

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ON HEALTH

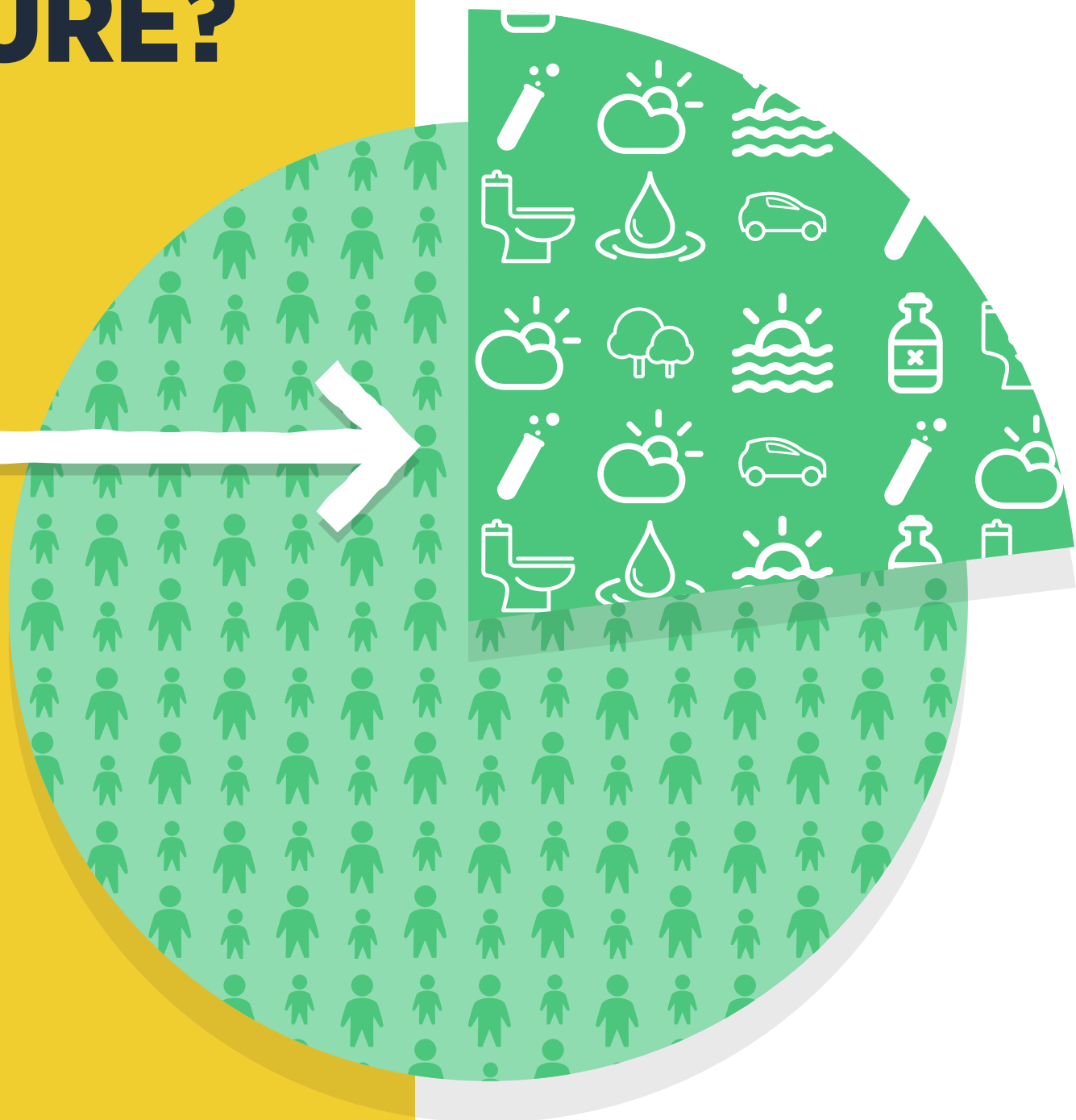
# WHAT IS THE BIG PICTURE?

