

LIFEWATER FILTER KITS

29 July 2008

The Lifewater Filter Kits are set up using a gravity syphoning system which triples the throughput of water maximising its speed and effectiveness



Progress Report

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Dear Friends at Trade Aid

We wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your kind investment of £900 towards our Life Water filter project. A £30 investment provides clean water to a community, school, church or extended family for over a year. In a world where daily the equivalent of 25 Jumbo Jets full of children die for lack of clean water, this is an affordable, low-tech answer to one of the biggest challenges of modern day healthcare. You are literally saving lives!

The beauty of this highly effective weapon against waterborne disease, sickness and diarrhoea is that it is ideal even in the most demanding circumstances. Recently we were able to have a study of the ceramic filters carried out at government level in Uganda; all of

the test results came back positive, showing reduction in dysentery and diarrhoea of more than 80%. The tests concluded that these filters are 'an effective point-of-use intervention for reducing E-Coli and diarrhoea in African households.'

Based on these highly positive studies we are now testing out the filters in a number of various situations and diverse geographic locations from rural African villages to urban Indian towns to villages in the Amazon Rainforest.

Added to the tremendous health benefits that come from drinking clean water, the social benefits can also be profound, leading to children spending more time in school and adults spending more time at work. Absenteeism, due to sickness in the African school in which clean water kits were

installed, immediately dropped from more than 45% to less than 5%.

The clean water kits have been developed as a simple to use, low cost way of providing clean and safe drinking water to those who currently have no such supply. It can be used to convert almost any locally available plastic containers into a highly effective water filter unit.

The kits filter out >99.99% of pathogenic bacteria (E-Coli, Cholera, Typhoid etc), >99.999% of cysts and parasites (Cryptosporidium) and also filters out particle contamination down to 0.5 microns in size.

They are simple to use with no specialist knowledge required to set up or maintain. They are compatible with most locally available plastic

Links International, PO Box 198, Littlehampton, W. Sussex, BN16 3UQ

containers. You simply pour untreated water in the top, then receive clean drinking water from the tap.

Another great benefit of these particular filters is that no electricity is needed, making them effective anytime and anywhere. There is no need to boil water for drinking, which can help to prevent deforestation where fuel is scarce.

Unlike most other attempts to tackle this issue these filters do not need chemicals. No one likes to drink a chemical cocktail. We have found that when safe water tastes good people are more likely to drink in greater quantities, preventing sickness and dehydration.

The filters also have a long life and when the time comes for them to be replaced we can do so for approximately £5 a time. The filter surface can be scrubbed clean to prolong life (12 - 18 months depending on water quality), making the kit cost effective.

All the components fit into one small box, making it cheap and easy to transport and distribute.

BENEFITS OF THE LIFEWATER KIT

The LifeWater kit produces high quality water, using no energy and is highly reliable. The LifeWater filtration system brings affordable clean water 'on-tap' to a whole new 'market' in desperate need of clean water.

Our trials have shown that this 'low-technology' clean-water solution is highly acceptable to a range of markets including families, schools, churches and orphanages previously with no or little access to clean water.

The ability of the LifeWater system to deliver potable water at the point of use also reduces re-contamination of water between source (e.g. a well) and point of use.

This chart gives an idea of the scope of influence these kits are having around the world. We are now beginning to receive requests for bulk numbers of kits to be sent out.

Places	Date given	Quantity tested
Colombia	1 Jan 2008	2
Peru	1 Jan 2008	2
Bangalore India	2007	15
Ghaziabad, India	1 Mar 2008	2
Tirunelveli, India	1 Mar 2008	5
Trivandrum, India	1 Mar 2008	3
Swaziland	1 Mar 2008	2
Uganda	1 Sep 2007	2
Kenya	1 Mar 2008	2
South Africa	1 Apr 2008	1
Sierra Leone	1 Apr 2008	2
Sri Lanka,	1 Apr 2008	2
Australia	1 May 2008	2
Canada	1 May 2008	2
Hong Kong	1 May 2008	2
Kenya	1 Jul 2008	2
Thailand	1 Jul 2008	1

Thank you Trade Aid for joining with us and being a part of this project, which is saving untold numbers of lives around the world. On their behalf we offer our heartfelt thanks.

Joe Gisbey
On behalf of the Links Team



Filter Kits on test in Africa.