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# The Board



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# Chairman's report

For Engineers Without Borders - Denmark the year 2019 has been a year of growth. We have gained access to more resources from donors and members. Ahead of us is the task of determining how best to maintain and utilise these extra resources in the longer run.

Number of active projects has increased by 38% during the 2019. From 26 active projects in 2018 to 36 in 2019. This was possible due to an increase in funding for the projects.

Nearly 40,000 people have seen a positive impact from our efforts. From access to clean water, health, energy, from climate risk adaptation, and from other improvements to the livelihood of those most in need.

The children and youngsters were well-represented in our activities throughout the year. In Sierra Leone, we have established a strong collaboration with a technical school for young people with disabilities and renovated rural maternity clinics. In Zimbabwe, we secured funding for the renovation of four schools and a daily meal for the students.

Two hundred new members joined Engineers Without Borders - Denmark in 2019. Our members are the core of our organisation. It is their contributions through hard work and donations that allow us to do what we do. In 2019 volunteers contributed 23,500 hours of highly skilled work. At the end of the year, we had more than 1,200 members

In 2019 we have increasingly

sought collaborations with universities and businesses. We share the vision and the framework of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We also share a common access to a technical knowledge-base that can improve the lives of people in the developing world.

Partnerships with Danish companies is a significant way to facilitate joint efforts to support the SDGs for the benefit of the less fortunate around the world - the communities that never will be able to hire a consulting engineer to advise on technical livelihood improvements.

**»Volunteers contributed 23,500 hours of highly skilled work«**

We see a strong commitment to the SDGs among all our corporate members. Therefore, we are proud to welcome EKJ, ARUP, and FORS as new corporate members.

In many of the locations, where we are present, the main part of our work is focused on basic public service provision as in water and electricity mainly because the state

is absent. In Denmark we have a rich and strong tradition of civil society involvement in decision-making and in local governing institutions. In that respect, we find the new corporate membership by Danske Vandværker valuable as they have a rich experience in democratic local governance and civil society participation in public service delivery.

Another equally significant result in 2019 is that we have been certified by EU to have our volunteers sponsored when they are on a mission. This we believe will provide our organisation with the possibility of having our volunteers placed in long term postings working in the field with our partners. It is a recognition of the work we are doing and we hope to benefit from this in the years to come.

Within our organisation, we have started a process that will lead us towards a new strategy for 2020-2025. We are grateful for the valuable input provided by our members and volunteers in this process. The new strategy will be implemented during 2020.

In 2020 we hope to see a continued strong support from our volunteers and from our corporate and private members. We are also working hard to establish new and strategic partnerships in the partner countries we work in as we have identified strong potential for synergy and joint action between our partners in the specific countries we work with.

**Bent Michael Nielsen**  
Chairman of the board





**23,500**  
**hours**  
volunteered



**1,238**  
members



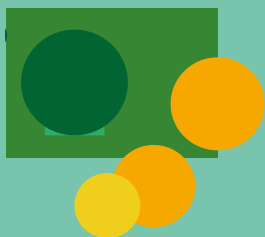
**250**  
active  
volunteers



**462**  
**DAYS**  
on mission  
in local communities



**37,000**  
people impacted



**4,5 mil DKK**  
project expenses  
**+22%** compared to 2018



## How we build a better tomorrow

Engineers Without Borders - Denmark is a technical humanitarian NGO established in 2001.

Our work is based on highly skilled volunteers making their time, skills and experience available. We have more than 1,200 members, and more than 250 members actively engaging in projects, developing international partnerships, creating sustainable solutions and improving living conditions in some of the poorest communities in the world.

All our projects are developed and managed by volunteer project groups – from the initial idea generation or contact to a potential partner,

through fact-finding and signing of a local partnership agreement, to implementation and a final hand-over to the local community.

Our actions are guided by the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and in addition to technical interventions, the fostering of local partnerships, and transfer of knowledge – SDG 17 is at the core of our mission.

We ensure local anchoring and sustainable solutions by actively engaging in capacity building, community involvement and facilitating local ownership. Engineers Without Borders – Denmark has a small

secretariat in Copenhagen, Denmark which provides a solid platform for our volunteers, and gives support in project description, administration, fundraising, internal and external communication and much more. In addition to the activities conducted at the secretariat, we have regional sections in South Denmark (Odense) and Central Denmark (Aarhus).



# Communication activities



## Communicating with business partners

An increasing number of projects are planned and implemented in partnership with Danish technical companies through the engagement of their staff, who contribute with their knowledge or technologies.

During 2019 we have inspired and motivated some companies to engage in development projects by showcasing examples of how they – through a partnership with Engineers Without Borders - Denmark – can contribute their knowledge and expertise to the SDGs.

We had two movies produced with cases from BDO and Rambøll – two of our corporate partners. Representatives from the companies share their thoughts on the collaboration. Voices

from the south tell the viewer how they see the collaboration and how it benefits their communities.

We have experienced that it is necessary to tailor each partnership to the individual company. This requires flexibility and a large and direct engagement from our volunteers and staff.

Therefore, we have strengthened our secretariat on communication.

## Recruiting new volunteers

During the year we held nine introductions for new or potential volunteers. Two in Aarhus and seven in Copenhagen. The meetings were a success with an impressive turnout of engaged and curious attendees. Each meeting had around 25 attendees on average.

The introductions are often the first step before becoming a volunteer and is crucial to ensure a flow of new talented volunteers.

To enhance public awareness of Engineers Without Borders - Denmark and our work we also participate in events with a broader audience. At KulturNatten we held our event in collaboration with the Danish Association of Engineers. With 3D-glasses we gave some of our 300 visitors the possibility to experience flooding in Sierra Leone and to walk the streets of one of the poorest communities in West Africa.

