



EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION
OF PUBLIC WATER OPERATORS

Aqua Publica Europea

THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC WATER OPERATORS

**1st European Forum Regulation Water
Services**

Rome | 3/12/19





EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION
OF PUBLIC WATER OPERATORS

About Aqua Publica Europea

65

*members
100% publicly-owned
water operators and
their associations*

70 MILLION

*citizens served every
day*

8 BILLION

*euros of aggregated
turnover*



Aqua Publica Europea's mission

Promoting **public water management**
Providing a **platform for mutual learning**





EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC WATER OPERATORS

The “job” of water operator is evolving

From Service “**Provider**” ...



... to Service “**Promoter**” ?





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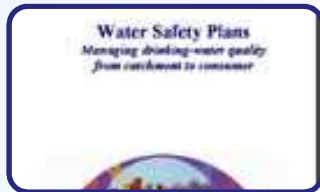
Driving Forces



Legislative Evolution



Administrative reforms



New scientific knowledge, technological and organisational innovation



Emerging societal challenges - evolving citizens expectations





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Water resources management: where does it start/terminate?

Expansion of water operators' responsibilities...



'Upstream' → risk management of the catchment areas • biodiversity [new DWD, *new WFD?*]



'Downstream' → water reuse • circular economy [new Regulation Water Reuse, *new UWTTD?*]



'Laterally' → water-storm management • floods [*new WFD?*]





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Challenges



Skills and organisation: how to organise the new service



Governance: who's responsible for what



Financing: who's paying and how





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Some examples of new financing approaches



SDEA (Alsace, France) → 'water tax' to finance protection/restoration interventions on the water body/abstraction area



MM (Milan, Italy) → Decision to [partially] charge farmers for use of reclaimed water



HamburgWasser (Hamburg, Germany) → Public-public partnership (state, city, operator) to finance the "rain infrastructure adaptation" plan against stormwater





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Conclusion: towards new financing models of water resources management?

- The governance of water resources is evolving based on a sustainability compass
- The “policy financing model” should evolve accordingly, and support the shift from a “linear” to a “circular” approach
- Economic regulation can help: efficiency, equity, trans-sectoral and trans-scalar coordination
- Legislation (EU) remains key: clear objectives, clear responsibilities, clear economic principles





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Thanks!

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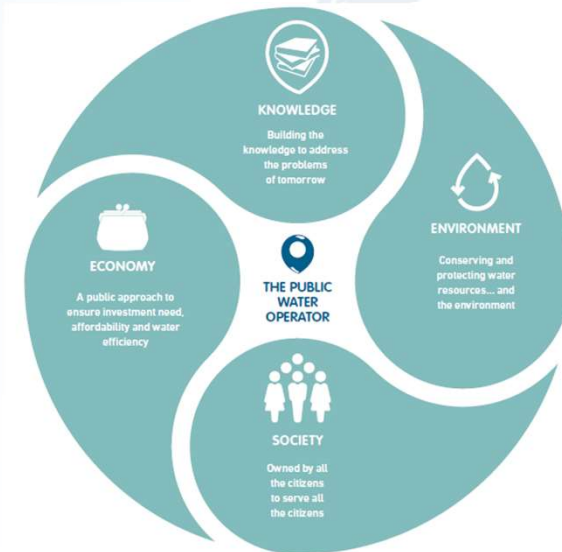
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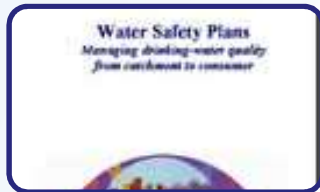
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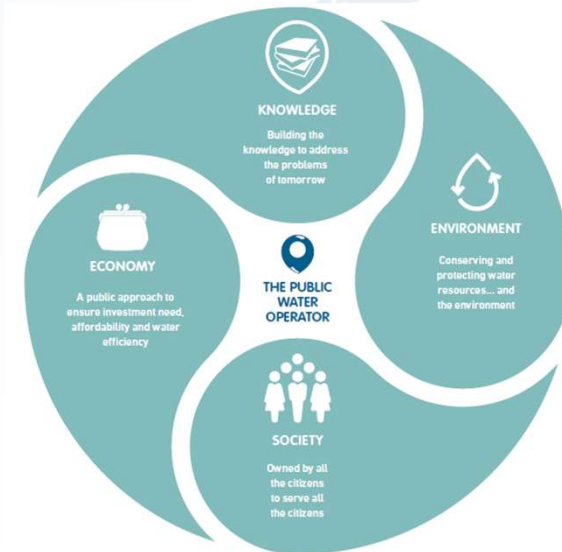
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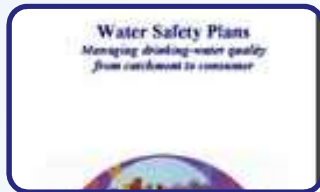
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