



Cities of the Future

A New Paradigm for Water Centric Sustainable Communities

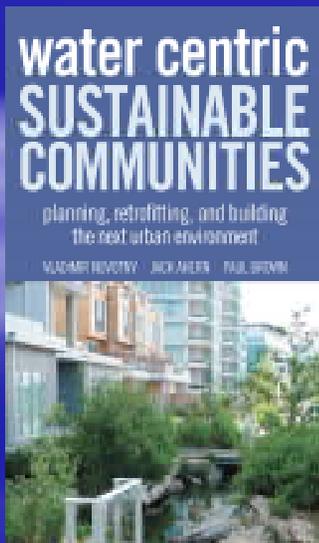
Vladimir Novotny

AquaNova, LLC

**Mountain Green: Sustainable Communities
Conference**

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Trinity of sustainability

Society

Domestic use, basic food production

Global warming

Environment
water and air

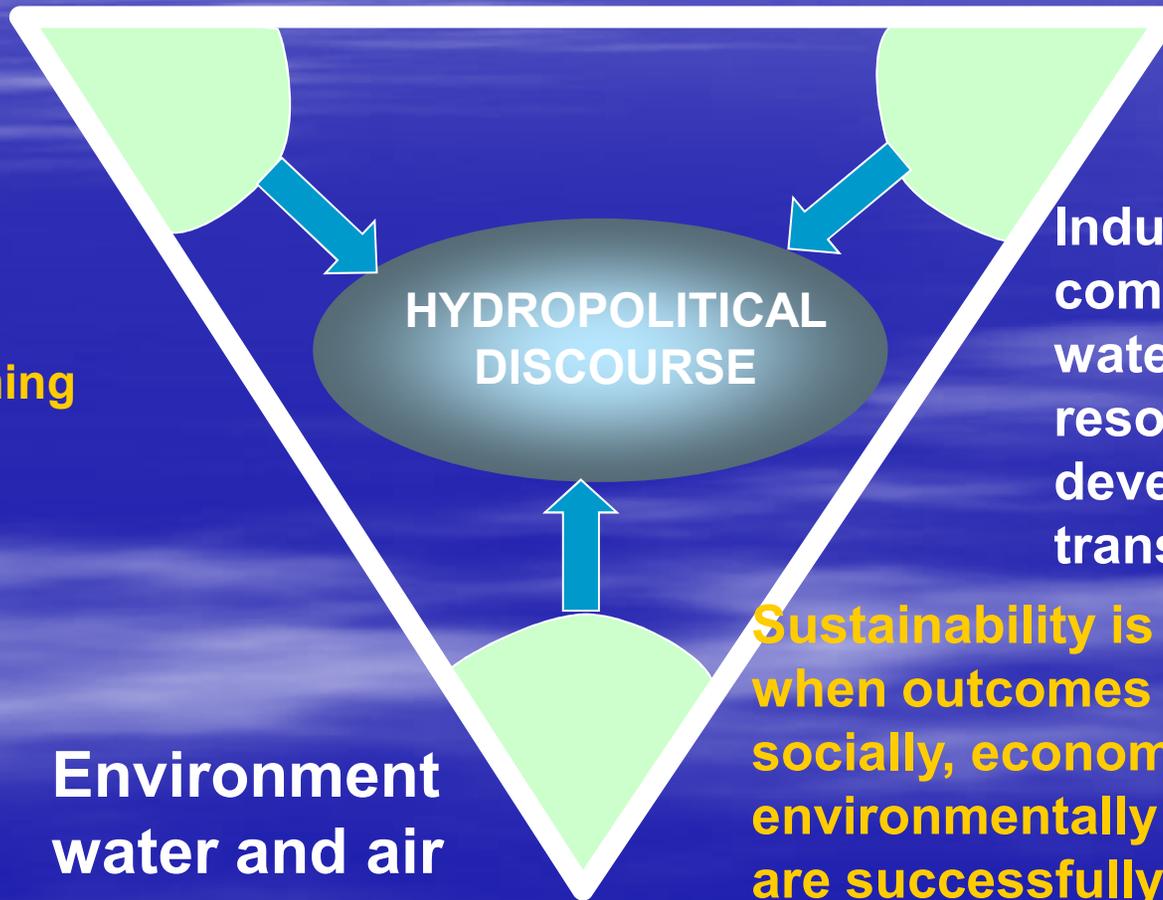
Economy

(Infrastructure)

Industrial and commercial use of water and water resources, land development, transportation

HYDROPOLITICAL DISCOURSE

Sustainability is achieved when outcomes which are socially, economically and environmentally sustainable, are successfully contended in the intergenerational context



Sustainable development

- Defined as one that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations.
- Urban sustainability is compromised by
 - Population increases and migration
 - In the next 50 years the world population is expected to increase 50% and the US population by 30-40%. The largest increases will occur in urban areas.
 - Increasing imperviousness of watersheds, more polluted runoff
 - Unbalanced hydrology by sewers and switch from community water and wastewater works to large regional transfers of water and sewage
 - Excessive use of water
 - Fast conveyance type drainage relying on sewers
 - Competing uses

PARADIGM

- A model and a set of rules how ideas are linked together and form a conceptual framework by which people build and operate the cities and manage their water resources
- It is based on logic, common sense, generational experience, and later, scientific knowledge
- It is derived by a discourse in the political domain; science or good engineering alone may not be the primary determinant of a paradigm
- A wrong or outdated paradigm may persist because of tradition, lack of information about the pros and cons of the outdated paradigm or lack of resources to change it

First paradigm



Drainage of Agora in Athens

Wells for water supply ,



Pompeii in Italy street was the drainage

streets for drainage, night soil disposal

Paradigm II

II. Long distance water transfers and storm water with some sewage drained by sewers

Rainwater harvesting and storage has been used for thousands years



Pont du Gard



6th century water cistern in Istanbul

Paradigms of urban drainage have changed over millennia - Paradigm II



Long distance water transfers and storm water with some sewage drained by sewers

Pont du Gard



Lead (Rome)
and wood pipes





Another aqueduct in
France

Roman sewer Cloaca
Maxima



Under the 3th Paradigm

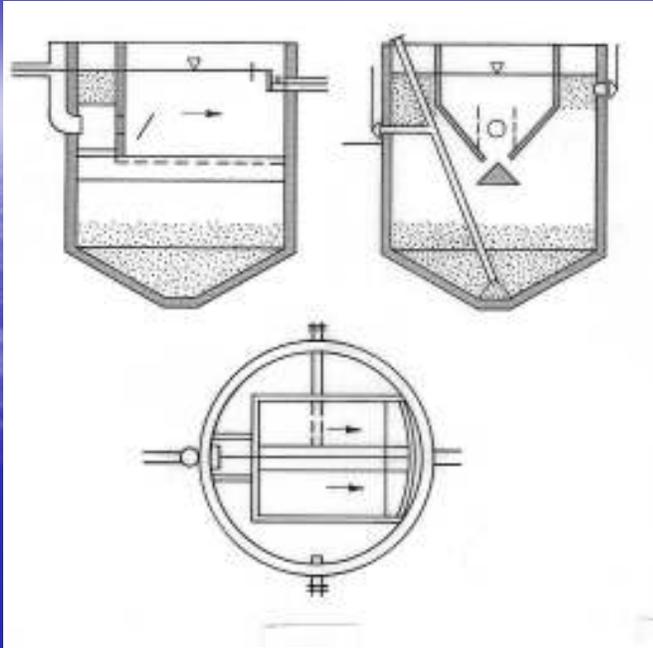
- Surface streams disappeared from the surface and were converted to combined sewers



Mill Creek in Philadelphia



Credit Historic Archives of the Philadelphia Water Department



Simple treatment plants
were built in the first half
of the 20th century



Cuyahoga River in Cleveland on fire

Gulf of Mexico on fire in May 2010

Paradigm IV



Control of CSOs in Milwaukee

Milwaukee has built 4 million m³ underground tunnel to store CSOs and by-passes from sanitary sewers. The tunnel reduced the frequency of overflows from about 40/year to 2/year. The target frequency was ordered by a court.

The tunnel was drilled 100 meter below surface in the dolomite formation (soft rock). Wall of the tunnel were grouted by epoxy grout to minimize groundwater infiltration.

3rd and 4th Paradigm
resulted in a perfect
delivery of
pollutants to
receiving waters



PROBLEMS WITH THE 4th PARADIGM

- Natural hydrologic status of urban water bodies and watersheds has been modified by imperviousness, building sewers and stream modifications with the impacts on

- **Streams**

- Increased high flows (more flooding).
- Peak flows increase by a factor of 4 to 10
- Less base flow - not enough base flow to sustain viable fish population
- Increased variability (flow, temperature, DO)
- Increased stream bank erosion

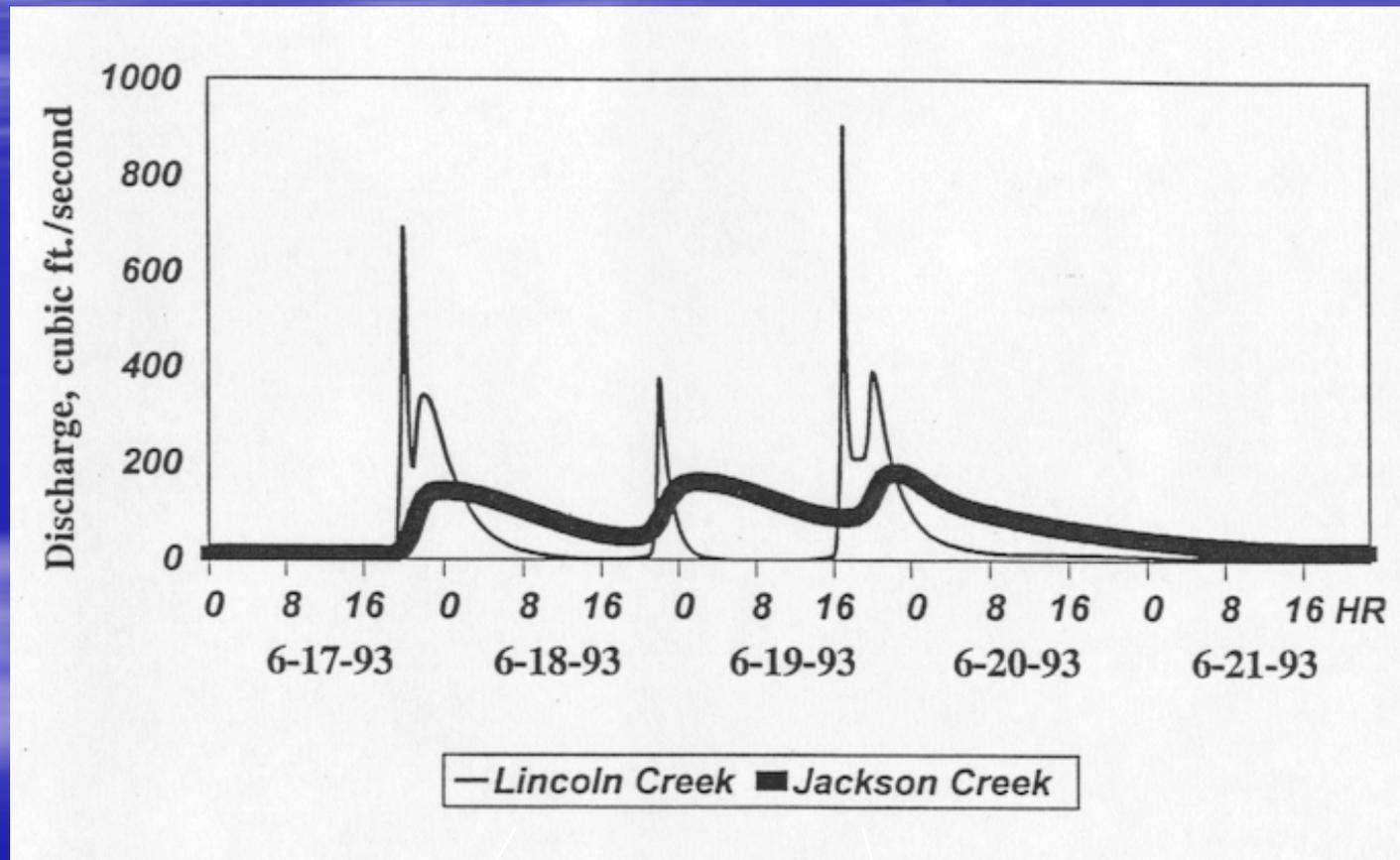
- **Groundwater**

- Groundwater recharge is diminished, leading to dropping the groundwater table.
 - Effect on foundations (Boston, Venice, Mexico City)
 - Diminishing groundwater supply
 - Diminished base flow



