 **FAST FACTS**

**The Problem**

* 3.4 Million people die each year from water related diseases (WHO 2008)
* Every 21 seconds a child dies from water-related disease (UNICEF and WHO 2009)
* Nearly all deaths, 99%, occur in the developing world (WHO 2008)
* 780 million people lack access to clean water (WHO/UNICEF update 2012)
* Women spend 200 million hours a day collecting water (estimated from combined WHO/UNICEF update 2010)
* The majority of illness is caused by fecal matter (WHO 2002)
* More people have a mobile than a toilet (Estimated with data from: WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) for Water Supply and Sanitation. (2010). Progress on Sanitation and Drinking-Water, 2010 Update; International Telecommunication Union (ITU). (2011). The World in 2011 ICT Facts and Figures; United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). (2011). State of World Population 2011, People and possibilities in a world of 7 billion.)
* 443 million school days are lost each year by children who are unable to attend school due to illnesses and/or collecting water (United Nations Development Report 2006)
* Lack of sanitation is the world’s biggest cause of infection (Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (2008)
* This crisis impedes U.S. foreign policy goals
* By 2025, the proportion of the world’s population living in water-stressed countries is set to increase to by two thirds leading to intensified water-related conflicts in those areas
* Absolute water scarcity already affects more than 500 million people in more than 30 countries. Addressing water scarcity, which can create discontent and desperation, can help prevent violence
* Water For the World funding is a mere 350 million

**The Solution**

* Sustainable water and sanitation solutions
* On average $1 invested in water and sanitation provides an economic return of $3-34 (WHO 2004)
* On average, every US dollar invested in water and sanitation provides an economic return of eight US dollars (UNDP 2006)
* Local partners
* Demand-driven projects
* Appropriate technology
* Integration of health and hygiene education
* Rigorous measuring and monitoring
* Activate the power of the market through the use of the Water Credit Initiative

**About Water.org**

* We are committed to universal access to safe water and adequate sanitation in our lifetime
* Operational in 8 countries: Ethiopia, Kenya, Ghana, Uganda, Bangladesh, India, Honduras, Haiti
* Pioneer of WaterCredit
* Current year budget of 11 million
* 32 full time staff
* Programs are funded through grants, loans, a combination of grants and loans and microfinance tools
* Institutional funders include PepsiCo Foundation, Caterpillar Foundation, MasterCard Foundation, Skoll Foundation

**About WaterCredit**

* WaterCredit provides affordable credit for water and sanitation improvements
* Leverages microfinance as a distribution channel and a platform for overcoming market failures
* Nearly 65,000 loans made
* 378,000 people directly benefited
* 24 WaterCredit partners in 4 countries
* Average loan size $142
* Over 85% of the WaterCredit clients are women
* Repayment rate is 97%
* $9.2 million in WaterCredit loans made