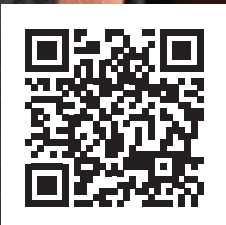




water for people  
RWANDA

# RWANDA COUNTRY PROGRAM

OVERVIEW



[rwanda.waterforpeople.org](http://rwanda.waterforpeople.org)

• [rwanda@waterforpeople.org](mailto:rwanda@waterforpeople.org)

• KG7Ave, House 41, Kigali, Rwanda





# OUR IMPACT

SINCE 2008



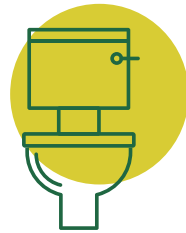
## OVER 1,5 MILLION PEOPLE

People have access to clean and safe water after the construction or rehabilitation of over 250 water systems serving close to 2,000 communities in Partner and Scale Areas.



## 422 SCHOOLS

And health facilities reached with safe water and sanitation services.



## 60,000+ SATO PANS

Products were purchased by community members to build improved latrines, promoting better sanitation in their neighborhoods.



## 67,750 JOBS

Created for the local communities in Everyone Forever and Scale Districts through water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions.



## OVER \$54 MILLION

Total investment made to provide WASH services to communities across Everyone Forever and Scale Districts.

Water For People has promoted sustainable water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services globally since 1991, now impacting over 5.4 million people in 39 partner areas across nine countries. In Rwanda, Water For People has invested over \$54 million since 2008, providing safe water to more than 1.5 million people. The “Everyone Forever” model, launched in Rwanda in 2010, focuses on sustainable, district-wide service by building local capacity to maintain water and sanitation systems.

In 2021, Water For People co-founded the One For

All Alliance to work in unison to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goal 6 for clean water and sanitation by 2030. Now active in 20 countries, including Rwanda, this alliance addresses persistent challenges, especially in rural areas where access to clean water and sanitation services is limited. Key challenges in Rwanda include inadequate water infrastructure, low functionality of water supply systems, limited funding for WASH projects, high non-revenue water, and gaps in WASH governance and workforce skills.

## HOW WE OPERATE

### EVERYONE FOREVER MODEL

Rwanda is the birthplace of the Everyone Forever Model which was born in Rulindo District and adopted by the Government of Rwanda under the District Wide Approach banner.

Everyone Forever means reliable and lasting water and sanitation services to every family, school, and health clinic in the districts where we work. We collaborate with districts to build new water supply systems and rehabilitate existing ones, striving to achieve 100% water access coverage. We partner with local governments, businesses, and individuals, to provide the training, tools, and financial support they need to ensure reliable water and sanitation services to current and future generations.

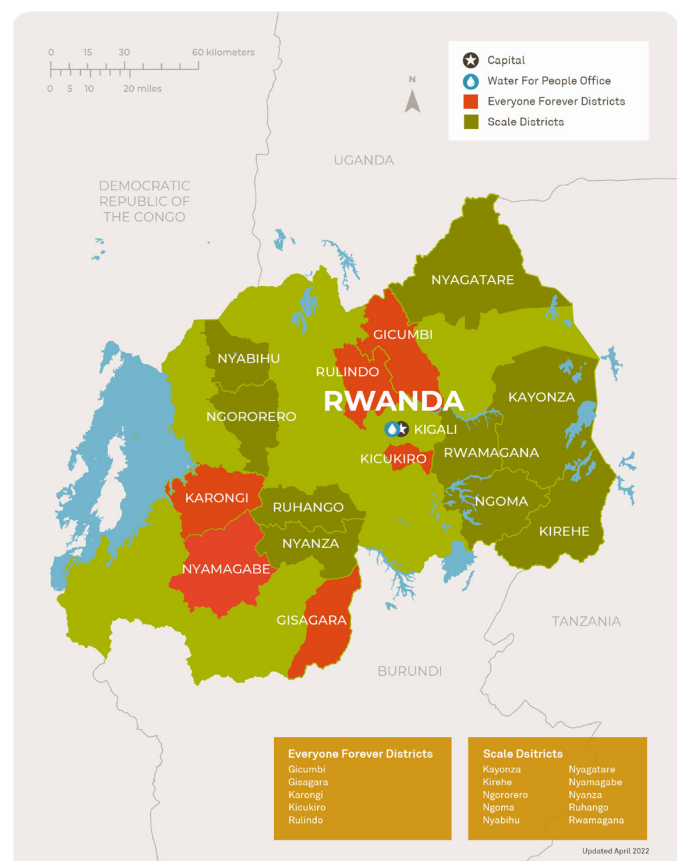
This model is implemented in Kicukiro, Rulindo, Gicumbi, Karongi, and Gisagara districts with Nyamagabe transitioning from a scale area under Isoko y’Ubuzima to a partner area this year.