PROBLEM

No or not enough base flow in urban streams



Urban

Rural

New Threats to Water Supplies and Ecology



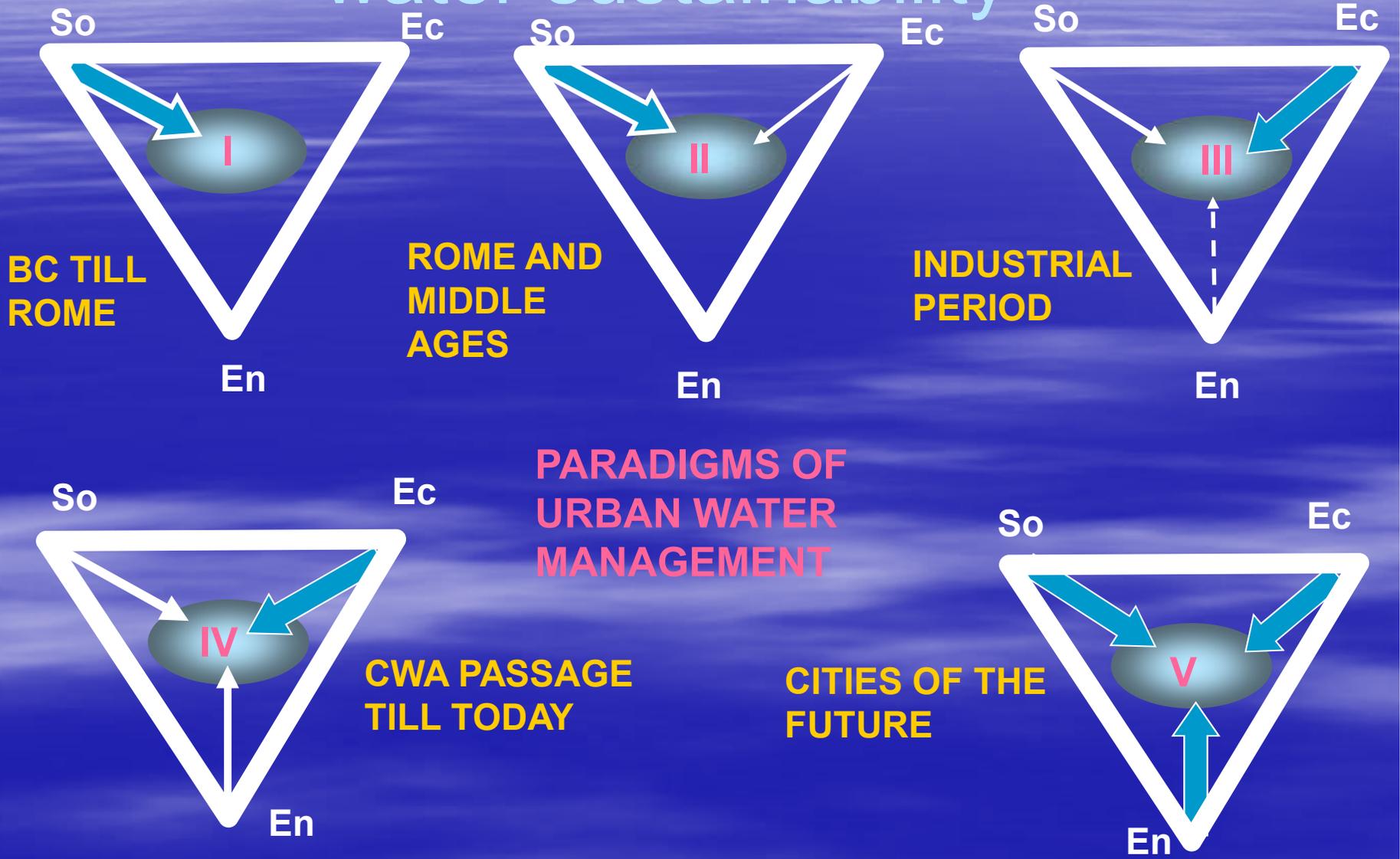
Urban pond in China



Reservoir supplying water for Prague

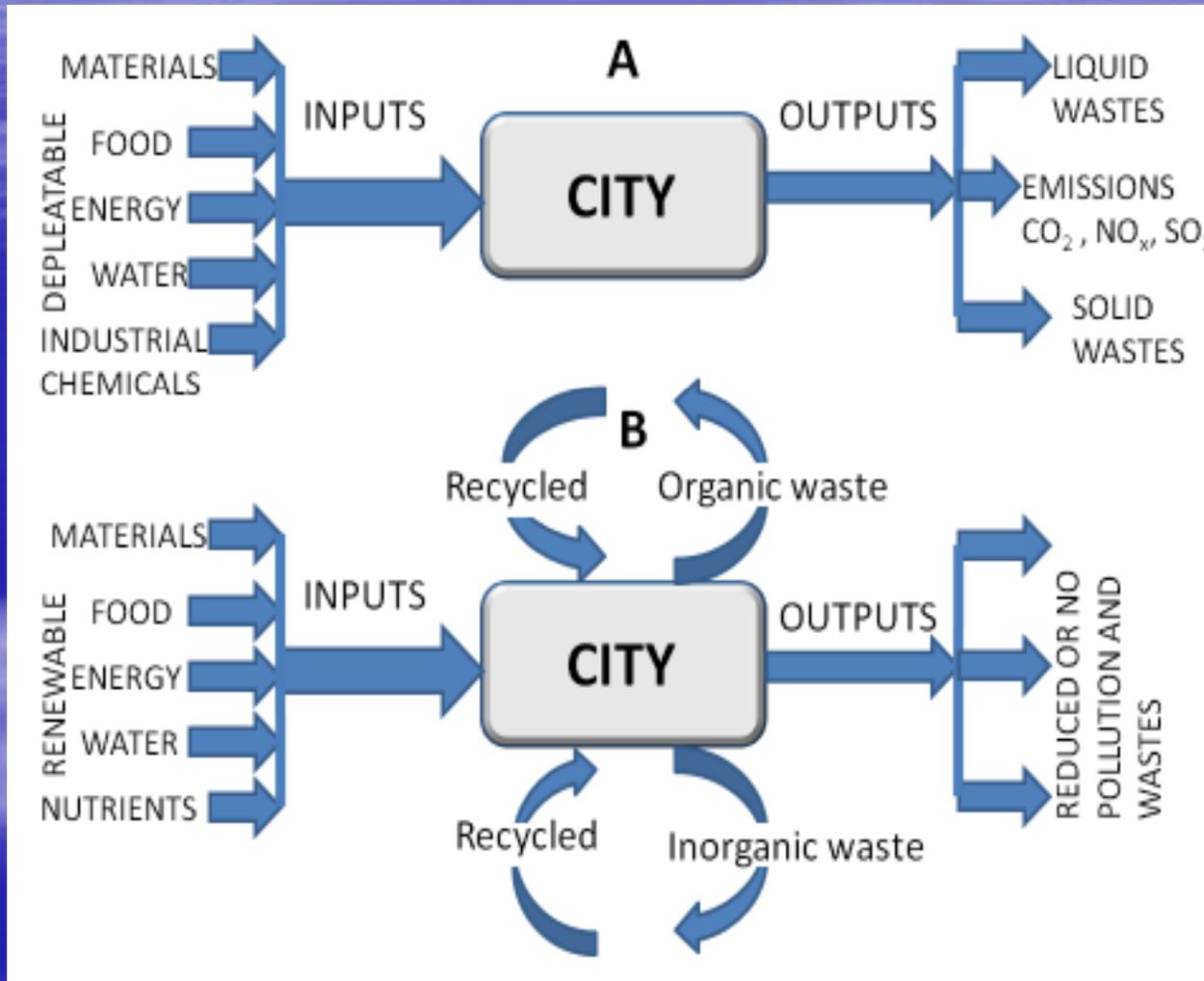
- Hypertrophic water bodies (too much nutrient discharge causing extreme algal infestation – algal bloom)
 - Toxins
 - Loss of oxygen and biota
 - Loss of recreation
- New chemicals accumulate in the environment
 - Endocrine disruptors
 - Pharmaceutical
 - Antibiotics
 - Nanoparticles

Change of the paradigm to urban water sustainability



PARADIGMS OF URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT

Urban Metabolism



A Linear

B or
Cyclic
Hybrid

- **Current urban systems are mostly linear**

- Excessive water volumes are withdrawn from mostly distant surface and groundwater sources
 - Inside the community water is used only once and wastefully, e.g., treated drinking water is used in landscape irrigation for growing grass
 - Great losses of water by leaks and evapotranspiration
- Water is transferred underground to distant large wastewater treatment plants
 - The WTP use a lot of energy and emit carbon and often methane which are green house gases
 - The receiving water bodies become effluent dominated after discharge

Footprints

- A “footprint” is a quantitative measure showing the appropriation of natural resources by human beings
 - **Ecological** - a measure of the use of bio-productive space (e.g., hectares (acres) of productive land needed to support life in the cities)
 - **Water** - measures the total water use on site and also virtual water (usually expressed per capita)
 - **Carbon** - is a measure of the impact that human activities have on the environment in terms of the amount of GHG emissions measured in units of carbon dioxide

