Women, Water and Leadership (WWL), the Soroptimist International President’s Appeal 2017-2019, will improve access to water for all uses, and increase awareness of the vital role of women as equal partners, at all levels of the water sector. Inclusiveness of women and sustainability are essential components of the SDGs and WWL will develop a variety of crosscutting projects in five continents, to Educate, Empower and Enable women and girls to lead in the water sector. Embracing the SDGs and the targets set out in Goal 6 - Clean Water and Sanitation, Goal 5 - Gender Equality, and Goal 4 - Quality Education, WWL will promote the inclusion of women in all phases of projects; from design through to delivery and monitoring.
Safe, accessible water is crucial to preserving life, and yet water scarcity disproportionately affects women and girls. Instead of attending school or earning an income, many are forced to be the primary water carriers for their families. Despite positive steps taken in past decades, the potential contributions of women in water development remain largely untapped, hindering women’s economic empowerment. WWL will improve access to water, agricultural information and clean energy; empowering women to be self-supporting through sustainable projects, based on meaningful local partnerships. WWL has commenced a project with the Mwihoko Women Group, Kenya, supporting women small holder farmers to move into commercial farming. Investing in water tanks, new technologies and improving facilities at a local training centre, the project will provide education, partnering with a local University, in addition to on-site skills training, leading to increased food security, business opportunities, and an improved standard of living for the women and community.

Please visit www.soroptimistinternational.org/wwl