of donors such as the French Development Agency (AFD).

In 2025, **23 missions were carried out** (compared with 13 in 2024): 13 in Bangladesh, 8 in the Philippines, 1 in Kenya, and 1 in Uganda as part of an exploratory mission.

With an average duration of 15 days, these missions represent a total of 356 cumulative field days. They involved 14 staff members from both technical teams (Development and Technical Support) and support functions (Finance & Administration, Partnerships & Communication, and Human Resources).

This human and financial investment plays a key role in strengthening mutual understanding of operational challenges, the use of common tools, and coordination between headquarters and field teams, ultimately enhancing the effectiveness and quality of programme implementation, and gradually enabling greater autonomy.

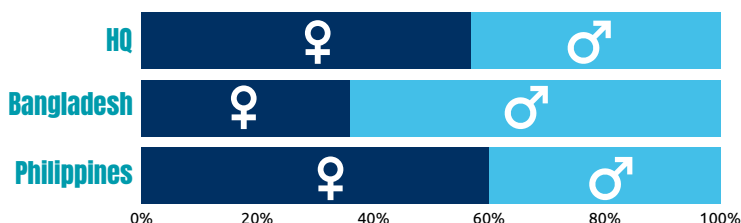
These field visits have in particular made it possible to support team integration, observe ongoing activities and formulate recommendations, conduct joint working sessions on priority issues, strengthen the capacity of local teams, and explore new opportunities for intervention.

“

I am a Finance Coordinator based in France, responsible for monitoring BWB's activities in Bangladesh. In order to effectively support our field colleagues, in-country missions are essential as they enable closer collaboration and more efficient ways of working. In October 2025, I had the opportunity to spend around ten days in Dhaka. This mission, which formed part of my onboarding process, pursued several objectives: meeting the local teams, training colleagues in the use of our financial software, preparing the 2026 budget, and visiting our programme activities on the ground. This experience made a significant contribution to advancing our projects and ensuring compliance with the financial requirements set by our donors.

Khadra Naili, Headquarter Finance Coordinator

Gender equality at the heart of our organisation



BWW is part of the broader **trend towards the feminisation of the international solidarity sector**, with women representing over 60% of staff in the Philippines and 57% at headquarters.

In Bangladesh, although this proportion stands at 36%, it precisely reflects the share of women in the national workforce (source: World Bank).

This balance is supported in particular by a human resources policy that promotes flexible working arrangements, a key lever for achieving a healthy balance between personal life and professional fulfilment.

We are proud to affirm that the glass ceiling has no place within BWB: women account for 53% of members of our management committees.

Recognising that these achievements must be sustained over time, **we will further strengthen our commitments to professional gender equality in 2026.**

This will include regular monitoring of gender parity indicators, increased attention to diversity in recruitment processes, and enhanced support for career development pathways.

SHARING AND SCALING THE BWW MODEL

First fundraising evening: an immersive and successful event

In May 2025, BWW organised its first fundraising evening in Paris, an immersive event designed to showcase our programmes and share the realities of the communities we support.

A dedicated support committee contributed to the success of the evening, which featured project pitches as well as a convivial networking moment over a cocktail reception.

The engagement of participants made it possible to raise €182,000 in a single evening, far exceeding our expectations. A heartfelt thank you!



Recognition of our model by the Asian Development Bank



As part of the strengthening of its collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), *better with water* presented its approach to 35 water sector professionals and government representatives from several countries across Asia and the Pacific.

Divided into four groups, the visitors explored three intervention areas in the Philippines: Isla Noah, Strikeville and Bars.

These site visits illustrated how BWW's model complements the work of municipal operators in underserved urban neighbourhoods.

Participants also learned about our payment system, designed to align with residents' financial capacities.

The day concluded with discussions on the lessons learned from this approach and its potential for replication in other urban contexts.

This visit confirms the strength of the partnership between BWW and the ADB, as well as the growing interest in the organisation's model among water sector stakeholders across the region.

Representing BWW at international events

In an increasingly challenging fundraising environment, and as BWW continues its development and expansion phase, the organisation has made the strategic decision to strengthen its international visibility.

BWW therefore participated in three conferences organised by [AVPN](#), as well as in [Stockholm World Water Week](#).

These engagements provided an opportunity to showcase BWW's model, strengthen exchanges with international sector stakeholders, and open up new prospects for partnerships and funding.



