



This graph shows the number of new community services, including new wells drilled, old abandoned wells rehabilitated, communal washrooms, and water catchment tank systems. The numbers represent totals across all project countries.

For the first ten years Lifewater Canada was focused on providing safe drinking water in Liberia. This was a critical time for the nation as it was racked by bloody civil war, powered by blood diamonds and using countless child soldiers. Most of Liberia’s infrastructure was destroyed and 25% of children were dying before age 5. Work was focused within the area controlled by the West African peacekeepers. In 1996, NPFL overran most of the country and all the Lifewater equipment and supplies were stolen. The project was restarted and carried on until major fighting broke out again in 2003.

As war raged in Liberia, Lifewater Canada began work in Nigeria and Kenya. These countries were also in sub-Saharan Africa, where the need for safe water is great, and drilling conditions were conducive to using the simple drilling equipment that Lifewater Canada was training and equipping people with. Suitable local partners were found, and trained and equipped as appropriate.

In 2008 support was growing, and we responded to requests to help in Zambia and Haiti with training and project sponsorship. Following the devastating 2010 earthquake in Haiti, funding designated for the country increased dramatically. There was an associated surge in the number of skilled volunteers who wanted to help in Haiti. As a result, more local Haitians joined the team, more equipment was supplied and project totals trended sharply upwards.

In 2019, work was focused on Liberia, Haiti and Kenya. Lifewater Canada will remain focused on these three countries over the next 10 years. Emphasis will be on building infrastructure, improving training, increasing productivity and developing tools for teams to effectively manage inventories of supplies and parts.