

#### LIFE PureAgroH2O conference:

## Developing water treatment investment opportunities

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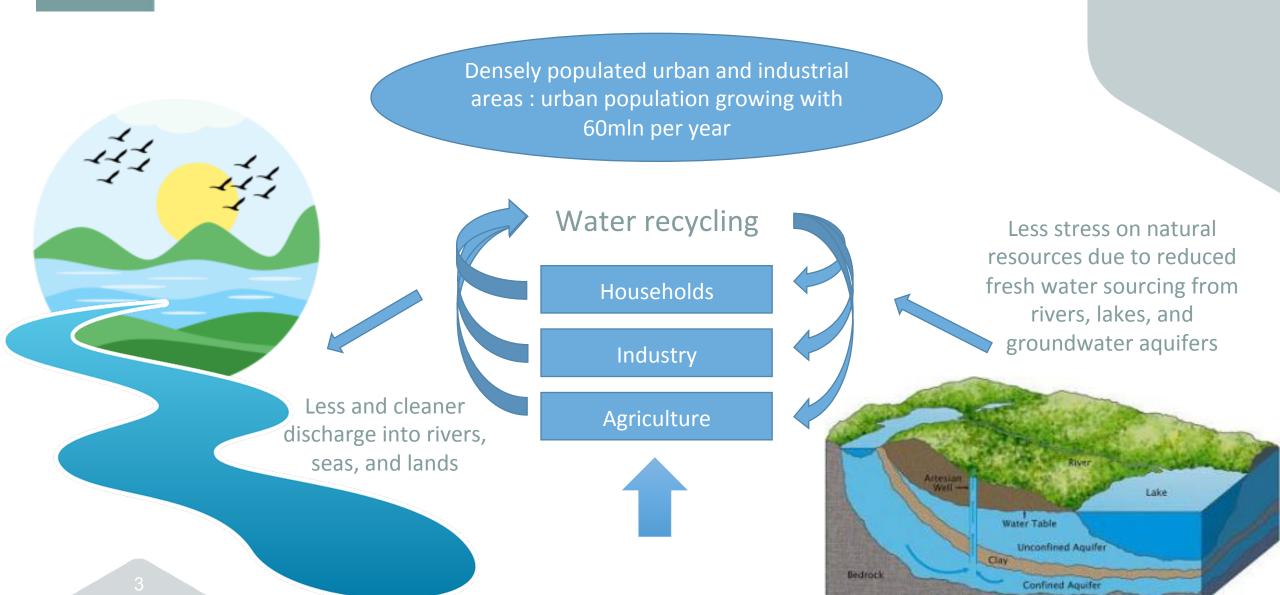


## What I like to discuss with you today:

- 1. Drivers behind the water (re-use) market
- 2. Looking trough the eyes of capital, and
- 3. Connecting technology, science, projects and capital by translating innovative technology into tangible "win-win" business cases



