



TRAINING

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Interventions for EU Cooperation.

54, Rue Joseph II (J54 building) – Brussels,
13h30 – 17h00, 10 January 2025

INTPA.F.2, Water Team, and EU Water Facility

SESSION 2a: WASH actions - Overview

EU Water Facility



WASH actions may look very different depending on context

Demographic/ administrative

- **Urban:** Include cities and small towns with fixed boundaries administered by authorities.
- **Rural:** Administratively (rural authorities) defined with small and / or dispersed populations.
- **Peri-Urban:** transition from urban to rural and a mix of formal authorities (can be urban or rural) and informal populations.

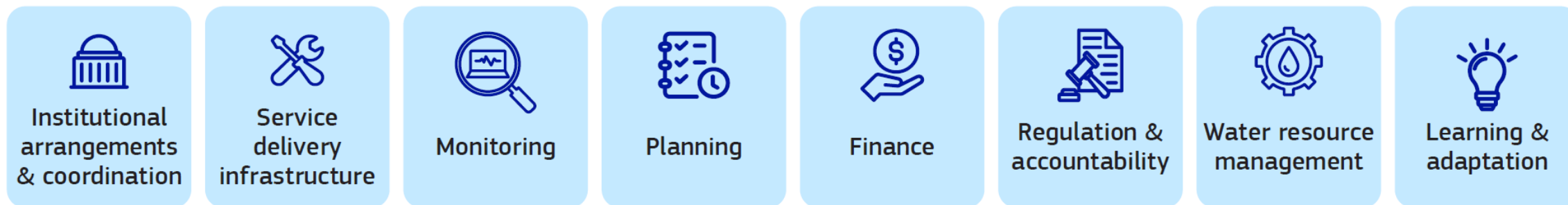
Geographical / topographical

- Location affects the accessibility, availability, development, and implementation of WASH.
- Natural sources may be distant, limiting the amount of water available for use per household per day.
- Poor quality water due to mineralization (salinity, arsenic).
- Mountainous, hilly and flat areas present barriers, e.g. poor soil stability, flooding, contaminated water, structural collapse and climate-proofing from floods and droughts

- *the topography of the land*
- *the latitude*
- *vegetation cover*
- *human impact on the land*
- *the proximity of bodies of water to an area*

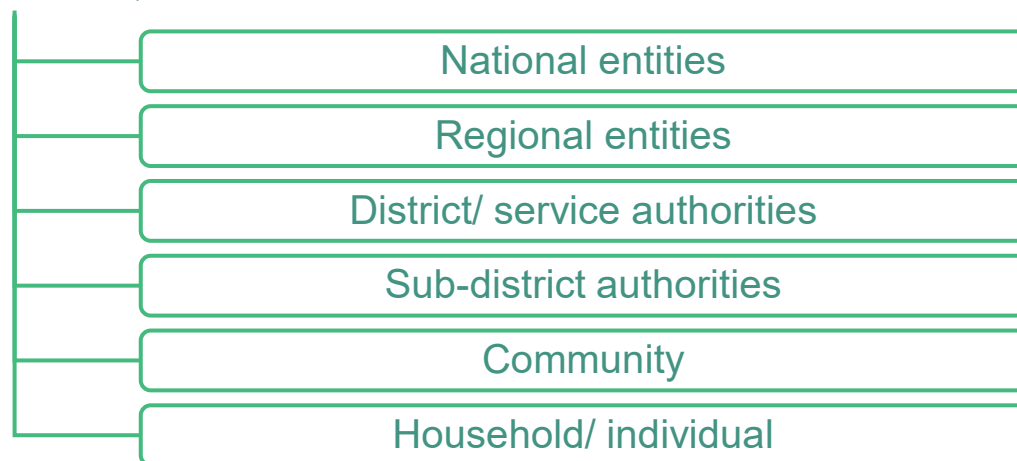


Introducing 'WASH systems' and their 'building blocks'

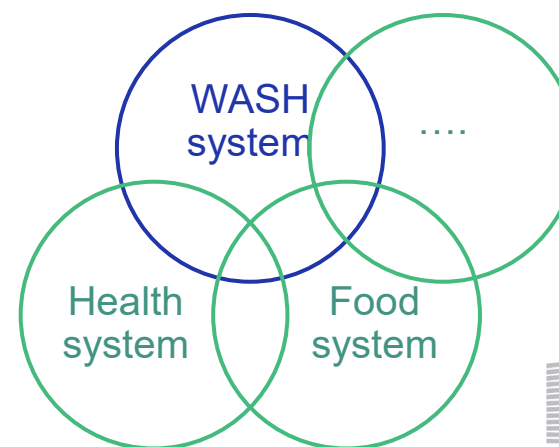


Source: adapted from [Agenda for Change/ RWSN](#)

Multi-level, i.e.