PROJECTS TO DEEPEN SOCIAL IMPACT

1

Philippines: Empowering communities for Disaster Risk Reduction

Continuing the work initiated in 2024, the Community Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) project, supported by the French Development Agency (AFD), entered a more operational phase in Mandaue and Cavite.

Following participatory vulnerability assessments, 2025 made it possible to translate the analyses conducted with residents into concrete action plans.

Ten vulnerable urban neighbourhoods took part in community workshops using Participatory Community Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (PCVA). Residents and local representatives identified the main risks—flooding, fires and landslides—as well as the resources and solutions best suited to their communities.

This process led to the development of nine community-based disaster risk reduction plans, including evacuation protocols, early warning systems and clearly defined roles for local stakeholders.

Validated by the communities and presented to local authorities, these plans strengthen preparedness and resilience in the most exposed neighbourhoods.

Beyond the tools developed, the project empowers residents to become active agents in their own safety and promotes greater consideration of vulnerable neighbourhoods in local planning.



« The activity I enjoyed most was the three-day workshop, as it addressed the potential risks in our area, such as fires and floods, and explained what to do and where to evacuate. »

Madeline B. Villalon, inhabitant of Tipolo

In 2026, BWB will scale up this approach to new neighbourhoods and continue simulation exercises and awareness-raising activities within the communities already being supported.



2 Improving Waste Management for a healthier, and more sustainable environment

The coastal community of Taging Dagat in Cebu, heavily affected by plastic pollution, faced a major challenge: the absence of a waste collection service forced residents to dump waste on the beach or burn it, with harmful consequences for both the environment and public health.

To address this issue, a pilot waste management project was developed with the community, aiming to promote waste sorting, recycling and sound environmental practices.

The concept is simple: **waste is collected directly within the community by collectors using specially designed handcarts, and then sorted at a dedicated sorting station.**

This sorting facility was established and inaugurated in December 2025 with community leaders and the municipality of Noveleta, which provided the land. It is largely constructed from recycled plastics, in partnership with Plastic Flamingo and Plastic Odyssey.

Mr Chua, Mayor of Noveleta, provided strong support for the project. During the inauguration, he announced that the municipality would cover the salaries of the four waste collectors (which had initially been intended to be borne by the community), thereby making the service fully free of charge for residents.

To further strengthen community engagement, a drawing competition was organised in June. The four winners were invited to paint their creations on a large mural, now displayed on the facility, with the support of a local artist.

The management of the station has been designed to be community-based and inclusive, with two separate streams for recyclable and residual waste. The building now enables up to one month of recyclable materials to be stored, reducing the need for frequent transport when reselling sorted waste.



This facility is expected to collect 144 tonnes of residual waste and 81 tonnes of recyclable waste per year.



3 Paknaan: a strong community-led approach to sanitation

The sanitation project initiated in the Paknaan neighbourhood of Cebu faced significant delays in 2025, linked to a change in municipal governance. **The project includes 9 km of underground sewer networks and a treatment plant that will collect both blackwater and greywater, connected to all 200 households in the target area.**

Despite this context, local momentum has remained very positive. Following training and community awareness workshops held in March 2025, the community formalised its commitment by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

This commitment has also translated into strong interest in the project, **with 85% of residents surveyed expressing their willingness to be connected to the future sanitation network.**

These findings reflect strong community buy-in and provide a solid foundation for the continuation of the project, as soon as institutional conditions allow for its operational relaunch.



4 Participatory video: empowering community voices for change

The participatory video pilot project, supported by AFD and launched in 2024 in Chattogram, was completed in April 2025 after 15 months of implementation across three areas (9 Number Bridge, CNB and Kalabagan).

It empowered 12 community volunteers through hands-on training and the production of 12 videos on key issues such as fire safety, climate change and access to water.

Participants developed skills in storytelling, filming and editing, while also strengthening their confidence and community engagement.

The closing ceremony celebrated the commitment of the PV team with community screenings, testimonials and feedback from residents.

The videos produced are now used as **awareness-raising and advocacy tools** within communities and with local institutions.



« This video does not only highlight the negative aspects but also the positive things happening in our community... We are proud of our video team. »
Inhabitant of CNB

Beyond the project, several volunteers have continued their engagement by joining community committees or accessing professional and educational opportunities, confirming the lasting impact of this initiative.

