

Women and water

Women play a key role in supplying water to the community in developing countries. The lack of water supply and sanitation systems means that they must make great efforts every day that deprive them of education, work opportunities and leisure time.

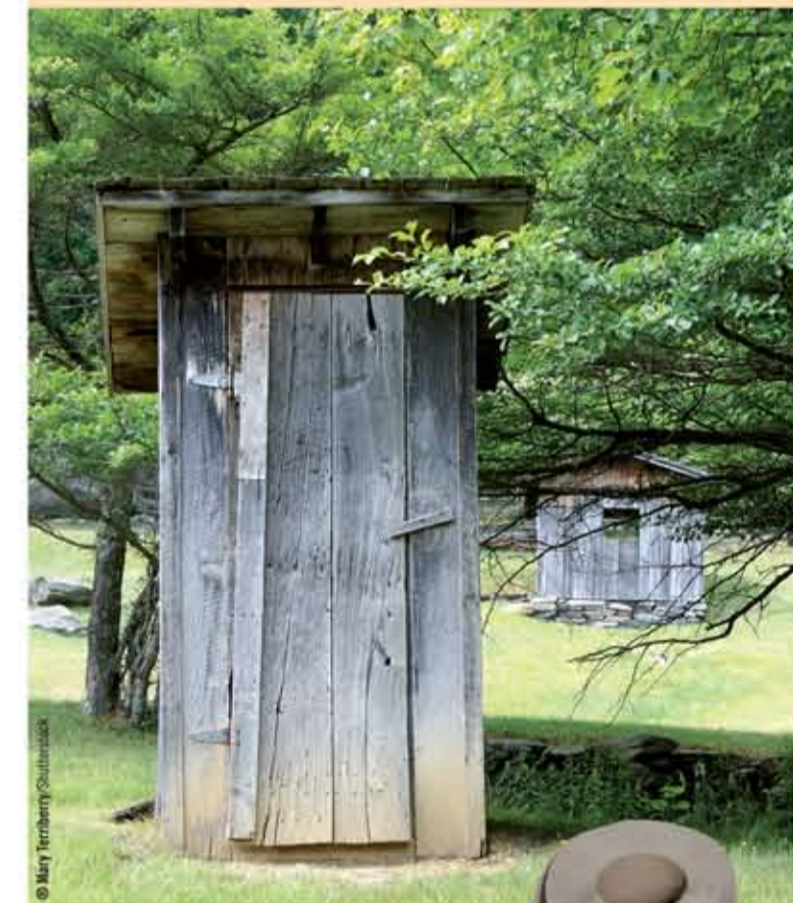
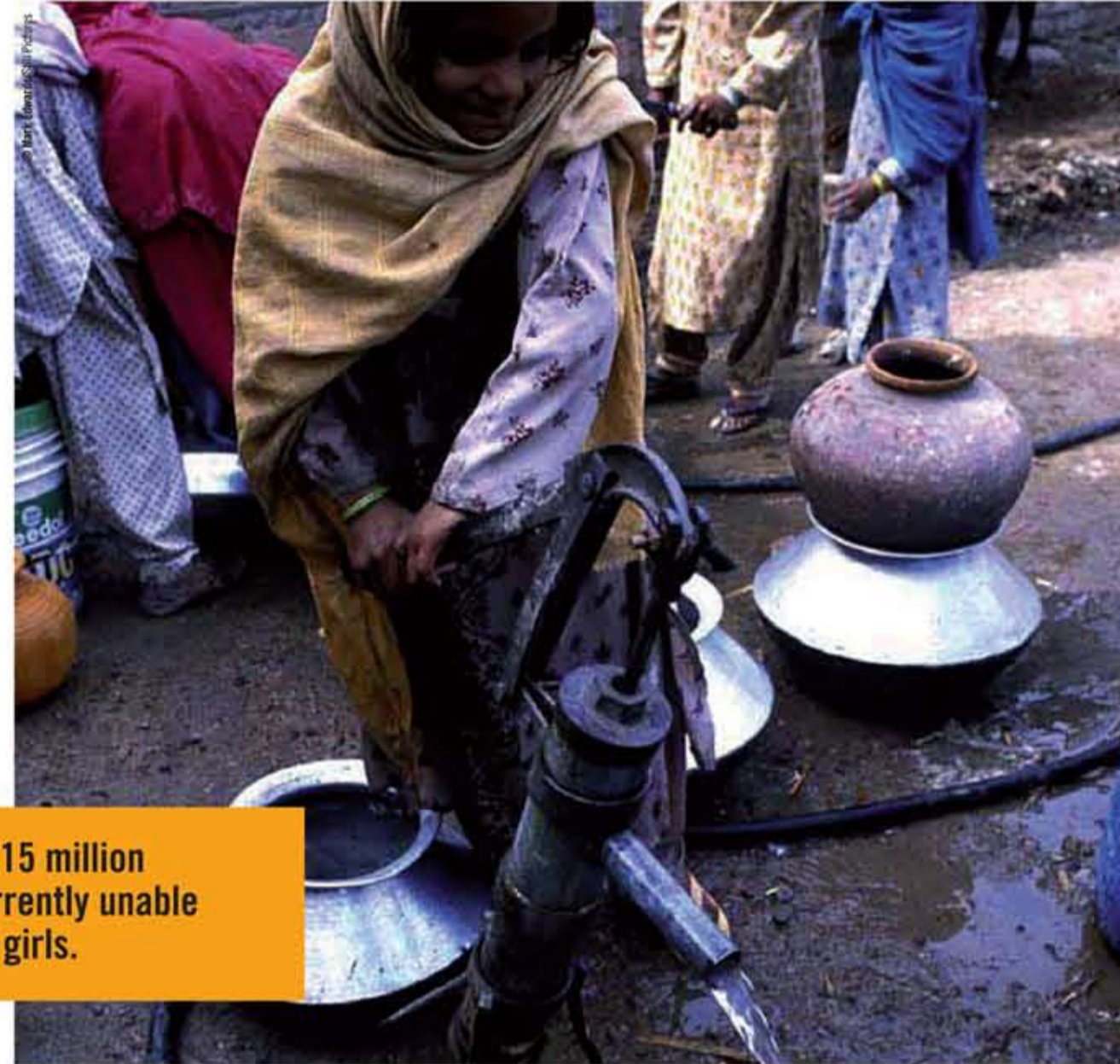