We also took part in distributing the newspaper *Verdens Bedste Nyheder*, an annual event where the positive stories and the progress in the battle for the SDGs are shared with the broad public.



1. With 3d-glasses you could walk the streets of Freetown, Sierra Leone at Kulturnatten
2. Careers Opportunity Day at The University of Southern Denmark (SDU).
3. In the autumn you could meet our volunteers in the streets of Copenhagen handing out Verdens Bedste Nyheder.

These and other fairs, events, and activities give us an opportunity to reach a new and broader audience and it also gives our volunteers the occasion to share their work and passion with the public and potential new members and volunteers.

### **Collaborating with universities**

Engineers Without Borders - Denmark is increasingly engaged in activities at Universities.

At Technical University of Denmark (DTU) and The University of Southern Denmark (SDU) we have experienced an increasing enthusiasm from students who want to use our cases in their projects and assignments and we are working in close collaboration with teachers at these universities. We participate in

career fairs and present cases for the students to work on. In collaboration with volunteers in Aarhus we also pitched a case for students at Aarhus University.

We have joined forces with Techvelopment Spring, a campaign project by IDA, DTU, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark and UN City Copenhagen where we celebrated the UN World Water Day 2019 with an event.

At DTU we are part of their Innovation Pilot course, which gives students the opportunity to work on real-life challenges. We presented a case on solar cooling. Our project received a lot of attention from the students and approximately 40 students were selected to work on a solution for the case.



ARUP

COWI



ebmpapst

EKJ RÅDGIVENDE INGENIØRER A/S



HALDOR TOPSOE

Lodam  
BY BITZER GROUP

NIRÅS

PROCESS ENGINEERING A/S

RAMBOLL

SWECO

TYRÉNS

AARHUS UNIVERSITET  
INGENIØRHØJSKOLEN

## Partnerships

What strongly motivates many of our corporate members is to explore the shared knowledge platform with Engineers Without Borders - Denmark, giving back to society, poverty reduction on a non-profit basis, and assisting communities in need. A shared vision of joint action for the UN Sustainable Development Goals has inspired an increasing number of Danish companies to engage in a membership or project partnership with Engineers Without Borders - Denmark. When EKJ Rådgivende Ingeniører A/S joined Engineers Without Borders - Denmark the CEO Henrik Juul Sørensen said:

- EKJ takes on a commitment for the world and society we are a part of, and it is our ambition to contribute to the fulfillment of the UN Sus-

tainable Development Goal in our everyday activities.

But it is not just about the shared goal that makes Engineers Without Borders - Denmark an attractive partner. For some, it is also about the way we operate. When Danske Vandværker chose Engineers Without Borders - Denmark as a partner it was important to them that we in our projects promote consumer owned access to water which is also part of their history and DNA. Susan Münster, CEO at Danske Vandværker said:

- We are both democratic organisations who wishes to promote consumer ownership and communicate the history and tradition Danes have for organising and contributing to the local community".

Furthermore, we have had a very fruitful partnership with the Danish company ICONO. In connection with the construction of a WASH facility at the OTC vocational school for youth people living with disability in Kenema Sierra Leone ICONO donated newly designed equipment to be tested by the students and teachers at the school. The latrine add on is developed by ICONO and UNICEF and to be used in fragile situations and to benefit people living with disabilities. Safe sanitary solutions are very important for vulnerable groups as they are often more receptive to diseases and infections. This collaboration examines the opportunities for not only sharing knowledge, but also a physical product.

We were also joined by ARUP.





## Young Scientist award

In partnership with Astra, Engineers Without Borders has the privilege to present an award for young scientists at Denmark's biggest science competition for talented youth – Unge Forskere.

The projects are developed by young students from primary and secondary schools and the challenge highlights projects that support the UN Sustainable Development Goals and aims at solving challenges in some of the most vulnerable countries where Engineers Without Borders operates.

The winners in the senior category Jimmie Frank Thestrup Byg and Andreas Duerlund Rasmussen from Odense Tekniske Gymnasium developed a solution for charging cell phones using a car battery and solar panels. Both of which are available in many developing countries. This addresses the problem that while a growing number of people in Africa have access to cell phones they do not have access to reliable electricity. Jimmie participated in a mission to Sierra Leone with Engineers Without Borders while Andreas that unfortunately could not participate received a travel grant.

In the junior category (Primary school) Mona Jordan, Mikkel Persson and Frej Berri Lejre from Flakkebjerg Efterskole made an innovative fertiliser facility in a mobile container which can produce ammonium to fertilise the fields of an entire village.

The Engineering Challenge is created in collaboration with "Engineering in School", Villumfonden, A.P. Møller Fonden, Lundbeckfonden and Industriens Fond.



Through their employees who volunteers with us, Engineers Without Borders - Denmark will have access to state of the art knowledge in building and construction and we hope to benefit from a dedicated global ARUP Community.

Christian Allison, Denmark Group Leader, ARUP is also looking forward to the cooperation:

– We are excited about this partnership in Denmark, which allows both engineers Without Borders - Denmark and ARUP to expand the impact of community engagement projects.

Our employees are also excited about the opportunity to contribute and personally develop on projects which have a direct impact on communities in need”.



# WASH

## Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

Access to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) is a basic human right, and Engineers Without Borders - Denmark sees it as the foundation for all development. During the last 10 years, Africa has become the main operation area of our WASH interventions, with Sierra Leone as the primary target country.

The projects aim to provide a safe and reliable water supply for rural domestic use provided by hand-dug wells or drilled wells powered by solar energy. In addition to water

infrastructure, project activities include the establishment of adequate sanitation facilities, securing irrigation for farmers, training in maintenance of the water supply systems and community training in hygiene and sanitation practices.

