

Background

The World Plumbing Council (WPC), established in 1990, is a not-for-profit global organisation. The WPC aims to highlight the important role that today's professional plumbing and heating industry plays in relation to health and the environment.

Plumbing is IMPORTANT

Good plumbing can — and does — make a difference in so many aspects of our day-to-day lives. While most people in developed countries tend to take the access to drinking water and sanitation services for granted, it was not too long ago that general health in these countries improved dramatically when such services were first effectively provided.

The picture in developing countries, however, is a quite different one.

- **Today, 1 in 4 people – 2 billion people – around the world lack safe drinking water.***
- **Almost half of the global population – 3.6 billion people – lack safe sanitation.***
- **494 million people still practice open defecation.***
- **1 in 3 people – 2.3 billion people – around the world lack basic handwashing facilities at home.***

Proper plumbing systems help improve these tragic statistics dramatically. The entire world is affected by climate change and the increasing pressures on our natural resources through demand for fossil fuels and shortages of potable water. The plumbing industry is at the forefront of action toward increasing energy efficiency and the use of renewable sources of energy. Water efficiency and conservation is also a major challenge in which the plumbing industry has taken a leadership role.

The WPC aims to highlight these issues and demonstrate the positive role that the plumbing industry can play in addressing them throughout the world.

* (WHO/UNICEF 2021)



WPC Activities

- Sponsorship of WorldSkills
- Annual Scholarship Program employs different countries' best practices in emerging nations and shows what is possible with a skilled workforce and enforceable standards
- Tri-annual World Plumbing Conference shares the best thinking for the industry to strengthen it as a whole
- World Plumbing Day held 11 March every year, everywhere celebrates the importance of the plumbing industry
- Supporting the work of the International Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Foundation (IWSH) to help improve access to water, sanitation and hygiene for a variety of communities in need, worldwide
- World Health Organization Partner
- Publication of the *Health Aspects of Plumbing* and the *Environmental Aspects of Plumbing*

Ways to Join

Individuals and organizations can support the work of the WPC by becoming an Individual, Full or Affiliate Member.

More information and membership application forms may be found on the WPC website:

www.worldplumbing.org

Email: secretariat@worldplumbing.org

Plumbing – Vital to Global Health