Programme funded by the EUROPEAN UNION

ENPI CBCMED
CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

swmed
a better future through smarter water usage

SWMED

The role of the socio-economic surveys on MED settlements in urban and rural areas (WP 4.1.1) in the development of tailor-made solutions for each settlement typology (WP 4.2)

Giulio Conte
IRIDRA

2° Project Meeting - Tunisia
Steering Committee – 27 september 2012
Management Board – 28 september 2012

IRIDRA S.r.l.

Socioeconomic and even anthropologic aspects are key elements of any action concerning water and sanitation. They concern several issues:

- water infrastructure development
- water price for final users
- acceptability of "uncommon" techniques

Water infrastructure development

They require a very huge investment costs, generally carried on by Public Entities (often in former times, when economic constraints were different from now).

Economic constraints could be a factor in favour of decentralized SWM

Anyhow they could affect technical solution to be adopted

Perspective on water pricing

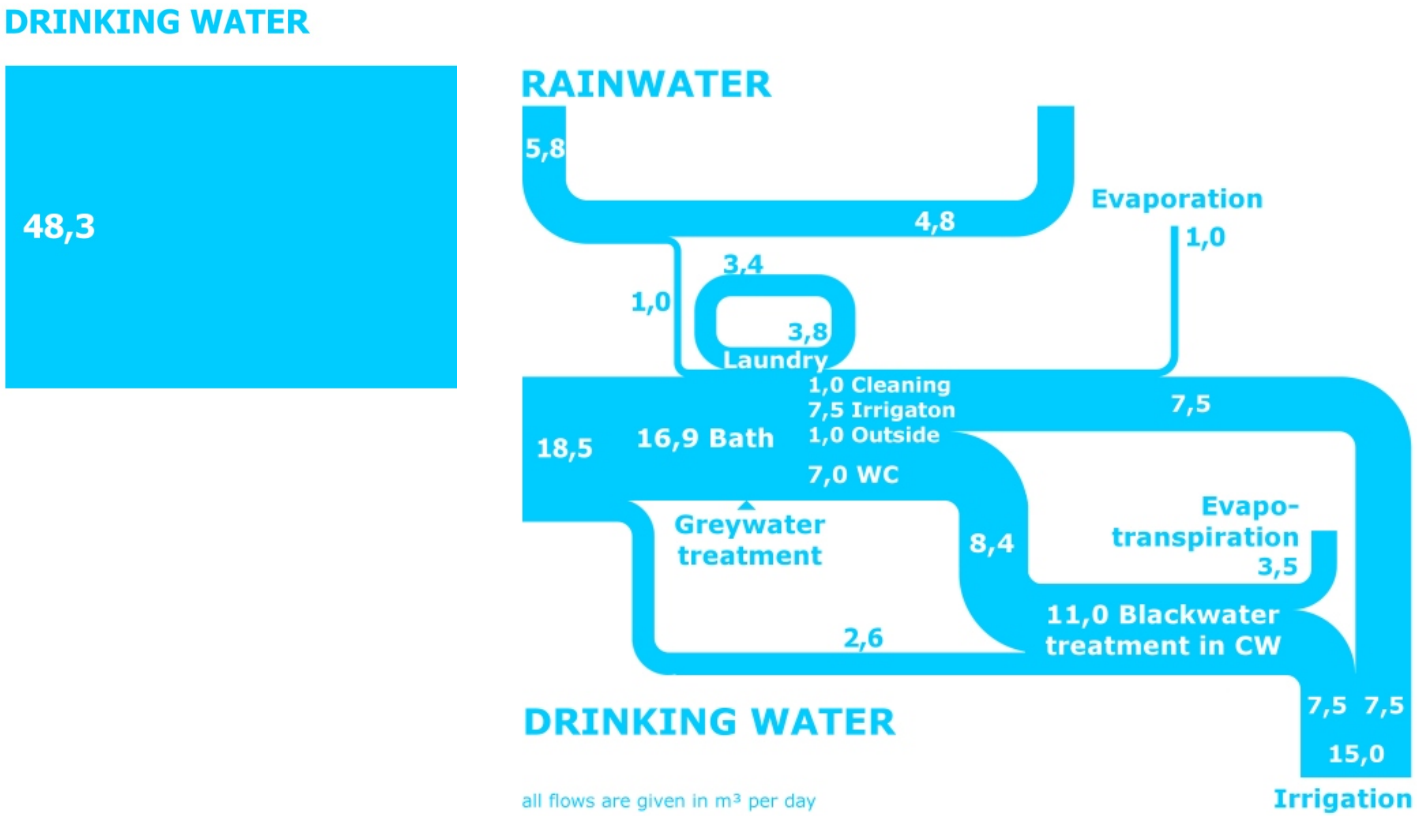
- Financial
  - Total revenues should match total cost (including investments and financial costs)
  - Revenues should be secure enough to reduce the risk perceived by investors and keep risk-premium low
  - It is concerned with total revenues (regardless pricing structure)
- Distributive
  - Individual payments should be lower than individual ability to pay
  - The total cost should be distributed in a way that is socially perceived as fair and just
  - It is concerned with how much each individual or target group pays (as a % of their income), regardless pricing structure and total revenues
- Allocative
  - Prices should provide signals to water users in order to prevent wasteful use of resources and encourage sustainable use
  - Prices should anticipate scarcity in order to avoid excess of infrastructural investment when water-saving is a more efficient solution
  - It is concerned with price structure and price levels (not too much on the economic nature of the payment – taxes , prices, levies etc -