Linked to other systems



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Make-up of 'building blocks' may also vary depending on context

'Typical'
rural

Community

Decentralised
infrastructure

Community-
based

Community/
settlement

Low cost
recovery

Informal, local
accountability
lines

Catchment
management

Informal,
learning by
doing



Institutional
arrangements
& coordination



Service
delivery
infrastructure



Monitoring



Planning



Finance



Regulation &
accountability



Water resource
management



Learning &
adaptation

'Typical'
urban

Utility,
municipality

Networked
infrastructure

Regulated,
formal

Urban/
spatial
planning

Economies of
scale

Regulator/
contract

Bulk supply/
pollution risk

Professional
development



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But reality is often messier

'Typical'
rural

Community

Decentralised
infrastructure

Community-
based

Community/
settlement

Low cost
recovery

Informal, local
accountability
lines

Catchment
management

Informal,
learning by
doing

Community,
utility,
municipality

Decentralised
infrastructure,
networked
infrastructure

Community-
based,
regulated,
informal

Community/
settlement/
spatial

Low cost
recovery AND
economies of
scale

Informal, local
accountability
lines,
regulator,
contracts

Catchment
management,
bulk supply,
pollution risk

Informal,
learning by
doing,
professional
development

'Typical'
urban

Utility,
municipality

Networked
infrastructure

Regulated,
formal

Urban/
spatial
planning

Economies of
scale;

Regulator/
contract

Bulk supply/
pollution risk

Professional
development



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How can **innovation** address challenges across WASH system building blocks?

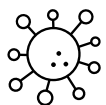


Challenge: increasing resilience of WASH infrastructure to climate change

WASH services are highly vulnerable to
climate change impacts



Reduced water availability



Increased concentration of
contaminants in water bodies



Damage to WASH infrastructure
from climate extremes



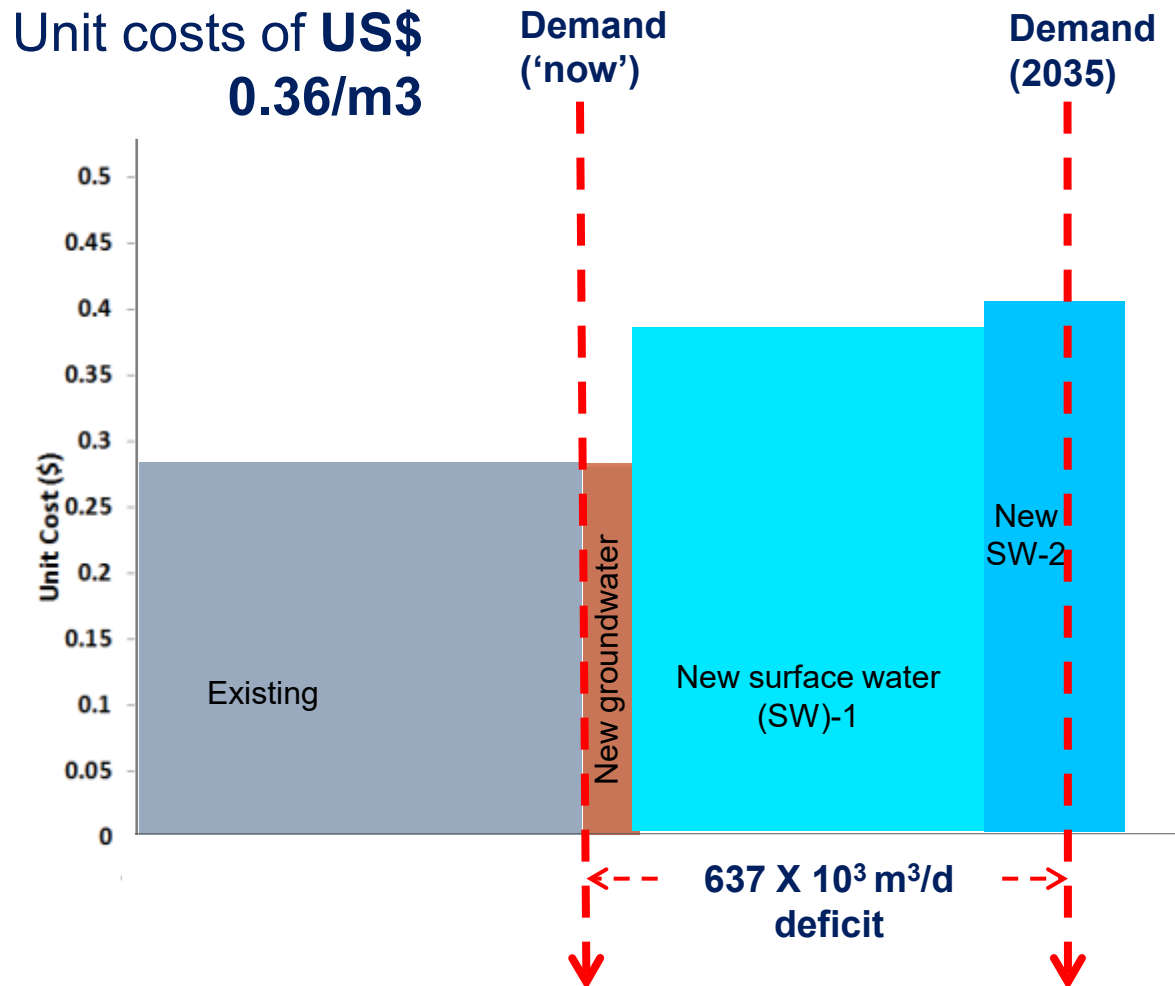
Increased water-related disease
risks from flood and drought