Engineers Without Borders - Denmark sees local ownership and community engagement as crucial aspects of sustainability and in addition to long-term monitoring and technical follow-ups, all WASH projects include local organisational

capacity building and community empowerment. This way, the projects not only provide sustainable technical solutions and immediate health improvements, the local population also becomes engaged in a more long-term empowerment process, and gains experience in joint community efforts for improving their livelihoods.

# Improved livelihood through water supply and sanitation

## Nomo Faama, Kenema District, Sierra Leone

“Rights to Safe Water Supply and Sanitation” is the headline for a couple of water supply projects implemented since 2013 by Engineers without Borders – Sierra Leone, in a very close collaboration with Engineers without Borders – Denmark.

The aim is to improve livelihoods specifically concerning Water and Sanitation and the right to water in targeted communities, and improved conditions for participatory decision-making processes between rights holders and duty bearers within the Water and Sanitation sector of Kenema District.

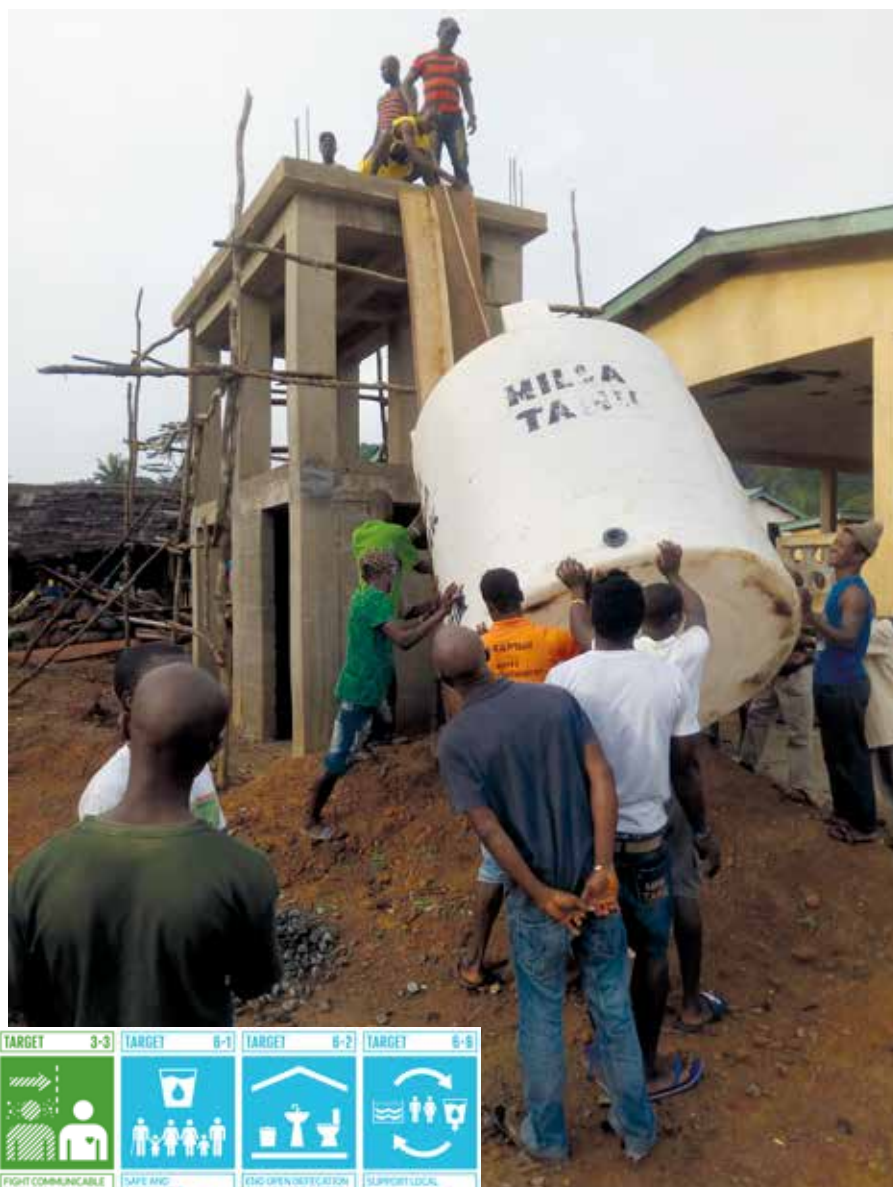
In the years 2013-16 the project targeted 21 communities with hand dug wells and pumps, family latrines using the CLTS methodology, and community organisation and training through establishing water committees responsible for the management, operation and maintenance of the established water supply systems and a payment system.

However in rural communities with a higher population density, where the level of complexity of the water system has moved one step further from hand-dug wells and hand pumps. The water system is based on a borewell, a solar-powered pump, a water tower, and a water distribution network, which transports the water to water taps close to the consumers.

The period of construction of the towers has been from April 2018 to July 2019, where the community took over the ownership of the water supply system. A pump and six solar panels were ordered and were delivered in March 2019. The solar panels are placed on top of the water

tower. The project also includes direct satellite transmission of data from the system on variables on use and water temperature. The project has now been finalized however Engineers Without Borders - Denmark still monitors use from the community.

Partners: Engineers Without Borders - Sierra Leone  
 Donors: Ramboll Foundation, Impact: 2,000-3,000







# Empowered communities now manage their own water supply

Sierra Leone, Kenema District



community centers, resulting in “1 latrine - 1 house” which is a central part of the official WASH policy in Sierra Leone. Also, the small community Baoma has begun to see the benefits of a functional well. Not only for the sake of clean water but also as a mean to build a new health facility in the future.

