# 2017

## **ANNUAL REPORT**



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# 2017 Annual Report

http://www.ewbny.org/

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear EWB-NY members and friends,

I am proud to write this message as the new President of EWB-NY Professional Chapter.

Although this role is new to me, my involvement with EWB is not. My work at the chapter started with Rubaya and inspired me to broaden my contribution to the organization. My history with EWB originated in France where I learned about Ingénieurs sans frontières through close family friends, leading to my later participation at my university student chapter in Canada. These different experiences have given me a great appreciation for the impact we have had, and make me confident that our chapter's most significant years lie just ahead of us.

This year was filled with exciting news which lead to a tremendous increase in volunteer participation; from the official start of our new program in Chimaltenango, Guatemala to the implementation trip preparations for our Misuuni, Kenya and Rubaya, Rwanda programs anticipated for early 2018.

Over the year, our chapter focused heavily on the standardisation of administrative items to enable straightforward volunteering engagement. We also partnered with Net Impact where a team of six professionals were assigned to develop a marketing and fundraising strategy for the chapter. On the financial front, our chapter exceeded expectations in 2017 by delivering strong results driven by your generous contributions. Clear metrics and thorough financial data analysis benchmarks were established for our programs with the aim to have a better understanding of our chapter's finances.

Alongside the consolidation of the Classy and Volunteer Village platforms launched last year, EWB 2.0 was also rolled out during the national conference this year in Milwaukee. The aim is to sharpen the organization's geographic focus in order to target countries that most need our help without displacing any of the current work. Our chapter is already fully in line with this direction. Finally, our chapter decided to close out two of our long-standing programs in Usalama, Kenya and Yamabal, El Salvador - both with tremendous success over their lifespan!

There are still challenges ahead and we're looking to tackle them head on. In 2018, the chapter will focus on streamlining its brand and extending its network in the city while reinforcing its internal administrative processes to support engaged volunteers. Throughout this annual report, we share some of this year's highlights and how our programs support positive change through leadership, innovation, and partnerships. Meaningful impact requires collaboration, which can only be achieved by working with our partner organizations in the communities, EWB-USA, our incredibly passionate volunteers and ultimately relying on our donors. We are extremely grateful for your support and generosity and our achievements would not have been possible without your contribution.

I am thrilled to lead EWB-NY into the new year. Thank you for your ongoing support and for joining us in our effort towards achieving global sustainable development.

Kindly,

Tedi Angoni, P.Eng.

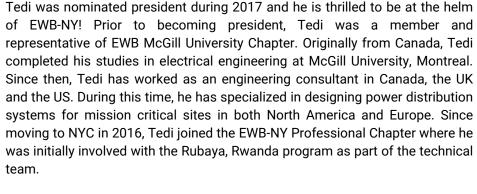
President



#### **EWB-NY LEADERSHIP**



President
Tedi Angoni
president@ewbny.org





Vice-President
Patrick Brennan
vp@ewbny.org

Patrick has held his position as vice president of the EWB-NY Professional Chapter since 2017. Previously, he was involved with the Rubaya, Rwanda program since 2016 and held the role of co-technical team lead. New Jersey born and raised, Patrick earned a B.S. in civil engineering from the New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark, New Jersey. Patrick has been a civil engineer with Maser Consulting, P.A. in New Jersey, since 2013 and specializes in construction oversight, construction management, infrastructure design and civil/site design. In addition to his involvement with EWB, Patrick has worked with All Hands Volunteers since 2015 and traveled to Nepal in May 2016 as part of a fundraising event which resulted in \$120,000 being raised for relief from the 2015 earthquakes that devastated the country.



Secretary
Rigdha Banerjee
secretary@ewbny.org

After joining EWB-NY Professional Chapter as a team member of the Rubaya Project in 2015, Rigdha became more interested in contributing to EWB and took on the role of Secretary in 2017. Rigdha's interest and experience in development work began as an undergraduate at the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur in India and continued in graduate school with her MS in Transportation Planning and Engineering from NYU (2014). She has been involved with Association for India's Development (AID) as a volunteer for "Right to Information Act" awareness program in India, ACE Mentor Program New York as a mentor and has presented at Society of Women Engineers conference on "How to effectively ask for mentoring". She is an architect, planner and transportation engineer with over seven years of experience.



