



 rainforest flow

CLEAN WATER
THRIVING FAMILIES
A STRONGER AMAZON

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

**“WE USED TO DRINK
WATER FROM THE
RAVINE. NOW WE
DRINK CLEAN WATER
FROM OUR TAPS.
THERE WAS A LOT OF
SICKNESS FROM THE
WATER WE WERE
DRINKING, BUT NOT
ANYMORE. NOT
LIKE BEFORE.”**

- Manuel Mambiro, Mastigenka Elder, Village of Yomybato, Manu Biosphere Reserve



FOUNDER'S MESSAGE

In 2024, Rainforest Flow continued its vital mission of delivering clean water and empowering Indigenous communities to safeguard their health, culture, and homelands. For over two decades, our time-tested water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) program has helped strengthen the foundation of community wellness deep in the Peruvian Amazon.

These Indigenous communities are not only stewards of their lands—they are guardians of the rainforest, and in turn, the planet. Their health and well-being impact us all. This year, we responded to urgent needs in two remote villages, where aging water systems required immediate upgrades. With determination and teamwork, trained local water committees collaborated closely with our engineers to provide 900 people with safe and consistent water access. This is community-led resilience in action.

In our five partner communities, we initiated a program to support water committees in developing a comprehensive technical and maintenance framework to enhance leadership capacity and ensure the long-term sustainability of their water and sanitation systems.

In addition to the field work with communities, we raised awareness of our WASH model with national and international stakeholders, including the Peruvian Housing Ministry and the World Bank, building lasting partnerships that ensure our knowledge and tools are owned and adapted by the Peruvian people.

As we look forward to 2025, we are on the cusp of impacting far more communities with the expansion of Rainforest Flow's Global WASH Training and Research Center. The Center is a mobile gathering place where Indigenous Peoples and federations, national, regional, and local stakeholders, engineers, technicians, scientists, and students can come to learn and take this successful model back to their communities and workplaces.

There has never been a more urgent time to support the health and well-being of Indigenous Peoples and the ecosystems they safeguard for the planet. We are deeply grateful for your generosity and look forward to partnering with you as we work to increase our impact and foster strategic partnerships to help more people in 2025.

With Gratitude,



Nancy Santullo
Executive Director





THANKS TO YOU COMMUNITIES HAVE CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

**"IN MY VILLAGE WE
ARE HUACHIPERI AND
MATSIGENKA. INDIGENOUS
CULTURES RESPECT NATURE.**

Many years ago, the government built a water project in our community, but the water was not safe to drink. The children were always sick with diarrhea, and some even died. We didn't know what safe water was.

When Rainforest Flow came to our community, we connected with the energy of the water. Our community became the pilot project—and we were

the first village to have clean water. There had never been a successful water project in the jungle before. But through our hard work, for the first time, we had clean water—thanks to the international donors who helped us improve our health.

Indigenous cultures need more organizations to help us connect with the water, so we can purify our spirits and learn how to care for it."

- Alberto Manqueriapa, Huachipera-Matsigenka Indigenous Shaman and Community Leader, Village of Santa Rosa of Huacaria, Manu Biosphere Reserve



WHAT MAKES RAINFOREST FLOW DIFFERENT

Rainforest Flow works with Indigenous communities to develop quality, low-tech water and sanitation systems fine-tuned to the social and environmental context of their communities. Unlike the traditional concrete water systems, we build water treatment systems using portable geomembrane tanks and reservoirs that are easier to transport into remote communities and can be moved if needed. In each community, we partner with local municipal, health, and education ministries to make sure the projects are sustainable after Rainforest Flow's work is done.

MISSION
**INVESTING IN INDIGENOUS
RAINFOREST PEOPLES'
HEALTH AND AUTONOMY
THROUGH SUSTAINABLE
WATER, SANITATION, AND
HYGIENE PROGRAMS**

VISION
**HEALTHY INDIGENOUS
PEOPLES STEWARDING
THRIVING RAINFORESTS**

2024 HIGHLIGHTS



Constructed an additional water treatment system for the community of Yomybato to bring clean water to 500 people.



