

# Online International Knowledge Conclave On Green Infrastructure'

17<sup>th</sup> December 2020

KALA VAIRAVAMOORTHY, Executive Director, IWA



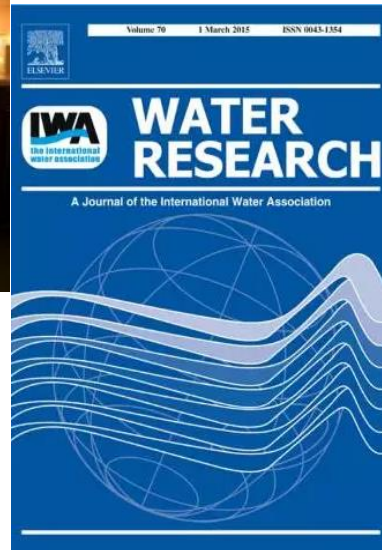
# Global Network for Water Professionals spanning the continuum of research and practice



**10,000 members  
in 140 countries**



**17 Journals  
> 800 books**



**50 Specialist Groups**

**Biennial Congress with  
over 9000 participants**



**Over 30 conferences/year  
with over 50,000 participants**

**Leading edge  
technologies and  
best practices**



[www.iwa-network.org](http://www.iwa-network.org)

# IWA Engagement Platforms

## Water Policy and Regulation



### 100+ regulators

- International Regulators Forum
- Working Group on public policy and regulation for resilience
- Working Group on Public Participation

## Water-Wise Cities



### 25+ cities

- 100+ IWA members champion cities' endorsements
- Utilities and their cities rally urban stakeholders around a shared water vision

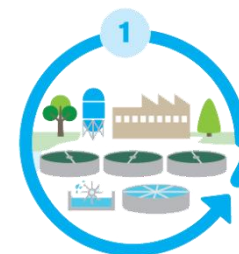
## Basin-Connected Cities



### 50+ Contributing organisations

- Action Agenda (launch 09/2018)
- 12 action pathways
- Utilities and cities share best practices

## Smart Utilities



### 250+ Utilities

#### Climate Smart

#### High performing

#### Digital transformation

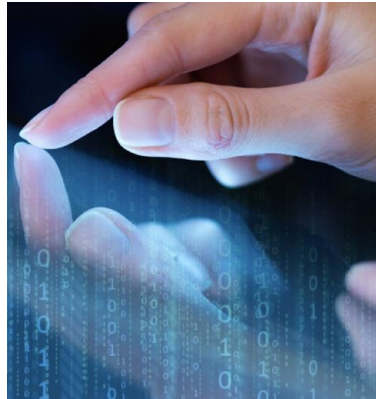
- Utility Leaders Forums & Summits
- Peer-to-peer exchange
- 22+ Champions of Water-Wise Cities

# Thought Leadership Areas

## Water Wise Cities



## Digital Water Programme



## Innovators Platform



## Nature for Water



## Climate Smart Utilities



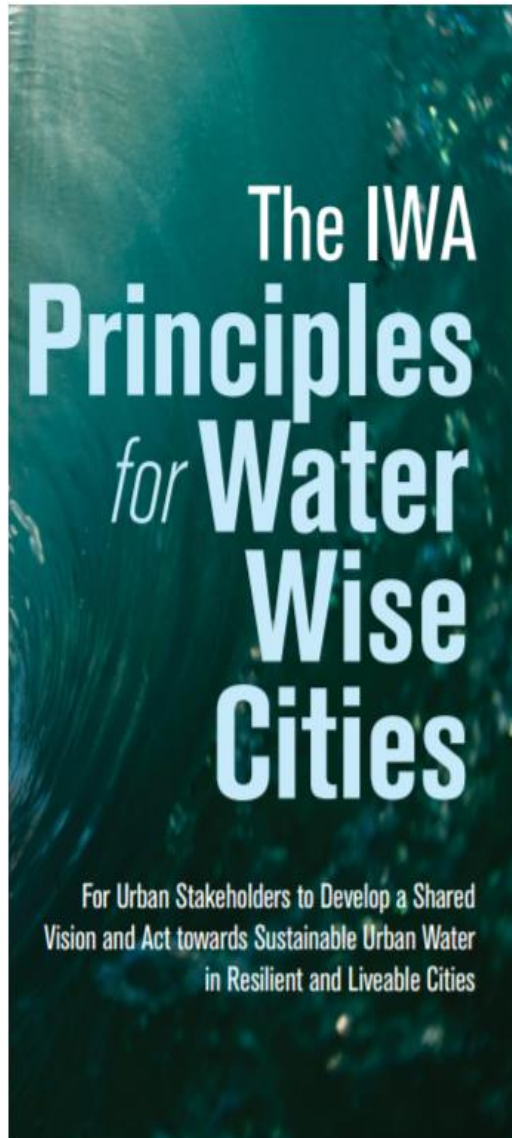
## Coming soon...

*Financing  
infrastructure to  
achieve the SDGs*

*Benefit transfer*



# Principles for water wise cities



5 Building Blocks



Vision



Governance



Knowledge  
& Capacity



Planning  
Tools



Implementation  
Tools

17 Principles for Water-Wise Cities

## 1 Regenerative Water Services

- Replenish Waterbodies and their Ecosystems

### Regenerative Water Services

- Increase the Modularity of Systems and Ensure Multiple Options

## 2 Water Sensitive Urban Design

- Enable Regenerative Water

### Water Sensitive Urban Design

- Modify and Adapt Urban Materials to Minimise Environmental Impact

## 3 Basin-Connected Cities

### Cities & Watershed Stewardship

- Prepare for Extreme Events

## 4 Water Wise Communities

- Empowered Citizens

### Water Wise Communities

- Leaders that Engage and Engender Trust

# IWA Nature Based Solutions

## Mobilizing Action Toward Nature-Based Solutions

- Promoting stronger connections between **water utilities and regulatory bodies** to integrate NBS in water utility operations
- Co-benefits of Nature-based Solutions for Water and Sanitation – development of guidance



Nature-based solutions for water utilities and regulators

## What are the opportunities?

- Partner with IWA on developing guidance, projects, publications
- Contribute your case studies
- Join [Task Group on Nature Based Solutions for Water and Sanitation](#)
- Join the [IWA Connect group on Nature-Based Solutions](#)

## Who to contact?

Katharine Cross [Katharine.Cross@iwahq.org](mailto:Katharine.Cross@iwahq.org)

