


A young boy is drinking water from a public tap. He is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. Water is splashing around him. In the foreground, another child is washing their hands, with water being poured over them. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people and a yellow wall. The overall scene is bright and clean, emphasizing the importance of access to clean water and hygiene.

xylem

Advancing access to water,
sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)



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Limited access to clean water and safe sanitation affects billions of people worldwide, creating societal challenges and risks for community resilience. Xylem addresses these challenges by investing in technologies, partnerships, and programs that expand access to climate-resilient WASH solutions. Through strategic collaboration with nonprofits, governments, and the private sector, we help increase resources and funding to support sustainable water access initiatives.

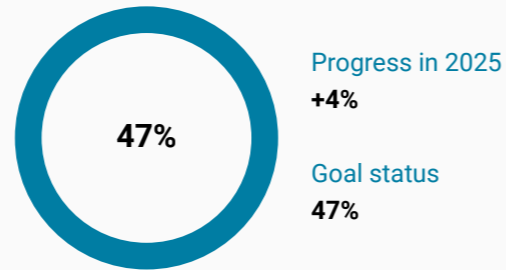
Our colleagues contribute their expertise and volunteer time to strengthen program delivery and community impact. By designing and implementing solutions that mitigate water scarcity, improve public health, and enhance resilience, we support sustainable development in water-insecure regions while advancing our mission to enable safe and reliable water for all.



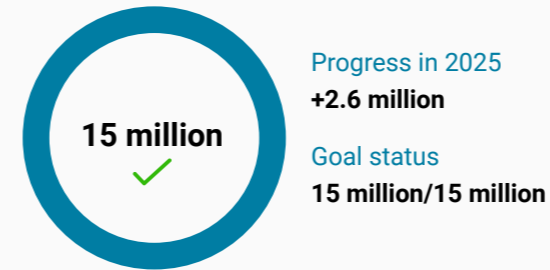
Learn more in our [2025 Sustainability Report](#).

2025 sustainability goals

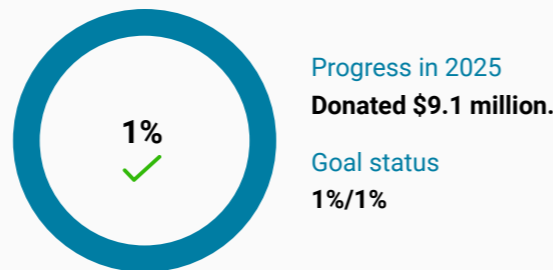
Require suppliers to take the WASH4Work pledge for access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene at the workplace.



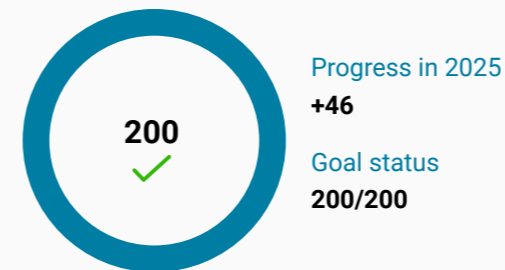
Provide 15 million people with water education to improve quality of life and raise awareness of water issues.



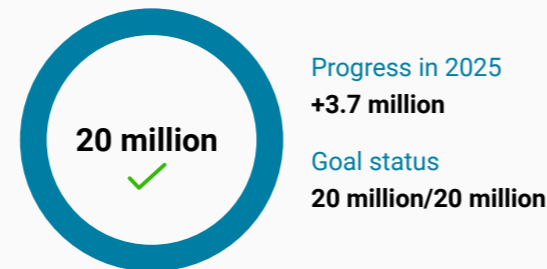
Give 1% of company profits⁵ to water-related causes and education.



