



**Conférence Parménides IX – GID-CIHEAM – Bari – octobre 2021**  
**Gestion durable des bassins versants méditerranéens face aux impacts des changements  
sociétaux et climatiques**

Eran Friedler

Management sustainable Mediterranean watersheds in the face of the impacts of societal  
and climate change

Summary

The Mediterranean region suffers from water scarcity already today. Today's water scarcity is expected to rise due to the continual trends of population growth, increasing urbanisation and climate change effects. Natural water resources in the region are already exploited to their maximum, and in some cases even more. Thus, in order ensure water needs of people and agricultural activities (to ascertain food security) in the coming future, a new way of thinking towards sustainable use is much needed.

In my talk I will present several pathways of using alternative water sources as means to reduce potable water use, enhance water availability, and water use in a more sustainable way. I will concentrate on two main approaches: centralised and de-centralised (distribution)

1. Centralised approach – Collection of municipal wastewater through the sewer network, treatment in a wastewater treatment plant and reuse for agricultural irrigation or through a dedicated distribution system for non-potable uses in urban areas.
2. Decentralised (distributed) approach – Use of alternative water sources such as rainwater harvesting from roofs, greywater reuse, storm water harvesting. These can be implemented either on onsite or cluster scale.

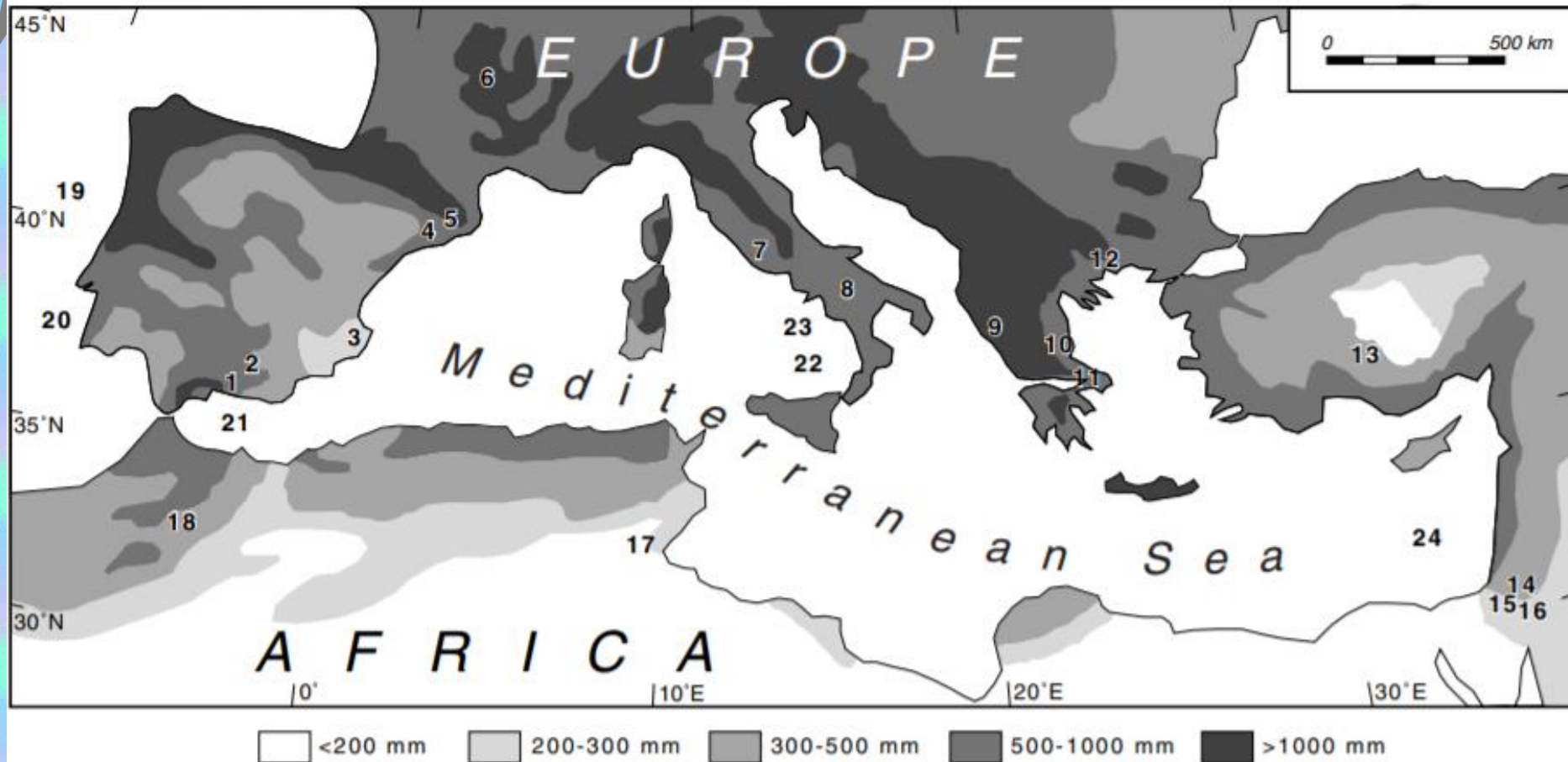
By integrating both decentralised and centralised approached as appropriate depending on local conditions the benefits of both can be maximized in keeping people wellbeing while concurrently enhancing sustainability.

# **Sustainable management of Mediterranean watersheds faced with the impacts of societal and climate changes**

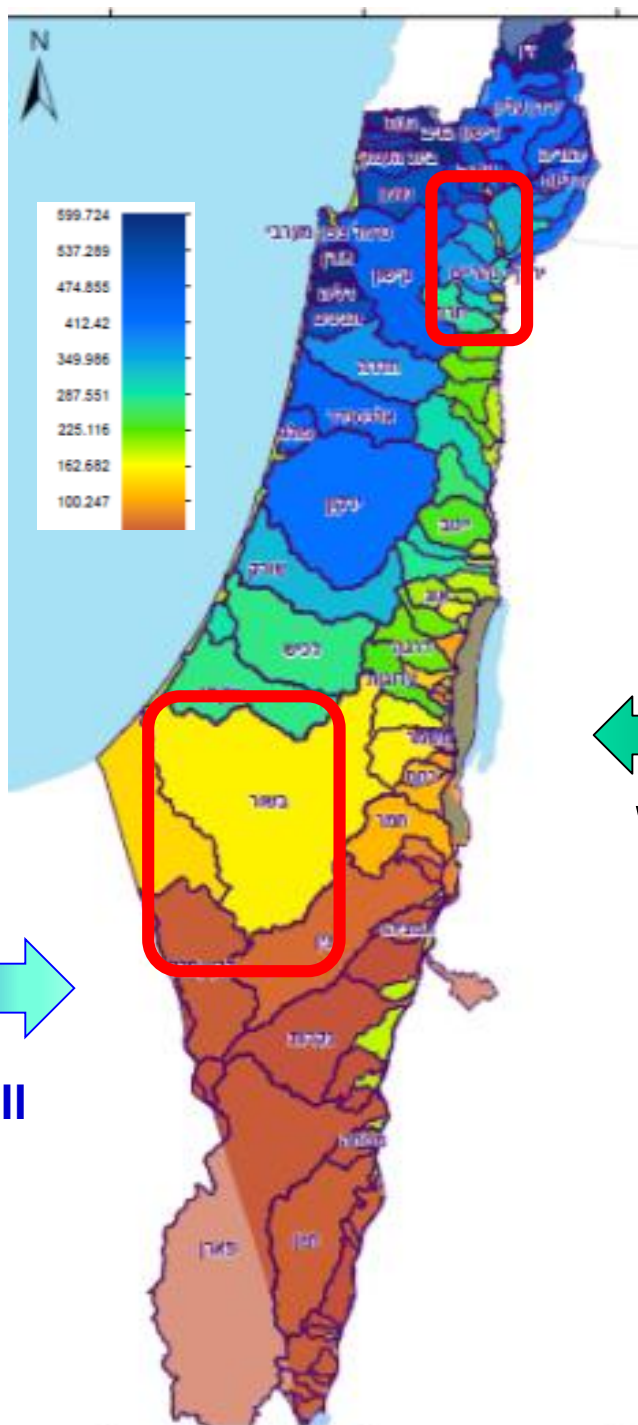
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Mean annual precipitation around the Mediterranean basin (redrawn from Milliman et al. (1992))

