

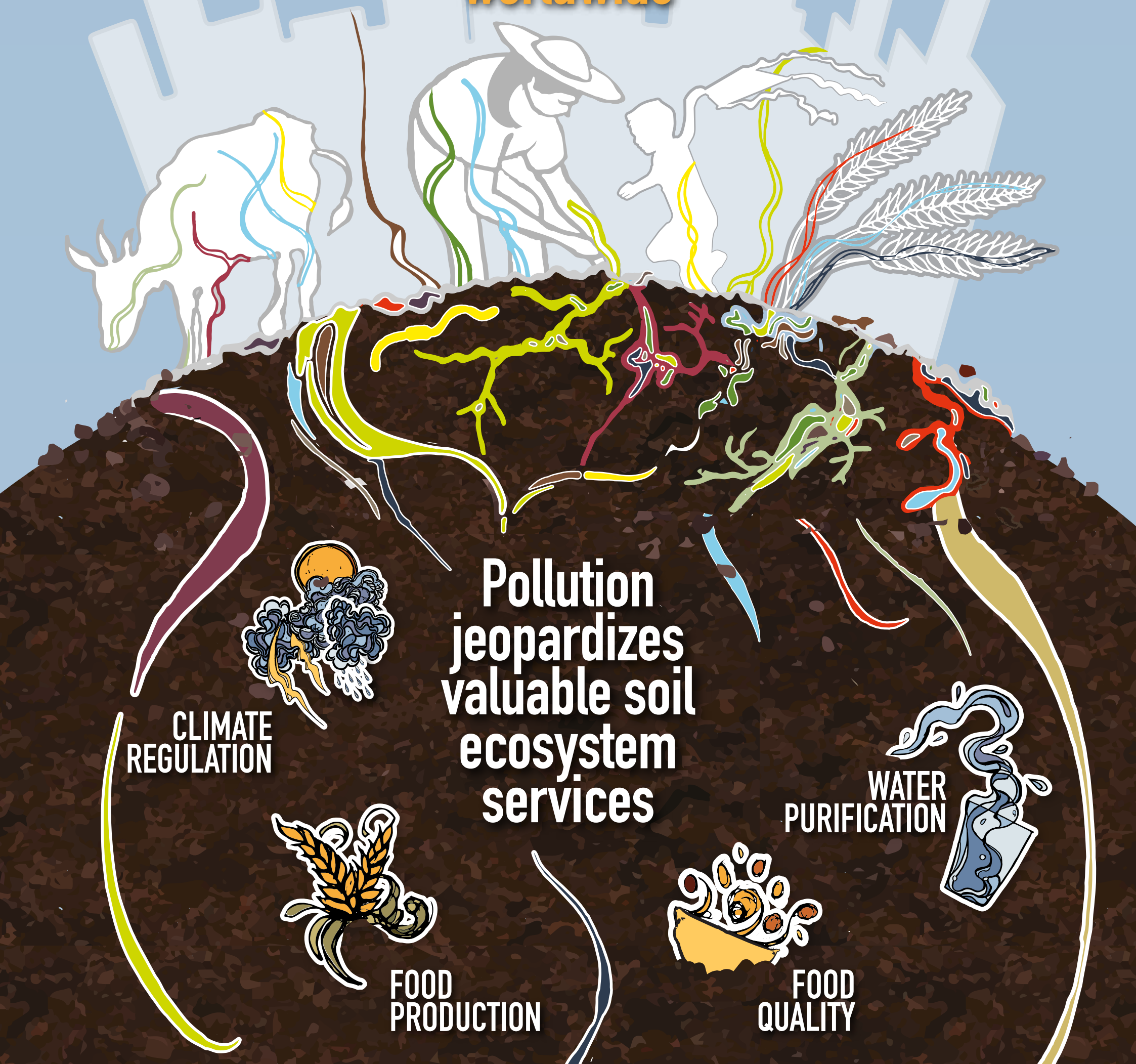


Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



BE THE SOLUTION TO SOIL POLLUTION

Over thousands of years
of human activities
have left a legacy
of polluted soils
worldwide



NUTRIENT CYCLING



HABITAT FOR ORGANISMS



PROVISION OF RAW MATERIALS AND SERVICES



Human activities are the main sources of soil pollution



INDUSTRIAL

Around **50,000–100,000** chemicals are now commercially produced on a large scale and their production is projected to increase by **3.4%** yearly until **2030**