<https://iwa-network.org/projects/nature-for-water-and-sanitation/>

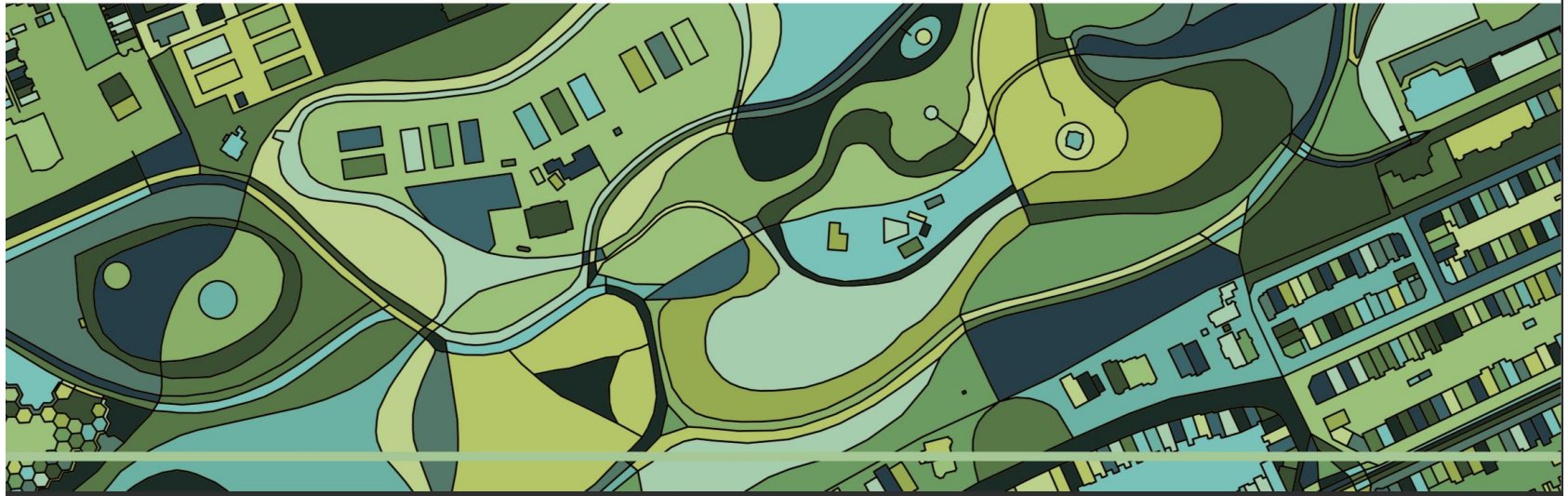




# C-GINS

Compendium of Green Infrastructure Network systems

<https://www.cseindia.org/c-gins/home>



**status quo not an option**



# We require a change of **culture** and a level of leadership unprecedented in our history

**complexity in transitioning to integrated one water solutions**

**deep uncertainty associated with global change pressures**

productive use of water

waste as resource (RRR)