FACT:

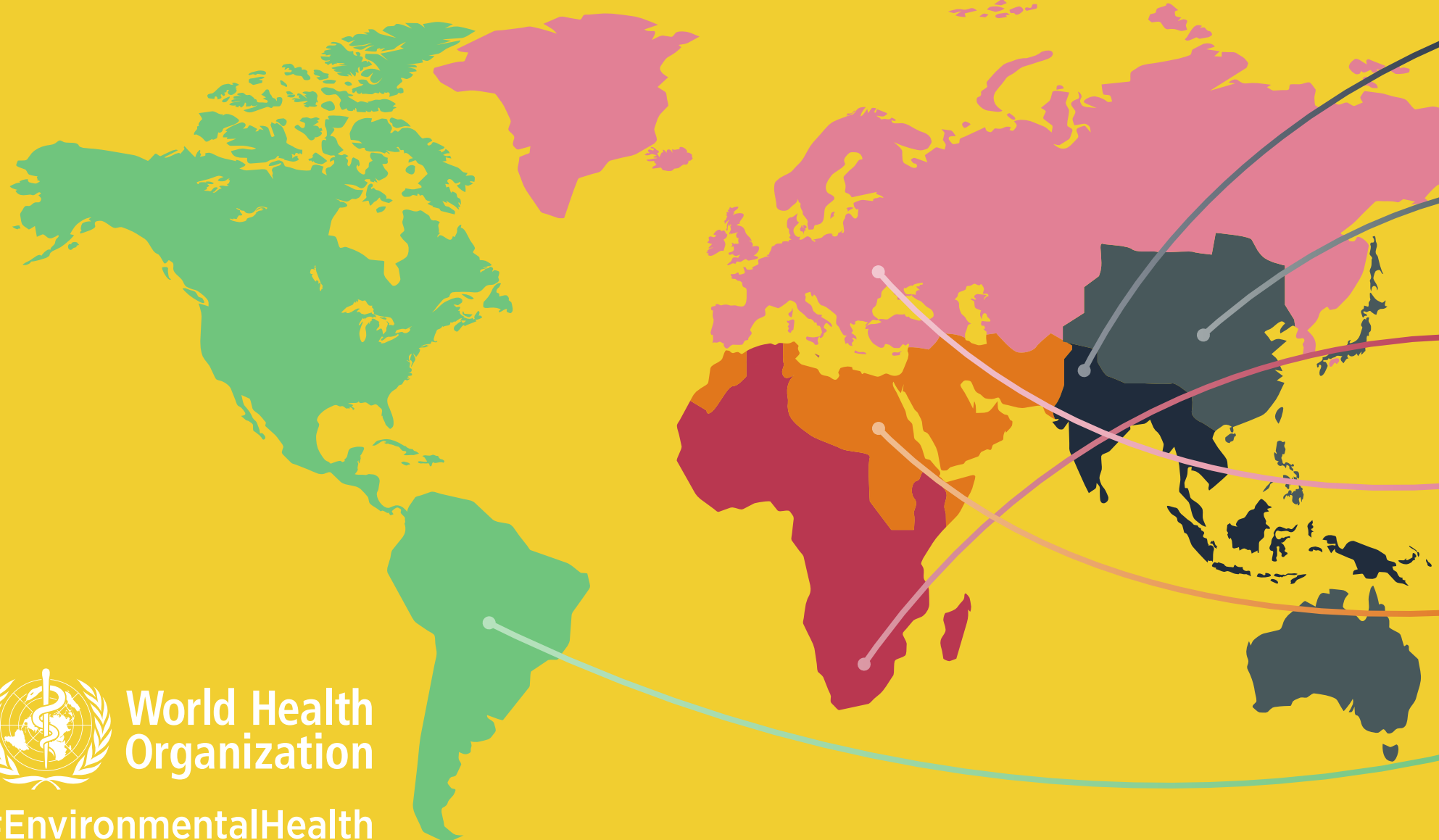
# 23%

of all global deaths are linked to the environment.

That's roughly **12.6 million deaths** a year.



