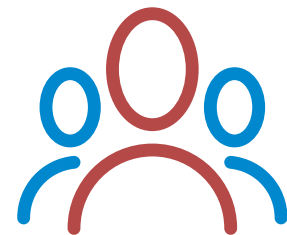
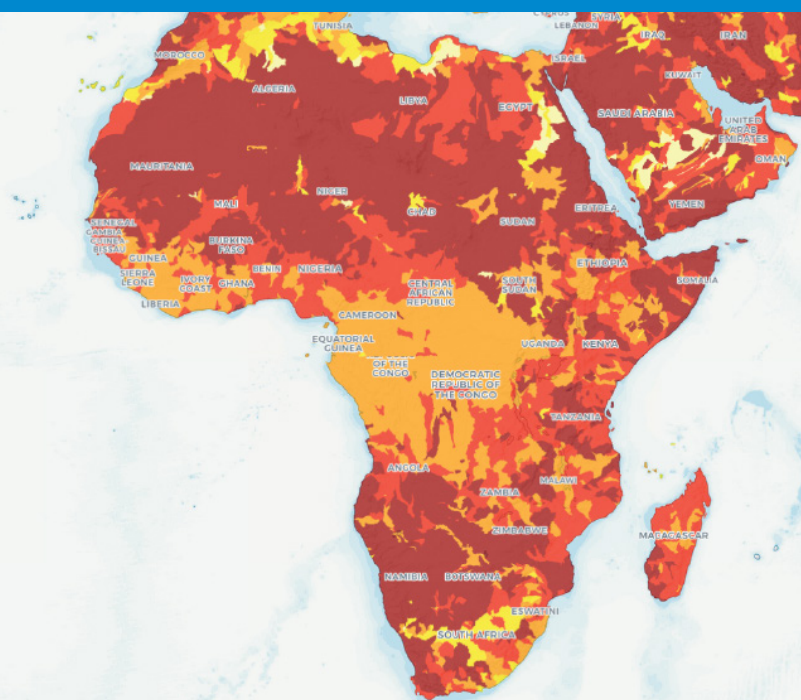


# Embrace Relief's Clean Water Initiative



*Water is perhaps, the single most important resource that is needed for sustainable development. It is critical for socio-economic development, healthy ecosystems, and for human survival itself. It is vital for reducing the global burden of disease and improving the health, welfare, and productivity of populations. However, for many, this resource is not obtainable. Currently, sub-Saharan Africa is undergoing water scarcity largely due to inadequate infrastructures. There is a significant provincial discrepancy in sanitary infrastructures between sub-Saharan Africa and other regions. Aqueduct is an online geographic information system (GIS) tool that is produced by the WRI with the purpose to map global water-related risks. In the image below, Aqueduct reveals Africa's extensive exposure to water-related risks. The model accounts for vulnerability to floods and droughts, water stress, and seasonal variability. Africa is currently facing some of the highest water risks in the world. One in three Africans are*

*facing water scarcity and 400 million people in sub-Saharan Africa are deficient in access to basic drinking water. As you can see, delineated in dark red, the overall majority of sub-Saharan Africa is at an extremely high-water risk. According to an update released from The Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation by the WHO and UNICEF in 2021, the proportion of the population of sub-Saharan Africa using safely managed drinking water supplies has risen from 18% to 27% since 2000. They have also included that less progress has been made towards sanitation due to their only being a rise from 15% to 18% in the management of sanitation services since 2000. It was shown that evolvment in rural areas is slower compared to urban areas. In Africa, water scarcity is foreseen to reach gravely elevated levels by 2025. Specifically in Kenya, 32% of Kenyans rely on impoverished water sources (ponds, shallow wells, and rivers). In addition, 48% of Kenyans lack access to basic sanitation solutions.*



**1 in 3 Africans  
facing water scarcity**

**400 MILLION**

**people in sub-Saharan Africa  
are deficient in access to basic  
drinking water**

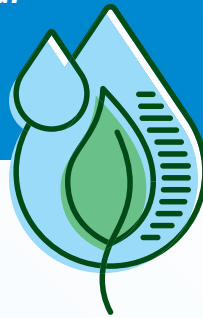
OVERALL WATER RISK

Extremely high (4-5) High (3-4) Medium-high (2-3) Low-medium (1-2) Low (0-1)



In light of these challenges and the importance of clean water access on sustainable development, the United States aspires to achieve a water-secure world where inhabitants have a sustainable resource of water as outlined in the U.S. Government Global Water Strategy. *The overall strategy holds the intention to diminish disease and save lives, eradicate poverty, promote sustainable economic growth, increase food and energy security, build peace and security, and open international markets to U.S. technologies and*

*approaches.* According to the U.S. Government Global Water Strategy, the United States is operative to reinforce a water-secure world where the populace has supportable necessities of water and appropriate quantity and quality to meet human, economic, and ecosystem essentials while managing risks from floods and droughts. The United States will follow four intersected strategic objectives to approach Clean Water initiatives. *These four objectives consist of:*



**Increasing sustainable access to safe drinking water and sanitation services, and the adoption of key hygiene behaviors:** the deficiency of ample water and sanitation is a leading cause of disease and death worldwide being a key factor in global undernourishment and inhibiting;



**Encouraging the sound management and protection of freshwater resources:** watershed protection and restoration are key elements to improving water quality, increasing water availability and groundwater recharge, and reducing the impact of flooding;



**Promoting cooperation on shared waters:** water issues signify a significant means of bringing communities together, strengthening regional integration, and providing an alleviating influence in regions of conflict;



**Strengthening water, sector governance, financing, and institutions:** when countries have effectual strategies, country-led processes, and institutions proficient of dispensing sustainable water and sanitation amenities and managing water resources transparently, they attract investment from both domestic and external sources. This is an indication of increased capacity, greater investor certainty, increased sector finance, enhanced coverage of water and sanitation services, and the effective management of watersheds and water resources.



