



## **The sustainable village**

**H. Savenije**

Delft University of Technology

The Millenium Development goals aim to substantially reduce poverty in the Developing World, addressing water, sanitation, food, energy, environment, nutrients, health, education, income generation, etc. Many of the world's poor live in rural communities. Most of the rural people are farmers. Water is a crucial resource for rural people, linked to almost all development goals. The reliability of water supply is generally very low. This is linked to climatic variability, lack of technology, lack of investments and also lack of access to knowledge. The sustainable village is a concept that wants to address these issues from a holistic perspective, trying to find sustainable solutions that can be managed locally. Research is carried out in a participatory way, where farmers take active part in the research and in finding options improve their livelihoods.