

WATER WINS

WHAT'S INSIDE

New Project Director
Village Savings and Loans

SUMMER 2019 NEWSLETTER



SAVING LIVES, SAVING SOULS




Faithful Supporters,

We are so excited to share this summer newsletter to update you on the many ways God continues to bless Water Wins. Enclosed you will find updates from Amos, our new project coordinator and Yunkur, who leads our agricultural programs. This year more than any other we are grateful for the talents of our team as safety precautions has prevented our North American team from traveling to Nigerian in 2019. Under the passionate leadership of our team in Nigeria, Water Wins continues its mission to develop a healthy Christian community in the EKA and we praise God for the work they are accomplishing through your support. Pray for safety in Nigeria and that soon we will be back on our regular visit schedule.

We also wanted to share that we have updated our website!! We hope you will find this to be a great place to see what's happening with our project, meet our team and make donations. Check out the new site at **www.waterwins.org**. In addition, please follow us on Facebook for more frequent updates.

- WW North America

 www.facebook.com/waterwins

WATER WINS



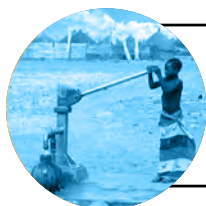
WATER WINS ACADEMY

This school year, classrooms are overflowing with over 200 students enrolled!



50 NEW WELLS IN 2019

Our drill team completed 50 wells using a rotary rig and provided clean water to 20,000 people!



18 EVANGELISTS/PASTOR

Pastor Caleb leads 17 evangelists. 10 are supported by Water Wins and 7 by the Christian Reformed Church of Nigeria.

50

Wells drilled
in 2019

467

Total wells
maintained by
Water Wins

417

Total wells
drilled since
2005



74% still need clean water
even as Water Wins provides clean water to
166,000 of the 550,000 people in the EKA

COORDINATOR



We are very excited to introduce to you our new Water Wins Project Coordinator Amos Ukerchia! Amos' heart for God is inspiring and we know his gifts and serving heart will be very impactful to our team in the EKA. We wanted you to get to know him well too, so we asked him to share a bit about himself and his vision for Water Wins:

Where did you grow up in Nigeria? What did you study in school?

I grew up in a village called Ushitile in Obi local government area, Nasarawa state. I'm a Chemical Engineer and attended Federal University of Technology in Minna, Niger State

Tell us about your family:

I am the fifth of six children(4 male,2 female) My dad pass away when I was in college (2009). I am married to my beautiful

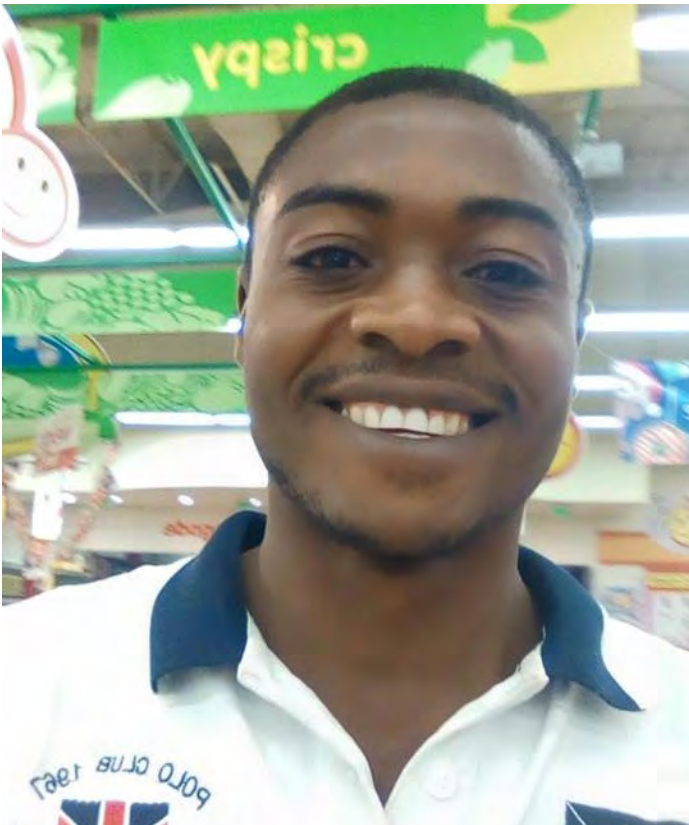
Family Members from left to right: Patience, Amos and Terdoo

wife Patience and we are blessed with a boy Terdoo (14 months).

Tell us about your Faith Journey and the impact God has had in your life:

I wasn't from a completely Christian family even though my parents had Christian names. They never visited the church. I used to follow my older sister to church on Sunday and my CRS teacher in elementary school.