## WHERE IS IT HAPPENING?



**3.8 million**  
in South-East Asia Region

**3.5 million**  
in Western Pacific Region

**2.2 million**  
in Africa Region

**1.4 million**  
in European Region

**854 000**  
in Eastern Mediterranean Region

**847 000**  
in the Region of the Americas

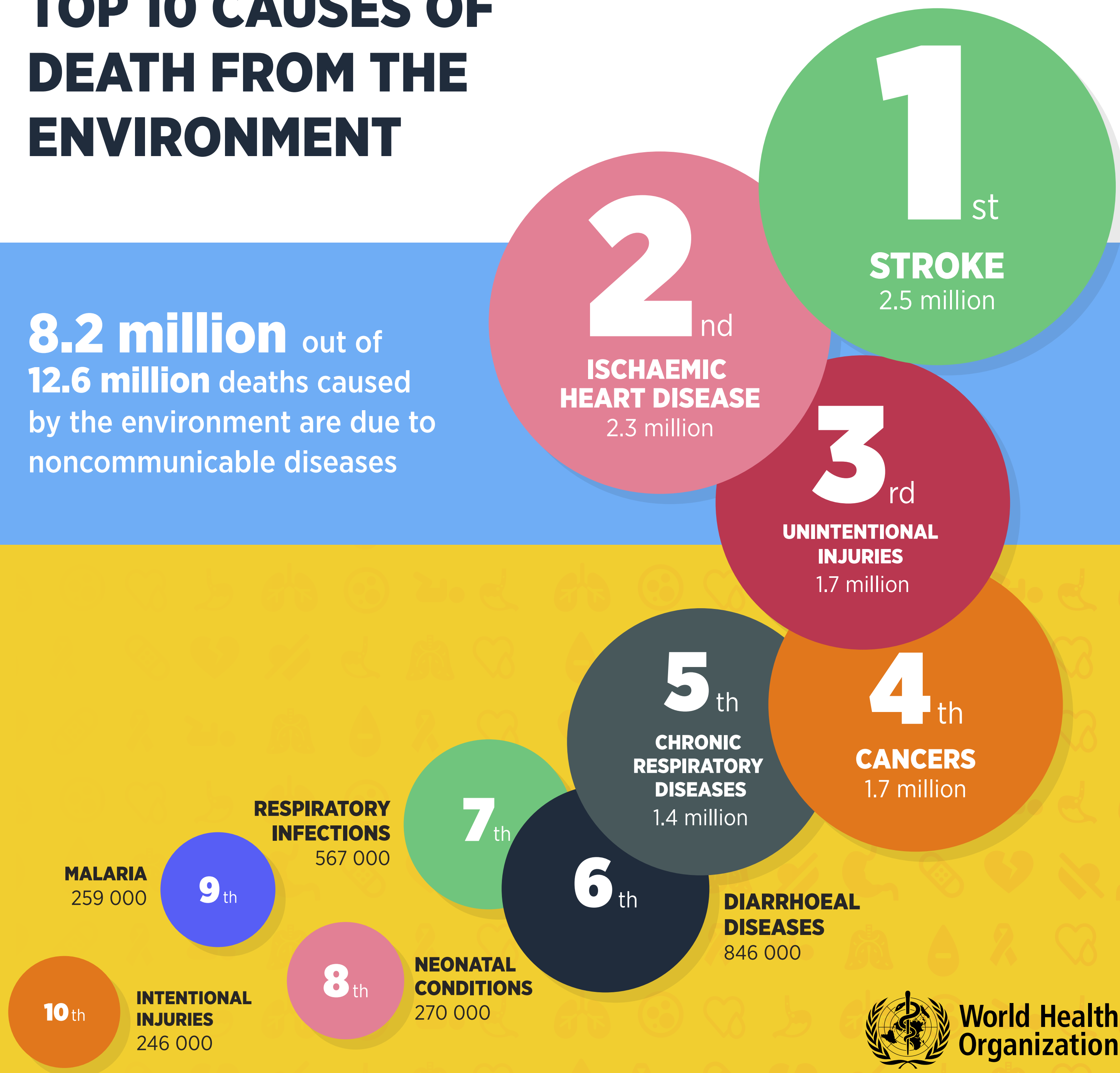


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# TOP 10 CAUSES OF DEATH FROM THE ENVIRONMENT

