

What is the WATER-ENERGY-FOOD-CLIMATE nexus?

WHAT

Water, energy and food security are linked. The WEF nexus is the study of the connections between these three resource sectors, together with the synergies, conflicts and trade-offs that arise from how they are managed.

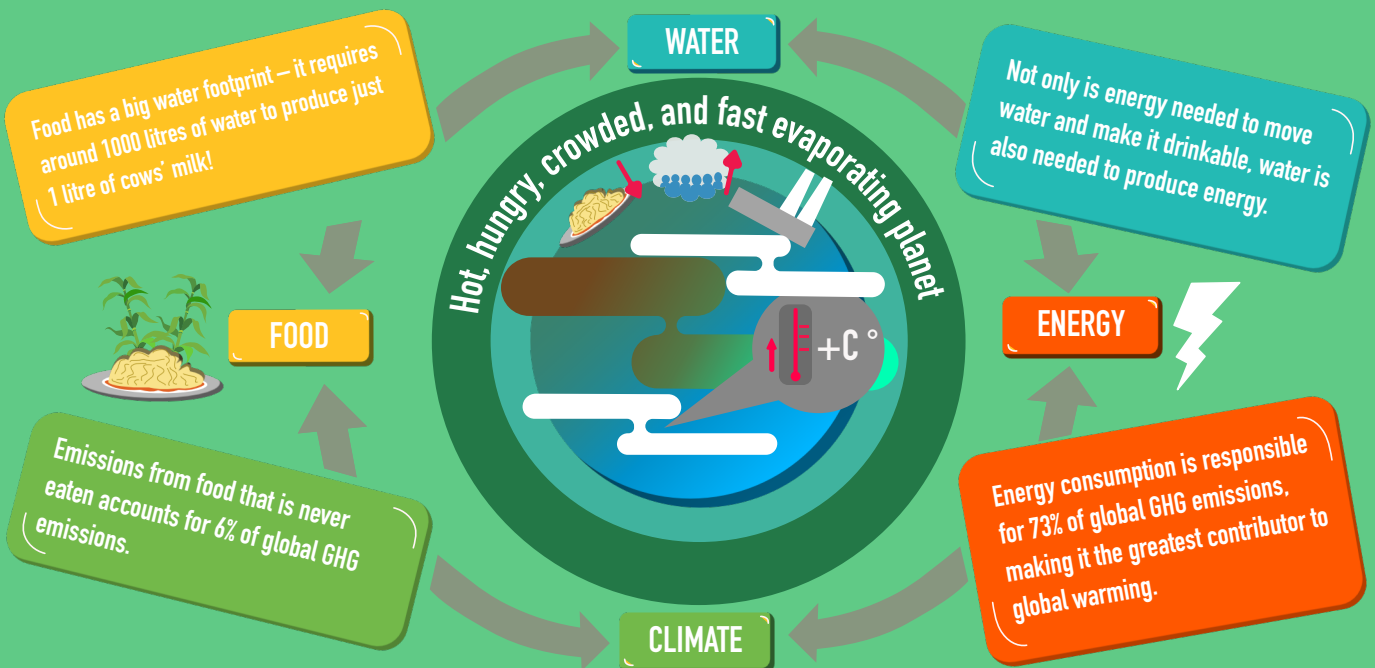
Climate change compromises resource security, both in terms of availability and accessibility. In turn, it is affected by the emissions derived from these three resource sectors.

Global population keeps growing and the demands for food, water and energy rise with it, also due to the need to reduce inequality and enhance living standards.

COVID-19

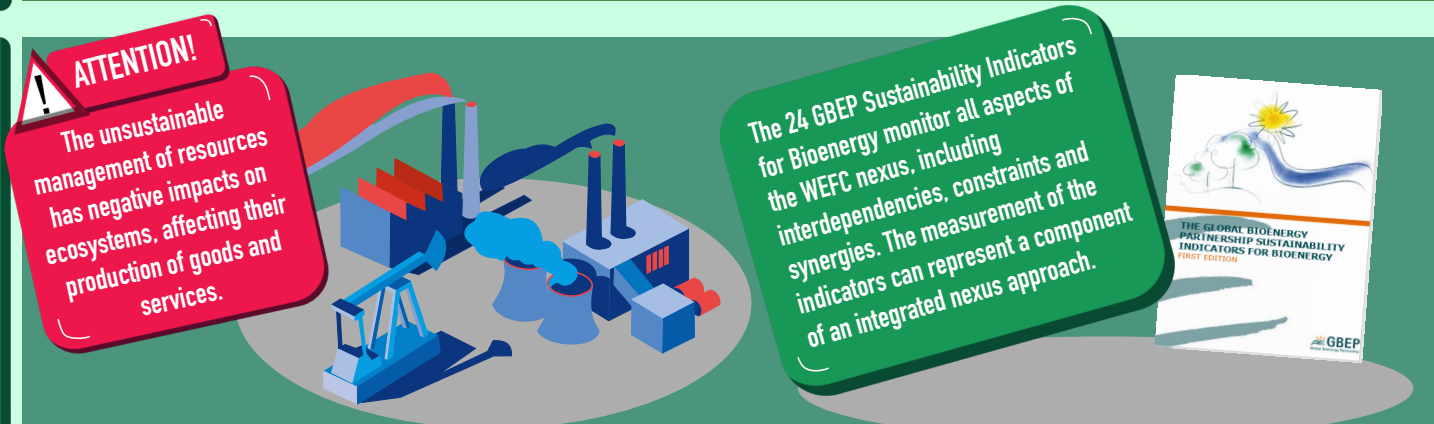
Health emergencies lead to large-scale behavioural and technological changes. Using a nexus approach can help build resilient infrastructure, whilst taking into account competing requirements.

HOW



In practice, the WEFC nexus has a **HOLISTIC** and **CROSS-SECTORAL** approach that brings all stakeholders together at the relevant scale to decide how to balance competing demands on resources.

WHY



A sustainability assessment of the WEFC nexus, which clearly indicates its spatial and temporal extent, is key to guide the design of efficient development policies and to increase resource efficiency: necessary to fulfilling the NDCs and SDGs.