5 Promoting hygiene and environmental awareness from primary school

In 2025, *better with water* continued its pilot project to promote good hygiene practices and environmental awareness in primary schools.

At Salcedo Primary School in Cavite (736 pupils), our teams supported the establishment of the WASH and WONDER Advocates Club, comprising 15 pupils aged 9–12, two teachers and six parents.

Members received training on the principles of a WASH-friendly school, proper handwashing practices, role allocation and activity planning.

The club subsequently organised events to mark Global Handwashing Day and World Toilet Day, as well as school-based clean-up activities.

As part of the project, Better with Water also plans to renovate the school's sanitation facilities for the benefit of all pupils.



« The club taught us the importance of washing our hands properly, especially at critical times. Because club members practise this at school, our classmates do the same whenever they know they are about to eat. It has become a habit throughout the entire school community. »

Khristine Euanice Salvador, pupil

The club is now operating independently, with new pupils replacing outgoing members and activities being planned and implemented by the members themselves. The school is fully prepared to manage the club without direct support from Better with Water, in line with the organisation's strategy of transitioning ownership to local stakeholders.

This approach was subsequently replicated in a school in Leyte serving 221 pupils.





KENYA

BWW establishes itself in Kenya for long-term impact

On 15 December 2025, BWW was officially registered in Kenya as a Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG) under the name **better with water Africa CLG**. This significant milestone marks the organisation's formal establishment in Kenya and its objective of delivering sustainable water access services as well as social programmes in informal settlements.

The Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG) status does not exist in the other countries where we operate. It is an interesting legal form that was recommended to us on a pro bono basis by our local legal partner, Bowman, itself referred by the Ashoka US network.

A CLG is a non-profit entity without shareholders and does not distribute profits, while still being able to invoice and receive grants for its social activities. Any surplus generated through its operations is fully reinvested into the organisation's mission.

This structure, aligned with our approach, ensures that financial sustainability and social impact remain closely connected.

Developing strategic partnerships to support social activities in Kisumu

In Kisumu, *better with water* has developed strategic partnerships to ensure the sustainability and long-term impact of its social activities. These collaborations enable the organisation to work closely with local institutions and community stakeholders, while maximising its reach and effectiveness.

A key partnership has been established with the **Kisumu fire brigade** as part of our fire safety and civil protection initiatives. The brigade is highly committed to this collaboration, which helps raise awareness among communities of their role, of good safety practices, and of the behaviours to adopt in the event of an emergency. In Kisumu, firefighters are involved not only in responding to fires, but also in broader disaster management, making this partnership a vital lever for public education.

BWW is also working with the local **Red Cross** to provide first aid training for our future fire volunteers. Upon completion of this training, volunteers will be certified as Red Cross volunteers, thereby strengthening their skills, their capacity to act, and the resilience of communities.

For hygiene awareness activities, BWW will collaborate with **Community Health Promoters (CHPs)**, trained volunteers who carry out door-to-door awareness-raising activities, promote good sanitation practices, and support public health initiatives at community level. Already well integrated within neighbourhoods, CHPs are key partners for amplifying hygiene messages and effectively mobilising households.

Through these strategic partnerships, BWW aims to expand its impact, strengthen local capacity, and ensure the relevance and sustainability of its social actions.



PHILIPPINES

Consolidating and expanding services in the Philippines in 2025

In 2025, *better with water* Philippines focused on consolidating its operations while expanding access to safe drinking water in underprivileged urban communities. The year ensured the continuity of activities in existing areas, alongside the development of new locations, reinforcing BWW's commitment to inclusive water services.

Networks were established in new areas, notably in Cavite and Metro Cebu, while connections continued to be rolled out in existing branches, enabling more households to access water at home.

In Leyte, a first borehole project was completed, marking an important milestone and demonstrating the organisation's capacity for adaptation and innovation.

In parallel, BWW strengthened its community and social programmes, including hygiene promotion, fire prevention, waste management, disaster risk reduction, and local empowerment initiatives. **A strategic expansion was also achieved with the opening of a regional office in North Manila to better respond to the needs of densely populated urban areas.**

The year was marked by several challenges, including tariff adjustments in Metro Cebu, as well as major external events (elections, earthquakes, typhoons, and flooding) that affected both communities and operations. Internally, efforts focused on strengthening teams, clarifying roles, and improving working methods.