Increasing salinity of coastal water
resources from sea-level rise

But... managing
climate change
impacts on WASH
can in turn enhance
household,
community and
societal resilience

Challenge: increasing resilience of bulk urban water supply infrastructure to climate change



So, which approach???

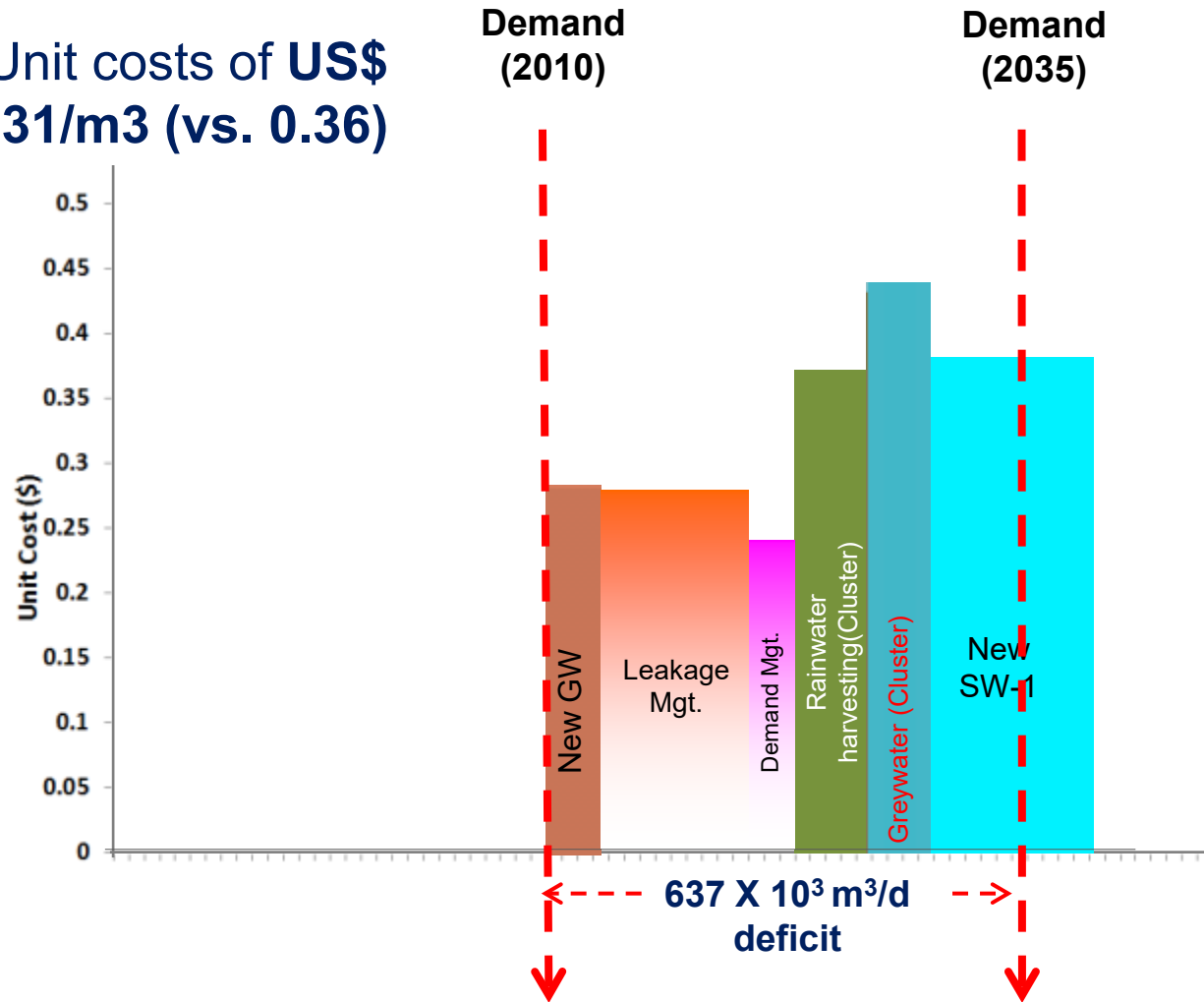
Typical solutions: **import more water** to meet growing needs; augment supplies