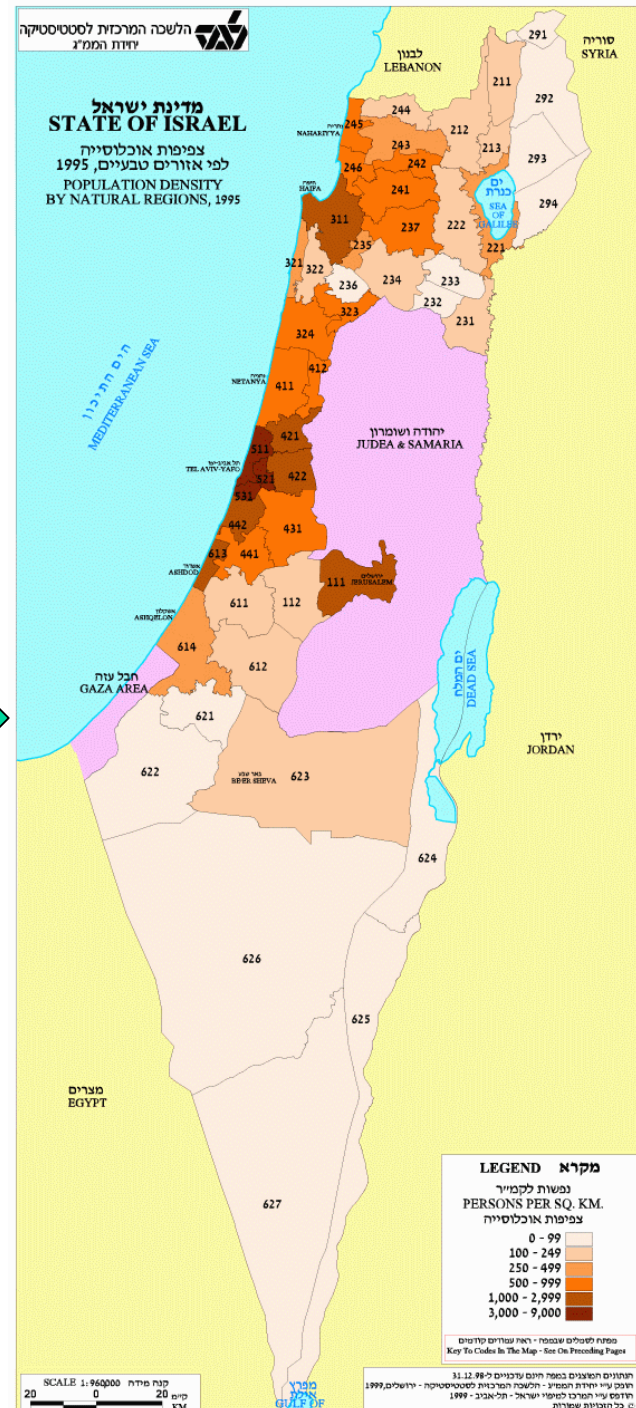


Population



Watersheds

Rainfall



# Timeline - Water Resources Development - IL

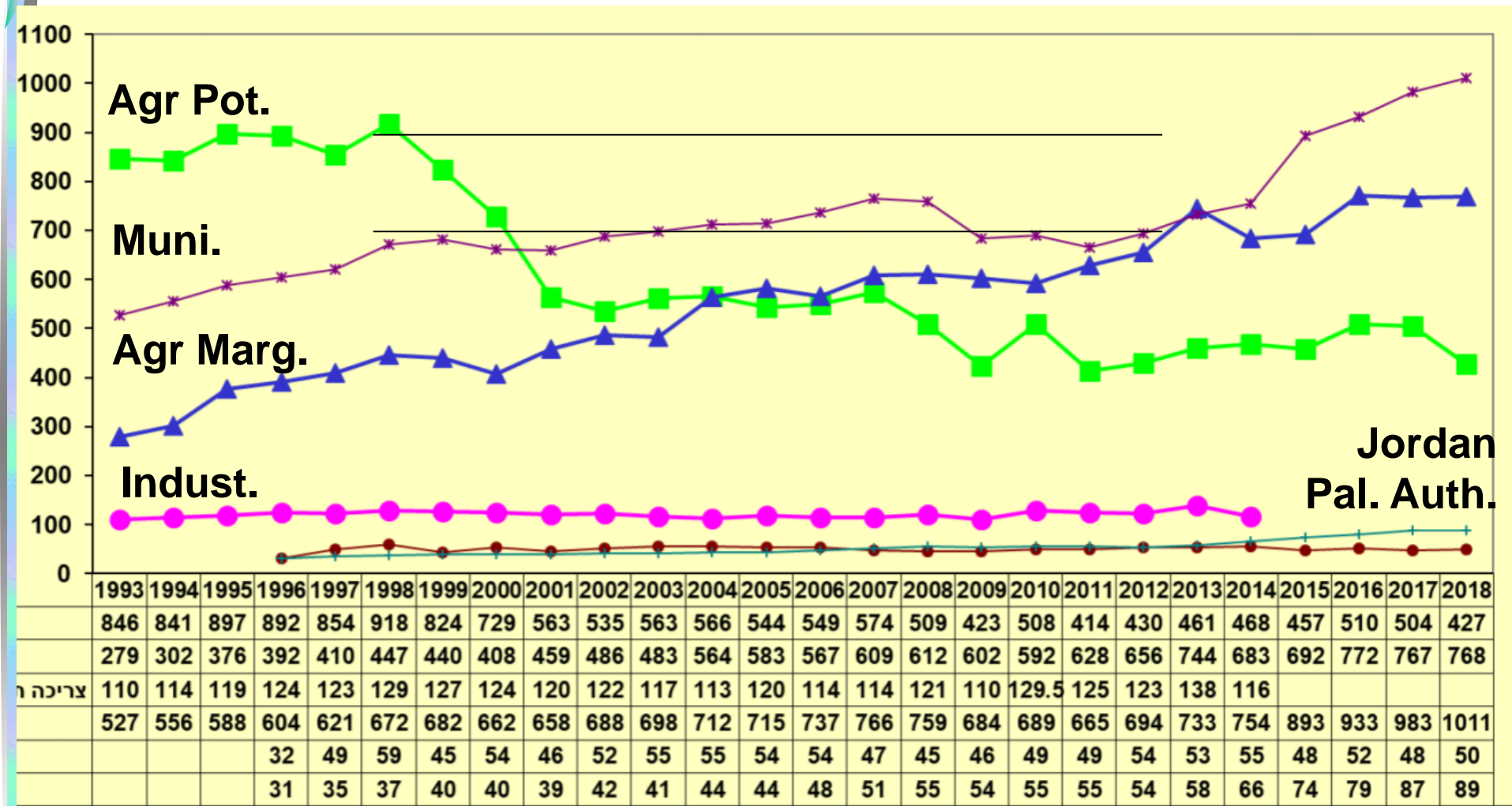
- |             |   |               |
|-------------|---|---------------|
| • 1930s     | Local water enterprises, establishment of MEKOROT | <b>Pre</b>    |
| • 1932      | Sea of Galilee dammed                             |               |
| • 1951-58   | Hula valley drained                               | <b>Blue</b>   |
| • 1950-1970 | Major drilling for groundwater                    |               |
| • 1955      | Yarkon-Negev line ("66)                           |               |
| • 1964      | National water carrier ("108)                     |               |
| • 1970's    | Treated wastewater reuse                          | <b>Green</b>  |
| • 2000's    | Desalination                                      | <b>Indust</b> |