**Treasurer**Simon Forsyth
treasurer@ewbny.org

Simon works as an infrastructure investor with an interest in international markets. He is currently an Associate Director with the Infrastructure group of the OMERS pension fund. At OMERS, he is responsible for asset acquisitions across a variety of geographic regions and infrastructure sectors (energy, transportation, social infrastructure). Simon also contributes to the management of several businesses within the OMERS portfolio. Simon is originally from Canada, holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree, is a CFA Charterholder, and is pursuing additional education in management and international economics through programs at LSE and MIT.



### EWB-NY LEADERSHIP (CONT.)

#### **Appropriate Technology Design Team (ATDT)**

Phoebe Law | atdt@ewbny.org

#### **Fundraising & Marketing**

Renate Crollini | fundraising@ewbny.org

#### **Web Manager**

Seva Liokumovich | <a href="mailto:administrator@ewbny.org">administrator@ewbny.org</a>



## MISSION STATEMENT

EWB-NY and Engineers Without Borders USA work to build a better world through engineering projects that empower communities to meet their basic human needs and equip leaders to solve the world's most pressing challenges.



## In the 21st century, humanity is facing tremendous global challenges:

- 1.4 billion people in the world live on less than \$1.25 a day; 2 billion live on less than \$2 a day
- Nearly 748 million people do not have access to clean drinking water
- 2.5 billion do not have access to proper sanitation
- Unsafe water, inadequate sanitation and the lack of hygiene claim the lives of an estimated 1.6 million children under the age of five every year
- 1.4 billion people lack access to direct electricity
- 2.7 billion people still rely on traditional cooking using biomass energy
- Household air pollution that results from biomass use will result in over 1.5 million deaths per year by 2030
- · Over a billion people do not have access to an all-weather road or telephone

These challenges must be met not only for the well-being of those in need but for the continued prosperity for all humanity. EWB-USA presents an opportunity to invest in the future of humanity, while simultaneously investing in the education of its members.

EWB-USA works to achieve a vision of a world in which all communities have the capacity to meet their basic human needs. This vision is actively pursued by engaging in community-driven development programs through the design and implementation of sustainable engineering projects. The organization is at the forefront of a movement in which university students and skilled engineers, often teaming with public health professionals, educators, business leaders and others, address some of the most prevalent challenges facing the world today, including water purification and delivery, sanitation, transportation and infrastructure projects, and sustainable and renewable energy systems.



#### FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

(USD)	2015	2016	2017
Current Assets	\$98,808	\$107,557	\$111,416
Cash on Hand			
Cash Held at National Chapter	\$98,808	\$107,557	\$111,416
Property & Equipment	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
Total Assets <sup>1</sup>	\$100,308	\$109,057	\$112,916

As with our parent organization, Engineers Without Borders USA, EWB-NY activities are funded primarily through generous contributions from corporations, individuals, and grant makers. In 2017, 52 percent of fundraising came from individual donors and 48 percent came from our key corporate sponsors, which are noted in this annual report. EWB-NY projects are built to be sustainable by their local communities and we consider contributions to be long-lasting investments in development rather than one-time donations.

EWB-NY strives to keep its overhead costs to a minimum. We are able to do so thanks to the time donated by our volunteers. In the spirit of EWB-USA, our chapter is 100 percent-volunteer operated. Our 2017 results prove our commitment to this strategy, with 95 percent of our expenses directly allocated to our projects and five percent directed to chapter fundraising uses (website, materials, volunteer events).

EWB-NY has had consistent and prudent financial performance. In 2017, EWB-NY fundraised at slightly above its rate of spending on project costs; it closed 2017 with a net increase in cash of \$3,859.

