

# The NEXUS of Land, Food, Energy and Water.

*Richard Harding*

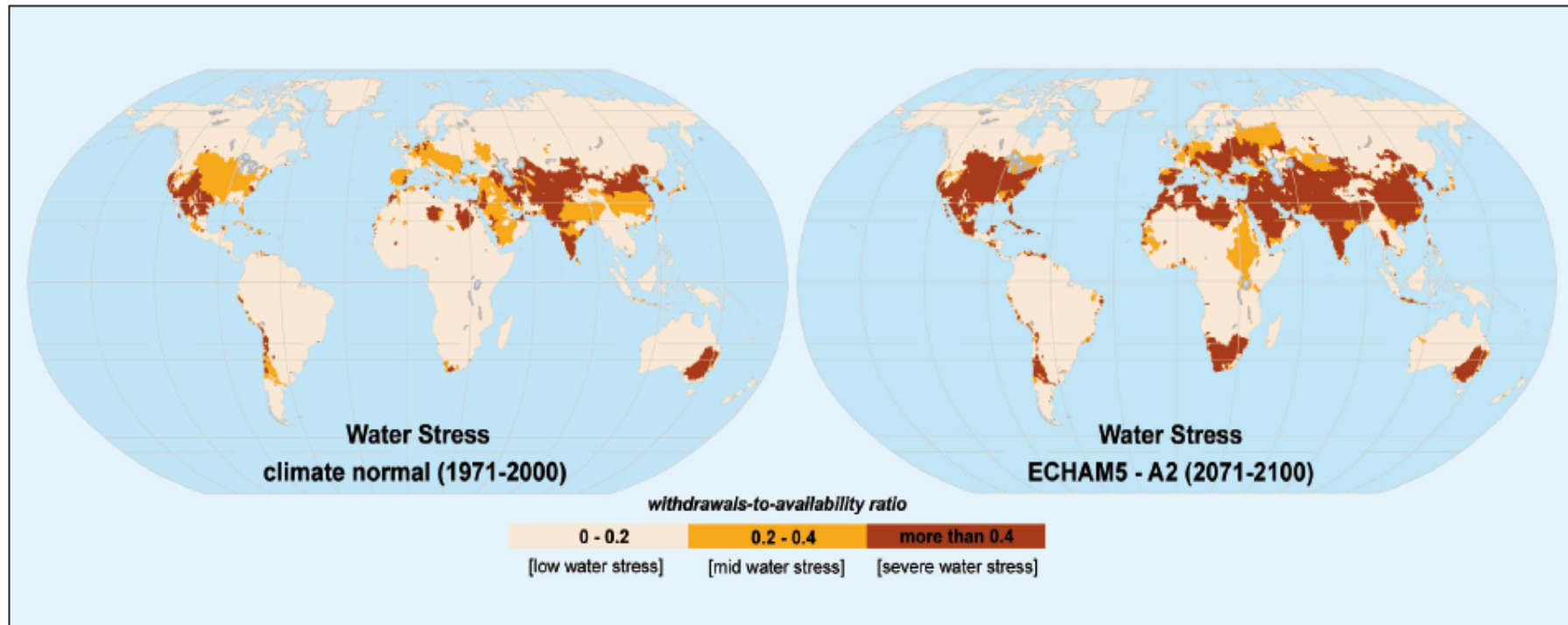
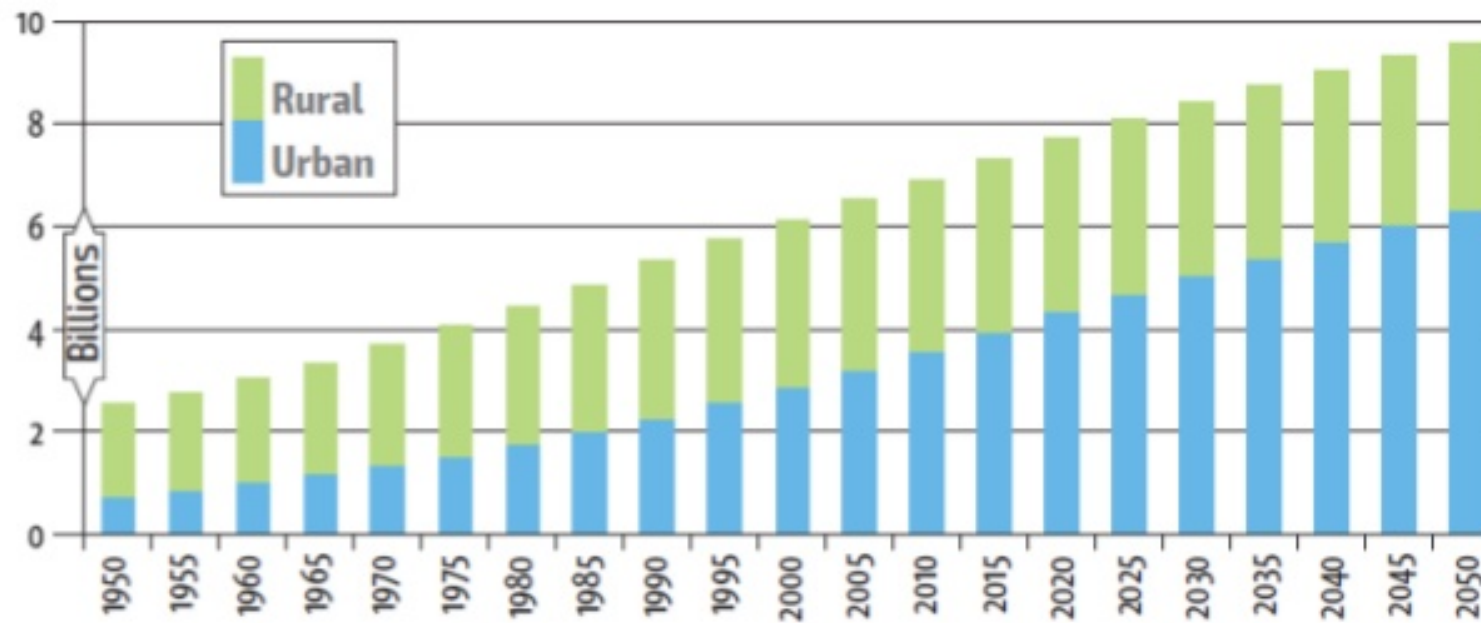


Figure 1: Water stress, calculated as the ratio between water withdrawals and availability, for the late 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries (see Flörke and Elsner 2011).