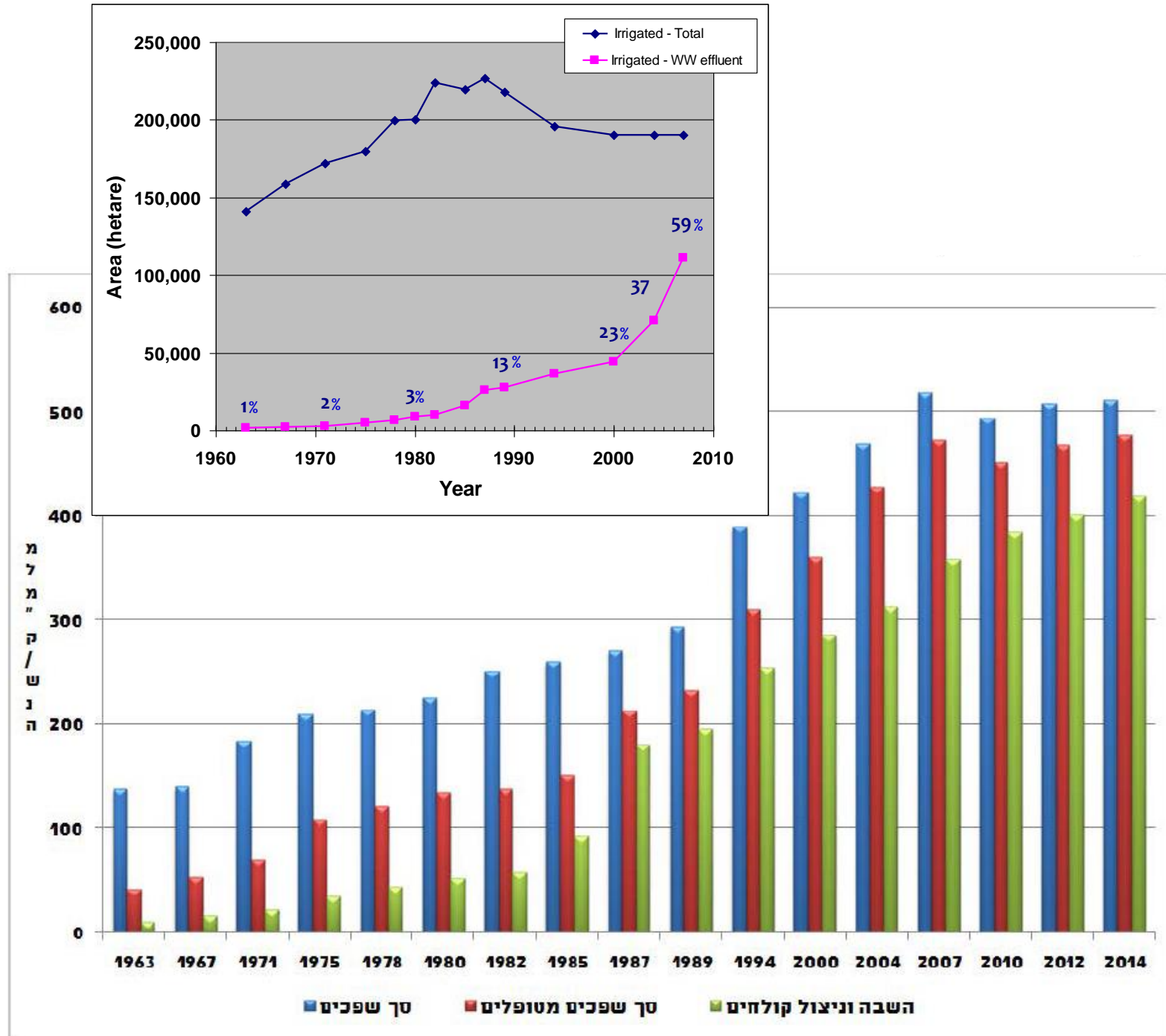




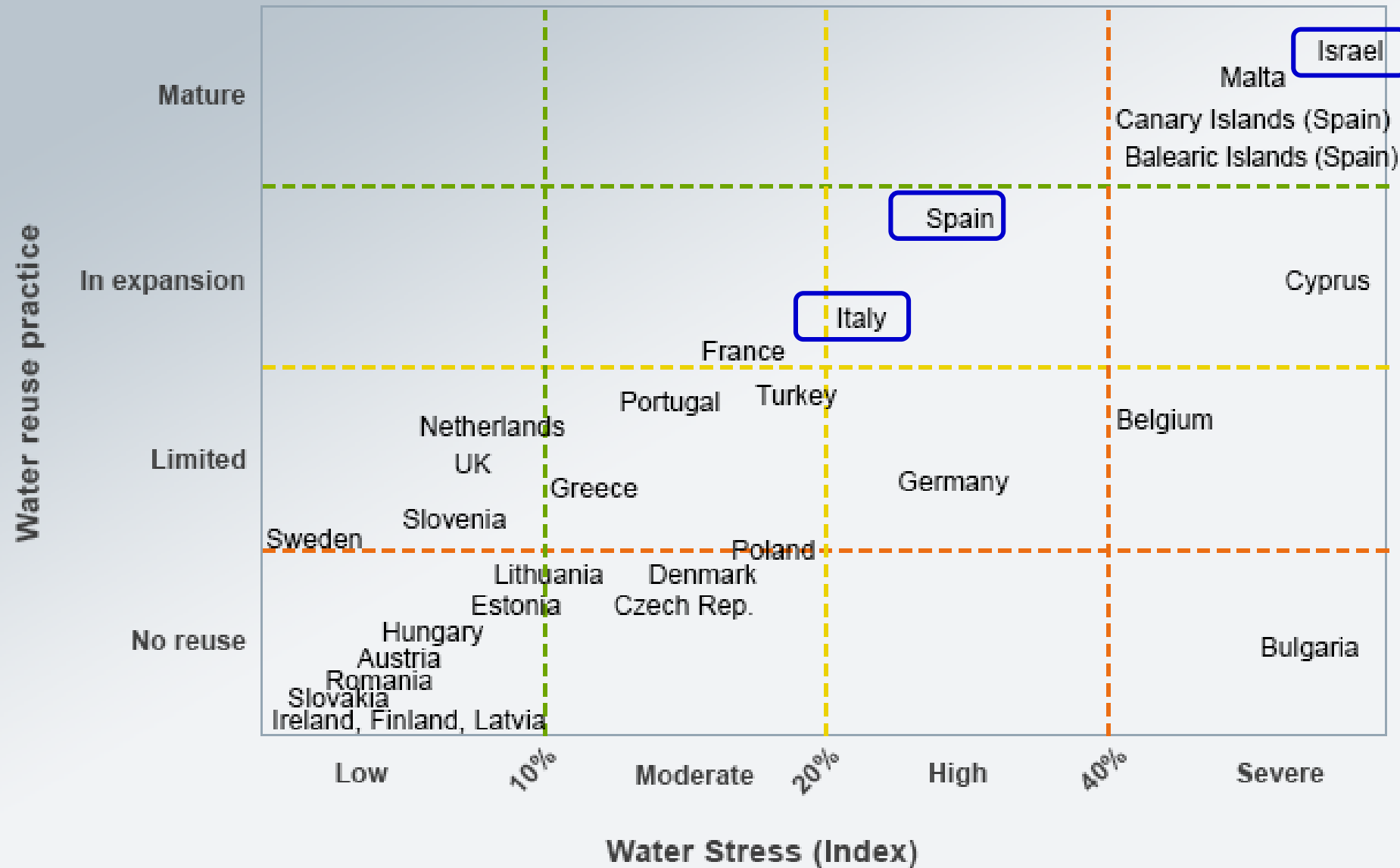
# Water Demand by sector and type of Water (IL)

MCM/y





# Water reuse practices versus water stress index





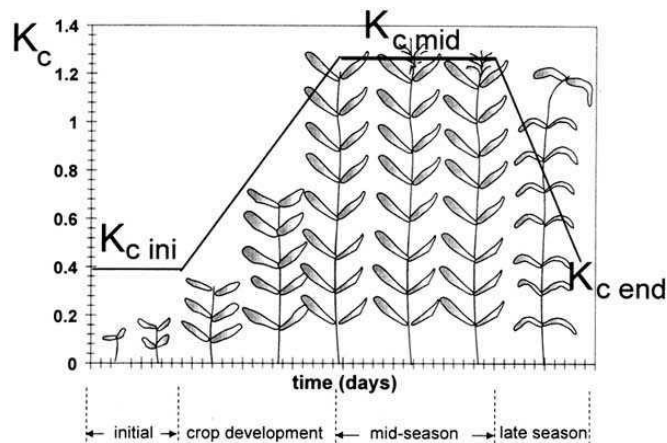
# Water saving technologies - agriculture