When I finished the elementary school and moved out of my village to attend school my faith grew even stronger through student fellowship and other Christian friends



Amos Ukerchia

that came into my life. I became deeper in my conviction about my Christian faith at the University and I wanted others to experience how faith can change your life. God gave me the ability to talk to others about my faith including my family. That boldness about my faith and being able to help others is what am doing today at Water Wins.

How did you hear about Water Wins and how did you become part of the team?

I first heard about Water Wins in 2015 through my fiancé, Patience, (now my wife) when we visited her Aunt in Jos for introduction about our relationship heading to marriage. While I was in Jos, her Aunt's husband asked if I would like to serve God in a village through well drilling. My answer was yes, as long as it has to do with saving lives. I sent my resume and here I am today doing what God will have me do and I love it.

My first role was to drill water wells, install hand pumps, hand pump repair, build relationships with communities and maintenance of Water Wins equipment and machines. Now, as the Project Coordinator, I am leading all the different programs in the EKA. To me, it's more than just a job.

What are some opportunities for Water Wins that you will focus on as Project Coordinator?

The first opportunity is to serve other people because that is what life is all about with Jesus as our role model. The serving environment has been established in the EKA, I need to continue to help it grow.

The second opportunity is to help people know and reach their potentials through our programs (Education, Agra-business, Health, Evangelism and Services). We will serve people in the EKA in an environment where justice is done, mercy and grace are freely given, and God is honored

My vision for Water Wins is to build a team that understands the direction God is having us move to serve others for total transformation at every level. How best I can serve the communities in the EKA is more important than the salary I am being paid. That is the main goal!

Na gode (Thank you)
Amos



UPDATE

Your donation helps us
support EKA farmers
and their communities

HELPING FARMERS GROW

Yunkur Durdam is the Water Wins Team Leader for Agribusiness and Business as Mission in Nigeria. He has been with the team for more than 3 years and his impact on villages around Water Wins is evident. An important part of developing a culture of fiscal responsibility in many parts of the developing world is to establish Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA). In this article, Yunkur shares his recent success in the EKA

The aims and objectives of a Village Savings and Loan Association are:

- To initiate a culture of saving money among farmers in EKA.
- To mitigate the spirit of dependency
- To encourage unity among communities

VSLA addresses the challenges farmers face because of a lack of financial resources. Farmers are forced to sell their produce immediately for a cheap rate during harvest season because they need money. Through the use of small loans from the VSLA in their village, farmers can hold their harvest until market rates increase. In addition, farmers can use the money among themselves for small scale businesses.



Yunkur has worked with five villages setting up VSLA's. He first visited churches to provide training on the VSLA idea. Names of farmers that were interested were collected and later leaders were elected for each VSLA. These leaders were trained in VSLA skills and materials were purchased and sold to each group. Money is collected and managed by the elected leaders.

One village where the impact is evident is in Majaba Village. According to some members of the group, their VSLA has prompted some people to engage in businesses like buying of grains, chickens and goats in small scale and reselling at Gulbi and Warari Market. Through this, some in the group are able to buy low and sell high and others in the group who loaned the money are able to realize small interest on their money. Moreover, they don't need to depend on someone on the outside for credit or loans. They provide money for themselves from the group for loans and later benefit from the interest. During the sharing time, people were so excited about it and commented that the money was just a gift from someone. "We never expect these money to be ours, but here we are with money for farming activities." Small wins like this propel the communities to grow in their VSLA activity and support of one another. Thanks in part to your support, Yunkur is able to mentor five different VSLA's like this one and Water Wins is actively working on growing this influence.



ONCE BUILT, THERE'S ALWAYS MORE TO DO MAINTENANCE

After a well is drilled and handpump installed, we often return for repairs. The harsh climate and constant use of the wells means there is always more work to be done.

This year alone, Water Wins has repaired **55 wells**. This effort makes sure the communities we impact stay connected to a valuable source of water. We rely on partner and personal donations to keep this effort alive! Our goal is to have 100% of our wells fully operational.

The pictures below showcase some of our maintenance and repair work on wells around the EKA.



INVESTING IN WATER WINS

We hope you will decide to invest in our mission to save lives and souls in Eastern Kambari. If you are reading this online, please visit our website at www.waterwins.org to make a donation.

With your support, we can continue to bring clean water and schooling to the region. Our constant efforts to improve our facilities and technology means we rely on your support!



**CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO
PARTNERS WORLDWIDE WATER WINS #5060**

Mail To:
**Water Wins
441 E Roosevelt
SUITE 100
Zeeland, MI 49464**

Water Wins is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization as a program under Partners Worldwide. All financial donations are tax deductible.

Thank you for your contribution!

Contact

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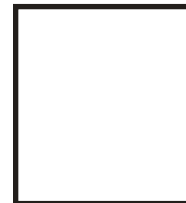
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