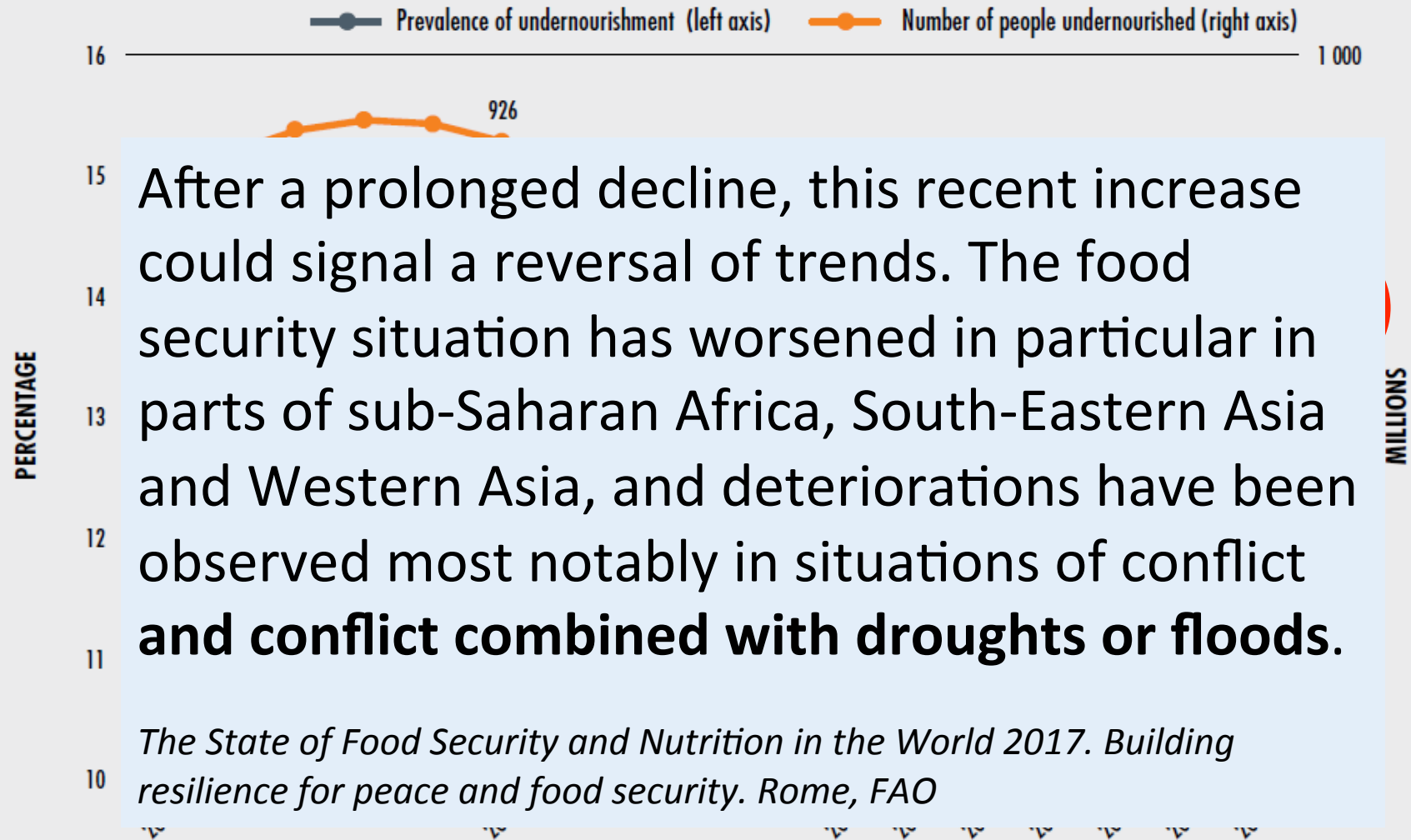
The number of water basins experiencing severe water stress is projected to increase to 40% by 2100

## Growth in global urban and rural populations to 2050



Source: UN, 2015.

# THE NUMBER OF UNDERNOURISHED PEOPLE HAS BEEN ON THE RISE SINCE 2014, REACHING AN ESTIMATED 815 MILLION IN 2016

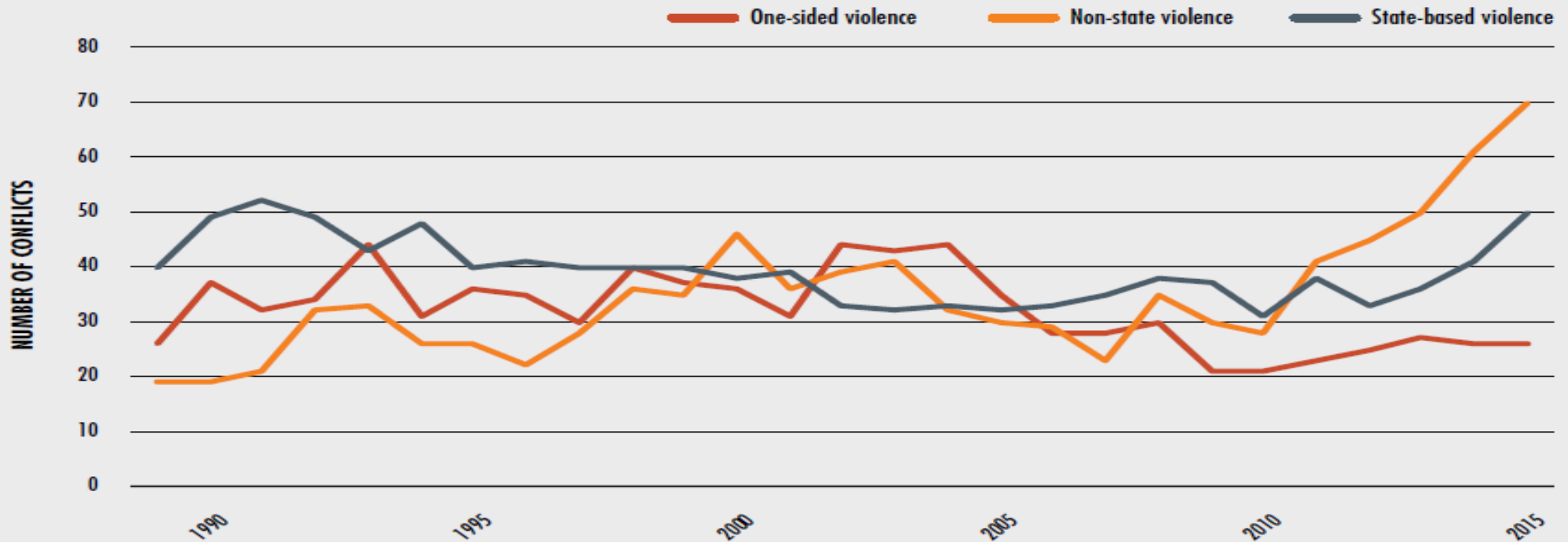


NOTE: Prevalence and number of undernourished people in the world, 2000–2016.

Figures for 2016 are projected estimates (see Box 1 on p. 4 and Methodological notes in Annex 1, p. 95).

SOURCE: FAO.

## MARKED INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF CONFLICTS SINCE 2010



815 million people in the world – or just over one in nine – are undernourished. The majority of these (489 million) live in countries struggling with conflict, violence and fragility, where the prevalence of undernourishment is higher than in countries not affected by conflict.

