

2024 - 2025 Annual REPORT

TURNING CHALLENGE INTO PURPOSE

ADVANCING

WASH+

in a changing world

WASH+



...

Reaching

10M

people

by 2030

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OUR VISION

TO 2030

10 million people

reached through WASH+

Women and youth

leading national system change

Climate-resilient,
community-owned
WASH services

across the Mekong



OUR
WASH+
STRATEGY

SYSTEM –
LEVEL

TRANSFORMATION

WASH+ is more than clean water: it is dignity, equity, and climate-resilient communities powered by local leadership. We centered our work on our core strengths: **locally-led WASH programs, climate resilience, gender equity, and systems** that uplift communities over generations. Across Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, we continued advancing **WASH+** — our integrated strategy combining water, sanitation, hygiene, inclusion, climate adaptation, economic empowerment, and evidence-based innovation.



Our WASH+ strategy delivers lasting change through integrated development



WASH+ BUILDS FUTURES



not only access to services, but systems and leaders who sustain progress.





Message from the Executive Director

2024–2025 was a year of deep reflection and sharpened focus for Thrive Networks/East Meets West (EMW).



The nonprofit community has felt deep uncertainty — highlighted by the dissolution of USAID — creating shifts and urgency for sustainability across our sector. In response, EMW chose focus. We doubled down on what we do best: delivering high-quality, locally-led **WASH+** solutions, empowering women and youth leaders, and strengthening the systems that sustain communities long after projects close.

Across our programs in Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, we saw incredible resilience. Private water operators extended pipelines to underserved villages. Commune councils and Women's Unions led sanitation campaigns. Students built STEM skills and confidence. Families moved into climate-resilient homes designed to withstand environmental risk.

In 2026, we will continue to invest in community leadership, expand public–private partnerships, and deepen our evidence-based approach while navigating the evolving funding landscape through these priorities:

- *Scale WASH+ nationwide models and blended finance pathways*
- *Expand gender leadership, youth empowerment, and STEM learning platforms*
- *Strengthen climate-resilient housing and safe school programs*
- *Mobilize diverse and flexible funding to sustain local talent and systems*

Our future is rooted in local leadership, climate resilience, and dignity for all. Thank you for your trust, partnership, and commitment to community resilience. Together, we are not only responding to change — we are shaping a stronger future.

With gratitude and resilience,

Thuy Ngo

2024 - 2025

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

REAL
NUMBERS.
REAL IMPACT.

12,140

people accessed
safe water

7,692

gained access to
hygiene latrines

6,845

trained in hygiene
and health behaviors

850

children and families
reached through
STEM and youth
leadership programs

Climate-resilient
homes built for
vulnerable families

Local women
operators and
governments leading
change

Advancing WASH+ in Vietnam



Climate-resilient homes built for vulnerable families



School WASH and STEM programs for youth empowerment



Strengthening Women's Union, private operator, and government partnerships

STANDS THROUGH STORMS



The old house, standing since 2011, barely withstood storms each year; pictured: Mrs. Hương with a Women's Union officer surveying the home before construction began.

For more than a decade, Mrs. Huong family lived in a half-finished house that could not withstand the storms and floods frequently hitting Thang Binh District, Quang Nam Province in Central Vietnam. Each rainy season brought new fears — strong winds blew away their roof, and floodwaters sometimes rose to one meter, forcing the family to shelter in the old, unsafe part of the house.

With unstable income due to Mrs. Huong's husband health condition and Mrs. Huong's limited ability to do heavy work, the family had no means to repair or rebuild their home. Their 15-year-old son left school after Grade 9, and their youngest daughter, only five, grew up in an environment where safety was never guaranteed.

Through EMWF's climate-resilient compassion homes programs — combined with contributions from the local government and the family's relatives — a new 50 m² storm-resistant home was completed. The new house provides a safe upper-floor shelter during floods, reinforced walls, and a secure roof designed to endure severe weather.



Our new house gives me hope for our family.

– Mrs. Huong shared –

Mrs. Huong is one of more than 600 families who have benefited from EMWF's "Climate Resilient Compassionate Homes" program over the years — each home providing safety, dignity, and resilience for vulnerable families.

On October 14, 2024, the family received their new home — a foundation of safety, dignity, and resilience for the years ahead.



The Huong family's new resilient home, handed over on October 14, 2024; pictured: Mrs. Huong and her daughter with a local partner commemorating the handover.

