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WATER-SHARE IRELAND MATTERS

NEWS & VIEWS FROM WATER-SHARE IRELAND & GOAL

Issue 4, 2025

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Dear friends,

As we reach the midpoint of 2025, I want to thank each of you for continuing to support us through uncertainty and challenging times. The past few months have been marked by a global humanitarian environment that is, frankly, under strain. The aftershocks of the USAID funding crisis and broader reductions in international development assistance are being deeply felt, including by our colleagues in GOAL and by the communities they serve.



And yet, through all of this, Water-Share Ireland has held steady. That's because of you, our members, patrons, and supporters, who continue to lead with generosity, technical excellence, and belief in what we can achieve together. You've stepped forward when others have stepped away. And that has made all the difference.

So far this year, Water-Share Ireland has contributed to the expansion of life-changing piped water

through our partnership with GOAL and the generous support of our member network across Ireland's water sector.

And of course, we continue to deepen our partnerships here at home. I want to thank ACEI, our charity partner, for the generous platform offered at their Annual Conference in June, where we had the opportunity to share our story, connect with new allies, and showcase what this network is capable of. A special thanks to Shane Dempsey, Director General of ACEI, for facilitating this opportunity; to our longtime friend and former Chair, Jerry Grant, for spotlighting Water-Share Ireland during his address; and to our GOAL colleagues, Alan Reade and David Coveney, who represented us on the day.

Looking ahead, the second half of the year holds real promise. Our much-anticipated Hackathon will return this October, following the success of last year's inaugural event, made possible by our valued partnership with DCU Water Institute. It will be a space not just for bold ideas and problem-solving, but for connection and momentum. I urge all members, patrons, and newcomers to consider getting involved. We'll share registration details in the weeks ahead - stay tuned.

As ever, I close with sincere thanks. We all read the headlines. We all know how steep the road ahead can be. But I remain convinced that our collective grit, innovation, and shared purpose will continue to push boundaries.

If you haven't yet renewed your membership for 2025, please do. Your contribution, whether financial or technical, is not just welcome; it's vital.

Wishing you a meaningful and impactful second half of the year.



Alan Curran,
Chair, Water-Share Ireland

WATER-SHARE IRELAND ROUND-UP

A) NORTHERN, EASTERN AND SOUTHERN UGANDA

Uganda remains a cornerstone of the Water-Share Ireland portfolio, with several piped water supply (PWS) schemes expanding access to safe water for underserved rural communities.

Mulombi PWS – Eastern Uganda

The original Mulombi scheme, now operated by the Ministry of Water, continues to serve around 3,000 people. Tokens are reportedly selling well. With support from Ward & Burke, a €41,000 budget has been approved for a **9.1km** extension, which is substantially complete. **The extension** will significantly expand the scheme's reach and the potential to provide life-changing clean water to over 10,000 people. A GOAL-led feasibility report is in progress to assess baseline needs, with early findings showing promise.

Mogadishu PWS – Northern Uganda

Following successful exploratory drilling with a safe yield of 60m³/day, the Mogadishu PWS design (carried out by GOAL Uganda and technically reviewed by Water-Share) is now complete. The GOAL team are now progressing to tendering for scheme construction in 2025. The system is expected to serve 3,000 people initially, growing to 6,000 by 2045.

This scheme is being advance-funded by a contribution from the Joe & Helen O'Toole Charitable Trust and

Buwoya PWS – Southeastern Uganda

A geophysical survey is underway in the Nsibondwe area. Two promising wells have been identified with sufficient volume; however, water quality remains a concern. A €6,000 budget has been committed, and a follow-on ask of approximately €50,000 is anticipated to continue exploration and well testing. Tobin Consulting Engineers continues to provide technical oversight.

Ongoing Technical Support

Ongoing project development on three other schemes is supported by members, including Arup, Tobin, Ryan Hanley, Egis, and Uisce Éireann, whose expertise in hydrogeology, network design, and systems analysis remains vital to the success of these initiatives.

B) FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE

The Waste-to-Energy Plant (formerly the Faecal Sludge Management Plant) in Freetown is entering an exciting new chapter.

Project Momentum

Thanks to €170,000 in funding secured via the Irish Embassy (Irish Aid), and continued donor support from the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) (formerly DFID UK), Water-Share Ireland and GOAL are advancing the next stage of plant improvements. A contractor has been appointed for the installation of new equipment provided by EPS, which has just arrived on site. A dedicated GOAL Project Manager is being onboarded to oversee installation, ensure operational excellence and identify and drive further expansion and improvement opportunities.

Next Phase: Waste-to-Energy

Plans are underway to accelerate the energy transformation potential of the plant, converting dewatered sludge into smokeless briquettes through drying and degassing. This will reduce environmental risk, create a circular waste economy, and improve local livelihoods. Further support is being provided by DCU and Egis for laboratory testing and technical energy calculations.

Additional Opportunities

A potential reed bed solution for adjacent lagoons is being explored, with support from Uisce Éireann and project engineers. This could create additional sustainable wastewater treatment capacity and improve the site. *Member support for this project includes Nicolas O'Dwyer (RSK), EPS, RPS, Uisce Éireann, DCU, and Joe O'Driscoll.*

The Issue in Photos

Captured by GOAL-commissioned photographer Peter Caton in January 2025, these images from the dumpsite beside the Waste to Energy Plant in Kingtom, Freetown, starkly illustrate the environmental and human health hazards posed by unmanaged waste. Through our Sierra Leone programme, Water-Share Ireland is working to help mitigate these risks by supporting sustainable solutions to sanitation and waste management.





C) IDLIB PROVINCE, NORTHWEST SYRIA

Technical Reviews Completed

Recent months have seen the completion of detailed reviews of leakage levels in Salqin's water network, assessments of groundwater potential under climate stress, and evaluations of sewage, wastewater, and solar infrastructure.

GOAL's long-term strategy in Syria is under review, and next steps will depend on evolving humanitarian access and funding opportunities.

Member input has been essential, with technical expertise provided by ARUP, RPS, Glanua, and Nicolas O'Dwyer.

D) ZIMBABWE

GOAL Zimbabwe, supported by Water-Share Ireland, is developing an innovative approach to public-private partnerships in water service delivery for informal urban settlements.

Water Kiosk Pilot – Hopely Farm Settlement

Building on an earlier feasibility study, Water-Share is now investigating a secure water kiosk at Hopely Farm. The kiosk will feature a solar-powered borehole, chlorination, automated dispensing, and digital prepayment, all designed to provide affordable and safe water in a high-need, unplanned settlement.

Enabling Conditions

The city has expressed interest, and local private sector partners are engaged. The project will also pilot remote sensing for real-time water monitoring, improving oversight and accountability.

This pilot is made possible thanks to the generous support of John and Mary Cradock.

ACEI

ASSOCIATION OF
CONSULTING ENGINEERS
OF IRELAND

Spotlight on Partnership: Thank You to ACEI

We extend our sincere thanks to the Association of Consulting Engineers of Ireland (ACEI), our proud charity partner, for the generous visibility and support at their Annual Conference, held on World Environment Day, June 5th.

infrastructure, both at home and in the communities we serve.

Speaking at the Water-Share Ireland stand, Alan Reade, GOAL's Global WASH Advisor, reflected on this alignment:

"I was struck by the similarity to the problems being raised around delivering infrastructure in Ireland to some of the problems that our teams around the globe will be familiar with."

Through ACEI's platform, we had the opportunity to meet with new potential members, showcase our impact, and strengthen connections across the sector. These engagements are already bearing fruit, with new conversations now underway about joining the Water-Share Ireland network.

We are especially grateful to Jerry Grant, former Chair of Water-Share Ireland, for highlighting the programme in his keynote address, and to Alan Reade and David Coveney of GOAL for representing the programme so capably on the day.

Special thanks to Shane Dempsey, ACEI Executive Director, and all who helped make our participation possible. We're excited for what this growing partnership can continue to achieve in the months ahead.

