

THE THREE ERAS OF WATER

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Infographic is based on Peter Gleick's essay, "Facing Down The Hydro-Crisis," and originally appeared in the book, Safe Agua (@2010 Designmatters at Art Center College of Design). "Facing Down The Hydro-Crisis" was originally published in the World Policy Journal (@2009 World Policy Institute. Used by permission).

LEGEND

- People
- Deaths
- Water
- Food Production
- Water Wells
- Village
- Childbirth Complications
- Plague/Disease
- Starvation

BEGINNING OF CIVILIZATION THE FIRST WATER ERA RELYING ON NATURE'S WATER SOURCES

THE HYDROLOGIC CYCLE

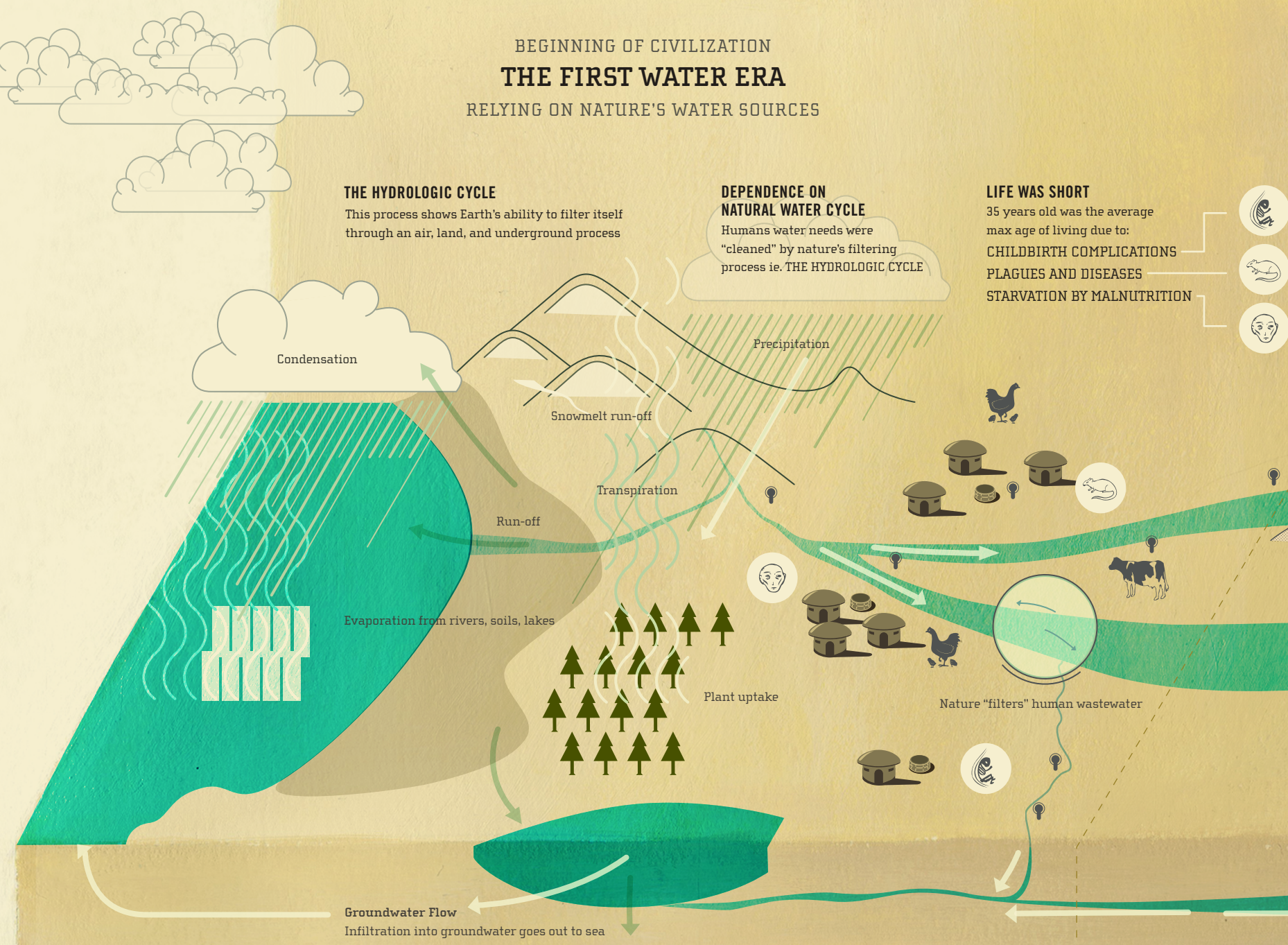
This process shows Earth's ability to filter itself through an air, land, and underground process

