Quality of and access to clean drinking water in Somalia.

Over one billion people across the globe don’t have access to clean drinking water. Water is not only used for drinking, but also for cooking, bathing, and irrigation purposes. This problem is gradually more serious because of our increase in population. This increase in population makes it more difficult to give enough clean drinking water to all of the deprived peoples. Not only is the intake of clean drinking water significantly important, but so is the disposal of used water. This used water, also known as wastewater, has been known to contaminate ecosystems and ruin marine life.

Some regions around the globe are prone to a low amount of drinking water, due to climate. Relying on water sources such as rivers, and rainfall, civilians don’t have control over the amount of drinking water they obtain. Water is essential for life and with our increase in population many people across the globe aren’t getting any, which is causing people to be malnourished and close to death.
Throughout Somalia, people are living off of little to no clean drinking water. The estimated cost to provide this clean water to the entire country of Somalia is $1.5 billion. Weather conditions in Somalia are also a contributing factor to the lack of drinking water in Somalia. The main weather aspect is the absence of rainwater. When this drought stricken nation gets the rainwater it so badly needs, the water becomes a bigger problem than not obtaining it. This is because, when it rains it is known to flood and destroy the flimsy shelters in refugee camps made of cardboard and other insubstantial items. The rainwater is also known to spread waterborne diseases such as Cholera. The water sector of UNICEF is working to improve accessibility to clean water systems and trying to provide hand washing facilities, training, and the storage of clean drinking water.

Somali people need to find a way to acquire clean drinking water. They could do this in many ways, but they also need to find a way that’s manageable. For instance, they could collect rainwater. Rainwater is fresh, clean water, but, do the Somali’s have a place to store it? If so, it’s most likely very prone to contamination. Also, people have donated water systems to Somalia, but after they are installed and constantly used, the water will get contaminated and polluted by waterborne diseases. Alexander Mueller, assistant director-general for natural resources suggests that Somalia maximises conservation efforts by, “adopting farming techniques that harvest more rainfall, conserve soil moisture, reduce waste in irrigation, and in some cases, by making change in dietary and cropping choices to focus on crops and food that use less water”.