Ecological footprint

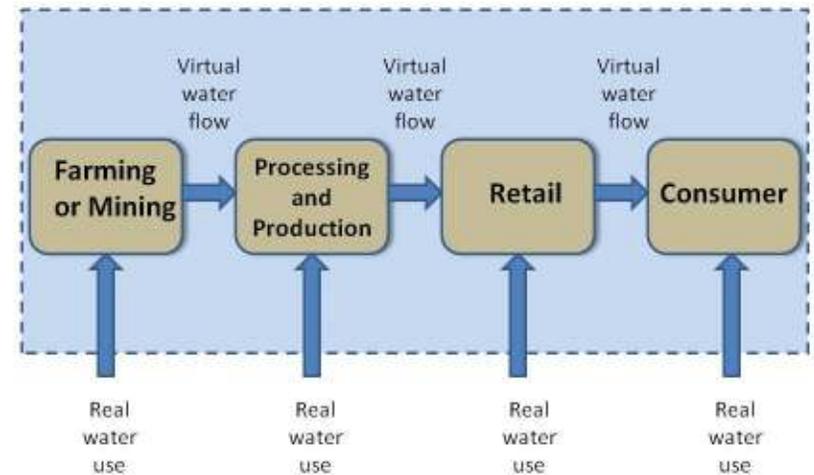
Year	World Population	Available productive land	
		Ha/person	Ac/person
1995	< 6 billion	1.5	3.6
2040	10 billion	<<1	2
Current ecological footprint			
Countries with 1 ha/cap or less		Most cities in undeveloped countries	
Countries with 2-3 ha/person		Japan and Republic of Korea (democratic)	
Countries with 3-4 ha/person		Austria, Belgium, United Kingdom, Denmark, France, Germany, Netherlands, Switzerland	
Countries with 4-5 ha/person		Australia, Canada and USA	

Imbalance

If the cities in the currently rapidly developing countries (China, India, Brazil) try to reach the same resource use as that in developed countries, conflicts may ensue

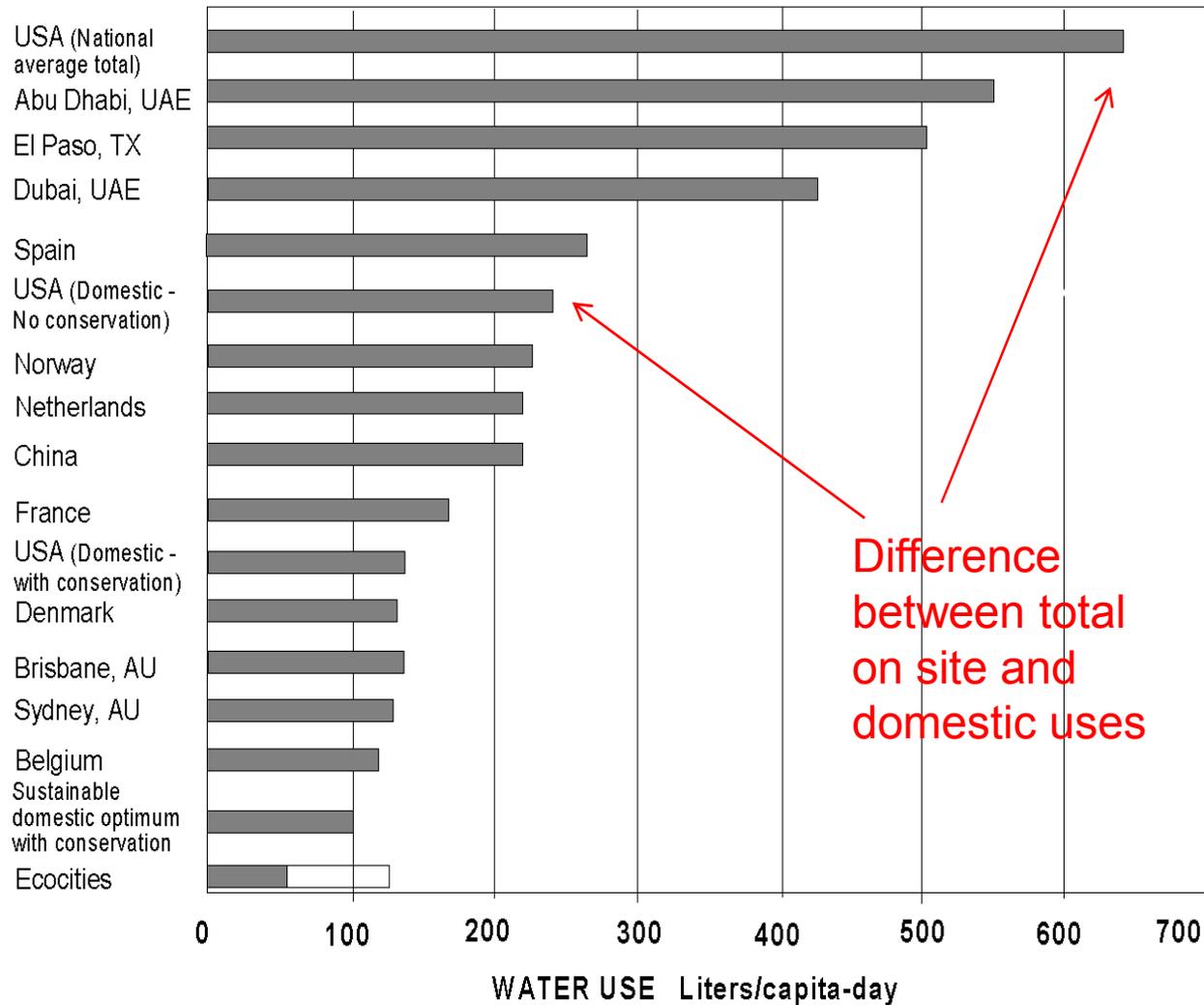
Water footprint

- On-site water use
 - Domestic
 - Indoor
 - Outdoor (irrigation)
 - Commercial
 - Public (fire, parks)
- Virtual
 - All water used in production in imported food and materials needed in the city



Source Hoekstra (2008)

Water use in some cities



VIRTUAL WATER

l/cap-day

Food 1928

Electricity 53-73

liter/kg

Beef 15,500

Corn 900

Milk 1,000

1 gallon=3.78 liters

1 kg = 2.2 lbs

Difference
between total
on site and
domestic uses

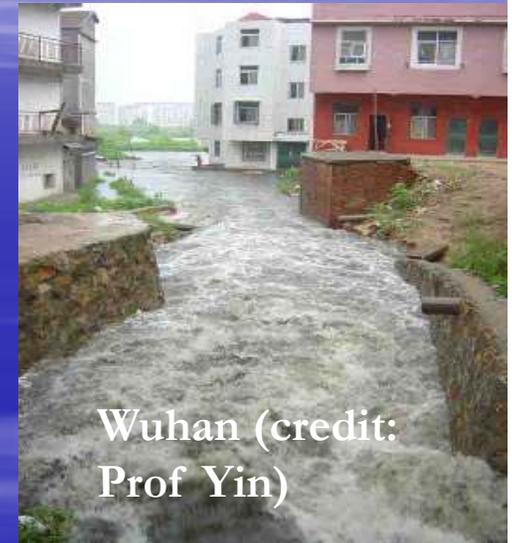
GHG (carbon) Emission by Cities

Top ten countries in the CO ₂ emissions in tons/person-year in 2006 ¹									
Qatar	UAE	Kuwait	Bahrain	Aruba	Luxembourg	USA	Australia	Canada	Saudi Arabia
56.2	32.8	31.8	28.8	23.3	22.4	19.1	18.8	17.4	15.8
Selected world cities total emissions of CO ₂ equivalent in tons/person-year ²									
Washington DC	Glasgow UK	Toronto CA	Shanghai, China	New York City	Beijing China	London UK	Tokyo Japan	Seoul Korea	Barcelona Spain
19.7	8.4	8.2	8.1	7.1	6.9	6.2	4.8	3.8	3.4
Selected US cities domestic emissions of CO ₂ equivalent in tons/person-year ³									
San Diego CA	San Francisco	Boston MA	Portland OR	Chicago IL	Tampa FL	Atlanta GA	Tulsa OK	Austin TX	Memphis TN
7.2	4.5	8.7	8.9	9.3	9.3	10.4	9.9	12.6	11.06
¹ Wikipedia (2009); ² Dodman (2009) ; ³ Gleaser and Kahn (2008) ^{2,3} Values include transportation, heating, and electricity									

GHG = Green House Gases (CO₂, methane, nitrogen oxides and other gases)

PROBLEMS WITH THE 4th PARADIGM

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 - **Streams**
 - Increased high flows (more flooding).
 - Peak flows increase by a factor of 4 to 10
 - Less base flow - not enough base flow to sustain viable fish population
 - Increased variability (flow, temperature, DO)
 - Increased stream bank erosion
 - **Groundwater recharge is diminished**
 - Effect on foundations (Boston, Venice, Mexico City, Philadelphia)
 - Diminishing groundwater supply
 - Diminish base flow in river
 - **The goals of the Clean Water Act and OPL goals cannot be attained using the IVth paradigm infrastructure heavy and energy demanding concepts**



Mexico City

Processes of resource recovery and conservation of diminishing resources

- Water conservation and reclamation and reuse of used water
- Energy use savings and reclamation from various sources, such as heat, electricity, methane recovery from wastewater and organic wastes, and renewable wind, solar, and geothermal power sources
- Recycling of organic solid waste for power generation by incineration or methane biogas production, or cardboard or paper production
- Recycling of inorganic waste from metal, asphalt, glass, insulation, construction materials, and other products

Driving Forces towards Sustainability

- Increasing water scarcity, excessive flooding and conversion into effluent dominated waters will require management of the total urban water hydrological cycle and decentralization of the urban sewerage
- Goals of achieving good ecological status and integrity are mandated by Clean Water Act in US and Water Framework Directive in EU and desired by public
- Limits have been reached and something has to be done
- Cities are rapidly expanding and new large cities have to be build to accommodate population growth and movement from rural to urban areas

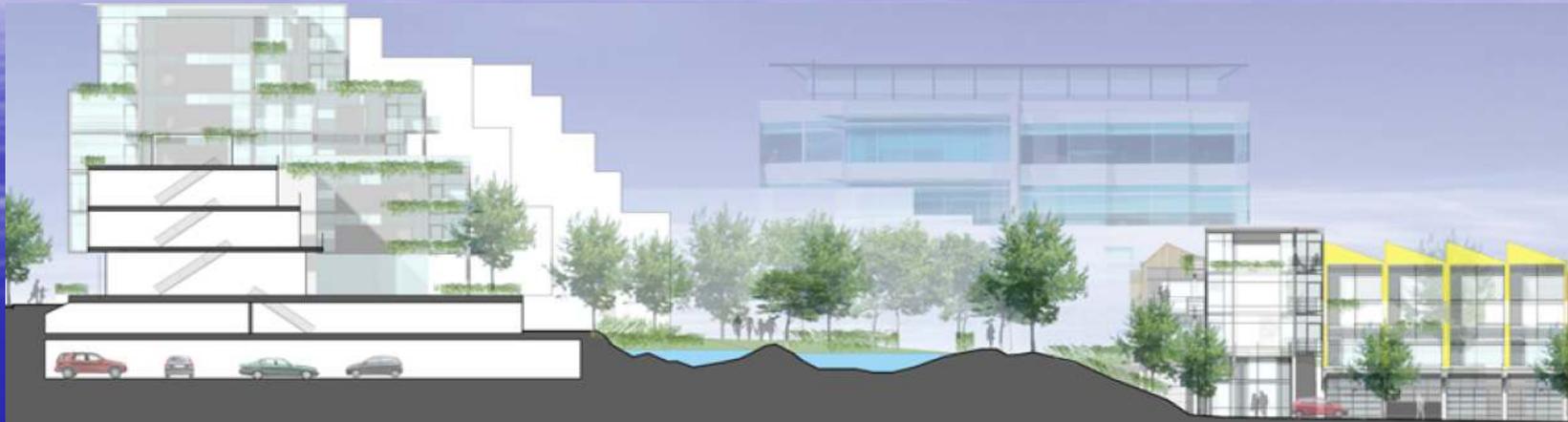
Vision of the Cities of the Future

Definition/Vision of an Ecocity:

