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# Agricultural Practices Destroying the Environment

## Habitat Loss

- 50% of the world's habitable land has been converted for farming (Farming: Habitat Conversion, 2017)
- Indonesia rain forests have been cleared for the construction of palm oil plantations
- This threatens the habitats of endangered species such as the Asian elephant

### Solution: Vertical Farming

- Urban farming on the stories of buildings
- Does not require land of other habitats



<http://www.goldmanprize.org/blog/clearing-way-plantations-land-grabs-deforestation-and-endangered-species/>



<https://www.roboticsbusinessreview.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/aeroponics.jpeg>

## Water Shortages

United States:

- The agricultural sector consumes more than twice the amount of water used for municipal use (Global Agriculture)

World:

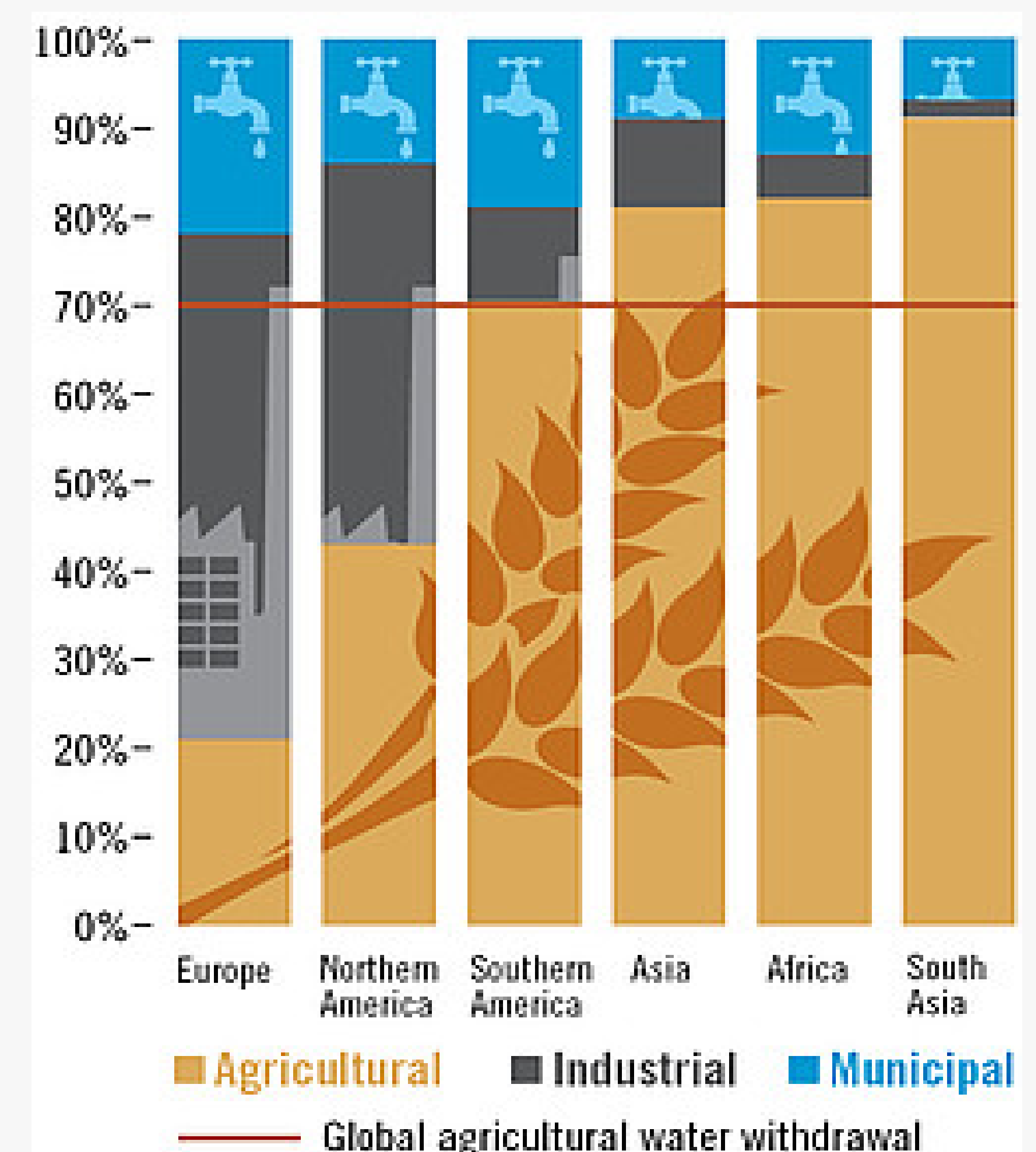
- 70% of accessible water worldwide goes to the agricultural sector (Farming: Wasteful water, 2017)

