



Photo: Lack of piped water across Africa has impelled villagers to turn to unprotected water bodies to access the precious liquid. Credit: Jeffrey Moyo/IDN-INPS

图片：非洲缺少安全洁净的管道自来水，这迫使许多非洲村民不得不使用被污染的水体以获取宝贵的水资源。图片来源：Jeffrey Moyo (杰弗里·莫约)/IDN-INPS

### **Safe Piped Water Remains a Luxury Across Africa**

**安全洁净的管道自来水资源对非洲居民来说任然是一件奢侈品**

By Jeffrey Moyo

作者：Jeffrey Moyo（杰弗里·莫约）

MWENEZI; Zimbabwe (IDN) - Raviro Chawuruka scoops out sand from a well on a stream bank closer to her rural home in Rutenga, 443 km west of Harare, in Mwenezi district in Zimbabwe's Masvingo Province.

津巴布韦，姆韦内济（IDN）- 家住津巴布韦鲁滕加郊区的Raviro Chawuruka在离家不远的河岸边一口混杂着泥沙的井中取水。这个乡村从属于马斯温戈市的姆韦内济区，处于首都哈拉雷以西约443公里的位置。

At the age of 72, Chawuruka says she has known no rest while scavenging for water, this as she daily battles it out with the sand-filled water well in the vicinity of her home. She stands out among millions of Africans to whom piped water still remains a luxury, decades after several African nations gained independence from their former colonizers: Zimbabwe over 37 years ago.

已72岁高龄的Chawuruka说她每天都在为寻找饮用水而奔波。她家附近的水井中混杂着无数泥沙杂物，如何获得安全洁净的饮用水是她每天都要面临的挑战。Chawuruka的境遇只是成千上万非洲人民日常生活中的一个缩影。对广大非洲民众而言安全洁净的管道自来水仍是一个奢侈品。虽然许多非洲国家早已摆脱殖民主义（例如津巴布韦在37年前就已获得独立），但是非洲缺乏安全洁净的管道自来水这一情况并未得到改善。

According to the Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency, 65 percent of Zimbabwe's 14 million people such as Chawuruka are domiciled in rural areas, where they have become the number one victims of lack of piped water.

津巴布韦国家统计局的数据显示津巴布韦共有一千四百万人口，其中像Chawuruka一样居住在乡村地区的人口占总人口的14%，这一人群是缺少管道自来水的直接受害者。

“I have lived in this area for as long as I can remember and sourcing water for daily use from rivers, streams and wells is a norm here. There has never been a borehole here. I don't know what it is to have piped water,” Chawuruka told IDN.

“我从小到大一直居住在这一地区。自从我记事以来，每天从河流，小溪，水井中寻找日常用水已是一种常态。我从来都没见过人工的井眼或钻孔，更不用说管道自来水了。”Chawuruka告诉IDN记者。

She said in order to find the scarce precious liquid, she has to struggle to access it underneath the sand by scooping out the sand so that diminishing water underground starts simmering out before Chawuruka and many other villagers start accessing it.

Chawuruka说道，为了获取藏于泥沙之下稀缺而宝贵的水资源，她和其他村民一样不得不把表层的泥沙舀出以迫使位于表层泥沙之下的水冒到地表上来。

Based on a report released four years ago by the Human Rights Watch, titled Troubled Water: Burst Pipes, Contaminated Wells, and Open Defecation in Zimbabwe's Capital, people here have little access to potable water and sanitation services, and often resort to drinking water from shallow, unprotected wells that are contaminated with sewage, and to defecating outdoors. Yet in 2010, Zimbabwe voted for a UN General Assembly resolution establishing the right to water and sanitation, according to the Human Rights Watch.

人权观察站(HRW)在四年前发表了一篇题为“关于津巴布韦首都水资源现状及问题：爆裂水管，污染水井以及随地排便”的调查报告。报告指出民众几乎无法获取安全洁净的饮用水及卫生服务。这一境况使得民众不得不喝水井浅表层那些未经保护处理已被污染了的井水。这也加深了民众露天排便的恶习。然而，根据人权观察站的报道，津巴布韦于2010年投票支持了联合国大会有关获取水资源和基础公共卫生服务权力的决议。

A similar situation that has hit many Zimbabweans like Chawuruka has not spared several other Africans like 56-year old Armando Sinorita in Mozambique's Tete Province.

