



## Highlights of 2024: Environmental Peacebuilding and Education

The Water Resources Action Project (WRAP) brings rainwater harvesting systems, environmental education, and cross-cultural exchange to K-12 students in Israel, Palestine, Jordan, New Mexico, and the Navajo Nation.

- Despite the ongoing tensions in Israel, WRAP continues a project with funding from the **Jerusalem Fund** to renovate rainwater harvesting systems at 4 schools in East Jerusalem and build a sustainable educational program.
- **Other Israeli schools in 2024:** WRAP provided support for educational programs and maintenance of rainwater harvesting systems at Arabic language schools in Bartaa and Moahia in Wadi Ara, and in a Bedouin school in Rahat and a Du-Leshoni (2-language school) in Beer Sheva in the Negev.
- In coordination with the **Albuquerque-Rehovot Sister City Project**, we continued an educational program to link the **STAR school** near the Navajo Reservation, the Jewish **Sarid school in Rehovot** and the Arab **Al-Zahara school in Lod, Israel**.



Greenhouse plants and rainwater systems at WRAP schools in Israel (left: Al-Zahara, right: Sarid)



Students and teacher from STAR School

Rainwater systems at STAR School and the Reservation

- WRAP continued the work funded by **Dig Deep**, the **Native American Emergency Relief of the World Emergency Fund**, and the **Orr Fund**. We partnered with two other nonprofit organizations, the **Forgotten People** and **Global Access 2030**, to install and test rainwater harvesting systems with low-cost filters designed to provide drinking water to isolated families in two areas of the Navajo Reservation. This year, we installed 9 new rainwater harvesting systems using a system manufactured in the United States but inspired by the Israeli design used in 2023.

- Use of the **multi-lingual Environmental WRAPApp** continues to expand; it's now used by over 64 schools on 2 continents! The App is accessible to schools around the world interested in cross-cultural, environmental education. Thus, students speaking English, Hebrew, Arabic, and Navajo, will be getting to learn about each other's cultures while learning environmental science. A new version, the **DinéWRAPApp** is being created to serve the specific needs of the Navajo community. [Click here for more information about the WRAPApp.](#)

## ***Exciting Projects in 2025***

- With continued funding from **Ecolab** ([www.ecolab.com](http://www.ecolab.com)), WRAP continues its partnership with the **Native American Emergency Relief of the World Emergency Fund** and the **Forgotten People** to build an additional at least 10 additional rainwater harvesting systems, provide 50 filtrations systems and 250 storage tanks to the Pine Ridge School and families in 7 Chapters on the Navajo Nation in 2025.
- **Partnership with Navajo Technical University in Crownpoint, NM:** A water use survey created by students at NTU will be distributed to the communities in NW New Mexico to identify potential recipients of new rainwater harvesting systems.
- **Continuing cross-cultural activities in 2025:** We will purchase equipment for water quality testing and hydroponic gardening at the Sarid, Al Zahara and STAR schools, and sponsor in-person and virtual field trips by Native American, Jewish, and Arab students to allow the communities to get to know each other. We will continue our support for 4 schools in East Jerusalem, 2 in Wadi Ara, and 2 in the Negev.
- **Additional projects in the Negev:** We repaired the RWH system and implement an educational program at Nitzaney Eshkol, a kibbutz near the Gaza Strip heavily impacted by the war that began on October 7, 2023.



Students at the school in Nitzaney Eskol near the Gaza Strip

## ***Here's how you can help...***

- **Volunteer** your skills in environmental education, marketing/social media, language translations, outreach to U.S. schools, grant making & fundraising, and serve on the WRAP Board. Contact us at [info@wrapdc.org](mailto:info@wrapdc.org) or go to [www.wrapdc.org](http://www.wrapdc.org) to fill out our **contact** form.
- **Request a ZOOM presentation** for your organization or group of friends by our teachers to learn about our cross-cultural science education activities.
- **Donate** to continue our programming in Israel, Palestine, and the U.S.
  - At [www.wrapdc.org](http://www.wrapdc.org) or by check to WRAP, 107 S. West Street Suite 574, Alexandria, VA 22314.
  - Through the Environmental Peacebuilding Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation of New Mexico, at [www.jcfnm.org](http://www.jcfnm.org) or by check to JCFNM, 5520 Wyoming Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109.

## **WHAT YOUR DONATION CAN DO**

Any amount will support environmental, **cross-cultural exchange**, involving students from Israel, Palestine, and Native American communities. Your donations will purchase science equipment and help us bring our environmental WebApp to interested students everywhere.

- \$25 → One rain gauge or 2 water filters
- \$150 → 1 digital tablet or 10 water test kits
- \$500 → 1-month stipend for a Lead Educator or a 500-gallon rainwater tank