



BridgIT

Water Foundation

Annual Report 2021-2022





Our Vision

Our vision is to provide improved drinking water to better the quality of life for people living in rural areas of developing countries.

Our Mission

Our mission is to provide suitable, accessible and sustainable water solutions to the poorest and most marginalised people in rural, peri-urban areas and small remote villages in developing countries.

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About BridgIT



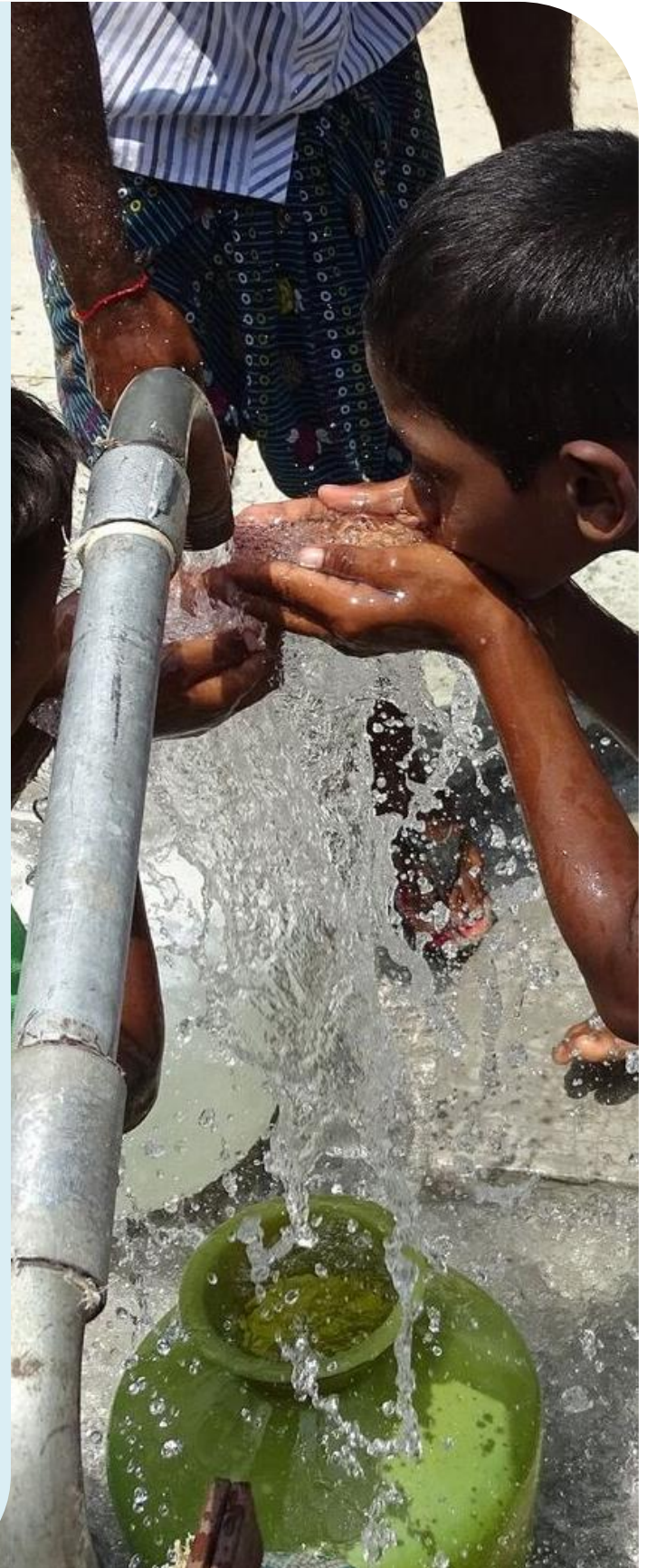
Every person deserves clean drinking water

BridgIT is a results-focused non-profit organisation dedicated to implementing programs that provide a safe drinking water supply to address the water scarcity challenges of impoverished rural communities in the developing world. Allowing access to clean water is the first step on the path to combating poverty.

BridgIT works with implementing partners to deliver a complete water system from design, construction and installation to empowering the recipients to manage the resource. As a result, BridgIT leaves an enduring asset of value so that the recipients have a safe, secure and sustainable drinking water supply far into the future.

