

WATER FOR LIFE

Your urgent WATER CRISIS bulletin



**Where water
is deadly...
you help
bring life!**

Water like
this will kill
1,000
children under
5 today.

Even though access to safe drinking water is recognised as a basic universal human right, far too many people around the world are dying from dirty water.

The most affected are children and people with disabilities living in poverty.

Some people with disabilities simply don't have the physical ability to access clean safe water. Particularly those who have a mobility disability or are blind, they cannot trek the many kilometres needed to access the only water available to them... dirty water, often deadly.

The facts are horrifying. Every day, almost 4,000 people die from diseases attributable to unsafe water, hygiene and sanitation, with 1,000 of these deaths among children under five.

Families who are already struggling to survive extreme poverty are facing an impossible choice – to go without water altogether, or take their chances drinking the only water that's available. Water that's unsafe and can lead to death.

**This tragedy MUST stop.
And with your help, it can.**

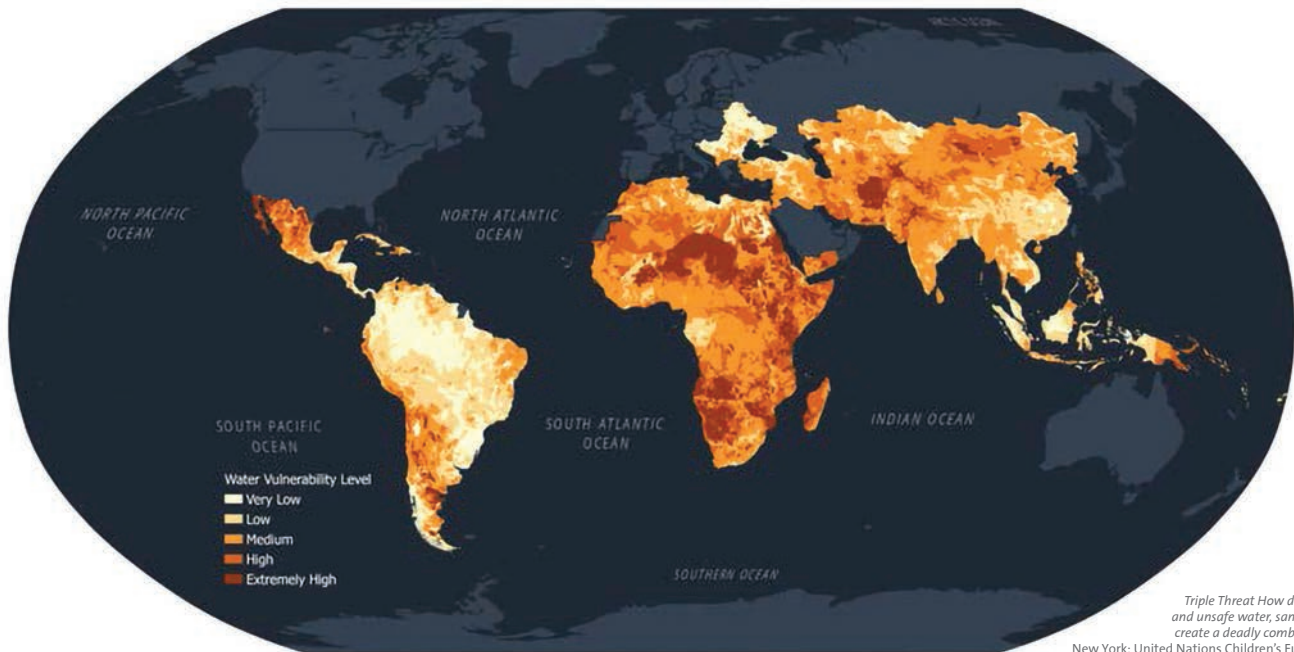
cbm's WASH programmes (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) are a guaranteed way to bring safe, clean water, better hygiene, and proper sanitation into the heart of communities, schools and homes. **And they work.** Which means your support for a WASH project today can and will help protect countless people.