While EWB-NY carries a consistent cash balance, the majority of these funds have been fundraised by the chapter's individual projects. These resources remain dedicated to the completion plans of those projects, such that any incremental fundraising from our donors will serve to further the economic and social outcomes of the local communities that EWB-NY and its donors endeavor to support.

ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS USA

New York Professional Chanter

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE 2017 (CONT.)

(USD)	2017
Revenue	\$ 34,029
Contributions - Individuals	\$17,529
Contributions - Corporate Grants	\$16,500
Costs	\$ (27,568)
Project Costs	\$ (26,082)
Chapter Costs	\$ (1,486)
Balance Update with EWB-USA <sup>1</sup>	\$ (2,602)
Net Cash Flow	\$3,859

<sup>1.</sup> Net result of account balance updates between EWB-USA and EWB-NY, for post year-end 2016 updates, closed EWB-NY projects, and project infrastructure contributions to EWB-USA.



## **PROJECTS & INITIATIVES**

## OUR IMPACT

FOOD ACCESS
WATER ACCESS
EDUCATION ACCESS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



## **RUBAYA, RWANDA**

#### **Economic development through farming**

The Rubaya Program at EWB-NY has partnered with Goodneighbors, a maize farming cooperative out of Northern Rwanda, since July 2015. The goal of the partnership is to support Goodneighbors' economic development activities by elevating existing small-scale agricultural practices into a sustainable business. The short-term goal (Phase I) is the construction of a 30-ton pilot maize storage facility. The team will then focus on monitoring the impact of the facility from New York and on monitoring trips. The long-term goal (Phase II) is the design and construction of a flour mill for Goodneighbors which would allow them to operate and maintain their own plant and improve the farmers' economics. The Program expects up to 1000 people affected directly and up to 5000 indirectly.

Rubaya residents' livelihoods are mainly derived through agriculture, including maize, dairy, and tea farming. Currently, the farmers practice subsistence farming with highly variable yields and quality. Farmers in Rubaya decided to focus on maize for their cooperative for 3 main reasons:

- The Rwandan government's crop regionalization program focused on maize for the northern region, so in Rubaya, a farming cooperative would have additional resources to begin growing maize with reduced start-up cost
- In parallel, the Rwandan government's ongoing efforts towards reducing dependency on maize imports and increasing domestic production provided a relatively stable market for maize producers
- Seasonal variability in prices of raw and processed maize provided an opportunity for a well-organized cooperative to capitalize on this differential during high-demand periods through storage

In February 2017, EWB-NY began to host regular conference calls with Goodneighbors to discuss project alternatives. In December 2017, the design, schedule, budget, and construction documents for the facility were completed and a team of six EWB-NY members were preparing to travel to Rubaya.

PROJECT LEAD
Mira Armstrong
rubaya@ewbny.org



## **MISUUNI, KENYA**

#### Improving access to clean water

The Misuuni Program of EWB-NY is developing water resources for the community of Misuuni, Kenya in two phases. The first phase is rainwater harvesting at two primary schools, while progress is made towards the second phase, for community-wide water supply and distribution. 2017 started with an assessment trip in January which resulted in the completion of land surveys at two primary schools and of geophysical data collection at several potential drill sites. The dimensional data collected at the two schools supports the production of detailed construction drawings which is now underway with an anticipated implementation date in August 2018 for rainwater harvesting at the first primary school. The Program expects to directly affect 1000 people with its first phase and to affect up to 5000 people directly or indirectly with both phases together.

The geophysical data confirms that a site identified during the trips has good potential for a sustainable groundwater supply with a relatively high yield. Planning is ongoing with the Misuuni Development Self Help Group (MDSHG) under the plan that a well is feasible at this location.

The EWB-NY team is also encouraging the MDSHG to obtain a cost estimate for extending 3-phase power to the drill site and to obtain public easements for the proposed drill site, water line route, and water storage tank so as to ensure legal site control for the community water system. Further trips are planned in early 2018.