Our Values

- **Trust.** Build trustful and participatory relationships with our grassroots community-based partnerships.
- **Empowerment.** A commitment to empowering the communities and the marginalised people we serve with the skills to take care of the water resource we leave in place.
- **Accountability.** Honest and transparent reporting of public funds to our project stakeholders
- **Impactful.** Effective and efficient use of resources to drive every dollar invested further, resulting in a high-value return on investment and projects that make a tangible and quantifiable impact on reducing poverty in its target communities.
- **Communication.** Open and transparent communication with all project stakeholders.
- **Teamwork.** Collaborative skills and knowledge sharing between partners, staff, contractors and donors working together as a team to deliver its goals.
- **Quality.** Any projects undertaken are completed with high quality for the recipient beneficiaries and the donors.
- **Safety.** The safety of all community members, team members and partners is paramount.



Director's Report

This year BridgIT provided water infrastructure to an impressive 62 communities allowing 141,197 marginalised rural people in Uganda and India to have access to clean drinking water sources close to their homes.

BridgIT is passionate about empowering our communities and together with our partners, we actively train our recipient community members with the skills to ensure that their new water resource is well maintained to remain operational far into the future. We are proud that every one of the 62 water systems installed this year have established and trained Water User Committees to manage them. Hopefully, these beneficiaries will never have to drink contaminated water ever again!

With international travel restrictions lifted, in April I was able to visit our beloved Indian partners in person and review their wonderful work. I visited over 30 funded wells and I am pictured below interacting with women at one of the recently installed community wells.

Aside from our existing partners, BridgIT aims to shore up pre-Covid partnerships in Cambodia, Indonesia and Malawi which were all on hold due to the impacts of COVID-19.

In addition to our existing project types, this year BridgIT commenced the refurbished well program in India which is already proving successful as it allows thousands of rural people to have access to safe water within only one month for a very low cost.

BridgIT is also extending our work into Australia to include indigenous communities and will be developing projects with first nations people and the arts by 2023.

BridgIT dedicated 2022 to creating durable and lasting improvements to our development partners and at the beginning of the year, rolled out our 'Theory of Change & Capacity Strengthening Guide' to our implementing partners in Uganda, India and Nepal. These guidelines aim to encourage our partners to be aware of and adopt Australian development standards and support best practice codes concerning equity, social inclusion and sustainability.

As the global impact of the pandemic recedes, BridgIT will continue to strive to reach our strategic goal of allowing 1.5million impoverished rural people in developing countries to attain water accessibility and security by 2024. Onwards and upwards into 2023.

Wendy Tisdell OAM (Founding Director)



Our 3-Year Strategy 2022-2025

6 CLEAN WATER
AND SANITATION



Grant 1.5 million people
access to clean drinking
water by 2024

Raise \$3 million
To direct to water
projects by 2024



Sustainable Rural Development

Strive to improve and grow sustainable development for the most impoverished rural areas through accessible water systems and empowered communities in our development programs.

1 NO
POVERTY



Poverty Reduction

Strive to provide tangible and quantifiable outcomes on reducing poverty by increasing access to the basic human right of safe water to improve health, socio-economic, education and women's empowerment.

17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS



Capacity Strengthening

Strive to support and strengthen the capacity of our community-based partners by providing mentoring and training to manage joint initiatives in a participatory manner consistent with current good practice.



Donor Satisfaction

Strive to improve donor satisfaction by developing effective and efficient programs that create impact and effective altruism for our donors.

Activities In Australia

Australian Projects

In September 2021 BridgIT successfully changed its constitution to enable it to carry out projects for first nations people within Australia. Our Australian projects aim to transform and develop pride in Australia's first nations people and culture for all Australians through supporting contemporary indigenous creative arts.

Website Makeover

BridgIT and its band of helpers developed an exciting new website which includes new project videos and lots of visual appeal. www.bridgitwater.org

New Board Members

Two wonderful new female members have been appointed to BridgIT's board. These ladies bring a wealth of experience in social development and marketing along with new perspectives for our development work.