- Not always possible from an **economic, social and environmental perspective.**
- Regions under water stress cannot forecast availability also because **lack of data**

Challenge: increasing resilience of bulk urban water supply infrastructure to climate change

Solutions: a diversified approach – demand and supply side measures

Unit costs of US\$
0.31/m³ (vs. 0.36)



Diversified portfolio of options including at local level, with greater built-in **redundancy**. Requires understanding:

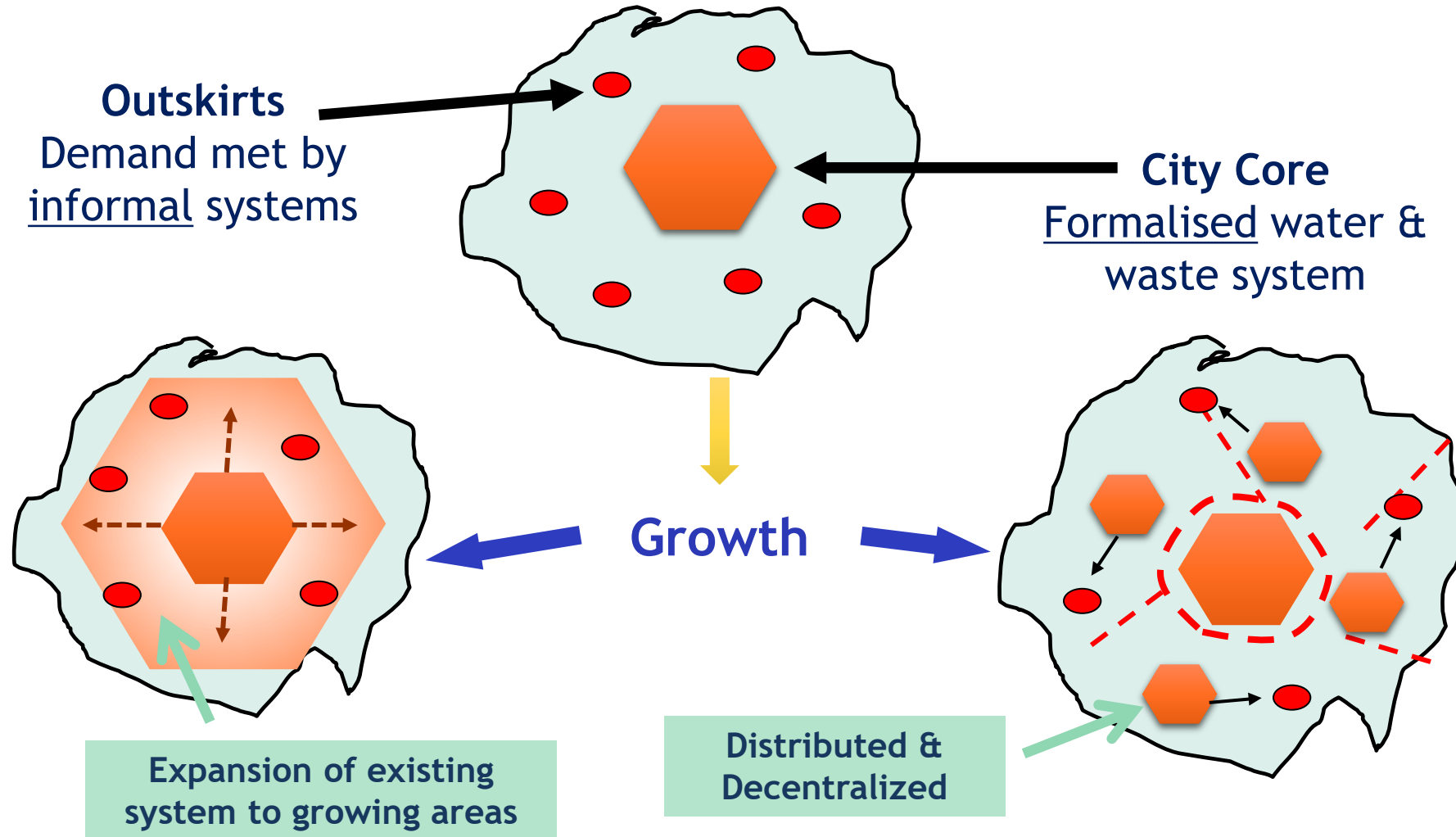
- **Local needs**, through an analysis of locally **used waters**, in all sectors.
- Integration of **local legislation and norms** in the process
- Adaptation to **local culture and habits**, which can greatly influence political choices.