PROJECT CO-LEAD Eric Lehan, P.E. & Kasturi Shah misuuni@ewbny.org



## **2017 COMPLETED PROGRAMS**

#### Improving health, education and sanitation

In 2017, the chapter saw the completion of two of its longest tenured programs. The Usalama, Kenya and Yamabal, El Salvador programs were both perfect examples of successful programs that exceeded their minimum five year commitment.

The Usalama Program, which began in 2006, has improved the community's health and educational facilities through the construction of a school building and the infrastructure for a water distribution system. Despite the challenges in a consistent upstream water supply, Usalama has inherited the capabilities to run these systems independently of EWB-NY.

The Yamabal Program also has experienced a level of success since the program's inception in 2010. During the duration of the program, the Yamabal team has successfully designed and constructed 17 composting sanitary latrines and most recently, designed and procured materials for a water filtration system. Unfortunately, the program has been wound down due to extenuating circumstances outside of EWB-NY's control.

With both programs now officially closed out, their lessons and experiences will live on through the many members who took part in bringing these successful projects to life. A huge thanks and congratulations goes out to the project teams who completed these projects and furthered the EWB mission.



## **NEW PROGRAM**



## CHIMALTENANGO, GUATEMALA

#### **Connecting communities**

In 2017, a team of AECOM employees collaborated with the EWB-NY Professional Chapter to launch an EWB-NY pilot program in New York City. The notable endeavor marked the first Corporate-Partnership initiative of its kind within EWB-NY.

Following a six-month development phase, which prioritized team recruitment, leadership development, financial planning and the alignment of skills with community projects, the team applied to help address pressing needs of the Mayan community of La Joya el Aguacatal in Guatemala's Chimaltenango region.

The Chimaltenango team is committed to helping the community realize reliable, safe community access to education, healthcare, markets, and emergency response through the design, engineering, planning and construction of a vehicular and pedestrian bridge. The bridge will benefit 300 community members, as well as 900 residents of Xanimajuyu village in Chimaltenango, Guatemala.

Currently, community access is only available via a dangerous, makeshift bridge, used daily by women and children despite it being hazardous and below the flood line during the rain season. A new bridge will provide significant community benefits by reducing travel risk, increasing access and cutting travel time to education, lowering the cost of transporting goods to market, and improving medical emergency response. In addition, the team aims to provide ongoing training and economic development activities to empower local residents.

The program will kick off fully in January 2018.



## COMMITTEES & INITIATIVES

### **Appropriate Technology Design Team**

The Appropriate Technology Design Team (ATDT) works on design projects, hosts events that connect our members to ideas in engineering and international development, and connects chapter projects to relevant existing technologies and specialists.

In 2017, we hosted a movie screening of Poverty Inc. and discussed the roles of foreign aid and charity; we engaged with the maker community at the annual Maker Faire in Staten Island; we learned about NYC's innovative waste management during a tour of the Sunset Park Material Recovery Facility; and we are in the midst of developing a water softening strategy for the Misuuni Program.

Our goals for 2018 are to continue and grow our research and development team to engage with further pertinent technological needs in international development projects, mainly in energy infrastructure and communication networks. We currently have monthly in-person meetings and weekly virtual meetings.



## **COMMITTEES & INITIATIVES**

### **Fundraising & Marketing Committee**

The Fundraising and Marketing Committee consists of fundraising and marketing representatives from each program, as well as dedicated committee members. The objective is to monitor grant applications, provide assistance for fundraising efforts, and provide other general support as required to the projects.

In 2017, the committee had an array of successful events and programs. This included a partnership with Google during Google Giving Week. We were also awarded EWB-USA grants and during the EWB-USA annual online end-of-year campaign our chapter was awarded a prize for the most small donations made in a week. For local fundraising events, we hosted yoga classes, film screenings, happy hours, bar nights and dance parties.