ACFID Compliance

BridgIT is a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct, which is a voluntary, self-regulatory sector code of good practice. As a signatory we are committed and fully adhere to the ACFID Code of Conduct, undertaking our work with transparency, accountability and integrity. BridgIT has successfully gained our Certificate of Compliance again following completion of the robust ACFID self-assessment.

Corporate Partnerships

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) provides an opportunity for businesses to contribute donations and /or volunteer efforts to impact society including economic, social, and environmental, while also boosting their brands. BridgIT acknowledges our conscious business partners for their contributions.

Transformational change generated and sustained over time from within

BridgIT has developed a series of policies, templates, frameworks and documents based on best practice within ACFID principles. These processes have been put together in our Theory of Change and passed on to our development partners aimed at promoting and strengthening their organisational effectiveness with regard to internal systems and structures; quality of service delivery and program effectiveness; external relationships; and financial management. It is great to be part of a wider network as this enables us to share what we have learnt to strengthen the capacity of our development partners to ensure our mutual programs successful and impactful completion of. This document represents what is possibly the most important investment BridgIT can make towards systemic change and strengthening the capacity with those whom we collaborate.



ACFID
MEMBER



2021 | 22 Summary



Raised For Water Projects



\$224,718

Total Financial Year Funding

Water Projects Funded



62

Active Water User Committees Established

More People Have Access to Safe Water



141,197

People impacted this year

Effective Altruism



\$1.35 Avg. cost per person

Access to clean drinking water and development



Drinking dirty surface water is a stark reality in rural areas of many developing countries. The provision of safe drinking water is a crucial development issue in communities worldwide concerning improving health, alleviating the cycle of extreme poverty and is critical for the economic development of their regions

Ground Water, Poverty & Development

According to the International Association of Hydrogeologists, water wells are particularly critical for poverty reduction in rural areas, greatly reducing the amount of time spent by people, especially women, on water collection.

Many rural populations in the developing world rely on surface water instead of groundwater for everything they do, like drinking, cooking, washing and living and they have no way to access groundwater. These surface water sources often dry up and start to recede and when used up, people are at the mercy of the environment.

Groundwater isn't as easily contaminated and can cause a critical buffer between dry and rainy season and means that people can continue to use water for health and wellbeing.

For rural village communities, groundwater is the preferred source since it can be developed at relative low capital cost and offers high reliability in drought. Water wells have become the predominant source of improved village water-supplies and water abstraction can be performed by using low-cost hand pumps across low-income countries.

The choice between drilled boreholes and dug methods will depend on the local hydrogeology and on available equipment. Where water is shallow, hand dug methods can be employed, and where the water aquifer is deep, a mechanic drilling method utilizing a drill rig is employed.

Sound water well siting, design, construction, pump selection and system maintenance are essential to ensure both source and resource sustainability. The most common service delivery model for rural communities in low-income countries is community management, in which communities carry the responsibility for managing and maintaining the water supply.



International Program



Uganda

\$178,166 of funding provided 47 communities including, 8 Health Centres, 6 Conservation Projects and 16 Schools with safe water supplies in the rural areas of the Mukono District.

These program funds impacted 128,212 rural people with secure drinking water close to their homes and all beneficiary communities have established water user committees to manage the resource after equipment handover.



Buwanga Village and School were one of the beneficiary communities of a hand drilled well in April 2022. One of the teachers says:

“No more sharing water with animals, no more missing lessons in search for water from a distant water source, no more water-borne diseases”.

47

| Community Wells Installed

128,212

| People access secure drinking water



Chimpanzee Conservation & Water Projects

6 rural communities in the Hoima District of Uganda will see a reduction in conflict with wildlife over water resources after receiving their new hand drilled wells



In the Hoima District of Uganda, BridgIT's projects include an animal conservation element. The Hoima District is a remote and very impoverished rural region of Uganda and there are two main objectives of our conservation projects. The sharing of water sources by human populations and chimpanzees poses a threat to chimpanzees, therefore, human and chimpanzees are both affected. Our conservation projects provide water wells to the people enabling sustainable human-wildlife coexistence outside of protected areas for the villages of the region.