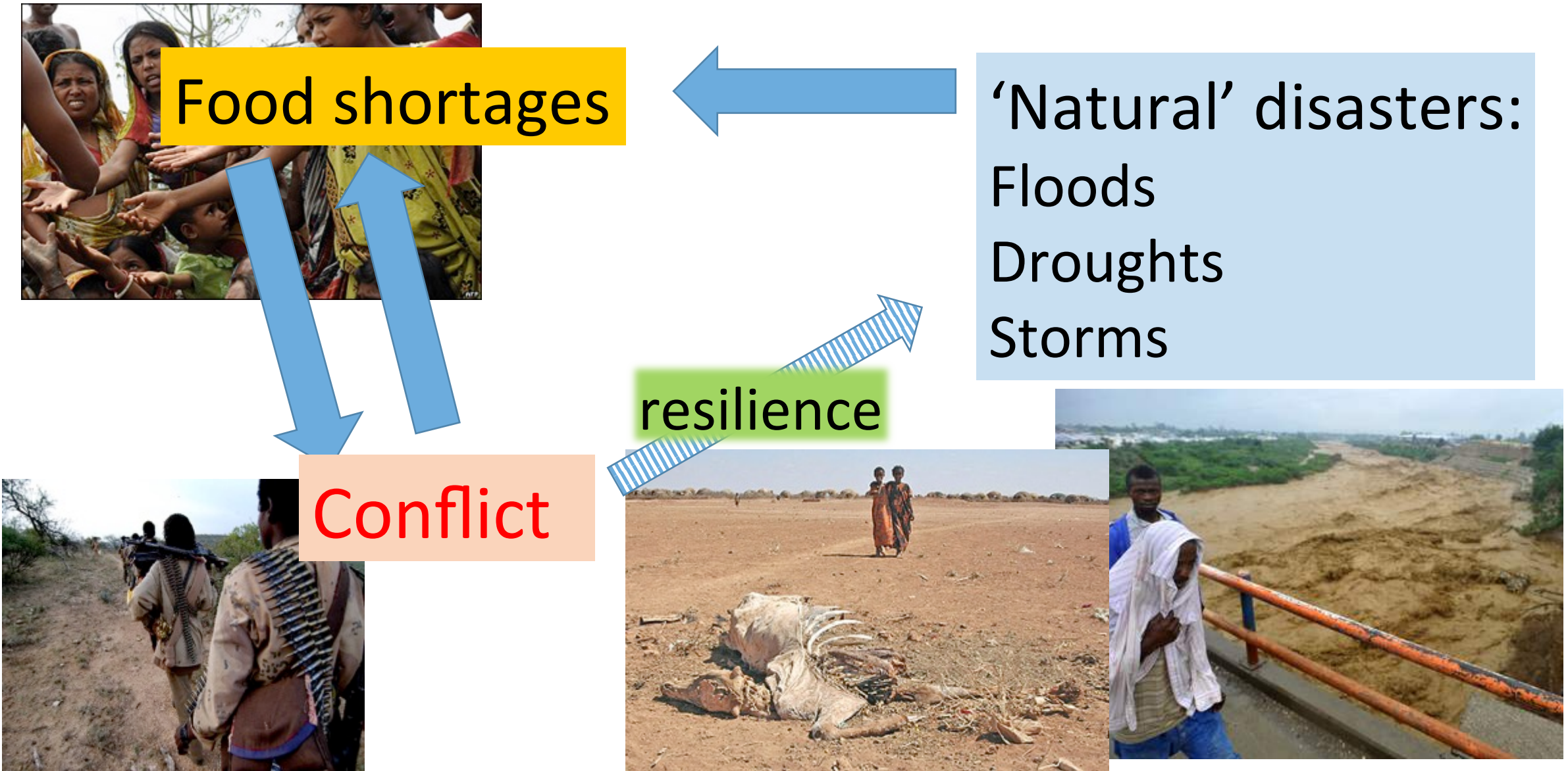
**TABLE 4**  
**CONFLICT AND CLIMATE-RELATED SHOCKS ASSOCIATED WITH FOOD CRISIS SITUATIONS IN 2016**

Country	Main climate/weather adverse effect on food security	Number of food-insecure people (IPC/CH phase 3+) in millions
Afghanistan	Floods, landslides in winter; drought in Ghor province	8.5
Burundi	El Niño phenomenon	2.3
Central African Republic	Localized floods	2.0
Democratic Republic of the Congo	El Niño phenomenon	5.9
Iraq*	Drought	1.5
Somalia	El Niño-related drought	2.9
South Sudan	Drought and floods	4.9
Sudan	El Niño phenomenon	4.4
Syrian Arab Republic*	Drought in Aleppo, Idlib and Homs	7.0
Yemen	Flooding, heavy rains and tropical cyclones	14.1
<b>Total</b>		<b>53.5</b>

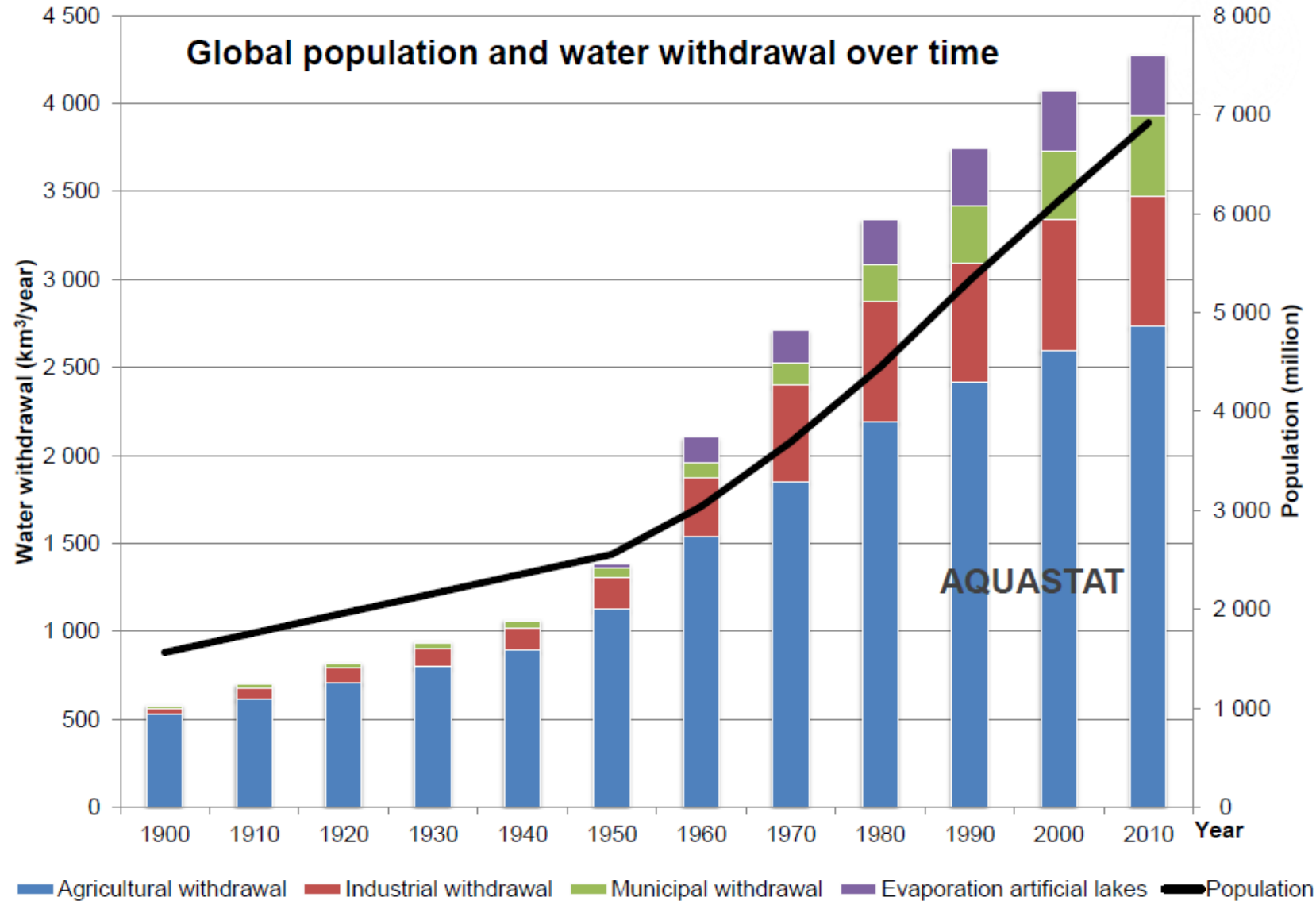
NOTE: Figures for food-insecure populations for countries indicated with an asterisk are reported by the government, Food Security Cluster (HNO or HRP) or WFP-CARI; figures for South Sudan and Somalia refer to IPC analyses conducted in January and February 2017, using data from 2016.

