



CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

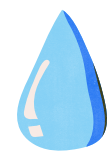
Global Challenges, Causes,
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WHY CARE ABOUT WATER?

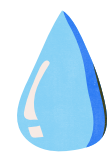




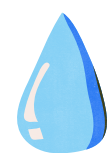
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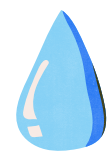
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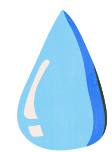
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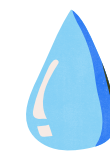
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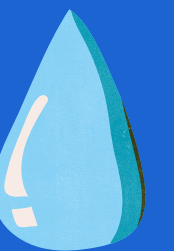
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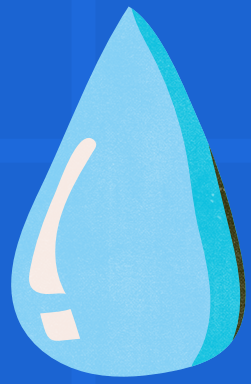


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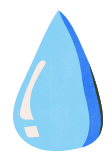


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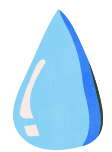




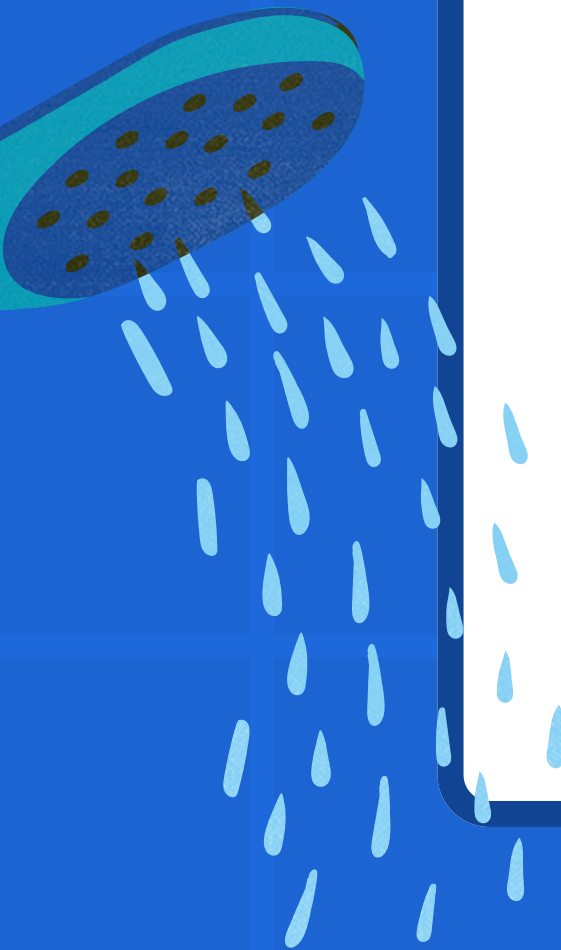
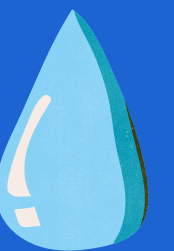
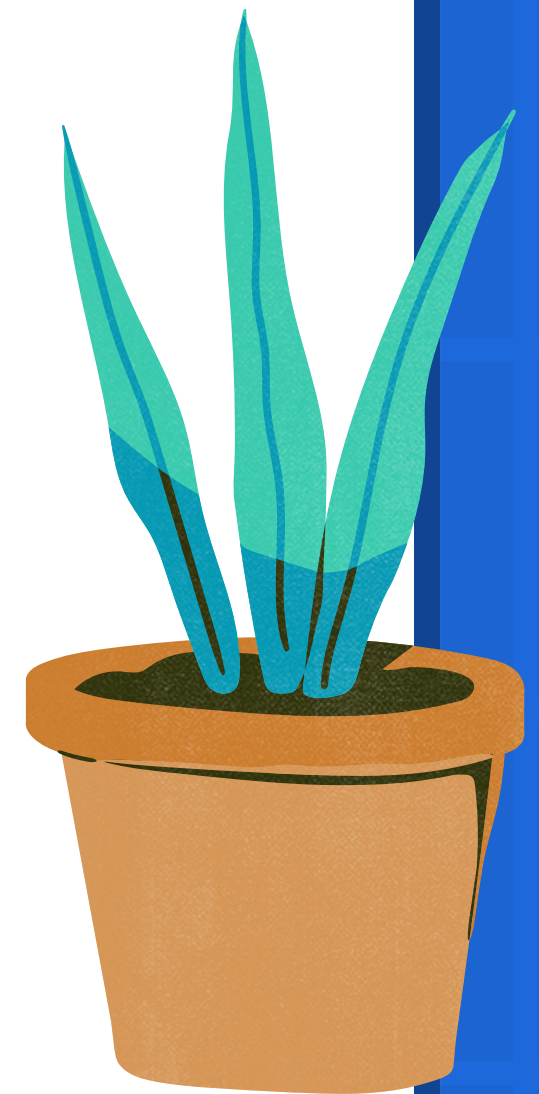
INTRODUCTION



