

£13m raised with the One Foundation from sales of Co-op bottled water over 14 years (£1.9m in 2020)

£2m raised for Water Unite since 2017 (£560,000 in 2020)

International development

The One Foundation

Our Future of Food commitment to Clean Water for all remains a core part of our international development work. We raise money through Co-op own-label bottled water sales to support projects bringing clean water, sanitation and hygiene solutions to some of the world's poorest communities, donating over £13m over the past 14 years and over £1.9m in 2020 alone.

In partnership with The One Foundation, these funds helped deliver safe water and improved sanitation to over 254,000 people living and working in Kenya, Rwanda, Ghana and Malawi during 2020. More than 2.3m lives have been changed over the last 13 years.

Water Unite

Through our branded bottled water sales we're continuing our pioneering investment in Water Unite - an innovative finance fund addressing issues surrounding plastic waste pollution alongside lack of access to clean water and decent sanitation worldwide. In 2020 we donated over £560,000 to Water Unite.

Our funding has helped create watershed rehabilitation programs in South Africa to address the severe drought crisis there. Additionally, we've supported programs to create innovative infrastructure to divert hundreds of metric tonnes of plastic from the waste stream thereby reducing plastic pollution, curtailing emissions and improving livelihoods of workers in waste and recycling industries.

Disasters Emergency Committee

We are long-standing supporters of the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC).

In July, DEC launched the Coronavirus Appeal.
As part of this appeal a donation of £50k was made to
Oxfam via The One Foundation with funds generated
from the sales of our own-label bottled water. This was
to support public health messaging, medical aid and
WASH provisions in vulnerable communities¹ most
severely affected by the pandemic.

Carbon offset projects

In 2020 we provided £300,000 of support for projects funded by carbon offsets from our insurance and funeral businesses. These included fuel-efficient stoves (reducing the amount of wood needed for cooking) in Ghana; conservation of standing forest in Sierra Leone; wind farms providing renewable energy and employment in India; and clean water provision by distributing water filters in Kenya.

¹ Oxfam GB is specifically looking at seven countries to deepen its support in view of poor access to healthcare further exacerbated by new and protracted humanitarian crises; these include high density population areas such as refugee and IDP camps as well as areas of conflict and displacement. Funding from The One Foundation will be lightly restricted to support WASH activities in the following countries: Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, Bangladesh, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Myanmar.