Women produce 60-80% of the food in most developing countries.

Women and girls have to cover long distances every day to fetch water. Carrying such heavy water loads is not only physically harmful, but also takes up lots of time and therefore contributes to poverty.



The majority of the 115 million children who are currently unable to attend school are girls.

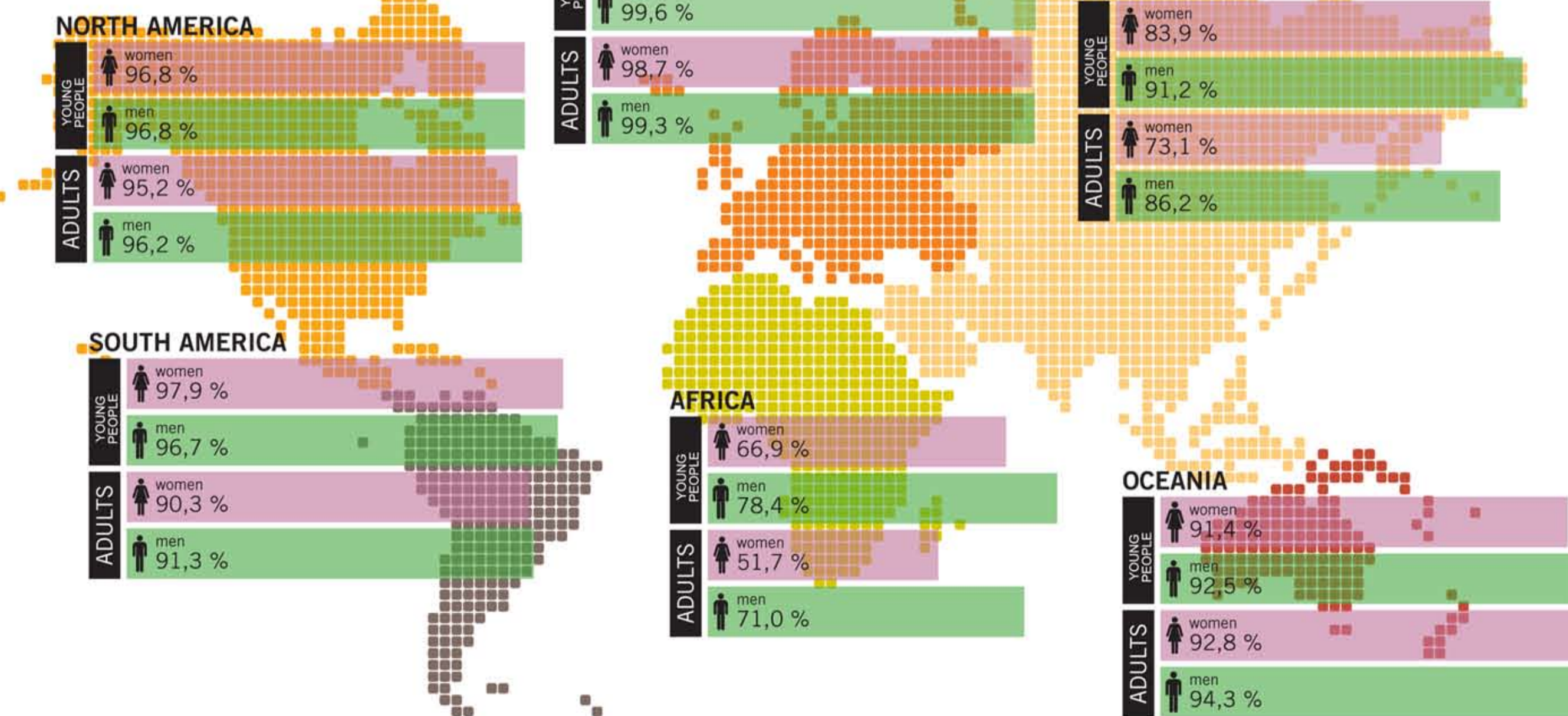


All too often, schools do not have toilet facilities. When there are gender-separate sanitation facilities at schools, girls' rate of schooling rises.

Literacy rates

for adults (age 15 and older) and young people (ages 15 to 24)

Source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics



The majority of the 1,300 people who live in the most absolute poverty are women and children.

Women need to have a voice in the process of water planning and management in order to ensure that the real needs of communities are taken into account, in particular with regard to drinking water supply and sanitation, as well as the prevention of disease caused by polluted water.