In 2026, the emphasis will be on consolidation, strengthening partnerships, and enhancing cooperation with public authorities, including the handover of one intervention area to a conventional operator and the development of new management models for resettlement housing, opening up opportunities for greater impact among the most vulnerable communities.



40,591 beneficiaries with access to water



5,333

attendances at water and hand hygiene awareness sessions in 2025



3,816

attendances at menstrual hygiene awareness sessions in 2025



51

tonnes of waste collected during neighbourhood clean-up days in 2025



509

fire volunteers trained and equipped



3,668

hygiene kits distributed

2025 IN THE PHILIPPINES

2gether4water: connecting images and impact

From 19 June to 4 July, BWW organised its 2gether4water event at the **Alliance Française de Manille**, with the support of the AFD. The opening of the exhibition, which launched the campaign, brought together key institutional and sector partners, including the French Embassy, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), UNICEF, Maynilad, ACTED and Grundfos. All took the floor during the opening evening, emphasising our shared responsibility to act without delay and to strengthen our collective impact.

A dedicated evening was also organised for our Cavite team. Each member selected a photograph from the exhibition that resonated with their personal journey and shared its meaning in their own words, creating a particularly powerful and personal moment of exchange.

Centred on the theme “**Five years to 2030: where do we stand on SDG 6?**”, the exhibition invited partners, institutions and the wider public to reflect on progress towards universal access to safe drinking water and sanitation.

Through the lens of Filipino photojournalist Linus Guardian Escandor II, the photographs captured transformative everyday moments: a woman washing dishes at home, children cooling off in the heat, a resident paying their water bill, among other scenes of daily life. These images serve as a reminder that access to water is not limited to infrastructure development; it is above all a matter of dignity, health and opportunity.

Beyond its awareness-raising dimension, 2gether4water served as a strategic communication platform, strengthening donor confidence. The strong attendance and public engagement confirmed the growing recognition of the programme’s impact and relevance in the Philippines.



Marie Fontanel,
French ambassador



Linus Escandor

A few words from our team



“As a technical plumber, it’s an honor for me, and for all of us, to serve the community with full dedication.”

Wilbert Vega, plumber



“It doesn’t matter where you live, what the state of your life is, to have a happy life. As long as we are together, we can change the world for the better with water.”

Alice Perey,
Branch Finance & Admin Officer



“Despite the challenging conditions, like houses clinging to the edge of a river, built with whatever materials are available, our team ensures access to clean and reliable water. No area is too remote, no neighborhood too complicated, for us to reach.”

Henry Jon Are,
Assistant Project Engineer

Opening of a new regional office in North Manila

Seventeen years after its creation, *better with water* returns to its origins by re-establishing its presence in North Manila, where it all began. It was in this area that the organisation built its very first water network. Destroyed by a fire, this event led BWW to redirect its activities towards other territories. This return therefore carries a particularly symbolic and emotional significance.

Located in North Manila, **the Havila Bignay community, with a population of 614, has been identified as the first intervention area of this new branch.**

This resettlement site faces ongoing challenges in access to water, including low pressure and frequent service interruptions.

To provide an appropriate response, BWW teams carried out extensive preparatory work: community consultations, baseline surveys, field visits and initial technical assessments. These steps laid the foundations for an intervention aligned with the actual needs of residents.

Following the preparatory work initiated the previous year, 2025 marked the operational launch of the North Manila regional office.

Building on rigorous assessments and close collaboration with key stakeholders, including water service providers such as Maynilad Water, this new presence will enable BWW to:

- Reach densely populated and underserved communities in Metro Manila
- Gradually roll out water networks adapted to local conditions
- Strengthen coordination with local authorities and disaster risk management bodies
- Lay the foundations for long-term sustainable services

This expansion fully reflects BWW's strategic ambition: **to grow responsibly while maintaining a high level of service quality, strong collection rates, and a deep commitment to communities.**



Basey: adapting our solutions to resettlement areas and the most isolated communities

In Basey, on the island of Samar under the Leyte regional office, securing a reliable water source was one of the community's greatest challenges.

Located far from any water service provider, families relocated following Typhoon Haiyan in 2013 depended on insufficient, distant or unsafe water sources, making daily life difficult and unpredictable.

In geographically isolated areas where municipal supply is not feasible, boreholes provide a strategic and technical alternative, while maintaining the approach of delivering water access at household level.