# Precise irrigation and farming



Climate and cropping stage - based irrigation

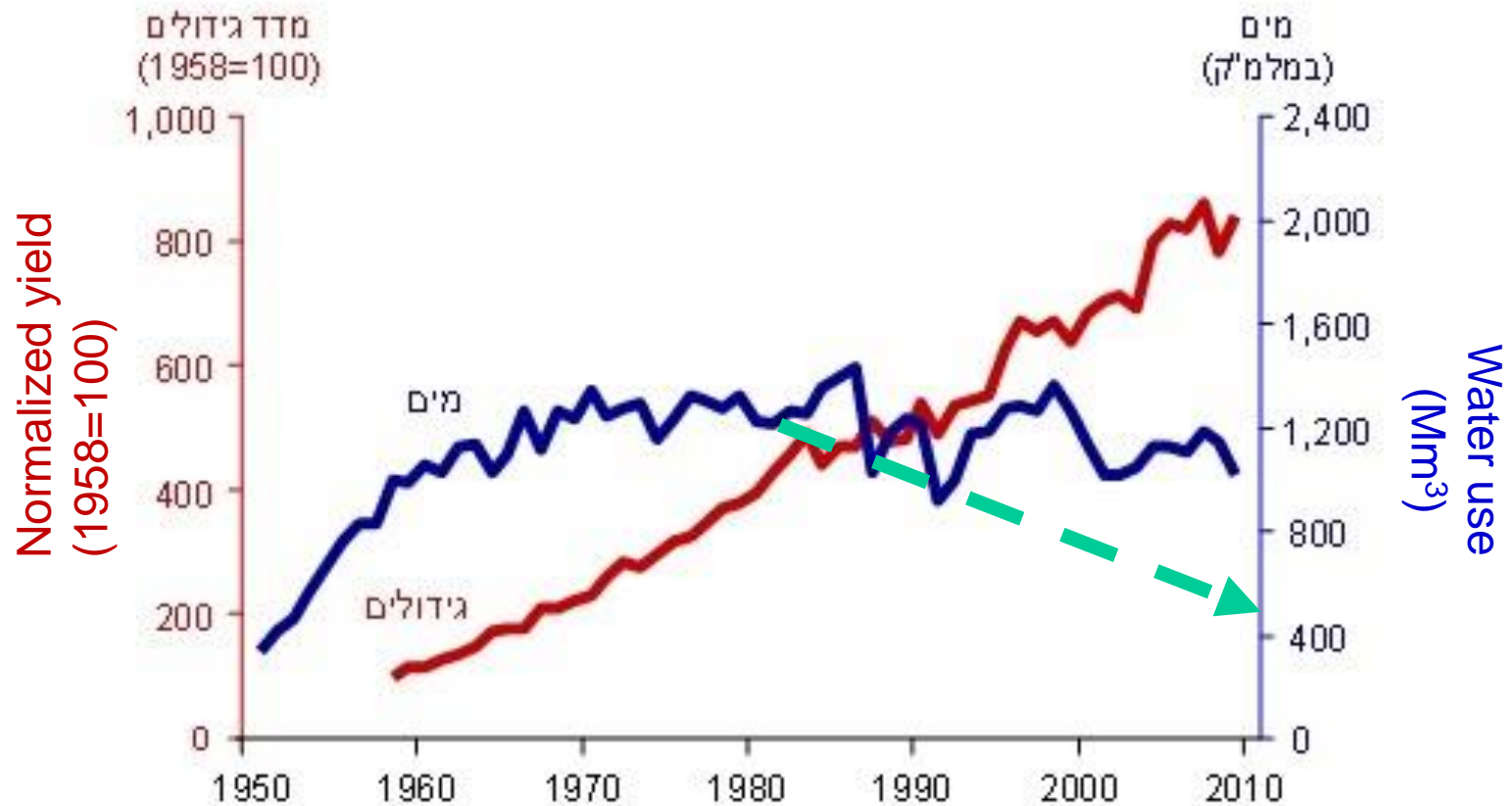


Sensor based irrigation





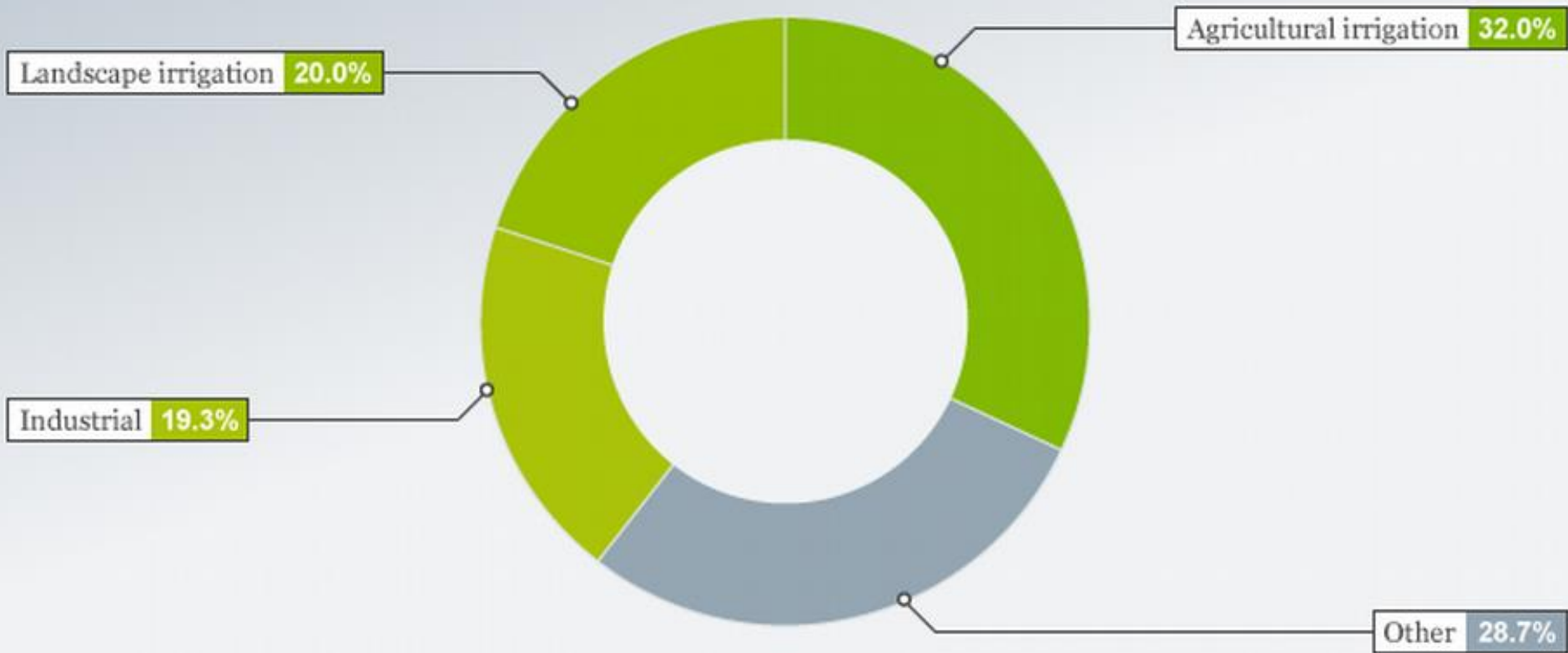
