

Lack of Water in Africa

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By Michelle Flowers

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Outline

- I. Introductory Statement—Imagine watching your loved ones suffer from different diseases from the lack of purified water or lack of water in general.

- II. Body
 - A. The diseases affected from the contaminated water.
 1. Bilharzia
 2. Cholera
 3. Typhoid Fever
 4. Guinea worm disease
 5. Flourosis

 - B. Farmers crisis from the lack of water

 - C. The lack of financial funds for transportation and traveling on the roads at night.

 - D. The solution of a solar pump.

- III. Conclusion-water is a very important part for human life.

Imagine watching your loved ones suffer from different diseases from the lack of purified water or lack of water in general. Imagine your family suffering because the crops were not growing in the fields. Imagine not having the money to help the ones you love get the proper medication to help cure them from the diseases they have caught from the contaminated water. Children around the world are dying from the lack of nutrition they are receiving. The people in Africa are suffering, and farmers are in need of water to help harvest their crops. The drought has affected many people already. If something is not done, the rate of people dying in Africa is going to increase rapidly. Solutions have been submitted to helping the continent. The solutions to helping Africa are great ideas, but money is a factor. Africa is not a continent where people have a lot of money, so many have come up with a recycling solution of a purifying water machine that can help the people in Africa at no cost.

Many people in Africa are dying from the contaminated water. The people travel and get water from the rivers and lakes to carry back to their homes for their family. They prepare their meals, take baths, drink, and wash clothes with the water they retrieve from the rivers and lakes every day. They travel every day to retrieve the same amount, which is not enough but all that they can carry. They do not have a place to boil the water to the proper temperature to make sure there is nothing in it that can harm them. They settle with what they have and take the risk of becoming infected from the water where many parasites live ("Global," 2012).

The people are suffering from the contaminated water. They are suffering from different common diseases because of the water, such as bilharzia, cholera, typhoid fever,

Guinea worm disease, and fluorosis. "Bilharzia is parasite worm called cercaria which swims freely in open bodies of water" ("Schistosomiasis," 2012). The parasite gets into the human body and grows into the adult form called schistosomiasis. "They are about 1 cm long and are in the small veins of humans that carry blood from the intestine to the liver" (Rupp, 2004). The disease is deadly if not treated with medications. The only treatment that can cure bilharzia is a vaccine shot called praziquantel (Rupp, 2004). Cholera is another common disease in Africa from poor sanitation. "Cholera is an infection of the small intestine that causes a large amount of watery diarrhea" ("Killed," 2010). The people preparing meals for their families use the water from the creeks and give their families the water to drink without properly purifying the water before using it. The water contains bacteria called vibrio cholera, which causes the infection ("Killed," 2010). In central Africa there have been 40,468 cases, and out of those cases, 1,879 people have died from the disease ("Global," 2012). People can be cured by flushing their systems out and staying hydrated with purified water. Another common disease that is affecting the people in Africa is the typhoid fever. "The Typhoid Fever is an infection that causes diarrhea and a rash" ("Ty21azz," 2011). Guinea worm disease is caused by the parasite worm named Dracunculus, which affects the joints. Another disease caused from drinking water is fluorosis; it affects the teeth and bones by turning the teeth brown and making them rot ("Global," 2012). People in Africa are not purifying their water, and the contaminated water with the parasites living in it is affecting their bodies in horrible ways.

The lack of water is not only affecting the people in the community, but it is affecting the farmers and the farm land. The drought conditions cause the vegetation to dry and soil moisture to reduce (Gilman, 2008). The farmers have had a serious crisis from the lack of rain.

