



How Water for Kids Contributes to the Millennium Development Goals

In 2005 the United Nations set eight Millennium Development Goals to address the needs of the world's poorest people. These were agreed to by all the world's countries and all the world's leading development institutions and are to be met by the year 2015. Click here for more information <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals>.

Water for Kids is contributing to these goals in the following ways:

Millennium Development Goals	Water for Kids Contributes to these goals by providing clean water, sanitation and hygiene education.
1. Eradicate extreme hunger and poverty.	Increased economic activity can result from the work of Water for Kids as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access to water means more food can be grown • better health means health care costs are reduced • avoiding the need to carry water over long distances means more time is available.
2. Achieve universal primary education	If a child no longer has to fetch water from a distant source, it may mean they can go to school. School attendance will also improve as a result of clean water, sanitation and hygiene education.
3. Promote gender equality and empower women	The health and well being of women and girls will benefit if they spend less time carrying heavy containers of water over long distances and have access to clean water. The extra time available to them may mean they become more active members of their community. It is common that girls do not attend school when they are menstruating as there is nowhere for them to wash. A washroom for girls was built in Kamaila Zambia by Water for Kids in October 2006.
4. Reduce child mortality	Our holistic work will improve the health of children and in turn child mortality.
5. Improve maternal health	The health and quality of life benefits for women (see 3 above) will improve maternal health and will benefit the health of their children.
6. Reduce HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases	Our holistic work will reduce the incidence of diarrhoea and other diseases spread by the faecal/oral route. Water for Kids ensures water is drained properly, as ponding encourages mosquitoes, which spread malaria. Clean water is especially beneficial to those with HIV/AIDS who are on retroviral drugs and/or are immuno-suppressed.
7. Ensure environmental sustainability.	This goal includes reducing by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water, also see below.
8. Develop a local global partnership for development.	Although Water for Kids does not contribute directly to this goal, we work in partnership with local communities and the work is carried out by organisations in the country we are working in. The aim is to provide infrastructure and education according to what the local people want and ensure they will maintain the installation so it is sustainable for future generations.