# Agricultural Water use efficiency



Kislev, 2011



# Market share of global water reuse after advanced treatment

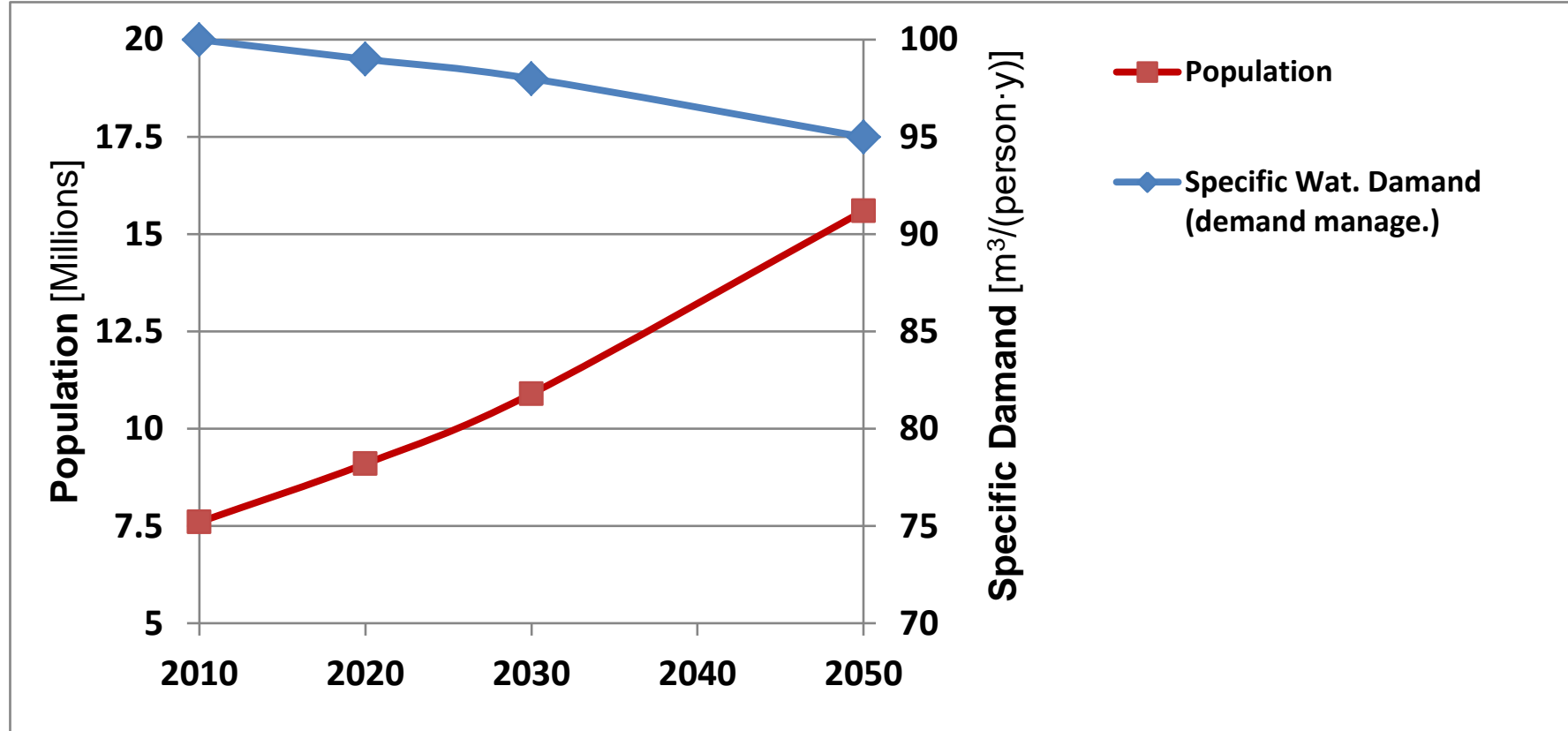


Source: The United Nations World Water Development Report 2017

