

Africa Oasis Project

Assemblies of God World Missions - Africa has launched a major effort to respond to Africa's critical need for safe and available water.

Water

70% of the earth's surface is covered by water.

97% of the earth's water is in the oceans.

Only 3% of the total global water is fresh. It is not evenly distributed around the world. Much of the fresh water is in aquifers, deep below the earth's surface - more than 800 meters.

The Need

Africa has about 9% of the world's water resources but 13% of the world's population.

This means that the amount of water for each person is well below the world average and often at great distance from the people. Africa's women and children are often obligated to use large segments of their time and energy daily in hauling water.

Predictions indicate that over the next 20 years, 30% more water will be needed just for farming. Twenty-five African nations will suffer water shortages. When there is too little water, drought occurs. Drought is the third most common disaster in Africa. Drought contributes to degrading the environment (deforestation, loss of land cover, soil erosion, overgrazing, etc.) food shortages due to crop failure, death of animals...leading to hunger and malnutrition, declining health and sanitation...an increase in sickness and disease as a result. Africa has the lowest coverage of water supply and sanitation services in the world.

The Solution

Africa Oasis Project, partnering with our national churches through Africa, is focused on providing appropriate solutions on a foundation of recognized best practice methods.

The range of responses to local situations will include, among other actions...

- Deep-water wells
- Sanitation training for maintaining water in sanitary conditions once gathered.
- Rainwater harvesting and storage
- Irrigation