Because conservation of Hoima's chimpanzees ultimately lies in the hands of the local people living alongside them, the approach is to identify and address constraints faced by rural villagers and offer support in key areas. The project not only allows villagers access to a safe water supply without exposure to preventable water-borne diseases such as dysentery, cholera, typhoid and diarrhea while collecting unsafe water from forest streams where they risk potentially dangerous encounters with the chimpanzees, but also helps to conserve the chimpanzee populations.

BridgIT partners with the Bulindi Chimpanzee & Community Project (BCCP), a grassroots organisation. Together we aim to provide clean water to these rural villages, while preserving a respectful relationship with the local wildlife.

India

\$16,750 worth of funded projects in India helped 15 rural communities and impacted 13,385 marginalised Dalit people with safe water supplies.

Our Indian program beneficiaries belong to the marginalised scheduled caste or ‘untouchable’ tribal Dalit communities who struggle with water scarcity challenges in the Chittoor, Kadapa and Kurnool Districts of Andhra Pradesh.



Siddareddygaripalli village women were very happy to receive a refurbished well in April 2022. A beneficiary of the well says:

“I am happy to say that the water from this borewell doesn’t just keep us alive; it gives us everything that makes our life worth living. Our earning potential is improved, our children’s education is improved, and our health is improved. Before constructing this well, most of our village were getting water from a pond many kilometres away for washing, bathing and drinking, so we suffered chronic illness. Now, the safe water fills our village with hope for a healthier, more prosperous future.”

15

| Community wells installed

13,385

| People now access secure drinking water



Indian Refurbished Well Program

Millions of people in rural India rely on groundwater borewells for their daily water needs. However, many of these borewells are in non-working order, most commonly due to broken hand pumps.

When our Indian partner approached local government, they were told by officials; “we welcome NGO intervention to repair these borewells as the population is growing and the government budget doesn’t have the capacity to meet the existing water scarcity needs of many rural Indian people.”

BridgIT and our Indian partners work with experienced borewell technicians to refurbish these existing borewells. The activities include pulling the pump and assessing required repairs; removing the old damaged platform; constructing a new platform and water run-off channel; and supplying and replacing the all pump parts and pipes.



Pictured are residents of Galiveedu village in Kadapa District, India. They were very happy to receive a refurbished well in April 2022 as clean safe water located centrally in their village has made their lives so much easier.

Program Evaluation & Learning



In September 2021, BridgIT contracted an independent consultant to conduct an impact and evaluation study on our Ugandan safe water program. Field monitoring was carried out to establish the level of sustainability and record the outcomes attributed to the project after a 2-year period. The data was collected from randomly selected participants in specifically funded beneficiary communities.

Because of the magnitude of water and sanitation challenges in the developing world, wherever water is provided, development is an inevitable result.

The field monitoring tasks were to:

1. Observe the functioning status of the well.
2. Meet water user committees (WUCs) to establish whether the contributions of the program were sustained.
3. Interview randomly selected beneficiaries to record outcomes and conclusions to suggest recommendations on future programs.

During the study, it was observed that all wells were functioning and had active WUCs. The selected WUCs had been actively collecting agreed monthly user fees from most households and were in a good financial position to carry out repairs and regular maintenance. Some households are exempt from paying fees (agreed by the entire community) because they are headed by persons with disability, children or the elderly.

The evaluation recorded that the program had multi-dimensional long-term outcomes contributing significantly to beneficiaries' health, education, social welfare and economic empowerment.

Health

The program had profound contributions to the health of the beneficiaries by reducing the prevalence of water-borne diseases, most importantly, typhoid and related health expenses. A majority of respondents noted that the project contributed significantly to the reduction in drudgery, noting that carrying enough water for a household over longer distances was not only body tiring but caused severe neck, chest and backache.

Education

The project promoted education through increasing enrolment and retention of students, especially in girls, impacting school performance allowing children enough time for play as well as motivating staff members because the burden of water collection is relieved.

Social Welfare

The indicators on social welfare were promoting gender equality and child safe guarding. A majority of the participants noted that the project created enough time for women and girls to compete for public opportunities by facilitating them to accomplish their gender role of collecting water for domestic work. Promoting gender equality furnished women with a reduction in Gender Based Violence, facilitating women and girls to accomplish productive roles, thus, ushering them into the public sphere rather than just keeping them in the domestic sphere.