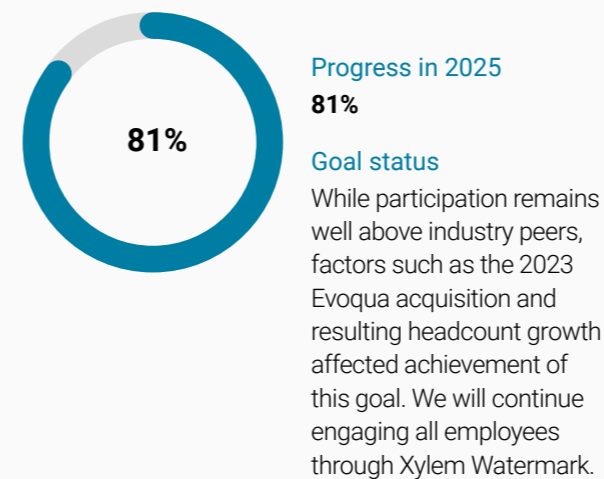
Deploy humanitarian aid to 200 areas affected by water-related natural disasters.



Provide access to clean water and sanitation solutions for at least 20 million people living at the base of the global economic pyramid.

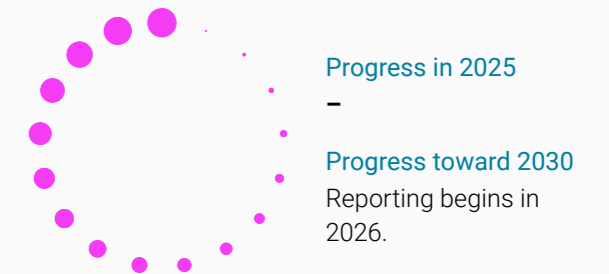


Engage at least 95% of Xylem employees in volunteer activities.

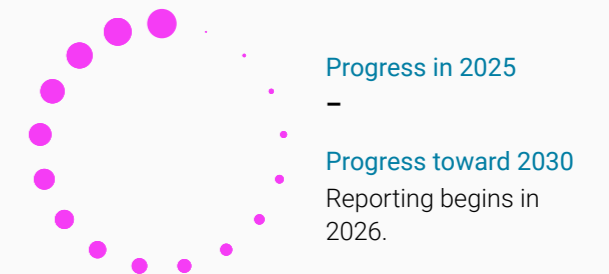


2030 sustainability goals

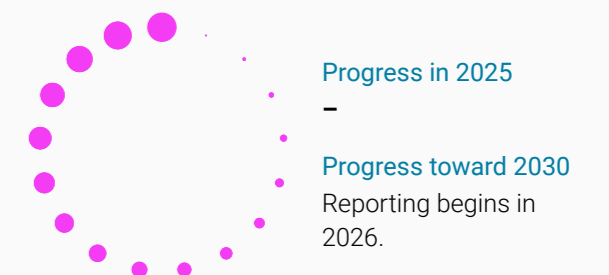
Improve water security for 80 million people by enabling climate-resilient WASH access and capacity-building in under-resourced, water-insecure communities by 2030.



Invest 30% of employee volunteering in applying employees' professional skills to build organizational capacity, developing our people while sharing expertise where it is needed most.



Engage strategic partners in more than 1,000 community activations that advance WASH access and resilience.



Advancing WASH access and capacity-building

Today, 2.2 billion people lack access to safely managed water, 3.5 billion live without adequate sanitation, and 2 billion lack basic hygiene facilities.¹ Climate extremes, conflict, and economic instability continue to slow progress toward the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6): Clean Water and Sanitation for All. Access to safe WASH services improves health outcomes, supports education, and strengthens economic opportunity, while climate-resilient systems reduce vulnerability to shocks.

In 2025, our efforts to advance WASH access and build related capacities reached approximately 3.7 million people through donations, partnerships, innovative solutions, and strategic investments. By the end of 2025, we achieved a cumulative milestone of reaching 20 million people over seven years, demonstrating measurable progress in expanding access to safe and resilient WASH services.

Mobilizing donations

A key enabler of this progress was the launch of a streamlined in-kind donation process in 2025, which allows us to scale the deployment of high-value equipment and technology to nonprofit partners implementing water solutions in underserved communities. By pairing advanced technology with local implementation support, the program reduces financial barriers and accelerates deployment. For example, as part of the Lee County Pump project in South Carolina, United States, in collaboration with Community Engineering Corps (a program of Engineers Without Borders USA), we upgraded critical local water infrastructure. In Lynchburg (Virginia), United States, we sponsored the Path to New Wastewater Treatment Pumps initiative, contributing technical expertise and equipment that delivered tangible benefits to the community.

