

FROM ACCESS TO CONSERVATION: ADDRESSING THE GLOBAL WATER ISSUE

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Abstract

Water is a fundamental necessity for the continuation of life. It is imperative for humanity that water resources are distributed fairly and managed equitably. This ensures the sustainable use of water resources and guarantees everyone access to clean and healthy water. Water resources are dwindling and becoming increasingly polluted, leading to serious issues such as water scarcity and pollution. Water scarcity refers to situations where water is inadequate or its quality has deteriorated, causing significant impacts on societies, agriculture, and ecosystems. Agriculture is particularly affected by water scarcity as it heavily relies on water. Ecosystems suffer from water scarcity as well, since water is a fundamental source of life for various organisms. Water pollution poses threats to human health and the environment. Pollutants from various sources such as industrial waste, agricultural pesticides, and domestic waste contaminate water resources, leading to reduced availability of drinking water and harming aquatic life and ecosystems, ultimately affecting biodiversity. There are several strategies for conserving water resources and ensuring clean water. Methods such as industrial waste control, improvement of agricultural practices, and domestic waste management can help prevent water pollution. Furthermore, the development of water treatment facilities and technologies plays a crucial role in making water cleaner. The impacts of climate change on water resources must also be considered. Factors such as rising temperatures, changes in rainfall patterns, and the risk of drought significantly affect water resources.

Keywords: *Water scarcity, Water resources, Water pollution, Conservation, Climate change*

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Erişimden Korumaya: Küresel Su Sorununu Ele Alma

Öz

Su, yaşamın devamı için temel bir gerekliliktir. İnsanlığın, su kaynaklarının adil bir şekilde dağıtılması ve adil bir şekilde yönetilmesi hayati önem taşımaktadır. Bu, su kaynaklarının sürdürülebilir kullanımını sağlar ve herkesin temiz ve sağlıklı suya erişimini garanti eder. Su kaynakları azalıyor ve giderek kirleniyor, bu da su kıtlığı ve kirliliği gibi ciddi sorunlara yol açıyor. Su kıtlığı, suyun yetersiz olduğu veya kalitesinin bozulduğu durumları ifade eder, bu da toplumlar, tarım ve ekosistemler üzerinde önemli etkilere neden olur. Tarım, suya ağır bir şekilde bağımlı olduğundan su kıtlığından özellikle etkilenir. Su, çeşitli organizmalar için yaşamın temel bir kaynağı olduğu için ekosistemler de su kıtlığından zarar görür. Su kirliliği, insan sağlığı ve çevre için tehditler oluşturur. Endüstriyel atıklar, tarımsal ilaçlar ve evsel atıklar gibi çeşitli kaynaklardan gelen kirleticiler, su kaynaklarının kirlenmesine neden olarak içme suyunun azalmasına ve sucul yaşamın ve ekosistemlerin zarar görmesine, sonuç olarak da biyoçeşitliliği etkiler. Su kaynaklarının korunması ve temiz suyun sağlanması için çeşitli stratejiler bulunmaktadır. Endüstriyel atık kontrolü, tarım uygulamalarının iyileştirilmesi ve evsel atık yönetimi gibi yöntemler, su kirliliğini önlemeye yardımcı olabilir. Ayrıca, suyu daha temiz hale getirmede su arıtma tesislerinin ve teknolojilerinin geliştirilmesi de hayati bir rol oynar. Su kaynakları üzerindeki iklim değişikliğinin etkileri de dikkate alınmalıdır. Artan sıcaklıklar, yağış desenlerindeki değişiklikler ve kuraklık riski gibi faktörler, su kaynaklarını önemli ölçüde etkiler.

Anahtar Kelimeler: *Su kıtlığı, Su kaynakları, Su kirliliği, Koruma, İklim değişikliği*

Introduction

The worldwide water crisis has escalated fast in recent years due to uneven distribution, wasting, and growing demand for freshwater supplies. Multiple issues, such as water pollution, poor water management practices, and the influence of climate change, contribute to the worsening of this issue.

Furthermore, the global population is consistently expanding, resulting in a heightened need for water in the realms of agriculture, industry, and households. Moreover, climate change intensifies meteorological phenomena such as droughts, floods, and unpredictable rainfall, hence diminishing the availability of water supplies. As these complex factors converge, the water crisis is deepening day by day. In this situation, it becomes increasingly imperative to manage freshwater resources sustainably worldwide.

