

# WATenERgy CYCLE

Urban water full cycle: from its source to its  
end-users and back to the environment

WP6 Transnational Strategy, Policy  
Recommendation & Sustainability

Joint Del. 6.2 Water Efficiency Policy Recommendation



PP2 - General Secretariat for Natural Environment and  
Water

# WP6: Transnational Strategy, Policy Recommendation & Sustainability

- Responsible partners:
  - **PP2 - General Secretariat for Natural Environment and Water**
- Partners involved: ALL
- Budget: 38,628.99€

# WP6: Transnational Strategy, Policy Recommendation & Sustainability

- WP6 includes:
  - Water Pricing Policy Recommendation Paper
  - **Water Efficiency Policy Recommendation Paper**
  - Energy recovery Policy Recommendation Paper
  - Transnational Strategy, Policy Recommendation & Sustainability Action Plan

# Existing policies related to water efficiency



- Water Framework Directive
  - Set environmental objectives
  - Addresses a Driver-Pressure-State-Impact-Response (DPSIR) analysis
  - Requires the development of RBMPs
  - Defines measures needed to reach good status for all water bodies
- Policy framework for water pricing and costing
  - Integrated mechanisms for monitoring of water indicators
  - National Guidance such as for water balance calculation
- The Blue-Print for Safeguard Europe's water resources

# Existing policies on water efficiency



- Upon completion of two River Basin Management Cycles (2009-2021)
  - **Over abstraction** is identified as one significant pressure on water bodies
  - Drinking water **quality** is very good – but **protection** of fresh and groundwater resources from over exploitation is needed to ensure supply of adequate, uninterrupted and quality water
  - **Measures** to protect surface and groundwater bodies designated as protected areas intended for human consumption are identified
  - **Abstraction** control measures are in place
  - Measures to **improve operation** of water distribution networks are being implemented, but still their efficacy is not assessed





# (non) Existing policies on water efficiency

- Nonetheless,
  - **In non-EU countries** policy gaps are identified
  - Inefficient water use, results in **over-abstraction** to cover water supply
  - **Excessive water losses** are observed in distribution networks
  - **Isolated efforts** are in place at local-water utility level
  - **Poor operational performance** of water supply services providers is frequent
  - Lack of common **targets**
  - **Overlapping** of responsibilities among authorities



# Initiatives – trends – challenges

## Water Energy Nexus

Strategic actions	Operational actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce water related criteria</li> <li>• Develop integrated water and energy resources</li> <li>• Understand the role of renewable energy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include energy efficiency indicators and targets to reduce losses and leakages</li> <li>• Research on water and energy saving technologies</li> <li>• Improve data gathering to understand the extent of water-energy interactions</li> </ul>

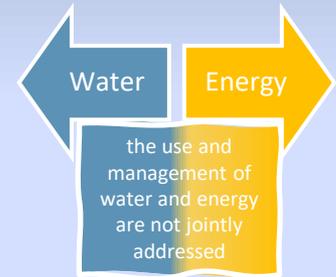
## Water Energy Food Ecosystem Nexus

Integrate water policy objectives into agriculture, industry, energy tourism, transport and fisheries policies

## European Green Deal (EGD): the EU's new growth strategy

Shifting the focus from compliance to performance

All EU policies should contribute to preserving and restoring Europe’s natural capital