Very quickly, the challenges of this project became apparent: a deeper-than-expected aquifer, several drilling phases, and, in May 2025, the failure of the electric pump during final testing. **This incident slowed the works and highlighted the complexity of such infrastructure projects in more rural settings.**

Since then, new geophysical assessments have identified the optimal drilling site, and water quality tests have confirmed its reliability.

Construction of the borehole and associated infrastructure will therefore continue in 2026.

This project demonstrates BWW's ability to adapt its model beyond densely populated urban neighbourhoods and to respond to the needs of underserved communities.



When we were relocated to this new neighbourhood, we were able to sleep peacefully again.

However, access to water remained difficult, as the water from the wells was salty and could not be used for drinking, cooking or washing, forcing us to buy 3 to 5 jerrycans of water every day.

Each jerry can cost 25 pesos, and it took between 15 and 20 minutes to carry them back to our home.

With BWB, all of that is now over and we are able to live again.

Mary Gwen, inhabitant of Paknaan Transmission



BANGLADESH

2025: Refocusing to support sustainable growth

In Bangladesh, 2025 was a year of both achievements and challenges, marked by significant growth in our activities.

The expansion into two new intervention areas, Ta Block in Dhaka and Ralli Moholla in Chattogram, will provide support to more than 1,000 additional households. Within these underserved communities, the construction of water networks and extensive community mobilisation efforts enabled the successful launch of both the water service and the associated social programmes.

This expansion, as well as the overall implementation of activities, was made more complex by the political transition that followed the revolution of summer 2024.

Institutional changes, widespread uncertainty, the absence of a clear direction, and the lack of stable political counterparts created additional challenges for project implementation, particularly in relation to community mobilisation.

As a result, achieving our objectives required a substantial increase in effort and commitment from our teams.

At the same time, a strategic refocusing linked to the refinement of BWW's intervention model led to the reorganisation of teams around a core programme of activities: water access, community mobilisation, civil protection, and basic hygiene. This restructuring enabled us to refocus our efforts in order to safeguard quality while preparing for expansion into new intervention areas, particularly through the Dhaka regional office. This evolution was accompanied by the mobilisation of the local Support Committee around clearer and more structured responsibilities, in close coordination with the BWW office.

An external operational evaluation, conducted as part of the AFD-funded programme, provided a highly positive assessment of both our impact and the overall quality of the programme. It also identified several opportunities and areas for action that could support our future development.

The organisational restructuring and operational developments implemented in 2025 significantly improved programme efficiency, while laying solid foundations for success in 2026.



16,477 beneficiaries with access to water



3,660 attendances at water and hand hygiene awareness sessions in 2025



1,670 attendances at menstrual hygiene awareness sessions in 2025



8.5 tonnes of waste collected during neighbourhood clean-up days in 2025



243 fire volunteers trained and equipped



3,341 hygiene kits distributed

2025 IN BANGLADESH

Water begins flowing in Ta Block

After several years of fieldwork and coordination with local authorities, the water access project in the Ta Block neighbourhood of Dhaka has come to fruition. It is also an important sign of strong cooperation with the Dhaka public utility operator.

This informal settlement, located along a drainage canal, is home to nearly 825 households, or approximately 3,563 people living in highly precarious conditions. The dwellings, made of corrugated metal and built on bamboo or wooden foundations, are extremely vulnerable to unsanitary conditions and fire risks. Before our intervention, 90% of residents had access to water only through illegal connections, for barely 10 minutes per day, with very poor water quality, leading to numerous health issues, particularly among children.

After several months of works in a steep and highly congested environment, the first water network is now operational. It is capable of providing continuous access to water to all households through a hybrid supply system combining the municipal network and a borehole.

The infrastructure also includes two complementary storage systems: an underground reservoir and an elevated water tank, ensuring reliable and sustainable distribution.

However, our work goes beyond infrastructure. Awareness sessions were conducted to explain the network's functioning, the procedures for signing up for a water connection contract, and good hygiene practices.

By the end of December 2025, 87 households had already signed water access contracts, and more than 20 connections were fully operational. Each new connection represents a concrete step towards improved living conditions for families in Ta Block.

In parallel, our teams continued delivering awareness sessions on hand hygiene, safe drinking water, and civil protection. These initiatives strengthen residents' knowledge, build autonomy, and contribute to their resilience in the face of health and environmental risks.



Civil protection: strengthening our impact in 2025

In 2025, our civil protection activities in Bangladesh were further strengthened.