In March 2019, the water system in Nomo Faama was finally officially handed over and to mark that occasion we also celebrated the World Water Day on the same day. This was a huge success with participation from all the other NGOs in the Kenema District as well as the Kenema District Council.

The project demonstrates that local organisations and training with the use of water supply as point of departure can spark other community based initiatives due to new experience and learning on joint community action and organisation building.

Partners: Engineers Without Borders - Sierra Leone  
Donors: BDO International, CISU  
Impact: 23,000



In Sierra Leone, we have an ongoing effort to supply water and sanitation for the most vulnerable part of the population. As 2019 reaches the end, all 26 communities and nearly 23,000 citizens have a functioning pump and through training by our local staff, they are also able to repair it.

2019 was also the year where the work on latrine construction and village savings kicked off. During

2019 we have seen an increment in savings on nearly 68% proving that through continuous training and empowerment it is possible for the communities to act themselves and make a difference. Most impressive has been the small community Guworbu which has embarked on the journey towards a community-based cooperative, planting cassava farms and utilising the profits for the construction of both latrines and

## WHY I VOLUNTEER



# More dignity and better health for people living with disabilities

## Kenema, Sierra Leone

The Opportunity Training Centre is a school for vocational training of people with disabilities for approximately 60 students and teachers. Engineers Without Borders - Denmark has established baths, washing facilities and toilet rooms designed for wheelchair users. Toilets are equipped with special ICONO chairs, which make it easy for wheelchair users to get from wheelchair to the toilet seat.

For the students, it has been important to their self-esteem to be able to manage daily sanitary functions in private and without help from others.

Within the same project, Engineers Without Borders - Denmark also provided a solar panel system

for the school to provide safe and reliable electricity for the different workshops at the school – something that is a scarcity in Sierra Leone.

In connection with this project Engineers Without Borders - Denmark also shipped a container to Kenema with equipment for the workshops and the WASH building.

You can read more about OTC and our partnership on pages 22-23.

Partner: Opportunity Training Centre (OTC)

Donors: Ramboll Foundation and ICONO

Impact: 137

With Rambøll I was working on a project at an orphanage in Uganda and I realised that I wanted to do more work similar to this.

With Engineers Without Border I get to be part of a community with others that want to make a difference in the world. It feels good to give to those that are not as fortunate as we are and to be in a community with some very dedicated and professional volunteers who want the same thing.

It surprised me that Engineers Without Borders were not only for engineers. There is an interdisciplinary approach in the projects and other professions are brought into the projects. I was welcomed by some very enthusiastic volunteers and they listened to what I could contribute as a constructing architect.

Andreas Moesgaard Gertsen  
Constructing architect, Rambøll  
Arkitektur og Integreret Design -  
CPH

*"I get to be part of a community with others that want to make a difference in the world."*







# Renovation of three health clinics and new housing for staff

Talia, Vahuun and Komende , Sierra Leone



Three health clinics in a state of disrepair in Talia, Vahuun and Komende have been renovated with new roofs, ceilings, paint treatment and partial tiles on walls and floors. Furthermore, new pumps and replacement and repair of damaged pipes will give the clinics direct access to water inside the buildings. Additional rooms have also been constructed for the ward in Komende to secure safe facilities for women giving birth. To prevent malaria, windows and ventilation holes have been protected with mosquito nets.

Due to the large amounts of rainfall during the rainy season – up to 500 cm – building foundations are subject to heavy erosion. The clinics have been secured with concrete drainage gutters.

The renovation of the three health clinics in Talia, Vaahun and Komende will benefit people by improving the quality of services and, at the same time, the life quality of the communities. A total of seven full-time employees and 13 volunteers currently work at the clinics, approx. 130 patients are treated and about 16 births are given every

week. Giving birth in a secure place with the attention of health staff in rural Sierra Leone often makes the difference between life and death for women and newborns.

Partner: World Hope International - Sierra Leone

Donors: Frantz Hoffmanns Mindelegat, Bygma Fonden, Civilingeniør H.C. Bechgaard Og Hustru Ella Mary Bechgaards Fond  
Impact: 8,320





*In the future, the 565 children at the orphanage will benefit from the improved buildings*

## Workshop on preventive maintenance for local staff at an orphanage to finalise project

### Stonetown, Zanzibar, Tanzania

Over the past five years Engineers Without Borders - Denmark has worked in the SOS Children's village in Stonetown, Zanzibar on numerous projects of renovating the 25-year-old buildings and facilities. This has included renovating some ten family houses, setting up and equipping a workshop for the facility handyman as well as energy optimisation through establishing a solar-driven pump. In 2018/19 the focus has been on renovating and upgrading the sewer and rainwater system in the SOS village based on a generous donation from the Ramboll Foundation to SOS Børnebyerne.

The final project component, which concluded the entire five-year renovation program, was a very

successful four-day workshop on Planned Preventive Maintenance, headed by Engineers Without Borders - Denmark. Participants in the workshop were handymen, and administrators from all four SOS Children's villages in Tanzania, as well as representatives from the SOS national office and the SOS regional construction manager – a total of some 15 people. The overall objective of the workshop was to create awareness and teach the necessary skills on how to improve the maintenance of all buildings and facilities in Tanzania and Zanzibar and at the same time obtain savings in costs for water, electricity, etc. The workshop was hands-on oriented with exercises based on inputs from the partici-

pant's daily work in the villages. Sharing maintenance and repair issues, experiences, and good ideas between SOS-colleagues from all villages in Tanzania and Zanzibar were important. The overall beneficiaries of the workshop will be approx. 565 orphanage children living in the four SOS villages, who in the future will benefit from improved building and facilities. The project has now reached its goals and handover has been conducted.

