

# Safe, Sustainable Water: The First Step to Ending Extreme Poverty



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[www.water1st.org](http://www.water1st.org)

# Water Crisis is a Massive Problem

- World's top health problem
- A devastating effect on women and girls who spend time carrying water
- Economic burden of purchasing water

# Water and Poverty

- Health
- Household income
- Education
- Gender equality
- Environment

# Water Project Failure Rate

- Compounding the problem is a failure to respond in ways that yield sustainable results.
- Estimated failure rate for water supply projects is 50%

# What Makes Water Projects Sustainable?

- Locally-based organizations
- Community commitment
- Integrated projects that increase convenient access to water
- Appropriate technology
- Water source protection
- Involvement of women

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# Keys to Project Success

- Do projects with communities not for them
- Build the capacity of the community to meet its own needs
- Integrated approach addressing all key project components

# More Than Just Water

- Projects are comprehensive
- Benefits of water projects go beyond health issues
- Successful water projects are often the springboards for future community development projects





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