To Our Global Community,

As I reflect on the past year, I am continually amazed by the dedication of our team and the unwavering support of our partners like you. In 2023 we completed projects in 186 communities worldwide. Green Empowerment stands out for our work with Indigenous and last mile communities that are often too remote or resource strapped to be reached by government, businesses, and even larger NGO’s. So while many of the communities where we work are small (200 - 1,000 people), the impact for those communities is huge. When I multiply this by our global reach, I am amazed by what we are achieving together.

Key to our success is our investment in partnerships and knowledge exchange. For instance, when our Africa Program Director, Osbert Atwijukye, visited our Ecuador programs in November, he was inspired by community water committee elections. Back home, he collaborated with our Ugandan partner to adopt this model, leading to their first open water committee elections in December (more on pg 6).

From neighboring Nicaraguan communities coming together to build a new kind of water filter (pg 5), to raising Indigenous voices at COP28 (page 4), to all of our Latin America partners meeting in person (pg 7), 2023 showed us the power of investing in knowledge exchange to share solutions and accelerate projects.

Your continued support makes this possible. Thank you for being our steadfast partners as we strive for a more sustainable and equitable world.

With gratitude,

Andrea Johnson
Executive Director

2023 Social Impact Executive of the Year,
Portland Business Journal
How We Work

**PARTNERSHIP:** We collaborate with in-country organizations and follow their lead to ensure the long-term sustainability of projects.

**TRAINING:** We provide technical, administrative, and program specific training for community members, supporting local maintenance and management of projects.

**COMMUNITY-LED:** Infrastructure projects are built and maintained by the community’s citizens themselves.

**MAXIMIZED IMPACT:** We amplify our global impact through ground-up innovation, coalition building, and training programs.

We envision an equitable and sustainable world where everyone has clean water, renewable energy, and a healthy environment in which to thrive.

### 2023: Your Impact In Numbers

In 2023, **186 communities** were reached by Green Empowerment projects

- **28,380** People reached via water and sanitation projects
- **11,079** People reached via piped water systems
- **6,530** People reached via household sanitation
- **5,033** Students reached via school WASH projects
- **50,828** People reached via energy projects
- **40,000** People reached via solar systems in rural health clinics
- **1,935** People reached via micro hydro systems
- **1,024** People trained in community organizing, leadership, and as local technicians to maintain installed systems
Dagat's Solar Shift: A Milestone in the Malaysia Sabah Roadmap

Located within Tabin Wildlife Reserve and surrounded by oil palm plantations, the remote village of Dagat, Sabah, Malaysia is home to the Tidung community of 243 residents. Their livelihood revolves around gathering forest, river, and sea products. Until recently, families had only a few hours of electricity a day from noisy and polluting diesel generators.

Today, as one of the first Sabah Roadmap pilot communities, a 5kW solar array charging 20 kWh of battery storage powers 20 houses, a mosque, a community hall, and a community-run cold storage facility. This round-the-clock clean and affordable energy has transformed the fishing industry by allowing fishermen to store their catch for longer, saving them money on ice purchases.

Powered by 24/7 electricity, the Dagat women’s collective sells ice blocks, ice cream, and cold drinks, with plans to expand. They’ll attend workshops and add seafood products to their offerings.

The voices of experienced practitioners and the communities that we serve are underrepresented here [at COP28]. It’s important for us to be a part of the decision-making and planning processes that lead up to the potential scaling of our solutions.”

Gabriel Sundoro Wynn, Green Empowerment Energy Access Lead, representing the Sabah Roadmap at COP28

State Government Embraces the Roadmap

The government of Sabah, Malaysia adopted a plan to achieve 100% rural electrification for Sabah by the end of 2030, incorporating the Sabah Roadmap as a key component of their long-term plan. This collaboration marks a major stride toward the inclusion of rural and Indigenous communities like Dagat in scaled solutions to climate change.

Scan the QR code to learn more about the Sabah Roadmap.

1,935
People with renewable energy in their homes via community micro-utility

1,379
Acres of forest protected by communities

5
Communities piloting our innovative Smart Grid for Small Grids technology
Regional Water Security: The Benefits of Puno’s Collective Approach

The high-altitude Andean community of Cuyuraya in Puno, Peru, had a piped water system, but water only flowed through the taps for 20 minutes a day, 2-3 days a week. Connected to the national power grid, the community lacked sufficient money to afford the excessive price of energy to pump water through their system. So, local families got organized. With the help of Green Empowerment and our local partner Energia, Ambiente, y Sostenibilidad, they installed a new water pump powered by an 8.8kW solar voltaic array. Now, the community enjoys affordable, clean, safe water in their taps 24/7.

Cuyuraya is one of eight communities that we are collaborating with in the Puno district, part of our strategy to establish a regional network for mutual assistance. By implementing similar water systems and management structures, these communities can share advice and parts, and work together to support the long-term sustainability of their systems.

“We drank dirty water. Now, with this filter, clean, purified water comes to our homes... Our community and we the Water Committee are new to this type of activity: building and sharing knowledge with other [communities and organizations].”

Gil Antonio Montenegro Diaz,
Water Committee President,
Piedra de Agua, Nicaragua

Cross regional exchange in Nicaragua to install and learn about upflow roughing filters. Scan the QR code to see it in action.
In the communities around Nyakabale-Kibibira in the Masindi and Kiryandongo districts of Uganda, over 6,000 people faced a monumental challenge: not enough clean water. They only had four boreholes (deep wells equipped with hand pumps), leading to long lines and lengthy waiting times, especially for women and children.