类似Chawuruka这样的窘境并不仅仅局限于津巴布韦，其余非洲国家也面临着类似的困境。今年56岁来自莫桑比克泰特省的Armando Sinorita就是其中一个例子。

“We always struggle to find water for use because we have no boreholes in my area. The only borehole we used to have which is far away, broke down over 10 years ago and we have turned to wells and streams to get water,” Sinorita told IDN.

Sinorita告诉IDN记者：“我们这一地区并没有人工井眼或钻孔，因此，寻找日常用水对我们而言是一项挑战。唯一一个钻孔不仅离我们很远，而且10年前就已经坏掉了。为此，我们不得不从水井和溪流中获取水源。”

But Sinorita said hard times always follow after the rivers, wells and streams run dry. As such, for many Africans like Sinorita, piped water remains a luxury, worse in Mozambique's remote areas, despite the Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6) of the United Nations aiming at ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

Sinorita补充说，一旦河流，水井和小溪干涸，他们想获取水资源就变得十分困难。尽管联合国可持续发展目标第六项指出应确保所有人享有水资源和环境卫生，实现水资源和环

境卫生的可持续管理， 但是对像Sinorita一样的许多非洲民众， 尤其是居住在莫桑比克偏远地区的村民而言， 管道自来水任然是一个奢侈品。

Even in East Africa, in Southern Africa and in West Africa, piped water remains scarce for many people who still scrounge for water from unprotected sources.

甚至在东非， 西非以及非洲南部地区， 管道自来水资源也十分稀缺。 这使许多人不得不从未经保护处理过的污染水源中获取生活必须用水。

The situation is worse in Kenya, where a population of 47 million, which is 37 percent of the people there still rely on unimproved water sources, such as ponds, shallow wells and rivers, while 70 percent of Kenyans use unimproved sanitation solutions. The 2013/2014 review of Kenya's water services sector by the Water Services Regulatory Board (Wasreb), also shows that only 53 per cent of town dwellers have clean piped water. According to the report, 51 per cent of approximately 34 million rural Kenyans lack access to clean piped water.

在肯尼亚， 情况更为糟糕。 肯尼亚拥有四千七百万人口。 其中以依靠池塘， 浅源水井和河流等未经改良和处理的水源为生的民众占总人口的37%。 70%的人口依旧使用未经改良和效率低下的卫生解决方案。 肯尼亚水务管理局在其发表的“2013/2014肯尼亚水资源服务部门报告”一文中指出只有53%的城镇居民享有安全洁净的管道自来水服务。 三千四百万在偏远乡村居住的民众中， 有51%的村民无法获取安全洁净的管道自来水。

Neighbouring Zimbabwe, South Africa, deemed Africa's economic super power, has made less strides towards effective achievement of water supply and sanitation goals, according to development experts.

有关专家表示， 作为津巴布韦的邻国以及非洲的经济重心， 南非在达成水资源供应及卫生服务目标上所遇到的阻力要小一些。

“South Africa has joined other countries on the continent which have a mountain to climb to achieve UN SDG on access to water by 2030. Yes, water usage in SA has increased, but the water infrastructure legs behind. Consequently, in many communities here, particularly in the poorer rural areas, water has over the years after this country gained independence in 1994,

stopped flowing out of the taps,” Nkosilathi Mapule, an independent development expert based in the South African capital Pretoria, told IDN.

“南非将与其他非洲国家携手互助，期望在2030年以前与各国一道为达成联合国可持续发展目标所定下的有关水资源供应的目标而努力。近年来，南非的用水量逐步上升，但其供水基础设施建设还比较落后。自1994年南非独立以来，在一些较为贫穷和偏远的地区，人们至今没法从自来水管获取生活用水。”身在南非首都比利托利亚的发展专家Nkosilathi Mapule告诉IDN。

Further up, in Ghana, close to three million people (nearly 11 percent) rely on surface water to meet their daily water needs, leaving them vulnerable to water-related disease, this while 85 percent of the people there lack access to improved sanitation or are entirely without toilet facilities. Ghana has a population of about 29 million people.

