

*Importing water, exporting drought?*

## Assignment

### Globalisation and water insecurity

The following question has been designed for A2 students studying water security (Edexcel) or the impacts of globalisation on water security (Edexcel, AQA, OCR) or sustainability issues (WJEC).

- (a) Distinguish between **water insecurity** and **water footprint**. (5)
- (b) 'The acceleration of globalisation has been matched by a world-wide growth in water insecurity.' Discuss this statement (20)

#### Examiner tips

*There are many aspects of globalisation that can be brought into the discussion. You might consider the growing demand for out-of-season fruit, vegetables and flowers; rising sales of wine, coffee and other beverages; increased trade in manufactured goods whose production requires water supplies; more people demanding meat and dairy in their diets. As firms have sourced greater volumes of produce from distant places, water stress has become a greater problem for many local societies and environments.*

*A good answer will use specific examples, such as Kenya's Lake Naivasha. Another argument to follow could be the arrival of TNCs in countries like India. There, the production of Coca-Cola drinks, or salad for McDonald's sandwiches, has placed stress on local aquifers.*

*However, there are other causes of water insecurity to consider too. Population growth and climate change may both contribute to a reduction in available water supplies (although the latter of these could, of course, also be blamed on globalisation).*