Access to clean water and sanitation is a fundamental human right. Yet today, more than 2.2 billion people still lack access to safe drinking water, while 3.5 billion people live without safely managed sanitation services.



The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6) aims to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all by 2030.



COMMON GLOBAL ISSUES

The world is facing several common pressing water-related issues. These challenges combine to threaten both human well-being and ecological balance on a global scale.

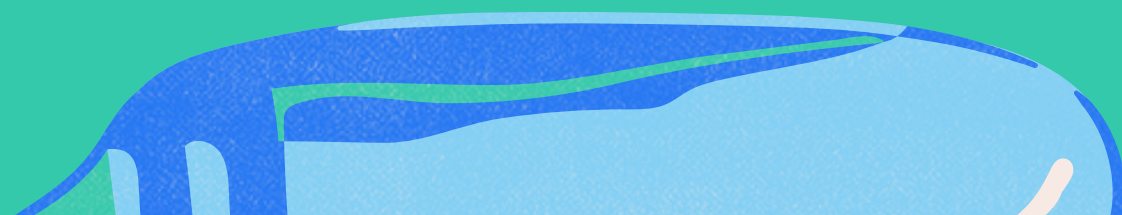
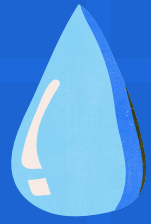
Water scarcity: affects nearly 4 billion people for at least one month each year, limiting access to this essential resource.

