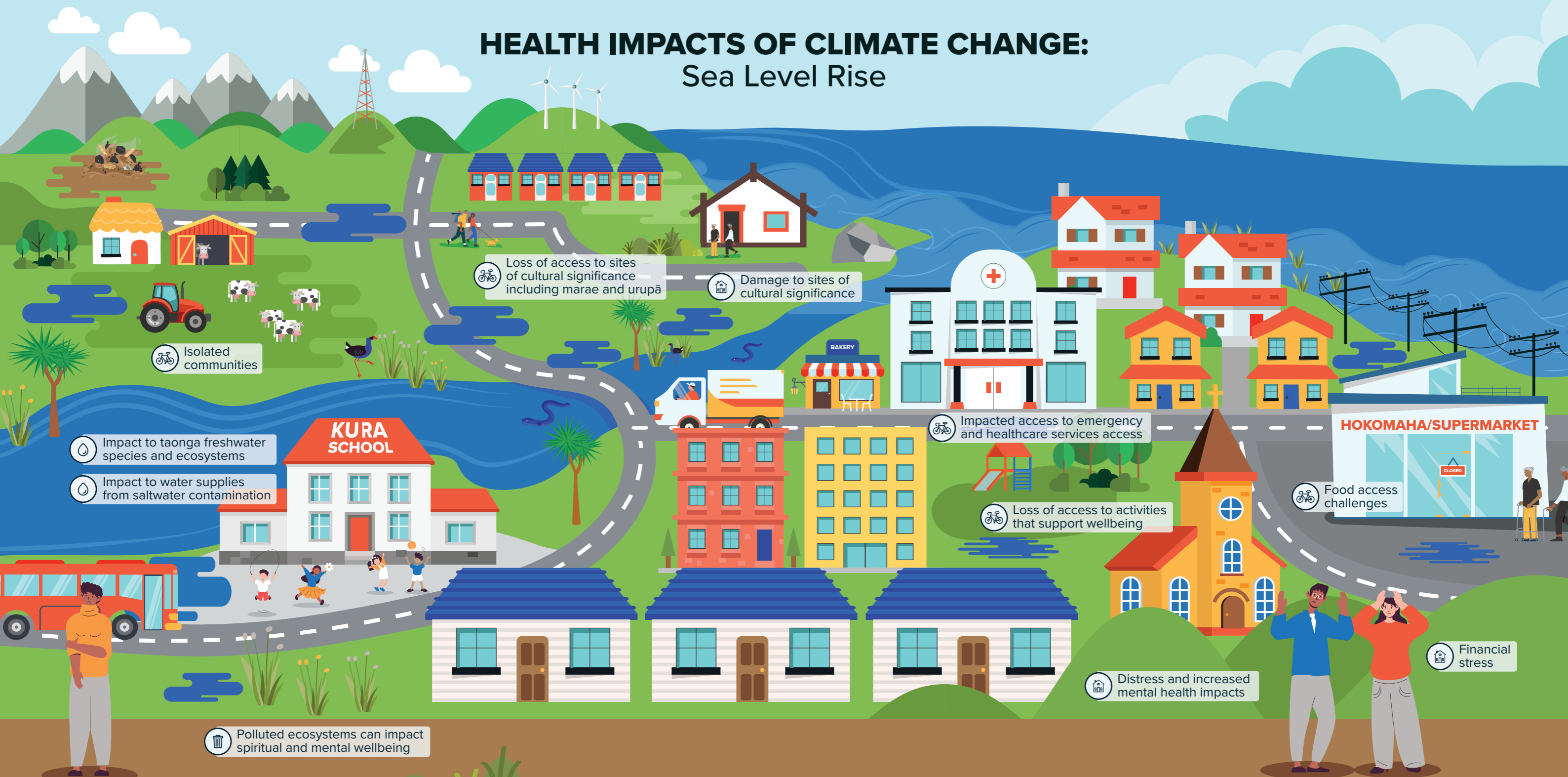


HEALTH IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE: Sea Level Rise



Impact to taonga freshwater species and ecosystems

Impact to water supplies from saltwater contamination

Isolated communities

Loss of access to sites of cultural significance including marae and urupā

Damage to sites of cultural significance

Impacted access to emergency and healthcare services access

Loss of access to activities that support wellbeing

Food access challenges

Distress and increased mental health impacts

Financial stress

Polluted ecosystems can impact spiritual and mental wellbeing

HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES

Sea level rise and coastal erosion can result in damage and loss of housing. This can cause a range of mental health and financial impacts, especially if whānau and pets lack suitable alternative accommodation. Sites of cultural significance can also be impacted, particularly urupā and marae on coastal land.

TRANSPORT

Damaged roads and bridges from sea level rise and coastal erosion can isolate communities. This impacts health and wellbeing as communities may be unable to access services, facilities and sites of significance, including marae. Road damage can also impact food supply, impacting whānau food choices and access to food.

WATER

Sea level rise can cause salt water to contaminate groundwater, impacting household and drinking water quality. Saltwater contamination can also impact water quality for irrigation and agricultural uses. This can also contaminate freshwater coastal ecosystems, impacting culturally significant species.

LANDFILLS AND POLLUTIONS

Landfills and areas of pollution are at risk of being exposed by sea level rise and soil erosion, causing waste and pollution to contaminate nearby areas, ecosystems and waterways.