Installed three larger capacity 3800-liter filtration tanks for the community of Tayakome, creating sustainable clean water systems to serve 250 people.



Completed third year of family wellness visits and advanced technical training in the Shawi community of Louis Terry, where chronic diarrhea has been reduced by 94%.



Presented Rainforest Flow's model at a prestigious international water and health conference at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



Implemented low-tech chlorine systems in the communities of Huacaria, Shintuya, and Louis Terry to ensure safe water delivery throughout the distribution line.



Worked with the Peruvian Health Ministries to administer bi-yearly anti-parasite medicine to 1200 people.



Met with the Peruvian Housing Ministry's Amazon Rural Project and National Rural Sanitation Program, sharing our proven WASH model to discuss piloting this technology in other Amazon communities.



Participated as a presenter and panelist in a group discussion that was part of the high-level, exploratory mission of the World Bank in Iquitos, Peru.

THANKS TO YOU COMMUNITIES ARE NOW TEACHING OTHER COMMUNITIES

Emilio Caparo (left), a Matsigenka water technician from the Huacaria village, teaches the Yomybato water committee members how to properly clean their slow sand filters. The Yomybato committee is eager to learn from other Indigenous communities. This technical training is crucial, as it ensures clean water delivery to 400 community members.





RAINFOREST FLOW'S MODEL

WE MAKE DRINKING WATER SAFE

Rainforest Flow's technology removes up to 99.9% of harmful bacteria, viruses, and cysts from the local water supply—improving health and saving lives.

WE BOOST WELL-BEING

Rainforest Flow's integrated multicultural approach to health and hygiene reduces intestinal illnesses and transforms personal and household hygiene.

WE BUILD ECO-FRIENDLY BATHROOMS

Rainforest Flow builds dignified sanitation systems at homes and schools that are sustainable, with environmentally friendly local materials.

WE CREATE WASH LEADERS

Rainforest Flow's Global WASH Training and Research Center trains Indigenous communities and water and sanitation water committees how to build, repair, and maintain the water system and help each other to achieve long term health advances and sustainability. The Center will offer consulting services on WASH-related issues for government and health agencies, NGOs, engineers, technicians, and technical training schools.





THANKS TO YOU

INDIGENOUS WATER COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE TAKING THE LEAD

"My name is Jose Luis Lancha Cahuasa, and I am Shawi. I am the secretary of the Water Committee in Louis Terry. I am happy to have the water system. Many things have changed because of the system. It's not like before; our children have less illnesses like diarrhea or intestinal parasites. I also feel happy because every family has a sink with water, and it's no longer necessary to carry water from the stream like before. Things have changed a lot, and that is why I am happy."

- Jose Luis Lancha Cahuasa, Indigenous leader, Shawi Village of Louis Terry, Loreto Region



MOST IMPORTANTLY, IT WORKS!

2024 HEALTH DATA FROM LOUIS TERRY:

The prevalence of **diarrheal disease** showed a sustained decrease of **93%** between the baseline study in 2022 and follow-up studies in 2023 and 2024.

The prevalence of **multiple intestinal parasite infections** was reduced by **97%** over the baseline study, and the number of people found to be parasite-free increased over sixfold, from 14% to 90%.

An average decrease of **92%** was seen in the prevalence of **helminthic parasites** (intestinal worms), including hookworm (*Uncinaria*), roundworm (*Ascaris*), *Trichuris*, *Enterobius*, and *Strongyloides*.

The overall incidence of anemia in the study population was reduced by **72%**. Anemia in children under 5 in the study population was eliminated, dropping from a high prevalence of 67% to 0% in 2024.