An ecocity is a city or a part thereof that balances social, economic and environmental factors (triple bottom line) to achieve sustainable development. A sustainable city or ecocity is a city designed with consideration of environmental impact, inhabited by people dedicated to minimization of required inputs of energy, water and food, and waste output of heat, air pollution - CO₂, methane, and water pollution. Ideally, a sustainable city powers itself with renewable sources of energy, creates the smallest possible ecological footprint, and produces the lowest quantity of pollution possible. It also uses land efficiently; composts used materials, recycle or convert waste-to-energy. If such practices are adapted, overall contribution of the city to climate change will be none or minimal below the resiliency threshold. Urban (green) infrastructure, resilient and hydrologically and ecologically functioning landscape, and water resources will constitute one system

Adapted from R. Register UC-Berkeley

What is a Water Centric Ecocity ?



What is a Water Centric Ecocity ?

- **Water conservation**
- **Distributed stormwater management (surface)**
- **Distributed water treatment**
- **Water reclamation and reuse in buildings, irrigation and for ecologic stream flow**
- **Infiltration and repair of hydrology**
- **Stream restoration – multi-functional water bodies are a life line of the ecocity**

- **Heat and energy recovery**
- **Organic solids management for energy recovery**
- **Source separation**
- **Nutrient recovery**

Also

- **Renewable energy source (solar, wind, hydropower)**
- **Sustainable low carbon traffic emissions**
- **Recreation, walking, biking**
- **Suburban organic agriculture**

Microscale Assessment

- Microscale (buildings, neighborhoods, subdivision)
 - Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design-LEED
 - Sustainability of the site – smart location
 - Green design
 - Energy efficiency
 - Indoor environmental quality
 - Innovation and design
 - Neighborhood patterns, etc.
 - Low Impact Development (LID)
 - Capture, storage and infiltration of precipitation, mimicking predevelopment hydrology



One Planet Living (WWF)

- zero net carbon emissions- 100% of the energy from renewable resources;
- zero solid waste
- sustainable transportation with zero carbon emission in the city;
- local and sustainable materials used throughout the construction;
- sustainable foods, outlets providing organic and or fair trade products;
- 50% reduction in water use from the national average,
- natural habitat and wildlife protection and preservation,
- preservation of local culture and heritage ;
- equity and fair trade with wages and working conditions; and
- health and happiness for every demographic group.

Best Management Practices are an integral part of the COFs



Green Roofs

Save energy and store water

Raingardens

Infiltrate and treat runoff

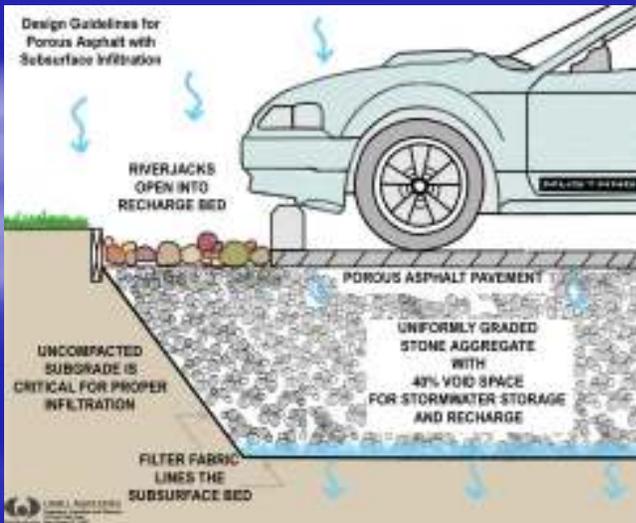


Porous pavement

Infiltrate, store and treat runoff

Ponds and wetlands

Store, treat and infiltrate runoff



Urban water body restoration and daylighting is important



Before



After



Lincoln Creek in Milwaukee

Zhuan River in Beijing

Kallong River in Singapore

There is no waste – new sustainability terminology

- Waste water → **Used water**
- Treated wastewater that meets standards for discharge into receiving waters and other nonpotable uses → **Reclaimed water**
- Reclaimed water treated to potable water quality for reuse in buildings → **NEWater (Singapore terminology)**
- Treatment plant with recovery of biogas, energy, nutrients, etc. → **Integrated resource recovery facility**

A water reclamation plant does not have to be far from the community



Courtesy AquaTex, Victoria, BC

Rainwater harvesting requires minimum energy



Roof rainwater
collecting tank in
Orange District in
Australia

Decentralized Management Clusters and Ecoblocks

- A cluster (Ecoblock) is a semiautonomous part of the city that, for most part, has its own water/stormwater/wastewater management
 - Cluster may range in size from a high-rise building to a subdivision or a section of the city with thousands of inhabitants
 - Cluster infrastructure
 - Distributes water and practices water conservation and reuse
 - Implements energy saving in buildings (e.g., green roofs, solar energy)
 - Provides stormwater conveyance (mostly surface), storage and infiltration (groundwater recharge) and nature mimicking BMPs
 - Water reclamation units (high efficiency WWT)
 - Energy recovery from wastewater
 - Centralized or distributed biogas/Energy recovery
 - Ecologically and hydrologically functioning landscape
- Clusters are interconnected for increased resiliency

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Missing link in the assessment

- Fuzzy impact of LEED and similar criteria on
 - Sustainability of water resources, their water quality and integrity
 - Improving resilience against the impact of extreme events
 - Protection and enhancement of urban natural resources (nature preserves or parks)
 - Access of people to recreation
- Conversion to or building ecocities, requires a comprehensive and hierarchical macroscale approach to the microscale and often fragmented piecemeal transformation



Sustainability means that future developments and city retrofits address the societal, environmental and economic concerns and goals

Result of
LID:Low density
subdivisions

Seven Ecocities Reviewed



Water Centric Hammarby Sjostad



Dongtan

Venice-type ecocity on Yangzee River

Water centric



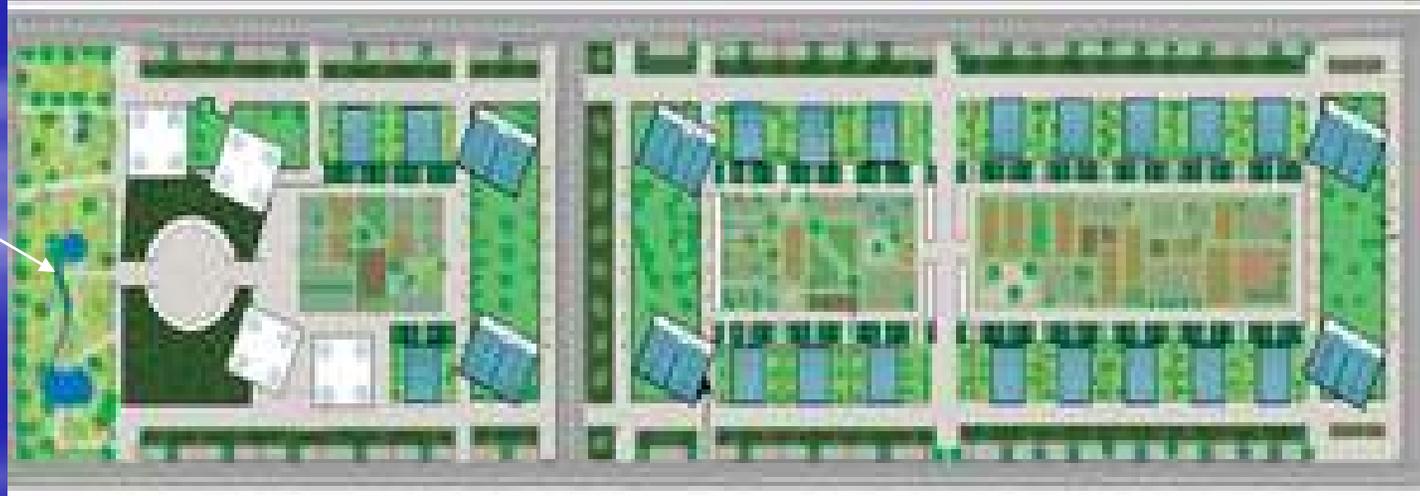
QINGDAO (China) Ecoblock

Size 3.5 ha

1530-1800 pop



Treatment wetland



Subsurface flow wetland



Source Harrison Fraker and ARUP

600 units on 2.7 ha (6.5 acres)

Sino-Singapore Ecocity Tianjin



Masdar (UAE)



Treasure Island (CA)



Sonoma Mountain Village (CA)