1. Understanding Water Scarcity

Water scarcity is a critical worldwide problem caused by an unequal distribution of water resources, which leads to an inability to fulfill diverse needs such as production, living, and ecological requirements (Zhao et al., 2020). Water shortage and drought are two separate phenomena. Drought is a temporary occurrence caused by changes in climate, whereas water scarcity is an ongoing problem caused by human actions. (Loon et al., 2016; Murshed et al., 2019).

Insufficient availability of water is caused by the prolonged and unsustainable utilization of water resources, which is driven by variables such as climate change, population increase, and inadequate water management techniques (Loon & Lanen, 2013).

Water scarcity poses a dual hazard by endangering water availability and exerting adverse effects on health, migratory patterns, and socio-economic situations in regions experiencing water shortages (Dahri et al., 2021).

The issue of water scarcity is a pressing global concern that arises from a multitude of sources. An important factor contributing to this issue is the disparity between the increasing worldwide demand for water and the declining availability of freshwater (Li et al., 2020).

Furthermore, water scarcity can be impacted by both natural and anthropogenic forces. Drought circumstances can produce temporary water scarcity, but persistent water shortage can be caused by underlying factors such as unsustainable demand growth, inadequate infrastructure for water stor-

age or delivery, and limitations in water management (Martín-Carrasco et al., 2012). Human activities, such as alterations in land use and water use practices, can also influence the dynamics of water shortage, leading to the movement of water scarcity downstream (Veldkamp et al., 2017).

Various metrics, such as the Falkenmark Indicator and the water stress index, are employed to evaluate water scarcity by examining the ratio of water demand to the overall availability of water resources (Rijsberman, 2006; Liu et al., 2019). Falkenmark has determined the minimum drinking water consumption per capita in a moderately developed country located in arid and semi-arid climate regions as 100 liters per day, while the water needs for agriculture and industry are considered to range from 500 to 2000 liters per day. Taking into account the pressure on water resources during drought periods, the threshold value has been set at 1700 m³ per capita per year (equivalent to 4600 liters per day).

Inefficient irrigation techniques also contribute to the exacerbation of water scarcity, as a significant amount of the available water is utilized for irrigation purposes (Yavuz, 2021).

Additionally, the decline of the photosynthetic system in plants caused by lack of water, combined with disruptions in metabolic processes and compromised root structure, might result in a reduction in agricultural yield, hence exacerbating worries about water scarcity (Mathur & Roy, 2021). Moreover, the accelerated exhaustion of water tables on a worldwide scale as a result of an unexpectedly high water demand exacerbates the issues of water scarcity (Moncaleano et al., 2021).

To cope with water scarcity, it is essential to adopt a comprehensive approach that includes implementing effective water allocation techniques, practicing conjunctive water use, and improving water management practices. These measures are crucial for reducing the costs associated with water scarcity and ensuring the long-term sustainability of water resources (Mattiuzi et al., 2019).

1.1. The Impacts of Water Scarcity on Community, Agriculture, and Ecosystems

Water scarcity has profound effects on society, agriculture, and ecosystems. Water scarcity in communities can result in socioeconomic difficulties, impacting both livelihoods and health (Dahri et al., 2021). Water scar-

city significantly impacts the agricultural sector, leading to decreased crop yield and increased food insecurity (Nephawe et al., 2021). Furthermore, the scarcity of water has a detrimental impact on ecosystems, intensifying the consequences of other pressures and resulting in heightened pollution and disturbances in the ecological balance (Navarro-Ortega et al., 2015). Water scarcity can have far-reaching consequences on the environment, including the drying up of rivers, loss of biodiversity, and disturbances in aquatic ecosystems (Hoekstra et al., 2012). Moreover, the problem of water scarcity in agriculture can be exacerbated by salinity problems, hence amplifying the difficulties encountered by farmers (Thorslund et al., 2022). Water shortages can lead to migration, which can have a significant impact on the socio-economic structure of communities (Dahri et al., 2021). The scarcity of water also impacts the accessibility of drinkable water, which is essential for maintaining communities and facilitating population expansion (Buh et al., 2021). In addition, water scarcity has wide-ranging effects that extend beyond acute shortages. It impacts the overall quality of freshwater supplies as a result of contamination from numerous sources, such as agriculture and industry (Foster et al., 2018).