DEPENDENCE ON NATURAL WATER CYCLE

Humans water needs were "cleaned" by nature's filtering process ie. THE HYDROLOGIC CYCLE

LIFE WAS SHORT

35 years old was the average max age of living due to:
CHILDBIRTH COMPLICATIONS
PLAGUES AND DISEASES
STARVATION BY MALNUTRITION



START OF 1800's THE SECOND WATER ERA MANIPULATING WATER SOURCES

HUMANS MANIPULATE WATER CYCLE

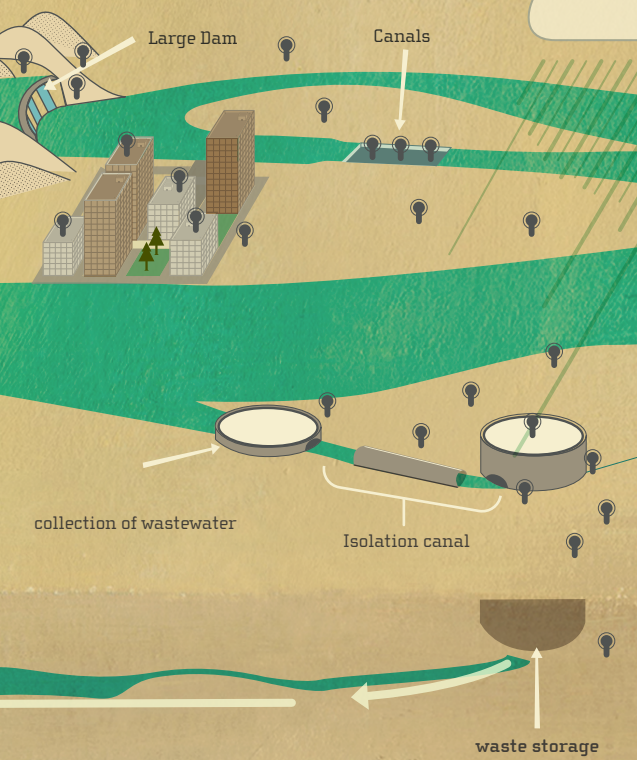
A higher standard of living is achieved through innovations in water technology such as DAMS, IRRIGATION, and CANALS

WASTEWATER IS COLLECTED & ISOLATED

Canals help strain dirty water out of main tanks, thus less deaths occur in the big cities.

POPULATION WAS LIVING LONGER

With less water-related diseases affecting communities, less people were dying.



1950's-PRESENT THE THIRD WATER ERA MASSIVE GLOBAL CRISIS

OVER-DEVELOPMENT

New industries, economic growth, and new technology add to the demand of water world-wide.

