

# WATER IN HIMALAYAN TOWNS

THE HKH region is characterized by unique

## TOPOGRAPHY

An increase in urbanization due to regional imbalances

**3%**  
LARGE CITIES

**8%**  
SMALL TOWNS



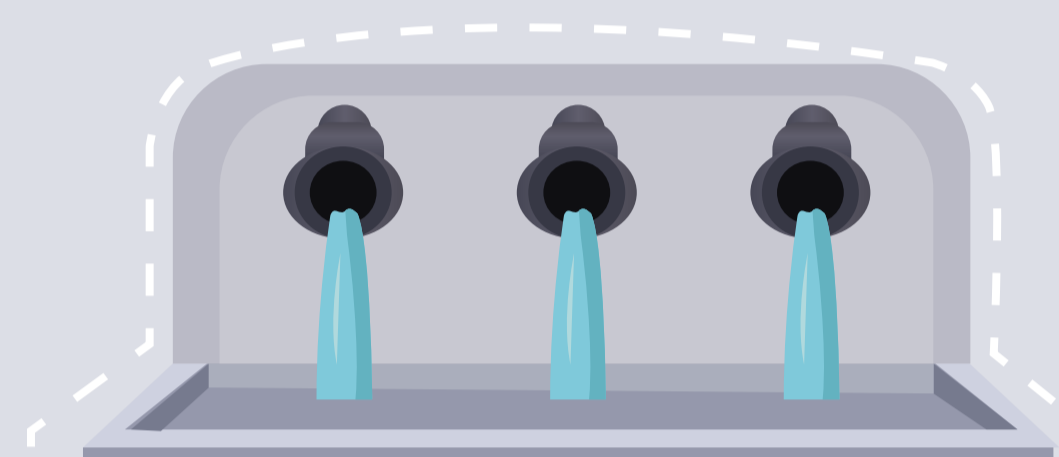
## TWO CRITICAL STRESSORS

1. Unplanned urbanization
2. Climate induced changes

People are flocking to their nearest urban centers for employment and related economic opportunities

Our survey shows that more than half of the poor population in these 8 towns are buying water to fulfill their daily needs

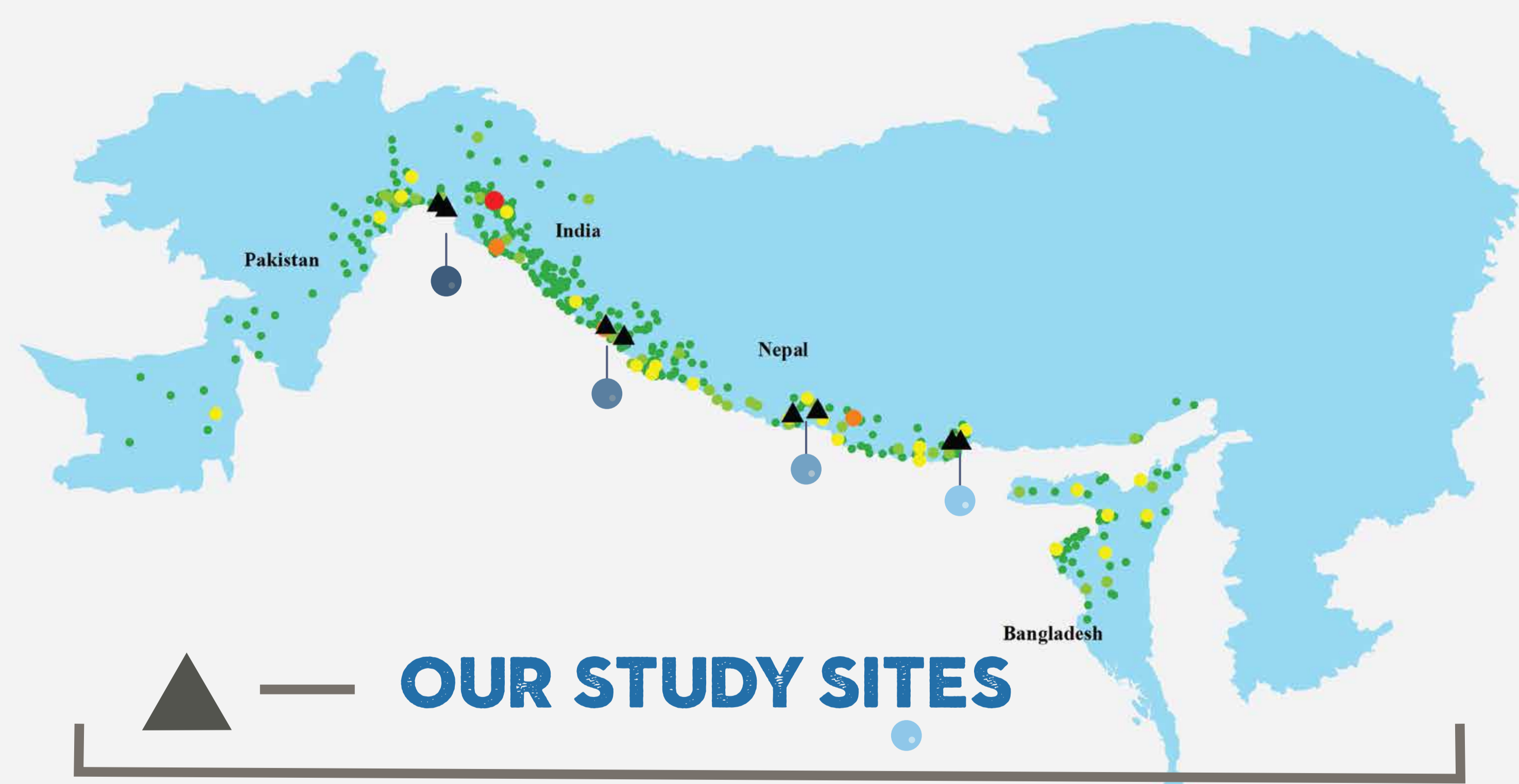
## HYDROLOGY



Traditional stone spouts as water sources

Disappearance of traditional water systems is evident

Encroachment or degradation of natural water bodies is evident



## POINTS TO PONDER

- Estimating water demand and supply, with projections that include climate change impacts
- Estimate seasonal carrying capacity of the city and plan accordingly
- Manage water at the bioregional scale
- Manage water quality and waste
- Protect springs for sustainable water supply