Programme funded by the EUROPEAN UNION

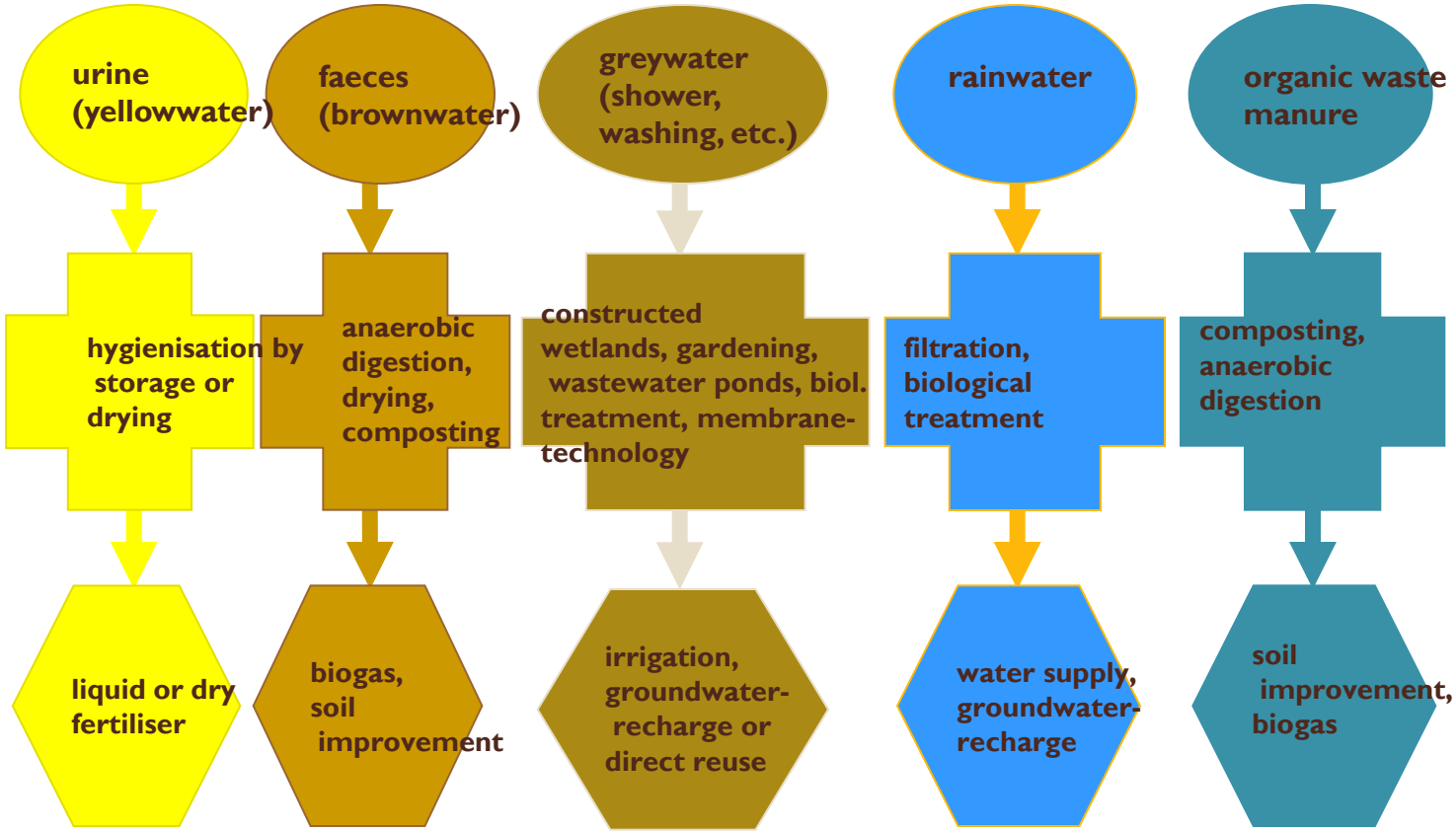
ENPI CBCMED CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