SOURCE: Food Security Information Network (FSIN). 2017. *Global Report on Food Crises 2017*. Rome.

# The Cycle of Climate, Food and Conflict



# Global Water Use



# Global Water Resources

Total annual land precipitation =  $115 \times 10^3 \text{ km}^3$

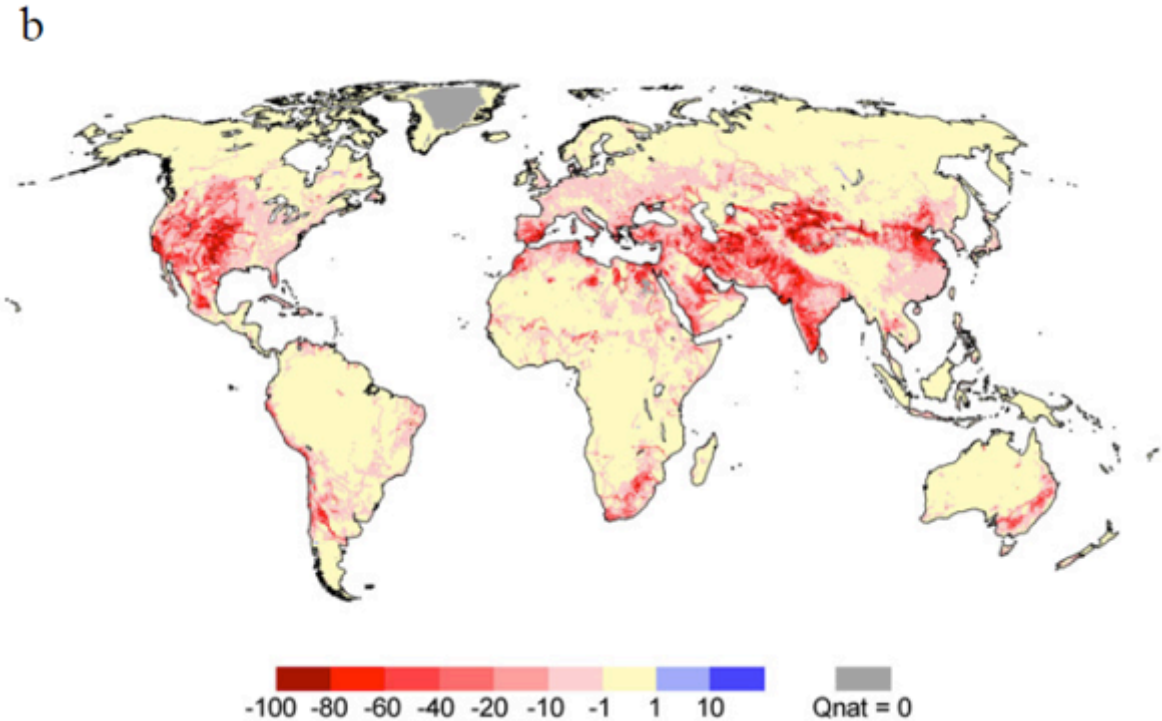
Total annual runoff =  $49 \times 10^3 \text{ km}^3$

Total capacity of reservoirs =  $7.4 \times 10^3 \text{ km}^3$

Annual water use for irrigation =  $\sim 1.5 \times 10^3 \text{ km}^3$

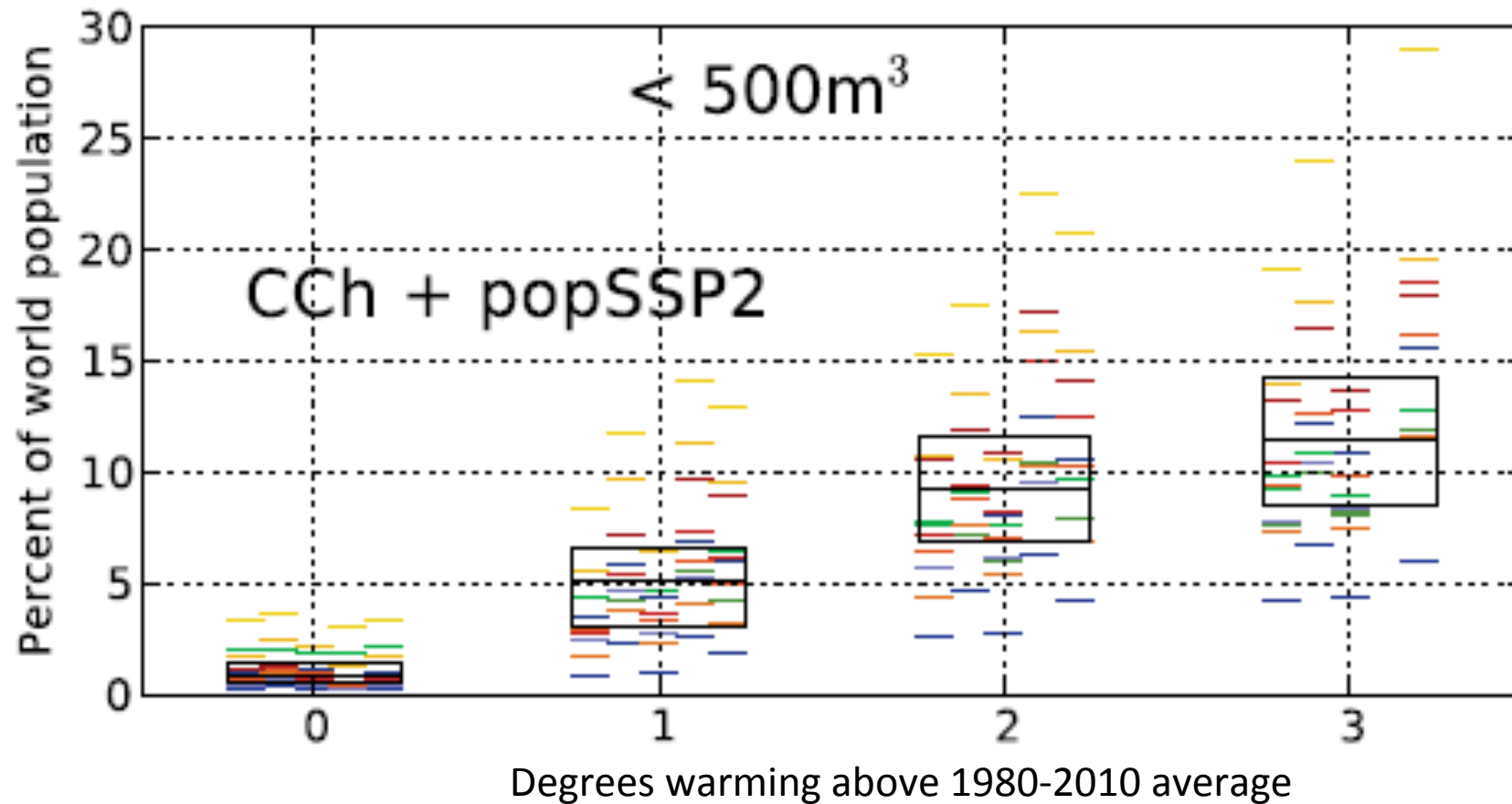
Unsustainable groundwater extraction =  $0.23 \times 10^3 \text{ km}^3 \text{ yr}^{-1}$