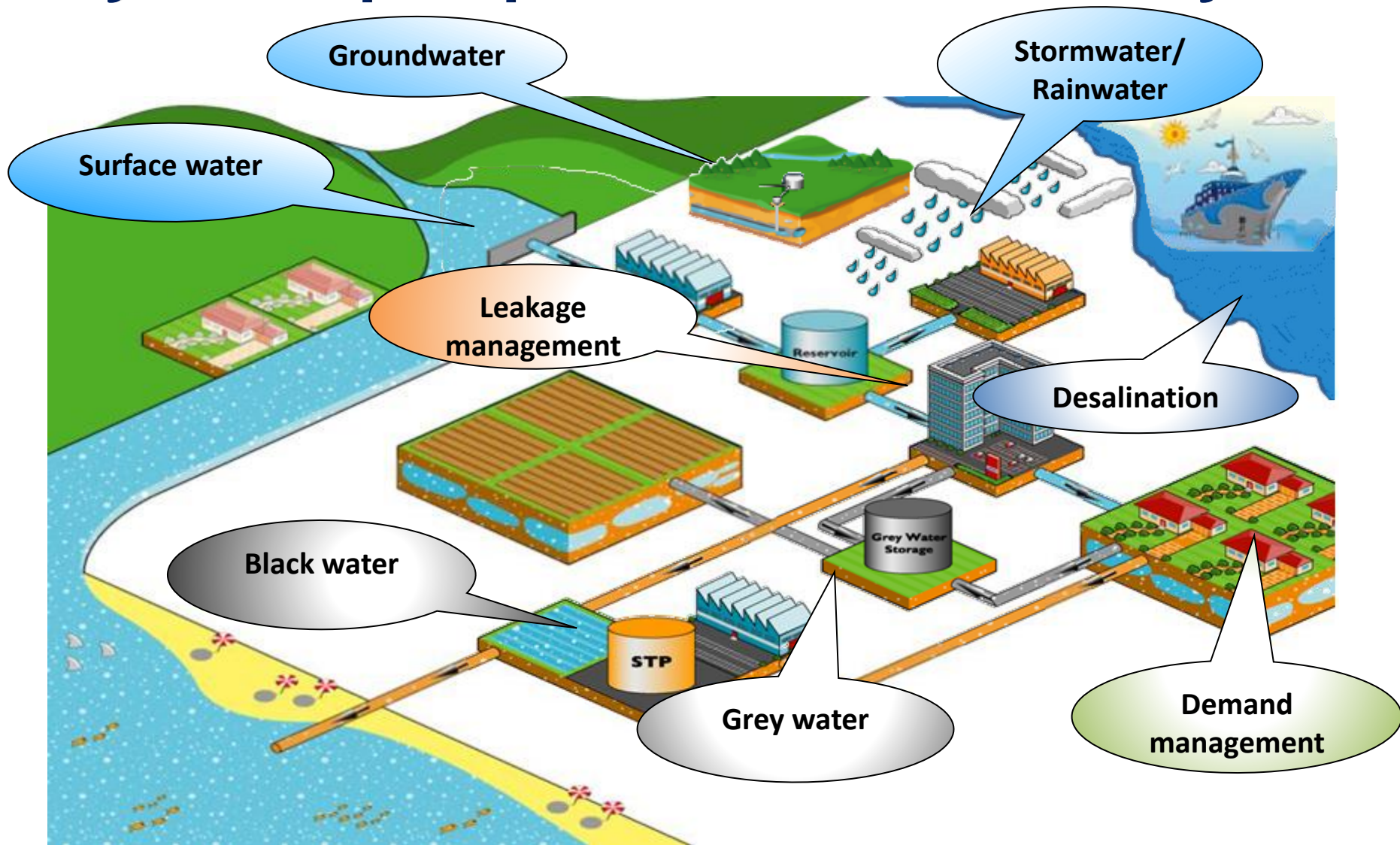
**We live in the 'now'**

Decisions need to be made today about our aging & outdated infrastructure

# **changes in perspective**

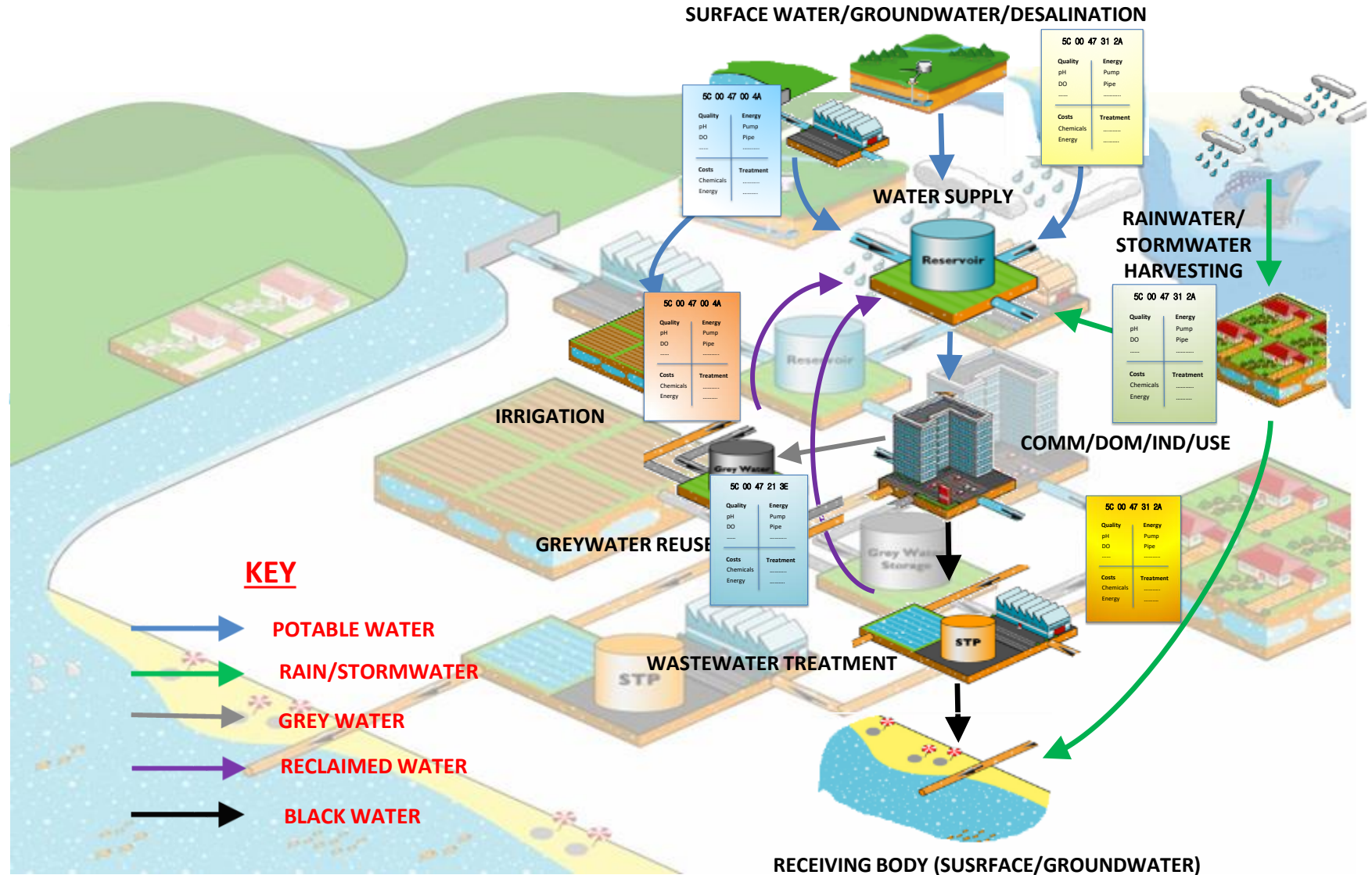
**productive use of water & waste as a resource**