To effectively tackle water shortage, it is imperative to implement comprehensive strategies that take into account the interdependence of water resources, human activities, and natural systems, and to ensure the sustainability of water management.

According to UNICEF (2017) data, today, four billion people, constituting two-thirds of the world's population, experience severe water scarcity for at least one month each year. It is projected that by the year 2050, when the world population is expected to reach 9.5 billion, 40% of the population will suffer from water scarcity, and it is anticipated that Turkey will soon become a country experiencing water scarcity.

There are many factors contributing to water scarcity. Climate change affects the water cycle, leading to changes in precipitation patterns and increasing the frequency of droughts. Population growth increases water demand, putting pressure on available water resources. Pollution reduces the availability of usable water by contaminating water sources with industrial waste, agricultural chemicals, and domestic sewage. High levels of water consumption in agriculture, industry, and households further exacerbate water scarcity. Inadequate water management and infrastructure in some regions hinder the effective collection, storage, and distribution of water. Soil ero-

sion affects water sources by causing rivers and lakes to become muddy and turbid, reducing water quality and availability. Unequal distribution of water resources globally exacerbates water scarcity, with some regions having abundant water while others face water shortages. Addressing this complex issue requires adopting strategies such as water management, pollution control, and sustainable usage

2. Comprehending Water Pollution

Water pollution is a significant environmental concern that results from the introduction of harmful substances into water bodies, rendering the water unsuitable for its intended use. Various sources contribute to water pollution, including industrial discharges, agricultural runoff, sewage systems, and improper waste disposal (Lama et al., 2022).

The main causes of water pollution include industrialization, urbanization, domestic waste, sewage systems, and agrochemicals, which can have adverse effects on aquatic life and human well-being (Jindal et al., 2020; Hanif et al., 2020). Moreover, the discharge of domestic waste, radioactive waste, population growth, and the excessive use of pesticides and fertilizers are identified as major sources of water pollution (Haseena et al., 2017). Human activities related to land use have a notable impact on water quality (Pei et al., 2022). Additionally, emerging pollutants like microplastics have raised concerns due to their persistence and potential impacts on marine ecosystems (Fältström, 2020).

Nonpoint source pollution, particularly from agricultural areas, is a major cause of surface water contamination (Schulz, 2004). This type of pollution is challenging to address due to its complex nature (Zhou et al., 2019). Both nonpoint sources of runoff pollution and point sources of wastewater discharge contribute to water quality degradation (Chen et al., 2016). Analyzing point source pollution, especially from domestic sources, is crucial in understanding water pollution (Wang et al., 2015).

Different types of water pollution include wastewater discharge, river pollution, thermal pollution, microplastic pollution, non-point source pollution, and oil pollution. These pollutants can degrade water quality, harm aquatic organisms, and disrupt ecosystems. Efforts to combat water pollution involve implementing wastewater treatment processes, pollution prevention measures, and regulatory frameworks to mitigate pollution impacts (Ross et al., 2020). Stakeholder engagement and awareness of the causes and effects of

water pollution are essential for effective water quality management (Nare et al., 2006).

Water contamination is a multifaceted problem that necessitates comprehensive approaches to safeguard water sources and the environment. Effective collaboration among stakeholders is crucial for mitigating the detrimental impacts of pollution on ecosystems and human health. This can be achieved by comprehensively knowing the origins, factors, and categories of pollutants.

2.1. The Effects of Water Pollution on Humans and the Environment

Water pollution is a significant environmental issue with far-reaching effects on ecosystems and human health. Various studies have highlighted the diverse sources and impacts of water pollution. For instance, industrial and agricultural activities, as well as transport, contribute to water pollution by introducing contaminants of emerging concern (Morin-Crini et al., 2022).

Water pollution has become a significant concern due to industrialization, agricultural activities, and urbanization, leading to the degradation of water resources like rivers and oceans (Kamble & Kamble, 2022). The presence of pollutants in water bodies, such as heavy metals, can lead to health risks like bladder cancer, hereditary disabilities, bone distortions, miscarriages, and infertility (Ullah et al., 2022).