Providing WASH solutions

Partnerships remain central to delivering safe water and sanitation at scale. In 2025, collaboration with Wine to Water supported water filter build events and distributions that reached 50,000 people with over 4,100 filter kits. These efforts extended internationally through a rainwater harvesting initiative in Colombia and employee engagement activities for Ukraine. Our expansive work with Americares reached 1.6 million people across twelve countries—addressing urgent WASH needs of vulnerable and marginalized populations by improving access at healthcare facilities and implementing targeted actions at community level. At the same time, support for UNICEF’s Regional WASH Programme strengthened multi-country initiatives serving refugees, internally displaced persons, and host communities in Ethiopia, Somalia, and Sudan. We contributed catalytic funding, technical expertise, and in-kind solutions for energy-efficient water access and managed aquifer recharge, reinforcing long-term resilience in fragile settings.

Investing for impact

Beyond direct donations and partnerships, we continue to invest strategically in scalable water technologies, infrastructure development, and growth-focused WASH ventures that combine commercial innovation with societal benefit. These investments help communities gain immediate access to water and sanitation, as well as systems capable of adapting to climate variability and population growth.

Looking ahead to 2030

To advance toward our 2030 WASH Goal, we are pursuing a multi-pronged strategy to reach 80 million additional people with climate-resilient WASH access and capacity-building, including disaster response support. This includes partnering with customers and suppliers to implement global WASH projects, scaling skills-based volunteering, strengthening the pipeline of water-sector talent, and expanding commercial WASH offerings alongside in-kind support. Employees remain central to these efforts through our commitment to dedicating 1% of their time to water-related causes.



¹ [The United Nations World Water Development Report 2024: Water for prosperity and peace](#)

Employee volunteering through Xylem Watermark

Employee engagement is rooted in purpose and powered by Xylem Watermark, our global corporate social responsibility program. Employees are eligible for up to 20 hours of paid time off each year to engage in volunteer efforts—equivalent to 1% of their working time. By enabling employees to participate in volunteer activities, particularly water-related projects, and contribute beyond their day-to-day roles, Xylem Watermark strengthens connections between employees and the communities we serve, promotes workplace well-being and engagement, builds leadership skills, helps reduce absenteeism, and fosters a more connected, motivated, and resilient workforce.

In 2025, Xylem Watermark expanded its portfolio of in-person, virtual, and skills-based volunteering opportunities aligned with our mission to address global water challenges. Since 2019, employees have contributed more than one million volunteer hours. Employees who volunteer 20 or more hours annually are recognized through the Make Your Mark Club, which included 3,790 employees this year.

A global network of more than 500 Xylem Watermark Champions, Leads, and Ambassadors drives engagement across the organization, contributing to 81% overall employee participation and 255,000 hours to community service in 2025. Signature initiatives that engage employees as well as external business partners included Wave of Action and Aquaton.

Through Xylem Watermark, employees apply their skills and passion to address critical water challenges while strengthening collaboration and leadership, with purpose and community engagement integral to how we work.

[Read more on pages 63 of the 2025 Sustainability Report.](#)

Partnering with our value chain

We also engage suppliers and other value-chain partners through collaborative community initiatives led by Xylem Watermark. These activities promote water education; advance water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) principles; and strengthen awareness of shared sustainability challenges.

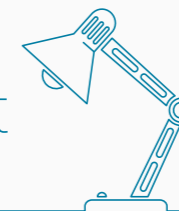
In 2025, Xylem organized more than 120 Xylem Watermark events with suppliers, contributing to local community impact while strengthening supplier relationships. Engagement activities included volunteer programs, global awareness campaigns, and partnerships with nonprofit organizations such as Wine to Water and Planet Water Foundation. Through these collaborations, we expanded access to clean water, supported sustainable water infrastructure projects, and increased participation from suppliers, channel partners, and customers.

By combining reporting mechanisms, supplier due diligence, and collaborative engagement, we promote responsible business conduct, support the identification and mitigation of value-chain risks, and strengthen integrity and accountability across our supply chain, while advancing water security for communities.

81% of all Xylem employee collectively volunteered 255,000 hours in our communities in 2025.