The committee has developed and implemented a Corporate Sponsorship Program (CSP) with the objective to encourage annual donations from engineering, agricultural, and other committed companies. At the corporate and individual level, we have had generous support from Arup, AECOM, Gilbane, and Langan.

Another key event in 2017 was the committee's invitation to attend a meeting with up and coming students from Saudi Arabia at the Saudi Arabia Embassy. The conversation was focused around social impact and sustainable engineering. We discussed how individuals can make a difference and how EWB-NY aims to facilitate this.

We have had a huge year in terms of our social media impact and marketing. We reworked the website and newsletter to make it more user friendly and started blogging under the handle of ewbnyblog. Our twitter handle, @EWB\_NY, has over 500 followers with over 2,250 tweets to date. We have over 870 followers on Linkedln with the top five countries following us being USA, India, UK, Canada and Saudi Arabia, and over 1,340 followers on Facebook with about 1,490 visits to the site per month. We were also lucky enough to have six motivated and talented interns volunteer their time with our chapter as part of the Net Impact Intern program who helped us further develop our CSP pitch.

The committee accomplished a lot in 2017 and we look forward to aiming even higher in 2018.



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Our work and accomplishments would not be possible without the support of our many sponsors, partners, and donors, corporate or individual.

EWB-NY is extremely grateful for the support over the past year and we look forward to your continued support in 2018 and beyond.

Please contact Tedi Angoni (President, president@ewbny.org) or Renate Crollini (Fundraising Lead, fundraising@ewbny.org) if you would like to get involved with EWB-NY.









## **VOLUNTEERS**

The success of EWB-NY programs and committees would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of the men and women who volunteer their time and expertise to help communities across the globe. Here's a list of some of the people that we would like to thank.

Aigerim Mukhambetova	Daniel Buser	Kathryn Bartunek	Nolan Mazur
Alberto Morgante	Danny Wo	Katie-Sue Derejko	Oxana Klokovskaya
Alex Canterara	Dave Maharaj	Kelli Capka	Paroma Saha
Alexander Chowdhury	Dean Challes	Kimberly Huber	Patrick Brennan
Alison Chang	Edmund Resor	Liz Fleming	Patrick Farnham
Allie Kauffman	Emma Stevens	Logan Grant	Phoebe Law
Alyki Malliaros	Eric Lehan	Maeva Ghonda	Placide Magambo
Amanda Ibrahim	Erick Martinez	Marc Santos	Rachel Webre
Anh Nguyen	Ethan Cotton	Marcellin Nshimiyimana	Renate Crollini
Anthony Avendano	Evram Dawd	Mat Chamish	Rigdha Banerjee
Anthony Giamella	Ezra Monasebian	Matt Sisul	Roberto Garcia
Benjamin Alper	Faradjine C. Laurore	Matthew Winchell	Sahajveer Singh
Bhavya Reddy	Georgios Dellas	Max Johnson	Salvador Bentolila
Brianna Fan	Goli Razaghi	May ElKhattab	Sara Donatich
Caitlin Fedio	Heidi Sanchez	Michael Brennan	Sara Fletcher
Carleigh Douglas	Ignazio Bellini	Miguel Matos	Skyler Marinoff
Carlos Beceroil	Jacob Lehan	Miguel Ramirez	Sonia Botchoukova
Charles Newman	Jesse Lee	Mira Armstrong	Steve Miller
Charly Bertran	Jonathan Pita	Mohammad Farhan	Tanmay Bhalerao
Chris Shipper	Jordan Lee	Molly Aaker	Tim Weiss
Claire Wang	Judy Hodge	Nadia Makara	Valero Kolev
Cristina Cignoli	Junelle Tamambing	Natalie McCrudden	Vanessa Galvez
Cyril Peter	Kasturi Shah	Nisa Foster	Weiling Xu

#### Interested in volunteering with EWB-NY?

EWB-NY is always looking for motivated and selfless individuals like you! For more information, please visit our website <a href="https://www.ewbny.org">www.ewbny.org</a> or reach out to any of our members.

## 2017

## **THANK YOU!**