### Solutions:

- Fix leaks in irrigation systems
- Avoid over watering plants



[http://blog.farmsreach.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Water\\_Irrigation.jpg](http://blog.farmsreach.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Water_Irrigation.jpg)



<http://www.globalagriculture.org/report-topics/water.html>

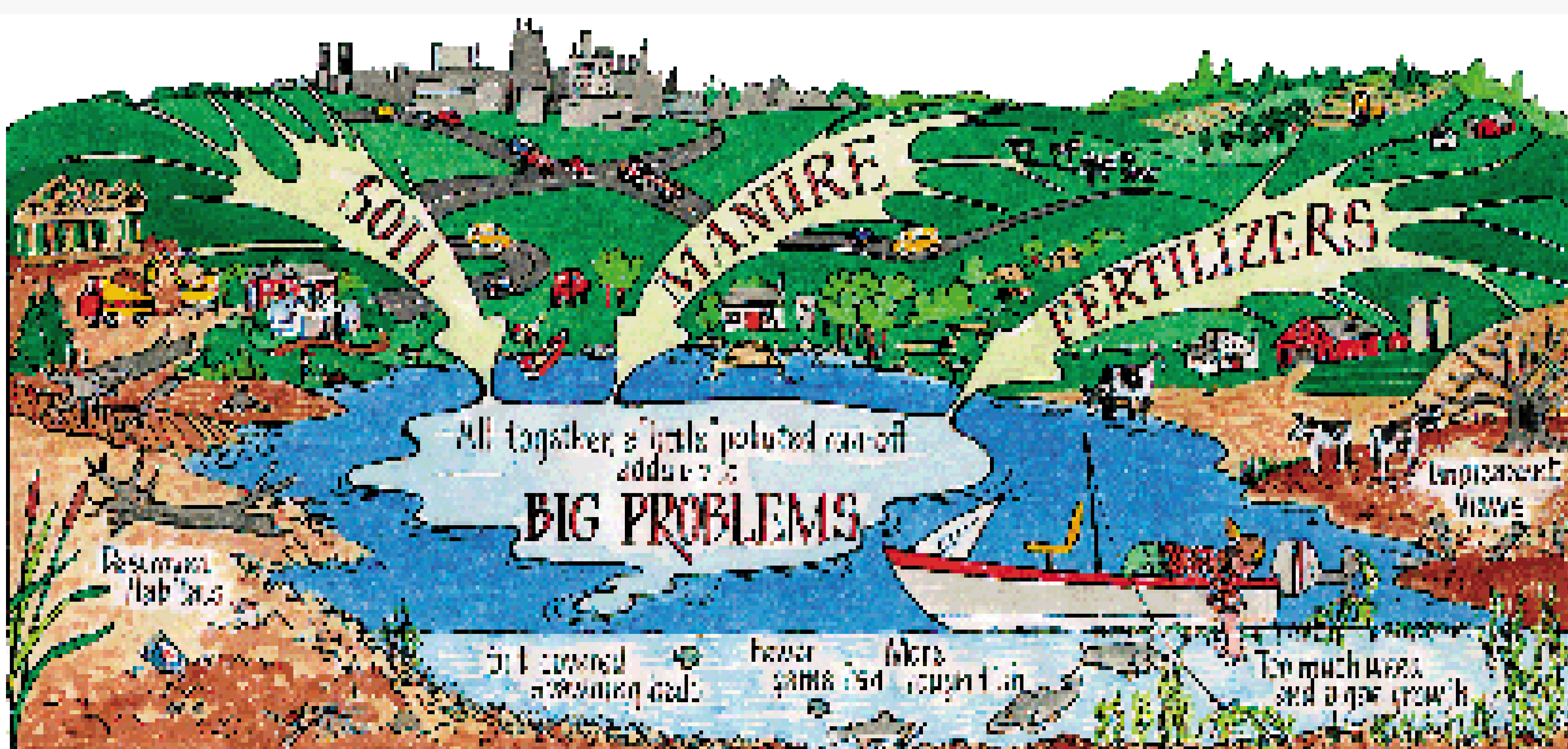
## Runoff

- Excess water from irrigation systems washes pollutants into nearby bodies of water
- In California, high levels of pesticide application caused pheasant populations to decline (Coates et al., 2017)
- Excess water used in California farming carried pesticides through streams to pheasant habitats

### Solution: Minimize Water Usage

- No excess water
- No water shortages

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