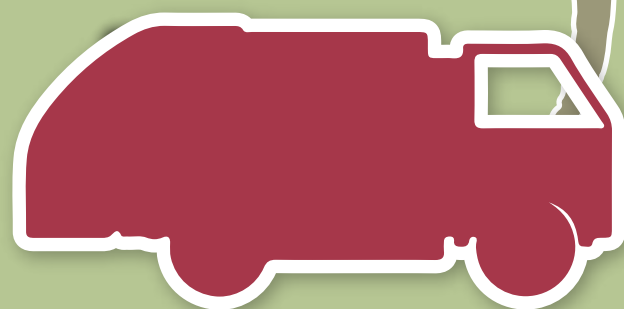
MINING

About **4 billion** people live in the **56** biggest mineral-producing countries. Due to soil pollution, agricultural productivity in mining areas decreases by **40%** relative to areas farther



AGRICULTURE

The agrochemicals market is increasing by **3.2%** every year. **58%** of agricultural soils in Europe have residues of multiple pesticides, half of them are now illegal



WASTE MANAGEMENT

Expanding cities are producing an ever-growing amount of municipal solid waste. **80%** of our waste is not being recycled and ends up in landfills, contaminating our soils



TRANSPORT

The number of cars worldwide will nearly **double** by **2040**. Highways are major, open and dynamic sources of contaminants such as heavy metals and toxic organic pollutants that present a risk to adjacent agricultural soils and urban areas

HEAVY METALS:
Arsenic (As), Lead (Pb),
Chromium (Cr), Mercury (Hg),
Cadmium (Cd)



**FOSSIL
FUELS**



**URBAN AND
INDUSTRIAL
WASTES**

AGROCHEMICALS



**ANTIMICROBIAL
RESISTANT BACTERIA
AND PATHOGENS**



**Soils act as
a sponge and filter
for contaminants**

**But when soils are
overloaded, these
contaminants can
be released:**

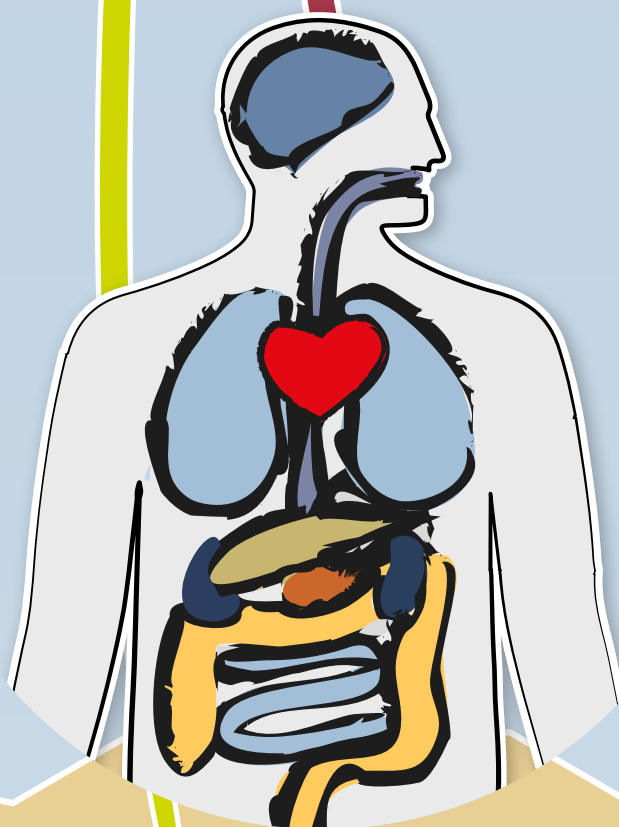


FOOD

Plants may absorb contaminants through their roots, producing unsafe food. **1 in 10 people** in the world fall ill after eating contaminated food and **420 000** die every year

ENVIRONMENT

7 tablespoons of lead can contaminate up to **1 ha** of soil or **200 thousand** litres of water



HUMAN HEALTH

More than **70%** of the pollutants are carcinogenic



GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESSES



INDUSTRIES

Promote
environmentally
friendly industrial
processes



AGRICULTURE

Adopt sustainable
soil management
practices



TRANSPORT

Promote
and use
sustainable
transport

CIVIL SOCIETY



MINING

Include
restoration
measures in
the mining
plan



**WASTE
MANAGEMENT**
Reduce waste and
recycle&reuse goods



AWARENESS

Spread the word
on the causes
and impacts

Preventing soil pollution and maintaining soil health are crucial in achieving most of the SDGs



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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