

Water quality is vital for health: Mismanaging excreta disposal is a leading cause of disease worldwide.

**Unsafe drinking-water causes disease world-wide.
Simple safeguards are needed to protect health.**

- 400,000 people were affected by a single drinking-water disease outbreak in Milwaukee, USA, in 1993.
- globally, around 1.1 billion lack access to even improved water sources.



**Wastewater reuse contributes to efficiency
and pollution reduction. When mismanaged,
it transmits faecal-oral diseases, such as
infectious hepatitis.**

- one person's treated wastewater can irrigate 15-35m².



**Coastal and freshwaters worldwide are used
for recreation. If polluted, especially with
sewage, they may cause diarrhoea, respiratory
infections, skin irritation and other effects.**

- in the European Union in 1999, 4% of coastal water beaches and 9% of freshwater beaches either failed to comply with bathing water standards or were insufficiently sampled.



**Water uses have traditionally been managed in
isolation. Addressing health concerns in integrated
water management prevents disease around the
water cycle.**

- nearly 450 km³ of wastewater enters surface waters worldwide every year.