THANKS TO YOU RAINFOREST FLOW IS BRINGING INDIGENOUS VOICES TO THE GLOBAL STAGE

Kelly Patiachi Vasse, Indigenous leader, Harakmbut Village of Shintuya, Manu Biosphere Reserve testifying at the University of North Carolina Water Institute Conference



"WHO TAKES CARE OF THE FOREST, THE TREES, THE WATER, THE PLANTS, AND THE ANIMALS? WE DO—THE ORIGINAL VILLAGES.

When I was young, there was a municipal project meant to provide us with clean water. But worms came out of the tap, and as thirsty children, we would use our shirts to filter them so we could drink. At the time, we thought this was normal.

Later, we heard that the nearby community of Huacaria had clean water, thanks to an organization called Rainforest Flow, which purified the water to the same quality as bottled water. As a community, we decided to seek out Rainforest Flow.

In 2020, the water project came to Shintuya. We all worked and learned together. The women helped gather rocks from the riverbank for the filters. We were so proud to take part. Soon, clean water was flowing into our homes.

As women, this meant a great deal to us—we no longer had to carry firewood from far away just to boil water.

Today, we see intense changes in the climate. In the dry season, water levels drop significantly. Now that we have clean water, the women of our village want to give back through a reforestation project to help sustain the healthy flow of water for our community."

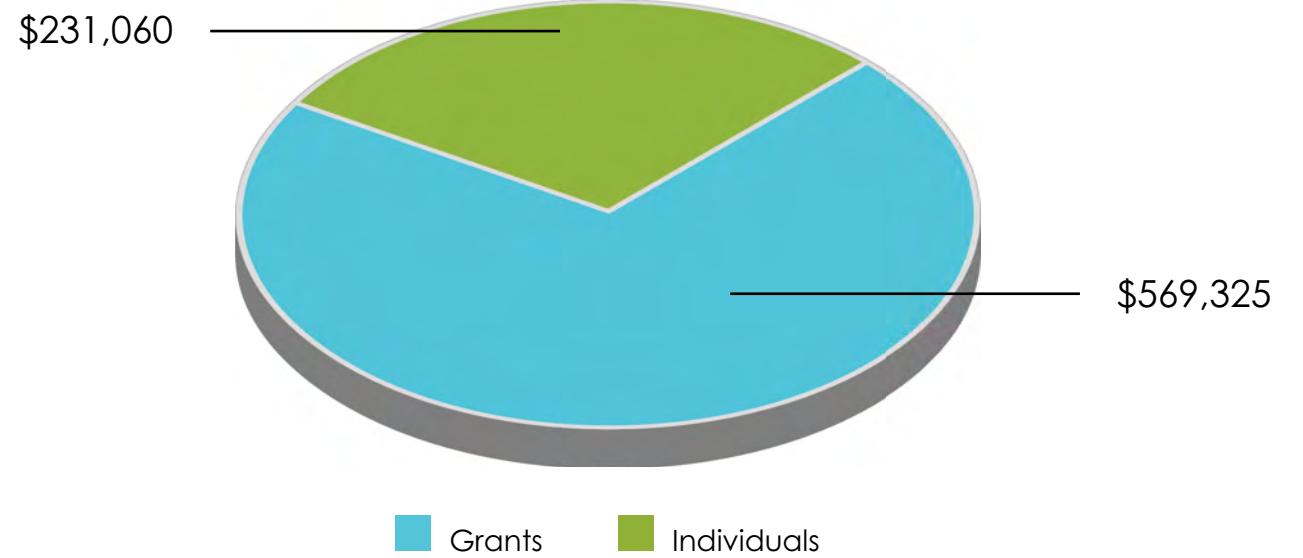
RAINFOREST FLOW IS SCALING ITS MODEL THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS AND THE GLOBAL TRAINING CENTER

Rainforest Flow Peru Project Supervisor Caleb Matos and Executive Director Nancy Santullo met with the Peruvian Housing Ministry's Rural Amazon Program to share our tried and true WASH technologies and seek opportunities for collaboration. We also hosted three senior members of their engineering team for an on-site visit in the Shawi community of Louis Terry in the Loreto region as a part of Rainforest Flow's Global Training and Research Center. This allowed them to experience the success of Rainforest Flow's WASH programs in remote Amazonian regions.

