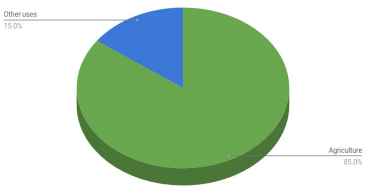
WATER IN THE MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

DRIVER

"82% of wastewater is not recycled, presenting a massive opportunity to meet water demands"



IMPACT

Irrigation of lands

Irrigation will eventually increase desert spreading, leading to even more droughts.

Loss of groundwater

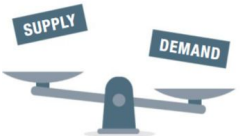
"Agricultural policies and irrigation methods used since the 1980s have been connected to the loss of two thirds of Saudi Arabia's groundwater supply."

What happens then?

This will only get worse with climate change. "Climate change is expected to bring an expected 20% reduction in rainfall and higher rates of evaporation that will make water scarcer. In Syria for example, a predicted rise in temperature, lack of rainfall and unpredictable weather could result in desertification of 60 % of its land area."

"With rainfall projected to decline by 20 to 40% in a 2°C hotter world, and up to 60% in a 4°C world, the region's capacity to provide water to its people and economies will be harshly tested."

SOLUTIONS



Recycling Wastewater

Decreases in the cost of desalination and advances in membrane technology

Effective water management

Evaluate consumption, Identify leaks, Reduce operating costs

Ensure Water Delivery

Mobile-based systems for real-time monitoring

Sources:

The World Bank: Climate Change in The Middle East & North Africa

Brookings: Is Water Scarcity Dampening Growth Prospects in the Middle East and North Africa?

The Guardian: Middle East faces water shortages for the next 25 years, study says (John Vidal, 27 august 2015)