### SCALE DISTRICTS

With the USAID-funded Isoko y’Ubuzima project, we collaborate with 10 districts to influence changes to adopt the District-Wide Approach. In contrast to the Everyone Forever Model, we partner with the district to rehabilitate two priority water supply systems and advocate for additional investments to address identified water needs.

Together with IRC, Vitens Evides International (VEI), CARE International, and African Evangelistic Enterprise (AEE), we aim to first realize improved water and basic sanitation services access for 316,00 and 100,000 Rwandans respectively, and through collaboration with other district partners to effect change through positive influence, to reach Everyone Forever. This approach is being implemented in Ngoma, Kirehe, Kayonza, Nyagatare, Rwamagana, Nyabihu, Ngororero, Ruhango, Nyanza, and Nyamagabe districts.

## OUR GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS





## OUR OTHER FLAGSHIP INTERVENTIONS

### DISTRICT-METERED AREAS (DMAs)

In scale districts, we collaborate with local authorities and private operators to improve Non-Revenue Water (NRW) management through a DMA approach implementation and build the capacity of water professionals.

A DMA is an area delimited by bulk meters that allow the private operators to quantify the water within a network, monitor and identify fast water loss due to leakages in the pipes, and apply corrective measures.

NRW is water that is produced and lost before it reaches the customer, or it is not billed. This leads to financial losses for water utilities, unsustainable water management, and ultimately, the inability of water operators to invest in improving water infrastructure and a hindrance to quality water services.

The intended result is for the rural water supply companies to be able to efficiently bill water consumption, easily detect and fix water leakages, equip their staff with necessary tools to curb NRW and educate the communities to take part in the physical water loss reduction by reporting leakages and fighting the vandalism. A greater profit margin will motivate these companies to invest more, thus the service improvement.

### MARKET-BASED SANITATION

To increase household sanitation, our trained sales agents and other community mobilizers raise awareness and create demand for sanitation and hygiene products and services from the community. As a result, the community is motivated to invest in household sanitation.

To respond to the demand created, we collaborate with the districts and the private sector to bring products closer to the community, through community showrooms at the sector level, and the district sanitation center. Sales agents collaborate with district sanitation centers to sell the products to households and gain commissions. Project-trained masons build community-preferred sanitation prototypes, such as affordable, accessible, and improved slabs and latrines.

Recognizing some families' relatively low-

income level status, we work with financial institutions to create sanitation loan products accessible to individuals through Village Savings and Loans Associations and other communities groups.

### FECAL SLUDGE TREATMENT

This is an innovative shift in sanitation, driven by the use of tiger worms. This approach is revolutionizing the treatment of fecal sludge, helping Rwanda meet its global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) while enhancing community well-being. Central to this change is vermifiltration, a method of fecal sludge management (FSM) inspired by natural processes, which is reshaping sanitation systems in small towns and rural areas.

### INCLUSIVE PROGRAMMING

We are intentional in planning and implementation to ensure that no one is left behind to gain sustainable access to water, sanitation, and hygiene services.

We support the District Joint Action Development Forum (JADF) and District WASH Boards to tackle policy barriers, ensuring inclusive WASH services and the integration of Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) at the district level. Nationally, we facilitate dialogues to address policy challenges around GESI and inclusivity, while also strengthening the capacity of WASH professionals at both the national and district levels to promote Inclusive Governance.

### CLIMATE RESILIENT PLANNING

Water For People in Rwanda prioritizes climate resilience in its projects to address the challenges posed by water-related destruction of infrastructure, especially water systems. Collaborating with district governments and the Ministry of Infrastructure, the organization supports the design of resilient water infrastructure in landslide-prone districts.

To ensure sustainable water services, Water For People supports 15 districts in developing Water Resources Management Plans (WRMPs) that assess water availability, demand, and climate change impacts, along with soil or seasonal issues that may require solutions like chlorination units or terracing.