Planning

Challenge: planning water supplies for fast growing cities

Solutions: a spatial approach to WASH infrastructure



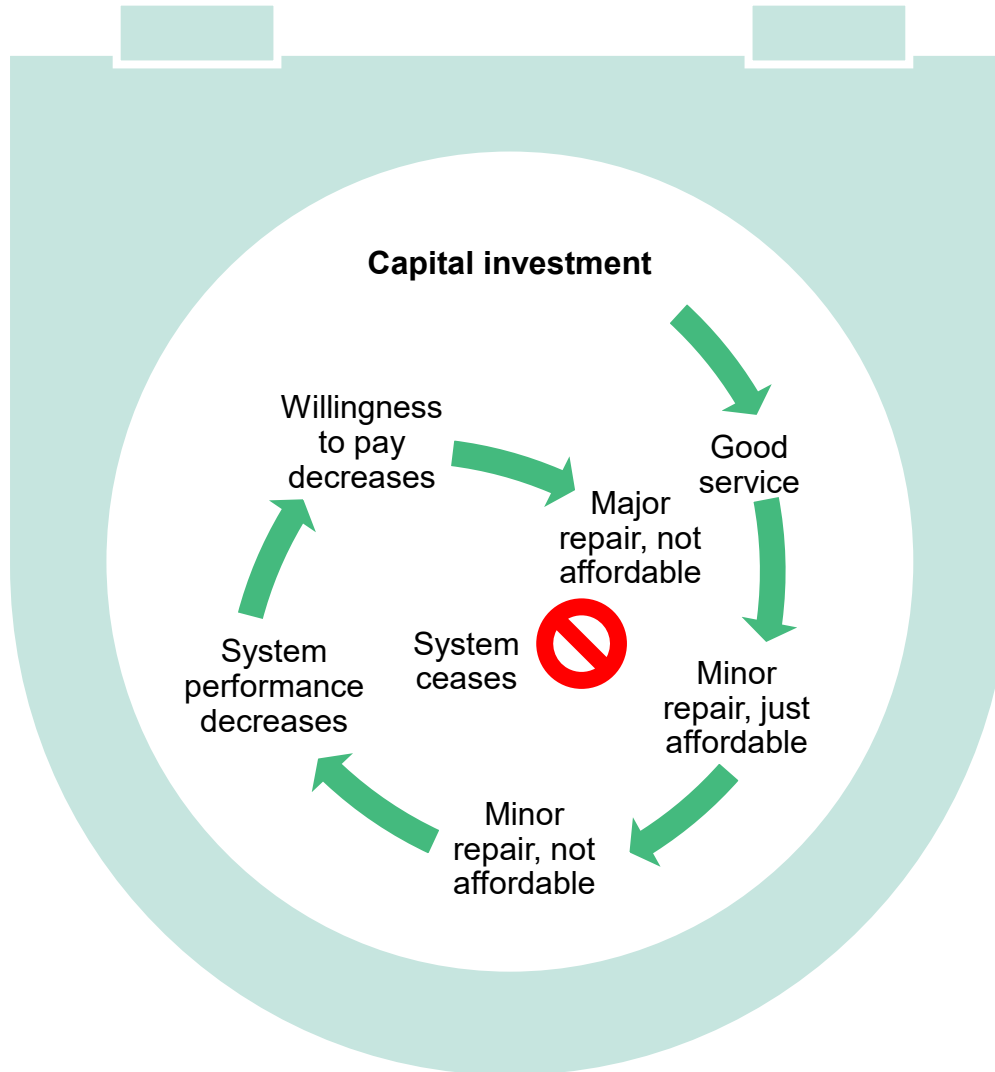
Opportunities to create new paradigms (not extend old ones), especially in fast growing urban realities in Africa LAC and Asia, e.g. through decentralized/ distributed systems with delegated management



