



Water and Sanitation

The Rotary Foundation's six areas of focus reflect the service interests and activities of Rotary clubs worldwide. See how your club or district can get involved.

The challenge

- Worldwide, 2.6 billion people — 72% in Southern Asia — lack access to improved sanitation facilities, and 884 million — 37% in sub-Saharan Africa — do not use improved sources of drinking water. *(WHO/UNICEF)*
- Women generally are the ones burdened with the task of collecting water, which can take up to 26% of their time. *(WaterAid)*
- In sub-Saharan Africa, 18% of the population relies on an improved drinking water source that is more than 30 minutes away. *(UNICEF & WHO)*
- This year, 2.2 million children will die from diarrhea and related diseases, and 80% of them will die within the first two years of life. *(Rehydration Project)*



What you can do

- Install rainwater harvesting systems at schools, clinics, and community health centers
- Provide training to community leaders on management and maintenance of water sources
- Sponsor a scholar studying water and environmental management
- Implement a sanitation project in a rural village to construct latrines and provide hygiene education to residents

Learn more

IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre
www.irc.nl

Rural Water Supply Network
www.rwsn.ch

USAID Hygiene Improvement Project
www.hip.watsan.net

Water Supply & Sanitation Collaborative Council
www.wsscc.org

WHO Water Sanitation and Health
www.who.int/water_sanitation_health

Goals for Water and Sanitation

- Increasing equitable community access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation
- Strengthening the ability of communities to develop and maintain sustainable water and sanitation systems
- Educating communities about safe water, sanitation, and hygiene
- Supporting studies related to water and sanitation

