



Blue Planet Network Overview

Blue Planet Network was founded in 2002 by Jin Zidell, an industrialist, philanthropist and environmentalist. In 2013, Blue Planet Network, an award-winning organization headquartered in the San Francisco Bay Area, merged with Thrive Networks to accelerate innovation across the water sector, drive learning and visibility, and deliver improved clean drinking water and sanitation solutions to more people around the globe.

Blue Planet Network's mission is to exponentially increase the impact of safe drinking water programs for people around the world. Now a Division of Thrive Networks, Blue Planet Network has four primary programs that serve its global community of more than 100 expert water and sanitation organizations operating in 27 countries on four continents.

1. Global Community

Blue Planet Network has amassed a global community of water visionaries, funders, and organizations who have delivered safe drinking water and sanitation to 1,600,000 people worldwide. Blue Planet Network help funders find quality water projects by knowledgeable organizations working in 26 countries. Blue Planet Network empowers its members to connect, collaborate and share innovative ideas so the water sector can observe, replicate proven models, and celebrate stories of success.

2. Technology & Analytics Platform

Blue Planet Network's award-winning Technology & Analytics Platform enables its members to plan, implement and analyze nearly **1,900** safe drinking water and sanitation projects totaling **\$40** million. More than **110** organizations working in approximately **3,000** communities across **27** countries collaborate on Blue Planet Network's platform to plan projects, report on impact, monitor challenges, and share expertise.

3. Monitoring Tools & Services

Blue Planet Network offers its members SMS Text Monitoring mobile services to track and sustain the long-term impact of their water projects. Members can quickly and easily send SMS text messages to report on metrics or upload photos illustrating a project's milestones, during and after implementation. These low-cost tools are helping to remedy project challenges, scale sustainable practices, and empower communities to take charge of their own water solutions.

4. Peer Review Service

Blue Planet Network's Peer Review Service encourages members to vet water projects collaboratively and assess their long-term sustainability. Since 2006, approximately **250** project plans have been peer reviewed on Blue Planet Network's platform. This crowd-sourcing process empowers members to learn from one another and exchange critical knowledge about planning, implementing and sustaining water programs. Funders often choose to invest in Blue Planet Network's member projects due to this service.

5. Project Matching

Blue Planet Network connects hundreds of funders, both individuals and organizations, to high quality water implementers around the world. All types of funders can easily find water programs per their interests and requirements that are vetted for quality through Blue Planet Network's Peer Review program. As a result, funders not only can invest with confidence in projects showcased on Blue Planet Network, but also receive online updates throughout implementation and beyond to understand the full impact of their support.

Selected Awards

- 2013 mBillionth South Asia Environment Award
- 2012 Social Change Film Festival Global Innovator Award
- 2012 World Summit Award
- 2012 Silicon Valley 100 Women of Influence Award (Lisa Nash, CEO)
- 2011 World Bank Water Hackathon Prize (Bangalore, India)
- 2010 Intel Environment Tech Award
- 2010 Manthan South Asian Award for Innovation and the Environment
- 2009 California Association of Non-Profits Innovation Award
- 2007 Global PR Campaign of the Year

What is the Clean Water Opportunity?

- Unsafe drinking water is **one of the world's leading** causes of disease and death (UNDP).
- Impure water kills over **2 million** people annually – **90%** children under five.
- Millions of women are shackled to fetching water daily, instead of building productive lives.
- Eradicating poverty is impossible without clean water and sanitation.
- For every **\$1** spent on water and sanitation globally, society gains **\$8** in decreased health care costs and better economic development. (UNDP).
- Sustainable safe drinking water allows children, especially girls, to go to school, empowers women to work and become community leaders, and enables communities to grow. Clean water helps communities help themselves to a better future.

Testimonials for Blue Planet Network

- *"Blue Planet Network has transformed the global water sector through its award-winning technology."* – **Dave Meader**, Partner, Silicon Valley Social Venture Fund (SV2)
- *"I've seen nothing else like this network. It offers serious solutions for improving transparency, information available to users, and the ability to understand what really works in the real world. This is a break-through technology useful for solving one of our most fundamental human issues."* – **Dr. Peter Gleick**, President, Pacific Institute; Blue Planet Network Advisory Member, MacArthur Fellow
- *"Blue Planet Network has created a real breakthrough approach, providing the coordination, information & evaluation critical for the success of water improvement projects. This community also provides easy access to best practices, helping water groups grow stronger & more effective"*



through collaboration & peer review.” – U.S. Congressman Earl Blumenauer, 3rd District, Oregon; Co-Sponsor of the Paul Simon 2005 Water For The Poor Act & 2009 Water For The World Act

More about Blue Planet Network and Thrive Networks

In September 2014, Thrive Networks launched its new brand and identity along with a five-year strategic plan. The mission of Thrive Networks is to help the world’s most disadvantaged people move from survival to potential. The goal of Thrive Networks is to support innovation and new collaborative solutions, while scaling their collective impact. Thrive Networks uses a variety of deep collaboration approaches, including mergers, as a growth strategy to unlock the potential of organizations that have excellent leadership and programs but cannot find sufficient funding to drive their efforts. Thrive Networks enhances innovative collaborative social networks driven by a common purpose and strategic vision. Headquartered in the San Francisco Bay Area, Blue Planet Network’s award-winning services increase the impact of safe drinking water programs for people around the world. Blue Planet Network is a global community of over 111 members working in 3,000 rural and hard-to-reach communities across 27 countries, bringing clean drinking water and sanitation services to 1,521,000 people. In 2013, Blue Planet Network merged with long-time partner, Thrive Networks. Thrive Networks focuses on providing clean water and sanitation, health services, and education to the very poor around the world. Thrive Networks has impacted nearly 6 million impoverished individuals since its inception 26 years ago.

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