Various pollutants entering water bodies from human activities can have detrimental effects on human health, with implications ranging from respiratory diseases to cardiovascular issues (Jindal et al., 2020). Contaminated water can cause stomach pain and cancer. Additionally, the risk of outbreaks of water-borne diseases like cholera and hepatitis due to polluted water is a significant concern (Ogbomida & Emeribe, 2013).

Pollutants from electronic waste can affect the environment by being released into the air, water, and soil (He et al., 2022). Additionally, heavy metal pollution in water and sediments can have serious effects on aquatic ecosystems and make water unsuitable for consumption (Beale et al., 2017).

The effects of water pollution are not limited to aquatic environments; they can also impact human health. Furthermore, water pollution can lead to various health issues for individuals, such as eye inflammation, skin problems, respiratory discomfort, gastrointestinal disturbances, and fever (Gong et al., 2023).

Mitigating water pollution requires a multi-faceted approach. Studies have shown that rainfall-induced runoff from exposed streambed sediments can be a crucial source of surface water pollution (Frey et al., 2015). Additionally, the spatial distribution of pollutant discharge in water environments can be influenced by agricultural, urban, and mixed sources, necessitating targeted pollution control measures (Ren & Li, 2021). Implementing pollution control deadlines and other regulatory measures has been effective in improving water quality in rapidly urbanizing areas (Qin et al., 2014).

Water pollution has significant adverse effects on both human health and the environment. Contamination of water sources with pollutants such as heavy metals, pesticides, and pathogens poses serious risks to human populations. Studies have shown that water pollution can lead to various health issues, with diarrhea being a common disease transmitted through contaminated water sources (Liu et al., 2022). Additionally, the presence of pollutants in water bodies can result in the deterioration of food safety, increasing the risk of carcinogenic diseases and impacting human health (Lü et al., 2015).

Furthermore, unsafe drinking water due to contamination can have severe consequences on human health, leading to waterborne diseases and other health complications (Daud et al., 2017). The impact of water pollution extends beyond human health to encompass environmental degradation. Pollutants entering water bodies can harm aquatic life and disrupt ecosystems, affecting biodiversity and ecosystem services (Li et al., 2020).

Water pollution not only aggravates the deterioration of the ecological environment and endangers human health but also has a significantly negative impact on economic growth and social development (Li et al., 2022). Moreover, the presence of heavy metals in water bodies poses risks not only to human health but also to wildlife and the environment, emphasizing the need for comprehensive pollution monitoring and assessment strategies (Kumar et al., 2022).

To prevent water pollution and safeguard clean water sources, a multifaceted approach integrating various technologies and strategies is essential. One effective method is the implementation of advanced water treatments utilizing engineering and biotechnological tools. These tools, such as porous electrospun fibers embedding TiO₂ for adsorption and photocatalytic degradation of water pollutants, have shown promise in enhancing treatment efficiency and reducing energy requirements (Lee et al., 2018).

Preventing water pollution and maintaining clean water sources require a combination of advanced technologies, intelligent algorithms, and stringent policies. By implementing innovative water treatment methods, optimizing pollution prevention projects, and leveraging artificial intelligence for efficient planning, it is possible to mitigate water pollution effectively and ensure the sustainability of water resources.

2.2. Strategies for Achieving Clean Water

To achieve clean water, various strategies and approaches have been proposed in the literature. Local authorities play a crucial role in understanding and addressing the social and economic challenges within communities to provide clean water (Zindi & Shava, 2022). Human resource strategies are essential for effective clean water management, especially in addressing challenges faced by water management entities (Sakawati et al., 2019). Water pollution control strategies are vital tools to ensure the availability of safe and clean water (Rangata, 2014). Strategies involving community participation are crucial for achieving regional rural water security, particularly in areas like tropical peatlands (Herawati et al., 2021).

Developing comprehensive watershed-based approaches is imperative for protecting water quality and ensuring sustainable clean water supplies, especially with increasing population growth (Randhir & Genge, 2005). Solar-powered water-solute separation systems show promise in clean water production and treatment due to their high energy conversion efficiency (Xu et al., 2021). Efficient cleaning strategies are essential for membrane technologies used in treating various wastewater (Masse et al., 2014; Masse et al., 2015). Strategies for desalination technologies, such as controlled salt precipitation, are crucial for a sustainable clean water supply (Shi et al., 2018).