To attain such objectives listed, the United States will *provide technical assistance; make targeted investments in sustainable infrastructure and services; promote science, technology, and information; mobilize financial resources; engage diplomatically; and strengthen partnerships and intergovernmental organizations. The overall goal to achieve clean water will be made possible through direct assistance to countries, scientific and technical engagement, and support to international organizations, institutions, and partnerships.*

*Embrace Relief strongly believes in the stated objectives of the U.S. Global Water Strategy and has been actively seeking to reduce water scarcity throughout the sub-Saharan region. Around the globe, over 785 million people do not have access to an improved source of clean water. Of these 785 million people, approximately 400 million live in sub-Saharan Africa. With around 1.1 billion people living on the subcontinent, 400 million people equate to more than 35% of the population. This ubiquitous gap in*

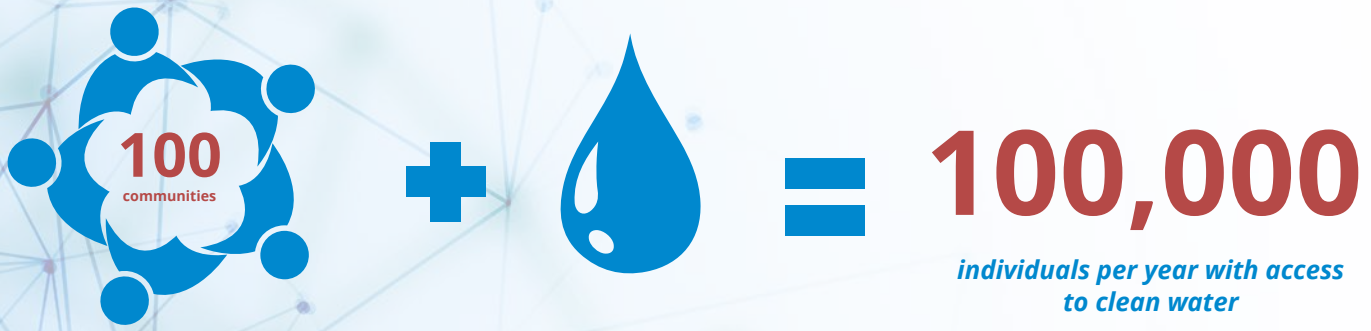
access has detrimental effects on the region's communities and their prospects for growth. The ongoing crisis is likely to 'continue and grow due to the region's rapidly expanding population. It is estimated that the population in the region will likely double by the year 2050. With such a significant population increase and an already stressed water supply, many more people will likely fall into poverty and suffer.

Two countries with severely limited access to clean water, *Chad* and *Cameroon*, have been the primary beneficiaries of Embrace Relief's efforts to address the growing water crisis on the continent. Chad had a population of about **16 million** people as of 2019, and its population is growing rapidly. The country endures hot, dry, and dusty winds in the north as well as periodic droughts. The dry climate and a chronic funding gap in the region have caused around 44.3 percent of the population to lack access to an improved water source, and close to 90 percent of the population to lack access to improved sanitation. Similarly, Cameroon had a population of around 26 million people in 2019, of which close to 40 percent lack access to an improved water source and a little over 60 percent lack access to improved sanitation.



# Embrace Relief's Goal

*Embrace Relief's goal for our Clean Water Initiative is to provide at least 100 communities in the region with access to clean water every year. In doing so, we will be able to provide improved access to clean water to over 100,000 individuals per year.*



Embrace Relief works with its local partners in Chad and Cameroon to identify communities with a lack of access to clean water. As part of our Clean Water Initiative, Embrace Relief has been constructing wells throughout communities in these regions, providing many in the region with the necessary investment to promote growth and stability. To date, *our Clean Water Initiative has provided clean water to over 400,000 people in the region and put their communities on a path towards sustainable development. In addition to the construction of new water wells, Embrace Relief reconstructs derelict wells in the region through the Fountains of Hope Initiative.* Through the Fountains of Hope Initiative, often-overlooked communities that have previously benefited from access to clean water

through a water well, but no longer have access to clean, safe drinking water are supported. Many of the water wells that exist throughout sub-Saharan Africa have failed and are no longer operational. This has left the communities that relied on them in a state of emergency.

*Embrace Relief's goal for our Clean Water Initiative is to provide at least 100 communities in the region with access to clean water every year. In doing so, we will be able to provide improved access to clean water to over 100,000 individuals per year.* Each of our water wells is guaranteed to be operational for at least *five years*. With the help of our partners, Embrace Relief conducts site visits to ensure that our water wells are operational. If necessary, Embrace Relief will repair the wells if they fall into disrepair.

