Saudi Arabia to invest $80 billion in desalinated water production

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The state-run (owned and operated by the government) Saudi **Saline** (Salt Water) **Conversion** (changing from one form to another) Corporation (SWCC) has announced plans to invest about $80 billion by 2025, to keep up with the growing demand for access to **potable** (usable/consumable) water. This would boost removed the salt from water production in 2025 to 8.5 million cubic meters per day.

As part of its constant efforts to work towards developing (long-term) methods of drinkable water production, Saudi Arabia has announced projects that will include the world's first solar-powered (powered by the sun) **desalination** (salt removal) plant. Valued at $130 million and scheduled to be completed in 2017, the plant will produce 60,000 cubic meters of water to supply Al Khafji City, in Saudi Arabia, ensuring a constant water supply throughout the year. A quickly growing population, and a high water usage rate has **motivated** (given a reason to do something) Saudi Arabia's efforts to boost **sustainable** (able to last/helping the planet) water production and curb very quickly rising very high demand. (The government wants to make water available to more people.)

Dr. Abdullah Al AlShaikh, the Chief Executive of Advanced Water Technology, has stated that "technology plays a big part in solving the reducing supply and increasing demand challenge in Saudi Arabia." He also added, "There is no one-size-fits-all approach. We must be moving on all fronts, **simultaneously** (at the same time)."

The use of clean energy sources to drive **desalination** (salt removal) and waste water treatment plants is a case in point for such inventions of new things, "Continuous improvement in how we produce or purify water and how we improve the use of power is key to **sustainability** (the ability to keep something around, or keep something going)," stated Roberto De Diego Arozamena, Chief Executive of Abdul Latif Jameel Energy and (related to surrounding conditions or the health of the Earth) Services. "New pre-treatment processes, nanotechnology filtering processes, and **electrochemical** (including electricity and chemicals) **desalination** (salt removal) are either being explored or are already in use in different stages of uses/military service." "The SWCC is trying to double energy **efficiency** (wasting very little while working or producing something) from the current level of about 26-27 percent to 54-55 percent, and is more and more looking at renewable **resources** (useful things/valuable supplies) (sun, wind, and water power) to **achieve** (accomplish or gain with effort) this target," he added.