The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation has granted $1.5 million to The Water Institute at UNC to improve the lives of disadvantaged people around the world. The Institute will use the grant in liaison with the nonprofit foundation and its grantees across the globe to improve strategies for making clean water accessible to those most in need.

“The goal of this partnership is to improve the well-being of the ultra-poor in targeted developing countries by supporting sustainable access to safe water,” says Jamie Bartram, PhD, Institute director. “This is a fantastic opportunity for us to work alongside the foundation and the projects they support to improve their strategy and ultimately make an impact on water projects across the globe.”

Through the partnership, the Water Institute will help foundation grantees develop internal monitoring systems by training them to use and report data on the performance and impact of their projects.

“Central to the foundation’s Safe Water Strategy is rigorous monitoring and evaluation to improve the overall effectiveness of our grant making by providing feedback to improve ongoing programming,” said Braimah Apambire, senior adviser for water, sanitation and hygiene at the foundation. “The University of North Carolina’s Water Institute has established itself as a leader in the water, sanitation and hygiene sector, with deep, substantive expertise, demonstrated experience in conducting complex evaluations, and the capacity to effectively aggregate and disseminate learnings and findings.”