

# WHEN DISASTER STRIKES... WATER IS LIFE



Save the Children

CASTLE  WATER

# THE DIFFERENCE YOU MAKE

Every year, conflict and natural disasters threaten millions of children's lives and futures – and those threats are mounting.

Right now, **one in five children** worldwide is living in a conflict zone. In one war after another, children are on the frontline. Their homes and playgrounds are the new battlegrounds.

At the same time, the **number of natural disasters has doubled** over the past 20 years, as the effects of climate change begin to bite. That has put more children than ever before directly in the path of catastrophic weather events like typhoons, drought and floods.

Save the Children's Emergency Fund is designed to help us rise to this mounting challenge. It means that we can respond as soon as disaster strikes. The faster we respond, the more lives we save. It means our teams can be on the ground delivering life-saving supplies wherever the need is greatest, whether a crisis is making the headlines or has been forgotten by the world. And it means we can be there for communities for the long haul, helping them to get back on their feet and be better prepared for the next emergency.

Save the Children's partnership with Castle Water helps make this vital work possible. We joined forces in August 2017. In the space of just 18 months, Castle Water raised an incredible £120,000 through generous corporate, employee and customer donations.

This is a look back at the difference Castle Water has made.

## POWER OF PARTNERSHIP

Since partnering with **Castle Water** in August 2017, Save the Children's Emergency Fund has:

**HELPED FUND  
138 EMERGENCY\*  
RESPONSES**

\*both rapid onset and long lasting



**REACHED 2.2 MILLION  
CHILDREN AND THEIR  
FAMILIES WITH  
LIFESAVING AID**

**...such as water supplies and sanitation facilities to stop the spread of deadly diseases and make sure children have access to clean drinking water during and after an emergency.**



The Hamam Al Alil refugee camp is home to 24,000 people who were forced to flee the brutal fighting that left Mosul, Iraq, in ruins. Our teams have set up a treatment plant that turns dirty river water into clean drinking water for the camp's residents.

## OUR IMPACT

In an emergency, water can become lethal. As sanitation systems collapse, water turns from a life-saver into a vehicle for deadly diseases such as cholera, which can spread with horrifying rapidity.

That's why providing children with safe, clean water is one of our top priorities in an emergency. Our teams deliver jerry cans for water storage and water purification tablets to the worst-affected communities within days of a disaster striking. If communities are completely cut off from clean water, we find a way to truck it in. And we get the water supply and sanitation systems up and running: drilling boreholes, building wells and toilets, and putting handwashing facilities in schools and health centres.

Here are just a few examples of how we have worked to get safe water and sanitation to children since the partnership began.

With Castle Water's support, we've worked to improve hygiene practices in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Here Halima Khatum\*, 19, washes her hands with her baby Laila\*.

## BANGLADESH 2017 KEEPING ROHINGYA CHILDREN SAFE FROM DISEASE

In August 2017 an appalling upsurge in violence forced hundreds of thousands of Rohingya families to flee Myanmar for their lives.

The vast majority ended up in a huge, unsanitary refugee camp in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. A severe lack of clean water there put children at extreme risk of contracting killer diseases such as cholera.

Castle Water's support couldn't have come at a better time, helping us launch a massive response to the crisis.

To prevent the spread of disease and get clean water to families, we have:

- installed more than **1,000 latrines** and over **430 bathing units**, working with partners to ensure they are well maintained
- distributed over **30,000 hygiene kits**
- built **75 deep tube wells with water pumps** to make sure children and families can access safe, clean water
- trained and worked with Rohingya community volunteers to promote good hygiene practices, running over **1,500 hygiene awareness sessions**.

Two years on, we still have more than 1,900 staff and volunteers on the ground in Cox's Bazaar, helping children to survive, recover and stay safe.



### SAFE FROM HARM

Many Rohingya children have seen things no child should ever witness. Now, living in the chaos of a sprawling refugee camp, they are at heightened risk of being trafficked, abused or forced into child marriage.

That's why Save the Children is:

- **running over 90 child and girl friendly spaces**, giving nearly 40,000 children a safe place to play, recover and just be children again
- **educating community leaders, parents and children about the risks children face**, so they can be kept safe from harm
- **providing the most vulnerable children with expert psychosocial support or referring them to mental health services**.

Since the start of the crisis in August 2017, with the support of the European Union and partners like Castle Water, we've reached more than 760,000 Rohingya refugees, including 430,000 children.