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Challenge: sustainable financing for rural water and urban sanitation



Common for **initial capital investments** to be **wasted** because of difficulty securing sufficient finance for maintenance:

- Inefficiencies
- Low rates of cost recovery

→ Resulting in systems ceasing to function after a few years



Finance

Challenge: sustainable financing for rural water and urban sanitation

Solutions: Novel contracts to incentivise sustainable management

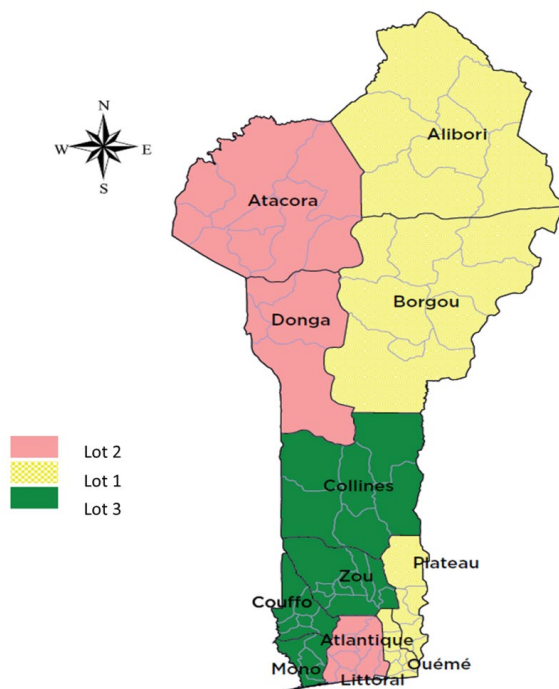
“Regional Affermage” – Rural drinking water, Benin

Rural water O&M previously delegated to municipalities and subsidised concession contracts with poor results

New approach rationalises into 3 zones (~9million people) – one contract per zone

Contract (affermage) incentivises non-revenue water reduction, improved bill collection

Source: World Bank (2022) [The Water Blog](#)



“Hybrid Annuity Model” – Urban sanitation, India

Sewage treatment plants often constructed then neglected

Model shares construction costs between private operator (60%) and government (40%). Operator repaid via annuities over 15 years if they meet performance standards

Construction phase
40% public;
60% private



O&M phase
Annuity payments over 15 yrs
reimburse capital and O&M
costs Linked to performance
standards

Source: Mehta (2023) [Leveraging Private Investment in Sanitation and Wastewater in India](#)



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Working across WASH systems example: Klinpela Komuniti Projek, PNG



WASH in ADs and Proposals

Trends

- WASH-related Projects focussing on 'Secondary Cities'
- ADs addressing 'Coastal' Environments
- Infrastructure projects (dams, canals)

Gaps

- WASH cited as problem but not addressed
- Focus on one WASH component only
- Supporting documents not provided



WASH systems resources

- ✓ WASH Systems Academy – learning platform for WASH systems strengthening
- ✓ WASH Agenda for Change – NGO collaboration on WASH systems strengthening
- ✓ USAID Learning Partnership on Sustainable WASH Systems (2016-2021)
- ✓ EU Study of Sector Wide Approach in the Water Sector (not explicitly 'systems' language, but similar thinking!)
- ✓ World Bank: The Future of Water in African Cities: Why Waste Water? (2013)