Anthropogenic impact on  
average river discharge



*Doll et al 2009*





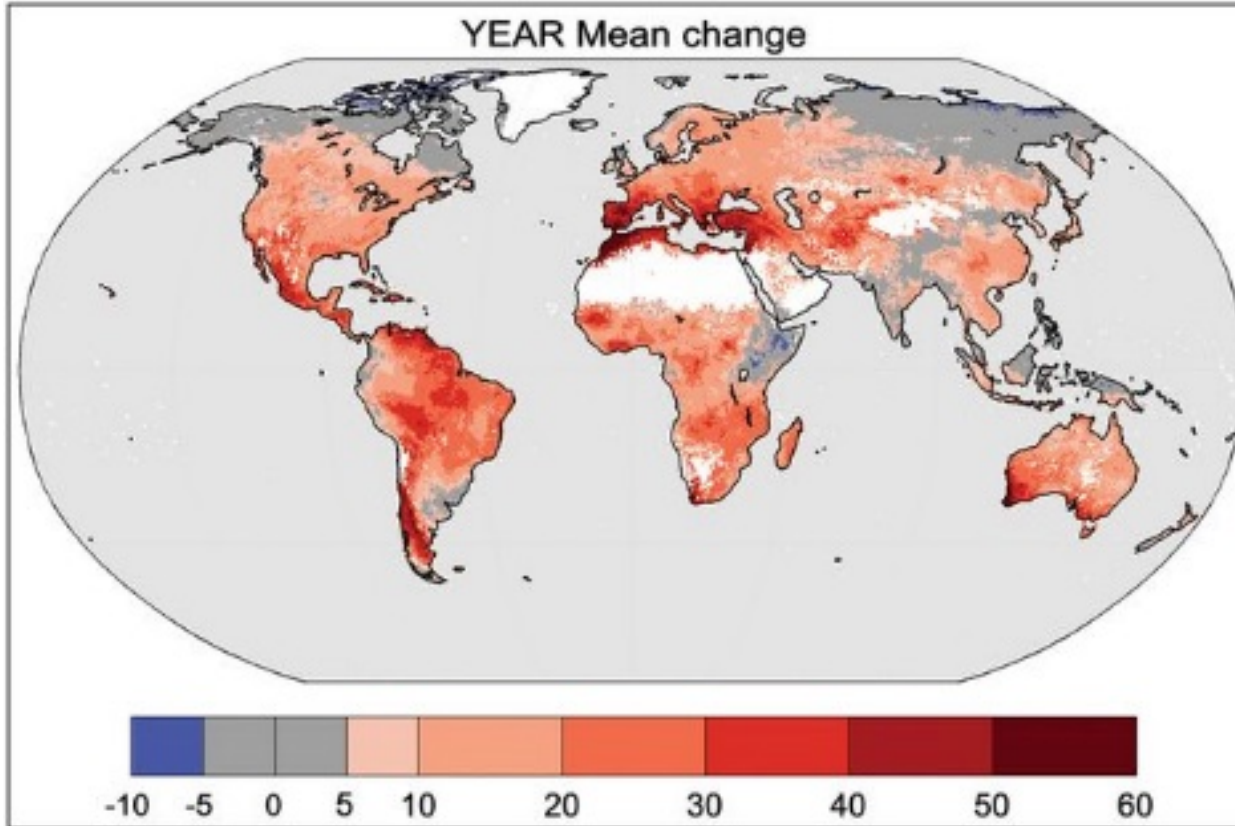
Five climate models and nine hydrology/land surface models

Percentage of world population living in countries with annual mean Blue Water availability below 500 m<sup>3</sup> per capita ('absolute' water scarcity)



From: Schewe et al 2014

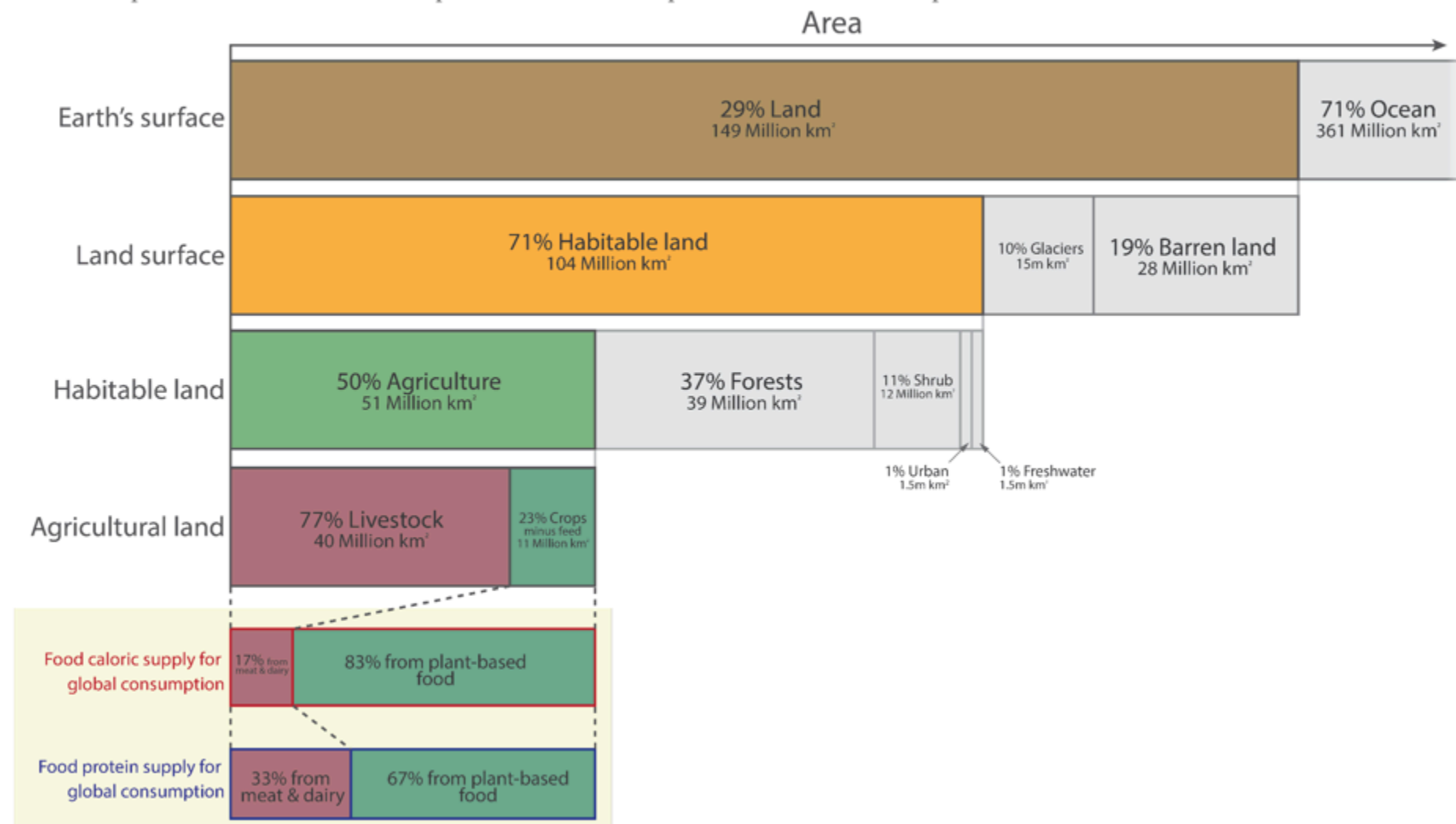
# Increasing Occurrence of Drought



Percentage change in the occurrence of days under drought conditions for the period 2070–2099 relative to 1976–2005, based on a multimodel ensemble experiment under RCP8.5

