



**Enviro-Stewards**  
Engineers & Scientists  
SAVE.SUSTAIN.SHARE  
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# The Safe Water Project



Enviro-Stewards Inc. is an engineering firm and [Certified B Corporation](#) that helps clients increase their profits, sustain the environment and compellingly benefit society.

During volunteer work with a homeless ministry in Canada, our President (Bruce) learned of Susan Tabia who was operating an orphanage in northern Uganda. The LRA (Joseph Kony's group) had stolen the children from a nearby orphanage (to be slaves & child soldiers) and Susan wanted to construct a new orphanage in Southern Sudan, which would be relatively safer.



In January 2004, Bruce and our draftsman (Joel) travelled to South Sudan to help construct the St. Bartholomew orphanage. At that time, the widows operating the orphanage were walking 3 miles to the nearest source of safe water. Bruce brought a biosand filter so that water from a nearby creek could be purified and hence leave more time for the widows to care for the children.

While expanding the orphanage in 2006, a local group asked to be taught how to construct the biosand filters. This is what Bruce was hoping someone would ask. In February 2007, a trainer was brought in from CAWST (Ta) and 17 students were taught how to construct the biofilters and to train others how to do so (train the trainers course). The 4 best students from the training were selected to operate a locally owned biosand filter purification project (the first in South Sudan).

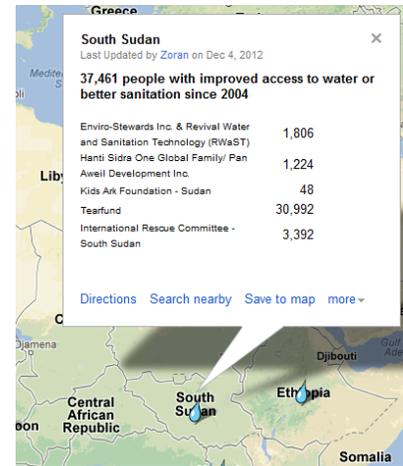


The team tested every water source in Kajo Keji County, South Sudan, with a solar powered

incubator. The testing found that 171 of their 238 water sources contained E. Coli bacteria. Interviews with Doctors without Borders staff indicated that more than half of their patients were being treated for water related illnesses. With this foundation, the biofilters were well accepted by the local community. The biofilters are very economical compared to the cost of either medical treatment or the cost of firewood required to boil the water (to make it safe to drink).



In November 2007, the Kajo Keji water project hosted a workshop by CAWST for 10 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) considering initiating biofilter water projects. [As of the most recent annual report](#), projects initiated by Enviro-Stewards together with projects by others have provided about 37,461 South Sudanese with safe drinking water.



In 2008, the Kajo Keji community requested assistance starting a bottled water business. Enviro-Stewards sent 15,000 refillable glass bottles donated by the Brick Brewery (whom Enviro-Stewards had helped save \$400,000/yr on their operating costs). Selling the bottled water to NGOs and at local events (weddings, meetings, etc.) provides a revenue stream for the community ([CTV News](#)).

Other clients of Enviro-Stewards began to sponsor biofilters for the portion of the local population who could not otherwise afford them. [Following implementation of measures that saved \\$490,000/yr in operating costs](#), Tim Hortons' Fruition factory sponsored 40 biosand filters. These biofilters were featured in Tim Hortons' [2011](#) and [2012 Sustainability and Responsibility Reports](#).

Tim Hortons' Director of Manufacturing (Don) chose to join Bruce on a [trip to South Sudan](#) to see the biofilter installations. Other corporate biofilter donors include [PepsiCo Foods](#), [Chudleigh's](#), [Roux](#), [Smart Watering Systems](#), [Grosche](#), [Green Enterprise Movement](#), [ALS Laboratories](#), [Bob Willard](#), [Veriform](#), [Prokleen](#), [BVMG](#), [B lab](#), and [BLOOM Centre for Sustainability](#).

In November 2012, Enviro-Stewards helped start a biofilter project in Juba, South Sudan. The team from Kajo Keji trained a local women's organization who own and operate the Juba water project.

In May 2013, Enviro-Stewards provided an interest free loan and water purification system to a group in the Kiambio slum of Nairobi, Kenya. The group will own and operate a business refilling jerrycans with purified water. People there are presently drinking either (untreated) river water or (contaminated) Nairobi city water.

In the coming year we hope to establish additional safe water projects, such as a project in Yei, South Sudan (where people are presently drinking (untreated) Yei river water).

For additional Information visit: [Link to Safe Water Project](#)

