

WATER AT WORK MINISTRY

Sustainability Report

2021



Water at Work's Sustainability Report

Sustainability Impacts in Three Areas: Water & Environment, Economic, and Social & Community

By: Dan Blevins, Executive Director, Water at Work Ministry, Inc.
Dr. Omar Keith Helferich, Visiting Scholar, Calvin University
Professor Emeritus, Central Michigan University

How Do We Assess Sustainability?

SUSTAINABILITY: A measure of how well an enterprise is able to ensure its continued operation in the future by generating sufficient support, both economic and social, in the present.

IMPLEMENTATION OF A STANDARD METHOD: The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), The Hague, Netherlands, has developed a format and general guidelines for assessing the sustainability of any enterprise. The Water at Work Ministry Sustainability Report follows those general guidelines and format. Self-assessment is conducted on a variety of applicable criteria.

The Water at Work Ministry Model

The Mission of Water at Work is to transform the lives of over one million of the poorest people in the Dominican Republic through clean water distribution plants, business development and access to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

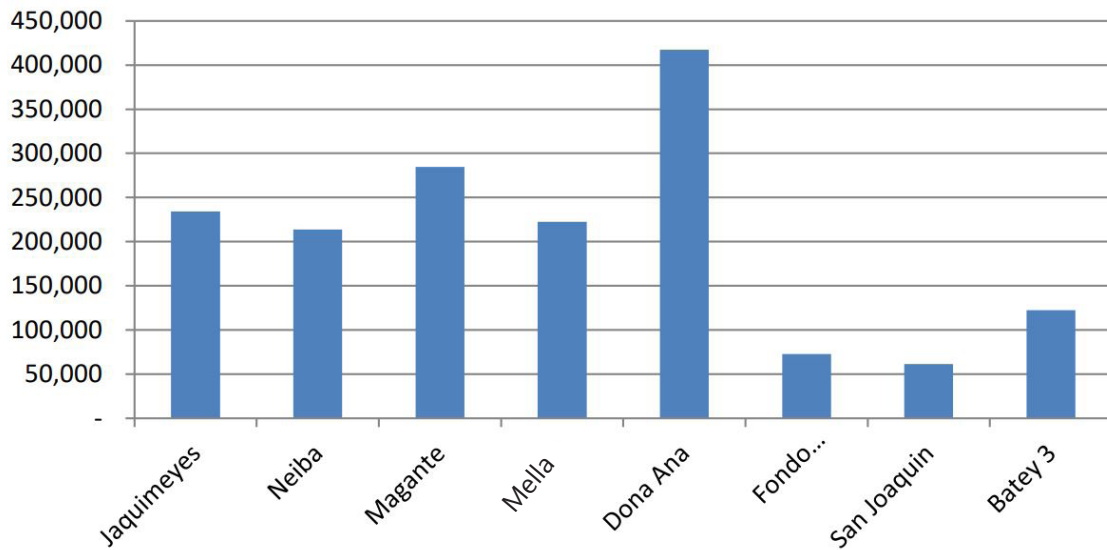
Key Elements

We build and equip complete water purification and distribution businesses in partnership with local churches, thus putting them in the business of reaching their own community with clean, safe water and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

- All plants are certified for operation by the Ministry of Public Health.
- Selling below market pricing improves access to clean water for all people.
- In-country work is carried out by Fundacion Water Work, a Dominican NGO formed and supported by Water at Work Ministry, Inc.
- Water process equipment and building materials are purchased locally in the DR.
- Profits are devoted to sustaining the business, empowering the church in outreach and to economic development of the community.
- Water Plant Names/Locations: Eight water plants were operating in 2021. Each of the plants has its own business name and service logo. However, for simplicity, the village in which each plant is located is used as its reference name in this report.

