



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

Water for All

"It's only fair..."

Church World Service invites **Water for All partnerships** to provide an ongoing source of core funding for sustainable water development programs around the world.

The need for safe, accessible water has never been greater. And as water supplies dwindle in some areas, and competition for water increases, affordability is now another critical issue.

Too often scarcity of water sources has become a source of intense competition and even violence.

And nowhere is the need for water more urgently experienced than in the developing world.

- **1.1 billion people lack access to safe drinking water.**
- **1.6 million—90% of them children under the age of 5—die every year from diarrheal diseases related to water and sanitation safety.**
- **Millions of women and girls spend long hours every day seeking water—time they could devote to income generation and education.**

Hunger and poverty are inextricably linked to the availability, proximity, quantity, and quality of water.



Dipping water from a dwindling season stream in the dry season in Kenya.

Water for All

organizes community-based programs that assure sustainable sources of potable water

Water for Health: A sufficient supply of safe water for human consumption and hygiene.

Water for Food: The efficient use of water for sustainable food production and livelihood.

Water for Peace: Taking steps avoid or minimize conflicts over water.

Water for the Future: Using water resources in sustainable ways, avoiding or remediation of environmental degradation.

To eradicate poverty, we must resolve to provide

Water for All

Church World Service has recognized experience in the development and implementation of community-based, sustainable water programs. Following are just a few examples of successful CWS Water for All programs today:

[Water for Life/Kenya](#)

Water for Life is a "multiple solutions" program that promotes community organization and "buy-in" as the foundation for its success. Communities form management communities that will repair and maintain water systems. Water use agreements assure peaceful resolution of potential conflict related to access. "Multiple solutions" means that there are "back-up" water resources—animal watering troughs in addition to wells and sand dams, etc. Sanitation facilities protect ground water safety.

[Affordable options /Cambodia](#)

Simple sand filters have proven to be a lifeline to families in Cambodia, where it is estimated that 74 percent of all deaths come from water-borne illnesses. The cost for a typical bio-sand filter can range from US \$15 to \$20. Bio-sand filters are compact, household-sized boxed devices on a concrete base, containing a layer of gravel, topped by a layer of sand that traps and consumes contaminants in the water. The filtered water flows out a pipe at the base of the device into a clean container for safe usage. A very encouraging outcome has been the reduction of rampant typhoid and diarrhea.

[Cisterns & Safety/West Bank](#)

Lack of access to potable water has created a long-term crisis for Palestinian families. The Water Cisterns program highlights family participation. Each family receiving a water cistern is required to provide a cash or in-kind contribution to cover any deficit between allocated budgets and actual cost of cisterns. Having water resource storage close to home also means that women do not walk as far under dangerous conflict conditions to secure their households' water supply.



A simple treadle pump brings water to the surface at a school in Southern Asia.



Covered cistern/tap near door of West Bank family home. Safe water without walking.