Global Water Partnership
– building a worldwide network promoting integrated water resources management

Only 2.5 % of the world’s water is freshwater.
Less than 1 % of all freshwater is available for use.

Households, farmers, industries and nature – we all need safe water.

From vision to action

The GWP and the World Water Council are jointly developing a long-term vision for water. This “World Water Vision” – to be presented at the Second World Water Forum in The Hague in March 2000 – is designed to take us where we need to be to meet the water needs of the 21st Century. Through full consultations with the regional partners in the network, GWP is developing a “Framework for Action” which will document the short and long term actions that need to be taken to make the World Water Vision a reality.

The patrons of the Global Water Partnership are His Royal Highness, Crown Prince of the Netherlands, and Professor Kader Asmal, Member of Parliament, Republic of South Africa.

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Global Water Partnership building a worldwide network promoting integrated water resources management.
Freshwater for all! Phosphorous’ great benefit is health – health of people, economies, and nature. Water is vital in contributing to alleviating poverty, securing livelihoods and strengthening economies. Competition for water is escalating faster than the world population grows. The United Nations reports that between 1940 and 1990, the world’s population increased from 2.3 billion to 5.3 billion, while the per capita use of water rose fourfold. In many cases, water is becoming scarce.

Who owns the water?

It is not easy to say who owns water. Take a river for example. Upstream, the local community has a claim to it. The river is their source of drinking water and they have right to use it for fishing. People located in downstream countries also have a claim to it. The river supplies water for various purposes such as irrigation, hydropower, and navigation. Consequently, competition and consumption of this resource can seriously impact the quality of people’s lives and the living conditions of people located in downstream provinces or countries.

Consequently, overconsumption and other uses may be polluted and unsuitable for users. Water is diverted and consumed in quantity and quality for downstream users often determine the water quality in the river. Today, freshwater is rapidly becoming scarce.

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What shortage can cause serious problems?

Water shortage can cause serious problems. Water shortage can cause serious problems.

The recent endorsement of a GWP programme for capacity building in Southeast Asia is leading to a regional network for education, training and research on integrated water management.

Visit our home site! Any organisation agreeing to the Dublin-Rio principles may become a GWP partner. To learn more and to join, contact the Global Water Partnership. Visit our home site!