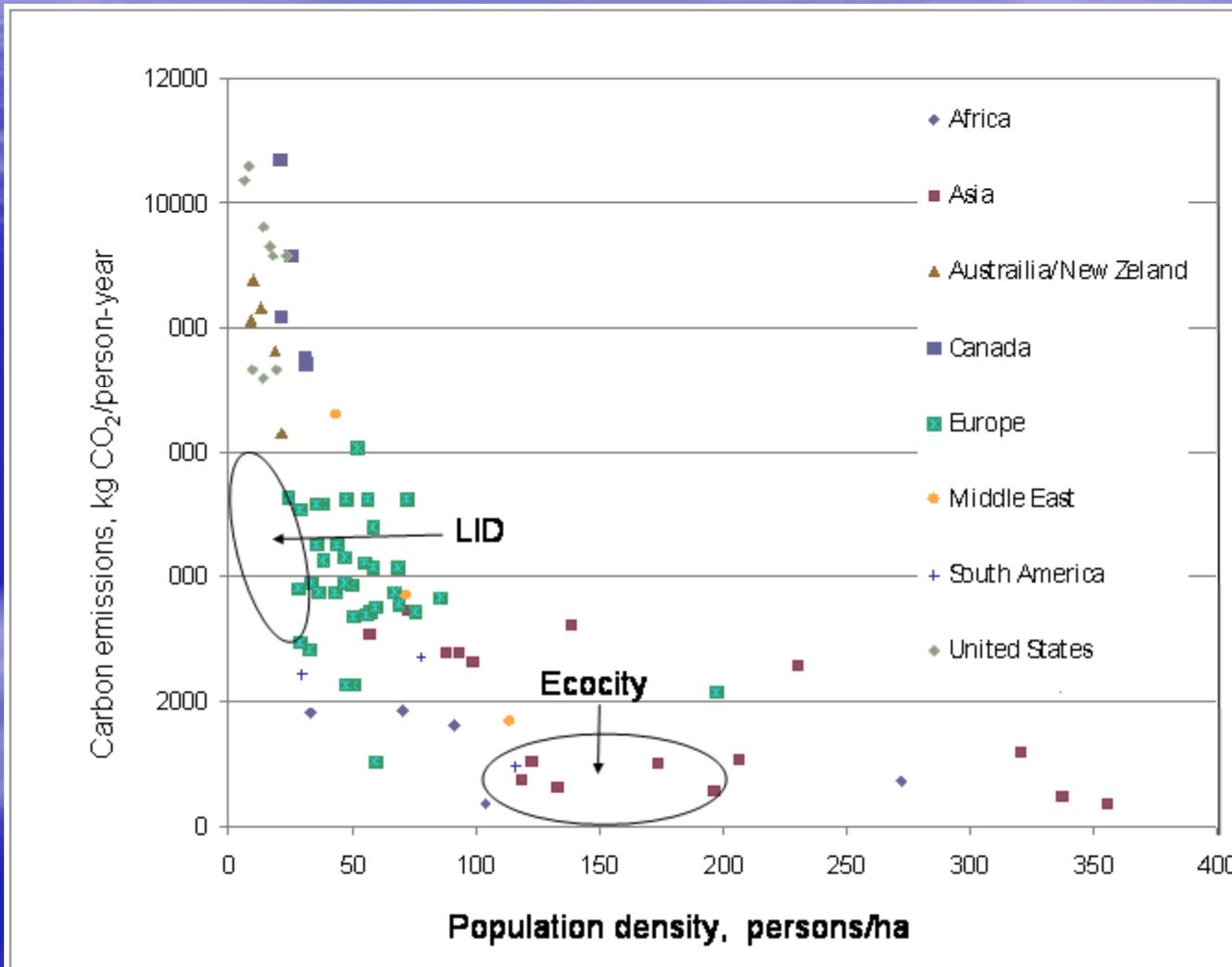
What have we learned?



City	Population Total	Population Density #/ha	Water use L/cap-day	% water recycle	Water System	% Energy savings renewable	Green area m ² /cap	Cost US\$/unit*
Hammarby Sjöstad	30,000	133	100	0	Linear	50	40	200,000
Dongtan	500,000 (80,000) ⁺⁺	160	200	43	Linear	100	100	~40,000
Qingdao	1500 ⁺	430 - 515	160	85	Closed loop	100	~15	?
Tianjin	350,000 (50,000) ⁺⁺	117	160	60	Partially closed	15	15	60,000 – 70,000
Masdar	50,000	135	160	80	Closed loop	100	<10	1 million
Treasure Island	13,500	170	264	25	Mostly Linear	60	75	550,000
Sonoma Valley	5,000	62	185	22	Linear	100	20	525,000

+ ecoblock only, an ecocity may consist of many interconnected ecoblocks

Population density matters



Difficult to compare US cities with Asian Cities or countries with different economic levels

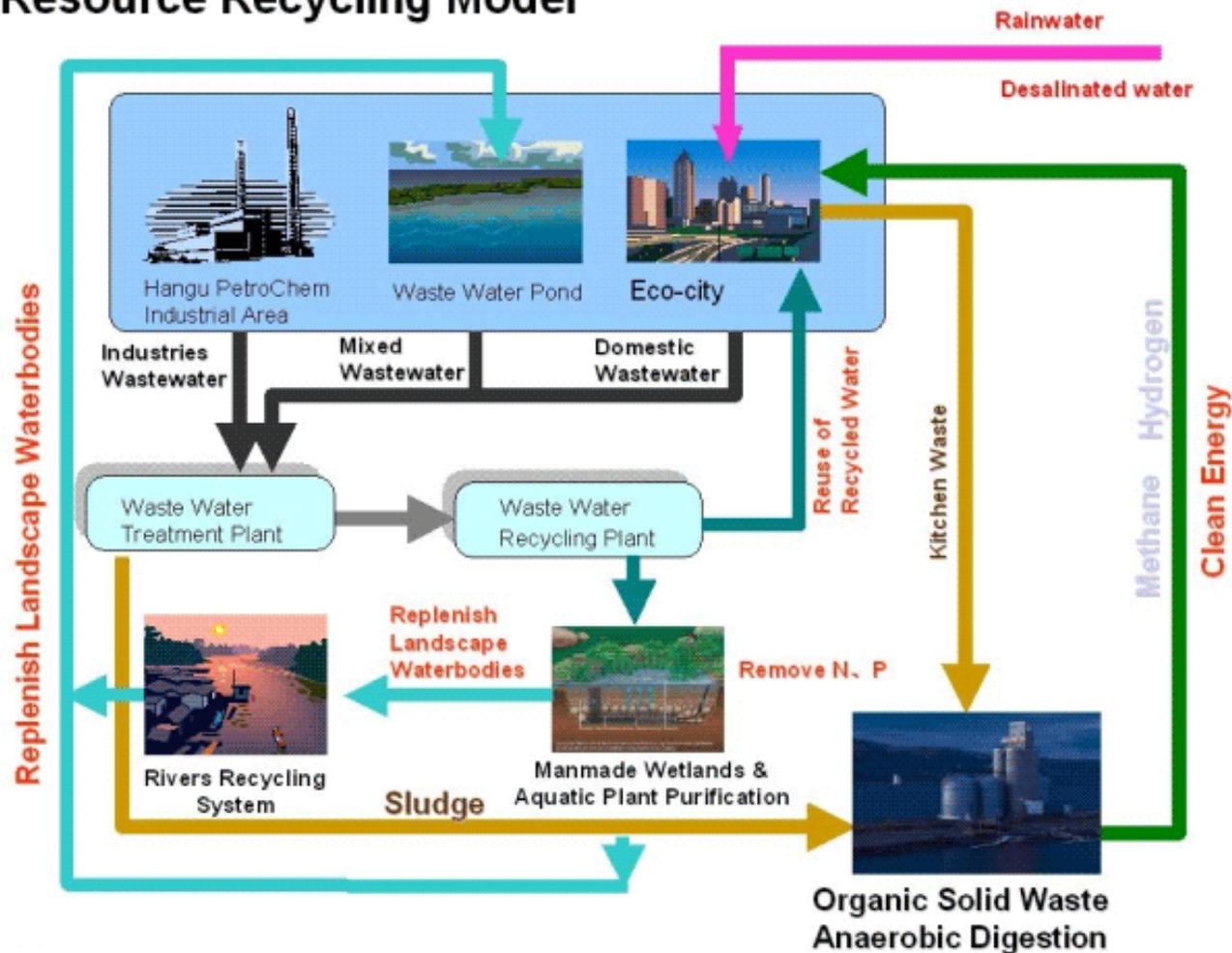
Based on Newman and various other sources



