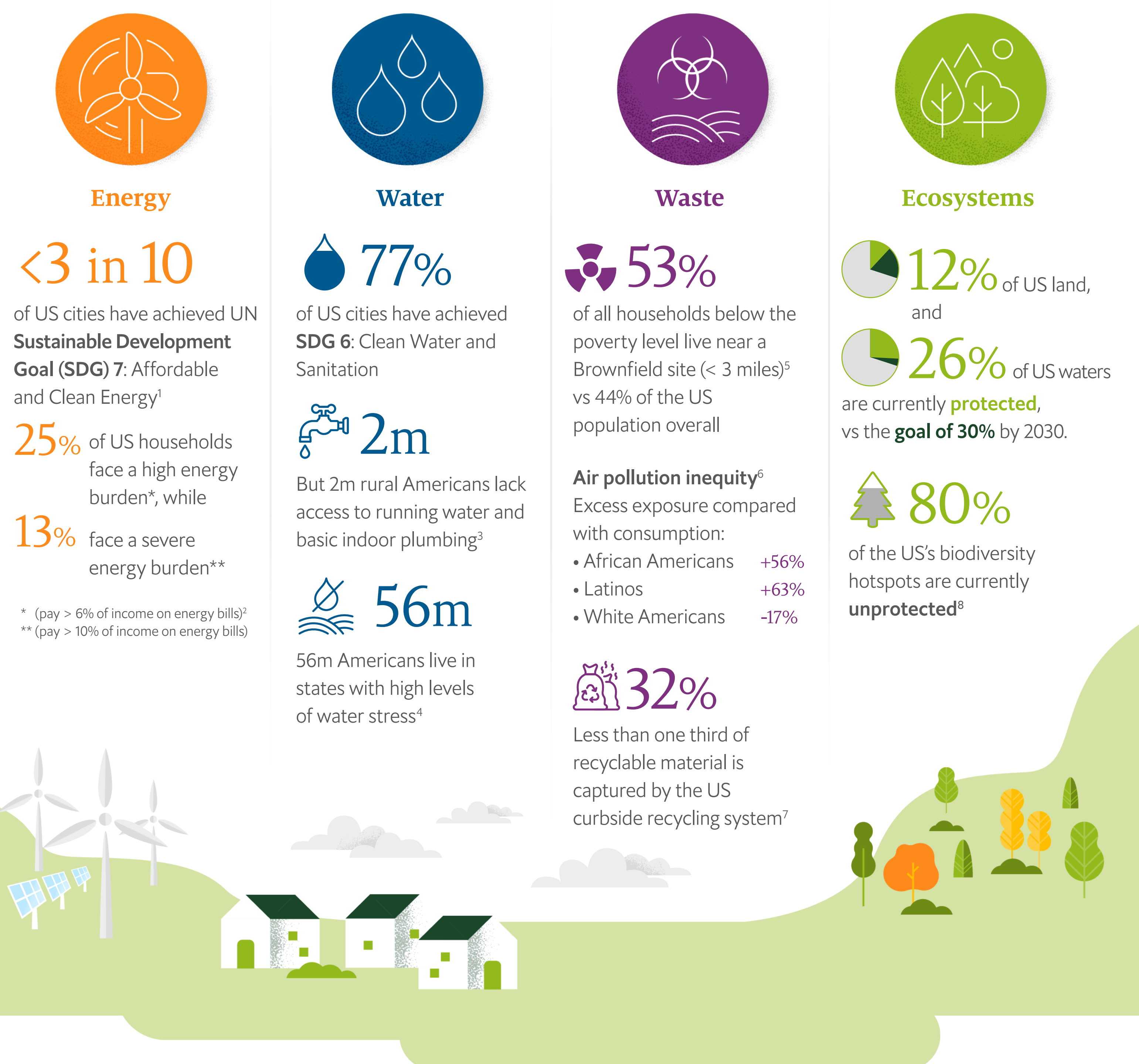


Using data to foster equitable and sustainable planning across communities



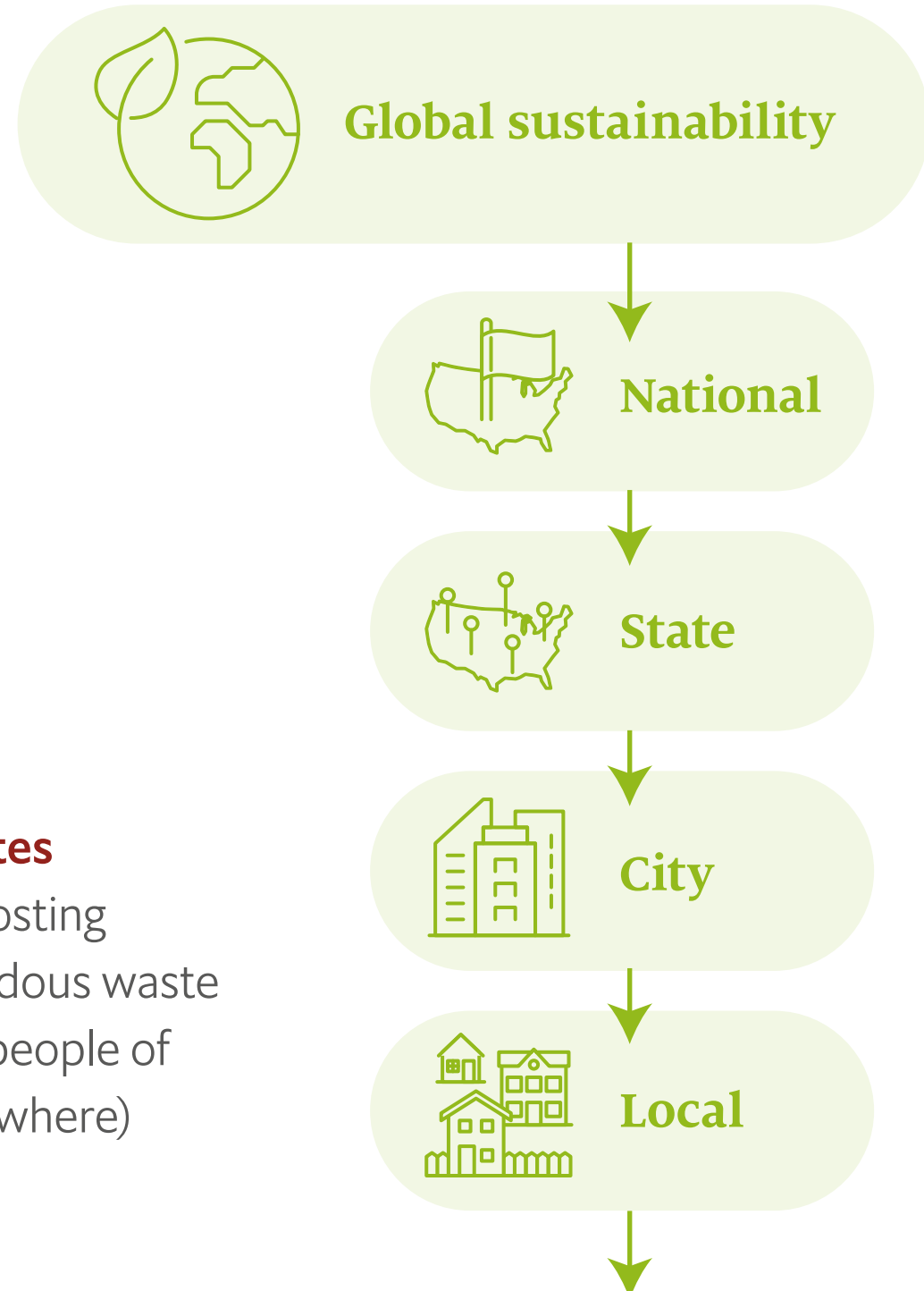
