



AUTUMN 2008 NEWSLETTER

## A Message from Wade, Co-Founder

We are excited to share with you what's been happening with theWATERproject.ca. We also want to express our regret that we have not kept our donor community informed about our progress - communication is one of the challenges we face as a completely volunteer-run project.

The weeks building up to a trip to Ghana are always extremely busy and my last trip in summer 2007 was no exception. I rushed to the airport in a frenzy and arrived in Accra feeling disoriented. It was probably a blessing that my bag didn't arrive with me, forcing me to stay put for a few extra days.

A week later I was walking the path from Adexor into the town of Mepe after spending several days in the village. As I walked slowly and steadily, I could feel my internal rhythm slow to the pace of Ghana, where most inter-city transportation doesn't operate on a schedule - a vehicle leaves when it is full. People there seem amused when I say I will arrive on a specific day, replying, 'You will get here when you get here.'

As I walked along the path feeling my breath, heartbeat and feet settling into a rhythm of 'You will get there when you get there,' I became greatly aware of how my usual pace of life sharply contrasts with that of sweeping the village, hauling water, tending fields and preparing meals. Village life in Ghana is full of challenges, and it has also given me many insights into my own daily living.

So with our regrets that this newsletter has not arrived sooner, we hope you can receive it with the spirit of 'it has arrived when it has arrived.'

Throughout 2006 and 2007 I toured my play 'Well...' through the Okanagan, Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast. Sharing my experiences and friends in Ghana with audiences around BC was a privilege, constantly reconnecting me to that transformational experience. Through the characters of Peter and Angela, and by showing pictures from the villages, explaining the water conditions, and repeatedly receiving generous donations, the transfor-



'Well ...' in Performance

mational experience has grown beyond me to benefit the people of Adexor, where it all began.

We are constantly thankful for your support of theWATERproject.ca. We invite you to read this newsletter and to consider how you might continue supporting the project as we enter our final year, fundraising for the third and last phase of rainwater harvesting construction in fall 2009. Thank you for giving the gift of water.

With deepest gratitude~

Wade Lifton,  
Co-founder  
[theWATERproject.ca](http://thewaterproject.ca)

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## Funding Update!

We've raised \$30,000 so far, covering the costs of Phase 1 and Phase 2. We need your help in raising a further \$20,000 by Summer 2009 to see the Project through to completion.

The total cost of the Project is \$50,000 for about 330 people to have clean drinking water. That works out to \$150 per person. With an estimated tank lifespan of at least 50 years, that equals \$3 per person per year to have clean drinking water...



## What We've Accomplished ...



The Road to Adexor



Rainwater Collection and Tank

Phase 1 was completed in fall 2007, consisting of one small rainwater harvesting tank (10,000 liters) in each of the two villages and two large tanks (75,000 liters each) at the shared school.

A total of 14 residents from Adexor and Adexor-Kpodzi (ada-ho poo-jee) have been trained in rainwater harvesting tank construction.

### WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW...

Phase 2 is underway, adding five more large

tanks to the villages. The larger tanks have proven effective and provide more water for the amount of materials and expenses required.

A small number of the trainees from Phase 1 were selected based on qualifications to create a team of certified technicians who will function as trainers in the villages.

### WHAT'S PLANNED FOR THE FUTURE...

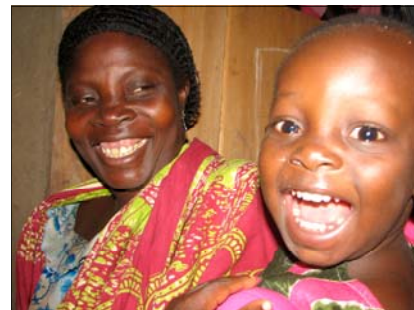
Phase 3 is scheduled for fall 2009 with six more large tanks, pro-

viding all residents of the villages with enough water to meet their drinking and cooking needs. Wade will return to Ghana during Phase 3 to maintain relationships and celebrate the completion of the project with the villages.

Our intention is to stay connected with the villages, and to turn the project over to them with some funding in place for maintenance and technical support from the project manager.