Hydrogen generation from water splitting, coupled with clean energy sources, holds the potential for achieving clean and sustainable societies (Guo, 2023). Efficient cleaning procedures are vital for maintaining the performance of reverse osmosis membranes processing wastewater, emphasizing the need for effective cleaning strategies (Rumbau et al., 2016). Factors like temperature, shear stress, and cleaning solution concentration play a role in enhancing cleaning effectiveness (Fan et al., 2023). Innovative approaches like in situ electrochemical generation of reactive chlorine species have shown superior performance in membrane self-cleaning compared to conventional methods (Wang et al., 2020).

2.3. How to Prevent Water Pollution

To prevent water pollution, a comprehensive approach is essential. Addressing pollution sources is paramount, which includes implementing safe agricultural practices, treating industrial waste before discharge, and controlling pollution at its origin (Sahoo & Goswami, 2024; Abdallah et al., 2022). For example, utilizing phytoremediation methods to treat industrial liquid waste before its release into the environment can significantly reduce water pollution (Widyastuti & Suprayitno, 2020). Additionally, the enforcement of international agreements by governments plays a crucial role in reducing water pollution (Abdallah et al., 2022).

In terms of technological solutions, incorporating advanced methods such as porous electrospun fibers embedding TiO_2 for adsorption and photocatalytic degradation of water pollutants can enhance the efficiency of water treatment processes (Lee et al., 2018).

Water contamination has wide-ranging and significant impacts, affecting several aspects such as human health, ecosystems, agriculture, and the economy. Drinking water that is contaminated can result in a range of health problems, as well as negatively impacting aquatic organisms, altering the balance of ecosystems, and contributing to the extinction of species. Water contamination leads to substantial economic damage in industries such as tourism, fishing, and manufacturing. Hence, it is crucial to take measures to minimize water contamination and safeguard water resources.

A modern approach to preventing the effects of water pollution involves the development of remediation methods using microorganisms and plants. By targeting the origins of pollution, employing cutting-edge treatment techniques, and harnessing the power of artificial intelligence, substantial advancements can be made in the preservation of water resources.

If immediate measures are not taken, the environmental, economic, and social harm will intensify, causing a decline in the availability of clean water, which is crucial for maintaining a healthy and sustainable lifestyle, ultimately leading to water crises. Entrepreneurial strategies need to be devised and executed on both local and global scales to tackle the consequences of water contamination.

3. Examining Climate Change

Climate change is the persistent modification of temperature and usual weather patterns in a certain location over a prolonged period. Climate change is a progressive phenomenon that can result in a range of outcomes, including heightened precipitation, intensified erosion, periods of drought, excessive water, floods, landslides, and implications for human well-being (Lestari, 2023). The enduring impacts and repercussions of climate change are now deemed irreversible as a result of both direct and indirect anthropogenic actions, alongside natural fluctuations (Bulut & Özden, 2023). Climate change poses a substantial risk to the survival and ongoing progress of civilization (Han et al., 2022). Individuals' thoughts and attitudes regarding climate change are pivotal in determining their inclination to engage in efforts aimed at alleviating its impacts. Research conducted by Blennow et al. (2012) has demonstrated a significant correlation between personal characteristics, such as the intensity of belief in the local consequences of climate change, and individuals' responses to climate change. Research has also shown that having information about climate change can have a positive impact on public discussions about the topic (Guy et al., 2014). Moreover, a thorough understanding of the factors that contribute to climate change and its consequences is crucial for encouraging proactive measures and mitigating the associated hazards (Dorji et al., 2021).