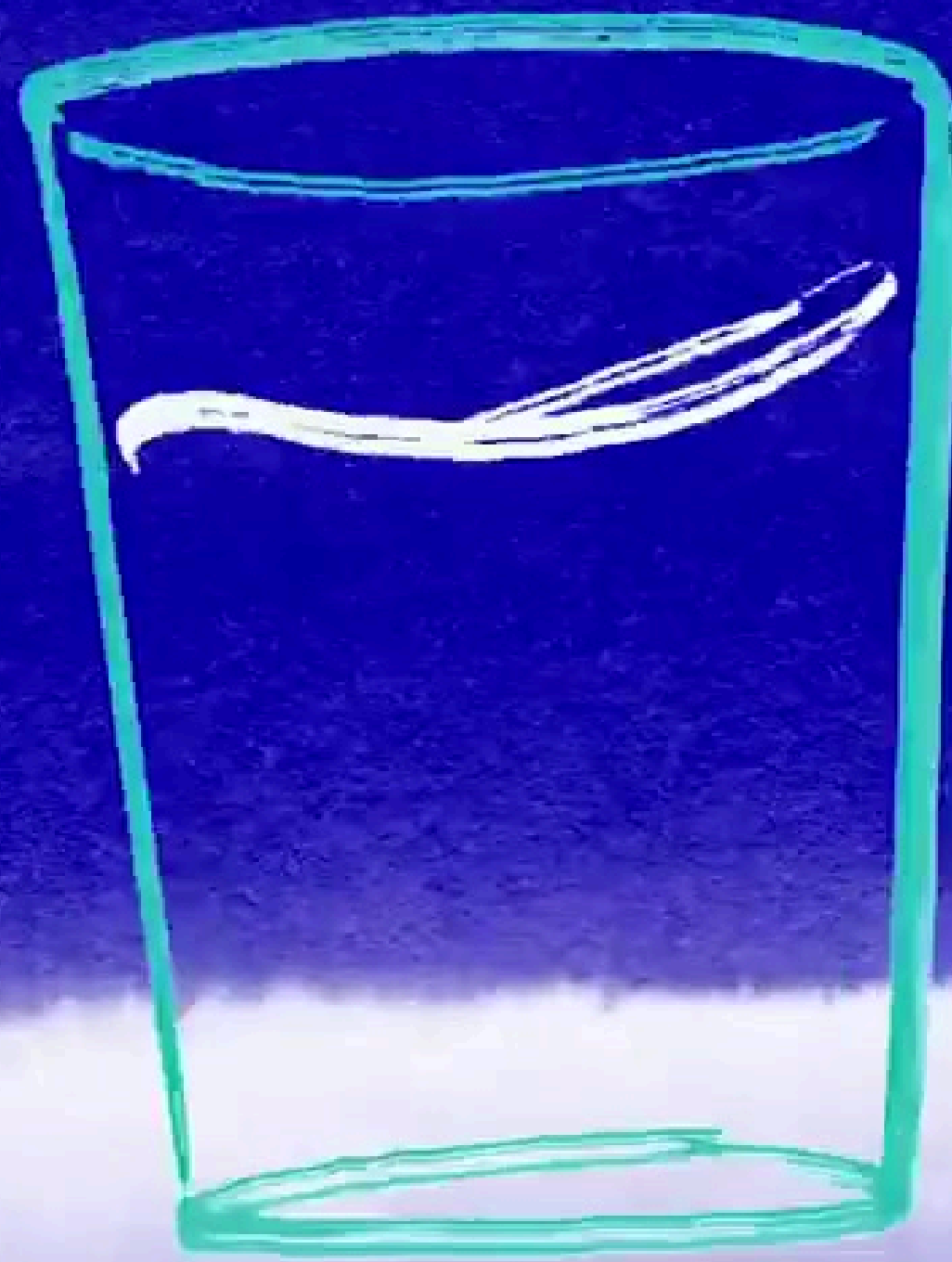


COMMON GLOBAL ISSUES

Contaminated drinking water: major cause of disease, spreading cholera, dysentery, hepatitis A, and other preventable illnesses.

Inadequate wastewater treatment: untreated sewage, industrial waste, and agricultural runoff to pollute rivers, lakes, and groundwater.





WATER SCARCITY

Scarcity of water is increasingly driven by overuse, drought, and climate change.

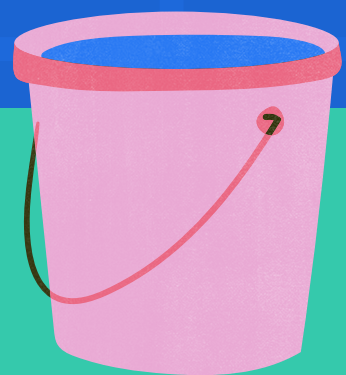
Rising global temperatures are intensifying droughts, shrinking glaciers, and causing more frequent floods, all of which worsen the availability of fresh clean water.



WATER SCARCITY

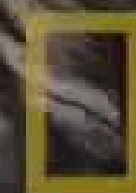
Around the world several cities are already facing water scarcity. Prolonged droughts and overuse have pushed urban populations close to running out of water. Cities such as Cape Town, São Paulo, and Mexico City have all experienced crises where reservoirs dropped to critical levels.

These cases show how climate change and poor water management can combine into an existential challenge for entire communities.



ROSA LUXEMBURG STIFTUNG

TADZIO MÜLLER
Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung



CONTAMINATED DRINKING WATER

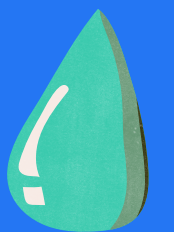
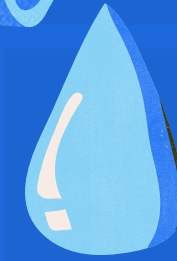
Drinking unsafe water exposes people to bacteria, viruses and harmful chemicals. These contaminants cause widespread waterborne diseases such as cholera, typhoid, and diarrheal infections.