ADVANCING WASH+ *In Laos*



Expansion of
piped water
services across
rural districts



Local officials
and women
leaders trained
in monitoring
and WASH
promotion



Empowering
communities
to manage and
sustain water
systems



NEW HOPE FOR US



The murky, dirty water of the Mekong River in the rainy season.

Nestled along the Mekong River in Luang Prabang, Natha Village once struggled with dirty, yellow water. Mrs. La, 27, lived with her husband, father-in-law, and three children — Somphet (12), Lay (7), and Only (5).

Every day, she walked 1 km to fetch water from the Yang River three times, carrying heavy buckets of murky water and spending up to three hours daily. Bottled water added an extra cost of 3-4 \$ per month.

With her husband often working far from home, Mrs. La managed the household alone and supplemented income by foraging bamboo shoots. Life was a daily struggle for water and survival.

EMW Laos' WOBA (Women-led Output based aid) project delivered piped clean water to her home. At just 0.19 \$ per cubic meter, the new system drastically reduced her burden, eliminated bottled water costs, and allowed her to spend more time with her children. Her youngest son, Only, now helps eagerly with household chores, enjoying the benefits of clean water.

Mrs. La is one of 128,340 beneficiaries of the WOBA project. Her story demonstrates how clean water transforms daily life, strengthens families, and builds hope for rural communities in Laos.



Only joyfully helps with household chores using the clean water.



My days were once consumed by the struggle for water. Now I have time to care for my children and work on other tasks.

- Mrs. La shared -

Advancing WASH+ in Cambodia



Climate-resilient latrines
constructed



Households trained on WASH
and climate adaptation



Inclusive partnerships with
commune leaders and women
water operators

EMPOWERING WOMEN TO LEAD

“

Clean water has improved our health, saved us time, and brought dignity to our community.

Ms. Ean SokNeang

In Mien Commune, Ou Reang Ov District, Cambodia, Ms. Ean SokNeang has been managing a private water supply station since July 2017, now connecting two communes to safe, reliable water.

Before joining EMW's projects, convincing residents to invest in clean water was a major challenge. Through EMW projects, she received training on Water Safety Plans (WSP) and Menstrual Health and Hygiene (MHH), along with technical and business support that strengthened her operations.

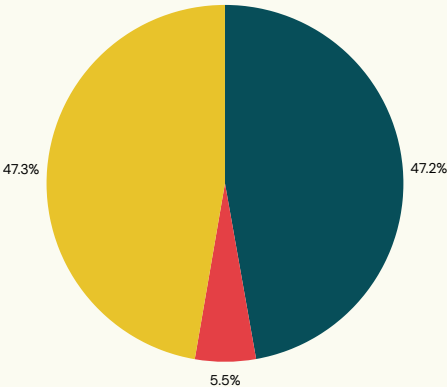
Today, more families have access to clean water, improving health, hygiene, and quality of life. Beyond running her business, Ms. SokNeang supports disadvantaged households and hopes for more training opportunities to help local people gain skills and reduce unemployment—proving how women can drive both social impact and sustainable business in rural water supply.

Ms. SokNeang joins the project team in interviewing a household and guides the family on how to use safe water from her supply station.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ended December 31, 2024

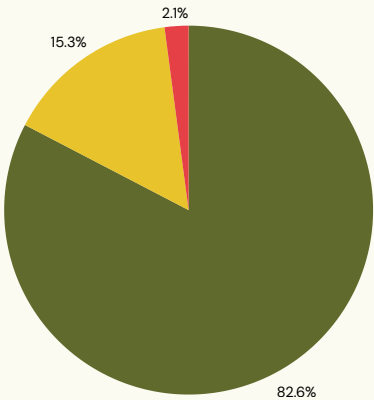


REVENUE

Grants	\$1,336,950
Contributions	\$155,861
Carry over revenue from previous years	\$1,339,354
Total Revenue	\$2,832,165

EXPENSES

Program Services	\$1,111,589
Management and General	\$205,521
Fundraising	\$28,099
Total Expenses	\$1,345,209