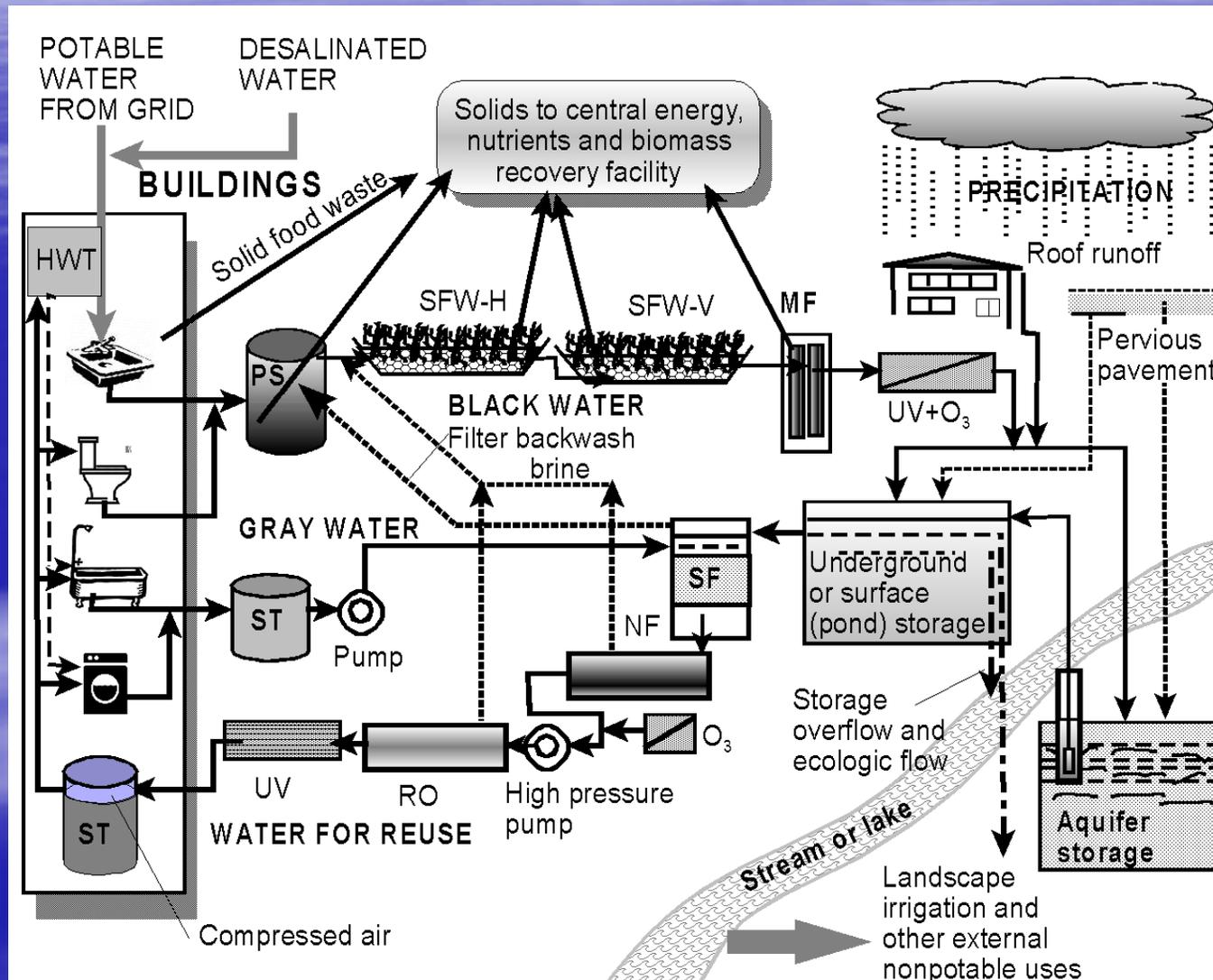
Qingdao

Tianjin Water Cycles

■ Resource Recycling Model



The cycles need urban runoff



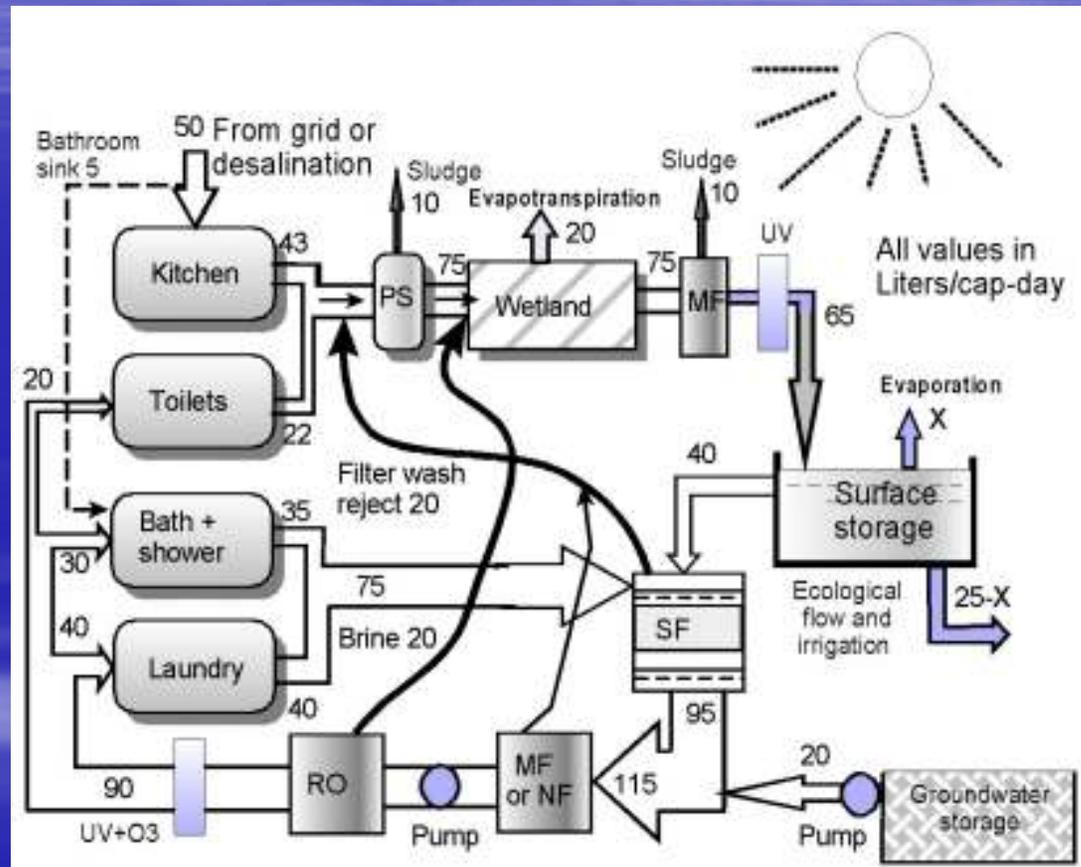
The number of cycles without make up water is very limited.

Make up water comes mainly from treated (and stored) storm water

PS – primary settler
 MF microfiltration
 UV ultraviolet
 ST storage
 RO reverse osm.
 NF nanofiltration

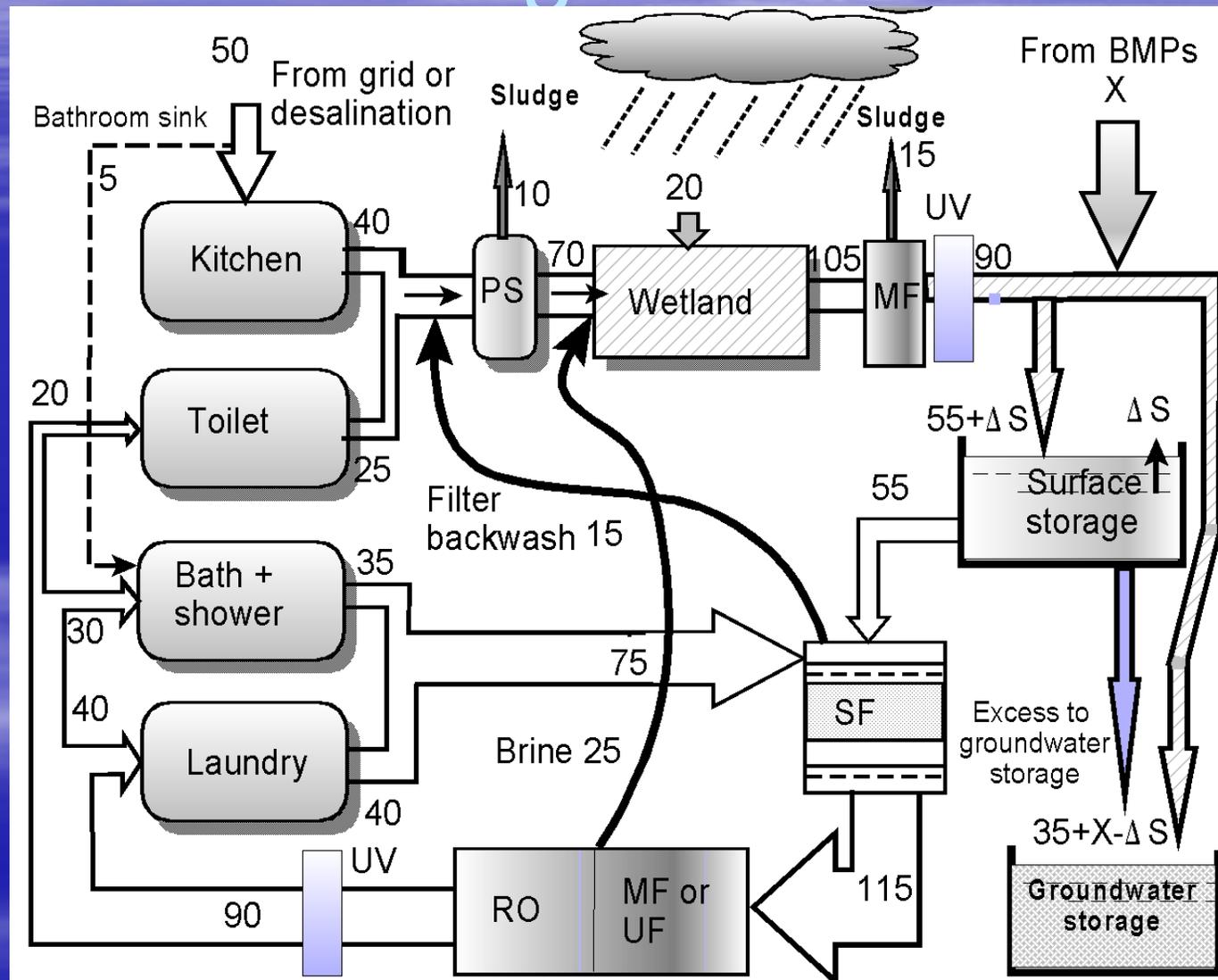
Closed (reuse) water cycle needs outside water during dry weather

- Potable water
- Additional make up water to flush the residual pollutants from the recycling water
- Replacing water loses by evaporation and evapotranspiration
- Replacing waste water lost in sludge and backwash water
- Provide irrigation and ecological flow



Min 30% of the recycled water needs to be replaced

Treated surface runoff and rain harvesting is needed



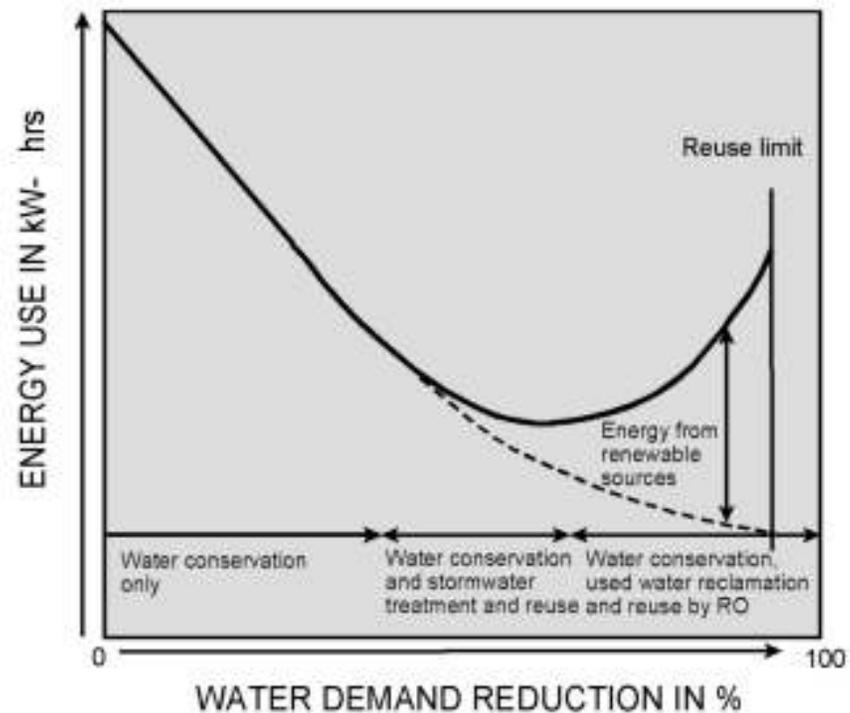
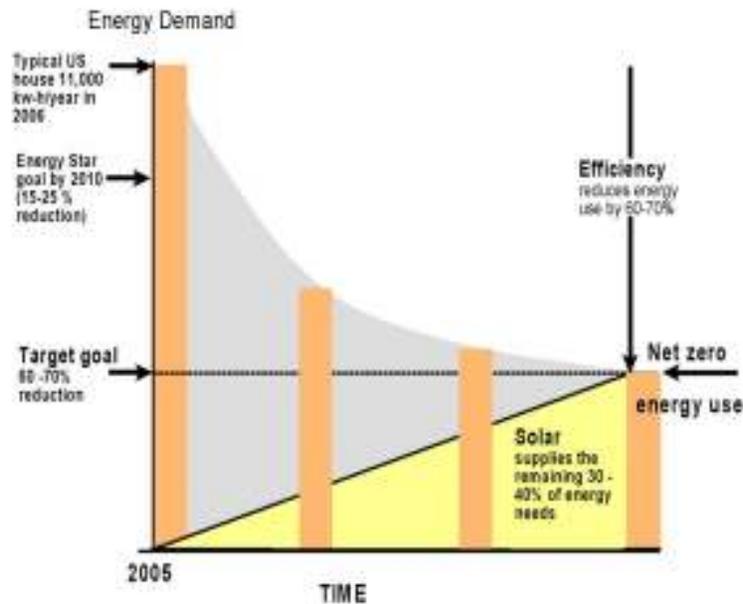
Rules of recycle

- **During dry weather conditions** the system must provide ecological flow (plus irrigation) otherwise the ecology of the urban waters will collapse
 - All excess flow plus flow from storage goes towards ecological flow and irrigation
- **During wet weather conditions** the system
 - Provides make up water for the second (gray water recycle)
 - Treats and stores urban runoff
- **Drinking water from the grid or desalination supplemented by harvested rain and/or groundwater**

