

A world in balance 2026

The resilience reset

Make it real.

Climate and water are becoming critical business constraints

Climate adaptation is becoming a business imperative



76% of executives say their organization will increase climate adaptation spending over the next 12 months

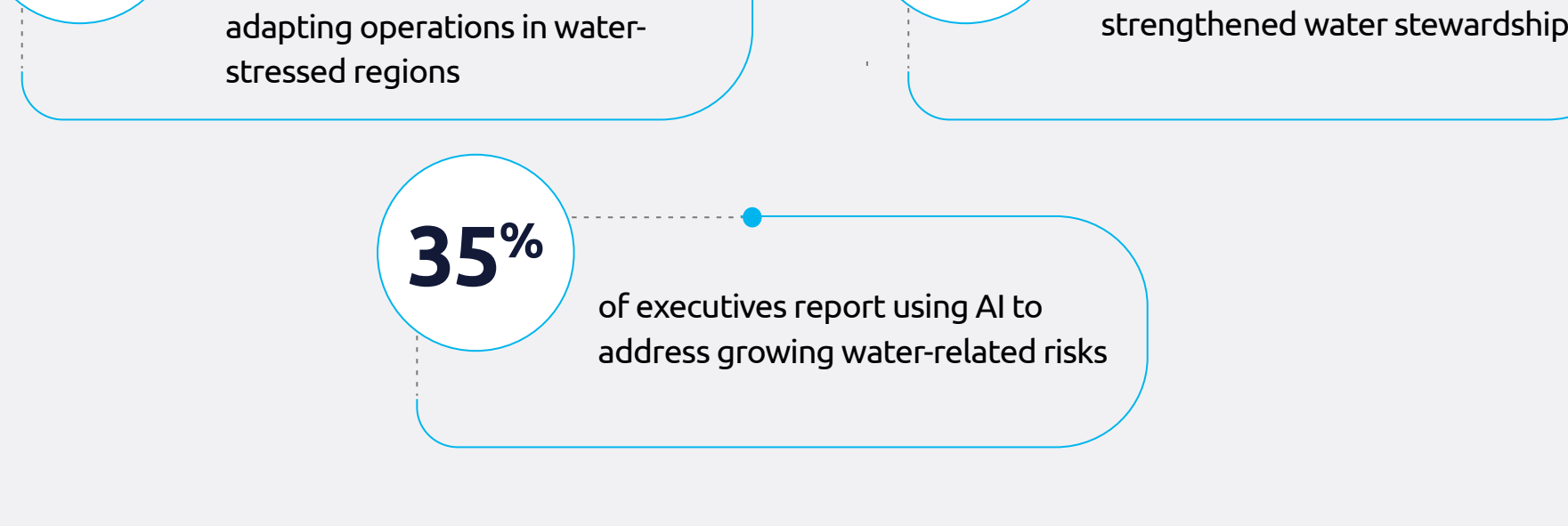
However, embedding adaptation into operations remains a challenge:



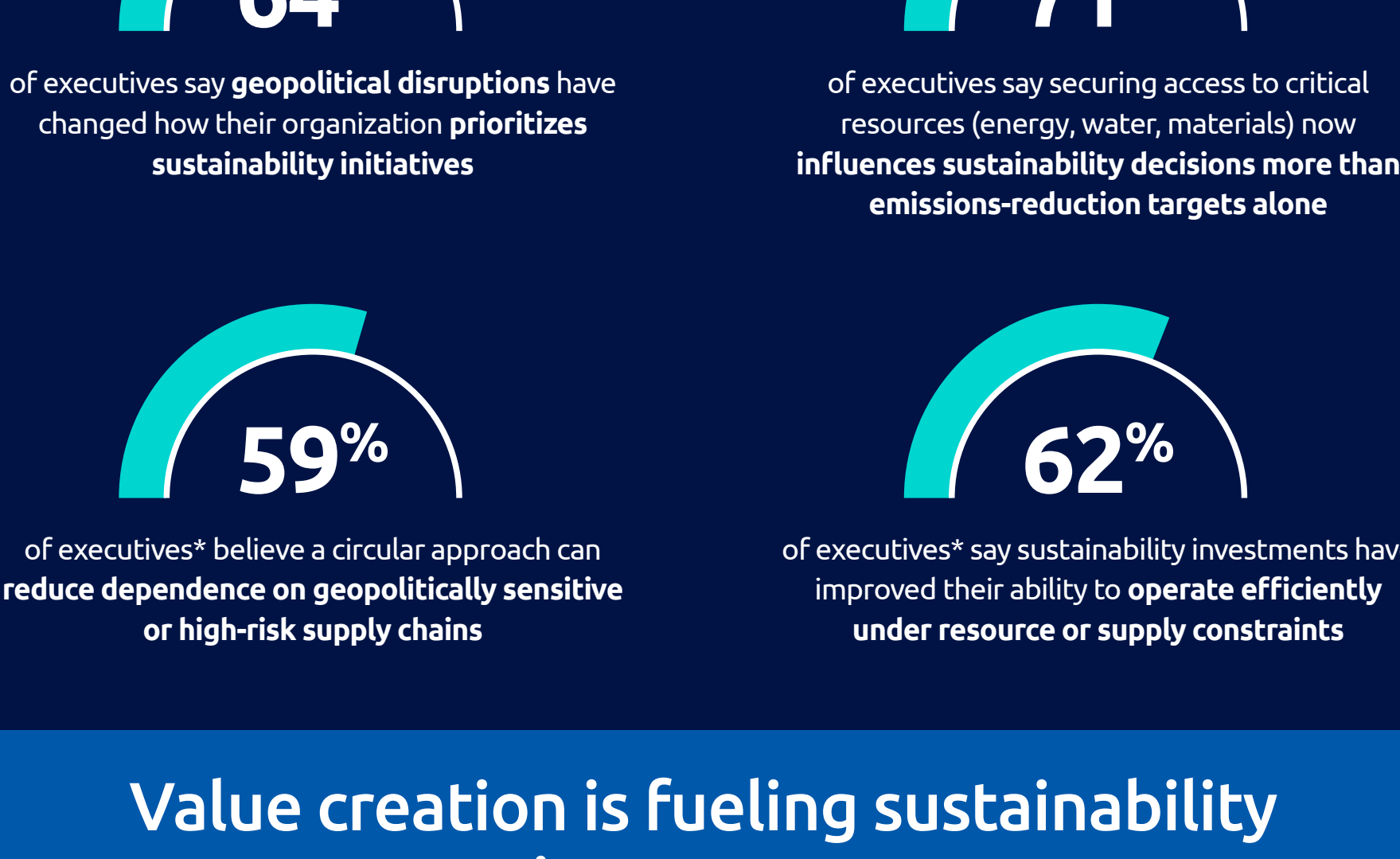
Water is an emerging strategic risk that many organizations are not prepared for

90% of executives consider water scarcity and water availability to be organizational risks

Yet, water stewardship is struggling to keep pace with growing risks:



Resilience is reshaping sustainability priorities



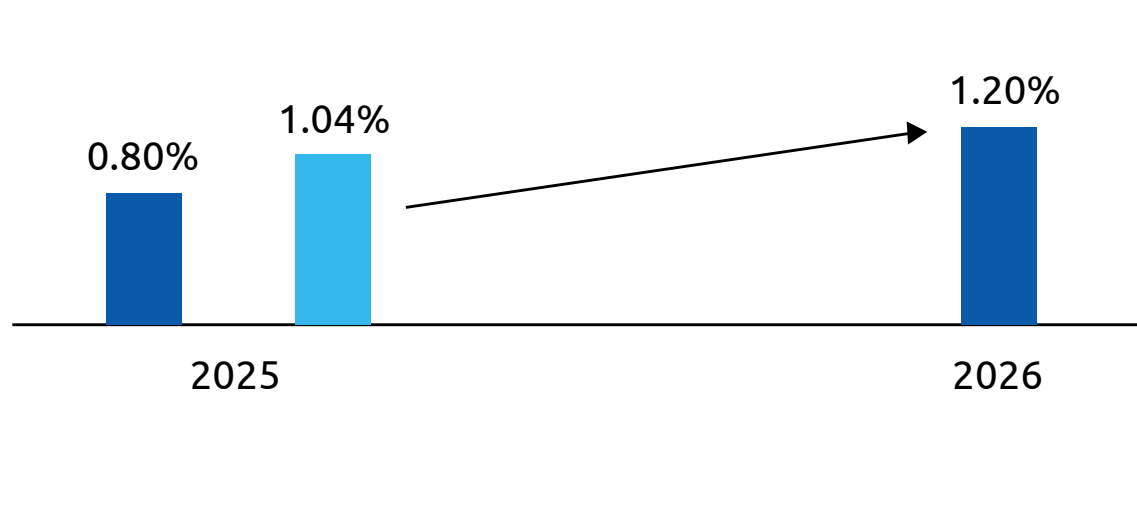
Value creation is fueling sustainability investment

Sustainability is shifting from a values-driven to a *value*-driven agenda



Organizations have invested beyond what they had originally anticipated

Expected and actual organizational spending on sustainability (as percent of revenue) in 2025 and 2026



