

# Global Water Facts

- On our blue planet **97.5%** of the water is saltwater.
- Less than **1%** of freshwater is above ground, amounting to only **0.01%** of the Earth's total water.
- The number of people with access to clean water has **doubled** in the last 20 years.
- **66%** of the human body is made up of water.
- According to nutritionists we should drink at least 1½ litres of water a day.
- **80%** of all illness in developing countries is caused by water related diseases.
- **90%** of wastewater in developing countries is discharged directly into rivers and streams without treatment.
- **1.1 billion** people in the world do not have access to safe water. This is nearly **20%** of the population.
- **2.3 billion** people lack adequate sanitation. This is over a **third** of the world's population.
- **2.2 million** people, mostly children, die each year from illnesses caused by contaminated drinking water or poor sanitation.
- **7.2 billion** is the estimated world population for 2020.
- By then, the average supply of water per person is expected to drop by a **third**.