Economic Empowerment

The economic attributes to the program included creating enough time to participate in productive activities as well as reducing recipients' expenses on health care. A majority of the respondents noted that they saved an average of 2 ½ hours per day (over 900 hours per year per recipient) when safer water sources were brought closer to their homesteads and that the saved time was invested in productive work.



James, a 39-year-old head teacher at Kawongo Primary School in Uganda says:

“Lockdowns and closures of schools was announced abruptly. I could not afford to transport my family back to our home village, so we stayed in the staff house here at school. The borehole has made our life easier. I have been able to start a poultry project because there is a reliable supply for the needed water and the money earned is helping us in this difficult time.”

Why sponsor a rural community well?

- **Urgent Need.** BridgIT has hundreds of developing country rural communities urgently requesting a clean, safe water supply. Most of our rural village populations range from 500 to 2,000 people.
- **Embrace Social Responsibility.** The world needs philanthropists and corporations to play a role in tackling some of the water scarcity challenges facing our global community.
- **Prompt Action.** Wells are completed in an expeditious manner. Recipients typically have their new water supply within one month of donor funding.
- **Effective Altruism.** BridgIT's low cost / high impact solutions allow donors to achieve truly effective altruism through a high philanthropic return on investment. Since its inception, BridgIT has been able to provide safe, clean water to the people at an average cost of only \$2.48 per beneficiary. During 2022FY this was even lower, at \$1.35.



Pictured is a resident of Makukuba village where 1,380 people and 380 pupils in Mende school in Uganda received one of the refurbished wells in February 2022.

Our Amazing Supporters

Trusts and Foundations

Perpetual Philanthropic Services
The Very Good Foundation
The Incite Foundation
SMEC Foundation Australia
The Desmond Prentice Charitable Fund
The Tucker Foundation
The Peter Falvey Foundation
Universal Charitable Fund

Corporates & Community Partners

Little Ripples Wine Australia | Wine to Water
Water Charity Research House Australia | Walk4Water 100
The Wild Medic Project | Killary View Trust

In-Kind Contributions

Nexia Brisbane Accountants – Financial Auditing
Pink Diamond Advisory Solutions – Bookkeeping & Accounting

Water Project Sponsors, Australia

Kent Family
Tisdell Family
Dwan Family
Moylan Family

Water Project Sponsors, International

Homstad Family, USA
Prince George State School, Canada
The Webber Foundation, USA
The Moris Family, USA
BridgIT Water Foundation, USA

With gratitude



Supporting People in Need

**DESMOND PRENTICE
CHARITABLE FUND**



**UNIVERSAL
CHARITABLE FUND**



Water Charity
RESEARCH HOUSE



**PINK
DIAMOND**
BUSINESS ADVISORY SOLUTIONS

Management Board & Partnerships

Board Officers

BridgIT could not carry out the development work without the efforts and advocacy of our dedicated board members who each contribute their own special skills.

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Wendy Tisdell OAM: | Founding Director and Chairman |
| Mark Tisdell: | Technical & Risk Director |
| Josephine Wycherley: | Financial Director |
| Graham Howlett: | I.T & Marketing |
| Melinda Metcalfe: | Treasurer, Accounting and Book Keeping |
| Sue Birtles: | Secretary |
| Maria Phillips: | Officer *New board member* |
| Maree Tisdell: | Officer *New board member* |

International Partners:

BridgIT could not carry out our international development work without our wonderful implementing partners who care so much about the people in the communities they represent.

