

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

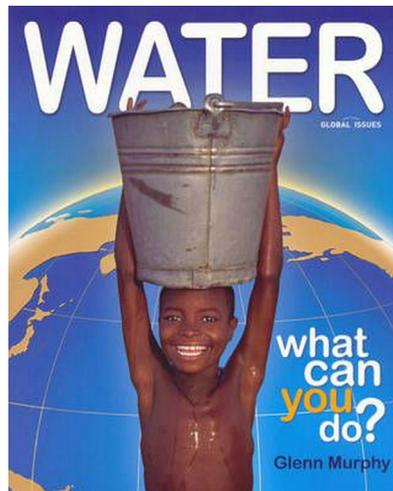
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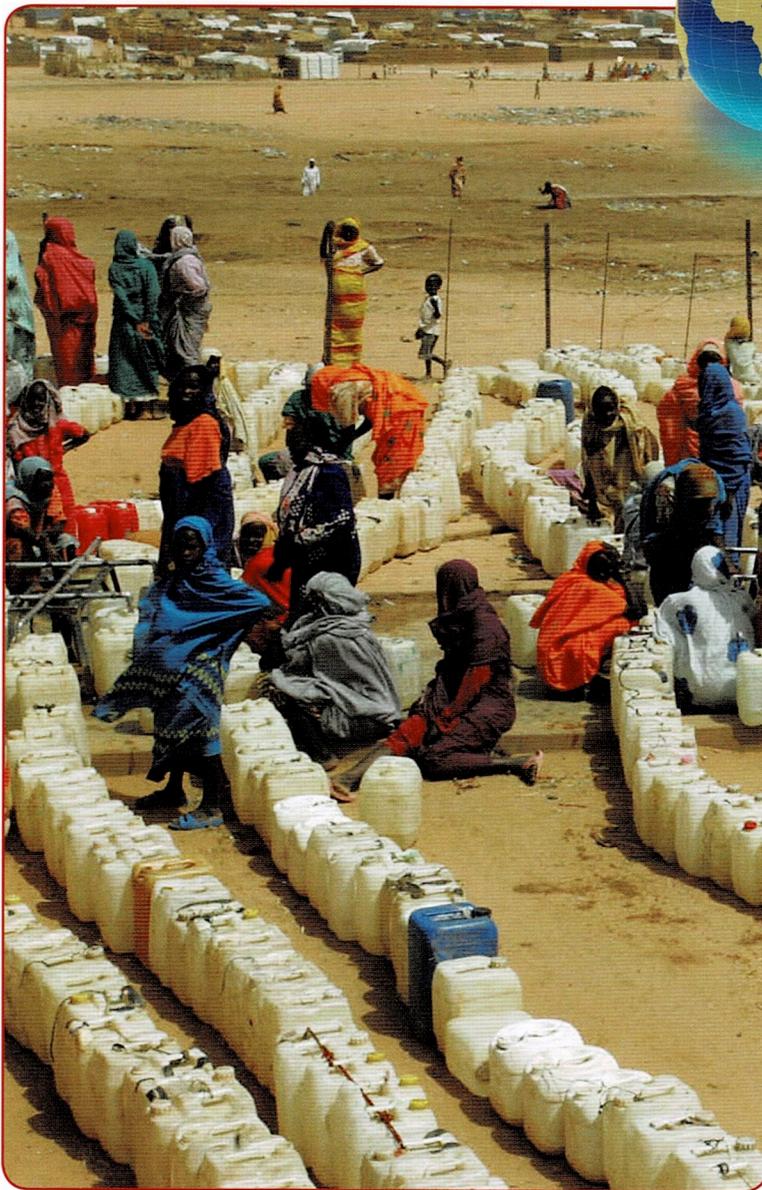


Murphy, G. (2009). *Water: what can you do?*. Scoresby, Vic: Five Mile.



Water stress

Places with limited water resources become *water stressed* as water is lost or wasted. This leads to droughts, economic problems, and even conflict. On farms, unused water evaporates from irrigation channels. Beneath big cities, water leaks from strained, cracked pipes. In rural and urban areas, for rich and poor people, water is under stress everywhere.