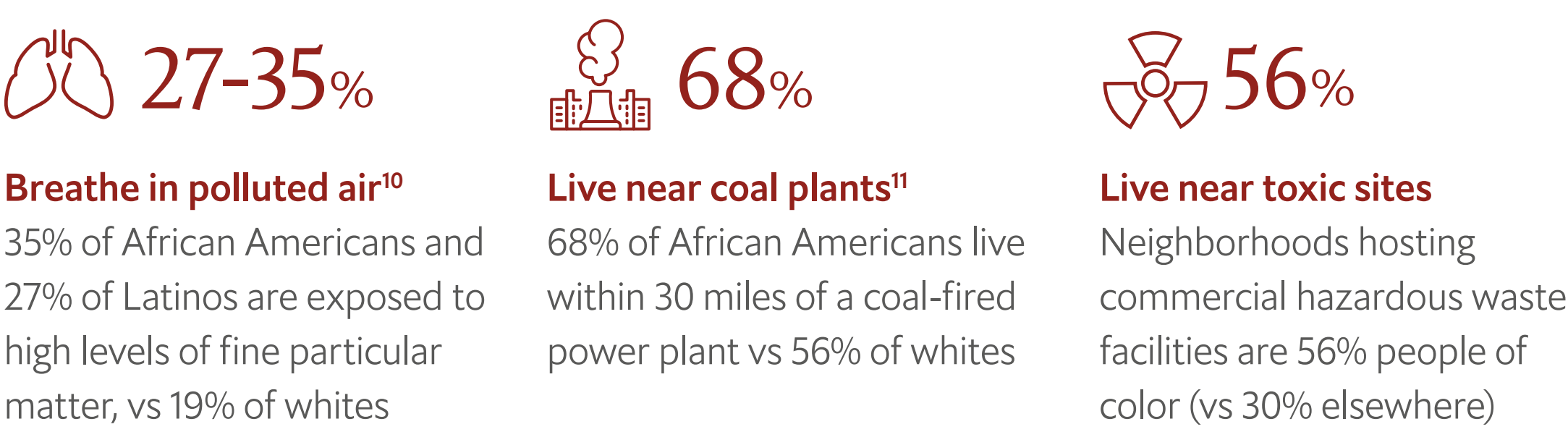
Progress towards sustainability and environmental justice goals is mixed across the US



