



Digital Newsletter belonging to the website www.soroptimistsgoforwater.nl

The European Federation has made WATER the central theme for their activities for the years 2007-2011.

Access to water is a theme that touches on all aspects of our areas of interest. Without water, no life!

If we talk about health, education, environment, economic development, or human rights in general access to safe and affordable drinking water and basic sanitation facilities is essential. Also our 6th area of interest (IGU) opens possibilities for cooperation around the theme of WATER between Soroptimist Clubs of the developed world and the countries of Eastern Europe and Africa.

Soroptimist Clubs in the West have strengths in the areas of Fundraising, the countries of Eastern Europe and Africa know what their greatest needs are.

The goal of the next 4 years around the theme of WATER is to initiate and execute 100 International projects in Eastern Europe and Africa. This goal will bring us closer to one of the Millennium Goal Targets: to reduce by half the number of people without access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation facilities by the year 2015.

The European Federation consists of 1200 Soroptimist Clubs. It should be possible to do 100 projects together! We hope that all Clubs feel stimulated to cooperate and get Water projects off the ground!

Year of Sanitation 2008

Prince Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands is Chair of the UNSKAB, an advisory group on Water and Sanitation of the United Nations. The Prince is an expert on the management of Water, a topic also dear to the heart of his late father, Prince Claus of the Netherlands.

See the Speech for the November 21, 2007 Opening of the Preparatory Meeting of the 2008 International Year of Sanitation in New York City



Prince Willem-Alexander with the Secretary General of the United Nations Ban Ki Moon in New York City, November 21, 2007.

Imagine

- that you do not have a bathroom in your house
- that you do not have an outhouse in your backyard
- that there are no public bathrooms in your town
- that your town has no sewage system

Just think about that!
Would it not be nice if there would be a little building not too far away with safe drinking water, one or two showers and some toilets?

Imagine



-that you are able to help bring an African or East-European sister Soroptimist to the Congress in the Netherlands in 2009!

Projects

The number of hits on our website has been increasing steadily to an average of 2000 per month.

The webpage most often viewed is the one about the waterprojects.

More and more African Clubs use the Project Exchange Pool and they ask us to cooperate with them on their safe water and sanitary projects.

There are 5 new projects on the website right now.

Some Dutch Clubs are just finishing their projects. The website will soon give details about the work of Club **Friesland-South, Rhenen-Veenendaal** and the ongoing projects of a relative new Club: **Leiden Aurora** in Suriname and Indonesia.



★ Children's home Pare, Java.

SI club Zeist has started in Abi-Adi in North Ethiopia a Sanitationprogramme for girls.

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What's new on the website

www.soroptimistsgoforwater.nl

5 New PEP projects:

- ★ SI of Kumasi (Ghana)
- ★ SI of Bamako Espoir (Mali)
Twee projecten
- ★ SI of Kolda (Senegal)
- ★ SI of Lomé (Togo)



See:
> **Water Projects** <

The Opening of the meeting of the **UN International Year of Sanitation 2008** by His Royal Highness Prince-Willem Alexander of the Netherlands.



See:
> **Water Projects** <

> **2008 Year of Sanitation** <

For ways to support the projects:



See:
> **Sponsors** <

> **The Fanclub** <
> **How to support** <