



THE GLOBAL WATER AND SANITATION INITIATIVE 2005 – 2025

**Increasing access to safe water and sanitation for all:
*reaching 15 million people by 2015 and 30 million people by 2025***

The Red Cross Red Crescent **Global Water and Sanitation Initiative (GWSI)** promotes a common but adaptable approach amongst National Red Cross Red Crescent Societies to establish large-scale, long-term sustainable water and sanitation programmes. It aims to advance efforts in scaling up equitable, sustainable and affordable access to water and sanitation services for all and thus contribute towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Launched in 2005, GWSI was originally planned to target 5 million people over 10 years, but will treble its target by 2015. As global needs remain unfulfilled, the initiative has now been extended another 10 years – until 2025, with an overall goal of 30 million people.

THE CHALLENGE

The MDG target of halving the number of people without access to basic sanitation by 2015 will fall significantly short.

The world has met the MDG target of halving the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water. However, in 2011 an estimated 768 million people worldwide still lacked access to safe water, so efforts must continue in water provision. Access to sanitation remains a more significant challenge for many countries, with an estimated 2.5 billion people still lacking adequate sanitation facilities – many of whom still practice open defecation.

Illnesses caused by poor sanitation and hygiene place a heavy economic burden upon individuals, families and governments due to the cost of healthcare and the loss of productivity. Lack of sanitation, contaminated water and poor hygiene practices contribute towards almost 90 per cent of child deaths from diarrhoeal diseases.

THE RESPONSE

A common but adaptable approach for all Red Cross and Red Crescent water and sanitation projects, promoting large-scale and long-term programming.

Over the past ten years, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and its members have significantly scaled-up delivery of longer-term water and sanitation programmes, providing equitable, affordable and sustainable solutions to help improve the health and quality of life of vulnerable communities.

The GWSI supports the design and implementation of a common integrated approach, anchored on participatory and sustainable interventions. It aims to improve access to safe water and adequate sanitation, as well as supporting the application of good hygiene practices and community water management.

All GWSI projects meet the following criteria:

- promote equity: target vulnerable communities with significantly low water and sanitation coverage
- sustainable technology: use appropriate, affordable and sustainable technology options
- projects at scale: promote large, longer-term projects to achieve economies of scale and lower the cost-per-person
- community engagement: leverage community participation and invest in health and hygiene promotion
- impact: support greater, more measurable impact and clearly defined impact indicators
- gender: take gender issues in the planning and implementation process
- alignment and integration: align with government water and sanitation policies
- environment: ensure that technical options are environmentally sound.

OUR IMPACT

The GWSI has already surpassed its initial goal of reaching 5 million people by 2015, and is on track to reach 15 million people by December 2015.

As of January 2014, we delivered water and sanitation services to over 12 million people worldwide. We have also reached over 5 million people with hygiene promotion activities and campaigns.

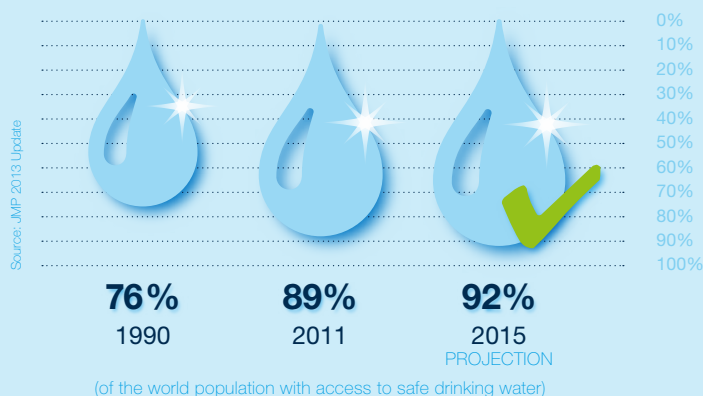
IT'S TIME TO GET THE BALANCE RIGHT

The MDG on Water and Sanitation (MDG 7c)

Halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation

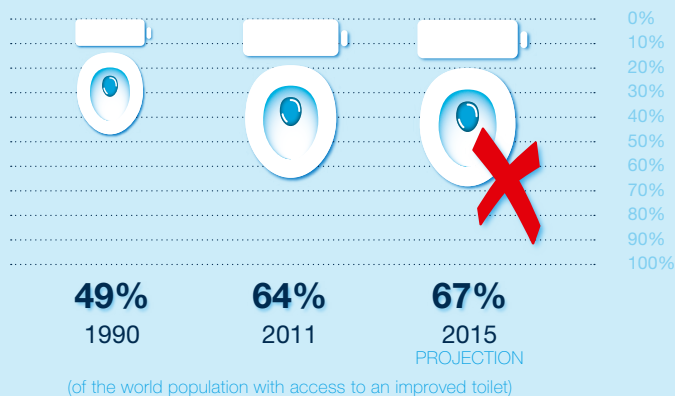
Water

MDG target
88% of people with access to safe drinking water



Sanitation

MDG target
75% of people with access to basic sanitation



Our contribution: the Red Cross Red Crescent Global Water and Sanitation Initiative
As of January 2014

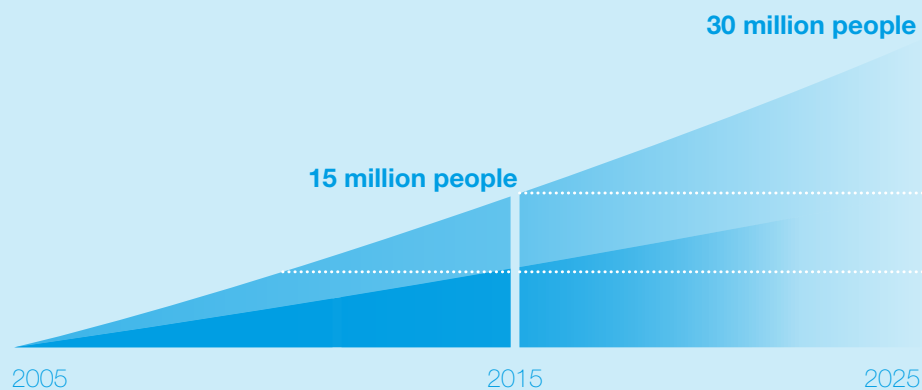


12 million people

benefitted from **water** and **sanitation** services

Over **8 million people** have access to safe drinking water and

Over **4 million** have access to an improved toilet

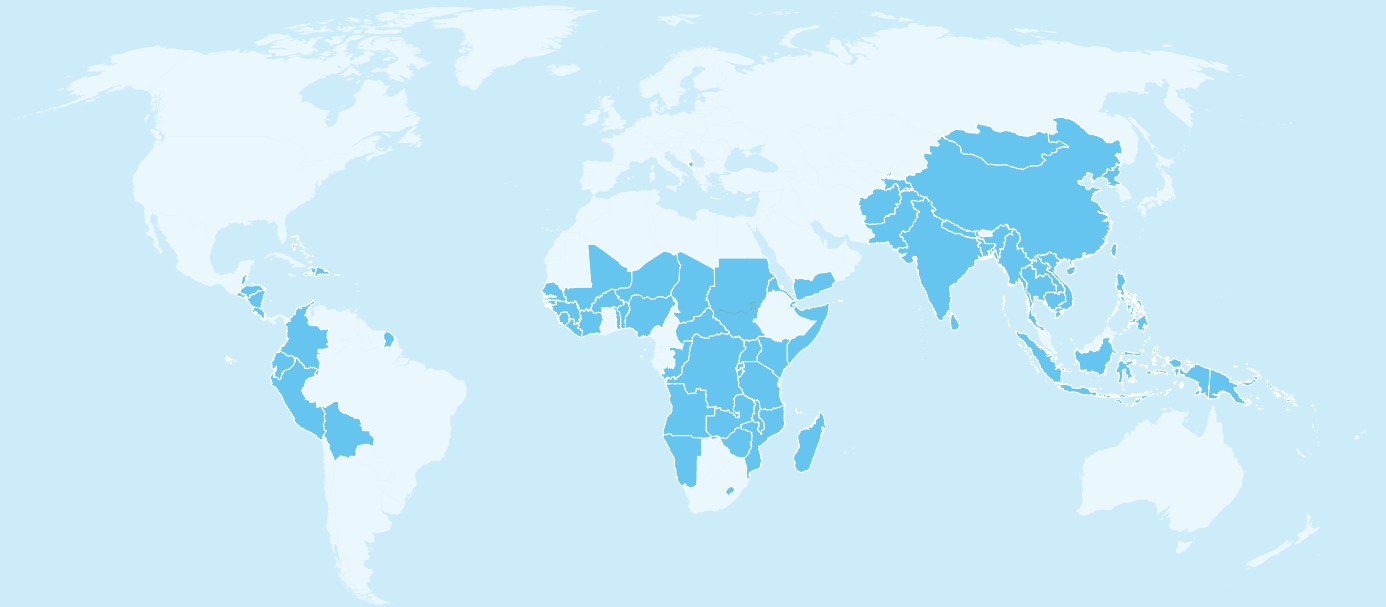


We have also reached over **5 million** people with hygiene promotion activities and campaigns

Our aim is to reach **30 million people by 2025**

WHERE WE WORK

104 National Societies are supporting and implementing over 450 water and sanitation projects in 80 countries



Implementing National Societies

- Afghanistan Red Crescent
- Angola Red Cross
- The Bahamas Red Cross Society
- Bangladesh Red Crescent Society
- Belize Red Cross Society
- Red Cross of Benin
- Bolivian Red Cross
- Burkinabe Red Cross Society
- Burundi Red Cross
- Cambodian Red Cross Society
- Central African Red Cross Society
- Red Cross of Chad
- Red Cross Society of China
- Colombian Red Cross Society
- The Comoros Red Crescent
- Congo-Brazzaville Red Cross
- Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Congolese Red Cross
- Costa Rican Red Cross
- Cuban Red Cross
- Red Crescent Society of Djibouti
- Dominican Red Cross
- Ecuadorian Red Cross
- Red Cross Society of Eritrea
- Ethiopian Red Cross Society
- Gambia Red Cross Society
- Guatemala Red Cross
- Red Cross Society of Guinea
- Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau
- The Guyana Red Cross Society
- Haiti Red Cross Society
- Honduran Red Cross
- Indian Red Cross Society
- Indonesian Red Cross Society
- Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire
- Kenya Red Cross Society
- Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- Lao Red Cross
- Lesotho Red Cross Society
- Liberian Red Cross Society
- Malagasy Red Cross Society
- Malawi Red Cross Society
- Maldivian Red Crescent
- Mali Red Cross
- Marshall Islands Red Cross
- Mongolian Red Cross Society
- Red Cross of Montenegro
- Mozambique Red Cross society
- Myanmar Red Cross Society
- Namibia Red Cross
- Nepal Red Cross Society
- Nicaraguan Red Cross
- Red Cross Society of Niger
- Nigerian Red Cross Society
- Pakistan Red Crescent Society
- Red Cross Society of Panama
- Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society
- Peruvian Red Cross
- Philippine Red Cross
- Rwandan Red Cross
- Salvadorean Red Cross Society
- Sao Tome and Principe Red Cross
- Senegalese Red Cross Society
- Sierra Leone Red Cross Society
- Solomon Islands Red Cross
- Somali Red Crescent Society
- South Sudan Red Cross Society
- The Sri Lanka Red Cross Society
- The Sudanese Red Crescent
- Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan
- The Thai Red Cross Society
- Tanzania Red Cross National Society
- Timor-Leste Red Cross Society
- Togolese Red Cross
- Uganda Red Cross Society
- Vanuatu Red Cross Society
- Vietnam Red Cross Society
- Yemen Red Crescent Society
- Zambia Red Cross Society
- Zimbabwe Red Cross Society

Supporting National Societies

- American Red Cross
- Australian Red Cross
- Austrian Red Cross
- Belgian Red Cross
- British Red Cross
- Canadian Red Cross
- Red Cross Society of China
- Danish Red Cross
- Finnish Red Cross
- French Red Cross
- German Red Cross
- Hong-Kong Red Cross
- Irish Red Cross
- Japanese Red Cross Society
- Red Cross of Monaco
- The Netherlands Red Cross
- New Zealand Red Cross
- Norwegian Red Cross
- Qatar Red Crescent Society
- Spanish Red Cross
- Swedish Red Cross
- Swiss Red Cross
- South Korea Red Cross
- Red Crescent Society of the United Arab Emirates

Partners



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