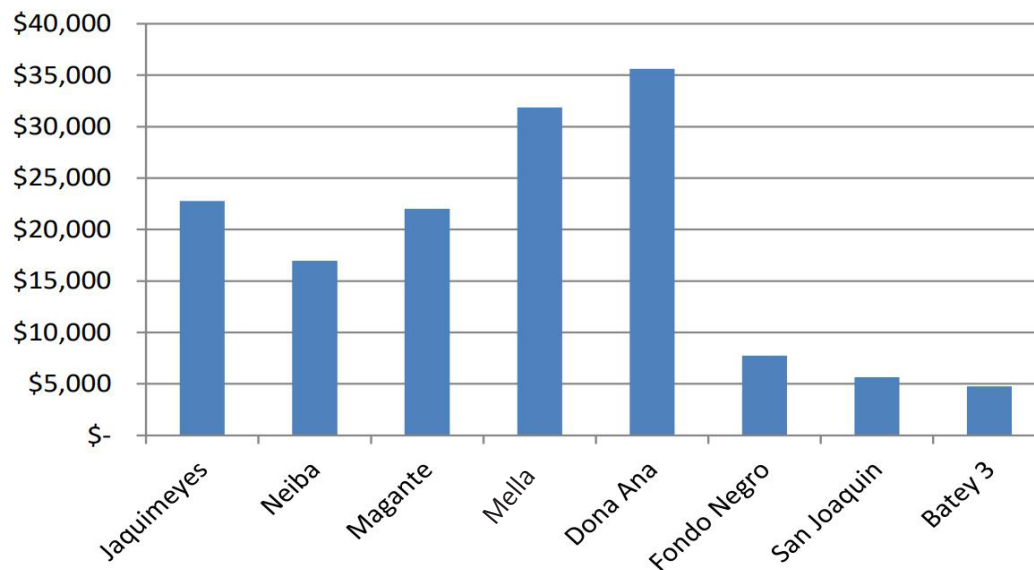
Economic Impacts

2021 Quantity of Water Produced by Location (Gallons)



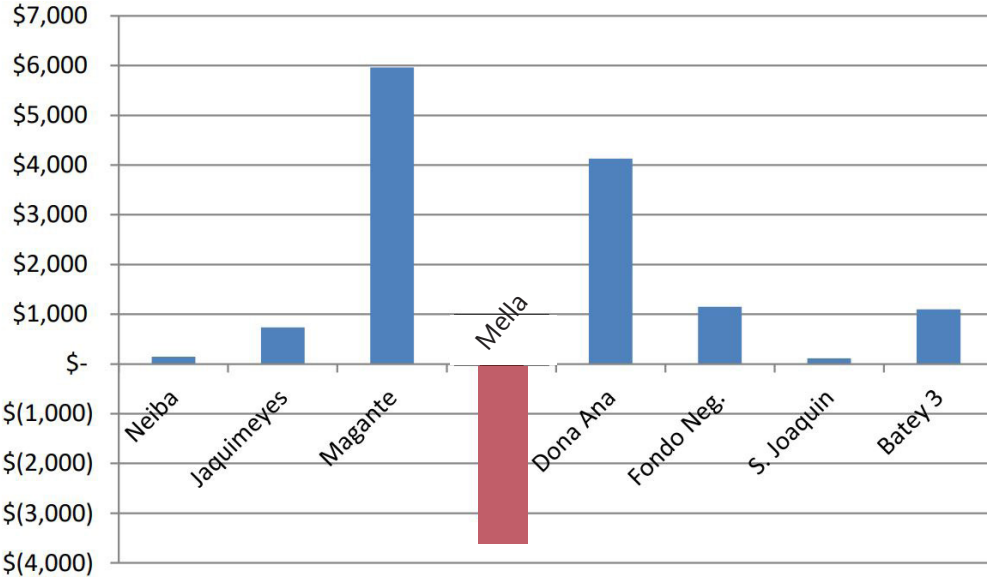
** Total production for 2021 was 1,628,925 gallons contained in 325,785 five-gallon bottles.**

2021 Sales Revenues for Each Plant by Location (US\$)



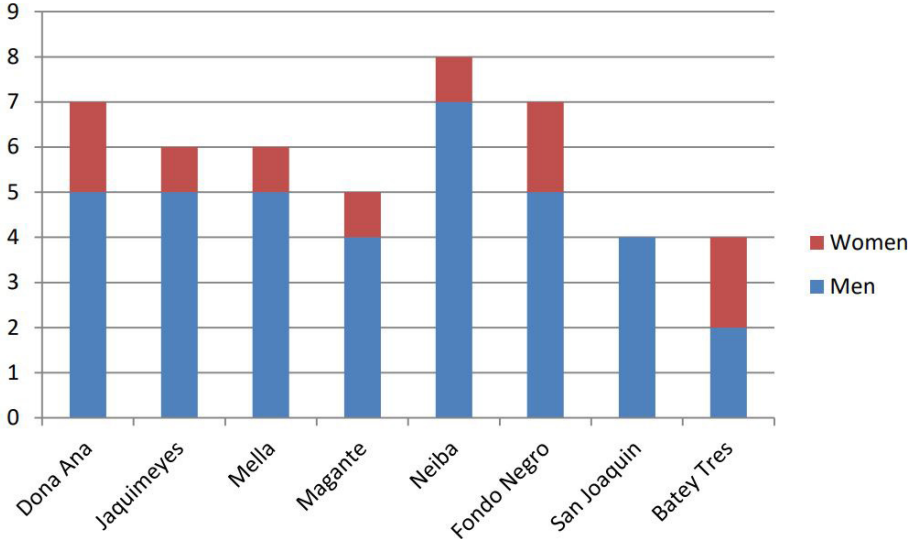
Total Sales Revenues for 2021 were \$147,358.