3.1. The Effects of Climate Change on Water Resources

Climate change has profound effects on water resources worldwide. Climate change can cause changes in the patterns of precipitation and temperature, which can in turn affect the distribution of water resources. This can lead to variations in the availability of water (Abbaspour et al., 2009). In addition, climate change has the potential to lengthen periods of low rainfall in arid regions, which can have a significant impact on the availability of water resources, particularly in places that do not have access to dependable underground water supplies (Green et al., 2011). Climate change significantly affects the global water supply. Studies have shown that climate change alters precipitation patterns, which in turn impacts the availability of water resources (Alcamo et al., 2007). The relationship between climate change and water supply is complex and varies across different geographic regions (Khôl et al., 2021). Fluctuations in the rela-

tionship between tree growth and water availability, which can impact the productivity of forests and the storage of carbon, can be attributed to many variables such as elevated levels of CO₂ and alterations in patterns of precipitation (Maxwell et al., 2019). Moreover, it is expected that climate change will alter hydrological processes and the overall availability of water worldwide (Touseef et al., 2021).

Climate change can have a considerable impact on the hydroclimatology of river basins, affecting the availability of water and techniques for managing it (Setegn et al., 2011). In addition, the impacts of climate change on water resources are not restricted to natural ecosystems but also affect communities that depend on these resources (Novruzova, 2022). Addressing climate change is essential to minimize the negative effects it has on water resources (Kundzewicz et al., 2008). Climate change has an impact on both surface water and groundwater resources, which might have consequences for water security (Green et al., 2011). Climate change can affect groundwater levels, recharge rates, and contributions to baseflow, which in turn can alter the overall availability of water (Dennis & Dennis, 2012). Furthermore, climate change has the potential to worsen the risks and expenses related to the management of water resources, impacting both the amount and quality of available water (Hamidi et al., 2021).

To summarize, climate change has complex and wide-ranging effects on water resources, including hydrology, water availability, and management. Implementing mitigation techniques is crucial for minimizing the negative impacts of climate change on water resources and ensuring sustainable water management in the context of changing climatic circumstances.

4. Ensuring Fair and Equal Access to Water

Ensuring fair and equal access to water is essential for promoting sustainable development and safeguarding public health. The process entails tackling discrepancies in the availability and allocation of water to provide equitable and impartial access to this important resource for all individuals. Multiple studies highlight the importance of governance, policy interventions, and community engagement in attaining fair and equal access to water resources (Schattman et al., 2020; Woodhouse & Müller, 2017).

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, the importance of water has heightened significantly as it plays a crucial role in maintaining hygiene and sanitation

practices that are vital for limiting the transmission of the virus (Zhang et al., 2022; Warner et al., 2020). The absence of universal service obligations and disconnection protections in some areas underscores the need for more robust governance mechanisms to preserve water access during emergencies (Warner et al., 2020).

The fair distribution of water resources is intricately connected to larger concerns of equal access to healthcare and fairness in society. Research emphasizes the need to tackle structural obstacles that impede underprivileged people, such as disabled individuals, from obtaining clean water and sanitation services (Kumwenda, 2019; White et al., 2016). To promote inclusivity and fairness in the distribution of resources, it is essential to consider the special requirements of disadvantaged people when making efforts to ensure equal access to water.

Equitable access to water is crucial for sustainable agricultural practices and adapting to climate change in the field of agriculture (Kabire et al., 2017; Schattman et al., 2020). The significance of equitable water distribution methods for sustaining agricultural operations and livelihoods is emphasized by the perspectives and recommendations of farmers (Khepar et al., 2000; Kabir et al., 2017). To ensure fair and equal access to water, it is essential to adopt a holistic approach that combines effective administration, well-designed policy frameworks, active involvement of communities, and a specific emphasis on meeting the requirements of marginalized populations. By placing a high importance on justice and inclusivity in the management of water resources, communities can move forward in their efforts to guarantee that every individual has sufficient and equal access to this essential resource.

Every organism on Earth, encompassing flora, fauna, and mankind, possesses the entitlement to obtain water. Every living organism has an inherent entitlement to an ample supply of uncontaminated water. Presently, around two billion individuals across the globe are encountering challenges in obtaining access to water. Private enterprises, anticipating a growing need for freshwater, lobby for the privatization of water, perceiving it as a profitable commodity. Nevertheless, the availability of water is an essential entitlement for all living organisms in the natural world and should never be seen as a commodity. By 2040, Turkey is projected to experience one of the most acute water shortages compared to other countries. Notwithstanding these predictions, the procedures for implementing essential actions in Turkey are progress-

ing at a sluggish pace. Without prompt intervention, the progression of time draws us nearer to a future in which water scarcity will emerge as a substantial concern.