Partner: SOS Children's Villages Zanzibar

Donors: Siemens Denmark, Solar Denmark, Ramboll Foundation

Impact: 565



# Disaster Relief and Preparedness

Engineers Without Borders - Denmark's efforts on Disaster Relief and Preparedness mainly lie within assisting other and larger relief and emergency organisations in the second and third phases of disaster relief efforts. Technically skilled Engineers Without Borders - Denmark

members are seconded to larger partner organisations, who are often led in a particular field of assistance in the affected area.

Assistance is provided in securing rapid access to safe water points for affected populations, erecting sanitation facilities, shelters, in sustain-

able waste management and debris clearance and recycling. Engineers Without Borders - Denmark contributes to ensuring the most basic human needs in the aftermath of a disaster. In our interventions, we are guided by the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS).



## Climate Resilience in Freetown

### Freetown, Sierra Leone

Together with local partners World Hope International and National Skill Pool, we are engaging the local communities of Pottor and Kaningo (15,000+ people) to combat the effects of climate change.

The project focus is on citizens engagement and is locally anchored in the communities through Climate Resilience Committees. There is a strong focus on awareness-raising and empowerment. A baseline survey will lay the foundation for the activities to be implemented in 2020.

One of the fundamental issues is the lack of public response to secure the needed infrastructures to become more resilient and mitigate the impacts of devastating floods, landslides and heatwaves.

Therefore, the project does not only target the communities, but have the ambitions to work strategically with the city to strengthen the engagement, to secure participation and action.

The project is launching new partnerships which led to a part-

nership mission in August 2019. The commitment and the level of engagement is high, and all are excited to work together and see the partnership grow.

Partners: World Hope International and National Skill Pool.

Donors: Ramboll Foundation, CISU, Reinholdt W. Jorck og Wife's foundation and a variety of private contributors.

Impact: 300-400





Three water towers were established in the neighbourhoods of Pottor and Kanningo in rural Sierra Leone.



# Providing access to water and sanitation after devastating mudslide

## Freetown, Sierra Leone

Following the mudslide and terrible flooding in the western rural areas of Sierra Leone in 2017 more than 1,100 people lost their lives and it is estimated that around 9,000 people was affected.

The flooding damaged part of the Guma dam, which supplied water to the communities affected by the mudslide. Consequently, water distribution and delivery has been adversely disrupted to the epicentres of the disaster. Lack of access to clean water and proper sanitation facilities posed a very serious threat to the health conditions of the victims, and could further escalate the scope of the disaster. Waterborne diseases like cholera, diarrheal diseases or other epidemics spread rapidly under poor sanitation and hygiene conditions, especially in crowded environments. Access to clean water and safe sanitation facilities are of

vital importance in the immediate aftermath of the disaster, and appropriate efforts can ensure that this disaster does not escalate into an epidemic of waterborne diseases.

In 2018 tree towers was erected with partner Engineers without Borders - Sierra Leone and in 2019 Engineers Without Borders - Denmark additionally and in collaboration with new partner Hope International - Sierra Leone established three water towers and a water kiosk in the neighborhoods of Pottor and Kanningo in Freetown Sierra Leone. Three solar-powered electric pumps have been installed.

A WASH committee has been established in each of the communities as a formal local responsible entity of the facility. The WASH committee, which has been selected to include women has been trained in operation and maintenance and

a payment scheme is established so as to secure local funds for maintenance.

The system is monitored from Denmark via GSM based data transmission to assist in the further follow-up and monitoring of the completed system, contributing to sustainability. The monitoring will also contribute with data that will inform and support future interventions.

Partner: Hope International, Engineers Without Borders - Sierra Leone

Donors: Danish Emergency Relief Fund (DERF), Fonden af 24. december 2008, Novo Nordisk Foundation and Asta & Jul. P. Justesens Foundation  
Impact: 2,406



# Masterclass on climate adaptation



## Denmark

In the context of climate change, the poorest people are commonly seen as having the least capacity to adapt. The poor frequently live in the most hazardous physical environments – at risk from diseases, floods, fires and landslides and vulnerable to

the effects of climate change. Their economic possibilities of investing in mitigation are often very limited.

In a collaboration between four organisations we have organised a masterclass aimed at building knowledge and skills with Danish volunteers to assist and work with international partners on the issue of poverty and climate change. The

planning took place in 2019 and the classes will be held in 2020 with the participation of 25 volunteers who will get training and feedback from international experts. Staff from relevant international partners will also attend in online sessions.

The aim of the masterclass is to strengthen the capacity of the participants and to understand the link between local context, poverty and climate adaptation, identify and work with indigenous knowledge and skills to create change and finally to understand how to assess and develop technical solutions for development.

Donor: Globalt Fokus

## WHY I VOLUNTEER

I studied sustainable energy. I wanted to make energy available to the people that do not have access to energy sources and make it sustainable. I want to work in an NGO, but for now, I am volunteering instead along with my regular job.

At Engineers Without Borders - Denmark I have been managing a project on a cooling storage facility in Sierra Leone, to help farmers get better conditions on the market. I have my technical knowledge, but Engineers Without Borders - Denmark taught me to take cultural, humanitarian, and all the other aspects into account.

I have also signed up for the masterclass on climate adaptation and it is a great opportunity.

Roberta Orlando. Bachelor in Energy Engineering and Master in Sustainable Energy within Energy Savings. Ph.D. student at Aalborg University at the Department of the Built Environment

*"I have my technical knowledge, but Engineers Without Borders-Denmark taught me to take cultural, humanitarian and all the other aspects into account."*





# Food Security

Even though the number is declining, approx. 800 million people worldwide still suffer from hunger or malnutrition today. Inherent in Engineers Without Borders - Denmark's focus on food security is the aim to provide a foundation for income generation, improved access to nutritious food and to secure higher quality of food for poor and

vulnerable families living with food shortages.

