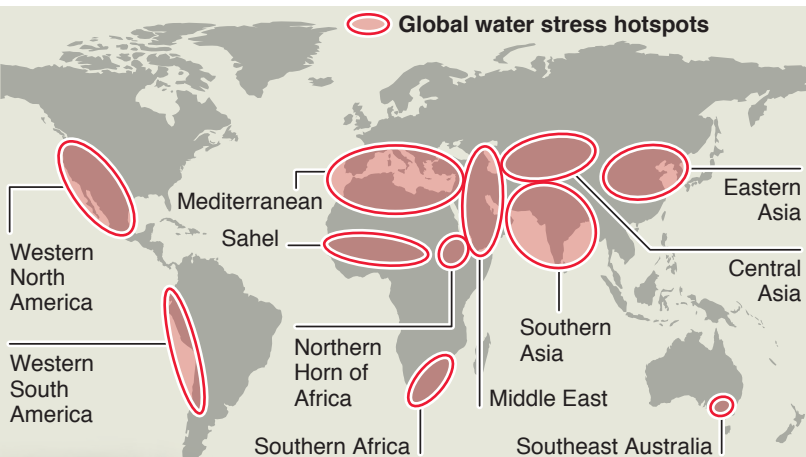


# Five billion could face water shortage by 2050

The UN World Meteorological Organisation has warned that more than five billion people could have inadequate access to water by 2050



## Regions with highest level of water stress (2018)

**Northern Africa** 109%

**Central Asia** 80%

**Southern Asia** 78%

**Western Asia** 60%

**Eastern Asia** 46%

**World** 18%

Number of people  
with inadequate  
access to water\*  
(billions)

More than  
**5.0**  
(expected  
by 2050)

**3.6**  
(2018)

*Water stress occurs  
when demand for safe,  
usable water exceeds  
available amount*

\*For at least one month per year