# Productive use - we need to have a systems perspective of the water cycle





# Modelling allows us to connect all flows for productive uses – digital ledgers help



# Exploring alternative urban water solutions to rapid population growth



**Water demand will at least double until 2035**

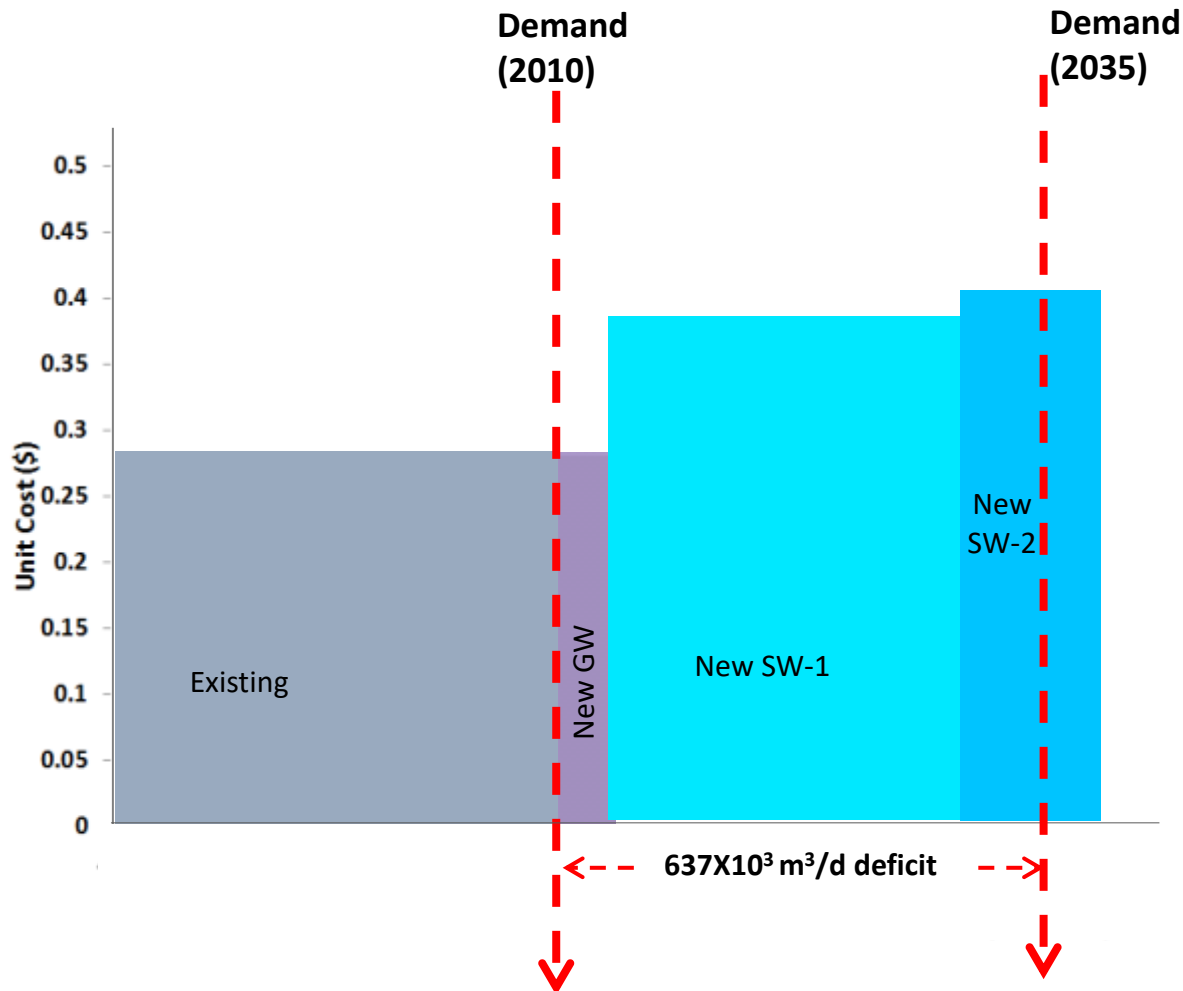


**MAKERERE UNIVERSITY**

**Panafcon**

# Typical solutions - import more water to meet growing needs

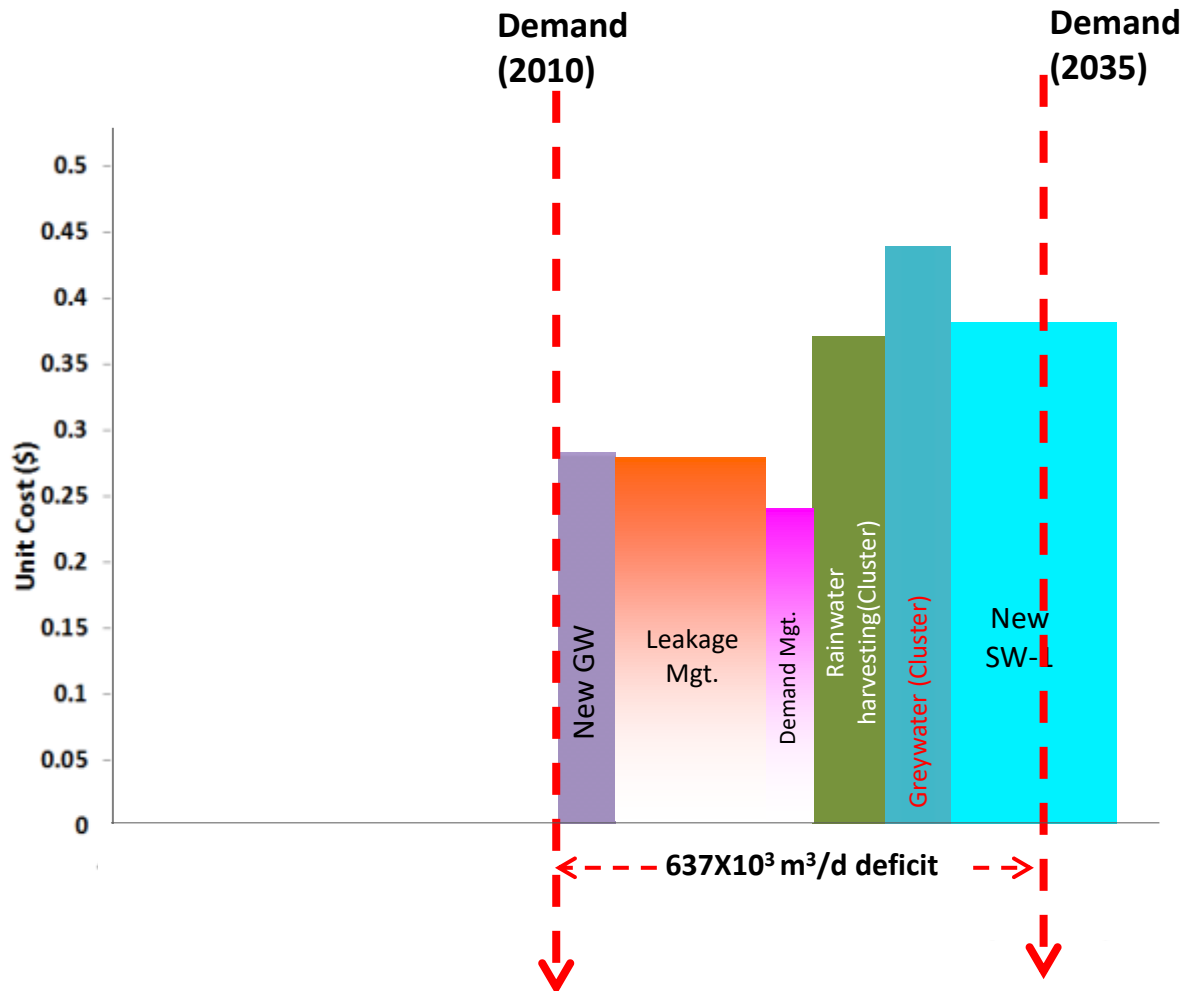
- Unit costs of **US\$ 0.36/m<sup>3</sup>**





# Need to consider non-conventional resources – a portfolio of options

- Unit costs of **US\$ 0.31/m<sup>3</sup>** (cf. to 0.36)



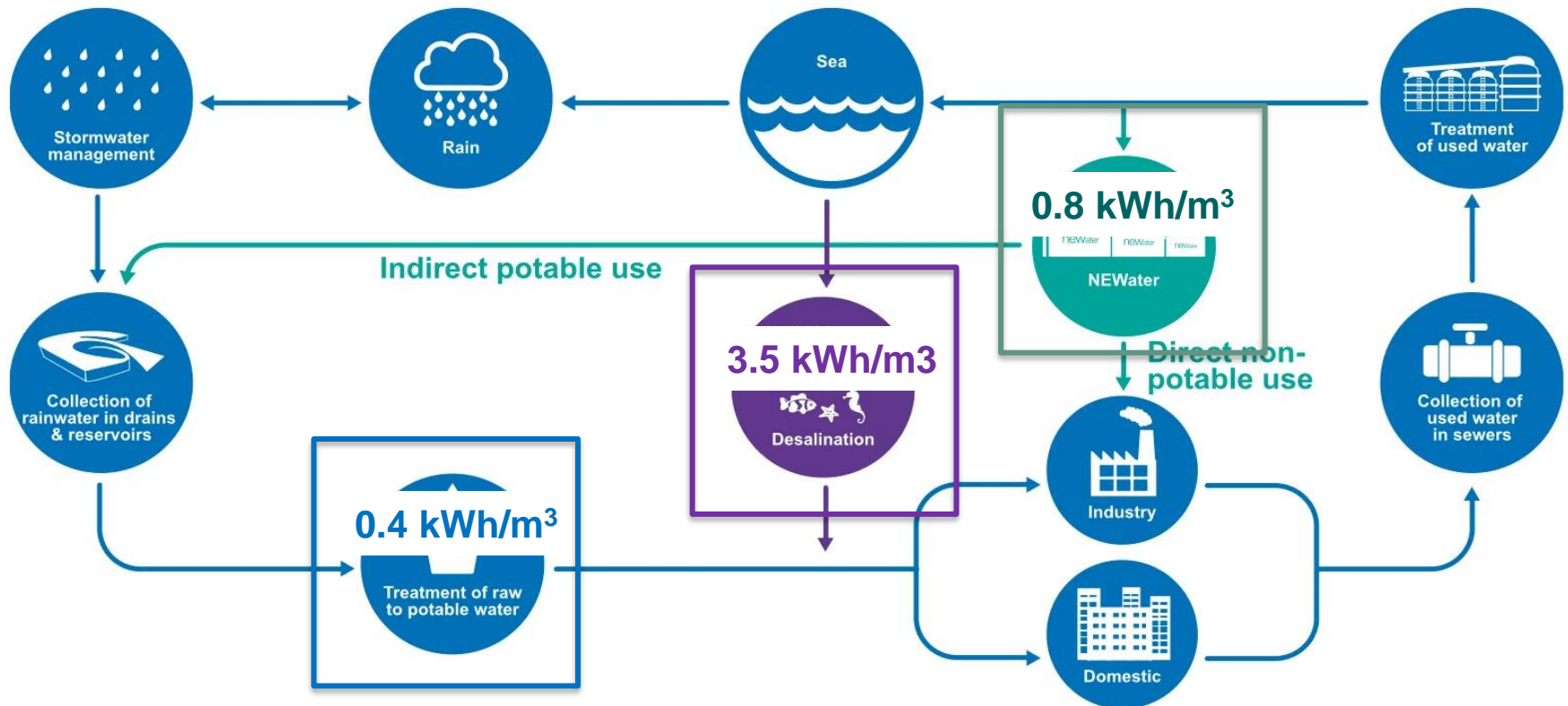
# Need to consider non-conventional resources – a portfolio of options

