

SDG 6: CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



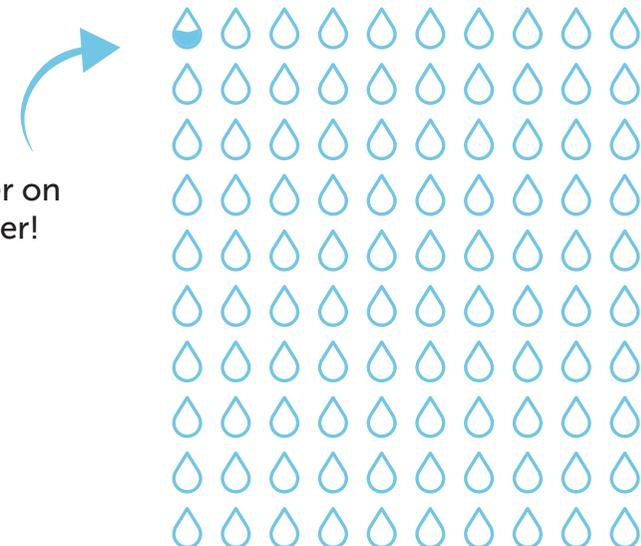
The sixth Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) emphasizes clean water and sanitation, aiming to ensure access to safe water and hygienic sanitation facilities for all while addressing the quality and sustainability of water resources. Despite its importance for human health, poverty reduction, food security, and education, billions of people still lack access to these resources, perpetuating cycles of poverty and disease. Recent global challenges such as the COVID-19 Pandemic, regional conflicts, and climate change have further exacerbated water scarcity issues, especially in vulnerable communities. Current reports indicate improvements **WASH**-related activities in rural areas but stagnation or decline in urban areas regarding access to safe drinking water and sanitation.

Water stress, scarcity, and pollution pose significant threats to people around the globe. Despite water covering much of the Earth's surface, only a tiny fraction is freshwater, with surface freshwater sources increasingly under pressure due to various factors. Freshwater withdrawals have doubled since 1960, driven by population growth and economic demands, further straining the finite renewable freshwater supply. Ensuring access to clean water and sanitation is not only essential for sustainability but also a fundamental human right crucial for inclusive growth and the well-being of current and future generations.

SDG 6 has **8 targets** and 12 indicators to track progress

- **6.1** Universal and equitable access to drinking water
- **6.2** Adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all
- **6.3** Improve water quality
- **6.4** Increase water-use efficiency and reduce water scarcity
- **6.5** Implement integrated water resources management
- **6.6** Protect and restore water-related ecosystems
- **6.A** Expand international support for WASH-related activities
- **6.B** Strengthen local participation in WASH management

Only **0.3%** of all of the water on Earth is accessible freshwater!



WASH: Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

