• Water covers 75% of the Earth’s surface: 97.5% is salt water, only 2.5% is freshwater.

• Icecaps and glaciers hold 74% of the world’s freshwater. Most of the remaining freshwater is found deep underground, or locked in soils as moisture. Only 0.3% of the world’s freshwater is found in rivers or lakes.

• There are 92 rivers and 232 rivulets in Mauritius. The longest river is Grande Rivière Sud Est.

• 61% of our freshwater consumption is from rivers and streams. Around 46 rivers are used for the supply of freshwater.

• Main uses of freshwater: agricultural 43%; hydropower 32%; domestic, industrial and tourism 25%.

• There is a wide diversity of freshwater fish and macro crustaceans in the rivers of Mauritius, but their populations are decreasing due to the decreasing quality of water.