## Friends from Adexor—Meet Macho and Doenannae

At the age of three, Macho is showing exceptional soccer skills, leading to lots of jokes about him playing for the Black Stars - Ghana's national soccer team. He is the youngest of six siblings – Atsu and Etse (twins), Agbe, Mama and Richard.



Doenannae & Macho

His mother Doenannae usually hides her vibrant smile as soon as a camera appears, choosing a stoic expression for the photo. This is a rare moment caught on film as she smiles at Macho's reaction to the bright light of the flash.

### E-MAIL UPDATES

Help us keep you informed while saving paper and postage! If you'd like to receive a brief update every few months over the next year as we complete the project, please send your e-mail address to us at

[info@thewaterproject.ca](mailto:info@thewaterproject.ca)

## Give the Gift of Water This Christmas

At Christmas many people choose to give a gift to charities and projects in lieu of putting something under the tree. If you would like to offer a donation of any amount to theWATERproject.ca we are happy to provide a certificate of gratitude to acknowledge this gift. We are happy to send the certificate of gratitude to

the donor or to the recipient – please let us know your preference.

Please note - tax receipts can only be issued to the actual donor, and cannot be issued in the name of the recipient.

\$150 will provide one person with water for the next 50 years



Wade and Friends in Adexor

\$2500 will pay for the cost of all materials and labour for one tank.

## How to Donate

### BY CHEQUE

Please make all cheques payable to 'One World' and mail to:

theWATERproject.ca  
4199 Bridgewater Crescent  
Burnaby BC, V3N 4M7

### ONLINE DONATIONS

- Visit [www.canadahelps.org](http://www.canadahelps.org)
- Type 'One World' in the 'I want to give to:' search.
- Click on 'One World Global Education Program'.
- Click 'Donate Now'.
- Under 'Fund/Designation' select theWATERproject.ca

Follow the donation instructions to enter your information including your credit card details. You will have the option to make a one-time or monthly repeating donation.

CanadaHelps.org is a reliable and secure service. 3% of your donation will be used to cover the cost of using CanadaHelps.org

## Why 'One World'?

One World is the global education program that initially introduced Wade to the people of Adexor through a cross-cultural immersion living experience in 2003. theWATERproject.ca is a commu-

nity development project administered through One World and directed by Wade Lifton and Nathaniel Amann-Blake. One World processes donations for theWATERproject.ca and issues

tax receipts to our donors. Find out more about One World and their other programs at [www.oneworlded.com](http://www.oneworlded.com). (BN 882357759RR0001)

### CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

We are deeply thankful to Breakwater Media for redesigning our website and creating a new logo for [theWATERproject.ca](http://theWATERproject.ca)

We've added a blog to post updates and information of interest. A very exciting new addition to our website is the ability to donate online with a credit card through [CanadaHelps.org](http://CanadaHelps.org).

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Through theWATERproject.ca efforts, it costs only \$3 per person per year to have access to clean drinking water.

That's about the price of a Latte!

For information on how to make your donation please turn to page 3.

About theWATERproject.ca



One of the tanks in use

theWATERproject.ca is directed by Nathaniel Amann-Blake and Wade Lifton on Canada's west coast. Nathaniel earned a masters degree in environmental policy from the University of Oxford and works in the field of environmental assessment. Wade is a Youth Minister in the United Church of Canada and has a background in theatre.

We are a non-profit organization and all Canada-based activities are entirely volunteer. Nathaniel and Wade are facilitators of this project—our activities include research and planning, networking, outreach and fundraising. Donations to theWATERproject.ca go to Ghana-based activities.

Our project manager, Eric Chimsi, is an expert in rainwater harvesting who was trained by a team from Kenya and now educates others about rainwater harvesting in Ghana and other parts of the continent. Eric lives



in Tamale in northern Ghana with his wife Priscilla and their two young children, Phyllis and Joel.

Christian Keteni is our project coordinator, overseeing the ongoing details of construction, maintenance and community facilitation. Christian grew up in Adexor, trained in construction and now owns a pharmacy in the nearby town of Mepe. The residents of Adexor have expressed great pride and confidence that a leader from their community that a leader from their community is coordinating this project.