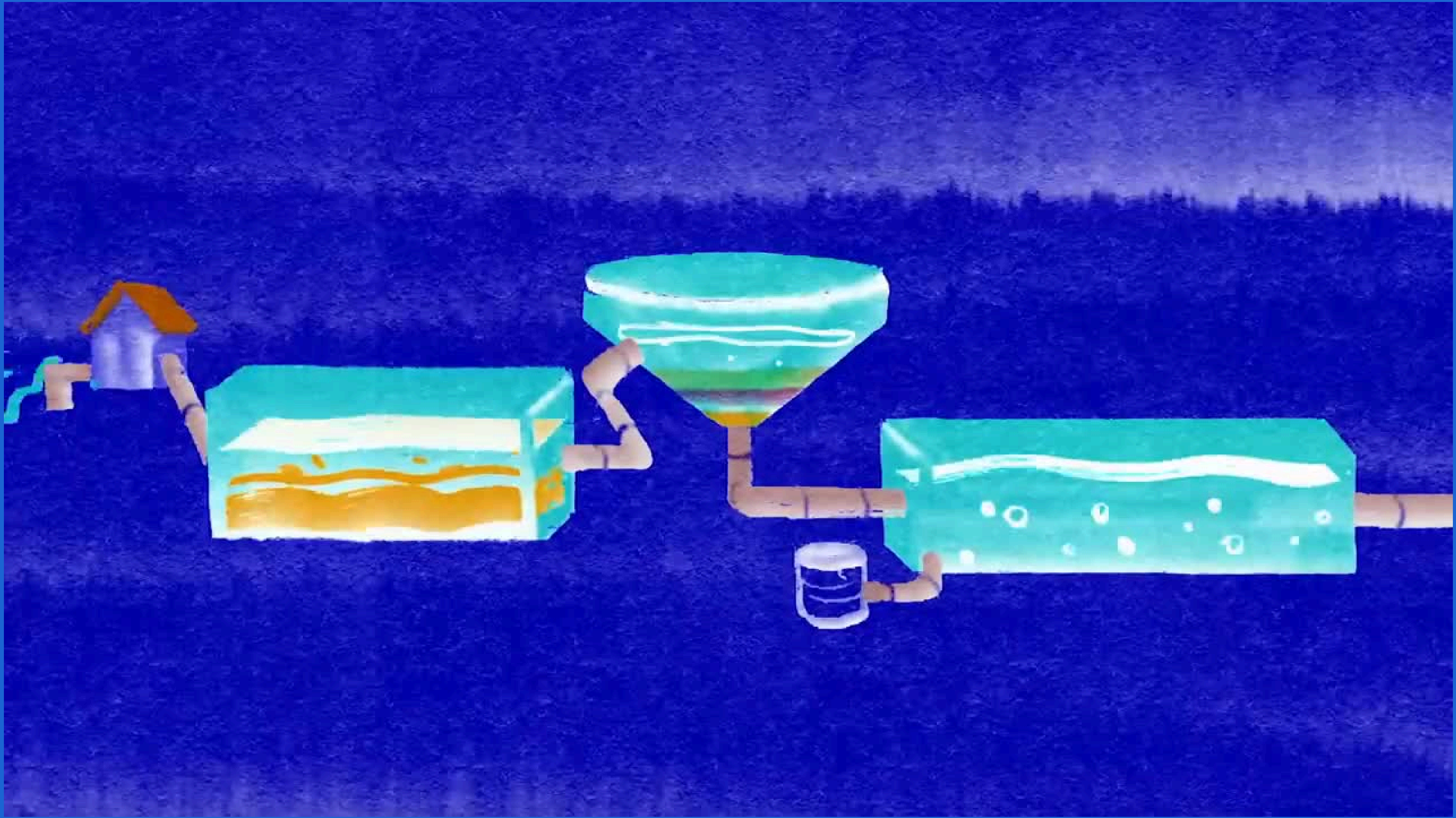
Contaminated water is also a leading factor in child mortality, responsible for more than one million preventable deaths annually, especially in developing countries.



CONTAMINATED DRINKING WATER

polluted water contributes to long-term health issues, including malnutrition and diseases such as schistosomiasis and hepatitis E. The lack of safe water continues to be one of the most significant threats to public health worldwide.