## ZIMBABWE 2018 STOPPING CHOLERA IN ITS TRACKS

Long after the cameras have left and the news agenda has moved on, Save the Children's teams are still there, helping children rebuild and recover after a disaster.

Our Emergency Fund allows us to leave a lasting legacy for children's health: reaching schools and families with vital education on hygiene, water purification and other health practices.

When a cholera outbreak hit Zimbabwe, for example – with more than 10,000 suspected cases – the Emergency Fund allowed us to deploy our Emergency Health Unit to tackle it.

The team conducted a cholera awareness campaign to help contain the spread of the virus. We distributed hygiene essentials and water purification supplies to families, schools and health facilities in the worst affected areas.

# INDONESIA 2018 REBUILDING AFTER THE WAVE

Eight-year-old Melanie\*, pictured below, was asleep in her bed when her mother woke her. In a matter of seconds, they were both sprinting for their lives to escape the five-metre-high waves that, moments later, would destroy their home.

Last December, the Sunda Strait tsunami in Indonesia killed over 400 people and injured thousands more. Families lost everything, leaving them in desperate need of food, shelter, clean water and medical care.

£100,000 from our Emergency Fund allowed us to take action right away – providing a lifeline to at-risk children.

Within days of the disaster striking, we were on the ground distributing lifesaving aid to families who had lost their homes. With the region's water systems shattered, we trucked in safe drinking water. As burst sewage systems contaminated the streets and the threat of disease loomed, we urgently set up temporary toilets and bathing facilities. We distributed hygiene essentials like soap, washing detergent, toothbrushes and feminine hygiene products.



Melanie\*, eight, had to run for her life from the waves that destroyed her home.

Many children saw their homes and even their loved ones washed away, leaving them dazed, grief-stricken and traumatised. We set up eight child-friendly spaces – protected areas where children can get the expert psychological support they need to recover from their terrible experiences.

The Sunda Strait tsunami was just one of a string of disasters that hit Indonesia in 2018. It was country's deadliest year in over a decade.

**Our Emergency Fund helped Indonesia's most disaster-prone communities to set up early-warning systems, create evacuation plans and develop flood-resistant crops, to prepare for when the next emergency hits.**

**OUR RESPONSE REACHED  
OVER 12,000 PEOPLE  
IN TOTAL.**



Our health team in Yemen teaches children about good hygiene – helping prevent the spread of disease.

# YEMEN 2019 A SCHOOL WITH NO TOILETS

A brutal conflict has left Yemen's economy on the brink of collapse and its infrastructure in ruins. But with Castle Water's support, we're working to make sure war doesn't destroy the dreams and futures of children like Sahar\*.

At just ten years old, Sahar is already highly ambitious and loves school.

But fierce fighting in Yemen destroyed her village's water and sanitation system, leaving her school without a functioning toilet. "I had to drop out," says Sahar, "which was the saddest moment for me".

But thanks to the Emergency Fund, our engineers restored the school's old bathrooms to good working order and constructed three new ones. They also built a water tank to meet the school's need for clean water.

**"THE HAPPIEST MOMENT WAS WHEN THE SAVE THE CHILDREN TEAM CAME HERE TO SUPPORT US."**

"The happiest moment was when the Save the Children team came here to support us," says Sahar. With the toilets up and running, Sahar could go back to school and, even amid Yemen's terrible conflict, pursue her dreams. "When I grow up, I want to be a teacher and principal to support and encourage children to study."



# SEE ME SAFE SYMPOSIUM SPONSORSHIP

In May 2019, Save the Children was 100 years old. This year, our centenary, we launched a campaign to double global efforts to make sure children survive, thrive and are protected. We are incredibly grateful to have Castle Water's amazing support at this pivotal moment in our history.

As a sponsor of our 'See Me Safe' Centenary Symposium, Castle Water helped give Save the Children a platform to discuss and debate practical solutions to protect the rising numbers of children caught up in conflict. The symposium saw discussions between academics, key policy makers, and political and business leaders to help to make protecting children in conflict a priority.

Nadia\*, 11, is growing up under military occupation in the West Bank, but she refuses to give up hope. "I want to be a teacher, because I love education," she says.

# THANK YOU

Save the Children is thrilled that our partnership with Castle Water has been extended for a further three years. We will press forward with our partnership ambition to reach 5 million people in emergencies worldwide by 2022.

Thank you, Castle Water, your customers and employees, for supporting Save the Children's Emergency Fund.



**Save the Children**

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