- Unit costs of **US\$ 0.4**



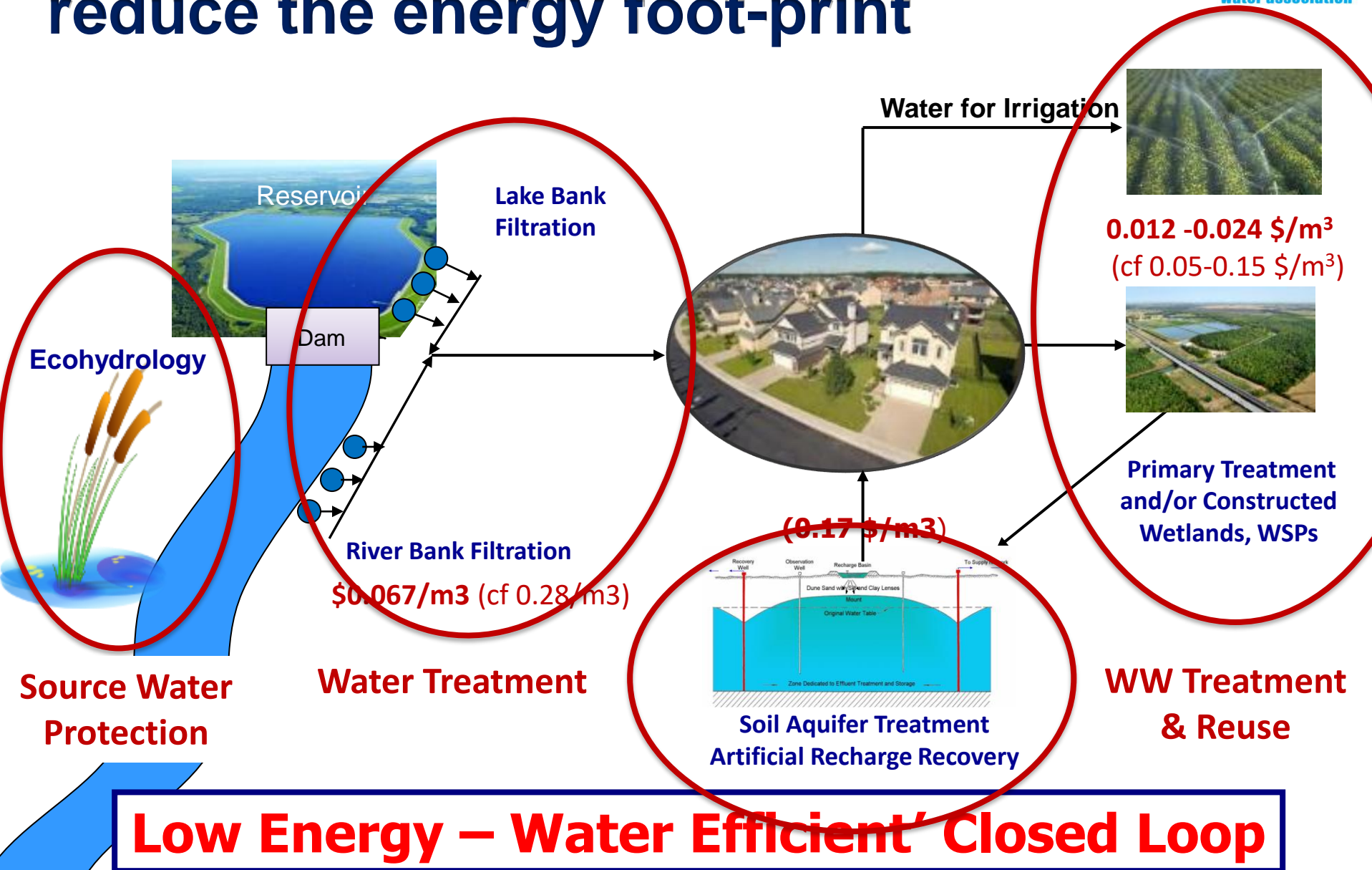
[openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/11964](https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/11964)