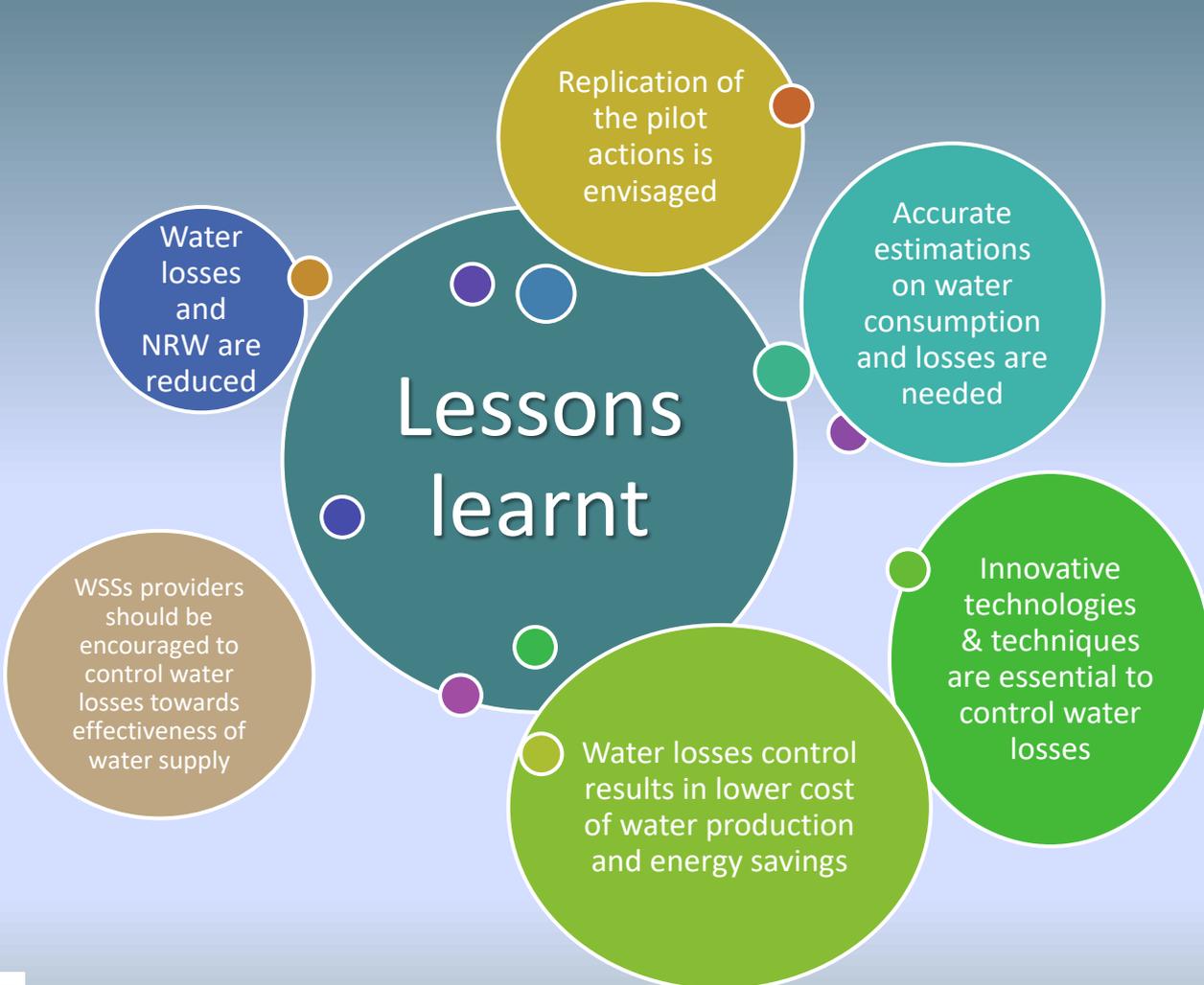


# Within WATenERgy CYCLE...

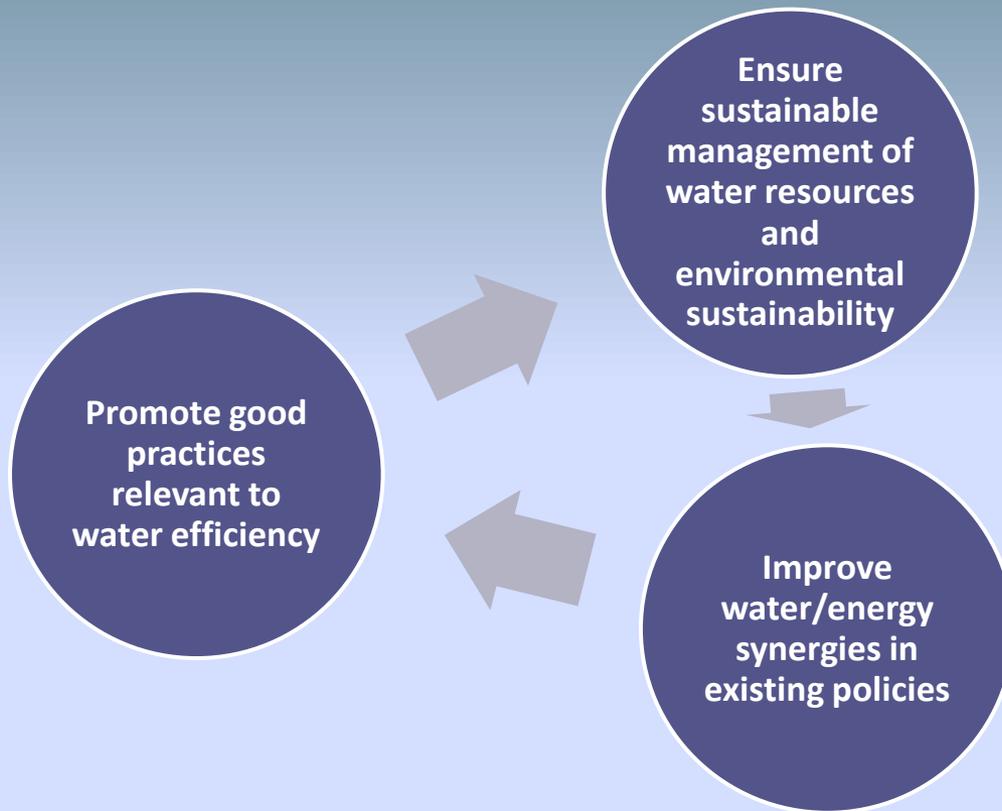




# Within WATenERgy CYCLE...

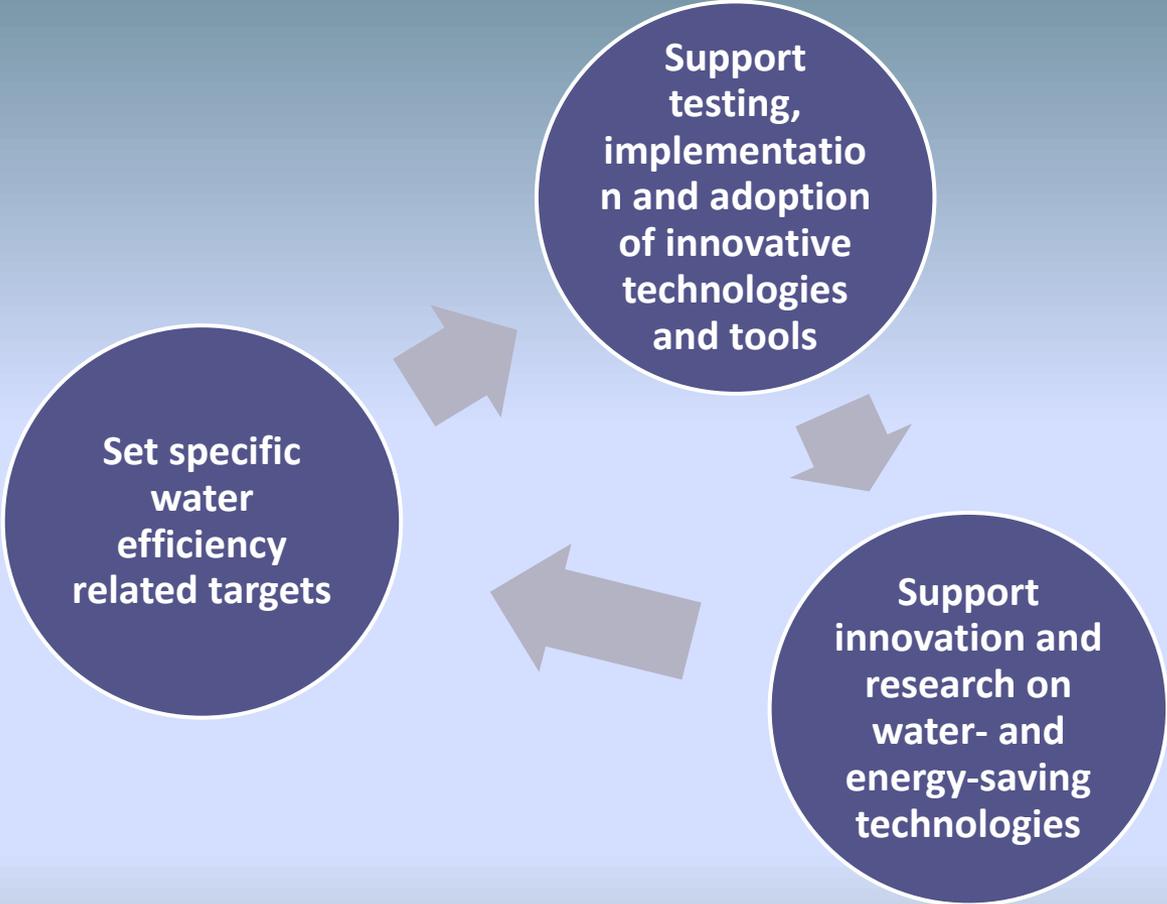


# Water Efficiency Policy Recommendation





# Water Efficiency Policy Recommendation



# Policy development and implementation challenges



Formal cooperation which does not necessarily translate into policy integration

Evaluating the effects of a policy becomes difficult

Sufficient resources to support policy may be limited

Limited stakeholders' participation

# Policy development and implementation challenges



Divergent views between stakeholders

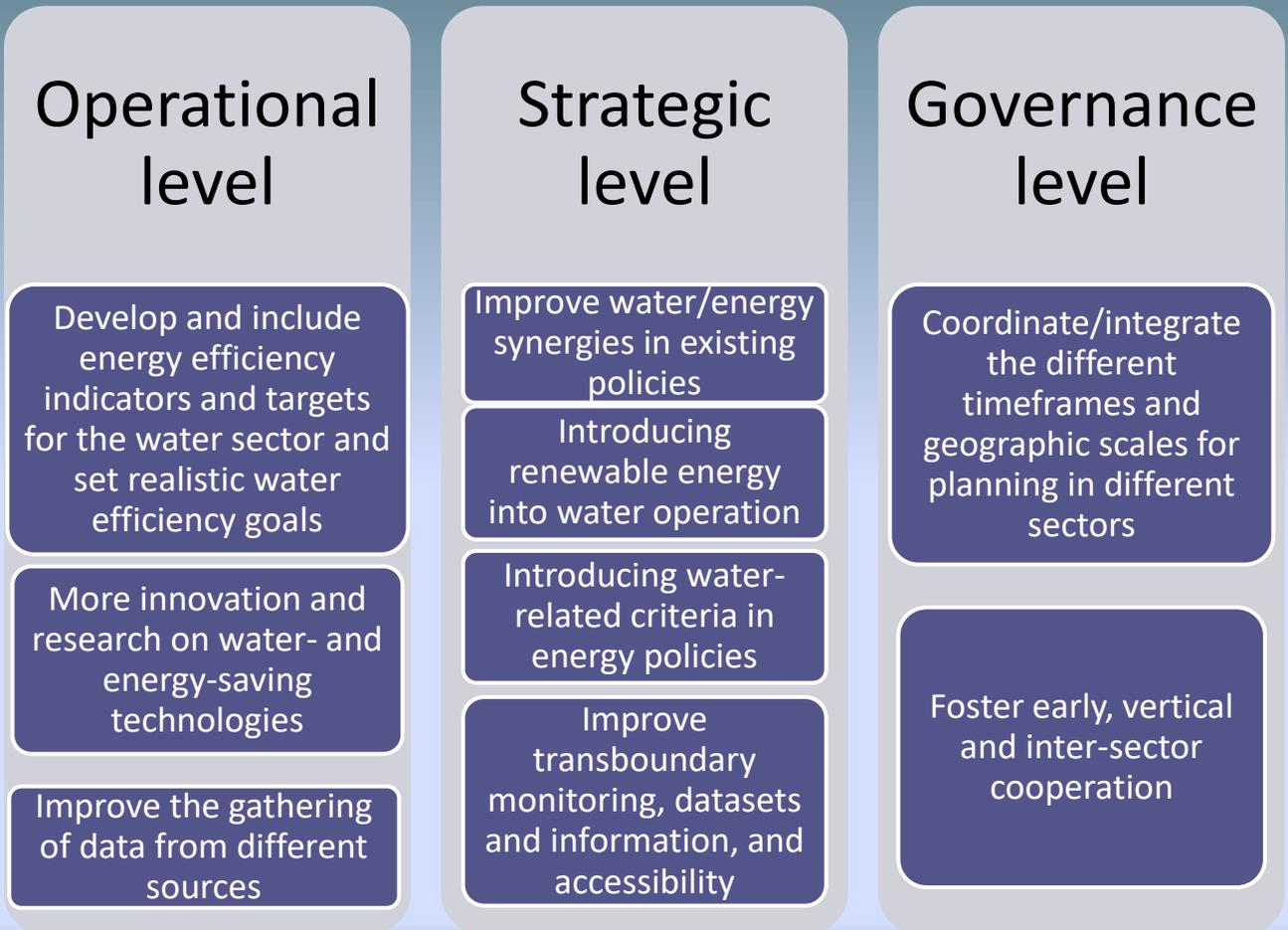
Lack of understanding and consensus on common targets, including points of departure

