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What is water resilience?

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We are in the midst of a water crisis.

This crisis is driven by **excessive demand** and the combined impacts of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution. In 2019, nearly **30% of EU territory** experienced water scarcity. Since 1970, we have **lost a third** of the world's freshwater ecosystems, and **freshwater populations have decreased by 83%**.

We need our world to be more water resilient.

But what exactly is **water resilience**?

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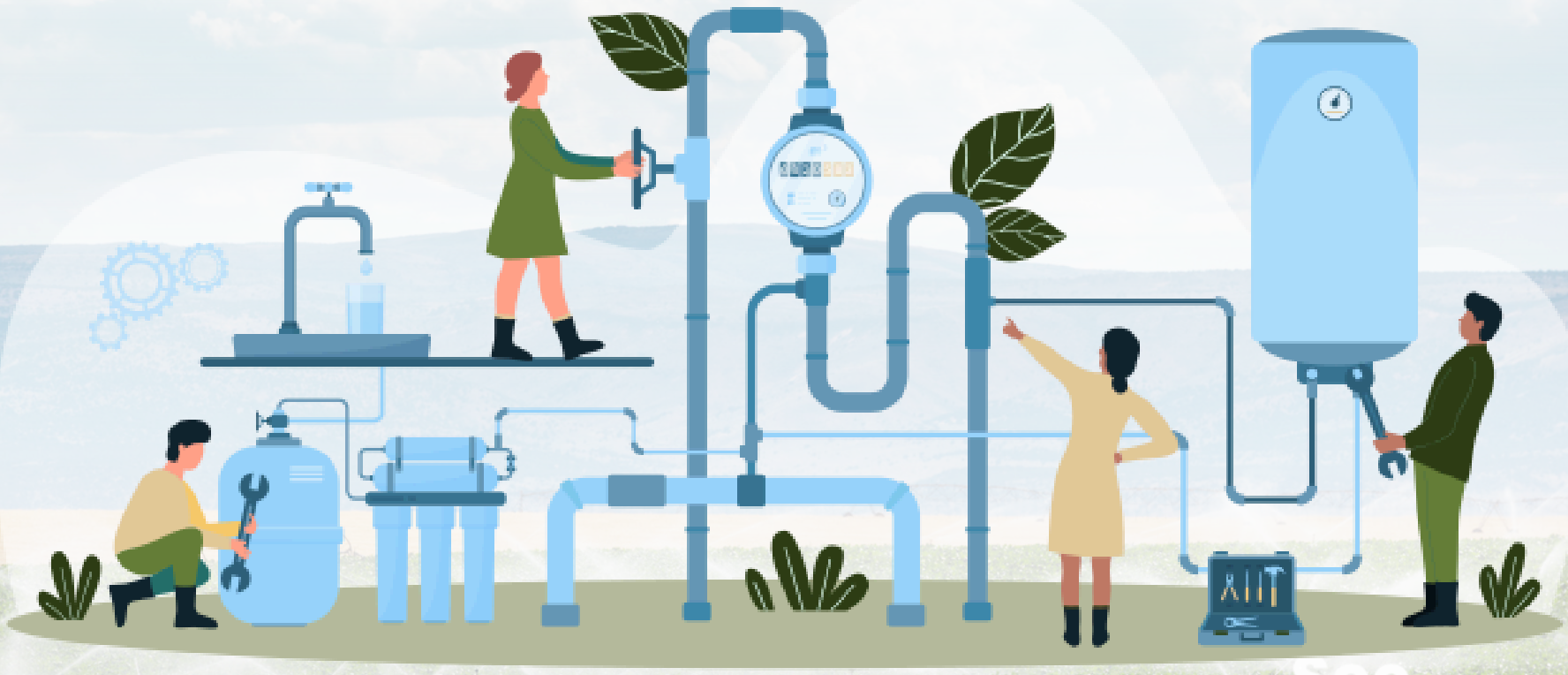
water resilience

refers to the ability of water systems and communities to **prevent**, **mitigate**, **prepare for**, **respond to**, and **recover** from water-related hazards and challenges.



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It involves **increasing the capacity to withstand and adapt to disruptions**, such as droughts, floods, and water scarcity, while ensuring the reliable provision of safe drinking water and properly treated wastewater.

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Water resilience **is essential for plants** and **ecosystems** to thrive in changing conditions.

It involves ensuring water systems can prevent, mitigate, and recover from challenges like droughts and water scarcity, supporting plant growth, biodiversity, and ecosystem health.

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Building water resilience requires a multi-faceted approach that includes:

* Conducting risk assessments and reducing vulnerabilities in water systems

* Planning and practicing emergency response to water-related crises

* Monitoring water systems for contaminants and ensuring water quality

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For plants, water resilience means:

- Adapting to water-related hazards through plant breeding
- Enhancing soil health and water retention
- Supporting sustainable agriculture practices for water conservation

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Water resilience is crucial

as water isn't just a resource; it's the lifeblood of our food, economies, and ecosystems. Without water, communities suffer, crops wither, and industries grind to a halt.

That's why we need to think big picture to find innovative solutions that benefit everyone.

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