



# WATER

**Fresh water is crucial to human society – not just for drinking but also for farming, washing and many other activities**

## **Distribution of water on the planet:**

- 97.5 % of our water is salty
- 2.5 % only is fresh water of which:
  - 69 % is snow and ice
  - 30 % is Groundwater
  - 1% is surface water (lakes, rivers and so on)

DISTRIBUTION OF FRESH WATER



## **Various climate change-related impacts have been observed in the water sector in Mauritius:**

- a decreasing trend in annual precipitation of about 8% when comparing 1951-1960 and 1998-2008 figures
- an increase in rainfall variability with heavy rainfall events on the rise
- the duration of the transitional dry months between winter and summer is becoming longer



## **Projections in Mauritius indicate that the utilizable water resources may decrease by up to 13% by 2050 if no action is taken**

### **The impacts of climate change on water availability and water quality will affect many sectors including:**

- Agriculture
- Ecosystems
- Human Health
- Energy
- Tourism
- Industrial



## **Adaptation Policies**

- Increase water use efficiency at household and other level
- Protection of water sheds
- Expand water storage by constructing new dams
- Avoid water wastages