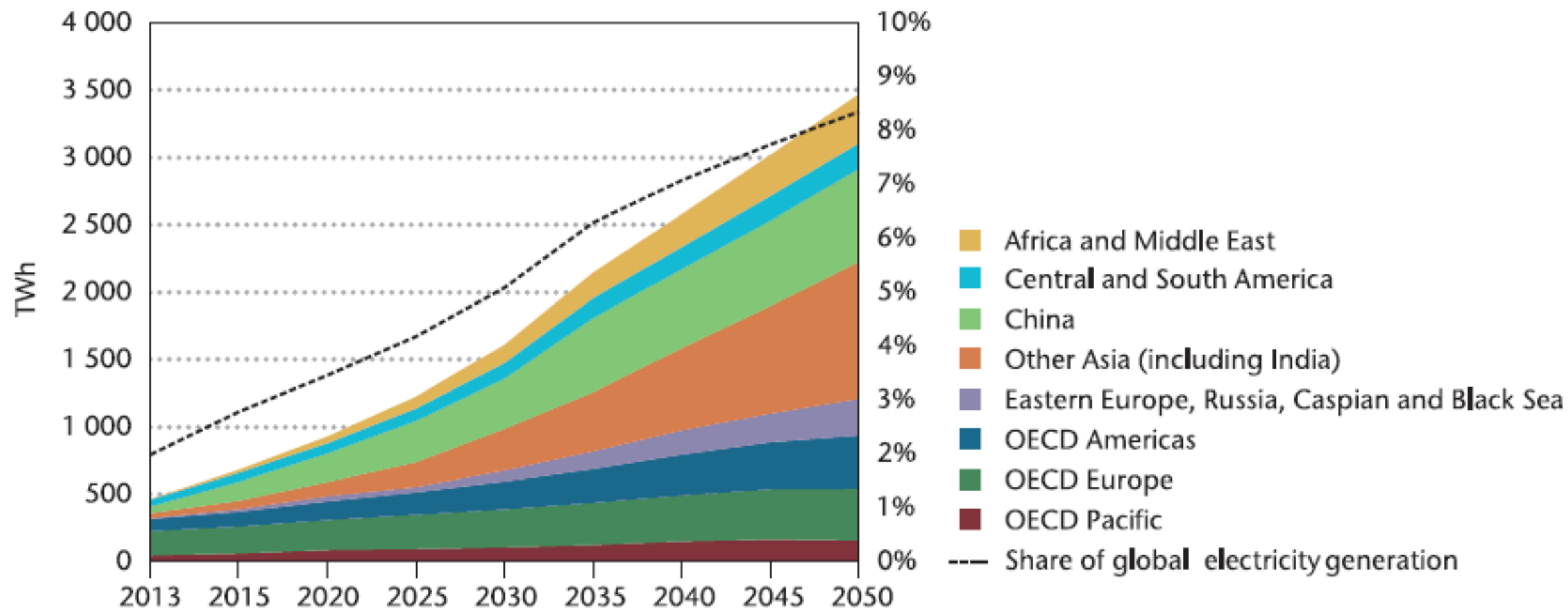
# Global surface area allocation for food production

The breakdown of Earth surface area by functional and allocated uses, down to agricultural land allocation for livestock and food crop production, measured in millions of square kilometres. Area for livestock farming includes grazing land for animals, and arable land used for animal feed production. The relative production of food calories and protein for final consumption from livestock versus plant-based commodities is also shown.

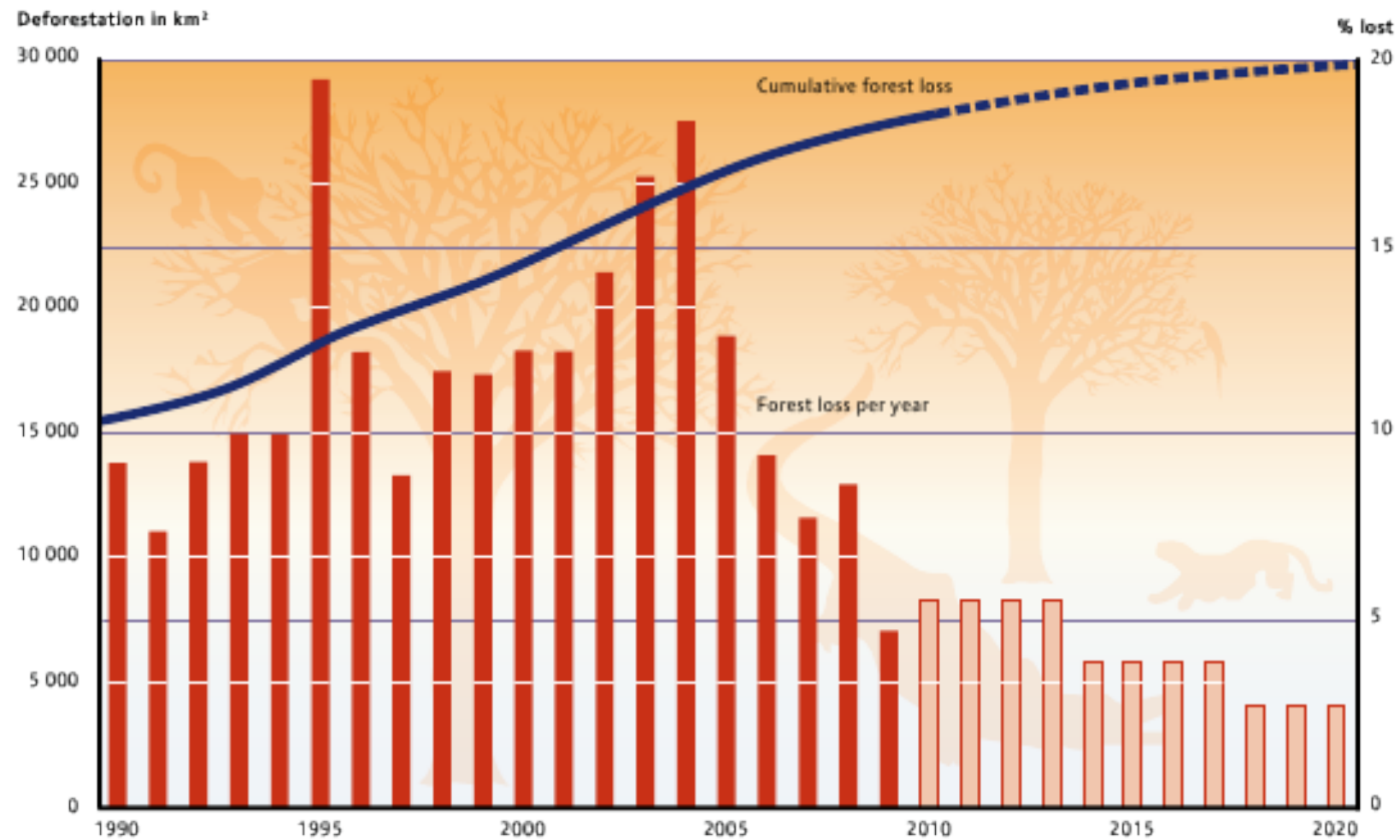


Data source: based on UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) Statistics. The data visualization is available at [OurWorldinData.org](https://ourworldindata.org). There you find research and more visualizations on this topic.

