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## **Blue Planet Network Wins mBillionth Environment South Asia Award**

San Francisco Bay Area, CA, July 23, 2013 – On July 18th, Blue Planet Network and its technology platform, Peer Water Exchange (PWX), won the [mBillionth Environment Award](#) for developing an innovative mobile monitoring service for the global water sector. The mBillionth Award recognizes excellence in mobile communications across South Asia. mBillionth South Asia Award’s Jury panel is a mix of telecom experts, entrepreneurs and market experts from eight South Asian countries.

Blue Planet Network’s [Mobile Monitoring Service](#), which is both, an SMS-based system and Android application service, was piloted successfully in India, Latin America and the United States since 2011. Blue Planet Network’s Mobile Monitoring Service is now being offered to its 103 expert water organization members working in 27 countries worldwide.

The Service enables local communities, water organizations and funders equipped with cell phones, to monitor and report on safe drinking water and sanitation installations. Project statistics, status updates, impact reports and photos can be text messaged or uploaded via an Android application and posted on Blue Planet Network’s online platform, PWX – available for all Internet users to review. This simple mobile solution is bringing critical data to the global community so everyone can learn how projects succeed or overcome challenges across the water sector. The Service allows in-country field staff to report on project activities and results regularly and inexpensively. It enables decision-makers to monitor activities in near real-time and quickly make adjustments during implementation and post implementation of water projects. This process improves the quality, impact and sustainability of projects globally and instills investor confidence.

*“We have taken many steps towards empowering people to work together, share ideas, and learn from each other. With our mobile service, we give water organizations, of any size, working where mobile access is available, a chance to stay on top of their projects. We are honored that mBillionth has recognized our innovative use of mobile services to ensure safe drinking water is sustained for the global population,”* shared Rajesh Shah, Head of Water Programs with Blue Planet Network.

Blue Planet Network combines its award-winning online platform and mobile services with its global community of expert members to share learning and increase the impact of safe drinking water programs. *“Our member organizations were closely involved in the development of our Mobile Monitoring Service to ensure it met their most urgent field monitoring requirements,”* stated Lisa Nash, CEO of Blue Planet Network. *“There was a clear need for a simple monitoring service that taps into the systems people in developing countries already have, such as SMS-based cell phones. The power of SMS is the power to let anyone participate. We are now seeing how it is enabling communities to take charge of the sustainability of projects and increase transparency across the sector.”*



**About Blue Planet Network / [www.blueplanetnetwork.org](http://www.blueplanetnetwork.org)**

Founded in 2002, Blue Planet Network's mission is to exponentially increase the impact of safe drinking water programs for people around the world. Blue Planet Network's vision is a world in which all people have affordable access to sustainable safe drinking water and the chance for health, education and economic opportunity that it brings. Blue Planet Network's collaborative online solution and technology services enable its members to plan, manage, monitor and analyze over 1,645 water projects totaling \$42MM. Blue Planet Network's 103 expert members have empowered more than 1,124,000 people across 2,415 communities in 27 countries with safe drinking water and sanitation.

**About Peer Water Exchange / [www.peerwater.org](http://www.peerwater.org)**

Blue Planet Network's online platform, Peer Water Exchange (PWX), is the global marketplace to select, fund, manage, and track the impact of all water and sanitation projects collaboratively, efficiently, and verifiably. PWX is a platform, process, and human network for funding, soliciting, selecting, managing, and evaluating water projects worldwide. It reduces competitive behavior and increases cooperation and knowledge sharing. PWX is the only scalable, map-driven, and completely transparent platform in the WASH sector. PWX combines people, process, and technology to help make a sustainable dent in the global water crises.

**Articles about Blue Planet Network's Mobile Monitoring Service**

- <http://washfunders.org/Blog/How-Can-SMS-Texting-Increase-the-Impact-of-Safe-Drinking-Water-Programs>
- <https://www.vnistories.com/Page/ViewIdea?ideaid=167>