

UUSC Blue Buckets Campaign

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Community-based Solutions: Most successful solutions to water security are community-based and community-led. In Kenya, communities near the Kakamega rain forest are experiencing the effects of climate change. Periods of drought and of excessive rainfall are wreaking havoc on crops. As a result of the climate changes affecting rainfall, Kakamega now has only one growing season rather than two. But with your support, people in Kakamega can still protect their water supply, their food supply, and their larger environment. Here are some of the key ways that we are taking action with the people in Kakamega:

- Storing water from the rainy season to grow crops during drought
 - Creating a "sand berm," which collects and stores water for use during the dry season
 - Using rain barrels and cisterns for water catchment
- Purifying water for drinking
 - Using filters made out of sand and organic matter to purify water before drinking
 - Planting trees along waterways to purify local rivers and make their waters safe for consumption

Lack of access to clean water is a problem not only for people around the world but also for many people living in the United States. In California, 800,000 people are already being affected by drought and contaminated water. That includes 400,000 people in Tulare County alone, where the Environmental Justice Coalition for Water (EJCW) is working with support from UUSC. Climate change exacerbates the problem — people in California must organize their communities to protect their human right to water.

Communities in California are working to change local drought and climate funding, to build in access to water and resiliency to climate change. These communities are bringing water into focus in the climate resiliency movement and bringing climate change resiliency into water resources management, with a justice lens.

The Human Right to Water Act was passed in California in 2012 with help from UUSC supporters like you! Now we're building on that progress in the face of worsening climate change. Here are some of the key ways your support can help people in California:

- Tankers full of water provide families with water for cooking, cleaning, and drinking.
- Busloads of people from communities that lack safe water can go to Sacramento to speak to elected officials during drought negotiations.

We need to raise \$50,000 to support these communities responding to climate change. To reach this goal, we need 300 groups to sign up, participate, and raise at least \$175.