Spotlight



Turning supplier collaboration into clean water impact

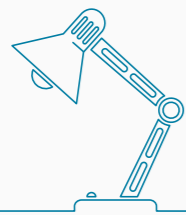
In 2025, Xylem's Montecchio, Italy site brought together employees and value-chain partners for a Xylem Watermark volunteer event that combined community impact with supplier collaboration. Organized by our employees who serve as local Xylem Watermark Champions in partnership with our Montecchio procurement team, the event engaged seven supplier partners alongside Xylem buyers in a hands-on filter build in collaboration with global nonprofit Wine to Water.

Participants worked side by side to assemble water filter kits that provide clean and safe drinking water to families around the world. The collaborative format—paired with a friendly team competition—created an engaging experience while delivering a tangible contribution to global WASH efforts. By bringing people together around a shared task with visible outcomes, the event turned collaboration into meaningful action, illustrating how everyday partnerships can contribute to safer water and healthier communities.

The event demonstrated how Xylem Watermark serves as a platform for deeper engagement across our value chain, strengthening relationships beyond traditional business interactions and reinforcing shared sustainability priorities.

“This experience showed the added value of true partnership. Working together with Xylem on a project that delivers real societal impact strengthened our relationship and highlighted how collaboration across the value chain can make a meaningful difference for communities.”

Gianandrea Sterza,
Key Account Sales Manager at CPC Italy Srl.



Young innovators deliver scalable flood warnings

Flooding is one of the world's most pressing climate challenges, impacting communities and water bodies of all sizes. Two student innovators from Germany—Niklas Ruf and Jana Spiller—won the 2025 Stockholm Junior Water Prize for their innovative work to create a smart, scalable flood warning system for small streams.

The award recognized Ruf and Spiller's four-year effort to develop a network of sensors linked to an app that provides real-time alerts to both experts and the public. Unlike larger rivers, small streams often lack the data needed for early warnings—an information gap the students' groundbreaking system is helping to close. The project is already being scaled across their region in collaboration with multiple partners.

The Award Jury praised the project for tackling “a critical challenge we are seeing around the globe: more frequent and bigger floods,” noting that the students not only built a functioning system but are also actively scaling it to reach more communities.

Looking forward, the duo hopes decision-makers and industry leaders will increase their focus on the root causes of flooding, including climate risks: “Of course, what we are doing is building something to tackle the consequences of climate change,” they reflected. “But the ideal solution would be if there were no climate change to begin with.”

While the Junior Water Prize honored local innovation to mitigate flood impacts, the 2025 Stockholm Water Prize recognized Austrian professor Günter Blöschl, a global leader in flood hydrology. Together, their work underscores the importance of combining grassroots solutions and scientific expertise to address flood risks worldwide.

Developing the next generation of the water workforce

Resilient and sustainable WASH access requires more than technology alone. That's why we also focus on strengthening capacity, expanding knowledge, and attracting the talent needed to support our critical water systems and address global water challenges. To empower the next generation, we focus on equipping young people with the knowledge, tools, and platforms needed to develop and implement innovative solutions. In 2025, we engaged more than 16,500 students through our global youth programs. Our flagship youth engagement program, Xylem Ignite, supports the development of young talent by offering mentorship, skills development, innovation experience, community action, and leadership opportunities.

Through the Xylem Global Student Innovation Challenge, students gain knowledge and technical skills during an eight-week virtual competition, including mentorship from Xylem experts and expert-led master classes. In 2025, the Challenge focused on glacier loss and increasing water-related disasters, engaging more than 8,800 students who submitted over 440 ideas, with nearly 190 becoming published projects. Xylem is also the Global Founding Partner of the Stockholm Junior Water Prize, which supports students ages 15–20 in developing innovative solutions to water challenges. In 2025, German students Niklas Ruf and Jana Spiller won for a scalable flood warning system for small streams, already being scaled regionally. These initiatives highlight the ingenuity and impact of young innovators, reflecting Xylem's commitment to nurturing future water leaders and advancing practical, sustainable solutions worldwide.

