

Annual Public Benefit Statement 2023

of Enviro-Stewards Inc., an engineering firm and Certified B Corporation that helps clients increase their profits, sustain the environment, and compellingly benefit society.

Objectives

Enviro-Stewards' public benefit purpose is to cultivate resilient businesses and improve the lives of people in extraordinary ways.

Specifically, we improve the economic, environmental, and social sustainability of corporations and empower groups in developing countries to sustainably provide safe water.

In the interests of those materially affected by the corporation's conduct, we strive to provide meaningful employment at greater than a living wage while building up the capacity of corporations and development groups to sustainably benefit society and the environment.

Standards

To track progress on our public benefit objectives, Enviro-Stewards tracks the following:

- B Corporation's [Impact Reports](#)
- Sustainable Waterloo Region's [Sustainability Reporting Directory](#)
- Living Wage [Tracking of Champions](#)
- Internal Tracking of Sustainability Impacts of Enviro-Stewards' Projects (spreadsheet)
- Internal Tracking of the Impacts of the Safe Water Project (spreadsheet)
- Tracking of direct & indirect impacts on Global SDGs (see attachment at end of this statement)

Results

B Corporation

- In 2023, Enviro-Stewards retained an audited score of **149** (for reference 80 is required for certification); we are due to recertify January 2025.
- The score was so high that we received designation as a Best for the World Business for Community, Governance, and Workers.

Sustainable Waterloo Region

- Enviro-Stewards committed to and achieved its commitment to reduce emissions per employee by **80%** per employee compared to its' baseline year of 2008. During 2023, Enviro-Stewards maintained an **86.5%** reduction in Scope 1 & 2 GHG emissions (relative to our baseline year of 2008) and offset twice the remaining absolute emissions. Our absolute reduction was **46.8%** (even with a fourfold increase in staffing since 2008).
- Based on our work reducing our own footprint and helping clients reach net zero, Sustainable Waterloo Region released a [masters level video](#) featuring Enviro-Stewards.

Living Wage

- All Enviro-Stewards' full-time and part-time employees (including student positions) earn at least a living wage, and all contracted staff are paid a [living wage](#).

Enviro-Stewards Projects

- As of the end of December 2023, Enviro-Stewards projects are estimated to have saved facilities **\$254 million** with an **average payback period of under 1 year** and avoided*:
 - **180 million m³** of natural gas (enough to heat 67,000 homes for a year)
 - **385 million kWh** of electricity (equivalent to annual output of 1,500 acres of solar panels)
 - **38 million m³** of water (equivalent to 17,800 km of water tankers bumper to bumper)
 - **818 thousand tonnes** of GHG emissions (equivalent to 113,000 vehicles)
 - **137 thousand tonnes** of waste (equivalent to annual garbage from 176,500 people)
 - **32 million meals** retained in food supply (enough for more than 1 meal for 85% of Canadians)

*Note: A third party assessment found that 90% of Enviro-Stewards customers intend to implement all or most recommendations. The estimates above conservatively assume a 60% implementation rate and an implementation lag period of 0.5 year. However, in practice, most customers commence implementing measures immediately.

Safe Water Social Venture Project

- Enviro-Stewards was previously awarded a national [Energy Globe Award](#) for the safe water social ventures launched in South Sudan and featured in a [TEDx talk](#). During 2023, Enviro-Stewards was able to help a local NGO complete a market assessment & business plan for a new safe water social venture project in Jinga, Uganda (where 90% of rural residents presently consume untreated water from Lake Victoria and the Nile River). We are also continuing to refine our tools to make them available to anyone else wanting to use a market based solution to sustainably provide safe water ([start your own project](#)).
 - During 2022, we had been completing the legwork and stakeholder engagement necessary to generate voluntary gold standard carbon offsets (see film [Ngongakinda](#)). However, multiple carbon verifiers subsequently backed out. We suspect that this was due to softening of the (deforestation avoidance) market following articles in the Guardian about some bad credits (by someone else, somewhere else) in the Amazon rainforest.
 - In 2023, we pivoted to emphasising the potable water benefit instead. For example, The Old Spaghetti Factory (OSF) replaces every litre of water served to their guests in Toronto by ensuring a litre of water is purified where it is more [urgently needed](#).