Lack of commitment between parties

Overlapping responsibilities, and competing objectives, among local and central governments



# Discussing policy recommendations...





# A step wise approach...



# Goal setting needs to be SMART

## WATER

- Percentage of total losses
- Water consumption
- Density of water supply network
- Coverage of water network
- Yearly failures of water network

## ENERGY

- Yearly energy consumed per m<sup>3</sup> water for water treatment
- Yearly energy consumed per m<sup>3</sup> water for water distribution

# Policy implementation benefits - challenges



## Benefits

- ◆ Common understanding on water efficiency
- ◆ Conserve water resources
- ◆ Lower prices of water to consumers
- ◆ Reduction of energy costs
- ◆ Better regulation of water allocation
- ◆ Reduced risks (e.g. water availability and security)
- ◆ Improve water services to customers
- ◆ Improved likelihood of complying with EU requirements and regional targets



## Challenges

- ◆ Evaluating the effects of a policy becomes difficult
- ◆ Sufficient resources may be limited
- ◆ Limited stakeholders' participation
- ◆ Divergent views between stakeholders
- ◆ Lack of understanding and consensus
- ◆ Lack of commitment between parties

# Key messages



Join water and energy policies



Share experiences



Upscale implementation



Set SMART goals



Improve data availability



Encourage participation

Synergy policies are the key to unlock implementation of sectoral policies

Policy>

<Politics

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