



15 YEARS

COMMUNITY LED
WOMEN CENTERED
SUSTAINABLE IMPACT



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Surge works hand-in-hand with communities to provide safe water, sanitation, hygiene and menstrual health solutions to help end the cycle of poverty.

OUR MODEL

Community Driven: People know what they need – we work with them to make it a reality.

Women Led, Women Centered: Women bear the heaviest burden of the water crisis, so we help them advocate for themselves.

Scaling Partnerships: We strengthen the capacity of our growth-minded community partners so they can achieve their vision.



From our Founder & Board Chair

Dear Surge Family,

The story of 2023 is one of exceptional growth and impact!

We're thrilled to share that our 15th year has been our MOST SUCCESSFUL ever! We achieved a **70% growth in revenue**, significantly exceeding our stretch goal to become a \$1 million organization.

More importantly, **we had a record-breaking year of impact – reaching over 133,000 people** with wells, rainwater harvesters, water filters, safe toilets, and education on hygiene & menstrual health.

We continued to strengthen our commitment to community-led, women-centered solutions – because we believe that the key to sustainably transforming communities starts with investing in and designing solutions around women and girls. We also understand that the best way to truly solve water, sanitation and hygiene issues in the rural, remote communities where we work is with local leaders at the helm.

Looking ahead, we will maintain this approach as we listen and learn from our local partners and communities as they guide us through this next phase of growth. With our incredible financial success, we're excited about expanding our programs and geographic reach and enabling our growth-minded partners in their desire to scale.

We're deeply humbled and grateful for the remarkable support of our community. We can't wait to share this next phase with you!

As always, thank you for joining us in the fight for justice in its most basic form – access to safe water for every person for generations to come.

With love and gratitude,

Channa North Hoffstaed - Board Chair
Shilpa Alva - Founder & Executive Director



Shilpa, Channa and our partner YLRA at Pari Deta school in Indonesia.

15 YEARS of Milestones

2008-2010

Humble beginnings with a simple hand-dug well & 120 water filters

Started work in Haiti in response to the catastrophic earthquake

2011 - 2013

Introduced Hygiene Training

Started building toilets in schools

Expansion into the Philippines in response to Hurricane Yolanda

2014-2016

Expansion into Uganda

Launched Menstrual Health programming

2017 - 2019

Celebrated 10 Years of Impact!

Strengthened our internal systems

Increased focus on community-led, women-centered, local partnerships

2020 - 2022

COVID-19 Response – Adapted to stop the spread with soap & hygiene programs

Expansion into Indonesia

2023 & Beyond

Celebrated 15 Years of Impact!

Geographical and program expansion in Haiti, Indonesia and Uganda

Our Impact

People reached 



SURGE COLLECTIVE: Surge has a robust network of local partners who are dedicated to our joint mission.



Dr. Pierre Erol, ASLHA - Haiti



Florence Ringe, POPOW - Uganda



Lorensius Gatot, YLRA - Indonesia



Monica Anitya, YLRA - Indonesia



Camille Tahura, CWIP - Philippines

UGANDA

10 Years of Expanding Impact and Opportunity in Uganda

Our work in Uganda continued to be the biggest contribution to our overall 2024 impact. Much of our success can be attributed to the incredible work of our longtime community partner POPOW. Together, we drilled and fixed wells, built toilets in schools, and delivered education on hygiene and menstrual health – ensuring improved health and brighter futures.

Moving into 2024, we are celebrating 10 years of working with POPOW in Kaberamaido & Kalaki Districts. We also have concrete plans underway to complete an intensive midline study so we can identify gaps and future focus areas, introduce solar powered wells into our solutions, and expand our work into neighboring districts.

We're excited about this partnership's next steps and the continued impact we can make on tens of thousands more in the decades to come!

"Drowned hopes have been resurrected through this new well. Now, with easy access to safe, clean water, our health and time is secured. We can now actively participate in creating a greener and fairer future for ourselves and our children."

