

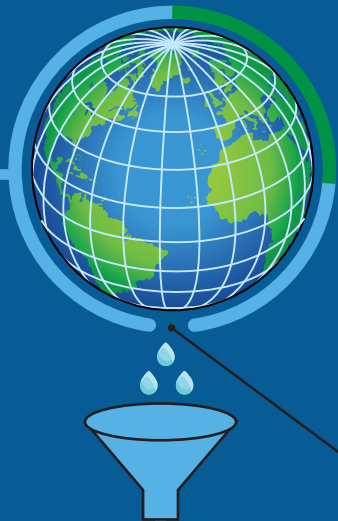
Water Use and Water Wars

Managing a scarce natural resource



“A shortage of water resources could spell increased conflicts in the future. Population growth will make the problem worse. So will climate change. As the global economy grows, so will its thirst.”

..... Ban Ki Moon, UN Secretary General, World Economic Forum, 2008.



30%

Area of the earth's surface covered by land ¹

vs.

70%

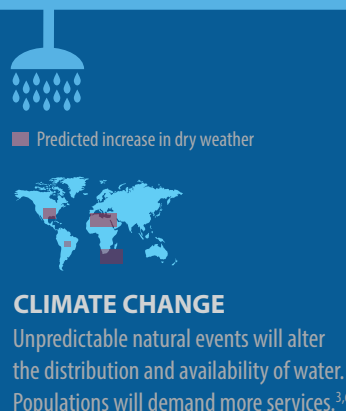
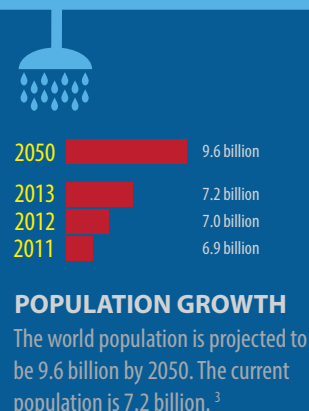
Area of the earth's surface covered by water ¹

but

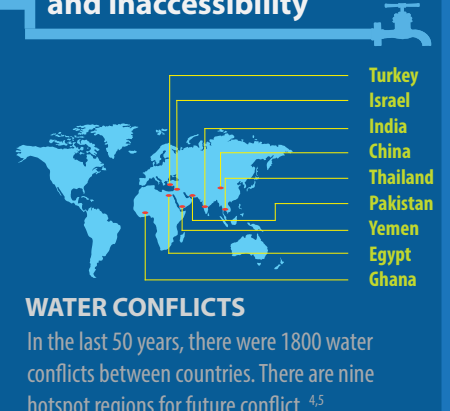
2%

Amount of all water that is fresh water in lakes, rivers and streams for human consumption ¹

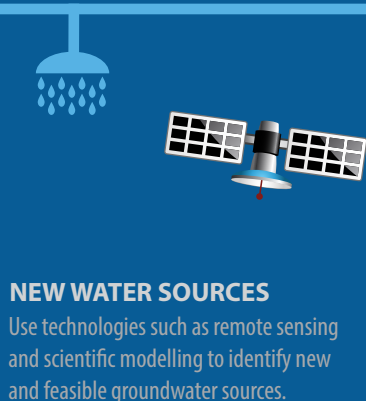
Factors influencing water consumption



Scarcity and inaccessibility

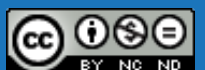


Water management strategies



Sources:

[1] <http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/earthhowmuch.html>; [2] <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-12-10/u-s-intelligence-agencies-see-a-different-world-in-2030.html>; [3] <http://www.un.org/en/>; [4] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_conflict; [5] <http://transhumanity.net/articles/entry/water-wars-nine-thirsty-regions-where-h2o-conflict-is-threatening>; [6] IPCC Assessment Report, 2007; [Globe] http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Globe_Atlantic.svg.



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