Today, 243 fire volunteers are trained and equipped to respond in Bangladesh's informal settlements, including 57 new volunteers trained this year, significantly strengthening local response capacities over the long term.

Our fire prevention awareness sessions also reached 1,500 community members, contributing to improved risk awareness, preparedness, and prevention within vulnerable communities.

Finally, this work has been recognised at local level through the renewal of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Bangladesh Fire Service & Civil Defence (BFSCD) on 10 December 2025, for a five-year period.

This institutional partnership strengthens our collaboration and ensures a lasting impact on community safety. By combining training, awareness-raising, and strong partnerships, we continue to build communities that are better prepared to respond to emergencies.

Ralli Mohola: a new intervention area in Chattogram

In September 2025, our team signed an agreement with our valued local partner, the water utility CWASA, to bring piped water to the Ralli Mohola neighbourhood in Chattogram.

Located on the outskirts of the city, this precarious settlement, particularly vulnerable to flooding, is home to around 220 households, or more than 900 people. These residents do not have access to a reliable water source and must rely on public points or illegal connections, where supply is frequently interrupted.

Works on this network began in 2025 and include the construction of an elevated water tank, with the aim of finally providing families with access to safe drinking water and improving their living conditions.



“

Before BWB's intervention, I had to obtain water from illegal vendors or fetch it from wells.

Since BWB constructed a borehole, water has been available at all times, its quality is better, and we no longer have to worry about how we will get enough water for the day.

Our consumption has increased over the past three months, as we are satisfied with the service.

Sonia, inhabitant of Nine Number Bridge

FINANCIAL REPORT

In 2025, BWW reported a positive net result of €6,835, compared with a positive net result of €128,758 in 2024, representing 0.1% of the year's total revenue.

This result reflects the recognition of investments in the year they are incurred, ensuring consistency with the accounting treatment of grant funding.

The statutory accounting net result was negative at €20,492 in 2025, compared with a positive €75,405 in 2024. Total equity nevertheless remained positive at €425k, compared with €445k at the end of 2024.

Cash and cash equivalents amounted to €738k at the end of 2025, compared with €755k at the end of 2024, remaining broadly stable (-2.2%).

This cash position represents the equivalent of 1.9 months of operating expenses in 2025, compared with 2.1 months in 2024.

Restricted funds totalled €1.37 million at the end of 2025, compared with €1.738 million at the end of 2024.

The decrease in restricted funds can be explained by two main factors:

- Improved programme implementation, particularly in Bangladesh, resulting in a higher utilisation of previously allocated funds.
- A decline in funding, reflecting the broader funding crisis affecting the international solidarity sector. Like many organisations, BWW has been impacted by this challenging funding environment.