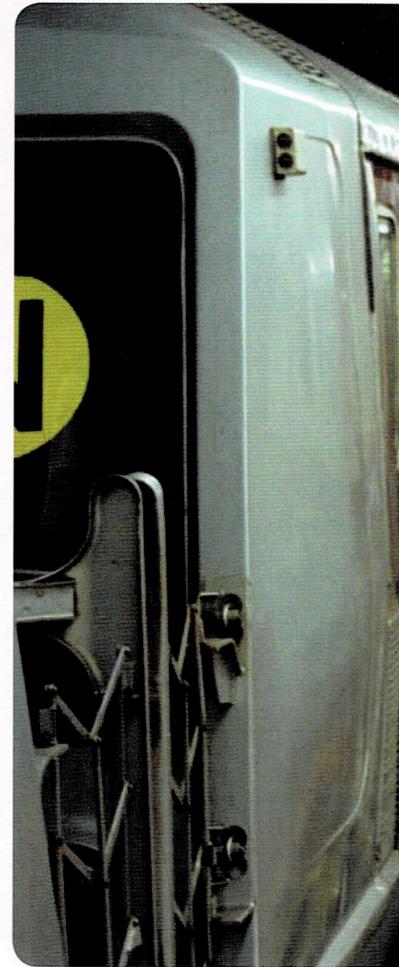
Water in the warzone Each day, thousands of women queue for water in refugee camps around Darfur.

Trouble in Darfur

In the war-torn Darfur region of Sudan, Africa, fighting over water and farmland has played a major role in the conflict. Water shortages have been made worse by drought and over-irrigation.



Women's work Some women in Africa walk 10 miles (16 km) or more each day to fetch their family's water.

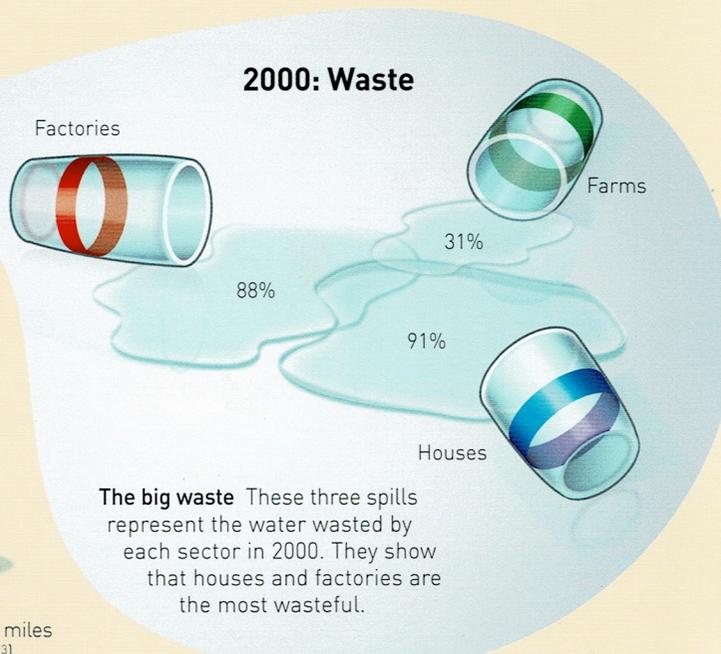
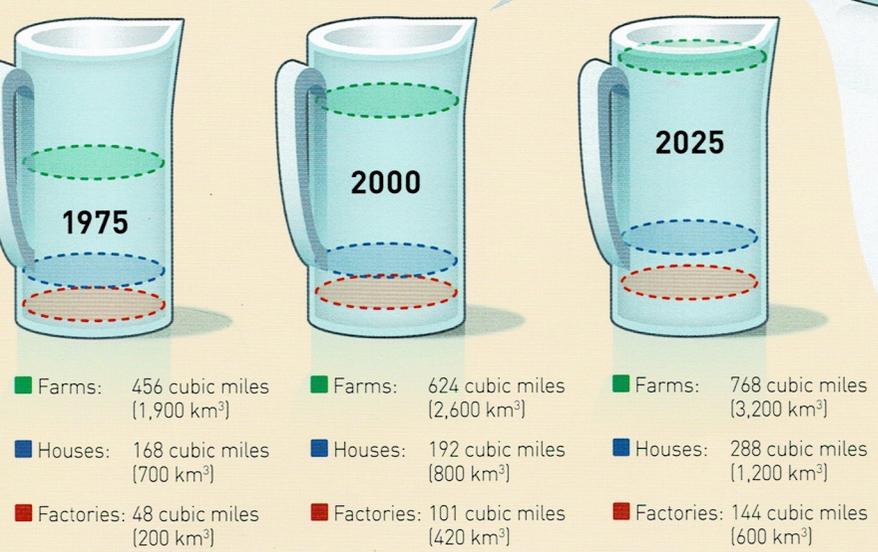




Water burst In cities with old, decaying pipes, such as London and New York, leaks and burst water mains waste millions of gallons of water each year. Here, a burst main floods the New York subway.

The big draw

The amount of water we withdraw from our limited freshwater sources is steadily increasing. These glasses show how much water is withdrawn and why, across three separate years. Of course, not all the water drawn is actually used—most is wasted.



The big waste These three spills represent the water wasted by each sector in 2000. They show that houses and factories are the most wasteful.