Water security: an outcome for the poorest and most marginalised

WaterAid is focused on water for basic human needs

Water is used for agriculture, industry, energy, the environment and basic human needs (drinking, washing, cooking, sanitation, hygiene, health and small-scale livelihoods).

Whilst we don’t work on other water uses, we need to understand the impact they have and be ready to speak up when access to clean water is threatened.

Water security

Basic water security is inclusive, reliable access to sufficient quantities of good quality water for basic human needs.

Basic water security depends on well managed:
- Water resources
- Water services
- Water related risk

Threats

Multiple factors threaten water security at all levels of society. Political and social power imbalances, low political will, poor sustainability of services, gender inequality, poverty, inadequate financing, weak accountability, climate change, low institutional capacity, pollution, poor hygiene, poor sanitation, growing demand for water and physical challenges mean that access to water is unequal.

WaterAid uses a system strengthening and empowerment approach to improve water security

Sustainable development goal 6