While Green Empowerment specializes in piped water systems, our new partner, The Water Trust, specializes in water access in Uganda. Together, we completed phase one of our largest piped water system to date, including a robust solar water pumping system, an elevated 60m3 water reservoir, four new community tap stands (no hand pumping required), and water distribution lines running through the community which will allow for additional community and household connections in phases 2 and 3.

The Nyakabale Water Committee election showcased community-driven inclusivity, with special attention paid to women's participation. This resulted in an elected board poised for effective and sustainable management of the water system.

Flowing Forward: Transforming Water Accessibility

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“...In case of any problems, I am there to help solve them. And in case there are none, I’m there to see to it that everything moves well.”

Joann Night, a respected community facilitator in Nyakabale, Uganda, was elected Chairperson of the Water Committee. Scan the QR code to hear about her experience in our new film, Force of Water.
Taking time to learn from each other gives us a deeper understanding of how our work can impact communities with layered cultural identities. In June, we co-hosted a Latin America regional exchange where Green Empowerment staff, partner organization staff, and community members from across Latin America met in Oaxaca, Mexico. Participants toured water projects and other related infrastructure, and shared strategies for an intersectional approach to their work. Cross-cultural knowledge exchange is the first step toward our collective empowerment.

“The [Oaxaca] exchange generated bonds among participants and reminded all that learning is an iterative experience.”

Sebastián Salgado Troya,
Green Empowerment Latin America Program Director

Green Empowerment staff, partners and community leaders from Mexico, Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, and Nicaragua.

2023 Awards & Accreditations

Portland Business Journal - 2023 Social Impact Executive Director of the Year

2023 Best Automation Centric Solution Winner

Bolivia: Soluciones Prácticas
Bolivia: Water for People
Bolivia: Aquacol, ASATECUNDI, EL COMUN, Fundación Halú
Ecuador: ALTROPICO, ENIGM
Honduras: ASOMAINCUPACO
Indonesia: AMAN
Malaysia: Border Green Energy Team
Nicaragua: ADDAC, ATDER- BL, AVODEC, APRODELBO, CACAONICA, FECIDCAMP
Sri Lanka: Janathakshan
The Philippines: SIBAT, Yamog
Peru: Energía, Ambiente & Sostenibilidad, Water for People Peru

OUR PARTNERS

NETWORKS AND COALITIONS

- Global PDX
- The Power Partnership
- Sabah Energy Roadmap

OUR TEAM

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- Alejandro Camacho: Program Manager
- Andrea Johnson: Executive Director
- Benaville Nagudi: Uganda Program Coordinator
- Chantal Ranzolin-Gamboa: Philanthropy Coordinator
- Chase Petrie: Fund Development Manager
- Claudia Romero Saavedra: Peru & Bolivia Program Coordinator
- Dan Friedman: Project Engineer
- Gabriel Sundoro Wynn: Energy Access Lead
- Geo Cornebe: Southeast Asia Program Director
- Leona Wai: Malaysia Program Coordinator
- Maria Espinoza: Nicaragua Program Coordinator
- Mica Miro: Engagement Director
- Natalie Deegan-Clark: Communications Coordinator
- Olivia Nanfuka: Energy Analyst
- Osbert Atwujube: Africa Program Director
- Paola Moreno Bermudez: Colombia Program Coordinator
- Sam Liebich: Operations Manager
- Sam Schlesinger: Water & Sanitation Technical Lead
- Sebastián Salgado Troya: Latin America Program Director

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- Leona Wai
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GREEN EMPOWERMENT STAFF, PARTNERS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS FROM MEXICO, ECUADOR, PERU, COLOMBIA, AND NICARAGUA.

The [Oaxaca] exchange generated bonds among participants and reminded all that learning is an iterative experience.”

Sebastián Salgado Troya,
Green Empowerment Latin America Program Director

Green Empowerment staff, partners and community leaders from Mexico, Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, and Nicaragua.
We believe that everybody deserves a hand up. There’s a basic level of what it means to be a human being - we should be able to provide clean water and electricity to everyone. It’s especially important for women to have access to these services, and to put them in charge of actually managing and planning. I can see these women stepping up because they see the opportunities for their families. It’s a way they can contribute to their communities and really make a difference. To me, the fact that it empowers them makes so much sense.”

Daja Phillips is a retired tech industry executive who enjoys spending her time traveling the world with her husband and two adult children. She has been a supporter of Green Empowerment since 2021 and believes that “giving back is part of what it means to be human.”

How to Give

Mail checks to “Green Empowerment” at:
PO Box 8802, Portland, OR 97207

Visit our secure website or call us:
www.greenempowerment.org/donate
503-284-5774

Give through your workplace:
Connect to Green Empowerment through workplace giving, event sponsorship or employee matching.

Join the Reuss Legacy Circle:
Leave a legacy of a more equitable and sustainable world. Include Green Empowerment in your estate, retirement, life insurance, or other financial plans and be part of this global community forever.

Green Empowerment is a U.S. 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in Portland, Oregon in 1997. EIN 93-1230409

Financials

We are incredibly grateful for your continued investment which makes this work possible. In 2023, we were fortunate to receive support from the Murdock Charitable Trust to invest in additional fundraising capacity, which is reflected in our allocation of expenses.

Additionally, we received a legacy gift from the Henry and Margaret Reuss Charitable Remainder Trust, which significantly increased our revenue. This gift, combined with your support, provides us with financial flexibility to continue to invest in growing our impact.

Total Revenue for 2023 $2,869,103

Total Expenses for 2023 $2,595,345

Annual financial audits conducted by Richard Winkel, CPA, Partner at Dougall Conradie LLC. Statements available on our website.