A water management based on quality parameters is needed

Water Energy Nexus

How to get to net zero energy



National Science & Technology Council (2008) of the US President

Energy delivered from the grid
1 kW-hr = 0.6 kg CO₂ emissions

Energy requirements for water

US average energy use for providing water and wastewater disposal is 2.26 kw-hr/m³ (1.35 kg CO₂/m³)

Treatment process	Energy use kw-hr/m ³ (CO ₂ emissions kg/m ³)		
	Daily flow volume of treated used water (m ³ /day)		
	10,000	25,000	>50,000
Activated sludge without nitrification and filtration	0.55 (0.33)	0.38 (0.23)	0.28 (0.17)
Membrane bioreactor with nitrification	0.83 (0.51)	0.72 (0.44)	0.64 (0.37)
Reverse osmosis desalination			
Brackish water (TDS 1 – 2.5 g/L)		1.5 (0.91) – 2.5 (1.52)	
Sea water		5 (3.05) - 15 (9.15)	
Ozonization (ozone produced from air)			
Filtered nitrified effluent		0.24 (0.15) - 0.4 (0.24)	

Modified from Asano et al (2007)

Indoor and outdoor water use in a single family home in 12 monitored cities in North America

Water use	Without water conservation*		With water conservation	
	Liter/cap-day	Percent	Liter/cap-day	Percent
Faucets	35	14.7	35	25.8
Drinking water and cooling	3.6	1.2	2.0	1.5
Showers	42	17.8	21	15.4
Bath and Hot Tubs	6.8	2.0	6.0	4.4
Laundry	54	22.6	40	29.4
Dish washers	3.0	1.4	3.0	2.2
Toilets	63	26.4	14	10.3
Leaks	30	12.6	15	11.0
Total Indoor	238	100	136	100
Outdoor	313	132	60**	44
Total	551	232	196	144

Water conservation reduces proportionally energy use

AWWA RF (1999); Heaney, Wright and Sample (2000) and Asano et al. (2007) ** Converting from lawn to xeriscape.

Reuse

Energy demanding



Microfiltration

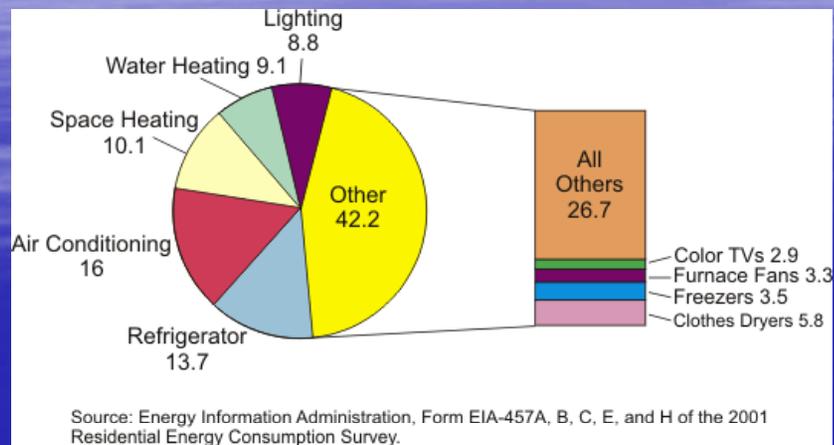


Reverse osmosis

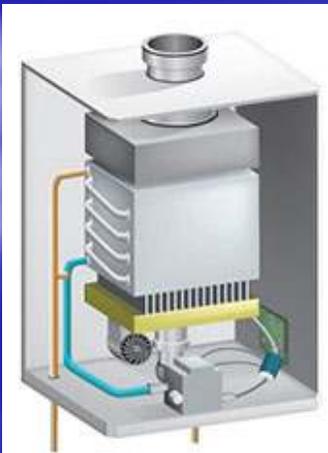
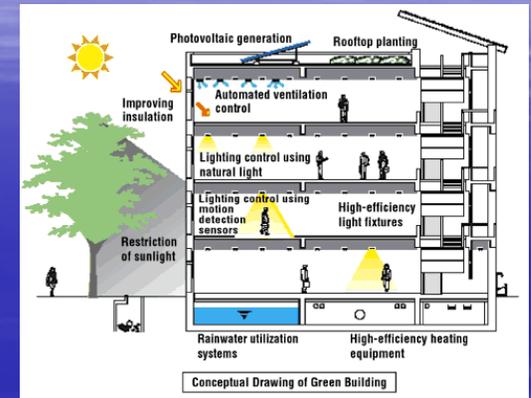


UV radiation

Domestic energy savings



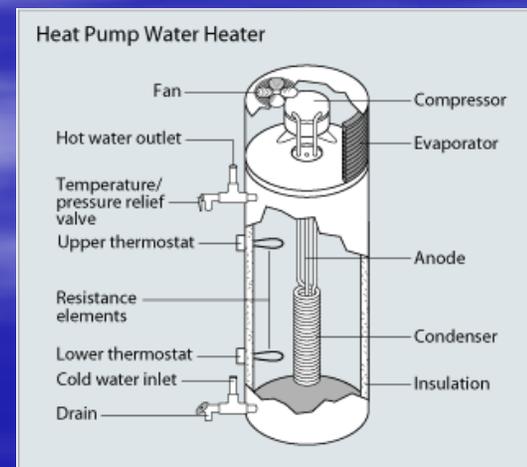
Passive energy savings



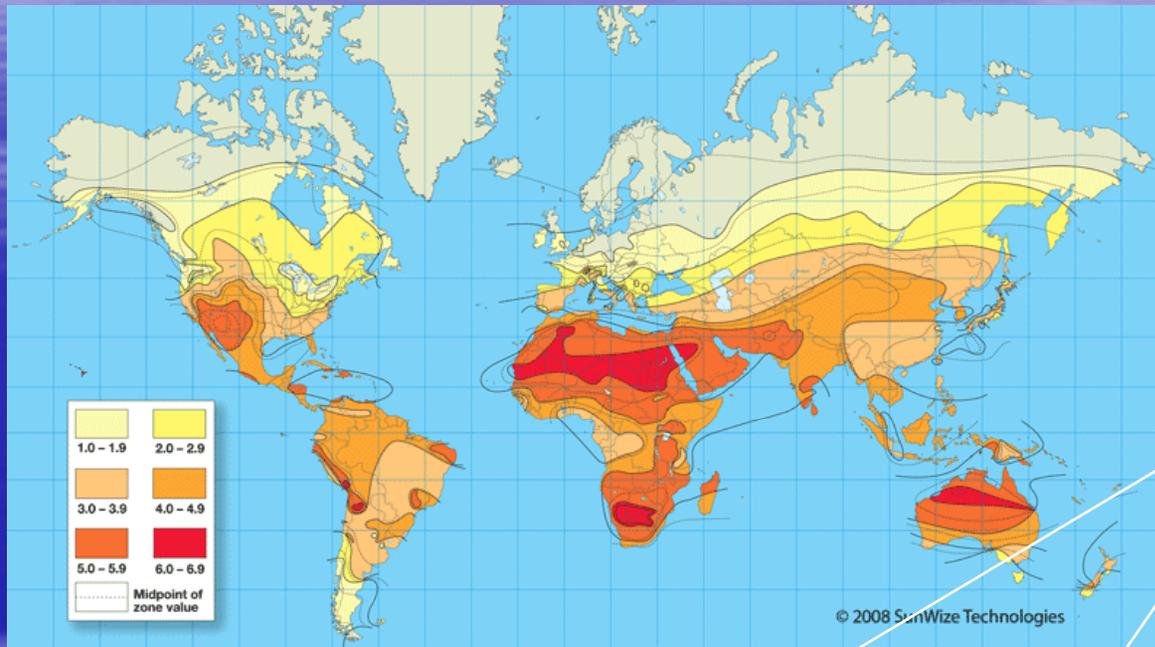
Tankless water heaters

Heat pump

- * Air to air
- Water to air
- Water to water
- Ground to water



Solar energy

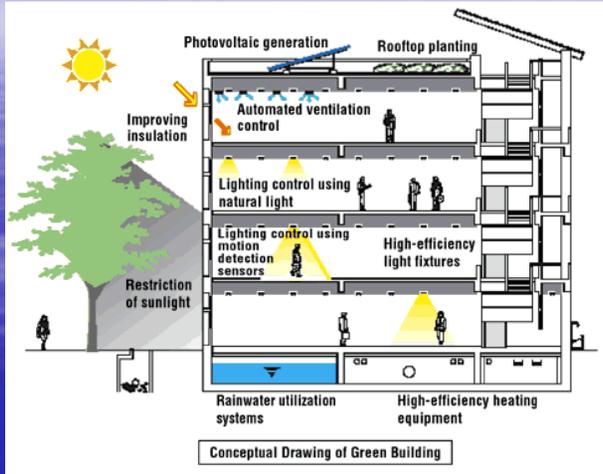


Concentrated heat

Photovoltaics



30 % from Renewable Energy



Passive energy sources



Household voltaics



1.4. MW Voltaics array in Sonoma Valley



Wind turbines in Dongtan

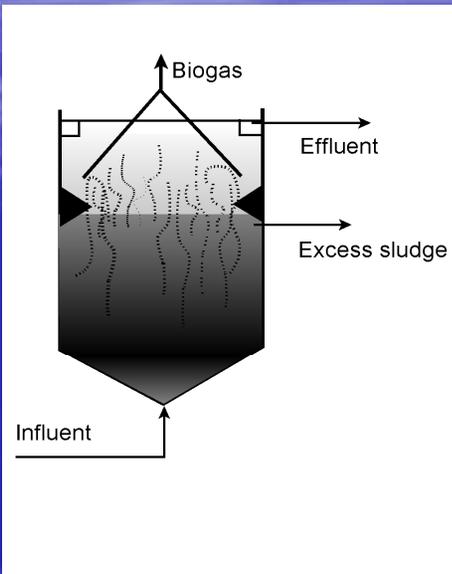
Energy from used water



- Heat recovered by heat pumps
- Biogas from anaerobic processes
 - Digester
 - Upflow anaerobic sludge blanket reactor
- Hydrogen fuel cell
- Microbial fuel cell

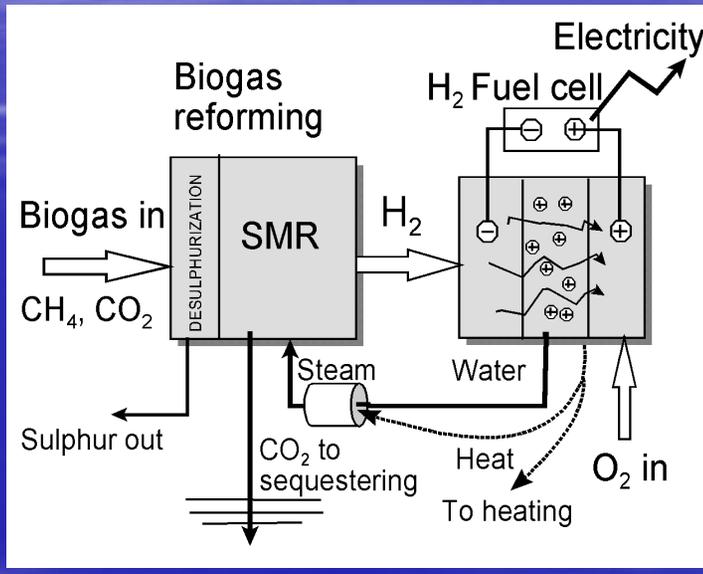
Types of gas	Biogas 1 Household waste	Biogas 2 Agrifood industry	Natural gas
Composition	60% CH ₄ 33 % CO ₂ 1% N ₂ 0% O ₂ 6% H ₂ O	68% CH ₄ 26 % CO ₂ 1% N ₂ 0% O ₂ 5 % H ₂ O	97.0% CH ₄ 2.2% CO ₂ 0.4% N ₂ 0.4 % other
Energy content kWh/m ³	6.1	7.5	11.3