# Non-conventional water sources maybe more energy intensive

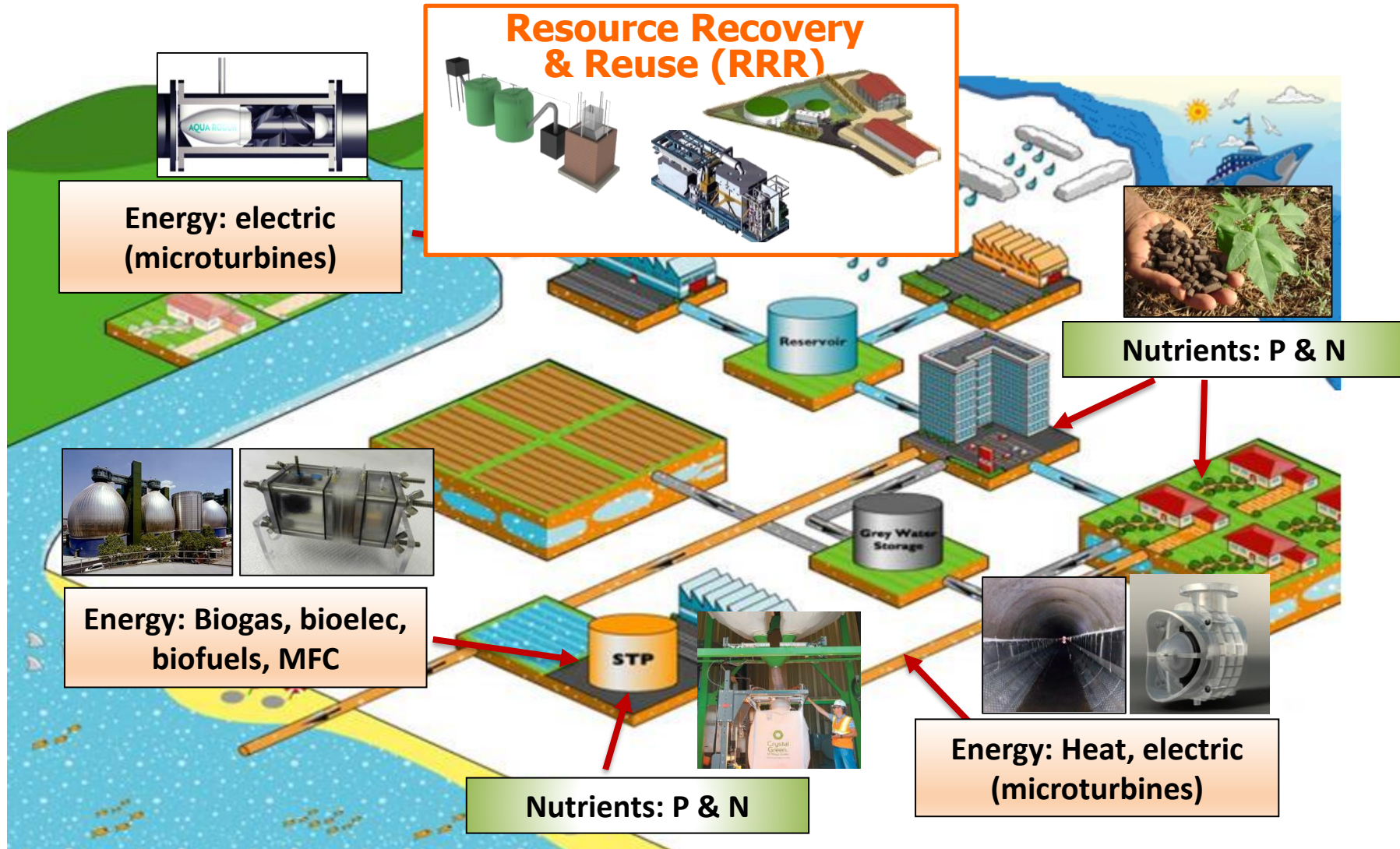




# Natural systems can help reduce the energy foot-print



# Changing our perspective creates opportunity to do things differently

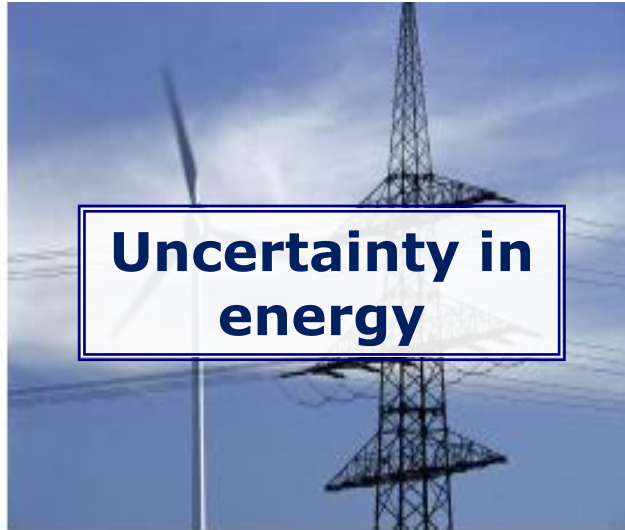
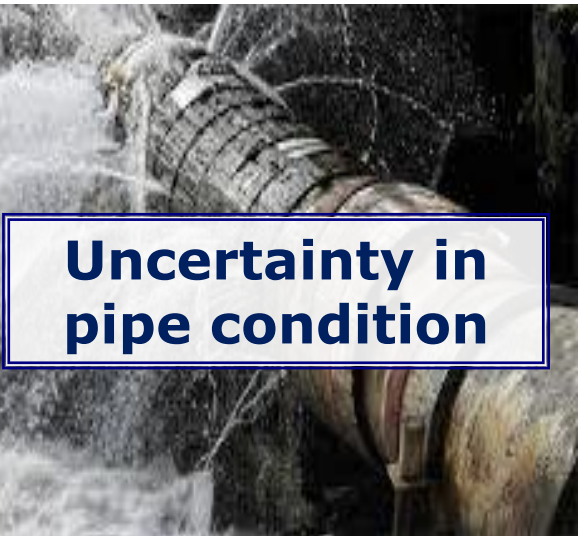


# **changes in perspective**

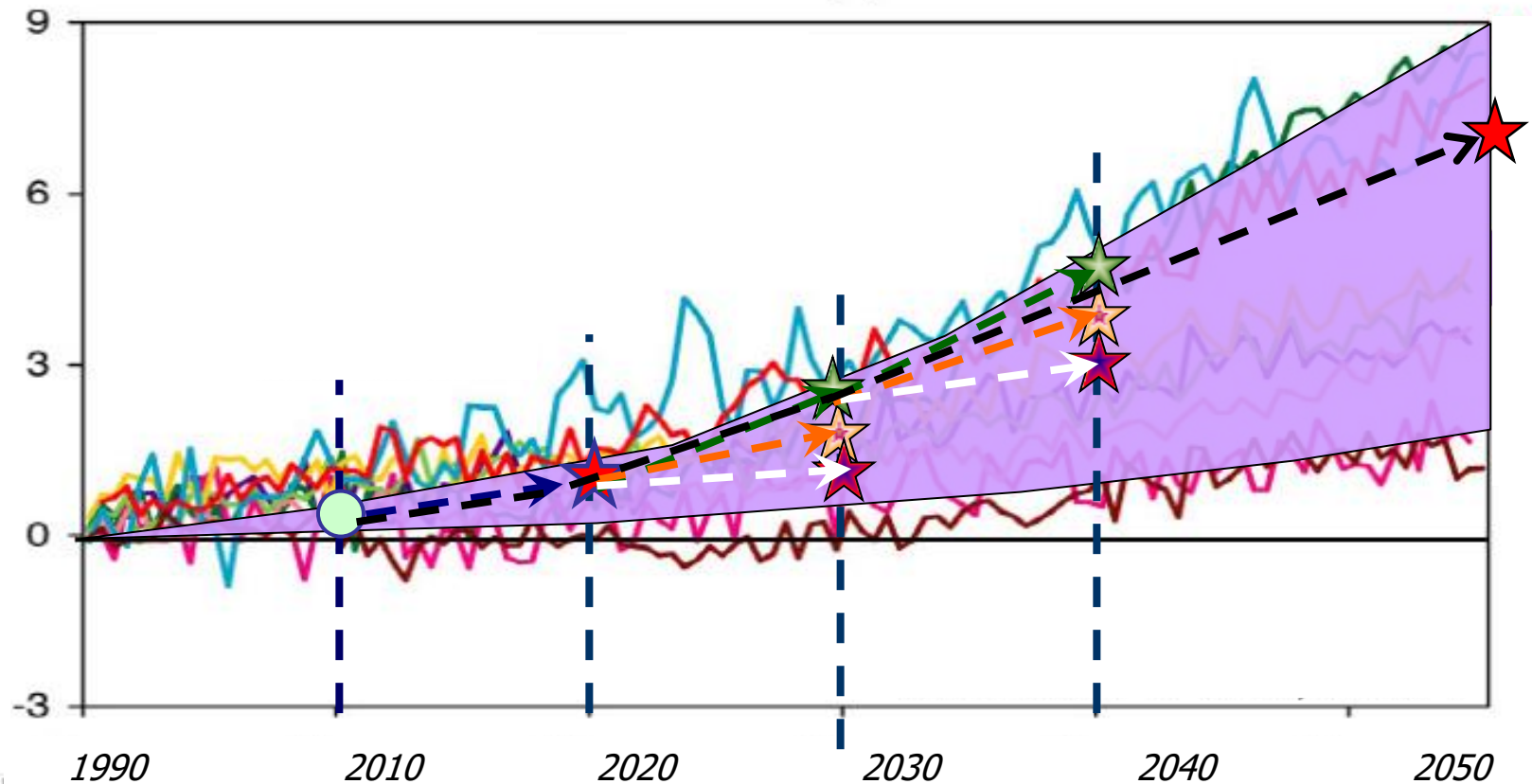
## **water management in an uncertain world**