Together, we can be the change our hearts tell us the world needs. Please do all you can to bring clean Water For Life to the world's most vulnerable people today.



Why there's a water crisis...

AND HOW YOUR LIFE-SAVING SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE



Triple Threat How disease, climate risks, and unsafe water, sanitation and hygiene create a deadly combination for children.
New York: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), 2023.

As New Zealanders, we know how harsh droughts and floods can be. But we can still sometimes take clean water for granted. Right now though, in certain parts of the world, pressure on water supplies is reaching critical levels. Here are the three main causes of a deadly water crisis...

Booming Population

Rising populations and expanding cities are driving up demand for water to the point where supply and infrastructure simply cannot keep up.

Changing Climates

Droughts, floods, and extreme weather events reduce already-scarce water availability, contaminate water sources, and damage infrastructure... making it even harder to access safe water.

Conflict & Migration

Limited water resources lead to tension between communities desperate to survive. Conflict can further disrupt water access and force families to migrate, which adds to the strain on water supplies in other areas.

The water crisis is especially life-threatening for people with disabilities living in poverty – often the first to be left behind in a crisis.

These are our people, and we MUST act now and act fast to help them. Please will you give generously today?

A community member getting water from the muddy lake.





The devastating impact on children

Dirty water is a huge problem in the world's poorest places, and the impact on children is truly devastating.

Diarrhoea caused by waterborne diseases like cholera and dysentery can be deadly for people of all ages, but the speed with which they can kill small children is truly terrifying. Often in just a matter of hours.

In less acute situations, the impact of poor access to safe water is still incredibly harmful to children. Many live in isolated

rural areas and spend hours every day walking long distances to collect water for their family when they should be in school.

This has a disproportionate impact on girls, as fetching water is considered the responsibility of women and girls in 7 out of 10 households.

As Community Leader, Hussain, told us...
"Children miss school regularly because they cannot get to school on time and when they do, they are too tired to learn."

Communities like Hussain's cannot go another day without safe water.

In Hussain's community, women and children have to walk long distances to get water from either a manmade lake or a hand-dug open well.

Not only can the water they collect make them very sick, but it is also extremely dangerous to walk this journey alone.

"Getting water, especially in dry season is very challenging," says Hussain. "Our women are not safe, they are at risk when they walk long distances to get water."

Now however, thanks to wonderful support like yours, they are part of a **cbm** WASH

programme. Your support today can help set up a water committee, where people can learn about hygiene and receive instruction in how to maintain the borehole and other facilities that are coming to their community through your support.



"Health is wealth and water plays an important role in the health of the community."

Hussain
Community Leader
in Nigeria

These numbers are devastating...

Globally, **600 million** children don't have safe drinking water.

Today, around **2.2 billion** people – or 1 in 4 – still lack safely managed drinking water at home.

Nearly **700 million** children can't access basic hygiene services like a place to wash their hands.

Close to **2 billion** people worldwide use drinking water contaminated with faeces.

Over **500,000** deaths each year are estimated to be linked to diseases related to dirty water.

How you bring clean Water For Life

Your support for cbm's WASH programme helps bring clean safe water to more communities:

Accessible Water

You help bring water points to remote villages that are accessible for people with disabilities.

Hand-washing Stations

You also help bring hand-washing stations to isolated schools.

Water Wells

And you help bring water wells to communities. Giving them safe, clean water.

By supporting **cbm's** WASH programme, you are joining the fight against deadly diseases like diarrhoea, cholera, dysentery, typhoid, River Blindness, Trachoma, parasitic worms, snail fever and polio. Not only will access to clean water slow and stop diseases from spreading through communities, but it will also help prevent sickness and disability in the first place.

Together, we can give vulnerable communities the clean water, sanitation and hygiene they need to survive. Please do all you can today!



"...for I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink..." - Matthew 24:35-37