

Freshwater in South Africa

South Africa is a chronically water stressed country with huge economic development pressures and social upliftment challenges.

Water availability is one of the most decisive factors that will affect the economic, social and environmental well-being of South Africa over the next decade, and its supply is already precariously limited.

In the past, South Africa has invested heavily in water infrastructure and this is, in part, why the country has enjoyed a false sense of water security. However, the country is fast approaching full utilisation of available surface water yields, and running out of suitable sites for new dams.

Water supply issues cannot be solved by simply building more dams or creating more infrastructure, but relies heavily on rehabilitating, maintaining and conserving the natural areas which form the critical catchments and “water factories” for the country. Furthermore, climate change models also predict significant changes to both rainfall and temperature in southern Africa, which will affect water storage negatively.

South Africa needs to think innovatively about ways of reducing water demand and making water available, outside of the traditional engineering solutions of infrastructure development, if it wishes to sustain economic growth and maintain healthy freshwater ecosystems. Source: WWF

Atmospheric Water Generation – A Viable Alternative

Cirrus Water Management provides equipment that produces an unlimited supply of high-quality drinking water, where it is needed, that has an extremely low impact on the environment whilst being cost effective, as an alternative to any other source of water. The equipment achieves this by extracting water out of the atmosphere where there is always a supply of humidity.

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