

# webwatch

*In this issue Webwatch covers*  
**'Water and sanitation in challenging environments'**

## **Water for Arid Lands**

This website contains a range of resources on the protection and rehabilitation of damaged water sources as well as the design and construction of new water sources such as hand-dug wells, subsurface dams, weirs and sand dams in riverbeds, ponds and earth dams, roof, road and rock catchment tanks and dams. <http://www.waterforaridland.com/>

## **Islamic Relief Worldwide**

Documents several past and current water and sanitation projects in arid and mountainous locations in China (Qiemo Drinking Water Project, and Dongfeng Village Rainwater Harvesting Cistern Project); with nomadic communities in Ethiopia (Emergency Water and Sanitation and Hygiene Improvement Project, Ewaship) and in Somalia (Development and Improvement of Water and Sanitation). <http://www.islamic-relief.com/whatwedo/7-1-water-and-sanitation.aspx>

## **Hygiene and sanitation promotion in semi-arid area context: Case of Niger**

A Niger Rural Water and Health Project which aims to mitigate the spread of communicable diseases in semi-arid and arid communities in Niger through the provision of sanitation facilities, intensive hearth and hygiene education programmes and sanitary environmental clean-up initiatives. <http://www.irc.nl/page/50787>

## **Harvesting the rains in Thar Desert, India**

GRAVIS is a voluntary organization working with desert communities for the empowerment of the poor. It focuses on renovating traditional water harvesting structures with technical innovations such as the construction of artificial catchments around tanks and filtered inlets for inflow of water into them, construction of masonry structures for regulating access water in bunds, tree plantation on bund walls to prevent soil erosion and percolation wells in the beds of ponds for water storage in the deeper layers of earth. A conference paper is also

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available at [http://wedc.lboro.ac.uk/resources/conference/33/Malik\\_D.pdf](http://wedc.lboro.ac.uk/resources/conference/33/Malik_D.pdf); [http://www.gravis.org.in/annual\\_reports/story\\_of\\_gravis.pdf](http://www.gravis.org.in/annual_reports/story_of_gravis.pdf)

#### **The resilience of water supply and sanitation in the face of climate change**

A WHO/DFID publication, the Vision 2030 study aims to increase understanding of how anticipated climate change may affect drinking water and sanitation systems. There are widely anticipated consequences of floods and droughts, which these services have to prepare for, or risk compromising access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation for substantial numbers of people with cascading effects on human health and development. [http://www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/publications/9789241598422\\_cdrom/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/publications/9789241598422_cdrom/en/index.html)

#### **Out in the Cold: Emergency water supply and sanitation for cold regions**

A specialist guide to the provision of water and sanitation in cold regions (including mountainous and high altitude areas), covering appropriate water supply and environmental sanitation technologies. [http://wedc.lboro.ac.uk/resources/books/Out\\_in\\_the\\_Cold\\_-\\_Complete.pdf](http://wedc.lboro.ac.uk/resources/books/Out_in_the_Cold_-_Complete.pdf)

#### **The WEDC knowledge base**

There are numerous WEDC conference papers presented over the last 15 years which cover technical and organizational issues relating to water and sanitation in desert, mountainous and remote areas. For example, 'Community participation for nomads/semi-nomads' at <http://wedc.lboro.ac.uk/resources/conference/25/108.pdf>, 'Building of spring-fed gravity-flow water supply systems in remote mountain villages of Lao PDR' at <http://wedc.lboro.ac.uk/resources/conference/30/Frangi.pdf> and 'Managing local water resources by communities in semi-arid environments in Nepal' at <http://wedc.lboro.ac.uk/resources/conference/30/Osti.pdf>; <http://www.wedc-knowledge.org/wedccart/login.aspx>

#### **Water and Sanitation in Emergencies: Good Practice Review 1 (ODI, 1994)**

A 'good practice' review by ODI in the field of emergency water and sanitation. It focuses on typical scenarios including arid, hilly and mountainous areas, giving technical guidance and solutions appropriate for these particular circumstances. <http://helid.desastres.net/en/d/Jwho93e/7.2.html>