

# NO BORDERS. NO BARRIERS. JUST WATER.



## BACKGROUND

Water insecurity is a growing global crisis, hitting marginalised communities hardest.

This crisis is driven by poor infrastructure, weak governance, conflict, and climate change.

Oxfam's Water War Crimes report exposes how Israel has weaponised water in Gaza—an extreme example of how water is used to control and oppress. Even in peaceful countries, the way water is managed often leaves out poor communities—following patterns set during colonial times.

Climate change is making the water crisis worse. Rich countries cause most of the pollution, but poorer countries suffer the most. Even though they're hit hardest, they get very little help. If we don't act soon, the people least to blame will keep paying the highest price.



**RIGHT NOW, 1 IN 4 PEOPLE DON'T HAVE CLEAN WATER AT HOME.**



**THAT'S LIKE EVERY PERSON IN EUROPE GOING WITHOUT SAFE WATER.**

**BY 2030, THE WORLD COULD RUN 40% SHORT ON CLEAN WATER.**



**THAT'S LIKE THE ENTIRE POPULATIONS OF INDIA AND THE UNITED STATES COMBINED GOING WITHOUT CLEAN WATER.**



WATER. JUSTICE. SURVIVAL. ACTION. DIGNITY. TOGETHER.

## OXFAMS WORK IN WATER

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES TO ACCESS SAFE WATER IN A CHANGING CLIMATE



WORKING TOGETHER TO TACKLE WATER CHALLENGES THROUGH LOCAL LEADERSHIP, CLIMATE ACTION, AND INCLUSIVE SOLUTIONS.

- Emergency response: Delivers clean water and sanitation in crises, while supporting long-term resilience in fragile areas.
- Cross-border cooperation: Strengthens fair water sharing and river protection through community-led governance in Asia and Africa.
- Research and innovation: Partnering with local actors to study climate impacts on water and develop practical tools for adaptation.
- Advocacy and campaigns: Builds collective action to push for fair water policies and funding, especially in climate-affected regions.
- Climate-resilient solutions: Supports locally driven water systems that are inclusive, sustainable, and built to withstand climate change.

# OUR KEY MESSAGES

## Support river communities on the frontlines.

Climate funding must reach river-based communities living in fragile and politically complex regions. These communities are most at risk and need fair, inclusive support.



## Make climate finance fair and people-focused.

Climate funding should be designed and reviewed with local people's rights in mind. Everyone should have a say in how funds are used.

## Put water at the heart of climate plans.

Governments must include water in all climate strategies—from disaster planning to national commitments. Donors and UN agencies should back this with flexible, transparent funding.



## Invest in climate-smart water, sanitation, and hygiene.

Water and sanitation services must be built to cope with climate change. Local leadership and funding are key to making this work.

## Protect water in times of conflict.

Water is a human right—even during war. We must stop attacks on water systems and ensure access for all, everywhere.



## Govern water by nature, not borders.

Water doesn't follow political lines. Governments should manage water by river basins and watersheds, with everyone at the table.

**\$7  
TRILLION**

The world needs to raise up to \$7 trillion by 2030 to fix broken water systems and meet global water goals. Right now, almost all water funding comes from governments, 91%—while the private sector contributes less than 2%. To close this gap, we need better policies, more trust, and smarter ways to fund lasting water solutions.

**LESS THAN  
2%**

To truly tackle the climate crisis, we must stop treating water as an afterthought.

**Water justice is climate justice**—and that means ensuring fair access to water for all, especially women and marginalised communities.

If we want real progress, water must be front and centre in climate talks, funding decisions, and global action.

**Without it, we're leaving the most urgent part of the puzzle unsolved.**