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Uganda: | Suubi Community Projects Uganda, Kampala |
| India: | Society for Rural Health, Education & Development, Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh (pictured) Sri K Pitchi Reddy Educational & Welfare Society, Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh (pictured) |
| Nepal: | Kathmandu Environment Education Program, Kathmandu |
| Ethiopia: | Association Development Horn, Addis Ababa |



FINANCIAL REPORTING

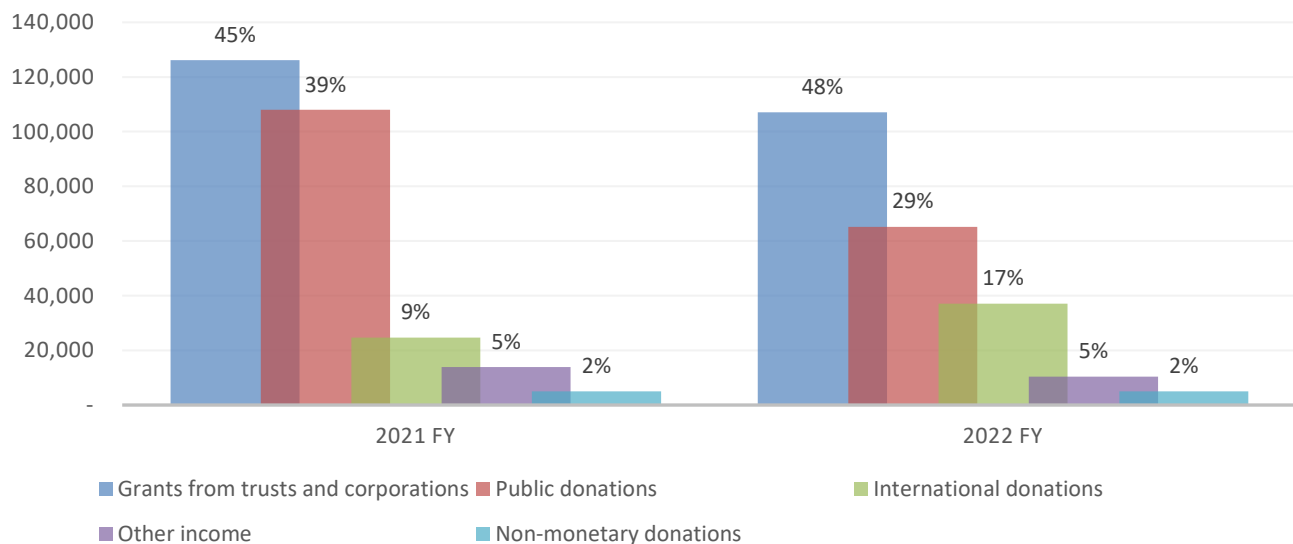
BridgIT works hard to manage our project costs to maximise the impact for our donors, while also delivering quality projects for our partners and beneficiaries.