*- Amajo Josephine,
Kanyalam Centre Community*



HAITI

Beyond Unrest: Bringing Health & Hope to Cayes Jacmel

While Haiti continued to make global headlines for its unrest, our work in the remote, rural commune of Cayes Jacmel also continued. Hand-in-hand with our local partner ASSLHA, we brought hope and possibility to tens of thousands of residents.

Working closely with ASSLHA, this past year we continued our hygiene training program and further expanded it to deliver a cholera prevention program that reached 29,600 people with education and resources. This timely intervention helped stop the spread of this deadly and preventable bacterial disease.

We also continued our soap making program, educating 180 people on soap production and providing the tools and resources needed to create businesses and support livelihoods.

With 2024 already underway, our focus is back to building rainwater harvesting systems to ensure communities have the safe water needed for daily hygiene, cooking and health needs.



INDONESIA

Community-Led Impact: Building Holistic Solutions in Central Sumba

A couple of years after our launch in Indonesia, our work and local partnership with YLRA in Central Sumba continues to strengthen and grow!

It gives us great pride to share that all four elements of Surge's holistic approach are now part of our Indonesia program: water access via wells, rainwater harvesting and filters; construction of school toilets; menstrual health education including reusable pad making; and, most recently, hygiene training. Staying true to our community-led model, YLRA took the lead on incorporating each program component based on community needs.

This past year we also assessed the water, sanitation and hygiene needs for 15 schools and communities. Our goal in 2024 and beyond is to work hand-in-hand with YLRA, the community and government to deliver all of the holistic and comprehensive WASH needs for Central Sumba while assessing expansion in other parts of the island and East Indonesia.

"Before we received the water tank, we had no water. The children were assigned to bring 5-litre jerry cans everyday to fill the tub in the toilet and to water flowers. Let alone to water the flowers, water for drinking was difficult. As a school committee, we never imagined getting this help. With this water aid, we are very thankful."

*- Kuala Sebu, School Committee Chairman
SD Pari Deta*

PHILIPPINES

Community Well-Being: Transforming Schools with Safe Water

This past year, we worked hand-in-hand with longtime partner Clean Water International - Philippines (CWIP) to bring safe water to 1,099 people in the remote, rural communities of Pogpog and Melilla Elementary Schools. With these Village BioSand filtration systems, the students and surrounding community now have access to clean, safe water.

Investing in water infrastructure directly impacts the health wellbeing of entire communities – giving them a chance at a more prosperous future!

"The significance of this project goes beyond the convenience of having clean water; it touches the very heart of our community's well-being. I am profoundly thankful that our school will no longer need to purchase water... It not only relieves us of the financial strain... but also empowers us to redirect funds to other critical projects that our students urgently need."

- Nathaniel Ballerda, Head Teacher
Melilla Elementary School



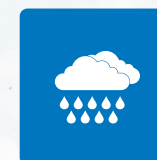
Sustainable Water for Generations to Come

Solutions

41
Well Drills and Fixes



26
Rainwater Systems



315
Filters
Household & Community



A primary focus of Surge's work is focused on delivering community and women-centered water infrastructure. What started with small-scale household water purification filters has grown to community-wide solutions, such as wells, rainwater harvesting systems, and filtration systems. Each program is designed to meet the unique needs of the community and counties where we work.

Implementation is only the beginning – the key to long term sustainability is community ownership and ongoing maintenance. At the center of this success are water user committees composed of individuals from the community, who we train to manage and lead water programs in their area. This highly effective, community-led model places the wellbeing and long term sustainability of water sources as its top priority, ensuring the longevity of our solutions.

"I appreciate the efforts by the Surge team to involve the community throughout the process. They listened to our needs, considered our suggestions and ensured that the borehole was located in a convenient and accessible place."

