EUREAU

Roles, responsibilities and activities of utilities - In the context of resource efficiency

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Almut Bonhage, Secretary General, EUREAU
www.eureau.org

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS
OF WATER & WASTE WATER SERVICES

EUREAU

27 full and 2 observer members association

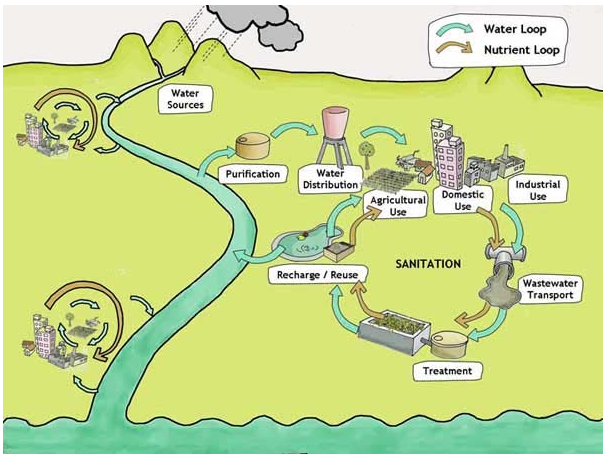
29 countries

70.000 utilities

405 millions of customers

- Full members
- Full members (EFTA countries)
- Observer members
- Non members (EU countries)

EUREAU 2



Sustainable water services

Sustainable management of resources

- To stimulate green economy and minimize impacts to ecosystems, the need for resource efficiency in the water sector and water dependent sectors is obvious
- Balancing actions with water-energy-food productions necessary

EUREAU 3

WATER SECTOR CHALLENGES

- Maintain balances and synergies between
  - **water & energy**
  - **water & agriculture**
  - **the sector itself & population needs**

  AND at the same time coping with changing climate and new demands (WFD, UWWTD…)

EUREAU 4

RESSOURCE SCARCITY IN THE WATER SECTOR

- **The performance of water service providers is driven by the scarcity of a set of resources**
  - Drinking water resources of good quality
  - Capital
  - Competent human resources
  - Energy
  - Nutrients
- **Performance indicators must respect long term resource strategy, as minimum to ensure high**
  - Safety, quality & sustainability of water services
  - Economic efficiency & customer satisfaction

EUREAU 5

EUREAU POLICY TOWARDS WATER RESOURCE EFFICIENCY

3 PRINCIPLES

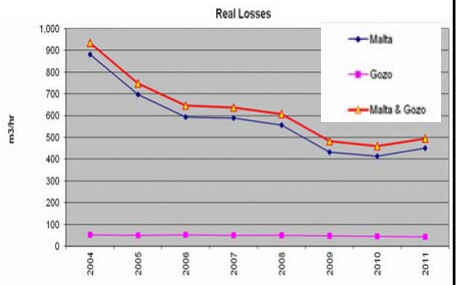
1. Managing water demand (in water stressed areas) & protect water bodies for multiple uses
2. Improving availability of drinking water resources of good quality (together protecting ecosystems)
3. Governing water wisely including economic/financial aspects

Water resource efficiency should cover the entire water cycle at a local level, taking into account a local water demand

EUREAU 6

MEASURES FOR RESOURCE EFFICIENCY (1)

1. Managing water demand



- **Leakage control & reduction**
- **Water recycling**
  – alternative source
  grey water reuse, rainwater harvesting, sustainable urban drainage
- **Managing water demand wisely**
  Protect water bodies & ensure water needs for multiple uses
  *– **Which water quality for which uses**? (drinking water, recreational purposes, ecosystem protection, irrigation, energy……..etc.)*
- **Relation between consumption & payment**
  Water metering, Smart metering

EUREAU 7

MEASURES FOR RESOURCE EFFICIENCY (2)

2. Improving availability of drinking water resources of good quality:

- **Protection** of drinking water resources: upstream – highest priority
- **More stringent authorisation** of chemicals
- **Control of pollution at source** (agriculture, chemicals, etc.)
- **'Urban shadow':** relating agriculture and water: crop management, soil management (plant protection products, pesticides, fertilisers, etc.)
- **Holistic approach to water scarcity**; to address urban vulnerability to climate variability: water buffering or management of distribution
- **CC adaptation strategies** to promote sustainable urban drainage, low energy intensive solutions and multiple purposes of rainwater

EUREAU 8

MEASURES FOR RESOURCE EFFICIENCY (3)

3. Governing water wisely including economic aspects

- Strengthen governance of water resource use, abstraction & protection, and water-energy nexus
- Integrated water / land use planning & management
- Financing of the water sector needs to be secured and managed in a sustainable manner
- Innovative aspects to improve governance: integrating sustainable approaches for water management in urban infrastructure systems; improve operation of services (incl. utilization of energy and nutrients, product refinement)
- Value chain of water services to be re-assessed: new mind sets & business models to be proposed
- Full cost recovery based on 'polluter pays' & 'user-pays' principles is the base for setting water pricing policy

EUREAU 9

SUSTAINABLE WATER SERVICES ACHIEVING RESOURCE EFFICIENCY

To summarize

- **Protect water resources – Upstream appraoch**
  - Drinking water resource
  - Reduce need for carbon intensive technology in WW treatment
- **Improve water efficiency – 'twin-track': waste less & use new resources**
- **Utilize untapped energy & nutrient potentials in water**
- **New business models of water utilities**
- **Different solutions in South and North**

EUREAU 10

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RUE DU LUXEMBOURG 47-51 · 1050 BRUSSELS · BELGIUM
T +32 2 706 40 80 · SECRETARIAT@EUREAU.ORG · WWW.EUREAU.ORG

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