**8.2 million** out of **12.6 million** deaths caused by the environment are due to noncommunicable diseases



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# HOW THE ENVIRONMENT IMPACTS OUR HEALTH

People are exposed to risk factors in their homes, work places and communities through:



**AIR POLLUTION**  
including indoors and outdoors



**INADEQUATE WATER, SANITATION**  
and hygiene



**CHEMICALS**  
and biological agents



**RADIATION**  
ultraviolet and ionizing



**COMMUNITY NOISE**



**OCCUPATIONAL RISKS**



**CLIMATE CHANGE**



**BUILT ENVIRONMENTS**  
including housing and roads

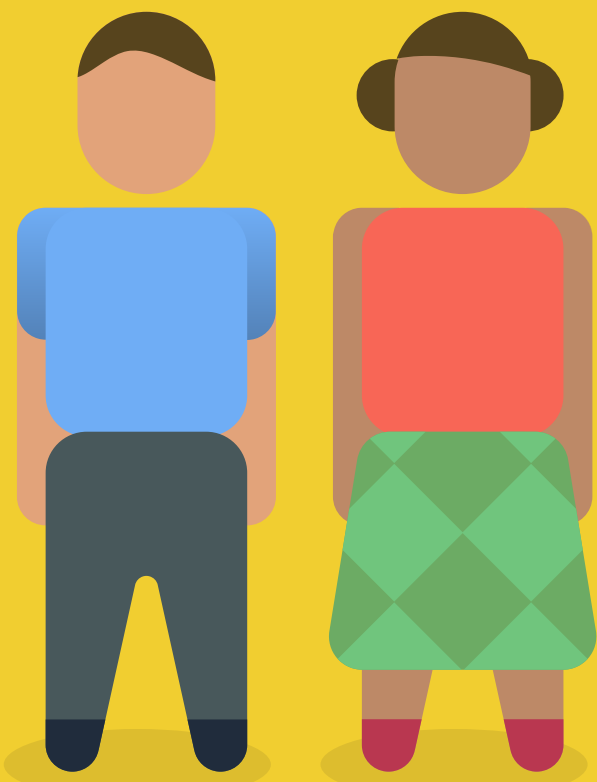


**AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES**  
including pesticide-use, waste-water reuse

# WHO IS MOST IMPACTED BY THE ENVIRONMENT

Environmental impacts on health are uneven across age and mostly affect the poor.

Low- and middle-income countries bear the greatest share of environmental disease.



## Men

are slightly more affected due to occupational risks and injuries.

## Women

bear higher exposures to traditional environmental risks such as smoke from cooking with solid fuels or carrying water.

Children under five and adults between 50 and 75 years old are most affected by the environment.



## YEARLY

**4.9 MILLION**

### Deaths in adults

between 50 and 75 years. The most common causes are noncommunicable diseases and injuries.

**1.7 MILLION**  
**Deaths in children**

under five. The most prominent causes are lower respiratory infections and diarrhoeal diseases.



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# WE CAN IMPROVE OUR ENVIRONMENT TO IMPROVE OUR HEALTH

These WIN-WIN  
strategies are  
fundamental  
to achieving the

**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**  
17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



**1.** Apply low **carbon strategies** in energy generation, housing and the industry.



**2.** Use more active and **public transportation**.



**3.** Introduce **clean fuels** for cooking, heating and lighting and clean technologies.



**4.** Reduce **occupational exposures** and improve working conditions.



**5.** Increase **access to safe water** and adequate sanitation and promote hand washing.



**6.** Change **consumption patterns** to lower the use of harmful chemicals, minimize waste production and save energy.



**7.** Implement interventions that can increase **sun protective behaviour**.



**8.** Pass **smoking bans** to reduce exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke.



**9.** Always use a **health in all policies** approach to create healthier environments and prevent disease.

Let's all work towards a healthier  
environment for our health.