

## DIRTY WATER - THE RISK OF DISEASE

Diseases live in dirty water. Six thousand children die every day from diarrhoea, due to lack of safe water. It kills more children than anything else. Some people do not understand or accept that there is a link between drinking water and disease.

### How diseases are spread through water

Some diseases get into the water from human faeces. Some diseases live inside water animals such as snails and then transfer to humans through skin contact. Some disease could be prevented if we are able to wash using more water and soap. Common diseases related to dirty water and unsafe hygiene practices are: cholera, hepatitis A, dysentery, giardiasis, polio, diarrhoea, typhoid, salmonella food poisoning, bilharzia (schistosomiasis), guinea worm, hookworm, tapeworm and trachoma.

**If your water comes from a river or source that is contaminated, it can be made safe to drink in many simple ways. Learn how on the next pages.**

### good drains

Mosquitoes that carry malaria breed in standing water, so cover water containers and build drains to carry water away from your house and school.

**i** ACTION SHEETS - 10:  
Health problems from unsafe water, 27: Wash Your Hands, 28: Making Soap

**🎬** Watch the film on Making water safe to drink