Middlebury Center for Entrepreneurship
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the global water crisis

Persistent lack of access to clean drinking remains an acute global challenge

• **884 million people** across the world lack access to an improved water supply

• Globally, **1.8 million children die** each year from preventable waterborne diseases (third leading cause of death world-wide)

• Water purification techniques used in high-income nations are *neither economically nor technically feasible* in developing countries.

• There is **a critical need** for low-cost, appropriate water purification methods.
the cws solution
CWS empower women to launch clean water businesses in their villages

low-tech water treatment system

appropriate scale: centralized, community-level treatment & distribution

community involvement & sustainability

Particle Removal + Disinfection + Safe Storage
our founding story
ghana’s water challenge

In Northern Ghana, rural villagers must drink contaminated surface water

- **lack of access to improved water sources:** 50% of the 1.8 million people in northern Ghana lack access to improved water sources.

- **poor water quality:** Turbidities of >200 NTU and high microbial contamination is seen in local surface waters.

- **public health risk:** Each day 15-25% of kids younger than five are suffering from diarrheal disease

- **current situation:** Women spend hours each day at local dugouts collecting highly-contaminated drinking water for their families
village implementation

It takes 3 weeks to implement a water business in a village, once implemented, these businesses are both technically and financially sustainable.

Step 1: Build Treatment Center

Step 2: Manufacture & Distribute Safe Storage Containers

Step 3: Select and Train Women

Step 4: Open for Business

Step 5: Monitoring
water treatment: particle removal
treatment process: disinfection
In our first 4 years, CWS has successfully worked with 49 villages in Ghana to implement locally managed water treatment businesses. The impact: 28,130 people served. Impact: Provided clean water access to over 25,000 people, including more than 5,600 children under 5 years of age. Sustainability: 100% of the centers implemented by CWS are still in operation today.
fueling growth: the fellowship program

CWS’ rapid growth is largely due to the launch of our innovative fellowship program which provides students and young professionals with the opportunity to make a large impact in a short period of time.
Fundraising is not only the essential foundation of all the work we do; it also provides an important opportunity to raise awareness in our own communities about the global water crisis.

Our mission:
Support our mission by creating your own fundraiser.

Community Water Solutions (CWS) is a non-profit organization that works to bring clean drinking water to rural villages in West Africa by establishing sustainable water treatment businesses. As a social enterprise, the CWS-implemented businesses are owned and operated by the communities they serve.
fellowship program: field work

On the ground, teams are first trained in water quality testing, and the CWS water treatment methods. They then spend two weeks in the field implementing and monitoring a CWS water business.
"I really enjoyed working with CWS! I shared an experience that can't be found with other organizations."

"I felt like we accomplished a lot in a good amount of time, while still being able to enjoy ourselves and enjoy being in Africa."

"I'm really fortunate to be a part of CWS, and so excited to stay in touch and help out with future fellows!"

"Being a CWS Fellow was an amazing experience that I will never forget."

From the fellows
fellowship details

Three Sessions a Year

• Summer: June 19th – July 10th
• Fall: September 28th – October 12th
• Winter: December 27th – January 17th

Application

• Online Application
• Cover Letter
• Resume
• Letter of Recommendation

summer applications due
March 15th at 5pm EST

FAQ & Application can be found at http://www.communitywatersolutions.org/fellowship-program

Any additional questions email Sam at sreilley@communitywatersolutions.org