- Adeyo Florence, Omarai Achilo Community

Public Health Depends on Toilets



Access to sanitation is a human right, yet in the communities where Surge works, toilets are aging, failing or non-existent. This leads to poor enrollment, attendance and performance – disproportionately affecting school girls.

According to the World Health Organization, “Everybody should care about toilets because public health depends on toilets. Life without a decent toilet is dirty, dangerous and undignified. Unless everybody in a community has a safe toilet, everybody’s health is threatened.”

At Surge, we couldn’t agree more. This is why we built 17 toilets – 1 in a health center and 16 in schools.

“It was unimaginable to run a school without sanitary facilities and that is why this miracle intervention has brought great relief. The girls had also resorted to dodging school because they lacked convenience during school hours, but that will now definitely come to an end since they now have a modern latrine.”

- Senior Woman Teacher Anyara Moru Primary School



Promoting Health Through Hygiene Education

As part of our holistic work, one of Surge's longest running programs is our interactive, game based programming that educates and reminds children and communities about critical hygiene and sanitation practices. This past year, we reached more than 20,300 people via this program.

Additionally, in the remote, rural communities in Uganda and Haiti where Surge works, families often forgo soap so they can purchase essentials like food or pay school fees. However, soap is the most important part of proper hand washing – reducing diarrhea, a leading cause of death in children under five, by up to 50%.

To help combat this situation, we also have a soap making and distribution program for schools and communities, making this basic need more accessible for tens of thousands annually. Last year, we trained 1,480 people on how to make soap and distributed more than 3,800 gallons.

320 
Hygiene Classes

95 
Soap Making Classes

30 
Handwashing Stations



Creating a Period Friendly World

By educating girls about their menstrual cycles, we're helping them gain a deeper understanding of their bodies and the role menstruation plays throughout their lives. This knowledge improves confidence, self-autonomy, and sexual and reproductive health – and helps remove barriers to girls' education by providing them with the knowledge and tools necessary to safely manage their cycles.

At Surge, our menstrual health program is a component of our holistic women-centered approach – which includes women and girls leading the way to deliver water, sanitation, hygiene and menstrual health solutions for women and girls in their communities. This past year, this education program reached over 9,700 girls through 312 classes in Indonesia and Uganda.

"I used to miss school because I didn't have pads to use... I would be scared that the cloth I used would fall at any time. Today I learned how to properly use a piece of cloth"

- Apiong Mary, age 17, Anyara Moru Primary School, Uganda

Thank You Partners

For working hand in hand
with us to create a happier
& healthier world



- **Acoulite** is the Middle East's leading Lighting and Acoustic supplier and a longtime supporter of Surge. As a multi year returning Headline sponsor of Dubai's 'Design, Dine, make a Difference' they once again helped us make the world brighter! Terry Woodley, Acoulite's CEO, shared, "Acoulite has a very high level of corporate social responsibility, it is part of our DNA to support causes that are worthwhile. Access to water is a basic human right, and we are so grateful to support Surge in creating a world where everyone has access to safe water."
- **Sedus Stoll AG** is one of the leading suppliers of complete office furniture and workplace concepts. Joelle Nader, Managing Director of Sedus UAE, shared, "Sedus & Surge have a lot in common when it comes to making our world a better place. The core of Sedus' mission is – We really care: we care about the environment, the future of new generations, the people, their wellbeing & health. Promoting the health of people is as important as breathing clean air or drinking clean water for daily survival and leading a healthy life. At Sedus, we develop and produce high-quality office furniture to ensure people are motivated in a healthy office environment. We also ensure our profits go to foundations of similar purpose."
- **Light Link** provides quality lighting design and supply solutions with absolute integrity and commitment. They take the time to listen and understand clients' wants and needs, aligning their services to suit. As a multi-faceted partner of Surge, they are focused on making an impact. Jaspal Bal, Director, shared, "Campaigning to transform communities in need of safe water is such a worthy cause; we hope this is just the beginning of our collaboration with Surge. We believe it's important to be part of the change and help to drive awareness within our industry and beyond."
- Through an **HDR Foundation** grant, 8,000 individuals in the remote Ugandan districts of Kaberamaido and Kalaki will be impacted by holistic water, sanitation, hygiene, and menstrual health solutions. HDR Foundation's support addresses critical needs in communities through well drills, well fixes, the construction of eight new school toilet blocks, distribution of 28 classroom water filters, and education on hygiene, soap making, menstrual health and pad-making. Scott Todd, HDR Employee Grant Sponsor, shared that "in addition to this large grant award, we have several HDR staff volunteering their time and talents to partner with Surge for Water and advance their critical mission around the globe. Through this partnership, we will transform individual lives and whole communities in ways we could never imagine alone."
- **HydroPoint** - a smart water management company - has joined forces with Surge to benefit 10,000 people in rural Uganda between 2023 and 2028. Chris Spain, HydroPoint's CEO shared, "We are thrilled to embark on this journey to address the urgent water, sanitation, and hygiene challenges faced by communities worldwide. This partnership represents our commitment to creating sustainable solutions that empower individuals and build stronger, healthier communities." We have a shared vision to bring about transformative change and strengthen communities by improving health, education, livelihoods, and contributing to a more sustainable future for all!