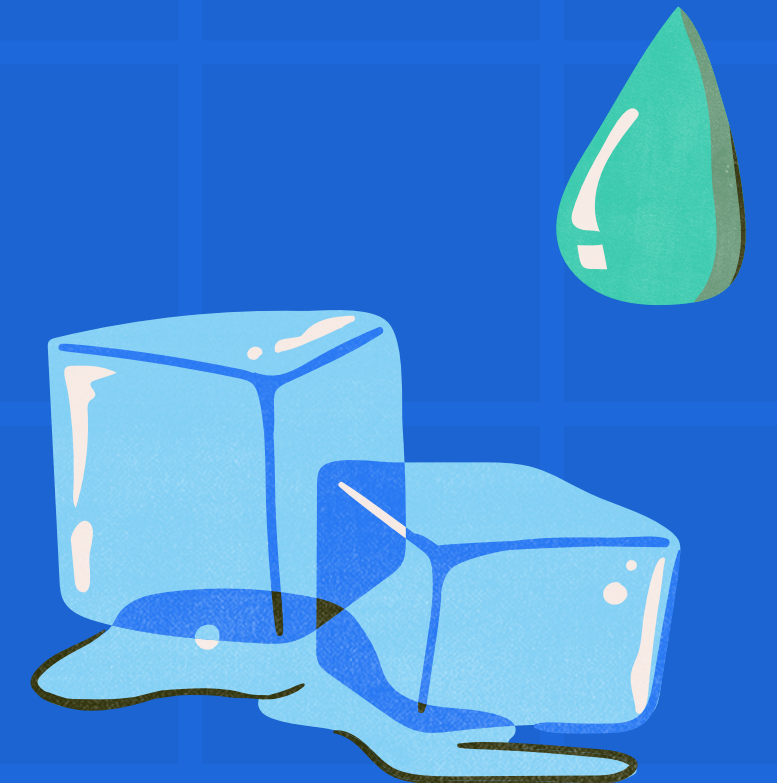




CAUSES OF POLLUTED WATER



Water and sanitation problems stem from both natural and human causes. Natural factors include droughts, floods, and the presence of harmful chemicals like arsenic and fluoride in groundwater. However, the largest pressures remain being human-driven.

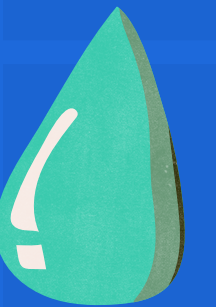
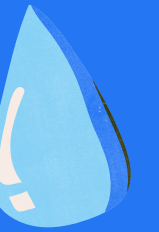


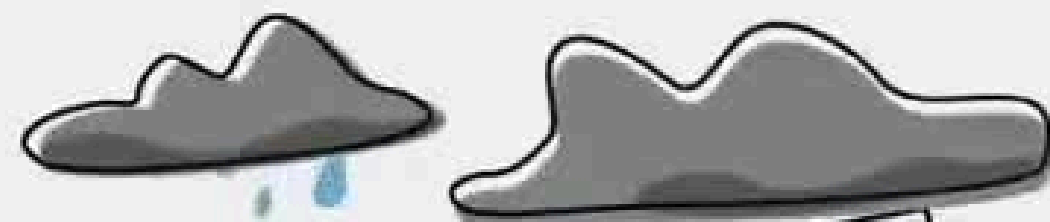


CAUSES OF POLLUTED WATER

Some of the human-driven causes of water pollution:

- 80% of industrial wastewater is released untreated.
- Agricultural fertilizers and pesticides seep into rivers and groundwater. Additionally, livestock farming generates vast amounts of polluted runoff.
- Poor infrastructure and rapid population growth increased demand to water systems, leaving millions exposed to unsafe water.



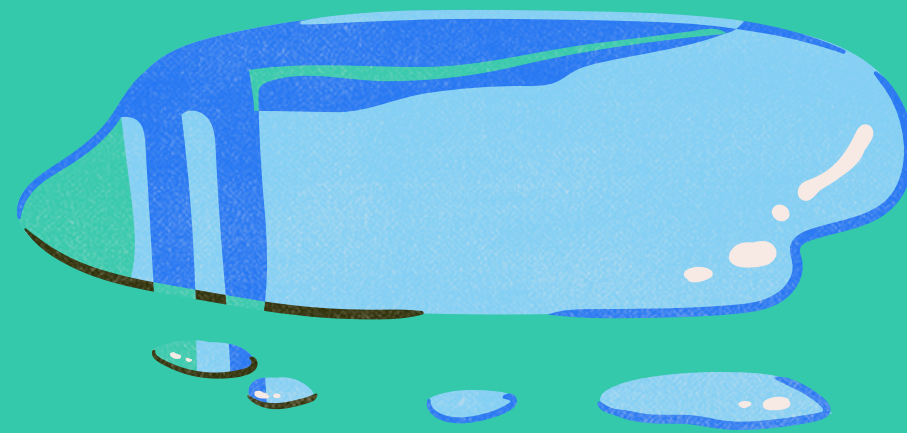


causes and effects

of water pollution

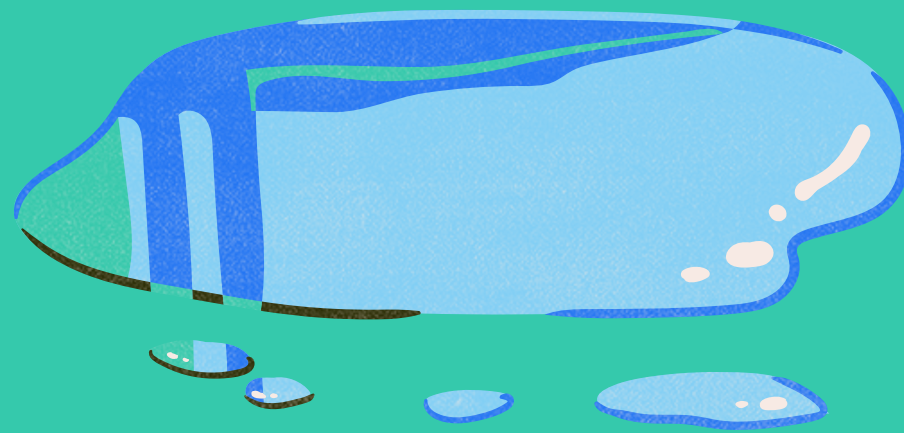
IMPACTS ON SOCIETY

The absence of clean water and sanitation has profound consequences for societies. Communities face severe health crises as preventable diseases spread through contaminated water.