FAILURE TO INTEGRATE

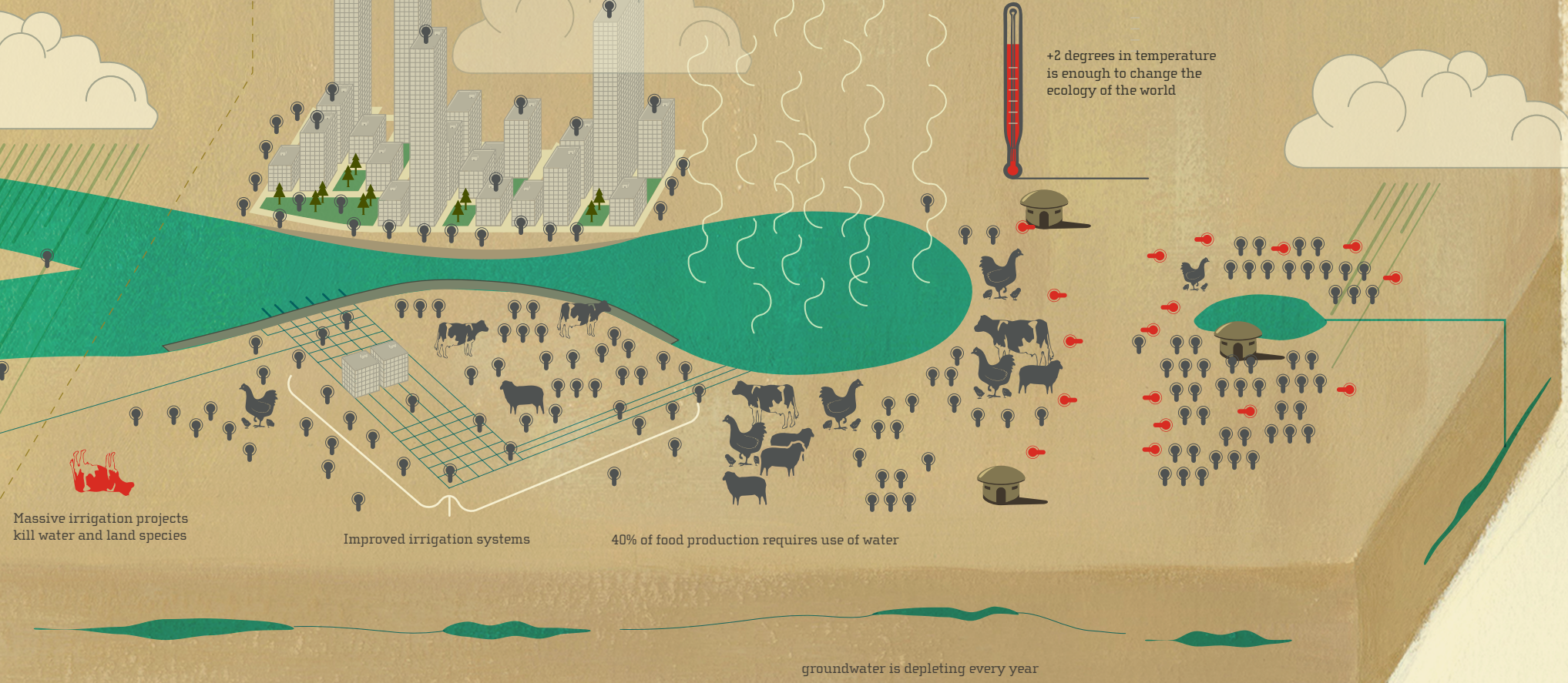
Competition for water use will get bigger if the integration of development and resource use will not be implemented

MAJOR PROBLEM: LACK OF ACCESS

1/3rd of the world's population currently lack access to water
2.5 MILLION DEATHS OCCUR EACH YEAR W/ NO WATER

EARTH'S CLIMATE IS CHANGING

Temperatures are rising, and the need for water will too
THE PRECIPITATION CYCLE WILL CHANGE AS A RESULT



THE CODE OF HAMMURABI was the first law that dealt with water issues

The total amount of water on the planet is fixed—neither growing nor shrinking.

Water-borne diseases like Cholera, was responsible for most deaths

The world of water is changing— not just how much water is available, or who controls it, but the whole way we think about and manage this precious commodity.

Between 2004 and 2006, at least 250 people were killed and many more injured in Somalia and Ethiopia in fighting over water wells and pastoral lands.

Nations are fighting for water resources, and not winning.

One major problem is consumption of food: 40% of all food production of all levels require water.