# We are living in an uncertain world



# We need adaptive/flexible smart systems for an uncertain world





# LID's are modular in nature

eco-treatment



green roofs



pervious pavement



infiltration trench



tree filters



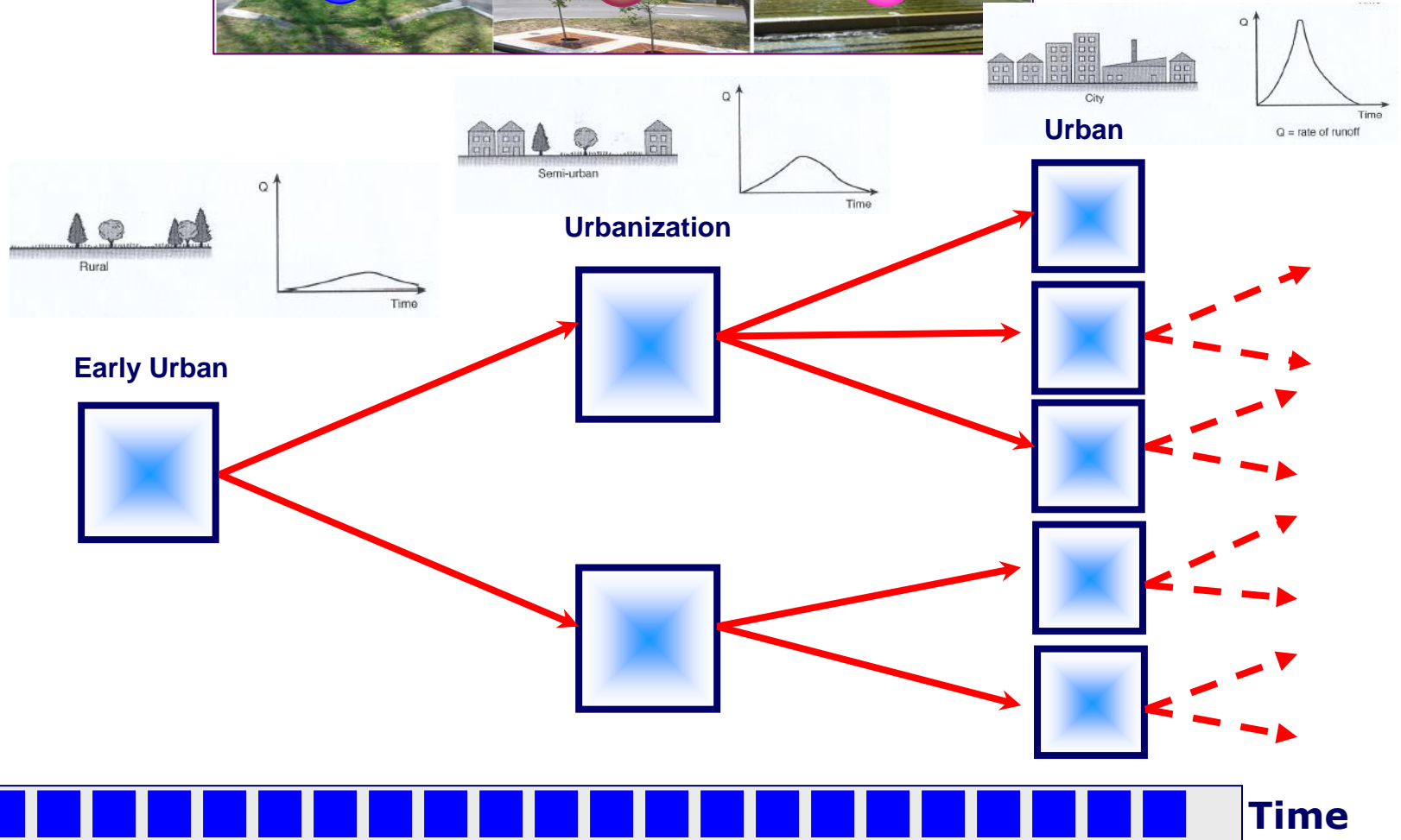
retention pond



**LID's provides modular diversity  
that increases flexibility resulting  
in a complex adaptive system**

*(Sieker et al., 2008, Eckart, 2008)*

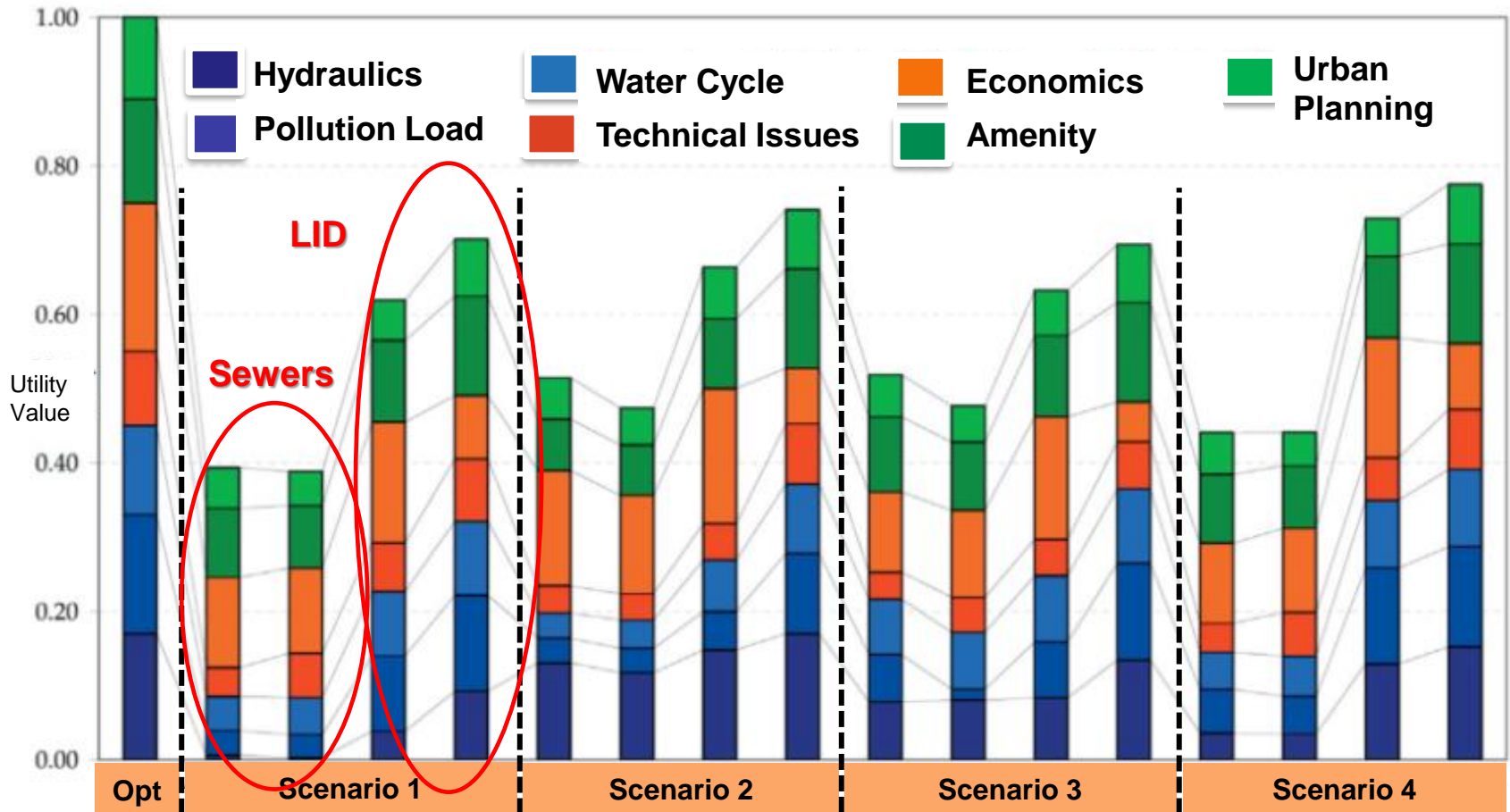
# LID's provide adaptive capacity





# LID's performance better against diverse future scenarios = higher flexibility

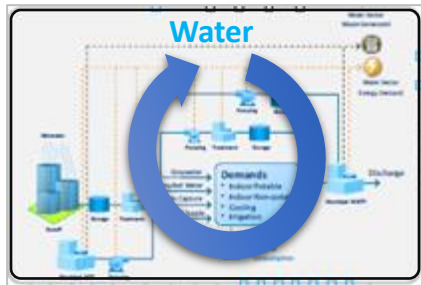
## Case Study: Kupferzell Germany



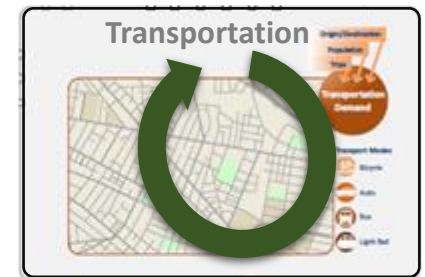
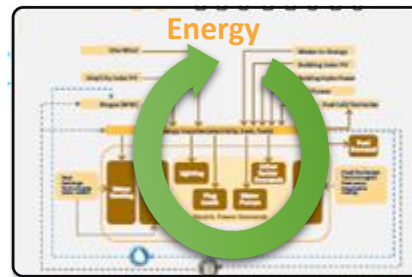
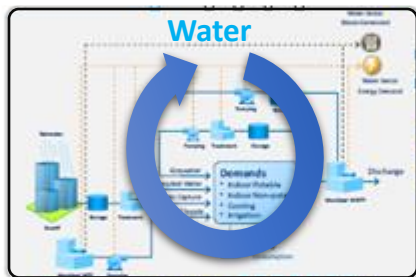
# changes in perspective

we're dealing with a system of systems

# It's ok to optimize at sub-system level



# It's ok to optimize at sub-system level

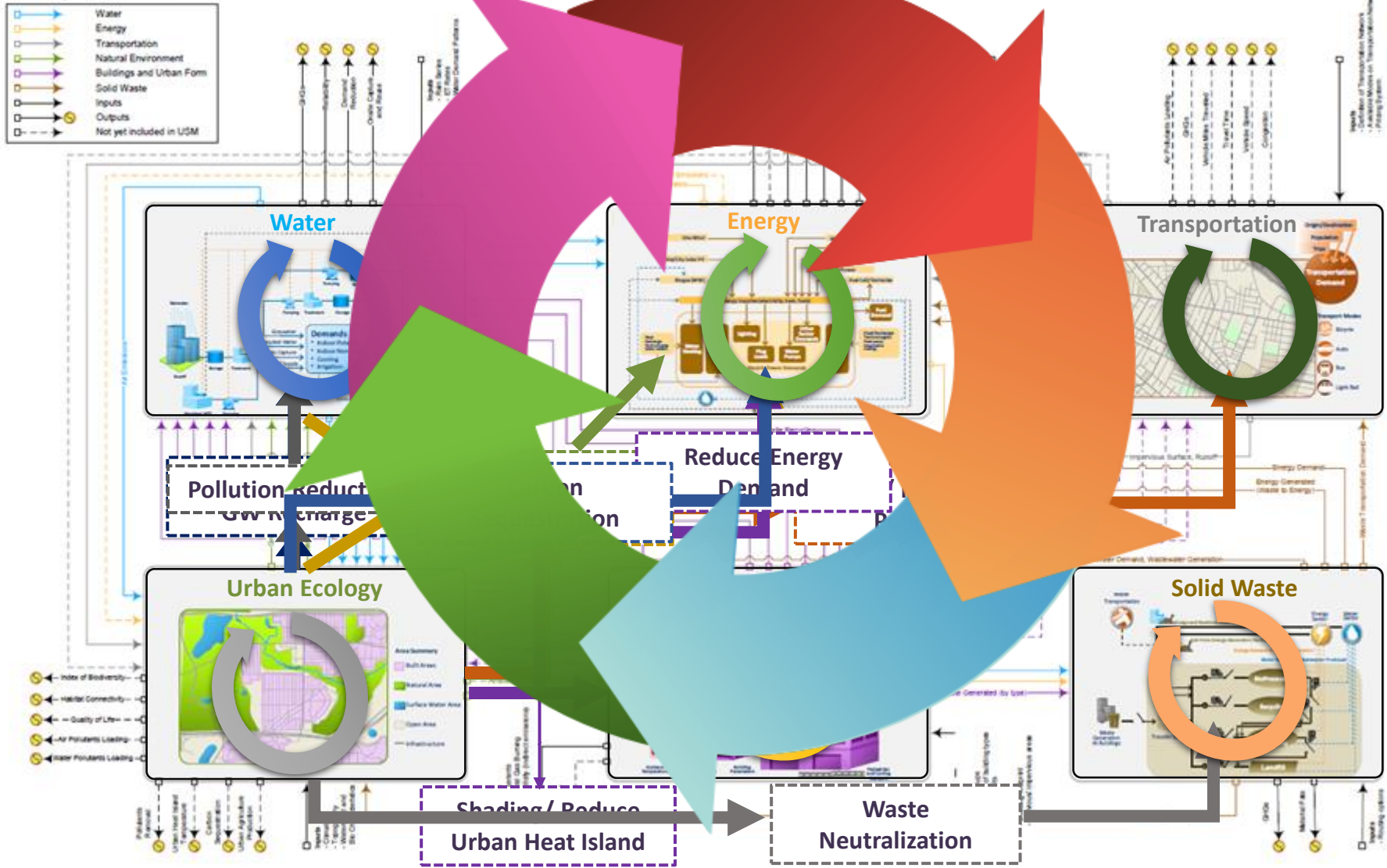




# But we need to recognize that we're dealing with a **'system of systems'**

Urban Systems Model: Relationships Diagram

CDM Neysadurai Centre



# We need to reset the default value in terms of what is a sustainable water utility

- **Reward** increased **water use efficiency**, **resource use efficiency**, **extraction of value from waste** streams
- **Promote** systems that are more **integrated**, **hybrid grey & green**, **multi-use & multi-functional**, **distributed**
- **Encourage** approaches and solutions that are **flexible** and offer increased levels of **immunity to hydrologic cycle**
- **Embed** these concepts into **institutional strengthening** and **capacity building**
- **Support champions** who are creating & implementing these types of systems – **share success stories with others**

# Choices Before Us

**Stay in Lane**

**Business as  
Usual**

**Try Harder**

**Spend More for  
Traditional Sys**

**Paradigm Shift**

**Truly Different  
Approach**



# Thank you!

Follow @IWAHQ on Twitter and share your urban water vision using **#WaterWiseCities**

IWA-Connect Group: Cities of the Future

[www.iwa-network.org](http://www.iwa-network.org)