IMPACTS ON SOCIETY

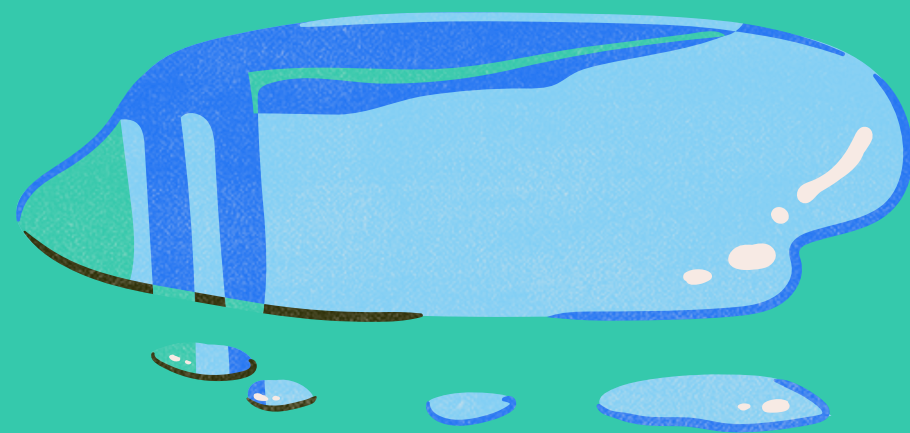
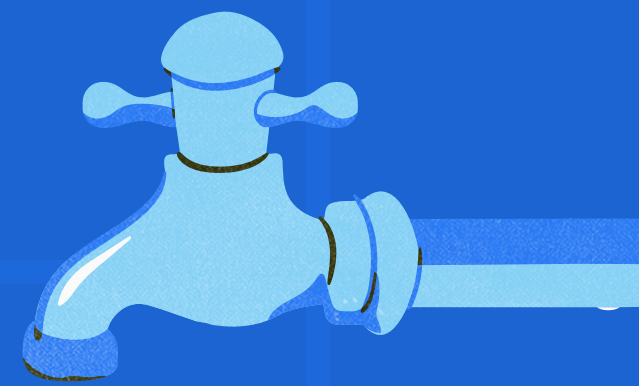
Cities struggling with unsanitary water face slower development. Sewage-contaminated areas become uninhabitable. Creating cycles of poor living conditions that governments struggle to regulate.



IMPACTS ON NATURE

Poor wastewater management and pollution damage ecosystems as much as human health.

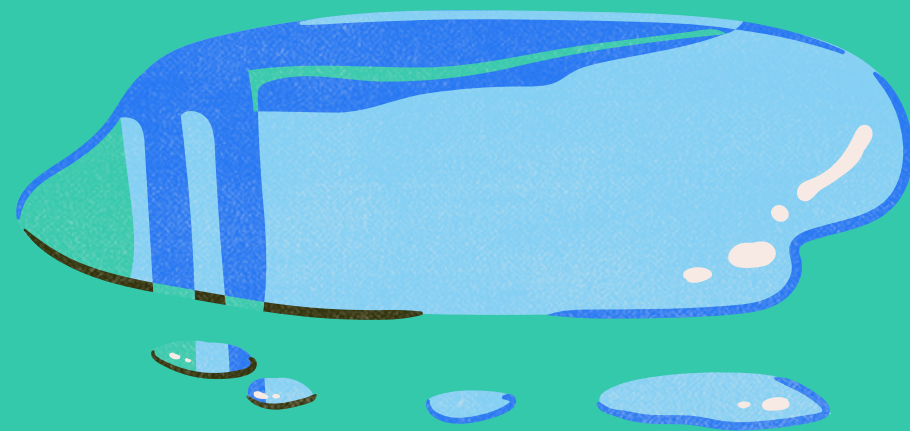
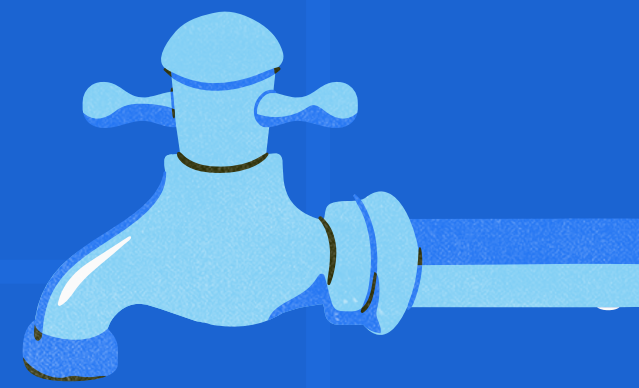
Industrial discharges release toxic chemicals and heavy metals, which accumulate in fish and other species, disrupting the food chain.