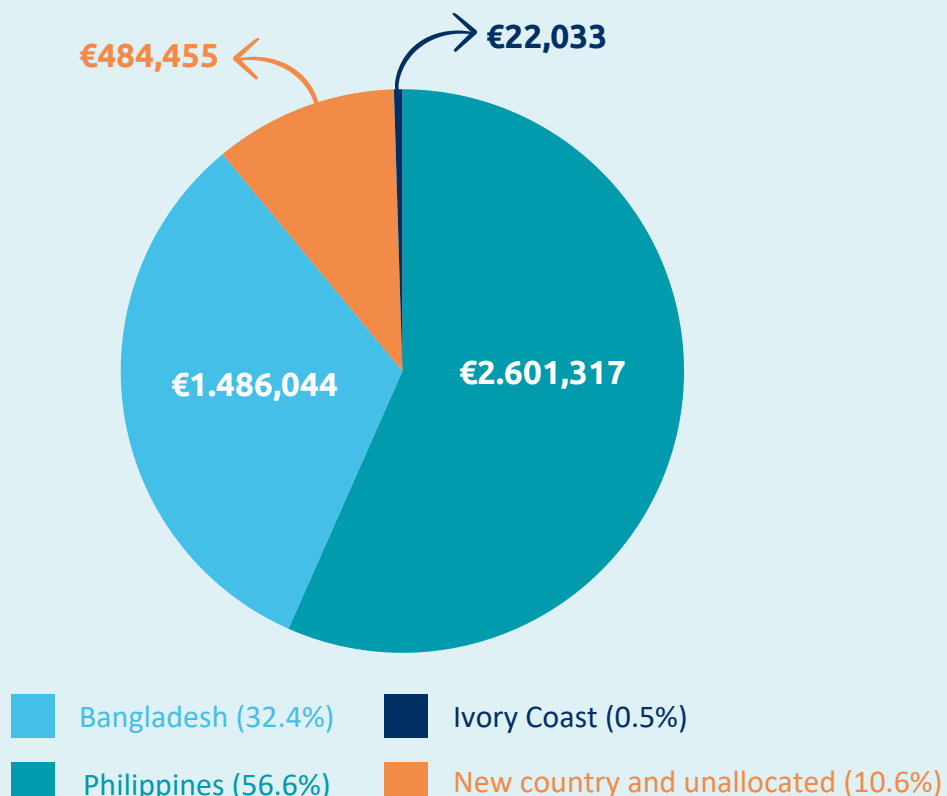
2025 Expenditures

In 2025, total expenditure reached €4.6 million, compared with €4.3 million in 2024, representing an increase of 7%.

Ninety percent of total expenditure in 2025 was allocated to operational activities, including local project implementation and operational support. Expenditure related to partnerships and communications accounted for 2%, while support and administrative costs represented 8% of total expenditure. These proportions remained stable compared with 2024.

Total expenditure includes both operating costs and investments incurred across all entities within the BWW organisation:

- Non-profit organisations: BWW, W&L Bangladesh, and W&L Philippines.
- Social enterprises: EVES (France), TPA (Philippines), and SJP (Bangladesh).

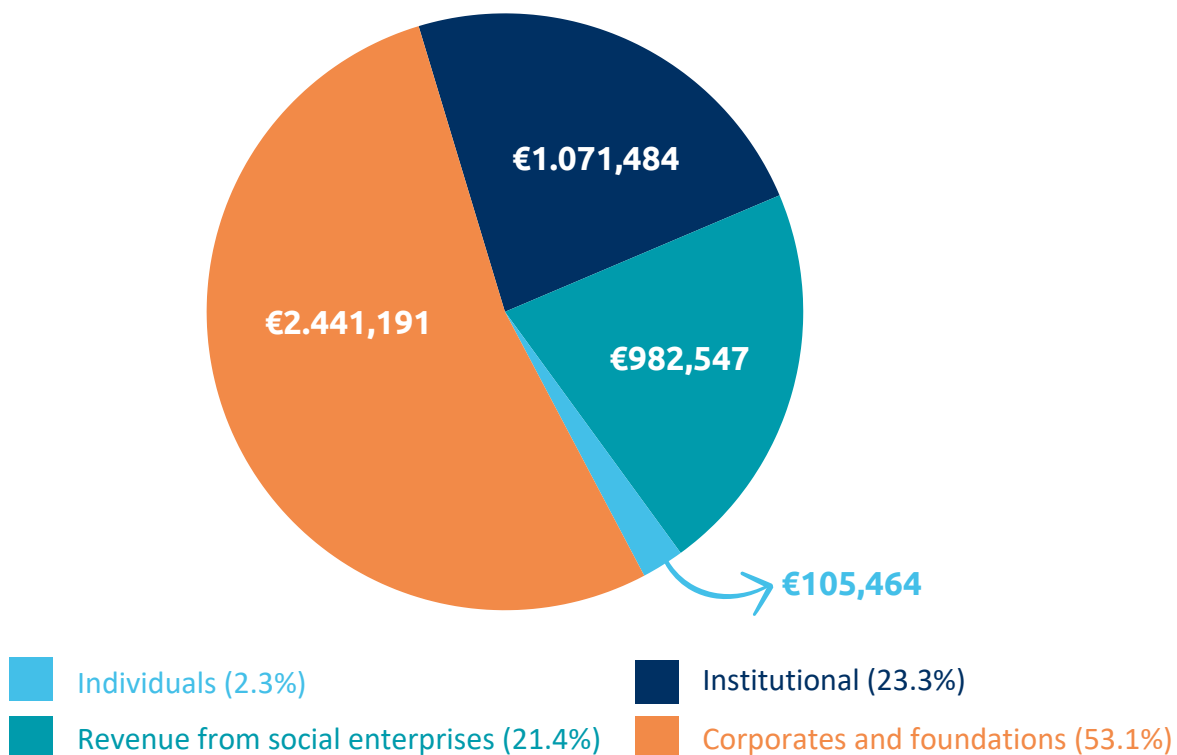


2025 Resources

In 2025, BWW's total revenue amounted to €4.6 million, compared with €4.5 million in 2024. This includes €982k in revenue generated by the social enterprises, representing a 9% increase compared with 2024.

