

Water4Ethiopia Gains UK Registered Charity Status

Thank you for all of your kind £-a-week and one-off donations to Water4Ethiopia in year one, it has helped raise £5373.60. This is more than the £5000 required to apply for UK registered charity status and our application was approved at the beginning of September with a registration number of 1137893. Water4Ethiopia's UK registered charity status can be viewed on the [charity commissions website](#).

Beku Golba Project Update:

Water4Ethiopia's first sponsored project has had to overcome its fair share of problems, most notably the lack of water 12 metres underground when it came to preparing for the digging of the hand dug well.

Fortunately the NGO we work with in Ethiopia, The Ethiopian Orthodox Church Inter-Church Aid Commission (EOC-DICAC) worked closely with the locals on finding a spring that could be capped. This is actually a better solution for the Ethiopian community than a hand-dug well as the expected life span of the spring is much longer and less costly to maintain than a hand-dug well, but is more expensive initially.

The extra project cost, along with the Ethiopian Birr devaluating around 30% against the US dollar since Water4Ethiopia sent the funds for the project, has meant that resources and staff have been assigned to the Beku Golba project as and when they are in surplus to requirements at other projects.

Despite the challenges the village has seen through the construction period, I am told they are now able to drink the clean, fresh water via a pipe line extended from the night storage facility—fantastic!

The final work to complete the distribution points is expected to begin in 2 weeks time once 8 bags of cement, 5 galvanized steel pipes and 2 labourers arrive at the village. EOC-DICAC tells us that the number of beneficiaries of the project is actually higher than first anticipated and that there are 90 households with an average family size of 5 drinking clean, fresh water from the Beku Golba capped spring. This is in addition to the users at the local school, health post and woreda farmers training centre, as well as animals too.

We thank everyone involved with the Beku Golba project for their hard work and I am sure there is nothing more satisfying for the local community members than no longer having to drink from the contaminated seasonal stream but instead having safe clean fresh water all year around.

Thank you to [Grant Silversword](#) who very kindly spent his spare time designing the Water4Ethiopia website and kindly continues to carry out the updates for it too.



Photo from a completed project I visited.

Sorry we haven't yet received photos of the nearly completed Beku Golba project, but the EOC-DICAC internet in Addis Ababa is incredibly slow and they haven't been able to download the photos yet. We will send the photos out with the next newsletter.

Year 2 Plan

Currently we have the funds for the next project in place and we will be looking to start this when Andrew visits Ethiopia in January. We hope to be working with EOC-DICAC again on a similar project to the Beku Golba one, looking to fund 2 hand-dug wells or the capping of 2 springs to help between 600 and 1000 Ethiopians in the rural community.

Water4Ethiopia has already developed links with Pate's Grammar school in Cheltenham and St. Julian's school in Lisbon, Portugal, with whom we hope to extend this relationship in year two. We are also looking to team up with other schools, churches and businesses with the hope that they will be able to contribute towards the £1500 cost of building a hand-dug well. If you have any contacts at schools, churches or businesses that may be able to help, then we would really appreciate it if you could let us know, thanks.

Thank you to Rebecca Ledger

Becky kindly ran the Leicester Half-Marathon last year for Water4Ethiopia, raising £302 in the process. Great effort Becky.

DONATE NOW

If you haven't already donated, then we would be most grateful for any donations towards clean, fresh water projects in Ethiopia. [It costs just £4.50 to give 1 Ethiopian clean fresh water for 15 years.](#)

- You could either make a 1 off donation through our [charity choice donations page](#), where [100% of your donations will go to Ethiopia, we are not charged a transaction fee.](#)
- Or even more appreciated would be a £1-a-week donation, helping **14 Ethiopians a year, each for 15 years** to no longer have to drink from rivers, streams and other polluted sources—please download the [standing order form](#).