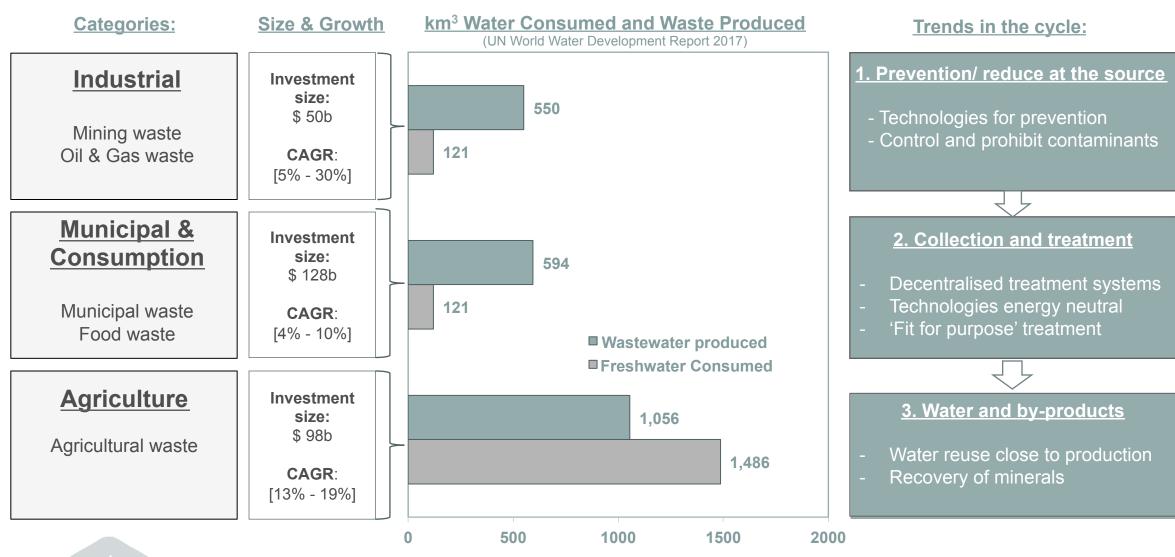
#### Urbanization: water re-use is essential





#### Size of wastewater treatment : €276bn annually

Fragmented markets with diverse technological advancements





----THERE IS A LOT OF UNEXPLOITED VALUE OUT THERE-----

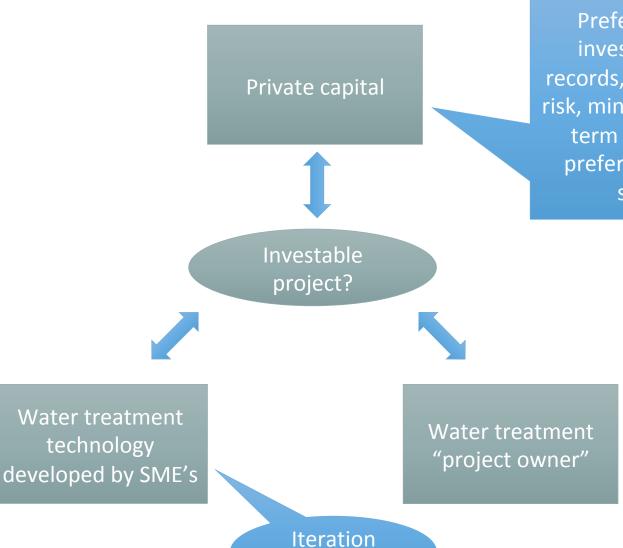
Value created by taking initiative to develop water projects!

Connecting different worlds by translating innovative water technology into cost savings



## Capital & water: connecting different worlds

Technical dimension leading – limited experience with foreign markets, often lacking (international) financial acumen



with science

Preferring proven
investment trackrecords, low (perceived)
risk, minimum size, short
term performance,
preference for listed
securities

Scepticism towards
innovation, rather
sticking with known
technology, water
treatment often seen as
a necessary cost only



# Capital and its deployment hurdles

Pension funds and insurance companies

(fund of) funds run by asset managers

Companies

Projects - transactions

Benchmark, Track record, liquidity, "investment bucket"

Covered by analysts?
Market cap, liquidity etc

Sector, growth or value, management engagement? etc

Market experience, similar to previous transactions? etc

This is a model designed to select by <u>EXCLUDING</u> from an abundance of alternatives

. . . . . .

It is not suitable for non listed innovative water re-use projects
Which should be <u>pro-actively</u> sought



# Project development phases and capital

5. Sale or lease of project equipment Project finance **Export finance** Working capital

3. Project business case = €/M3

4. Build and

operate demo

installation

2. Matching technology with theme

1. Scalable water re-use themes

Iteration

with science

THIS IS WHERE SCARCITY AND HENCE THE OPPORTUNITY IS!



Project development capital

Corp. finance



Three "life" cases and (the scarcity of) capital....





