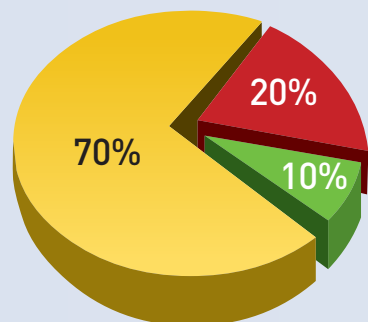


Water Factsheet

Use of freshwater in the world, by sectors (2003)

World total (volume) = 3,830 km³/year



- Agricultural use
- Industrial use
- Domestic use

Water use for irrigation as % of water resources (1997/99 and 2030)

Region	1997/99		2030	
	Irrigation water withdrawal as %age of renewable water resources	Irrigation efficiency in %age	Irrigation water withdrawal as %age of renewable water resources	Irrigation efficiency in %age
93 Developing countries	7%	38%	8%	42%
Sub-Saharan Africa	2%	33%	3%	37%
East Asia	8%	33%	8%	34%
Latin America and Caribbean	1%	25%	2%	25%
Near East and North Africa	53%	40%	58%	53%
South Asia	36%	44%	41%	49%

Irrigated land as a %age of arable land

Irrigated land as %age of arable land	1980	1990	2000
World	16%	18%	18%
Developed Countries	9%	10%	11%
Transition Economies	8%	10%	10%
Developing Countries	22%	18%	18%
Latin America and the Caribbean	11%	18%	18%
Near East and North Africa	22%	18%	18%
Sub-Saharan Africa	3%	18%	18%
East and Southeast Asia (w/o China)	21%	18%	18%
East and Southeast Asia (incl. China)	37%	18%	18%
South Asia	29%	18%	18%
Continental and other regional groupings			
Africa	6%	6%	7%
Asia	31%	34%	39%
Latin America	11%	12%	13%
Caribbean	22%	24%	24%
North America	9%	9%	11%
Europe	11%	14%	9%
Oceania	4%	4%	5%

Projections for water use in agriculture

In 2030, the population will have grown to about 8 billion people from about 6 billion in 2000. The increase in world crop production is projected to be 55% over the period 1997/99-2030 (for developing countries 67%). The increase in production will come from increasing yield (67%), extending arable land (21%) and increasing cropping intensity (12%).



FAO expects that the irrigated area in the group of 93 developing countries could grow by 0.6% a year over the next 30 years. This would lead to only 20% increase in irrigated area over this period (40 million hectares). However, when coupled with increased cropping intensity, the effective harvested irrigated area is expected to increase by much more: from 257 to 341 million hectares, a 33% increase;

Facts and figures on irrigation

- By 2030, one third of the additional land brought under cultivation in (93) developing countries will be irrigated;
- In (93) developing countries, today about 29% of harvested land is irrigated, in future it will be 32%;
- Today 40% of total food production in the (93) developing countries comes from irrigated land. In 2030 it will be close to 50%;
- Africa will have to depend largely on the improvement of rainfed agriculture to meet its food needs;



- During 1961-99, the irrigated area in the world expanded at about 1.8 % a year, resulting in a total increase of almost 130 million hectares;
- During the period 1997/99-2030, irrigation water withdrawal in the 93 developing countries is expected to grow by a total of about 14 % (from the current 2 128 km³/year to 2 420 km³/year in 2030).

- For the 93 developing countries it is estimated that the irrigation efficiency, which is the ratio between the consumptive water use in irrigation and the water withdrawal for irrigation, was around 38% in 1997/99; it is estimated to increase to 42% by 2030.
- On average to produce 1 kg of wheat 1 m³ of water is needed; it takes about 13 m³ of water to produce 1 kg of beef.



Facts and figures on draining land



- Drainage of irrigated land serves two purposes: it reduces waterlogging and can help control and reduce salinization;
- About 40% of the world's irrigated land, or 100-110 million hectares, is located in semi-arid and arid zones, which are the most sensitive to soil and water salinization;
- About 20-30 million hectares of irrigated land are seriously damaged by the build-up of salts, which is about 25% of the area under irrigation in arid and semi-arid zones and 10% of all areas under irrigation;
- About 0.25-0.5 million hectares are estimated to be lost from production every year as a result of salt build-up;