

Agricultural Water Use



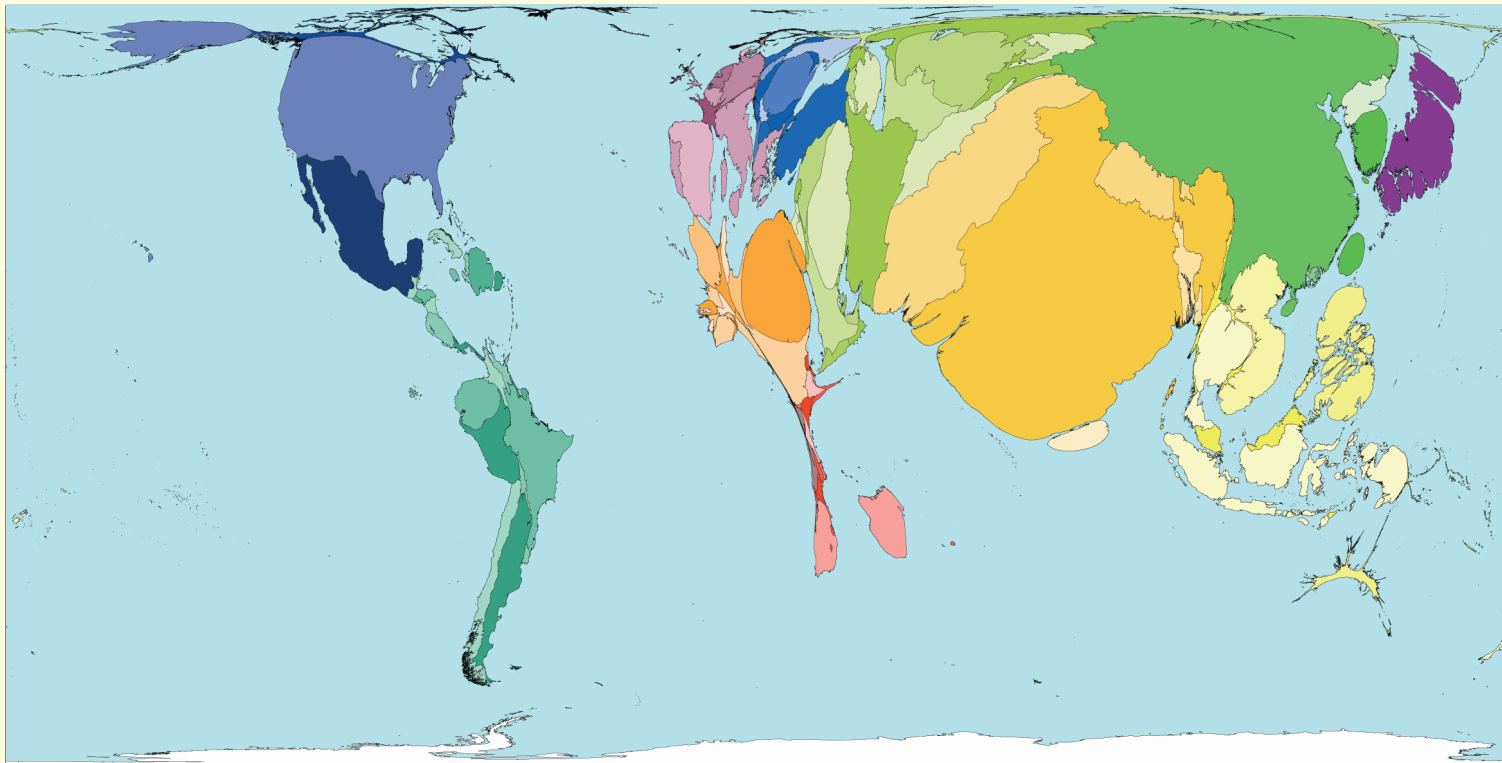
The University of Sheffield



The Leverhulme Trust



Produced by the SASI group (Sheffield) and Mark Newman (Michigan)

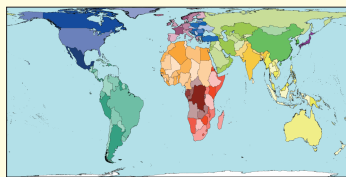


Between 1987 and 2003, on average 2.4 trillion cubic metres of water were used for agricultural purposes a year. Agricultural water includes that for irrigation and for livestock rearing.

Much of the water used for agriculture is required in Asian territories such as India, Pakistan, Nepal, China, the Philippines, Indonesia, Japan and Vietnam. There is also high per person water use in the Middle Eastern territories of Iran, Iraq, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakstan and Afghanistan.

Agricultural consumption of water resources is less where rainfall is regular, temperatures are moderate or low, fewer crops are grown, and few animals are reared.

Territory size shows the proportion of all water used for agricultural purposes that was used there, 1987 to 2003.



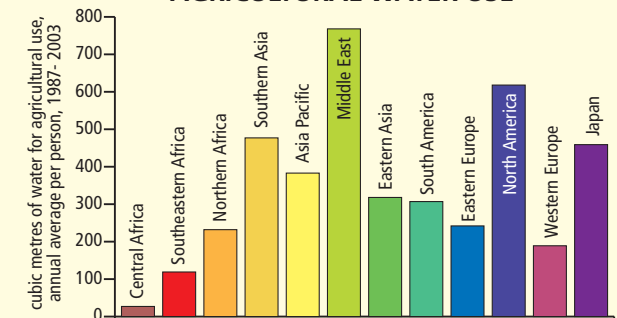
Land area

HIGH AND LOW AGRICULTURAL WATER USE

Rank	Territory	Value	Rank	Territory	Value
1	Turkmenistan	4859	190	Switzerland	6.7
2	Uzbekistan	2125	191	Slovenia	6.5
3	Kyrgyzstan	1862	192	Congo	6.1
4	Tajikistan	1766	193	United Kingdom	6.0
7	Azerbaijan	1392	194	Czech Republic	5.3
8	Nepal	1167	195	Togo	5.2
9	Costa Rica	1132	196	Uganda	4.8
10	Afghanistan	1127	197	Gabon	4.6
11	Chile	1093	198	Lithuania	2.6
12	Ecuador	1089	199	Democratic Republic of Congo	1.8

cubic metres of agricultural water use, annual average per person, 1987-2003*

AGRICULTURAL WATER USE



Technical notes

- Data are sourced from the World Bank's 2005 World Development Indicators.
- *Territories which assumed the regional average, due to missing data, are not shown in the table. Croatia reported no agricultural water use, Croatia would rank 200 in the world.
- See website for further information.

“The irrigated rice demands a regular flow of water; while millet and sorghum require a river that rises and falls naturally with the seasonal rains.”

Barbara Chasin, 1981