IMPACTS ON NATURE

Polluted water also degrades soil quality, affects plant growth, and contributes to biodiversity loss. In addition, Water pollution reduces the very natural services such as clean rivers and fertile soil on which human survival depends.



WATER IN EUROPE: CHALLENGES



22% of surface waters and 28% of groundwater sources in Europe are affected by diffuse pollution from nutrients and pesticides.

Industrial discharges of chemicals and heavy metals threaten freshwater ecosystems, while climate change continue to exacerbate both floods and droughts.



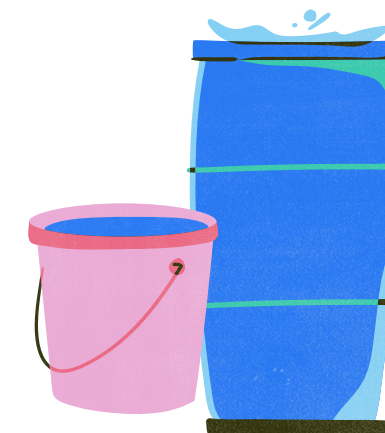
SOLUTIONS



Solving the water and sanitation crisis requires coordinated global and regional action.

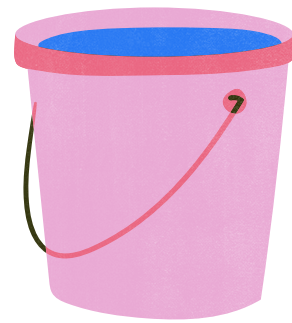


clean water infrastructure remains crucial for communities that still lack reliable supplies.

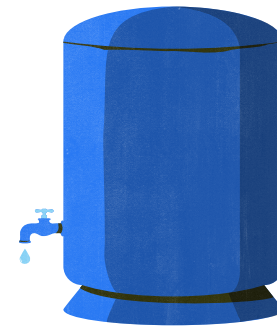


Hygiene education campaigns are essential to reduce the spread of preventable diseases.

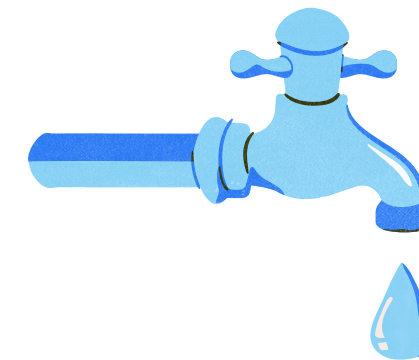
SOLUTIONS



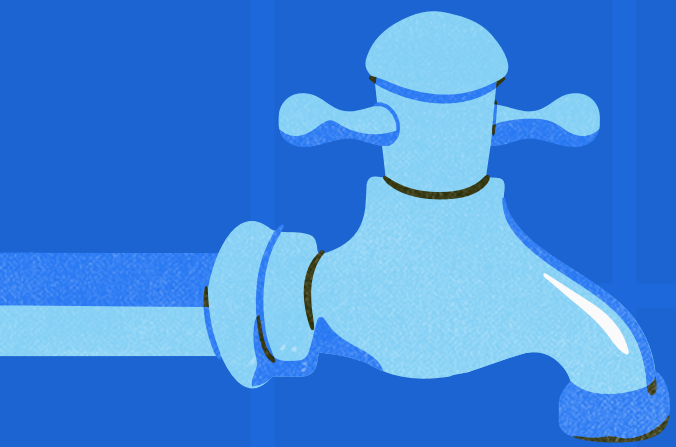
sustainable practices in agriculture and industry can reduce overuse and contamination of water resources.



improving wastewater treatment facilities can prevent pollution from entering rivers and lakes.

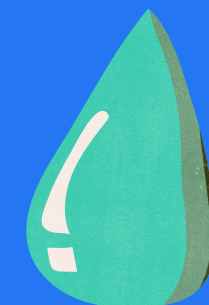
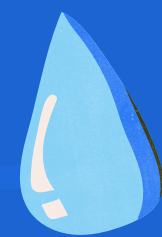


International initiatives such as the EU Water Framework Directive and the UN' SDG 6 targets provide a roadmap for progress.