Sustainability is the collective product of how we live and interact with the environment within our own communities.

Lower-income, marginalised communities and communities of color are disproportionately affected by environmental hazards, degradation, injustice and a changing climate.⁹

In the US, studies show people of color are more likely to:



Action should center the needs of these frontline communities.

Frontline communities experience the "first and worst"¹² consequences of climate change

Better data and technology can help close the equity gap in frontline communities

From deploying sensors to detect plumbing leaks in homes to using satellite imagery to track deforestation, data is central to measuring and optimising local resource use, allocation, planning and production.¹³



Highlighting injustice, creating accountability and informing change

Putting data in the hands of frontline leaders can better inform local planning for a more sustainable, just and resilient future by helping to:

- Repair the legacy of environmental harms**
- Create accountability and monitor improvement**
- Identify gaps in access and opportunity**
- Inform affordable and equitable resource allocation**
- Enhance efficiency and improve sustainability**
- Drive long term resiliency and preparedness**

1 Sustainable Development Solutions Network, "The 2019 US Cities Sustainable Development Report" (2019)
2 ACEEE, "How High Are Household Energy Burdens?" (2020)
3 US Water Alliance, "Closing the Water Access Gap in the United States" (2019)
4 World Resources Institute, "Aqueeduct 3.0 Country Rankings" (2019)
5 EPA Office of Land and Emergency Management, "Population Surrounding 27,030 Brownfields Sites" (2020)
6 Christopher W. Tessum et al., "Inequity in consumption of goods and services adds to racial-ethnic disparities in air pollution exposure" (2019)
7 The Recycling Partnership, "State of Curbside Recycling Report 2020"
8 David Shiffman, "An Ambitious Strategy to Preserve Biodiversity" (2020)
9 NRDC, "A Roadmap for Frontline Communities" (2019)
10 AJPH, "Disparities in Distribution of Particulate Matter Emission Sources by Race and Poverty Status" (2018)
11 NDRC, "Toxic Wastes and Race at Twenty, 1987-2007" (2007)
12 Ecotrust, "Centering frontline communities in the face of climate change" (2017)
13 UN, "Big Data for Sustainable Development" (n.d.)
14 NREL, "Equitable Clean Energy Transitions for Small Communities" (2020)
15 Stephen Goldsmith and Wyatt Cmar, "Getting Smart About Trash" (2018)
16 Laura Adler, "Come Drought or High Water" (2015)
17 Chris Bousquet, "Map Monday: Urban Forest Map" (2017)

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