

The Washington Women's Foundation
2014 International Grant for \$15,000
is awarded to:

Etta Projects

www.ettaprojects.org

The mission of Etta Projects is to alleviate poverty in rural villages of Eastern Bolivia. They partner with Bolivian communities to implement sustainable solutions to the challenges of poverty, while educating and inspiring North Americans to act for positive change.

WWF is proud to be supporting the expansion of Etta's "Empowering Local Women as Community Health Leaders" program to four rural villages whose population totals nearly 2,000. Sixteen local women, 4 from each village, will be trained as Health Promoters to respond to the basic health needs in their villages – first aid, contraception, hygiene promotion. They will have well-stocked first aid kits to provide immediate care, and cell phones so they can consult with physicians in emergencies. The Health Promoters will also track health issues on a community map, using special keys to mark the health situation of each family (such as pregnancy, illness and malnutrition). The maps will help doctors respond to the most pressing health issues when they make their routine visits to the community every few weeks. Health promoters will also host community fairs on topics such as hygiene, oral care and reproductive health in an effort to improve the overall health of their villages.

Other impressive organizations considered in this grant process:

Water 1st www.water1st.org

**Received Site Visit by Committee*

Water 1st unites people to end the global water crisis by supporting sustainable clean water, toilet and hygiene projects for the world's poorest communities. Working in four countries - India, Ethiopia, Bangladesh, and Honduras - their projects benefit the poorest of the poor, those living on less than \$1 per day. Their request to WWF outlines a project working with a long-standing partner organization in urban Bangladesh to construct clean water systems and toilets in the slum areas of Demra, on the outskirts of the capital city Dhaka. The project would initially serve 450 people and, since it is set up as a revolving loan fund that has seen 99% repayment, 40% of grant funds would later be available to underwrite future water systems, serving an additional 150 people.

Schools for Salone www.schoolsforsalone.org

**Received Site Visit by Committee*

Schools for Salone partners with local villages in Sierra Leone, West Africa, to rebuild schools devastated during the ten-year civil war that ended in 2002. SfS has built 15 schools and 2 libraries since 2005. Their request to WWF outlines a project to bring power via solar panels to a school in Sembehun and to supply 50 Kindle e-readers, each pre-loaded with hundreds of books, to 160 students to enrich their education and literacy. This would be in partnership with Worldreader and patterned on a program conducted successfully in Ghana and being expanded in to schools in Kenya.

Education Across Borders www.educationacrossborders.org

Education Across Borders works in partnership with marginalized communities in the Dominican Republic to co-create lasting solutions to extreme poverty, through educational, community development, and service-learning programs. Their request to WWF outlines plans to add a part-time development staff person to strengthen their fundraising and increase their capacity to provide scholarships, build homes, deliver health services and conduct immersion trips in two impoverished communities of the Dominican Republic.