

Topic:Water pollution and resolution in Republic of Korea
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Water pollution in the globe

Since industrial revolution, water pollution have been a ongoing problem as drinking water resources in the planet earth is limited. Researches show that there direct relationship between the water quality and death or diseases. In each day, exceed 14000 people die due to water pollution¹, this figure show that water pollution is a concerned problem among international society.

As the concern of global water crisis aroused, more and more effort is being devoted into solving the issue. In order to raise public awareness to save water resources,the United Nations set 22/03 as the “World Water Day”. Meanwhile, experts are researching solution to the problem, however there are no long term remedies at until now.

Water pollution in Republic of Korea

In Republic of Korea, the government have been putting resources to monitor water quality, total 1476 water quality monitoring stations is currently in operation to monitor the quality. According to the data recorded, the water pollution situation had been dramatically improved in the past 2 decades. In year 1997 only 21% of surface fulfilled the water quality achievement objectives, which mean the water is suitable for drinking purpose, In year 2007, 71% of water sources fulfilled this standard.²

In order to improve water quality, government of Republic of Korea established the Ministry of Environment, furthermore, in October 1995, the Water Quality Management Bureau was established under the Ministry of Environment, which activity monitor the water quality of Republic of Korea and investigate solutions to water crisis.

Possible remedies to the situation

Polluters pay principal is a effective solution as it solve the problem from the root. This principal is being implemented regarding to the emission of green house gases, as stated in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.³ The same principal can be also applied to water pollution as polluters pay principal deters the polluters from polluting water. This is a effective solution to both domestic sewage and industrial sewage as both domestic stakeholders and business stakeholders will attempt to minimize pollution in consideration of economic aspect.

¹ World Water Day: A Billion People Worldwide Lack Safe Drinking Water. (n.d.). *About.com Environmental Issues*. Retrieved December 20, 2013, from <http://environment.about.com/od/environmentalevents/a/waterdayqa.htm>

² State of water : South Korea. (n.d.). *State of water : South Korea*. Retrieved December 20, 2013, from <http://www.wepa-db.net/policies/state/southkorea/southkorea.html>

³ Polluter pays principle. (n.d.). *Wikipedia*. Retrieved December 20, 2013, from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polluter_pays_principle#In_international_environmental_law