International development: challenges for a world in transition

Collecting water for the household

Sudha Bhuchar/Narrator

This is how the majority of people in Tanzania get all the water they need. For washing, for cooking and for drinking.

40 years after Tanzania became an independent state, just a third of its people has access to safe clean water delivered to their homes through a tap.

Woman (subtitles) The water's good today – usually it's finished by now.

These women labour for hours a day fetching and carrying water for their households. But even though they know that these wells are open to contamination the hardworking rural women of Tanzania don't on the whole boil their drinking water.