## Figure 9: Global vision of biomass for electricity generation



Source: IEA analysis based on data from the *Energy Technology Perspectives (ETP) 2°C Scenario (2DS)* (IEA, 2016c).



Source: Brazilian National Space Research Agency (INPE),  
 graph compiled by  
[Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity \(2010\)](#)  
[Global Biodiversity Outlook 3, May 2010, p.33](#)

Increasing Population  
*+ 2 billion by 2050*

Food production  
*+50 to 70% by 2050*

Biomass for Energy  
*X5 by 2050*



Carbon sequestration  
Reduce emissions from agriculture by 60%  
Reduce LUC to zero

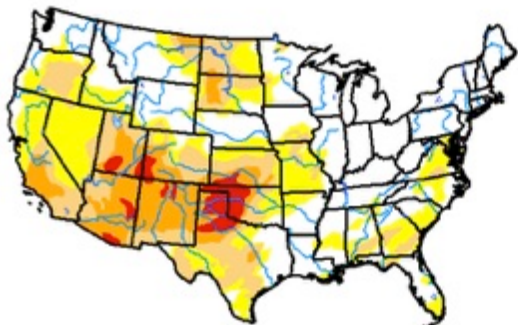
Climate Change:  
Increasing droughts, water  
scacity etc

## Solutions:

- Climate-smart water management
- Good soil management
- Agriculture risk management tools
- Disaster management
- Agriculture information systems
- Promoting carbon sequestration

# European Drought Observatory

## U.S. Drought Monitor Continental U.S. (CONUS)



February 27, 2018  
(Released Thursday, Mar. 1, 2018)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

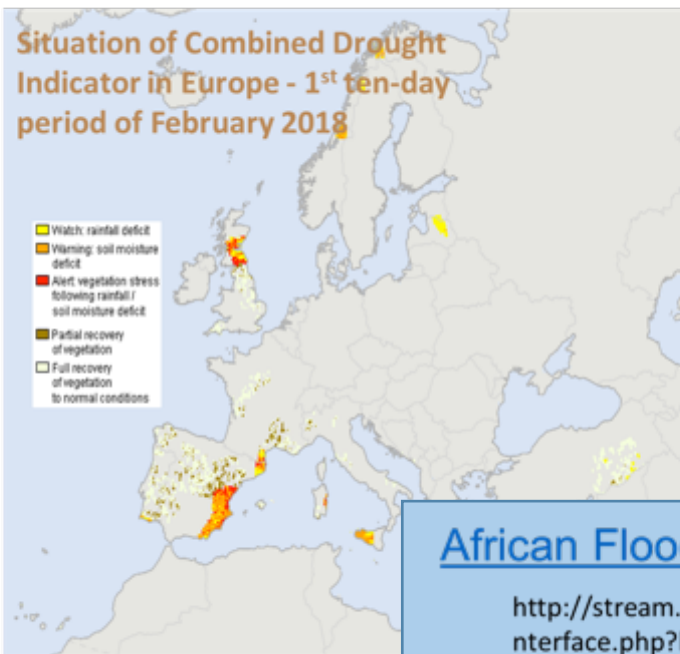
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	45.34	54.66	31.30	14.31	3.22	0.00
Last Week 02-20-2018	40.71	59.29	36.48	17.76	3.22	0.00
3 Months Ago 11-26-2017	57.34	42.66	21.14	8.88	1.03	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2018	44.45	55.54	27.70	7.46	0.83	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2017	63.07	36.93	13.01	4.06	2.36	0.87
One Year Ago 02-28-2017	66.28	33.72	14.06	3.68	0.49	0.00

**Intensity**

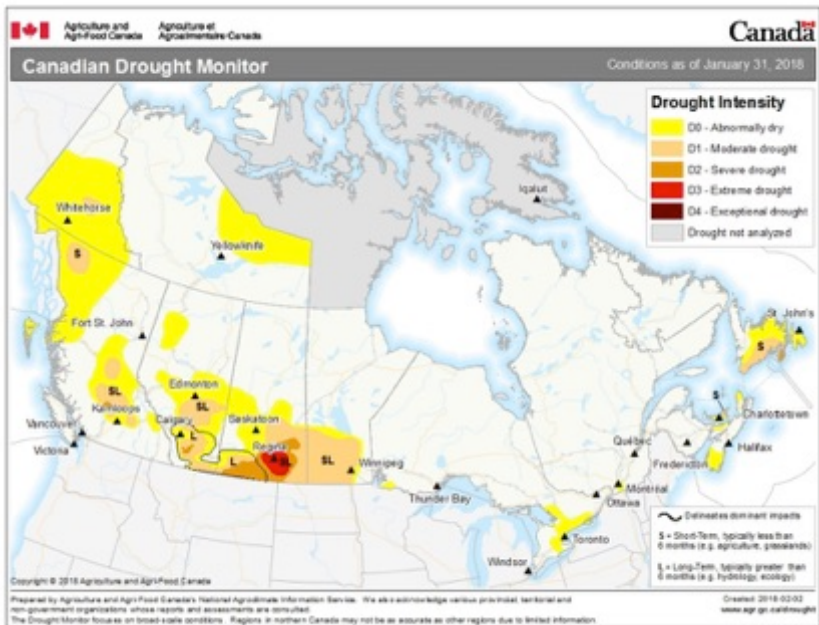
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

**Author:**  
Deborah Bathke  
National Drought Mitigation Center

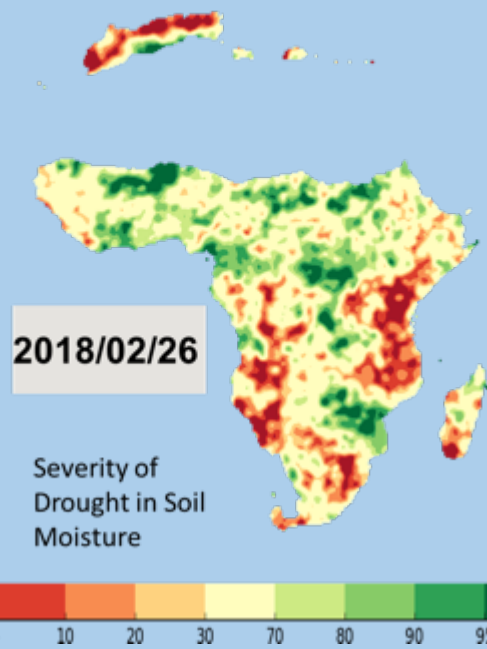


<http://edo.jrc.ec.europa.eu/edov2>



## African Flood and Drought Monitor

<http://stream.princeton.edu/AWCM/WEBPAGE/interface.php?locale=en>






http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/hwpr/chy/hydrosos/ Hydrological droughts... Global Hydrologica... How to Take a Screens...

