

Re - Water

Water is vital for the survival and health of the human being and a basic source of development. The drinking water reserves are under constant pressure due to its overuse. The water can be considered a natural resource with economic, strategic and social values.

Ban Ki-Moon said “water is a key factor for sustainable development. We need it for health, food security and economic progress”. He also said that by 2030, half of the world’s population could face water shortage problems and the demand of water could exceed supply by 40%.

To solve this problem, several measures have been taken to improve water consumption and also reduce waste.

The suggestion that I propose is the reutilization of water, which can be approached in several ways. The use of rainwater is a very old practice that has been inserted into strategies for the efficient use of water. This practice can find applications on irrigation, industry, cattle, domestic uses, etc. Focusing on basic sanitation and domestic use, the collection and employment of rainwater system can have the following phases:

- rainwater harvesting (which can be done in the coverage of houses, research buildings, garages, balconies);
- Accumulation in tanks;
- Pre-treatment. Despite the little information available about suitability of these waters for some domestic uses, a basic pre-treatment is advised;
- Application.

These waters can be used for industrial processes that involve the refrigeration of equipment and products, cleaning services, bathroom discharges, firefighting reservoirs, green spaces watering, among others.

The water that we use for showering and hand washing can be reused for toilet flushing. There are already mechanisms that employ this method, however it is still scarcely used.