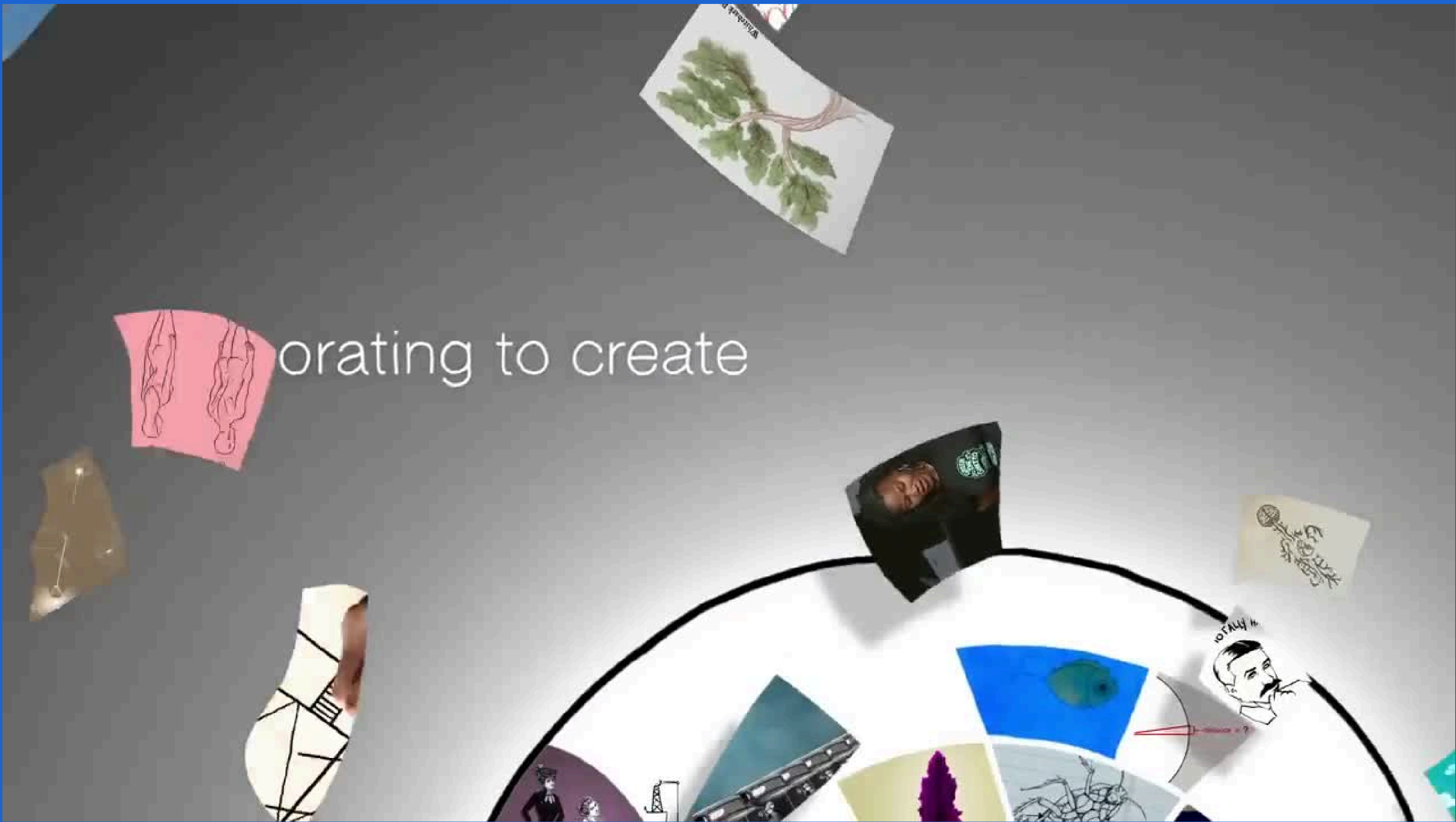


WHAT CAN WE DO?

- Support water charities and initiatives that help bring safe water to communities.
- Reduce personal water waste, such as limiting unnecessary consumption at home.
- raise awareness about sanitation and hygiene to ensure healthier communities worldwide.



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CONCLUSION

Clean water and sanitation are essential for life, health, and sustainable development. This crisis cannot be solved through individual effort, it requires collective action at national and global levels. By working together to protect and manage water responsibly, humanity can move closer to achieving the vision of safe and sustainable water for all.

