



Background paper

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme

Topic: Access to Clean Water and Sanitation in Developing Nations

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Access to clean water and sanitation is a fundamental human right that impacts the well-being and socio-economic development of every individual and community. Not every country has access to this, like developed nations, they are the most affected by water shortages, flooding, and poor water quality. Water and sanitation concerns are of great magnitude: "1.1 billion individuals, approximately 17 percent of the world's population, are without improved water and more do not have access to safe drinking water, 2.6 billion, approximately 41 percent, are without improved sanitation".

UNICEF is already working on improving this situation but it is really difficult to undo. They are working on bringing clean water, and sanitation to some schools, homes, and health centers so that children can grow in a safer environment. They have also supported many projects to rehabilitate water treatment in Sudan. Some challenges that arise when trying to improve our infrastructure deficiency because the insufficient investment in water and sanitation infrastructure impedes the delivery of clean water and proper sanitation, Water quality due to industrial pollutants, agricultural runoff, and inadequate waste. Population growth in developing nations strains existing water and sanitation systems, making it challenging to meet the increasing demand for these essential services. Climate change affects water availability exacerbating water scarcity in certain regions and making it difficult to establish sustainable water management practices.

Many students around the world attend schools without water or toilets, "40 percent of the world's school-age children have worm infections, predisposing them to cognitive and developmental problems". It is further estimated that 5,000 children die every day from diseases because of a lack of safe drinking water, inadequate sanitation, and poor hygiene. People are often forced to rely on contaminated water for their survival, such as ponds and dirty rivers, for this reason, they get numerous diseases and the mortality rate among children has increased as the years pass by. Clean water has been critical for many communities, according to the United Nations there are five reasons that clean water is vital for communities to succeed physically, mentally, socially, and economically some examples are energy, food production, health, healthy ecosystems, socioeconomic development, and sustainable development.

The lack of access to clean water and sanitation services had consequences for health especially in children. Many diseases, such as cholera and diarrhea have contributed to high morbidity rates. Additionally, the time spent fetching water and dealing with health issues further hampers economic productivity, perpetuating the cycle of poverty. In conclusion, access to clean water and sanitation is indispensable for human development. Addressing the challenges faced by these developing nations requires a multifaceted approach involving community engagement and policy reforms to improve access to these essential services that will not only increase public health but also contribute to the socio-economic nations' development.

"Water is life, and clean water means health."

— *Audrey Hepburn*

***This paper needs to be rewritten in formal language. It also needs to be revised to be informative and unbiased! IN-TEXT CITATIONS ARE LACKING, and that is a huge problem!

Remember that background papers help delegates understand the topic: its history (hence-*background* paper), its relevance and impact in the international community, and **aid with potential sources of information**. It helps them write their first paragraph and know enough about the topic so they can research their country in that situation and develop coherent solutions to the issue.

Works Cited:

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