Special thanks to Photoserve for their longterm partnership and for most of the pictures in this report.

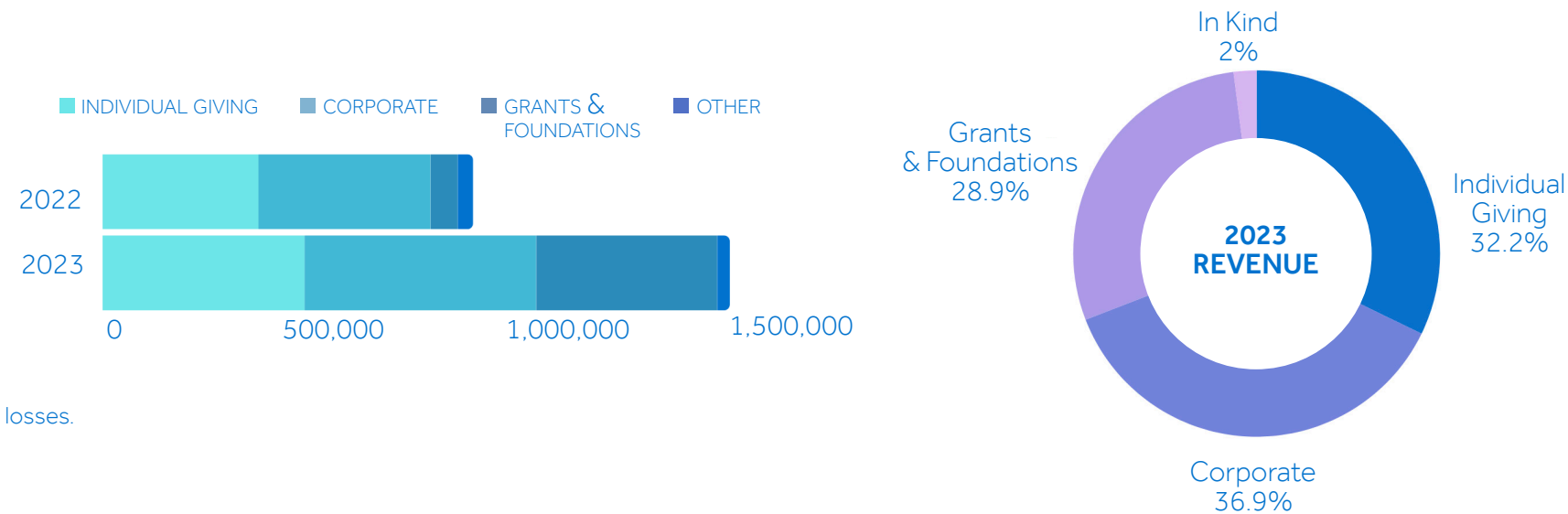
Financials: April 2023 - March 2024

2023 was our most successful year to date with over 70% growth over 2022

OPERATING REVENUES* (USD)