#### Business case on equipment level

Could be financed by for example 10y annuity

Daily supply of #M3 of Input water according to pre agreed specifications

Long term pre agreed processing volume & costs per M3 (BOO) plus market benchmarking



Delivery of output water according to pre agreed specs

LONG TERM SERVICE CONTRACT: PROCESSING SEWAGE AT A PRE AGREED PRICE PER M3

Provide financiers
ACCESS TO PROJECTS

Use finance to convert equipment into SERVICE

ORGANIZE LOCAL PRODUCTION





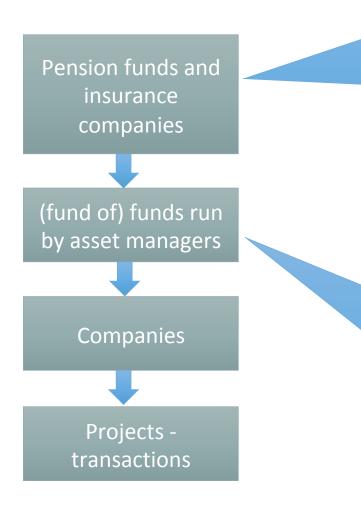




Swiss Waste Water Treatment Plant Summer 2019 Demo at Waste Water Treatment Plant Summer 2019



# What are limiting beliefs-drivers of investors?



"A €25mln investment? That is too small for us..."

Does this mean that the monitoring costs are so high? Shouldn't these be related to the (expected) risk-return? May be investments with an expected return of >5% should justify consideration If it is a scalable and repeatable investment you want to start "small" and "grow into it"

Private capital funds: They are incentivised to do larger transactions as the due diligence and monitoring costs can be spread out over a larger investment ticket. The more capital raised for their fund the larger the minimum ticket size.

Successfull Infra fund: "we now only do equity transactions with a minimum size of ISD 100mln"...



# Recommendations to enhance financing

Party	Recommendation
Capital	Look at scalability (repeatability) of theme of water re-use solution, NOT at initial investment size.  Take an active role and get in early: start even smaller with providing development capital (demo-> project -> corporate finance) first before investing in projects possibly complemented by some corporate finance
SME water re-use technology provider	Technology should have a clear "business case USP" AND should provide a total solution to a (scalable) water re-use theme.  Build your solution in a modular fashion while it preferably would be transportable
Project Owners	Formulate tenders based on performance-outcome and NOT based on a predescribed technology.  Make selection based on business case evaluation and use the "demo" not only as a proof of technology but also as a proof of the business case (like in a BOO)



# Proposed solution to bridge water funding gap



5. Sale or lease of project equipment

and

demo

tion

A WATER RE-USE REVOLVING

**INCUBATOR-ACCELERATOR FUND** 

- Choosing water re-use themes
- Connecting with technology science
- Providing project development capital
- Resulting into funding opportunities for larger investors
  - Sale of demo and return capital to fund
- This can be done with as little as €5 10 mln

Project finance

**Export finance** 

Working capital

Corp. finance

1. Scalable water re-use themes



Project development capital



#### Summary

- 1. Urbanization is a major driver of water re-use where the linear model becomes too risky
- 2. Water Re-use deserves an important part in a Sustainable Development Investment Portfolio and it can absorb large amounts of capital. Agri is most important sector with 70% of total fresh water consumption.
- 3. Capital, technology, science and projects are quite different worlds and can be connected by building <u>project specific</u> (but repeatable) business cases translating into project savings.
- 4. Project Development Capital produce project investment opportunities
- 5. Project specific business cases in itself provide different short and/or long term financing-investment combinations
- 6. Project Development Capital can be provided through a new water project incubator-accelerator (revolving) fund with a focus on for example agriculture food production.
- 7. This can already be done with as little as €5-10mln while generating scalable business cases benefiting both technology providers, science, capital and project owners like the agriculture and food industry / governments aiming to secure a steady and safe production of food.



#### Questions?

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