



# Newsletter

*Clean water, a human right not a luxury*

WFC Newsletter Issue 19

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***Water for Cambodia*** celebrates ***World Water Day*** and its recognition by the ***UN*** in a very special way in 2023



**Water for Cambodia** has been granted special accreditation for the **UN 2023 Water Conference**. Several members of the board and Cambodian staff will participate either in person at UN Headquarters or via video link.

This gathering will enable all stakeholders: governments, the UN, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations like **Water for Cambodia**, academic and scientific communities and others to come together and to address the challenges, the opportunities and initiatives related to water. The goal of the conference is to garner support for further specific action toward implementing, the key *Objectives of the Decade* and the water-related *Goals and Targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*.



UN Member States have finalized the themes for the 2023 Water Conference scheduled to take place in March 2023. The themes of the interactive dialogues are based on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 6: *Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all*.

The first of the conference's general themes for 2023: *Water for Health: Access to WASH, including the Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation*, aligns perfectly with the four basic precepts of WFC's Strategic Plan.

The four guiding principles of the Water for Cambodia Strategic Plan:

- **WASH: WATER Sanitation and Hygiene**
- Geographic focus for maximum impact
- Monitoring and Evaluation for sustainability
- Partnering to effectively focus the available resources

The conference is being held in conjunction with **World Water Day 2023**. This will be a day to recognize how you and your family, school, business and community can make a difference by changing the way you use, consume and manage water in your lives and bring attention to the millions without access to clean safe water across much of the world.

**Water for Cambodia's staff invites you to join them in** celebrating



a very significant milestone just in time for **World Water Day**.

On February 13<sup>th</sup> the 30,000<sup>th</sup> bio-sand filter was completed and installed. This filter will provide its family with clean safe water for many, many **World Water Days** of free water. Note that the first filter installed by **WFC** in 2006 by our founding team is still in daily use!

## World Water Day is about taking action globally

It is about taking action to tackle the global water crisis, in support of the sustainable development goal of providing water and sanitation for all. **World Water Day 2023** is focusing on awareness and action by all of us to help accelerate a solution to ensuring everyone on earth has access to clean safe water and the benefits of proper sanitation.

We at **Water for Cambodia** have devoted the past 18 years to bring this fundamental human right to thousands of families, schools and rural health centers. **You**, our friends and supporters have made each filter, latrine and well possible. **Our staff** is on the front line of making the UNESCO sustainable goal a reality every day.

Please consider giving a special gift in recognition of **World Water Day 2023**. Every filter brings clean safe water, every well ensures a sustainable source and every latrine fights disease.

## WFC welcomes back our good friends from Singapore

The staff at **Water for Cambodia** is really pleased to welcome back volunteers from Singapore International Foundation (SIF) after a three-year hiatus due to the COVID quarantines. SIF is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to building friendships across borders and cultures. Better health and learning opportunity are key missions of SIF, which dovetail perfectly with the mission of **WFC**.



Partnership with SIF began in 2009 and over the years more than 1000 volunteers have journeyed to Siem Reap. They have built filters and friendship, delighted hundreds of children with “big teeth” dental hygiene demonstrations and donated resources of all kinds. This collaboration is based on a person-to-person model that allows young Singaporeans, along with the occasional “dinosaur”, to develop a

personal relationship with Cambodians young and old. Resulting in many volunteers either returning to spend more time in Cambodia or going on to become supporting donors themselves.



*In the classroom or in the Field lasting friendships and mutual learning.*

All his “Coconut Friends” are remembering Richard Jones a long-time friend and supporter of the mission of **Water for Cambodia**. Richard travelled regularly from his home in North Wales to work in the countryside along-side the **WFC** staff. He and his Welsh supporters were devoted to improving the health and opportunities for village children. Richard passed away peacefully at home on April 18<sup>th</sup> 2022. His friendship, humor and devotion to the children of Cambodia will be missed.

The November 2020 Newsletter contains a report, in his words, of his last visit.

Visit us at: [www.waterforcambodia.org](http://www.waterforcambodia.org) or contribute directly at

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