Key financial results for 2021-22

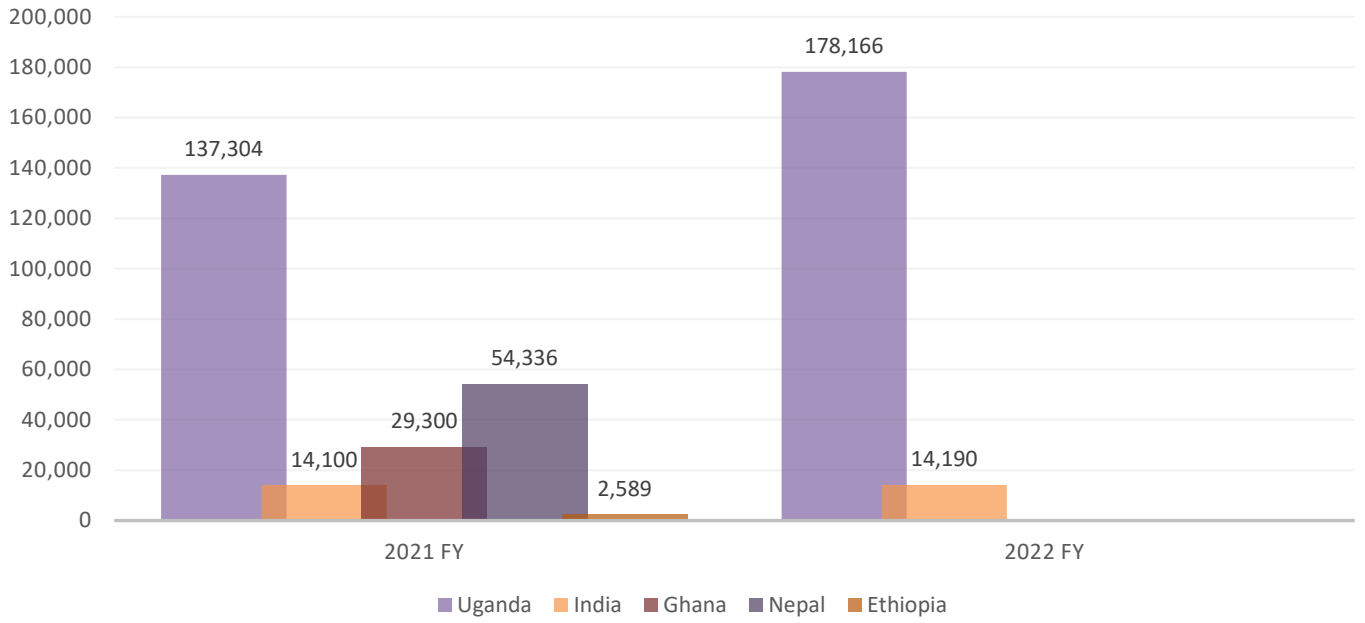
- BridgIT raised \$224,718 during 2022, a 19% decrease from the prior year (277,682 in 2021). The largest decrease was in the category of ‘Donations received from the Public which were \$107,971 in 2021 and \$65,206 in 2022.
- Our direct fundraising model means that Expenditure on Projects always closely matches Donations received as most donations are already committed to a project when they are received. Our projects are typically completed within a month of receiving the funds.
- Funds directed to our international programs (including in-country Program Support costs) represented 92.6% of our total costs (95.5% in 2021). Program Support costs are funds provided to our in-country implementing partners to fund their ongoing administration and development costs. This initiative forms part of our sustainability program and demonstrates our commitment to sustainable development and investment in the communities in which we operate.
- As a volunteer run organisation, we keep overhead costs very low. Administration expenses (including depreciation) totalled \$12,289 in 2022, up from \$9,186 in 2021. The primary reason for this increase was the ability to travel again post-COVID. Administration expenses in 2022 were 5.6% of total income (3.7% in 2021).

The following graphs display the breakdown of our total income and expenditure for 2022 and 2021. Each category is adapted from the audited financial statements included within this report and is based on definitions described in the ACFID Code of Conduct.