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

- WMO EXTRANET -



WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION  
WEATHER CLIMATE WATER

Please visit our public website:  
<http://public.wmo.int>

Home

Commission for Hydrology - CHY

Programmes > HWPR > Chy > HydroSOS

## WMO Global Hydrological Status and Outlook System (HydroSOS)

### The challenge

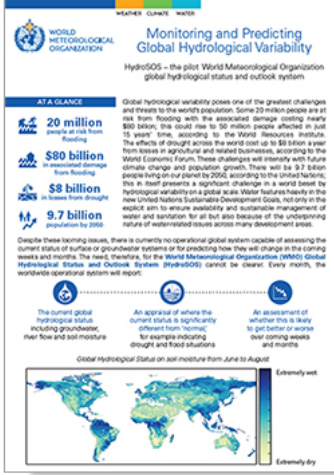
Globally hydrological variability poses one of the greatest threats to the world's population. There are an increasing number of people at risk from water-related hazards and rapidly growing demands on water resources. However, there is currently no global system which is capable of assessing the current status of surface and groundwater systems or predicting how they will change in the immediate future.

HydroSOS plans to provide the crucial global scale information needed to help citizens understand the current status of the world's freshwater systems and adapt in light of the near-future outlook by harnessing new technologies and link up other initiatives to enable us to better answer questions like: "How much water is there in rivers around the world at the moment?", "Is the current situation normal?", and "How might the global flood/drought situation change in the coming few months?"

### The ambition

The long-term aim of this initiative would be to develop a worldwide operational system at monthly timescales capable of providing:

1. An indication of the current global hydrological status (including: groundwater, river flow,



**Monitoring and Predicting Global Hydrological Variability**

HydroSOS - the pilot World Meteorological Organization global hydrological status and outlook system.

**AT A GLANCE**

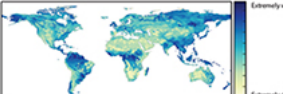
- 20 million people at risk from flooding
- \$80 billion in economic damage from flooding
- \$8 billion in losses from drought
- 9.7 billion population by 2050

Global hydrological variability poses one of the greatest challenges and threats to the world's population. Some 20 million people are at risk from flooding with the associated damage costing nearly \$80 billion, this could rise to \$8 trillion people affected in just 15 years' time, according to the World Resources Institute. The effects of drought across the world could up to \$8 billion a year from losses in agricultural and related businesses, according to the World Economic Forum. These challenges will intensify with future climate change and population growth. There will be 9.7 billion people living on the planet by 2050, according to the United Nations, this in itself presents a significant challenge in a world beset by hydrological variability on a global scale. Water features heavily in the new United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, not only in the explicit aim to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all but also because of the underpinning nature of water-related issues across many development areas.

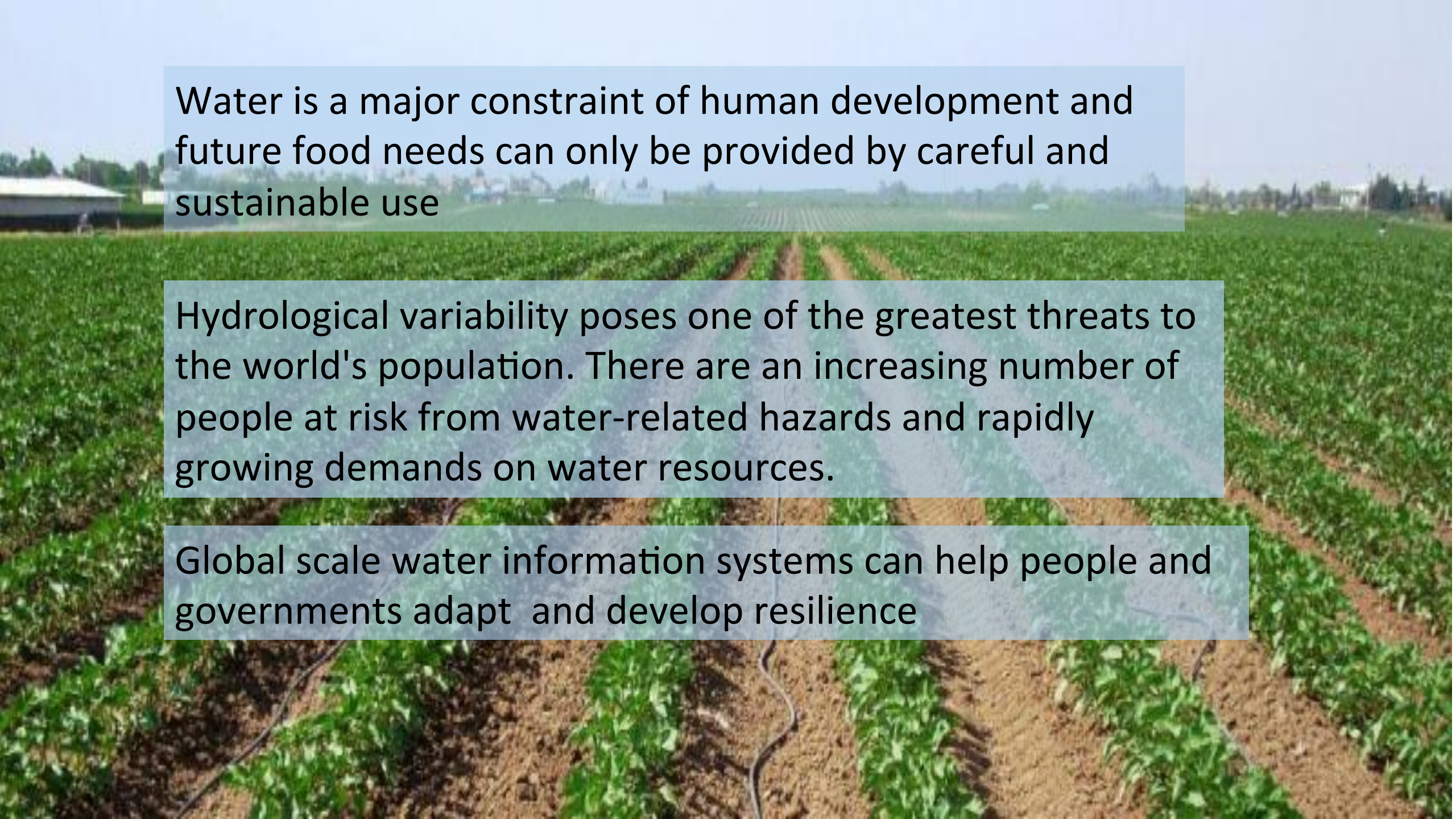
Despite these daunting issues, there is currently no operational global system capable of assessing the current status of surface or groundwater systems or for predicting how they will change in the coming weeks and months. The need, therefore, for the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Global Hydrological Status and Outlook System (HydroSOS) cannot be clearer. Every month, the worldwide operational system will report:

- The current global hydrological status including groundwater, river flow and soil moisture
- An appraisal of where the current status is significantly changed from normal, for example indicating drought and flood situations
- An assessment of whether this is likely to get better or worse over coming weeks and months

Global Hydrological Status on soil moisture from June to August



# WMO Global Hydrological Status and Outlook System (HydroSOS)



Water is a major constraint of human development and future food needs can only be provided by careful and sustainable use

Hydrological variability poses one of the greatest threats to the world's population. There are an increasing number of people at risk from water-related hazards and rapidly growing demands on water resources.

Global scale water information systems can help people and governments adapt and develop resilience