

Right to water



EMMAUS
INTERNATIONAL

OUR CAMPAIGN

Access to drinking water is a fundamental human right. Emmaus International campaigns for public and community-based management to make water and sanitation accessible to all.

KEY WORDS

Human right

Access to water and sanitation

Public and community-based management

SLOGAN

Water – a right for all

EMMAUS INITIATIVES WORLDWIDE

Asia: Kudumbam, India

Water access programme in 3 villages

The Americas: Emmaus Uruguay

Campaign in 2005 for a national referendum to ban the privatisation of water

Africa: Benebnooma, Burkina Faso

Between 2005 and 2010, 4 wells dug in nearby villages

Europe: Pointe-Rouge, France

Co-organiser of the Alternative World Water Forum in 2012



95 groups worldwide are supporting the pilot project

93% of the population of Nokoué has access to drinking water

25% of the population has access to sanitation

A vast network of partners: experts, Beninese authorities and other organisations

Creation of an organisation for Lake Nokoué water users

OUR ARGUMENTS

> **One in 3 people in the world** doesn't have access to safe drinking water. That's 2.4 billion people (WHO 2013)

> **To date, nearly 4 billion people** do not have access to proper sanitation (WHO 2013)

> **Only 3% of all Earth's water** is fresh water, making it a major global and commercial concern (National Centre for Scientific Research, France)

> **The United Nations recognises it** as a fundamental human right in its July 2010 resolution

> **Nearly all countries in the global South** have introduced neoliberal policies and have privatised water management. The right to water is being done away with and instead water is being made into a commodity (The Europe Third World Centre (CETIM))

PILOT PROJECT

Nokoué



In Africa, Emmaus International has set up a collectively-run, water-access programme on Lake Nokoué in southern Benin.

Local people appealed to our movement via the Emmaus group located there, which revealed shockingly that only 10% of the 70,000-strong

population of Lake Nokoué had access to drinking water and 2% had access to sanitation.

Together, they set up the 'Citizens in Solidarity for Water on Nokoué' project, which is to reach completion in 2015. As well as accessing water and sanitation for the whole lake population, a water users' organisation has been set up to ensure public and community-based management of the infrastructure.