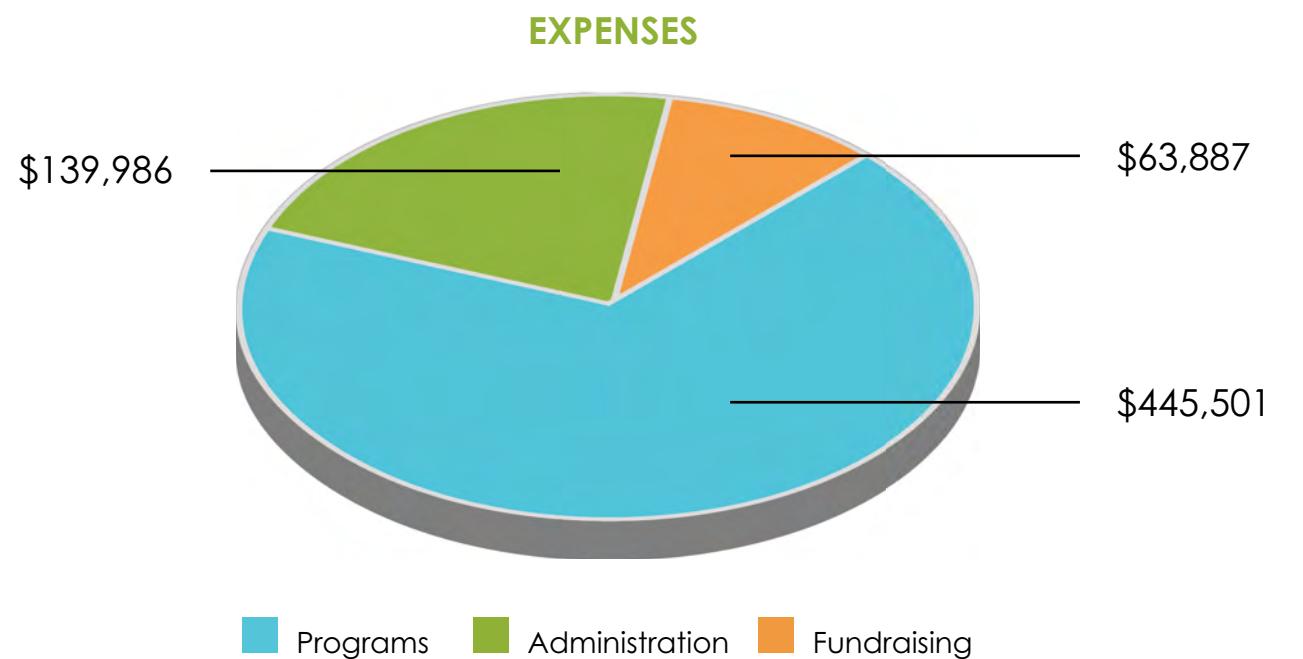


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THANK YOU

All of us at Rainforest Flow extend our heartfelt gratitude to our partners, donors, and supporters. Together, we are creating lasting change and improving lives. Thank you for joining us on this journey.

We invite you to continue to support our mission as we continue this vital work together with the communities. Your involvement is crucial to achieving even greater milestones in the future. Here's how you can help:

DONATE ↗

Your financial contributions directly support our programs. Every donation makes a difference. [Donate Now](#)

SPREAD THE WORD

Help us raise awareness by sharing our mission with your network. Follow us on social media and share our posts.

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PARTNER WITH US

If you represent an organization interested in partnering with Rainforest Flow, we'd love to hear from you.

CONTACT US

To learn more about our team and how you can help them do their important work please visit: [rainforestflow.org](#)