**Depletion of Water Resources and Why There’s Need to be Rescued**

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Resources are the everyday essentials that are needed by human beings in order to help them achieve their day to day goals and activities, these resources tend to be very scarce and are easily depleted when it’s being used faster than they can replenish themselves. The industrial revolution is one of the factors that facilitated this as by it our demand for raw materials increased by huge margins, resulting to a case where we ended up using a little bit if not too much of the scarce resources in order to satisfy our demands. One of these resources that has been overused and depleted overtime is water.

Even though the water percentage in the earth covers roughly 70% of the Earth’s surface, it is estimated that only a minor 2.5% of that is usable for human beings and a majority of the human population, approximately 1.8bilion in 2025 will not have access to clean water. This has been attributed by factors such as; over population, over consumption, technological and industrial development, land degradation and many other human caused factors.

Based on the report by the UN environmental program, the amount of fresh water per Capita has fallen by 20% after the last 2 decades and nearly 60% of the irrigated crop land is water stressed (according to the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations).It was reported that among the factors leading to water depletion the following were the most severe;

Drought and acidification -research shows that global warming results to longer drought periods and seasons and according to the Global Land Outlook, over one third of the world’s population currently lives in water scarce regions due to droughts.

Mismanagement of ground water-43% of the water surface is used for irrigation but the improvements in the drilling technology that has been used over the years has led to unsustainable extraction in most parts of the world an example being in India. According to the food and Agriculture Organization, it is estimated that 10% of the global grain harvest is produced by depleting water.

Land degradation -Humanity has used up more than 70% of fresh surface water ,which according to the Global Land Outlook is called the unparalleled environment degradation. This has led to the ability of soils to store and filter water to reduce making it harder to grow crops. Based on the research conducted by UNICEF in countries suffering from water shortages, it has been found that water plays a very big role and it’s depletion needs to be taken with great caution for when there is water shortage and access of safer water it becomes very difficult to practice basic hygiene and also when water is scarce, sewage systems can fail which increases the threat of contracting diseases such as cholera, typhoid or other diseases.

In conclusion ,it is evident that the problem of water depletion will take time before the solutions put in place by the relevant stakeholders and organizations to solve it to take effect as the needs of human beings keeps on rising day after day but it has been proven by the research conducted by UNICEF that if people change their behaviors on how they use water resources, plan for scarcity by identifying new water resources or by planning better national water needs this problem can be solved by great lengths.

REFERENCES

World Count Report on water depletion (2020)

Global Land Outlook Report on water resources (2020)

United Nations Environmental Program on water scarcity (2020, 2021)

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