Epiroc Proud employer.





Clean water changes lives





Committed to clean drinking water

Clean water is a human right. That is one of the core beliefs of Water for All and the basis for everything we do. Water has the power to create change on so many levels, from the individual to transforming societal structures and values. We want to be part of that change, to drive it and make sure it benefits as many people as possible. Everyone should be able to enjoy sustainable access to clean water.

Water for All was founded by Epiroc employees (at the time Atlas Copco employees) in 1984 and is still an employee-driven organization, with a local presence in more than 50 countries all around the world. It is employees who take the initiative to



bring Water for All to a new country, who volunteer to run the organization, and the ones who voluntarily donate to Water for All, often directly from their salaries, in order to support water and sanitation projects.

Still, Water for All is very much a partnership between the employees and their employer. For every donation an employee makes, the company donates twice as much. The money is used to fund projects implemented by different partner organizations. All of our projects aim to give people in need access to clean water and improved facilities for sanitation and hygiene.

Different ways to get involved

Everyone can contribute to Water for All, just in slightly different ways. Our network is constantly growing and the more who joins, the more we can do.

Water for All is the main community engagement initiative of both Atlas Copco and Epiroc. As companies, they are dependent on well-functioning societies, free from poverty and conflict. No community can thrive without clean water. That is the corporate reasoning for supporting Water for All. For the employees, Water for All offers the opportunity to actively and voluntarily take part in community engagement as individuals, doing even more to support development and empowerment, especially of women and children.

Epiroc Proud employer

"Water for All is our main community engagement. It is a partnership between our engaged and committed employees and the company, and I'm very proud that we contribute to millions of people gaining sustainable access to clean water."

Per Lindberg President and CEO of Epiroc



Every local organization has its own:



Ambassadors

The employees who volunteer to run Water for All in their country.



Members

All employees who voluntarily donate to Water for All, often directly from their salaries.



Partners

Water for All funds projects and partners with other NGOs to manage the projects in the field.



Projects

Our projects range from large to small, from near to far away. Which projects to support is decided at the local level.



External donors

Everyone is welcome to support Water for All! The only difference is that the company only doubles the donations made by its employees.

Our projects center around giving people in need sustainable access to clean water and improved facilities for sanitation and hygiene.



Our project philosophy

Water for All is found all over the world and so are our projects. Over the years, we have funded hundreds of projects on all continents, although most often in Africa and Asia.

A key aspect in all projects is to involve the local community in the planning, implementation and maintenance of the new water source. They are the ones who know, for example, where a new well should be situated to benefit as many people as possible. Local ownership and involvement are also essential to safeguard long-term water access. Forming gender-diverse water committees and training them in basic repairs and maintenance increase the chances of a project becoming a permanent installation and a sustainable water source.

Our projects have historically varied between large and small initiatives. Between digging or drilling wells, protecting natural water springs, facilitating rain harvesting, or different kinds of water purification systems. One thing that is important in all projects, is the inclusion of training in sanitation and hygiene, a behavioral change that often takes time. A successful method is therefore to train the children and make them ambassadors, teaching them, for example, a handwashing routine that they can share with their peers, family, neighbors, and relatives etcetera.

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Time.

With close access to water, girls have time to attend school and women can spend their days providing for their families.

Health.

Clean drinking water has enormous and immediate health benefits that can be further enhanced by promoting the habit of handwashing.

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Security.

Building latrines that offer privacy improves safety and well-being, especially for women and girls.

Growth.

By engaging the local community in our projects, new roles develop that can lead to personal growth through new responsibilities.

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Livelihood.

Sustainable access to water allows people to grow crops and increase their livestock, maybe even beyond the needs of the household.

Hope.

Water gives women and girls the freedom to make choices for themselves and to follow their dreams.

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Equality.

Access to water benefits the whole community. By empowering women, new societal structures develop based on increased gender equality.

Peace.

When sustainable access to water is secured, water can go from being a potential source of conflict to being a unifying force that strengthens cooperation and unites people.







77 It is the greatest thing I have ever experienced or contributed to.

Peter Håkansson Co-founder of Water for All



A great cause with an exceptional history

Can a 30 minute documentary be so inspiring that it leads to a global initiative spanning more than 50 countries? The answer is yes and this is exactly how Water for All was founded in 1984.

Imagine yourself having only two TV channels. One of them is showing the evening news, the other a documentary about an ongoing drought in Peru in South America. On this particular March evening, two colleagues at Atlas Copco's office in Sickla, Sweden, happened to choose the latter and found themselves deeply affected by the suffering lack of water had inflicted on a population of people living high up in the Andes mountains.

When they met the next day, they started talking about what they had seen and both felt very strongly that they could make a difference. They started planning a fundraiser for their fellow employees with the hope of collecting enough money to help the area featured in the documentary gain access to water. Five months later, in August 1984, the organization Vatten åt Alla, Water for All, was founded. The company noticed the dedication of its employees and promised to match whatever amount the employees were able to raise. With the help of an external partner, a project was eventually implemented in Peru but everyone immediately thought, "Why stop here? We can do more."

And indeed we have. Since 1984, Water for All has spread across the globe, always at the initiative of a volunteering employee willing to run the organization in his or her country. Up until 2011, the company continued to match the money raised by its employees, but since then they give twice as much. Together we have contributed to millions of people gaining sustainable access to clean water and when Atlas Copco was split into two companies in 2018, Epiroc chose to continue to support Water for All as its main community engagement initiative, just like Atlas Copco.



To learn more about how Water for All started, watch the interview with our two founders Torgny Rogert and Peter Håkansson, found in the Water for All photo and video gallery.

The Peter Wallenberg Water for All Foundation

Peter Wallenberg Sr. was a world-renowned businessman and active in Atlas Copco for more than 60 years. When he passed away in 2015, his family encouraged people to donate to Water for All to honor his memory. More than MEUR 2.5 were received and later used as the basis for the Peter Wallenberg Water for All Foundation, jointly governed by representatives from Peter Wallenberg's family, Atlas Copco and Water for All.

The Foundation offers all Water for All organizations in the world the opportunity to receive co-funding for their water and sanitation projects. The only requirement is that the local organization covers a minimum of 10% of the funding through employee and company donations.

In 2015, the Foundation also invested in a large-scale project in Malawi, Africa, which ran for more than three years and involved a whole district of villages. The intention is to continue funding such long-term projects in parallel with supporting the Water for All organizations' projects.



Apply for funding from the Foundation **Learn more** about the Malawi project and the importance of water





Your donation changes lives. water4all.org/donate





Water changes lives. Through the dedicated and passionate work of volunteering employees at Atlas Copco and Epiroc, Water for All funds projects which empower people through access to clean drinking water, sanitation and hygiene. Since 1984 we have reached millions of people worldwide.

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