In our projects, food security is addressed through a holistic approach targeting both production and post-harvest handling, but also access to markets.

Together with the rural communities, Engineers Without Borders - Denmark develops innovative

solutions to secure access to irrigation, production systems, post-harvest storage/cooling, diversification of production and adapted and locally relevant mechanisms of production.



## Food for school children Zimbabwe

### Zimbabwe

The current political and security situation in Zimbabwe combined with the severe effect of climate change leading to drought has sparked social unrest and large-scale protests by organised civil society, which has led to critical levels of food insecurity.

Together with local partner Christian Youth Volunteers Trust (CYVAT) we have established a school feeding program at selected primary schools targeting in particular vulnerable

juveniles and children. The food product provided to the children – called ePap – is a highly nutritious porridge already used in Zimbabwe and delivered from South Africa through a local distributor.

Local School Development Committees and parent groups at the schools of intervention have been involved in the daily delivery and decision-making on the intervention and in the monitoring of activities.

The present initiative is seen as a response to general food insecurity and urgent needs, yet with a positive benefit of also improving learning.

In a long-term perspective children who are hungry or chronically malnourished are less able to learn. To address this, the intervention will also provide seeds for crop production to initiate or boost continued school gardening activities. This is because funding for such activities are low or non-existing, but of high value in order to promote healthy nutrition.

Partners: CYVAT  
Donors: Danish Emergency Relief Fund (DERF)  
Impact: 850



# Environment

## Sustainable energy, waste management, and environmental planning

Supporting vulnerable and exposed communities in coping with climate changes and scarce natural resources through adapted sustainable technology is a powerful step towards eradicating poverty and ensuring sustainable and prosperous local communities. Engineers Without Borders - Denmark assists local and mainly rural communities in sustain-

able use of natural resources, and in minimising adverse environmental impact from rural development.

We improve the livelihood of the poor through relevant, locally adapted and sustainable approaches. The goal of our interventions and projects is to facilitate help to self-help, hence making local communities able to address their basic needs and

become active agents in their own development and problem-solving. Combining income generation with sustainable local development initiatives produces strong incentives for local participation and ownership and improves the health and general living conditions of the local population.



## Collecting household waste

### Kétao, Togo

Engineers Without Borders - Denmark and the partner ADSA now service more than 140 households in Kétao, Togo collecting household waste. Source separation of the waste is done on a household level, but is still causing problems. The waste is separated in compostable waste and residual waste. To eliminate the problems of source separation, workshops with the stakeholders are made regularly,

and a system has been implemented where a member of the collection staff carries out instructions on how to correctly separate waste.

The local market place has not yet been included in the waste collection, but negotiations are ongoing, and plans for another landfill area is under discussion with the local authorities.

Information campaigns about waste are carried out in cooperation with

an environmental group established at the local high school and supported by partner organisations.

Partners: Association de Développement Social et agricole (ADSA)

Donors: CISU, Spejdernes Genbrug Farum, Reinholdt W. Jorck and Wife's Foundation, Recycling for Development

Impact: 1,000



## WHY I VOLUNTEER

I get to use some of the things I have learned as a student in real life. Real solutions in a real context with real people.

I am volunteering on a project to develop a waste management system in Togo and another project where we are developing a plastic

*"I get to use some of the things I have learned as a student in real life."*

recycling facility in Sierra Leone. I study Design and Innovation at DTU and when I started in Engineers Without Borders - Denmark, I didn't know much about waste management – but as a design engineer I know something about how to take a technical solution and make it work in another context. We have some technical solutions that have to work for some people with a completely different everyday life than ours. That challenge is really exciting.

Karen Brogaard Jessen  
Student of Design and Innovation at DTU



## EU Aid Volunteer capacity building

### Denmark

In our work Engineers Without Borders - Denmark recognise the importance of building capacity amongst our partners as a part of our operations.

Funding from the EU and CISU allowed us to put resources behind an effort to build organisational capacity in a scale that we otherwise never would have had the resources or funds to do neither in our organisation nor in our partner organisations in the south.

In 2019 Engineers Without Borders - Denmark was certified to be part of the EU Aid Voluntary Programs. As a volunteer in an EU Aid Volunteers certified organisation you can have your expenses by having volunteers in the field covered through EU funding. This we believe will provide an important possibility for more and longer presence of our volunteers in the field in the future.

The project is strategically important to us as it gives us the opportunity to send out more volunteers but also to build more capacity in Engineers Without Borders - Denmark and with our partners.

Furthermore, it will strengthen us in our efforts to prepare volunteers better before going on a mission. It will provide us with a shared platform for working with the safety of our volunteers. And it will improve learning between our volunteers and our partner organisations.

We hope and expect this will improve the experience of the volunteers, the quality of work provided by Engineers Without Borders - Denmark and that it will improve capacity building and learning with both our partners and ourselves.

Participating partners were: MAVUNO Tanzania, DCA Act Alliance, Build Up Nepal and Engineers Without Borders - Sierra Leone, Engineers Without Borders - Sweden, Engineers Without Borders - Norway, EAHR



# Strategy development at vocational school for people with disabilities

## Kenema, Sierra Leone

For a few years, Engineers Without Borders - Denmark have been involved with Opportunity Training Centre (OTC) in Kenema, Sierra Leone, however, 2019 proved to be the starting point of an exciting project partnership between Engineers Without Borders - Denmark and OTC.

OTC is a school for people living with physical disabilities (PWDs), where the students can learn vocational skills as well as basic education, such as reading and writing. The school teaches tailoring, elec-

tronics, hairdressing and beauty and blacksmith/metal works.