© DW

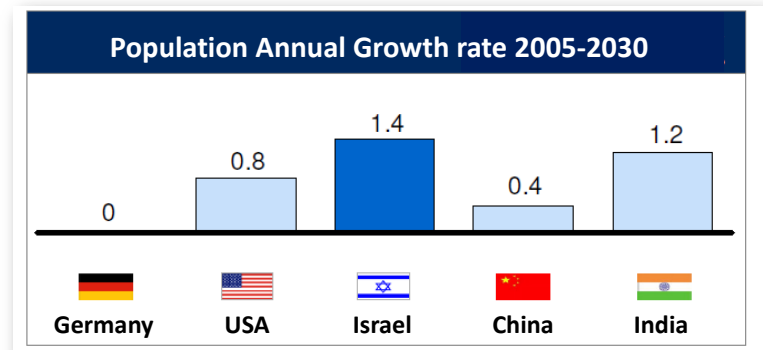


# Population Growth & Water demand (IL)



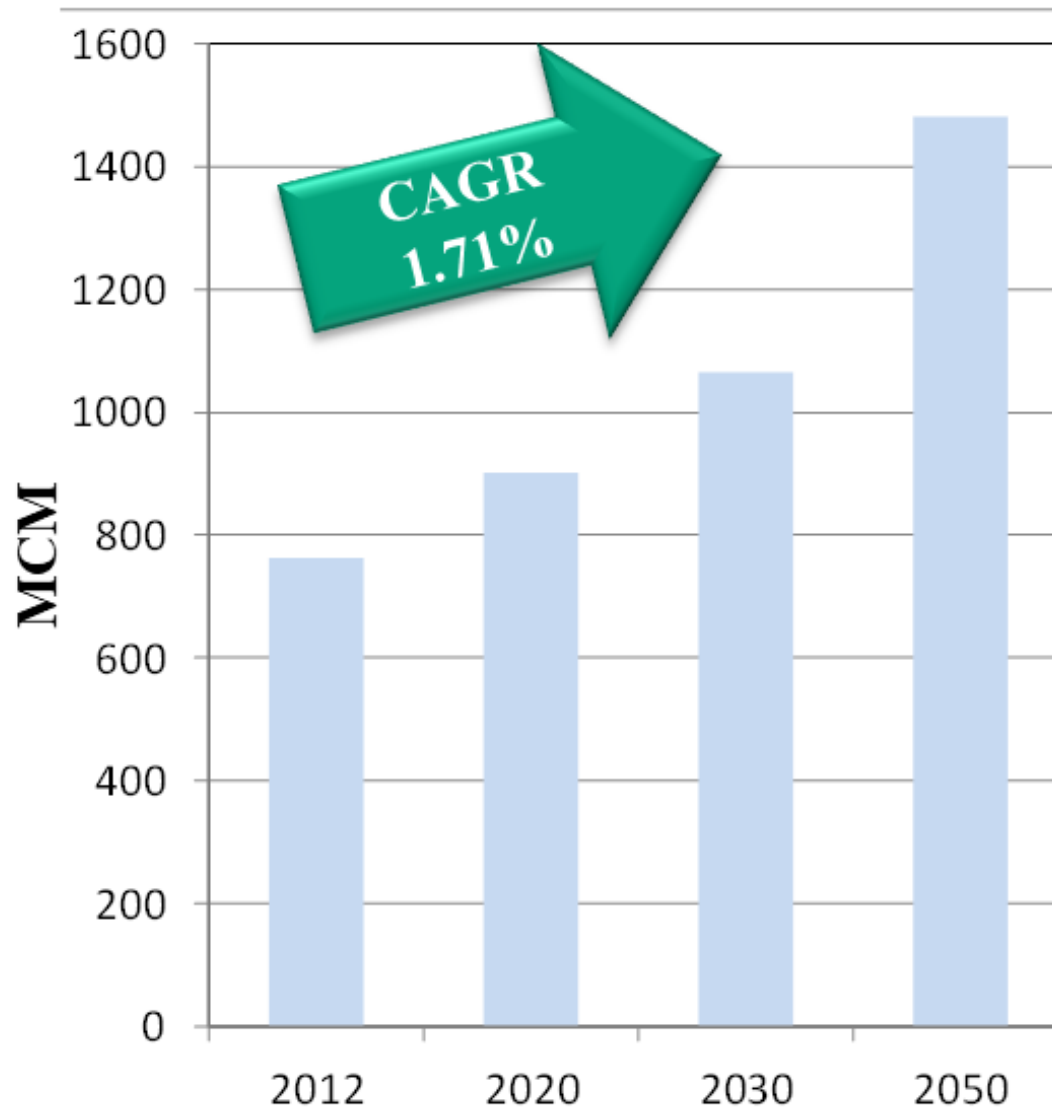
>90% live in cities

“City-sheds”

