

PROJECT PROFILE

# COOPERATIVE WATER FOR SANITATION AND HEALTH (COOPWASH)

OCTOBER 2014 – OCTOBER 2017

FUNDED BY:

Starbucks Foundation

\$728,140



TARGET

BENEFICIARIES:

25,000

PEOPLE RECEIVING  
SAFE WATER (2015):

12,234

WATER MANAGEMENT  
COMMITTEES (2015):

32

## COOPWASH

NCBA CLUSA will support coffee farmer livelihoods by providing clean, abundant and accessible water to 25,000 people in 90 Arabica coffee-producing villages in Sumatra, Indonesia.

CoopWASH will install gravity-fed and deep-well water systems that are expected to provide new sources of water for 80 percent of community members and reduce the workload of women and girls by 75 percent. CoopWASH will significantly increase the amount of household water available for drinking, cooking, hand and dishwashing, sanitation and coffee pulping. The project will also provide health clinics and schools in the region with clean water sources.

Project activities include mobilizing water management committees (WMC), developing community water management plans, designing water systems, constructing and maintaining water systems, developing outreach strategies and training materials, and conducting outreach and training in local schools, community centers, and clinics.



A water and sanitation training outside a new water pump station.

NCBA  
CLUSA



CDF  
Cooperative Development Foundation

## IMPACT: SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

How does a foreign organization keep construction projects sustainable? For NCBA CLUSA, the key is community organizations. At every point in the process the community is mobilizing themselves to construct, plan, and fix the water systems.

The development of water management committees (WMCs) is one of the first steps in introducing the CoopWASH program to a community. The WMCs organize labor during the construction phase, and then maintain the systems once they are built.

Water projects often fail because communities are technically or financially unequipped to maintain complex infrastructure, but the only ongoing maintenance CoopWASH systems require is cleaning the spigots and ensuring good drainage to avoid standing water.

The whole process begins with developing water groups with democratically elected management committees. Once these committees are established, NCBA CLUSA staff, through our implementing partners and coffee co-ops on the ground, work with them to prepare management plans.

An important aspect of these plans is separating household water uses from coffee pulping and ensuring that the pulp is composted and properly disposed. Lack of accessible, clean water compromises coffee quality in Indonesia. Much of the coffee grown in Sumatra is pulped at the village level and sold in a "wet hulled" state. Farmers who don't have access to clean water recycle the water they need for pulping, leading to bacterial contamination of the hulled coffee and off-flavors.



Beyond coffee, clean water is important for daily life. Before CoopWASH began, all the households in the villages collected their drinking and washing water from streams and unprotected drainage ditches. But simply having access to clean water does not fix all the risk of disease. Sanitation starts with access, but also involves training and use.

After the water systems have been built, the committees begin training the community on proper sanitation practices, such as hand washing, and hygiene. As communities saw the difference, other villages also got excited. After the initial 15 functional water systems were operating, now 32 villages have developed WMCs and 17 new systems are being designed.

NCBA CLUSA was founded in 1916 and has worked in over 85 countries building democratic institutions and providing technical assistance to cooperative businesses and local organizations. We currently work in Africa, Asia and Latin America providing expertise in co-op development, food security, youth empowerment, governance and natural resource management.



1775 Eye Street, NW | 8th Floor | Washington, DC 20006  
[www.ncba.coop](http://www.ncba.coop) | 202.638.6222 | [info@ncba.coop](mailto:info@ncba.coop)