再来看看加纳的情况。加纳有300万人口（占总人口的11%）依靠地表水作为日常生活必须用水。这使得民众更容易感染上与水污染有关的疾病。不仅如此，加纳有85%的人口无法获得较为完善的医疗卫生服务，有地区甚至缺少像厕所这样的基础公共卫生设施。加纳全国的总人口大约是两千九百万。

With less than 15 years before the deadline of the attainment of the UNSDGs, even Ethiopia at the Horn of Africa, water supply and sanitation stands amongst the lowest in Sub Saharan Africa, according to human rights defenders.

有人权卫士指出，在有非洲之角之称的埃塞俄比亚地区，其水资源供应及卫生设施服务也是撒哈拉以南非洲国家中最差的。然而，我们离联合国可持续发展目标所定下的目标期限只剩下不到15年的时间了。

“While access has improved significantly with funding from donors, much still remains to be done to ensure access to water and sanitation for all in line with the UN SDG six here although in 2001 the government adopted a water and sanitation strategy that called for more decentralized decision-making in as far as water issues are concerned,” Hermela Mulugeta, an Ethiopian human rights activist, told IDN.

“近年来，因为捐款人的资助，非洲的水资源供应情况有所好转。但我们还可以做更多以确保联合国大会可持续发展第六项目标在该区域实现，让所有人都能享受水资源和基础医疗卫生服务。早在2001年当地政府就已采取了一种更为去中心化的分权决策战略以求在最大限度上改善解决与水资源相关的问题。”人权活动家 - Hermela mulugeta告诉IDN。

The situation is worse for the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), according to the UN. Based on findings from the United Nations Environment Programme, about six years ago, an estimated 51 million people in DRC, which is three quarters of that country's population – had no access to safe drinking water despite the country housing half of Africa's water reserves.

联合国相关报告指出，管道自来水资源匮乏这一问题在刚果民主共和国（DRC）更为严峻。六年前的一份联合国环境项目报告显示，当时刚果保有非洲一半的水蓄资源，然而刚果却有五千一百万人无法获取安全洁净的水资源，这相当于刚果总人口数量的75%。

“DRC's legacy of war coupled with environmental degradation and poor investment in water infrastructure, has over the years extremely affected the accessibility of drinking water,” a top DRC diplomat based at the country's embassy in Zimbabwe, told IDN on condition of anonymity for professional reasons as he was not allowed to speak to the media.

刚果驻津巴布韦大使馆的外交官在接受IDN采访时以匿名为条件向IDN解释说：“多年来刚果本土战争的遗留问题，加上环境退化枯竭以及糟糕的水务基础建设投资对当地饮用水的供应产生了极大的影响。”因为职业性质的原因，这位外交官不被允许与媒体沟通，也不愿透露自己的姓名。

Water and sanitation are among the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which were adopted by the 193 Members of the UN in September 2015, and which are guiding the work of the development efforts of the international community through 2030.

确保所有人享有水资源和环境卫生是联合国可持续发展17项目标之一。联合国可持续发展目标已于2015年被195个联合国成员国广泛接纳，它是国际社会共同携手努力于2030年实现所有既定目标的指导纲领。

As UN General Assembly President Peter Thomson pointed out in his keynote address on August 28, 2017 at a special event in Stockholm to start World Water Week, combined with the Paris Agreement on lowering the impact of climate change, the SDGs represent “the best chance our species has to achieve a sustainable way of life on Planet Earth before it is too late.” [IDN-InDepthNews – 9 September 2017]

正如联合国大会主席彼得·汤姆森(Peter Thomson) 在2017年8月28日斯德哥尔摩世界水周主题演讲中所指出的那样 - 联合国可持续发展17项目标将与旨在减缓全球气候变化的巴黎协定一样，代表着人类在一切太迟之前为地球可持续发展所做努力的最佳时机。

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