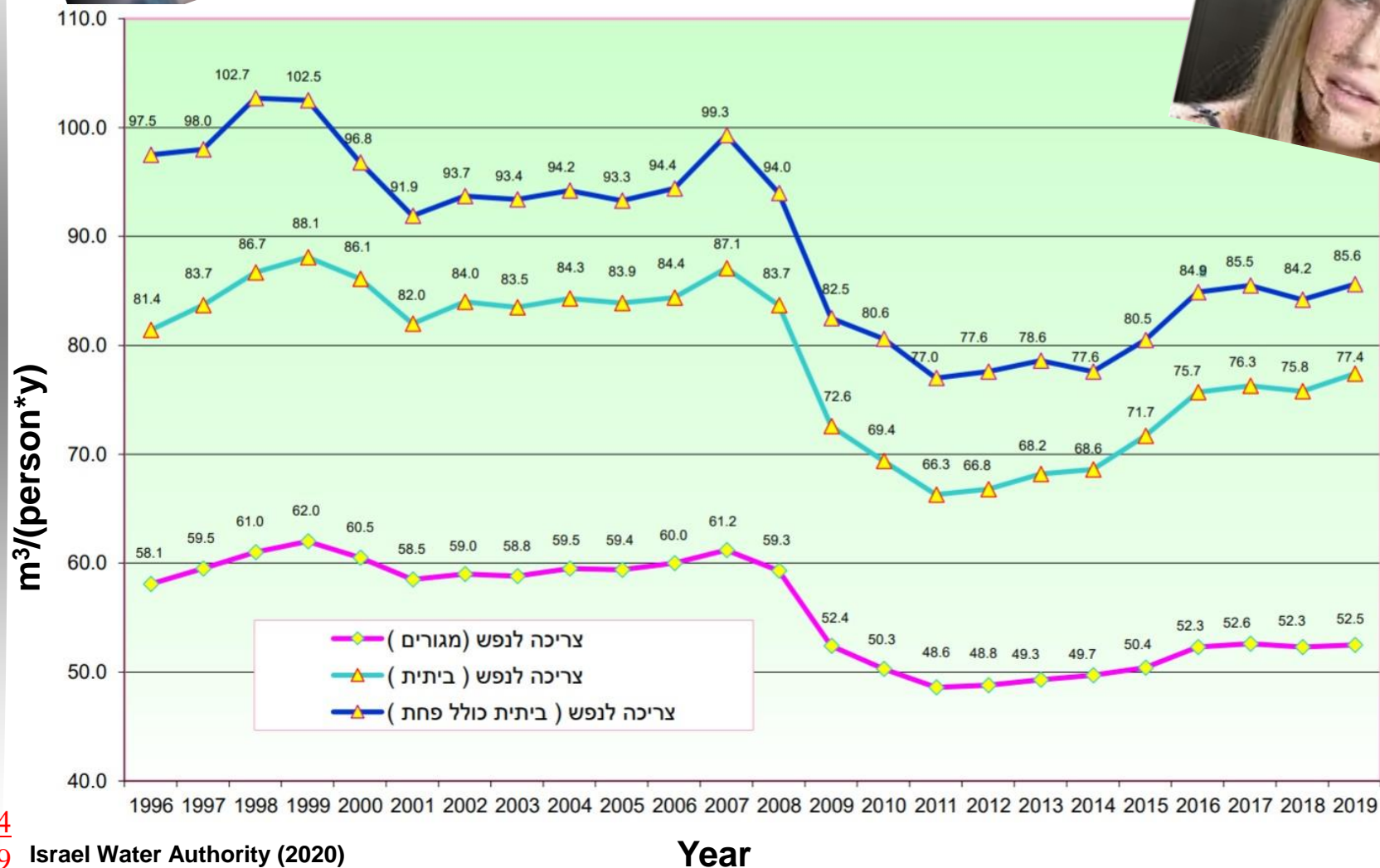




# Growth of Municipal Water Demand (IL)



# Municipal water demand 1996-2019 (IL)



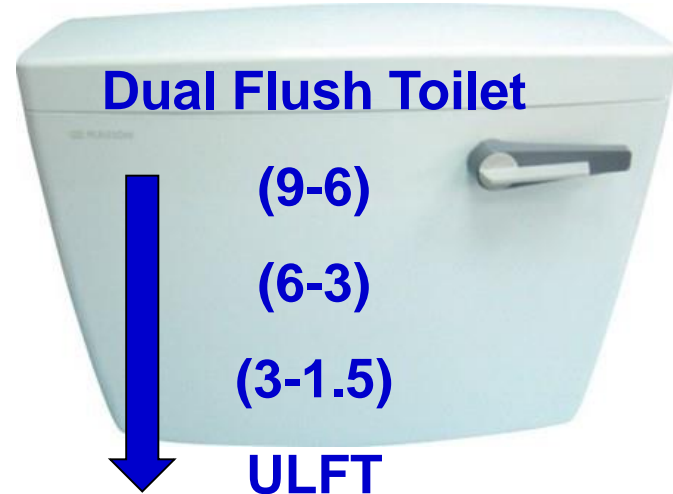
# Water saving technologies - household

## Flow restrictors



## Dual Flush Toilet

(9-6)  
(6-3)  
(3-1.5)  
ULFT



## Washing Machines



## Dishwashers





# Urban WW reuse



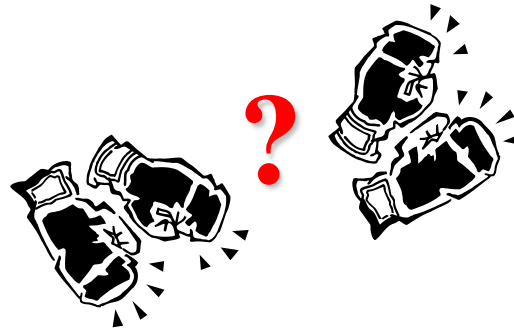
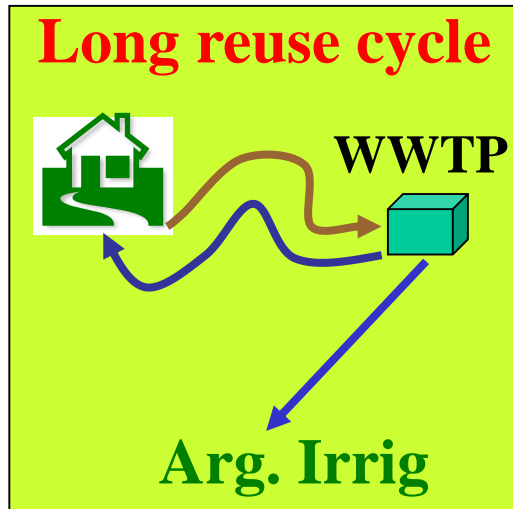
Photo: Mr. Ehud Leshem