Through 2019 Engineers Without Borders - Denmark has assisted OTC in conducting a strategy development facilitated by an external consultant with knowledge and experience of the national context in the areas of people living with disability. The process resulted in an impressive strategy with visions and goals for the school, hence a solid platform for their future and also the engagement by Engineers Without Borders - Denmark. In the process

several relevant stakeholders from Sierra Leone and Denmark were involved in seminars, where ideas and knowledge sharing thrived. One of the identified main goals for OTC is to strengthen their workshops and increase the number of students from 60 to 100 by increasing their community outreach in the district. Furthermore, OTC has started thinking more in income-generation, which already has already led to the start of a tuk-tuk business and plans for an IT workshop in addition to existing workshops.



## WHY I VOLUNTEER

Lastly, Engineers Without Borders - Denmark will now engage in a 30-month project with OTC, where we together will work towards the goals, as formulated in OTC's new strategy. The project will include capacity building of the school (organisationally and in the workshops), community outreach and awareness on rights both on a community level and on other stakeholder levels in Sierra Leone.

This year has without a doubt already increased the possibilities for OTC, where 60 students and 15 teachers have received access to clean WASH facilities and the workshops have given a huge boost. In a country, that is lacking focus on people living with disabilities as well as the basic needs of all citizens, the projects that Engineers Without Borders - Denmark and the donors in Denmark have made possible in 2019 makes a massive difference. OTC, being the oldest organisation for disabled, is a strong advocate for PWDs in Sierra Leone and by helping them to become even stronger the projects will reach many people, that are overlooked today.

Partner: Opportunity Training Centre (OTC)

Donors: Ramboll Foundation, CISU, Genbrug til Syd, Regionernes Genbrugscenter, ICONO.

Impact: 137

I was surprised that Engineers Without Borders needed someone with my background - I am not an engineer. But it makes sense that someone does the accounting, so others can focus on what they do best.

It has been very interesting to become a volunteer with Engineers Without Borders - Denmark as I have met people I wouldn't have met otherwise – both here in Denmark but also a lot of fantastic people in Sierra Leone where my projects are located. Meeting new people always makes you understand the world better. You realise that an amount of DKK 2 can be a problem for some. This makes me value the freedom and opportunities I have even more. It also motivates me to make an extra effort with my Engineers Without Borders - Denmark work so I can help to make a positive change in the world.

After coming back from Sierra Leone last year, I sat up a

***“Volunteering is a way for me to make a difference but also an opportunity to go places that I would otherwise never see.”***

personal goal to raise funds for a Tuk Tuk for one of my projects. It took a lot of applications and a lot of rejections but at the beginning of 2020 this small project of mine succeeded – I got a nice photo of a red Tuk Tuk from Sierra Leone and a lot of smiling locals. This was worth all the hard work.

Volunteering is a way for me to make a difference but also an opportunity to go places that I would otherwise never see. As a tourist, you don't go to see a remote part of Sierra Leone and meet the people living there.

I can't go to the projects as often as I would like, but I communicate with some of the people I met in Sierra Leone through Facebook and it gives me a unique look into their everyday lives. Here it is great to see that we laugh and smile at the same things around the world.

Lars Falkenberg, Economist, NETS





# Knowledge sharing with new partner in Zimbabwe

## Zimbabwe

A prerequisite for successful partnerships between civil society actors in the global North and South is a shared understanding of context, capacities, visions, and working approaches.

A fact-finding mission to the Manicaland Province in Eastern Zimbabwe in 2016 found a pressing need for water. However, a precondition for long-term sustainability is that the local population engages

and participates in all phases of the project and takes ownership, and a successful community-based WASH project relies on a thorough assessment of the actual local water resources and dialogue around relevant technical solutions.

We wish to build up a strong knowledge base and establish the necessary shared understanding and capacities for a long-term partnership and successful implementation of community-based development. We have some excellent experience from

WASH projects in Sierra Leone and we will explore if this valuable knowledge can be transferred to Zimbabwe.

Together with PUTZ – a local NGO – we arranged field visits and a workshop in Harare to see e in Zimbabwe and to further explore a potential deepened partnership with PUTZ and other relevant WASH stakeholders for improving water and sanitation conditions in local communities in Zimbabwe. The partnerships have grown into specific projects.

Partner: PUTZ

Donor: CISU, Velux Foundation and NIRAS

Impact: 15-25

## WHY I VOLUNTEER

I volunteer because I care about the injustices of the world. I might not change the world, but I can give my contribution.

I work on the technical logistics of hospitals and I also have a huge interest in renewable energy and energy efficiency. I help organise the maintenance of equipment and the physical infrastructure in hospitals and health clinics. Recently I worked on a solar power installation at a handicap centre in Sierra Leone. I have been doing this for many years and I learn something new every time. Some new technical knowledge and something new about people. You meet people who

*"I learn something new every time. Some new technical knowledge and something new about people."*

might view the world differently than you do. But you are always welcomed and people are interested in listening and cooperating.

I have been volunteering at several NGOs, but for the last twenty years I have been mainly with Engineers Without Borders.



Preben Byberg, Bachelor in Technology Management and Marine Engineering, Retired

# CHS Capacity building

## Sierra Leone

During 2019 Engineers Without Borders - Denmark supported two partners, small NGOs, in Sierra Leone and Zambia, respectively, with assessing how well their work aligns with the recommendations presented in the Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality & Accountability (CHS). The assessments were conducted online by the same person who facilitated the CHS self-assessment of Engineers Without Borders - Denmark in 2017. The objectives of the assessments were to capacity build staff of the NGOs, Think Green Zambia and Engineers Without Borders - Sierra Leone, to be able

to identify strengths and weaknesses in the design, implementation and management of their projects; to provide inputs to the design of a capacity building programme on CHS, and to position the NGOs to become partners in internationally funded projects.