Locally generated resources—including grants secured by local entities and revenue generated by the social enterprises—accounted for 24% of total revenue in 2025, unchanged from 2024.

Private funding represented 53% of total revenue, while 23% came from institutional partners.



PARTNERS AT OUR SIDE

Haas Foundation visit

The Bangladesh team had the pleasure of welcoming Tabatha Schmidhauser from the Pierre & Andrée Haas Foundation for a field visit in Dhaka and Chattogram.

As a new partner of the organisation, the Foundation wished to see the projects first-hand in the informal settlements where communities live. This immersion enabled Tabatha to engage with residents, gain a deeper understanding of their daily realities, and directly observe the impact of access to water and hygiene. She also met the volunteer firefighters supported by the programme, who play a key role in prevention and local safety.

In a particularly challenging fundraising context, the trust placed in the Bangladesh programme by the Haas Foundation is especially valuable and strengthens the collective momentum to continue and expand these field-based activities.

Pictet Group Foundation visit

« The work of *better with water* demonstrates the transformative power of community-led solutions. By addressing immediate needs while fostering long-term development, the organisation not only improves living conditions but also enables residents to take ownership of their future. »

This is how the Pictet Group Foundation summarises its immersion in Manila alongside the BWW teams.

Over three days, Christine Sandström and Stephany Malquarti, partners of the programme since 2022, visited several urban communities and discovered the full scope of the BWW model: from the deployment of water services to local management, as well as the social activities carried out with residents.

This visit provided a concrete understanding of the programme's holistic approach and the day-to-day impact it generates for families. The Foundation shares its key learnings in an article and video available [here](#).





A heartfelt thank you to all our financial and technical partners, as well as to our donors.

Agence 32 Décembre * Agence Française de Développement * Agence de l'eau Artois-Picardie * Agence de l'eau Loire Bretagne * Agence de l'eau Rhône Méditerranée Corse * Agence de l'eau Seine-Normandie * Alliance Française de Manille * Ambassade de Suisse aux Philippines * Ashoka * Asian Development Bank * AUD Pays de Saint-Omer - Flandre Intérieure * Bangladesh Fire Service & Civil Defence * Biocoop Versailles Chantier * Bureau of fire Protection Philippines * Carrefour Global Sourcing Asia Limited * CCI France Philippines / France Philippines United Action (FPUA) * CCI France Kenya * Chattogram WASA * The Coca-Cola Foundation * Colam Initiatives * Conseils-Plus * Conseil Régional des Pays de la Loire * Delahaye Capital * Dhaka WASA * Eram Group / Fonds Albert Marie * Eurofins Foundation * Fondation Abouzeid * Fondation Alfred et Eugénie Baur * Fondation Agir pour le Développement et l'Accès à l'Eau * Fondation Anber * Fondation Arceal * Fondation Cassiopée * Fondation Daniel et Martine Raze * Fondation Fonds Solidarité * Fondation Lord Michelham of Hellingly * Fondation Marvi * Fondation Mimosa * Fondation Pierre et André Haas * Fondation Pro Bono * Fondation Suez * Fonds de dotation Hottinguer * France Volontaires Philippines * Françoise Saget * Georg Fisher * Grenoble-Alpes Métropole * Institut Robin des Bois * JVD * La Guilde * Leyte Metropolitan Water District * L'Oréal * Manila water Foundation * Manos Unidas * Maynilad Water Services Inc. * Metropolitan Cebu Water District * NooS * Plastic Odyssey * Pluxee / Stop Hunger * Oryx Bangladesh * Pictet Group Fondation * Play Play * Poul Due Jensen / Grundfos Foundation * PrimeWater Infrastructure Corp * SELAVIP Foundation * SHIELD Scientific * Slum Dwellers International * Sparkling VR * The Coca-Cola Foundation * The Emirates airline foundation * The Comgest Foundation * The Plastic Flamingo * Versailles Grand Parc * Ville de Nantes * Ville de Paris * Vitens Evides International * Who gives a crap * Xylem * Zayed Sustainability Prize



better with water

68 rue de Coulmiers
44000 NANTES - FRANCE

contact@betterwithwater.org

www.betterwithwater.org