WASH programme guidance

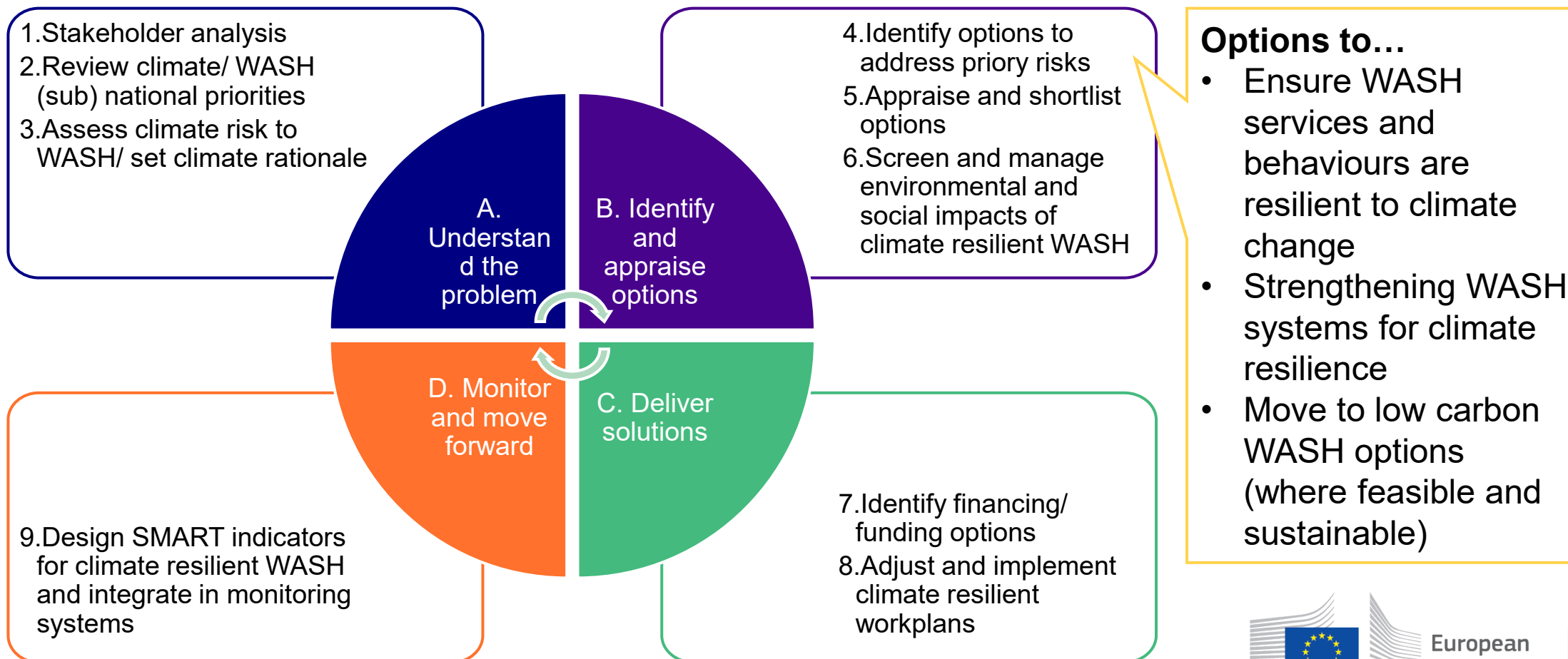
- ✓ Results and Indicators for Development in the Water Sector (EU)
- ✓ QUICK TIPS: Integrating the Environment and Climate Change in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) (EU)
- ✓ QUICK TIPS: Activities that qualify for Rio markers in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) (EU)
- ✓ WATER PROJECT TOOLKIT - Water Resources Management for Sustainable Development (EU)
- ✓ Financial Innovations for Rural Water Supply in Low-Resource Settings (USAID)
- ✓ Technological Innovations for Rural Water Supply in Low-Resource Settings (USAID)



Sources of support

- ✓ INTPA.F2 Water Team: INTPA-F2-WATER-SECTOR@ec.europa.eu
- ✓ EU Water Facility Technical Assistance and support for proposal development: direct in-country assessments and Action Document design.
- ✓ Collaboration opportunities with partners on WASH investments and advocacy (e.g. Sanitation and Water for All, GWOPA, Climate Investor 2, UN-Water, EU water industry & CSO associations).

Climate resilient WASH programming



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