TOTAL REVENUES*

2022	814,454
2023	1,428,119

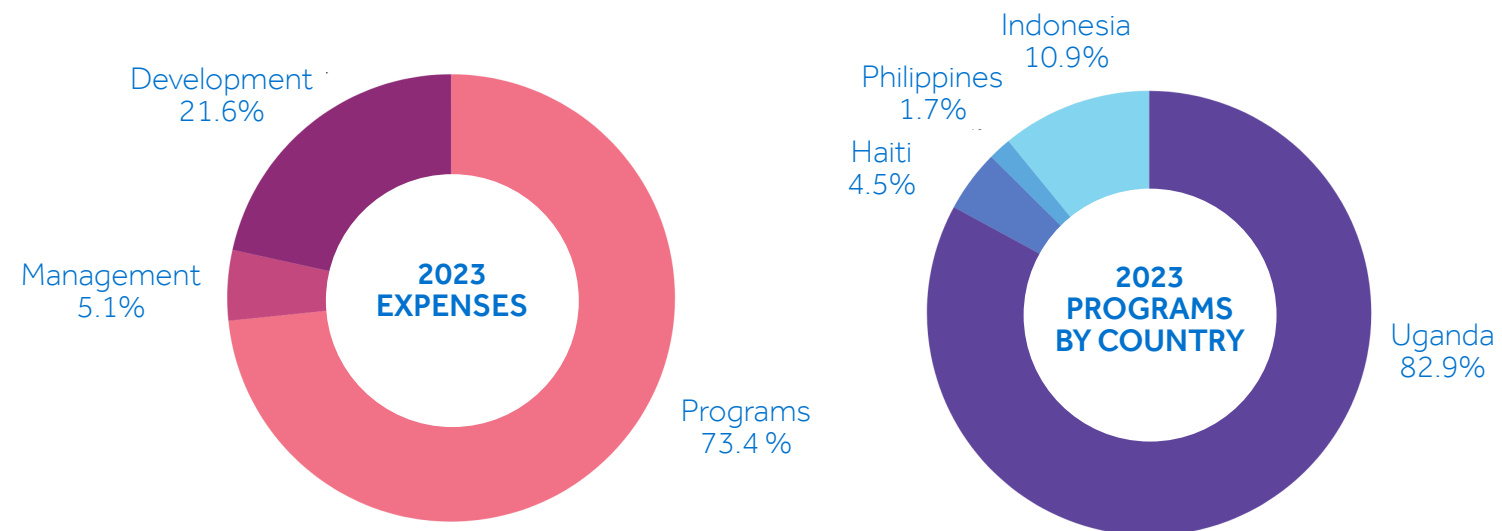


*Includes investment income and losses.

EXPENSES (USD)

TOTAL EXPENSES

2022	803,894
2023	1,035,179



NET ASSETS 2023

Beginning	305,334
Ending	698,274

For more details refer to our 990 Form and Audit Report:
surgeforwater.org/financials

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 Julie Ward

SURGE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Shilpa Alva, *Founder and Executive Director*
 Ashley Quinlan, *Operations & Development Manager*



Support Our Work

Your tax-deductible donation helps support communities with safe water, sanitation, hygiene and menstrual health solutions – fighting extreme poverty. Visit our website to make a gift: surgeforwater.org

Other Ways to Give

Donate DAF, Stock, Crypto | Peer-to-Peer Campaigns | Attend Events | Volunteer

For more information or to speak with a team member about investing in Surge. Contact: [**friends@surgeforwater.org**](mailto:friends@surgeforwater.org)

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