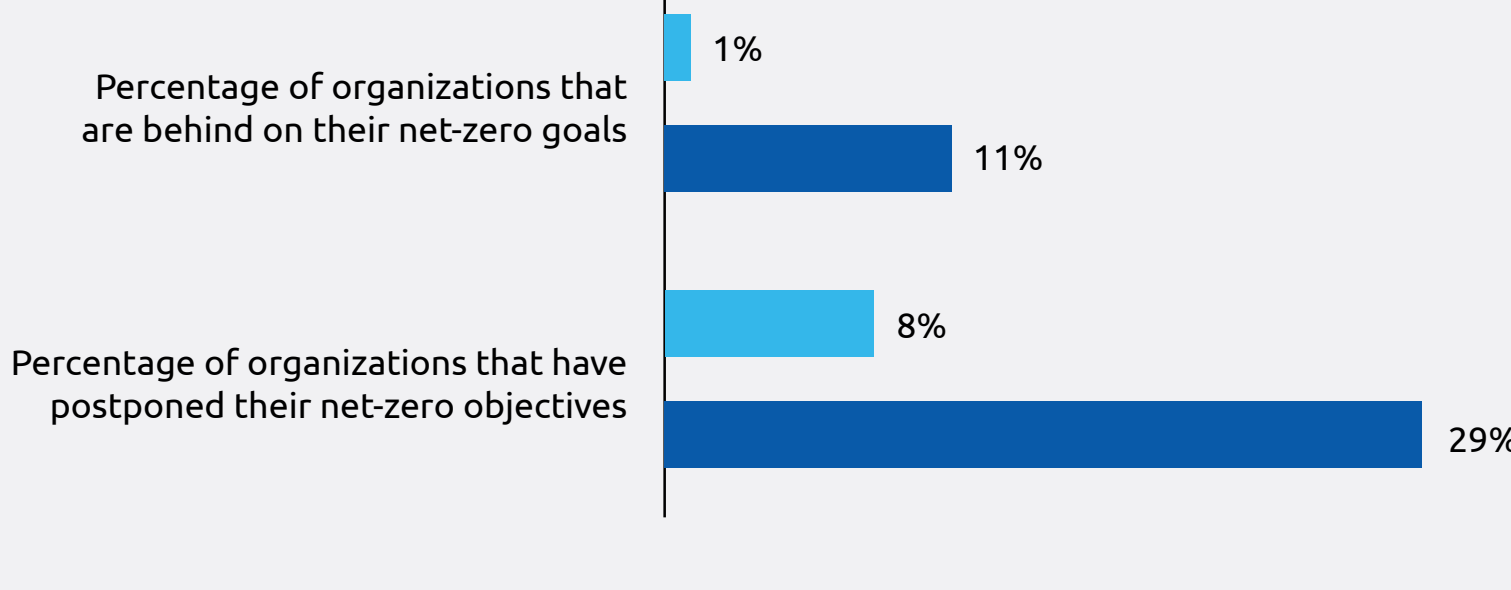
Looking ahead,
83% of organizations expect to increase sustainability investment over the next 12–18 months

Despite investments, sustainability maturity retreats

6pp drop Sustainability index

Sustainability index has further dropped from **111** in 2025 to **105** in 2026

More organizations are also behind their net-zero goals



Organizations cite operational barriers as the reason

These barriers include:

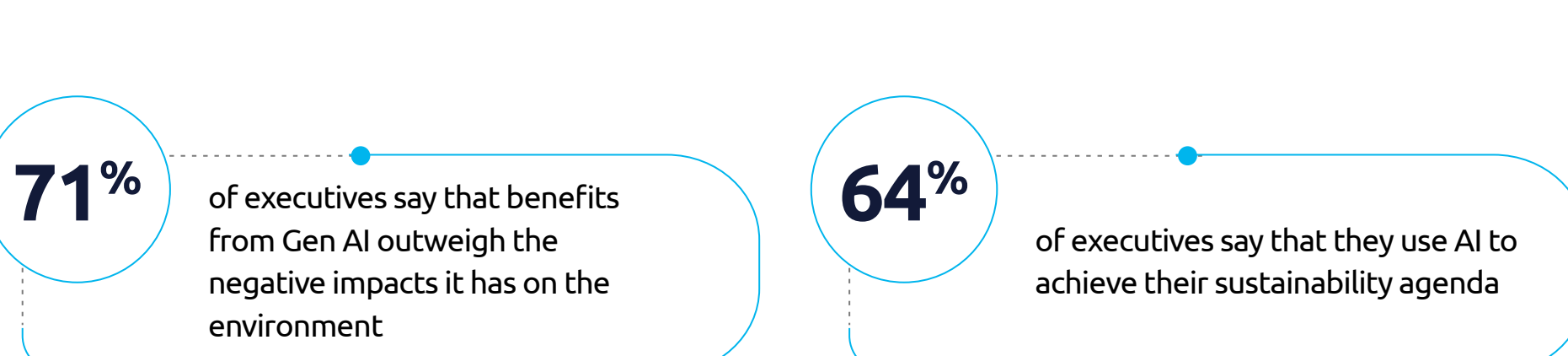


AI is becoming the execution engine for sustainability

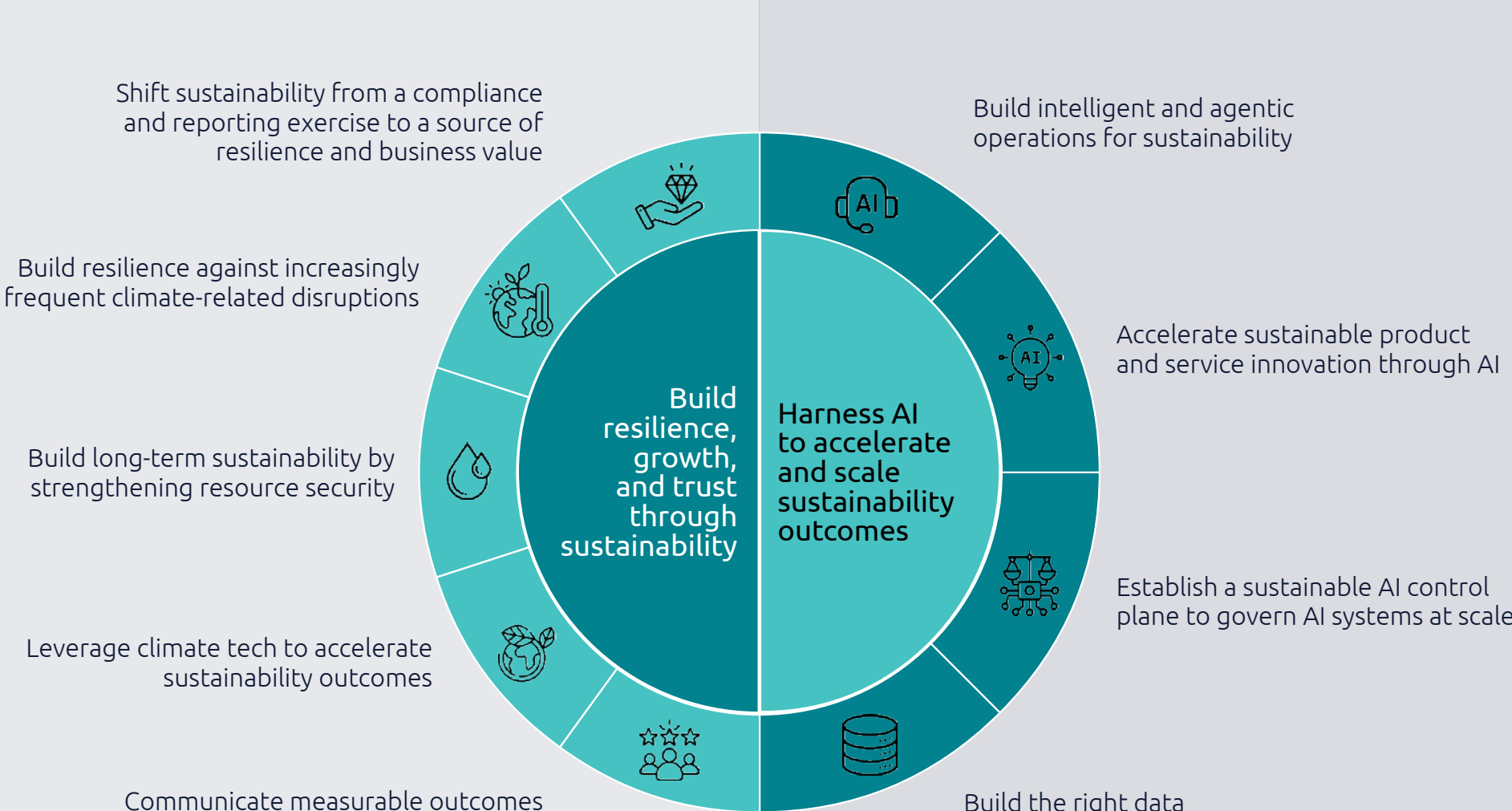
AI is increasing organizations' environmental footprint



AI is transforming sustainability ambition into action



Actions for a resilient and sustainable future



*N = 1,722 executives from all sectors except financial services and public sector.
Source: Capgemini Research Institute, Sustainability business trends survey, June–July 2026, N = 2,100 executives from 701 organizations, N=6,500 consumers.

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