Examples of new technologies



UASB Reactor

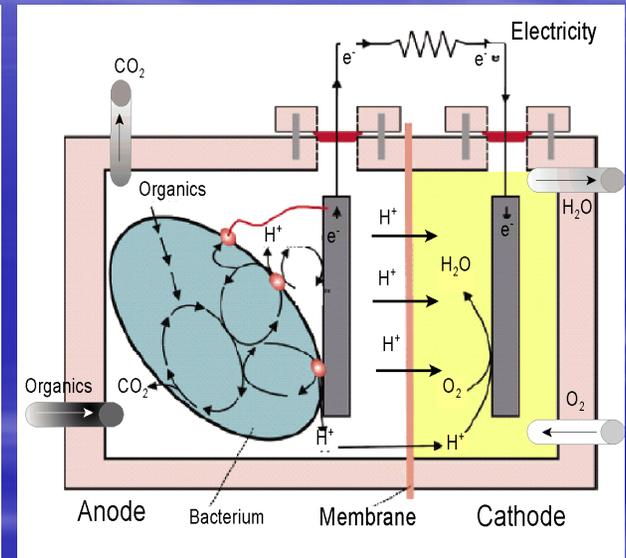
- 0.4 L CH₄/g COD removed
- 9.2 kW-hr/m³ of methane



Hydrogen fuel cell with biogas reforming

- Converts methane into hydrogen and electricity
- Greater efficiency than methane combustion

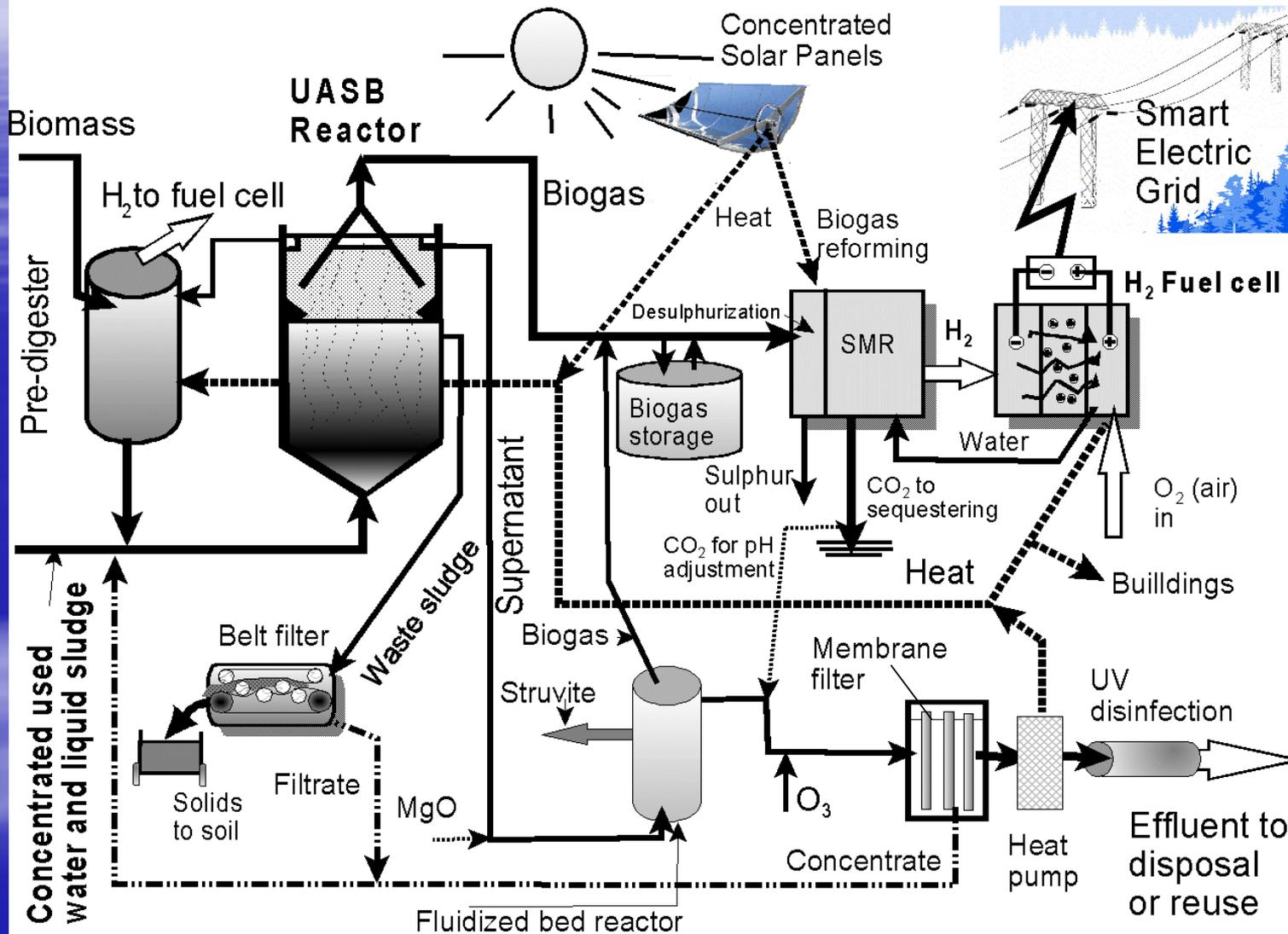
SMR = Steam methane reforming



Microbial fuel cell (Logan 2008)

- Convert organic biomass directly into electricity or hydrogen

Integrated Resource Recovery Facility



Recovers:

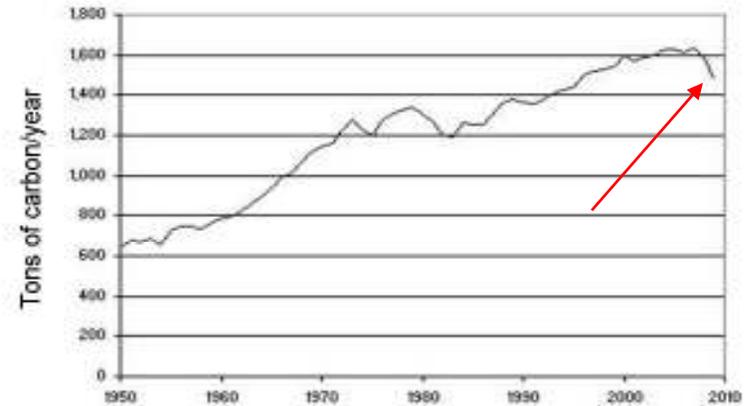
- Water
- Electricity
- Heat
- Struvite (N+P)
- Organic solids
- Biogas
- Hydrogen

SMR = steam methane reforming

20 – 25 years ahead outlook

Per capita CH₂ emissions in 100 US cities

Energy use for	CO ₂ emissions in tons/cap-year	% of total
Transportation by cars	4.091	47.0
Public transportation	0.388	4.4
Home heating by gas or oil	1.470	17.0
House electricity including that for cooling	2,751	31.6
Total	8.71	100



Source Gleaser and Kahn (2008)

It appears that the US increasing trend of carbon emissions has been reversed in 2007 (Brown, 2009)

- Higher appliance energy standards
- Stricter automobile emissions standard
- Virtual phasing out of coal power plants
- Very large increase of renewable energy production, etc.

Conservative assumptions for the future

- Carbon foot print of the electric energy production will be reduced from 0.62 kg CO₂/kW-hr today to 0.35 kg CO₂/kW-hr by 2030 – 2035
- Vehicular traffic- majority of cars will be hybrid and plug-ins, expected GHG emissions reduced by 60%. Minimum traffic is anticipated in ecocities
- Public transportation by electric trains, light rail and buses will increase but the carbon footprint will decrease
- Heating by passive energy savings, insulation and using heat pumps will reduce heating carbon footprint
- Electricity use by households is expected to decrease by 60 – 70 % (National Science and Technology Council)

These measures could reduce carbon footprint from 8.7 tons of CO₂/cap-year to 3 tons CO₂/cap-year (slightly less than Barcelona today)

Water/used water contribution

- Reducing water use from 0.5 m³/person-day to 0.2 m³/person-day will reduce carbon footprint by 0.2 tons/cap/-year
- Extracting heat from used water and producing electricity from UASB biogas by fuel cell 0.47 tons/cap/-year
- Miscellaneous (reduction of pumping cost by bringing stormwater drainage to surface, etc.) 0.3 tons/cap/-year
- Biogas combustion or burning vegetation residues, and combustible refuse in incinerators is carbon neutral

Total new water/stormwater/used water
management carbon footprint reduction

1 ton/cap-year

CONCLUSIONS ON ECOCITIES

- Ecocities are emerging and will be tested
- A complete change of the paradigm
 - Closed hydrologic cycle (reuse, recycle), surface drainage
- Zero or minimal carbon imprint
 - Energy recovery from wastewater
 - Distributed resource recovery, minimum sewers
 - Alternate energy sources
 - Carbon sequestering
- Terrific public transportation, walking and biking
- Alternate energy sources
- Stream restoration and protection of ecosystems
- Leisure and recreation
- Huge new infrastructure business potential

Conclusions

- US has one of the highest per capita footprint
 - Low density urban centers
 - High automobile use
 - Great reliance on fossil fuel (primarily coal) power production
- Adopting and adapting the ecocity guidelines is Increasing significantly production from renewable carbon free sources
 - Water conservation is effective
 - Biogas conversion to electricity or hydrogen with carbon sequestering is effective
 - Wind turbines on each block
 - Large inclusion of solar power
 - Limiting automobile use, hybrids and electric pug-ins are very effective
 - Heat recovery from used water
 - More efficient appliances and heating (e.g., heat pumps)
- The goal of net zero carbon footprint from COTF is achievable by 2030 even in the US

Worldwide Initiative –Cities of the Future

- Beginning in US - Wingspread Workshop -2006
- IWA Congresses Beijing 2006, Vienna 2008
- Singapore International Water Week Convention – COTF became the major IWA initiative- Steering Committee formed
- Beijing SWIF Conference – November 2009
- WEF/IWA Conference March 2010 - Boston
- IWA World Water Congress 2010 -Montreal
- IWA/WEF COTF Conference 2011 – Stockholm
- IWA COTF Conference 2011 – Xi'an
- WEF/IWA COTF Conference 2012
- IWA COTF Conference - Turkey

All invited