The food is not producing because the plants are not getting enough water to grow. The farmers have had a low production of crops, which has led the farmers to have to raise the prices of the crops. "From the poor wet season and high food prices, the people in the community have had a high rate of food shortages" (McDonald, 2011). The world food programs in Africa have only been able to meet a third of the actual food needs due to the shortages (McDonald, 2011). The program being affected from the shortage of food makes it hard to send out the amount of food that needs to get out to the families, which is leading to starvation. The people in other areas can try and transport food to the ones who are in need, but there is no telling how long it will take for the food to arrive. Transporting the food is another factor that has affected the community. The roads that the people would need to travel to transport the food are not in good condition. "The transporting of the food cannot happen in a timely matter because of the construction of the roads and not being able to see at night" (Smith, 2007). The people have to work in a timely manner when the sun goes up and try to travel and get what they need back to the village before the sun goes down. The region is experiencing considerable problems with the food security and has a demand for food (Abrams, 2003). They not only have a demand for food, but they are in need of water, too. The community shortage in food production and lack of water has affected many people in Africa.

The people in Africa do not have a good financial record. They are in need of help. The farmers have been learning to adapt because one-third of their income comes from crops and livestock (Gilman, 2008). The people cannot afford to build the roads with pavement or put lights along the side of the road to see to travel at night. They cannot afford to have a stove or some sort of device to cook on. In a survey, the average middle class family that was making

enough to get by had a hard time making just enough to get by this year. The average person is three times more likely to struggle in 2010 than they did in 2007 (“Tortora,” 2012). The people traveled by foot miles, hiking miles to retrieve water from the rivers and lakes because they cannot afford vehicles. The only source of transportation they have is their feet. They carry a bucket on their heads for miles once a day because of the distance they have to walk in a certain limit of time before it is too dark for them to walk. A bucket is all they can carry because of the amount of weight the water weighs. Otherwise, they would carry more. Once they returned to their village, they do not have the proper equipment to purify the water, so they would just drink straight from the bucket. The people would wash the crops with the water they retrieved from the lake or river. They would use the water to take a bath. They would use the water to prepare their food. From the lack of money, the people in Africa make do with what they have. The people in Africa do what they can to survive.

The people in Africa have come up with a solution to recycle dc motors to purify water. The people are planning to help the community use a pump to filter out as much of the contamination and produce clean water for the villages. The project includes gathering pumps from engines, washing machines, and a variety of industrial equipment (“Sambwa,” 2009). The scientists and others have come up with a filtration cycle for the water to generate through so that when it comes out, it will be healthier and safer for the people to cook and drink. The people take the pumps and construct a machine that can pump the water through and purify it. The pump will operate on solar energy due to the cost of fuel. Since the country is struggling with a financial situation, the solar pump will cut out the cost. The people have looked at the possibility of the pumps not getting enough energy to produce the water through the filtration.

They have researched the area that receives the best volume of light to make sure they put the pumps in the proper spots. The pump creates a low level of social and physical infrastructure, which increases their invulnerability to disease (Sambwa, 2009). The pump can be a safe way for people to retrieve water and purify it instead of people traveling to get the water and drinking straight from the buckets ("Locals," 2012). The pump is only one solution to help the people in Africa avoid diseases and malnutrition. A pump can be installed so that the farmers can pump water in the fields to help the crops grow. The pump will allow the farmers to produce enough food to sell to help keep the cost of the crops down so the people in the community can afford to buy food for their families. This simple type of pump is an idea that many have worked on to help the people of Africa.

People are struggling in Africa due to lack of water and diseases from the contaminated water. The people have worked hard to help come up with a solution to purify the water and reduce at least half of diseases that are affecting the people because of the contamination. If people are able to recycle and build the pumps, it will help the community so the people will not have to travel to get the water and have more time to help their families to build better lifestyles. The people will be able to use the time to maybe build better roads for people to be able to drive and commute back and forth. The farmers will be able to water their crops. The crops would be able to produce enough so the farmers can distribute the vegetables to the community for the people in the villages to eat and stay healthy. The price of the crops will come down and be affordable to the people in the villages. The people who have become sick will have a lesser chance of catching the disease from any contamination, and the people who are suffering from the diseases be cured. The people will be able to take the money and afford

the proper medication to help the loved ones get rid of the diseases they have caught because of the contaminated water. Water purification is a solution for helping human beings survive and even a small step like retrofitting small motors to make purifying machines can make a difference between life and death for a family.

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