swmed a better future through smarter water usage

Social and cultural acceptability of new technologies



Social and cultural acceptability of new technologies



Social acceptability depend on:

- kind of sanitation system in use
- kind of new technology introduced
- specific cultural local background
- strategy to involve local community (e.g. GTZ in ecosanitation project)

Programme funded by the EUROPEAN UNION

ENPI CBCMED CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

swmed a better future through smarter water usage

ecosan project planning

- GTZ proposes a 10 step approach to assure interdisciplinary and participatory planning in ecosan projects, based on the HCES-implementation guideline of the WSSCC
- Within an enlarged start-up phase, the 10 steps complement classical planning instruments (feasibility study, technical design, etc.)

10 ecosan project steps

Step 0 – Raising awareness

Step 1 - Request for assistance

Step 2 - Launch of planning & consultation process

Step 3 - Assessment of current status and stakeholders

Step 4 - Assessment of priorities, user and reuser needs

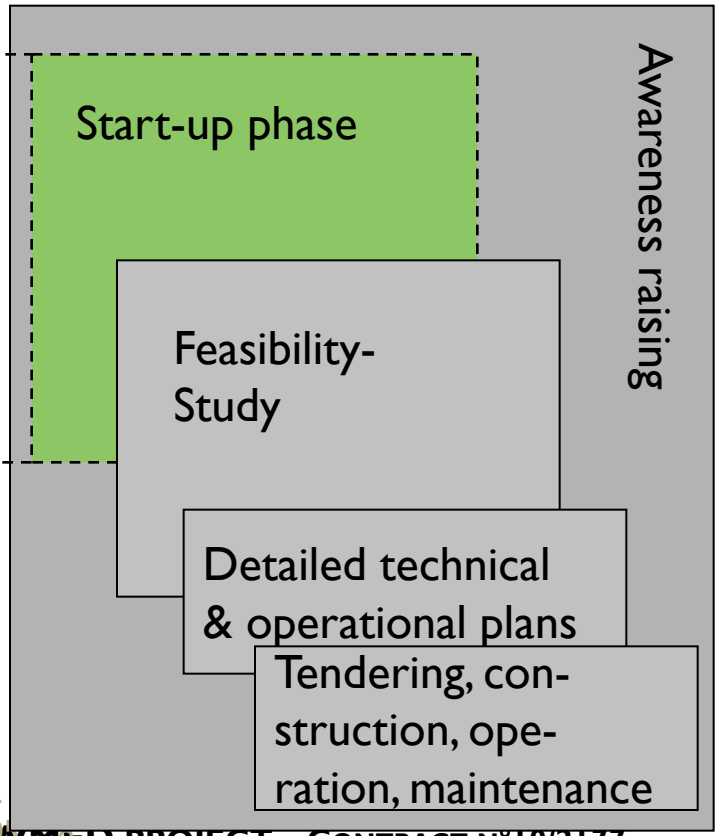
Step 5 - Identification of sanitation and reuse options

Step 6 - Evaluate feasible service and reuse options

Step 7 - Consolidate ecosan plans for the study area

Step 8 - Finalise consolidated ecosan plans for study area

Step 9 – Implementation



IRIDRA S.r.l.

Programme funded by the EUROPEAN UNION

ENPI CBCMED CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

swmed a better future through smarter water usage

Socioeconomic issues could influence WP4 activities...

Include or not a certain technology (e.g. MBR greywater treatment) according to affordability of its installation, operation and maintenance

Include or not a certain technology (e.g. MBR greywater treatment) according to the expected acceptability

...but mostly will influence WP5 activities

The policy paper should be aimed at solving water and environmental problems (identified through WP3) considering socioeconomic constraints