LEADERSHIP

Board of Director

- Melinda Griffith** | Board Chair | Chief Operating Officer; Chief Counsel, CZ Bio Hub
- Matt Kursh** | Board Treasurer | Chief Executive Officer, Oji Life Lab
- Peter de Castro** | Secretary, Managing Director, Royal Bank of Canada
- Carrie Eglinton Manner** | President & CEO, OraSure Technologies
- Gil Kemp** | Founder & President, Home Decorators Collection, Retired
- Joan Morse** | Board Member
- Paul Rubens** | Managing Member, Tamarack Investment Partners, LLC
- Peter A. Singer, M.D.** | Board Chair Emeritus | Chief, Clinical Endocrinology Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California
- Jin Zidell** | Founder, Blue Planet Network (deceased)
- Lynn Foden** | Global Program Director, Thrive Networks

Senior Staff

- Thuy Ngo** | Executive Director, USA
- Amy Tien** | Controller, USA
- Lynn Foden** | Global Program Director, USA
- Hiep Nguyen** | Chief Representative cum Deputy Country Director, Vietnam
- Khouankeo Ardphasouk** | Country Director, Lao, PDR
- Kim Hor** | Country Director, Cambodia

OUR

PARTNERS

PROGRAM PARTNERS

GHD Australia Pty Ltd
JICA– Japanese International Cooperation Agency
Global Development Group
University of Technology Sydney – Institute for Sustainable Futures (UTS-ISF)
The Spellbrook Foundation

VIETNAM

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)
Ministry of Agriculture and Environment
Committee for Foreign Non–Governmental Organisation Affairs (COMINGO) and People’s Aid Coordinating Committee (PACCOM)
Provincial People Committees and Departments of Foreign Affairs of Thua Thien Hue, Quang Nam, Da Nang, Hoa Binh, Thanh Hoa, Phu Tho, Phu Yen, Dak Lak
Provincial Women’s Unions of Thanh Hoa, Hoa Binh, Phu Tho
Youth Union of Da Nang
Provincial Centre for Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (PCERWASS) of Thanh Hoa
Study Promotion Association of Phu Yen Province, Thang Binh District in Quang Nam Province
District People’s Committee, Department of Education and Training of Hoa Vang District
Commune People Committees of Quang Vinh in Thua Thien Hue, Binh Tri in Quang Nam, Xuan Dai and Xuan Canh in Dak Lak Province
Quang Vinh #2 Primary School, Nguyen Van Troi Primary School, Xuan Thanh Primary School, Xuan Canh Kindergarten, 9 primary schools in Hoa Vang District
UNICEF Vietnam
University of Da Nang
Da Nang Village of Hope
American Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam (Amcham)

CAMBODIA

Cambodian Disabled People’s Organization (CDPO)
Cambodian Water Supply Association (CWA)
Women Organization for Modern Economy and Nursing (WOMEN)
Commune Councils (CCs)/ Commune Committees for Women and Children (CCWCs)
District Administrations
Female Water Operators
Local Latrine Suppliers
Ministry of Planning (MOP)
Ministry of Rural Development (MRD)
Provincial Departments of Rural Development (PDRDs)
Provincial Working Groups (PWGs)
Provincial Working Group Secretariats (PWGSs)
District Working Groups (DWGs)

LAOS

The Department of Water Supply (DWS) under the Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT)
The Department of Public Works and Transport, Xayabury Province
The Department of Public Works and Transport, Luang Prabang Province
The Department of Public Works and Transport, Luang Namtha Province
The Department of Public Works and Transport, Vientiane Province.
The Department of Public Works and Transport, Vientiane Capital
Water Supply State Enterprise of Xayabury, Luang Prabang, Luang Namtha, Vientiane Provinces, and Vientiane Capital
The Public Works and Transport Office at District level
Lao Women’s Union (LWU) at District level
The Education Office at District level

OUR DONORS

\$100,000 AND OVER

Charity: water
Australian Department of Foreign Affairs
and Trade (DFAT)
JT International SA

\$25,000–\$99,000

The Boeing Company
Melinda Griffith
University of Technology, Sydney
Gil Kemp
Spellbrook Foundation

\$10,000–\$24,999

Peter de Castro
Carrie Eglinton Manner
Joan Morse

\$5,000–\$9,999

The Synopsys Foundation
Matt Kursh

\$1,000–\$4,999

Brian Latimer
Townsend Walker
Dorianne Boudreau
Jeannie Fraise
Justifi UK
Benjamin Schachter
Martin Kinselbaum
Peter Singer



East Meets West Cambodia

East Meets West Laos

East Meets West Vietnam



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"Partnering to bring better health and brighter futures to underserved communities."



THRIVE
NETWORKS


east meets west
A PROGRAM OF THRIVE NETWORKS