2021 Profit/Loss for Each Water Plant by Location



**DR Pesos converted to US Dollars at a rate of 56 pesos/\$1 USD
Significant downtime due to contamination was experienced at Mella.**

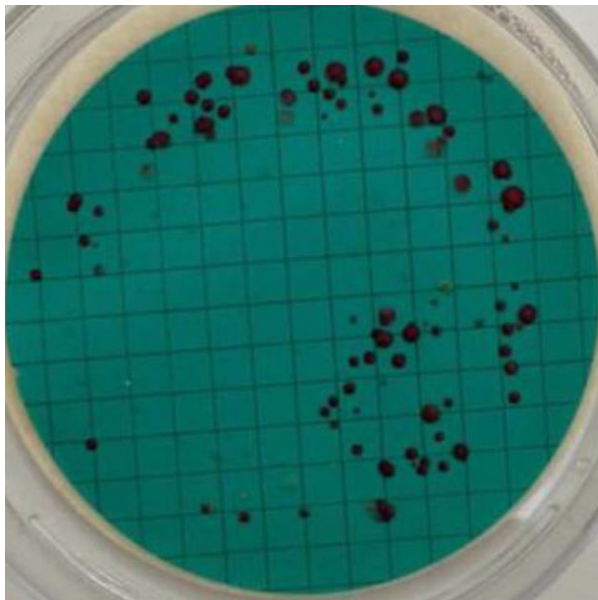
Employment per Water Plant Total Number of Full-time Jobs Created



**21% (10 of 47) are filled by women from the community.
San Joaquin closed in November of 2021 and did not re-open.
Employment taxes are paid for each employee. This qualifies them for government mandated pension and health benefits.**

Water Quality & Testing

- Biological testing is conducted for each water plant on a bi-weekly schedule with four sampling points per plant.
- Tests are conducted for E. Coli, Total Coliforms, Pseudomonas and aerobic bacteria.
- Contamination Incidents in the Final Product for 2021: NONE



**Left: Positive test for Aerobic Bacteria in the sediment filter at Mella water plant.
Right: Negative test for Aerobic Bacteria in water.**

- Remedial actions are taken to clean out any unit operations where positive tests occur.
- Downtime for remediation/cleaning of bacteria from the process was required in 2021 at the following water plants: Jaquimeyes, Mella, and Neiba.

Continuous Improvement

- Our eighth water plant (at Fondo Negro) was completed and started operation in July 2021 after being delayed a full year due to the pandemic.
- Standard Uniforms, personalized per water plant, were purchased and distributed to each water plant in February 2021.
- Our Water Plant Operators Group met in May of 2021 to review operational best practices, employee training needs, marketing plans, and to encourage each other. The group plans to hold sessions to provide ideas for continuous operational improvements.
- Training on correct business accounting and our monthly Excel reporting system was held for all water plants in 2021 in eight Zoom meetings and five in-person sessions.
- The water plant supply program we began in response to the pandemic was continued as a regular service offered to the water plants by Fundacion. We purchased a box truck in October to serve specifically for this program and began regular deliveries to the water plants with it in December of 2021. The program includes process chemicals, personal protective gear, and consumables such as bottle caps and seals.
- Recycling of damaged bottles and used caps was resumed in 2021 and made practical for Fundación to execute as they were now able to use the box truck for bottle transport on its journey back to Santo Domingo. A total of 700 broken bottles were returned to the manufacturer for future credit in the first load which was carried in December of 2021.
- A project was begun to provide interest-free loans to qualifying water plants for the expansion of their business capabilities.
- A program to enhance worker retention at the water plants was begun at Villa Magante and will be extended to other plants.