Missed it on LinkedIn?



The graphic is a collage celebrating the Water-Share Ireland Hackathon 2025. It features a large group photo of participants and organizers, a man presenting at a screen, and various logos. The text 'WATER-SHARE IRELAND A GOAL PROGRAMME' is prominently displayed. The bottom section includes logos for Uisce Éireann, DCU, Water Institute, and RPS, along with the large text 'HACKATHON 2025'.

WATER-SHARE IRELAND
A GOAL PROGRAMME

HACKATHON 2025

Uisce Éireann
Irish Water

DCU

Water Institute

RPS

Water-Share Ireland Hackthon is Back! Save the Date

for the 2025 Water-Share Ireland Hackathon is well underway.

This year's two-day event will be held on October 15th and 16th at Dublin City University, thanks to our generous host, marking its second year on the campus.

We are also delighted to share that, for a second consecutive year, RPS/Tetra Tech will generously sponsor the evening dinner, helping to keep all teams fuelled and energised for two days of problem-solving and collaboration.

The event promises to be even bigger, more collaborative, and more impactful, with a renewed focus on tackling real-world WASH challenges through innovation, cross-sector teamwork, and technical ingenuity.

The opportunity to register as an individual or team will open shortly, so please keep an eye on your inbox.

Whether you're a returning participant or new to the experience, we look forward to welcoming teams from across the sector to join us again in creating breakthrough solutions for the communities we serve.

Missed the Save the Date? Sign up for our Hackathon Mailing List below.

- **When?** *Wednesday, October 15th & Thursday, October 16th*
- **Where?** *Dublin City University (DCU)*
- **Registrations for teams and individuals opening soon:** *Make sure you are on our Hackathon Mailing list to receive the first registration invite!*

Hackathon Mailing List

WATER-SHARE IRELAND FUNDING & SUPPORT

New Member Announcement: We're proud to welcome AtkinsRéalis as the newest member of Water-Share Ireland. Their commitment marks a powerful addition to our growing network, bringing fresh energy, expertise, and momentum to our shared mission of delivering life-changing water and sanitation solutions. We look forward to the impact this new partnership will help make possible.

We also continue to be deeply grateful to our committed Supporters and Patrons. Your ongoing contributions make it possible to deliver life-changing WASH programmes to some of the world's most vulnerable communities. In addition to vital funding, the generous in-kind support and technical expertise shared by our partners continue to be a cornerstone of our success.

Together, we are driving meaningful, lasting impact.



JOHN CRADOCK LTD



SUPPORT WATER-SHARE IRELAND APPEAL

Note from David Coveney of the GOAL/Water-Share Ireland Team.

- Thank you for your continued commitment to Water-Share Ireland. Q2 of 2025 continues to demonstrate the powerful impact of your support—projects are progressing, partnerships are deepening, and we're building on the ambitious agenda laid out in Q1 2025.
- As 2025 progresses, we see real potential to grow our impact. With your ongoing contributions—financial and technical—we aim to raise €200,000 this year to help scale current projects and begin new ones.
- **A reminder that Patron membership (€5,000)** allows eligibility for nomination to the Steering Group at the AGM.
- **Supporter contributions (€1,000)** are also hugely valued and offer meaningful ways for you to contribute to Water-Share Ireland.
- Our mission is driven by purpose—but it's powered by funding. The work we do simply isn't possible without the financial support of partners like you.
- Become a member and join us. Together, we don't just imagine a better future - we build it.
- **Please contact me at dcoveney@goal.ie or +353 89 234 9554** to learn how your organisation can align its Corporate Social Responsibility and Environmental Social Governance priorities with impactful and innovative solutions to the world's WASH challenges.
- **We continue to welcome technical expertise and pro bono support**, particularly in solar, groundwater, GIS, structural design, procurement and contract management.
- *A special thanks to those partners who have recommitted to Water-Share Ireland in 2025 by renewing their membership and support. Your continued backing is what keeps this work moving. Thank you!*



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