First Climate

Nigeria, Kenya

Global Safe Water Program

IMPACT WATER
Safe Drinking Water Solutions

Emission Reductions	Project Technology	Project Standard
~60,000 t CO_2 e p.a. per VPA	Energy Efficiency	Gold Standard®

Schools worldwide face numerous challenges, especially when essential health and safety measures are lacking. Access to safe water is a daily struggle, and boiling water is often the only available option to ensure the water is safe for consumption. Moreover, affordable and easily maintainable treatment technologies are typically inaccessible. Fortunately, innovative carbon financing now enables the use of emission reductions to provide a sustainable and cost-effective means of expanding access to safe water in schools.

Our partner, Impact Water, is a global social enterprise dedicated to providing safe drinking water to schools. The project offers low-cost, reliable water treatment technologies as well as installation, maintenance, and repair services to primarily public schools in Nigeria and Kenya. Funding is secured through carbon emission reductions resulting from the displacement of boiling water and the associated firewood. The project utilizes water purification technologies that meet national and international drinking water standards. These systems can be installed in schools without electricity or piped water, ensuring a solution for any school, regardless of their infrastructure challenges. This program is a “PoA” or program of activities, which means it consists of several small sub-projects. All activities are financed through the sale of carbon credits. The project has reached over 50,000 schools and more than 20 million schoolchildren and adults. Its total climate impact equals around 2 million tonnes of avoided carbon emissions per year. By the end of 2025, several tens of thousands of schools will directly benefit from the project.

info
about project standards and technologies:
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Supported Sustainable Development Goals


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Sustainable Development

Beyond removing carbon emissions, all our climate protection projects generate multiple additional benefits for people and the environment. These projects support the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

The project leads to socio-economic progress: According to the WHO, the investment of 1 US dollar in water and sanitation projects generates an economic added value of 4.3 US dollars.

Clean water is a crucial prerequisite for good health and well-being. The water treated as part of the project is suitable for drinking as well as for other sanitary purposes (such as handwashing and food preparation).

Safe access to clean water is an important input to student health, and when health falters, education can be compromised (e.g., absenteeism, missed classes). Reliable access to sufficient drinking water can better prepare students to take part in school lessons and to thrive.

Adequate hygienic conditions at schools are essential and are especially important for schoolgirls. WASH investments, when coupled with menstruation management resources, such as private bathrooms, can help support girls in missing fewer school-days and stay longer in school.

It has been estimated that over 40% of diarrheal disease cases can be attributed to the school environment. The availability of clean water is therefore an important and direct contribution to preventative healthcare.

The project activities lead directly and indirectly to the creation of new employment opportunities. Beyond system installation, service, and maintenance staff, numerous new jobs have been created, including 500+ part-time field agents and 100+ full-time program management positions across the two countries of operation (Nigeria and Kenya).

The project contributes to lower biomass consumption due to the displacement of boiling water with firewood. The water treatment systems eliminate the need for boiling, and thus, prevent the release of CO_2, CH_4, carbon monoxide,and other toxic particles.

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Disclaimer: The displayed SDGs are selected based on relevance and project evaluations by First Climate.