- We held our second annual Venture Forward impact film festival in November of 2023, where we screened the short film [Driving Change](#). We are currently collecting footage for a film celebrating the first 20 years of the safe water social venture project that will be screened on November 21, 2024 along with a half dozen other inspiring short films ([submit your own entry here](#)).
- As of the end of December 2023, Safe Water Social Ventures (founded by Enviro-Stewards) is estimated to have:
 - Installed **4,010** biosand filters, of which 3,159 are thought to remain in service**
 - Purified **221 million litres** of water
 - Saved **18,000 trees**
 - Avoided **33,100 tonnes** of GHG emissions
 - Avoided **8,200 cases** of typhoid
 - Created **39 jobs** in developing countries
 - Added **78,000 years** of Health Adjusted Life Expectancy (HALE)

** Note: Due to escalation of the civil war in South Sudan, it is no longer safe to reinspect biofilters there to ensure they are still in service. For conservatism, the total numbers above arbitrarily assume that none of the 851 biofilters installed in South Sudan are currently operating. However, once the residents return, they can be quickly returned to useful service.

Assessment

During 2023, Enviro-Stewards made good progress tracking the impacts of its projects and development work. It also continues to be ranked at or near the top of each of the relevant standards tracking organization's scales.

During 2023, Enviro-Stewards completed a decarbonization plan that will help Unilever's mayonnaise factory in Toronto to profitably reach zero emissions by 2027. Due to the strength of this plan, Unilever retained Enviro-Stewards to complete decarbonization plans for the remainder of its nutrition facilities in the states as well as other production facilities such as Dove soap, Axe deodorant, etc. During 2024, we will commence implementing the high impact low-cost measures in their decarbonization plans. We will also complete preliminary design work to expedite implementation of moderate cost strategic measures in 2025.

During 2024, Enviro-Stewards will also scale the safe water social ventures through new projects starting up in Jinga Uganda and likely in the Rhino Refugee Camp (where a market assessment is being commenced). We will also explore expansion of the [corporate sponsorship program](#) as well as construction of two safe water kiosks to locally generate additional funds for sponsorships.

ENVIRO-STEWARDS



DESCRIPTION
Production efficiencies frees up margin for employees

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Food loss prevention increase food available for people to consume

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Living wage, toxic use reduction

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Guest lecturing at universities & schools

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Balanced hiring

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



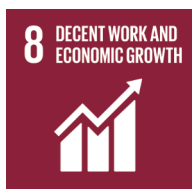
DESCRIPTION
Industrial wastewater treatment & water conservation

INFLUENCE Direct
RECOGNITION OWWA award



DESCRIPTION
Reducing electrical and thermal energy demand (with rapid paybacks)

INFLUENCE Direct
RECOGNITION Clean50 award



DESCRIPTION
Building local jobs paying more than a living wage

INFLUENCE Direct
RECOGNITION Best for the world



DESCRIPTION
Water & energy conservation, food loss prevention, climate adaptation (blue roofs)

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Living wage, production efficiencies frees up margin for employees

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Circular Food Economy project (8 manufacturers in Guelph)

INFLUENCE Direct
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Food loss prevention project (50 food & beverage producers across Canada)

INFLUENCE Direct
RECOGNITION Clean50 award



DESCRIPTION
Reducing direct (energy) and indirect (embedded energy in food) consumption

INFLUENCE Direct
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Food loss prevention (lobster, mussels, etc.)

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Food loss prevention (reduces pressure to convert ecosystems to agriculture)

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Social venture training, guest lecture at peace & engineering

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Collaborating on social, environmental & economic initiatives

INFLUENCE Direct
RECOGNITION SDG award

*engineering
change*



DESCRIPTION
Reducing expenditures on water related illnesses

INFLUENCE Direct
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Reducing expenditures on illnesses leaves margin for food

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Reducing water related illnesses (typically 50% of patients)

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Capacity building (entrepreneurship, technical, sales, marketing)

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Support women lead social ventures (among others)

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



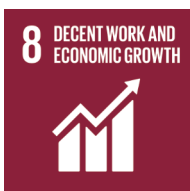
DESCRIPTION
Empowering groups to sustainably provide safe water

INFLUENCE Direct
RECOGNITION Energy Globe award



DESCRIPTION
Solar powering of safe water social ventures

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Building entrepreneurial capacity and local jobs

INFLUENCE Direct
RECOGNITION MEDA article



DESCRIPTION
Capacity building (entrepreneurship, technical, sales, marketing)

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Building entrepreneurial capacity and local jobs

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Reducing water illnesses and deforestation

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Providing safe water without chemical or energy consumption

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Avoiding deforestation to boil water

INFLUENCE Direct
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Avoiding deforestation (to boil water) reduces erosion

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Avoiding deforestation (to boil water) preserves habitat

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Providing employment and basis needs (safe water)

INFLUENCE Indirect
RECOGNITION n/a



DESCRIPTION
Collaborating on development initiatives

INFLUENCE Direct
RECOGNITION SDG award