

Sustainable drinking water supply improves life quality of communities

Safe Water Enterprises, Kenya

Access to safe drinking water is critical to the livelihood of the individual as well as the development of an entire community. With decentralized water stations, so-called Safe Water Enterprises, Siemens Stiftung aims to cultivate a sustainable water supply in remote regions of Africa and helps improve health and hygiene.

Prospects of Income and Entrepreneurship

The water stations foster entrepreneurship and create new opportunities for generating income. The purified drinking water is sold at an affordable price, and the earnings are reinvested in maintaining and expanding the project. Station managers receive the required technical and entrepreneurial training. The medium-term goal is for ownership of the stations to be passed on to local communities and entrepreneurs.

The Safe Water Enterprise provides potable water for an entire village, using membrane filters that work independently of the external power supply and process between 500 and 1,000 liters of drinking water per hour. Pre-fabricated kiosk modules assure building quality and can be flexibly deployed. Purified containers are also sold at the water stations and prevent the water from being re-contaminated during use and transport.





Collaboration with Experienced Partners

Several water stations are currently operating in the Thika region in Kenya. Siemens Stiftung has collaborated with different partners in realizing the projects: the SkyJuice Foundation developed the kiosk concept and the technical components, including the filtration systems; the Kenyan company PureFlow provides local support; and the Global Nature Fund co-funded both kiosks in the first pilot project.

Since the stations are connected to existing communal structures, such as market places, schools or hospitals, they help shorten the often long journeys to fetch drinking water. Even if the long-term goal is for every household to receive its own water supply, the Safe Water Enterprise is an important step in that direction.

Partners

- SkyJuice Foundation
- PureFlow Water Solutions
- Global Nature Fund

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