Through our support of global nonprofit EarthEcho International, we empower young people to lead local water protection efforts in their communities. In 2025, EarthEcho welcomed a new cohort of Water Challenge Ambassadors, including 43 new youth leaders and 11 returning participants, who are taking part in a year-long program focused on water quality monitoring, community science, peer education, and advocacy. The global Challenge has engaged more than 1.8 million participants across 157 countries, and Ambassadors lead local monitoring activities

and inspire community action to protect vital water resources. Supported through Xylem Watermark, this initiative strengthens youth leadership and drives measurable environmental impact at the community level.

[Read more on pages 61 of the 2025 Sustainability Report.](#)

Raising awareness and providing water education

Sustainable WASH access depends not only on infrastructure, but also on knowledge, behavior change, and community ownership. Our water awareness and education initiatives mobilize individuals to adopt responsible WASH practices and build local capacity to operate and maintain water systems. In 2025, we reached 2.6 million people through water education initiatives, achieving our 2025 Sustainability Goal of delivering water education to 15 million people cumulatively.

Through our partnership with the football club Manchester City F.C., the Play Smart campaign continued to inspire fans worldwide to adopt smart water-saving behaviors at home. In 2025, we reached 2.1 million individuals with targeted, interactive education—including a Water Score Calculator to help people better understand and reduce their household water consumption.

By integrating infrastructure investment with education, digital engagement, and community empowerment, we strengthen local ownership and enhance the long-term sustainability of water solutions

[Read more on pages 81 of the 2025 Sustainability Report.](#)

Strengthening community resilience through disaster response

During natural disasters and climate-related events, WASH services are often among the first critical systems to be disrupted. Restoring access to safe water quickly is essential to protect public health and help communities begin to recover. Pumping and water treatment solutions also help remove

floodwaters, reopen roads, and support hospitals and other critical facilities. Beyond immediate relief, strengthening preparedness and resilience helps communities better withstand future shocks.

We support disaster-affected communities by mobilizing our people, partners, technology, and funding to deliver practical, timely assistance—sometimes in places where our employees live and work. Our approach combines emergency response with longer-term preparedness. This includes repositioning and deploying pumping and water treatment equipment to address flooding and contaminated water, supporting nonprofit partners through grants and matching campaigns, engaging employees in volunteer and supply collection efforts, and promoting preparedness through simulation activities and WASH education programs delivered with partners.

In 2025, we provided humanitarian assistance in 46 disaster-affected areas across 22 countries.

[Read more on pages 82 of the 2025 Sustainability Report.](#)

In 2025, we reached 2.6 million people through water education initiatives.





From crisis to recovery: Our Hurricane Melissa response

In October 2025, Hurricane Melissa—one of the most powerful Atlantic storms on record—made landfall in Jamaica with sustained winds of 298 km/h. Catastrophic flooding and landslides caused widespread infrastructure damage, disrupting electricity, health services, and water systems. More than 2.3 million people were affected, including over 30,000 displaced, and communities across western Jamaica faced urgent shortages of safe drinking water and medical care.

Xylem activated a coordinated, multi-partner response to address immediate water, health, and recovery needs. Through our partnership with Planet Water Foundation, six AquaBlock emergency water filtration systems were rapidly deployed in the hardest-hit parishes of Westmoreland, Trelawny, and St. Elizabeth. Installed at shelters, schools, and community hubs, each system can produce up to 700 liters of safe drinking water per hour—collectively providing reliable access to clean water for up to 36,000 people and helping reduce the risk of waterborne disease.

To support frontline health services, we partnered with global nonprofit Americanas as part of its \$3 million emergency health response. Assessment teams mobilized quickly, distributing essential medicines and hygiene supplies, preparing mobile medical services, and coordinating with national and regional authorities to help stabilize primary care and strengthen health system resilience during the acute response phase.

We also worked with global nonprofit Wine to Water to distribute portable water filters to households with limited access to centralized treatment, expanding safe water coverage in remote and hard-to-reach communities.

In parallel, support through the Rapid Response Fund of global humanitarian nonprofit Mercy Corps enabled immediate relief and early recovery planning. Funding supported prompt needs and market assessments, distribution of essential non-food items through local partners on the ground in Jamaica, and groundwork for recovery approaches designed to operate through local markets to strengthen local capacity.

By combining water technology, healthcare support, local partnerships, and early recovery funding, our response to Hurricane Melissa addressed urgent humanitarian needs while helping lay the foundation for longer-term community resilience.