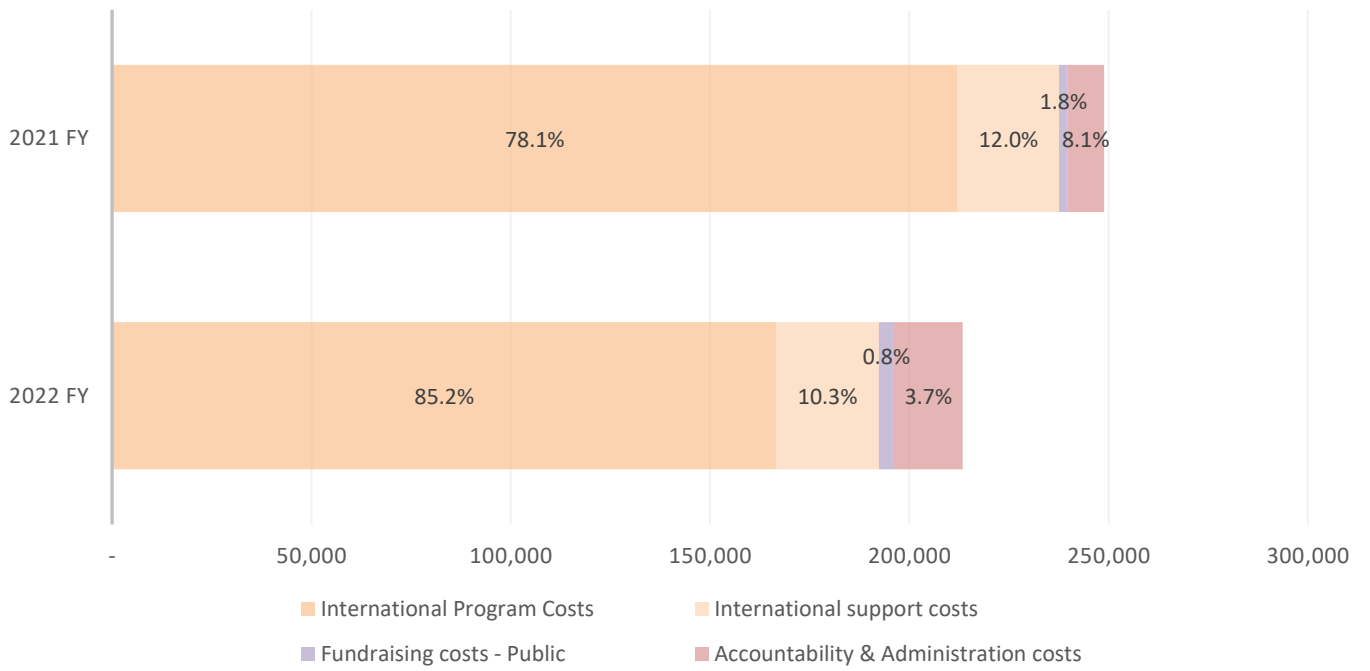
Sources of Funding by year



Program Costs by Country



Breakdown of Expenditure



Income Statement

The Income Statement is a summary from the full audited financial report, which is available on our [website](#). They have been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. For further information on the Code please refer to the ACFID Code of Conduct Guidance Document at www.acfid.asn.au.

| Income Statement of BridgIT Water Foundation Ltd | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Year Ended 30 June 2022 | | |
| | 2022 | 2021 |
| Revenue | | |
| Donations and Gifts | | |
| Monetary - Australian Public | \$65,207 | \$107,971 |
| Monetary - International Public | \$37,101 | \$24,700 |
| Grants - Other Australian | \$107,050 | \$126,139 |
| Non-monetary Donations | \$5,000 | \$5,000 |
| Other Income | \$10,360 | \$13,881 |
| Total Revenue | \$224,718 | \$277,691 |
| Expenditure | | |
| International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure | | |
| International Programs | | |
| Funds to International Programs | \$166,682 | \$212,119 |
| Program Support Costs | \$25,675 | \$25,511 |
| Fundraising Costs - Public | \$3,783 | \$2,058 |
| Audit costs | \$5,000 | \$5,000 |
| Accountability and Administration | \$11,556 | \$9,187 |
| Total International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure | \$212,696 | \$248,875 |
| Depreciation and amortisation expense | \$733 | \$0 |
| Total Expenditure | \$213,429 | \$253,875 |
| SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) | \$11,289 | \$23,816 |

Notes about finances:

Non-monetary donations received relate to the provision of auditing services by Nexia Australia.

During the financial year, there were no transactions that required adjustment or changes in equity due to, for example, adoptions of new accounting standards nor items of other comprehensive income.

Our Impact to Date

\$2,299,065

| Raised for Water Projects

406

| Water Systems Installed

926,312

| People with safe water because of your help

\$2.48

| Total program cost per person

Help us reach our target of granting **1,500,000**
people access to clean safe water by **2024**



How You Can Take Action

- **Sponsor a Water Project**

Donate the the full or partial cost of a clean water supply for an entire rura community or school desperately in need.

- **Corporate Partnership**

Sign up to become a conscious business partner. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) allows businesses to contribute donations and volunteer efforts while boosting their brands.

- **Fundraise**

Fundraise for the full or partial cost of a clean water supply. We welcome funding events, crowdfunding campaigns, or even walking from one end of your country to the other.

- **Volunteer**

Help us maximise our efforts and sign up to volunteer with us. We are always looking for like-minded people with professional skills or in-kind services to BridgITeers with us.

- **Shop To Support Clean Water**

Help us by [buying Little Ripples Wine](#). Little Ripples is wine with a difference. \$1 of every bottle of Little Ripples wine you purchase provides 1 year of clean water for 1 person in BridgIT programs.



Contacts



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BridgIT Water acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of our country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay respect to the elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all First Nations peoples today.

Pictured is Peddirajupalli SC Colony in India who received one of the programs refurbished wells in April 2022.