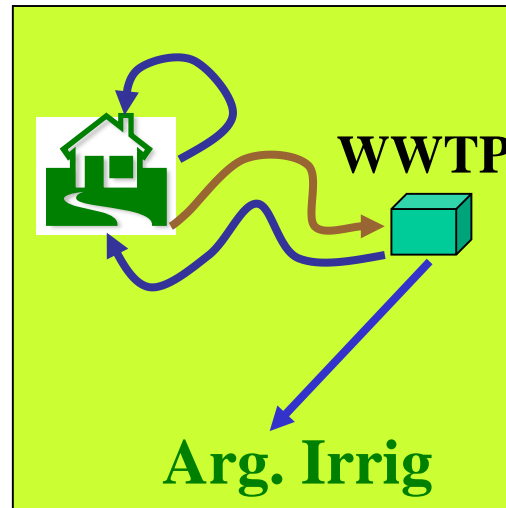
# Water Reuse

## Decentralised vs. Centralised

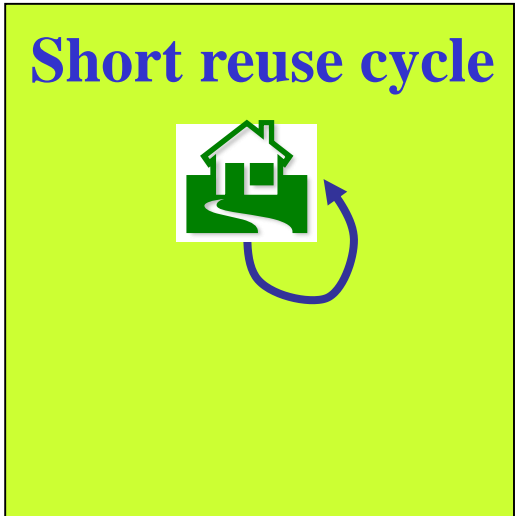
Centralised



Combined

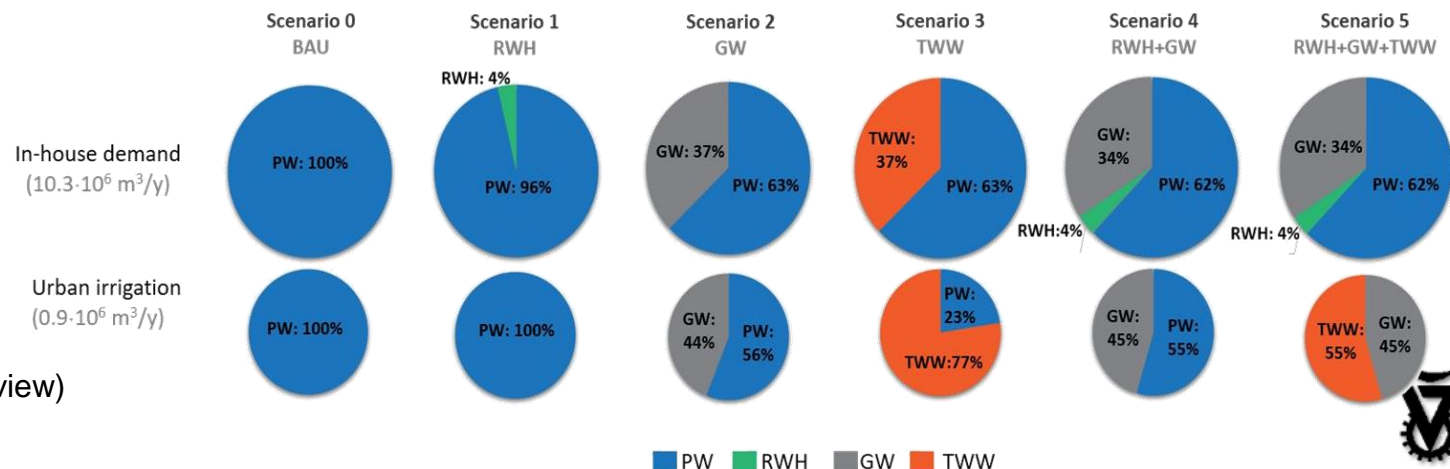
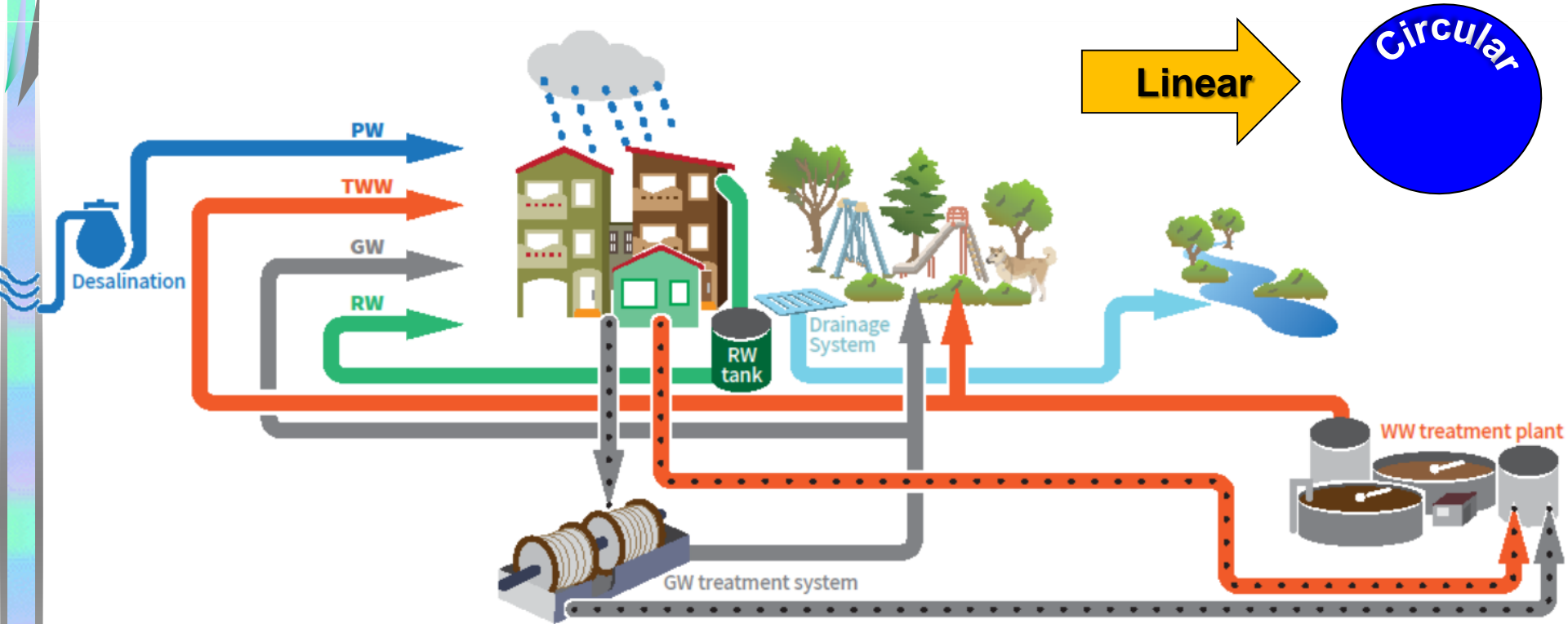


Decentralised





# CLUWAL – Closing the Urban Water Loop



Gilboa et al. (under review)



# Challenges & Solutions

- **Population growth & Urbanisation**
- **Climate change**
- **Wastewater reuse – Centralised approach**
  - Health & Environmental Risk assessment & management
  - Micropollutants of emerging concern (pharmaceuticals, PCPs, EDCs, ....)
  - Salinity
  - Conveyance from urban to rural areas
- **Desalination**
  - Energy consumption → Global warming, air pollution
  - Conveyance from seashore to cities
- **Alternative water sources (RWH, SWH, GWR) – Decentralised systems**
  - Operation, Maintenance, Management
  - Effects on existing urban infrastructure (mainly WW collection network, WWTPs)
  - Public acceptance / Water supply utilities
- **Water saving in the urban sector**
  - Public acceptance / Water supply utilities
  - Technology
  - Effects on existing infrastructure





***Grazie per l'attenzione***

***Gracias por su atención***

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