Partners: Think Green Zambia and Engineers Without Borders - Sierra Leone  
 Donors: CISU  
 Impact: 20



# Internship

As an intern, I worked in local communities in Sierra Leone repairing pumps and at OTC (a facility for people with disabilities see page 13 and 22). I was gathering quotes on the construction of the new WASH building and I oversaw the initial building process. I also participated in establishing surveillance of water towers in Sierra Leone.

I got plenty of opportunities to explore some of the things that I was not so experienced with. I am a Bachelor of Technology Management and Marine Engineering so I have a lot of technical knowledge but I also needed some soft skills. I had to get in a dialogue with the villagers about the project. And there is an intercultural aspect as well. You have to think differently to get things done.

I learned that you can fix a broken pipe with a plastic bag and you can heat a soldering iron over an open fire. You have to use what is accessible.

If you consider going on an internship, then you probably already have a fundamental belief that we need to help each other in this life. Then my advice is to just go.



*By sending students and young professionals into the field, we seek to develop our local partner's knowledge and let Danish students and young professionals work in a global context*





# Thank you to our donors!

## 250,000 DKK and above

- A.P. Møller Fonden
- Danish Emergency Relief Fund (DERF)
- Globalt Fokus
- Ramboll Foundation
- The Civil Society Fund

## 50,000-250,000

- Civilingeniør H.C. Bechgaard  
Og Hustru Ella Mary Bechgaards Fond
- Fonden af 17-12-1981
- Frame, Voice, Report!
- Marie og M.B. Richters Fond
- Reinholdt W. Jorck and Wife's Foundation
- SFT Fonden 2016
- Spejdernes Genbrug Farum
- The Agency for Culture and Palaces
- The Danish Society of Engineers (IDA)

## 5,000-50,000

- Det Arnstedtske Familiefond
- FLSmidt & Co. A/S Donation Fund
- FOSS
- Frantz Hoffmanns Mindelegat
- GreenSpeak
- Lund Fonden
- Merkur Fonden
- Recycling for Development
- Sweco Denmark A/S employees
- The UK Online Giving Foundation
- The VELUX Foundations

Additionally, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all private persons for their donations.



# Annual accounts

## OPERATING STATEMENT

January 1 - December 31

	2019 (DKK 1,000)	2018 (DKK 1,000)
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Income	9,758	5,253
Prepaid Donations, Beginning of year	2,964	3,098
Prepaid Donations/Grants, End of year	-7,159	-2,964
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>5,563</b>	<b>5,387</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Direct Project Expenses	3,589	3,691
Indirect Project Expenses	827	241
Other activities	672	531
Management and general Expenses	584	693
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>5,672</b>	<b>5,156</b>
<b>Earnings before Interest</b>	<b>-109</b>	<b>231</b>
Interest Expenses	-	-8
<b>ANNUAL RESULT</b>	<b>-109</b>	<b>223</b>

## BALANCE SHEET

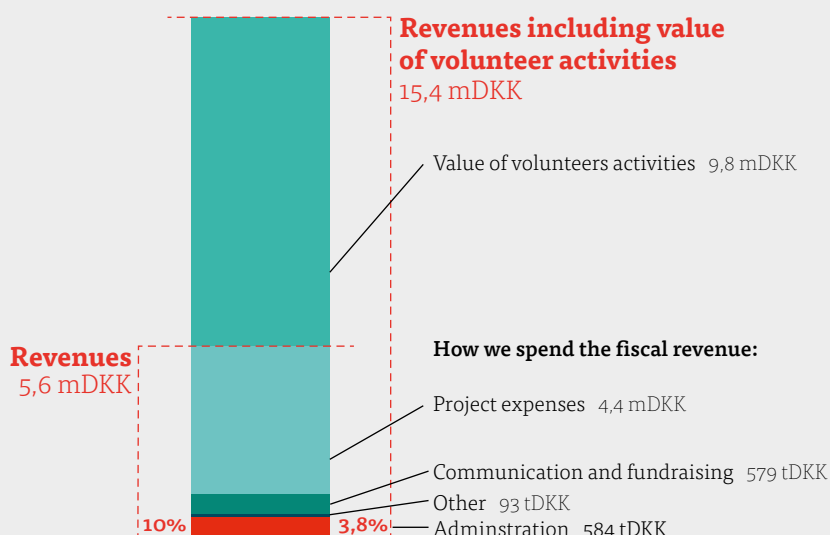
December 31

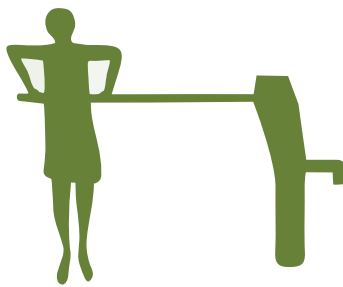
	2019 (DKK 1,000)	2018 (DKK 1,000)
<b>Assets</b>		
Fixed Assets		19
Current Assets	8,442	4,278
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>8,442</b>	<b>4,297</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Equity	749	858
Tied Reserves For Projects	7,159	2,964
Current Liabilities	472	476
Long-term Liabilities	61	0
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>8,442</b>	<b>4,297</b>

## How we spend our revenue

Administration accounts for 10% of our revenue. However if we include the estimated\* value of volunteer activities from project managers, members of project groups and volunteers on mission, administration is only 3,8%.

\*estimate based on survey amongst volunteers and an average hourly fee including overhead based on DANIDA standards.





# **BUILDING A BETTER TOMORROW**

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