



## Water: The Facts

### World Wide Statistics:

- Globally, almost 1 billion people (20% of the world) lack clean drinking water. In Africa, 300 million people lack clean water. *UNDP, WHO*
- Unclean water causes illnesses such as diarrhea, cholera, typhoid, malaria, schistosomiasis, hepatitis, dysentery and intestinal worms. Intestinal worms infect about 10% of the population of the developing world. Intestinal parasitic infections can lead to malnutrition, anemia and stunted growth. *WHO*
- At any time, half of the world's hospital beds are occupied by patients suffering from water-borne diseases.
- Contaminated water accounts for 80% of all diseases and claims the lives of 5 million children a year. *WHO*
- 25,000 people die every day from diseases related to water. *WHO*
- Every year there are 4 billion cases of diarrhea alone as a direct result of drinking contaminated water – resulting in 2.2 million deaths each year. *WHO*
- 1.4 million children die every year from diarrhea alone caused by unclean water and poor sanitation. That's 4,000 children that die every day or one child every 20 seconds. *UNICEF*
- 1.5 billion people suffer from parasitic worm infections. *WHO*
- In China, India, and Indonesia twice as many people die from diarrhea than from HIV/AIDS. *WHO*
- About 1 in 3 people lacking access to clean water survive on less than \$1 per day. *WHO*
- Households in rural Africa spend an average of 26% of their time fetching water, walking about 3.75 miles, and it is generally women who are burdened with the task. *DFID*

**Websites:** [childlegacy.org](http://childlegacy.org)    [cleanwaterclimb.net](http://cleanwaterclimb.net)    [facebook.com/Clean.Water.Climb](https://facebook.com/Clean.Water.Climb)



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### World Wide Statistics (continued):

- The highest risk of infectious disease is from food and water borne illnesses from contaminated water. Water pollution in Malawi is from agricultural runoff, sewage, and industrial waste. *The World Factbook*
- One flush on our toilets uses more water than the average person in a developing world uses in a whole day's washing, cooking, and drinking.
- More people die from water related diseases in any given year than all wars put together. *WHO*
- More people die from water related diseases in any given year than all natural disasters put together. *WHO*

### Malawi Statistics (part of data gathered from <http://cleanwaterformalawi.org/>):

- The population of Malawi is 16.8 million.
- 85% live in rural areas.
- 52% live on less than \$1 a day.
- An estimated 7500 – 10,000 hand pump water wells in Malawi are broken.
- Over 40% of the handpumps in rural Malawi are non-functioning.
- Millions have to find alternative water sources, and most are unprotected. *UNICEF, Rural Water Supply Network, 2007*
- 63% do not have clean water.
- 30,000 people die every year in Malawi from issues caused by dirty water.
- Child Legacy has refurbished and repaired over 2700 broken water wells in Malawi since beginning their clean water ministry in late 2008. This has brought clean water back to over 5,600,000 people!
- CLI's cost of repairing each water well in Malawi is approximately \$1250.

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