5. Water Policy and Management

Efficient water governance is essential for ensuring sustainable water management and tackling water-related issues. The process entails the synchronization of stakeholders, policies, and practices to effectively oversee the utilization of water resources. Water governance encompasses the systems and processes that determine the distribution of power, rights, decision-making, and priorities related to water resources and communities. It plays a crucial role in defining the way water is managed and utilized (Katusiime & Schütt, 2020). Water governance plays a crucial role in attaining sustainable development goals, advancing environmental sustainability, and enhancing social well-being (Ahmed & Araral, 2019).

Efficient water governance is crucial for attaining sustainable water management, encompassing economic, social, and environmental dimensions (Aparco et al., 2022). Sustainable water management entails the efficient control of water resources to avoid environmental harm and assure optimal utilization (Hidayat & Dewi, 2022). The cited study by Ashfaq et al. (2018) highlights the significant contribution of this factor in advancing environmental sustainability, societal well-being, and economic stability. It is imperative to implement sustainable water resource management in order to safeguard and rehabilitate water-related ecosystems and promote the effective utilization of natural resources (Díaz-Vázquez et al., 2021).

In order to attain sustainable water management, it is crucial to take into account the natural constraints and enhance societal welfare, while also addressing a wide range of water requirements (Poff et al., 2009). Creating frameworks for regional environmental flow standards can aid in the management of river flows to maintain or restore the ecological integrity of impacted ecosystems (Richter et al., 2003). Incorporating risk management strategies can provide motivation for efficient and enduring local water management (Grey-Gardner, 2008).

In addition, sustainable water management include the active involvement of stakeholders, the implementation of risk management measures, and the efficient provision of water to meet the demands of communities for

their well-being (Widiarto et al., 2023). The approach described by Eller et al. (2016) is ongoing and aims to persuade decision-makers and stakeholders to implement behaviors that promote the long-term sustainability of water resources. Zhang and Xia (2009) argue that integrating hydrological and ecological processes is crucial for the successful implementation of sustainable water resources management, which is necessary to preserve ecological integrity and promote societal well-being.

The management of water resources is intricately linked to democratic values and human rights, underscoring the significance of democratic administration in guaranteeing universal access to uncontaminated water for every individual (Schiel et al., 2020).

Sustainable water management is a holistic approach that balances the economic, social, and environmental needs while guaranteeing the ongoing availability and quality of water resources through cooperation, minimizing risks, and ongoing enhancements.

Conclusion

With modern life, the processes of industrialization, agricultural irrigation, climate change, and population increase have collectively contributed to the decline in global water resources, resulting in a state of water scarcity.

Water pollution, wasteful use of water, and population growth increase our need for water and lead to water scarcity. By 2040, Turkey, with a projected population of over 100 million, is anticipated to face water scarcity, similar to other some nations.

The lack of water presents a complex and diverse danger to the worldwide economy, affecting various sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, and home water provision. This phenomenon results in a decline in agricultural output, scarcity of food, and a rise in food costs, which harm the income of farmers and the regional gross domestic product.

Projections indicate that around 6 billion individuals may experience water scarcity by 2050, emphasizing the immediate necessity for action. The issue is worsened by factors such as population increase, consumption habits, climate change, and inadequate water management organizations. The limited availability of water also hampers the global trading system, highlighting the importance of sustainable water management for ensuring economic stability and progress. Addressing the issue of water shortage is

crucial to reduce economic risks and guarantee long-term stability in the global economy.

To restrict water usage and safeguard freshwater reserves, it is imperative to enact national water regulations and guarantee sustainable management of domestic water resources. Emphasis should be placed on societal education to enhance knowledge of water conservation.

Water resources should never be privatized, and universities, civil society organizations, unions, professional associations, and municipalities should be included in water management bodies. Water ought to be acknowledged not as a commodity, but as a communal legacy, and water reserves should be diligently conserved. It is necessary to define and distribute legal regulations for the usage of wastewater. Agriculture should employ appropriate irrigation technologies, and farmers should receive comprehensive training in irrigation techniques.

Future water management endeavors will necessitate inventive ideas, cooperative alliances, and comprehensive approaches. By adopting these approaches, communities can strengthen their ability to withstand water-related challenges, preserve natural habitats, and ensure the availability of water for future descendants.

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