

Toolkit on Digital Transformation of People-Oriented Cities and Communities



Module 8: Smart Water Management



Jointly developed by: ITU, UN-Habitat, UNDESA, IWRA, UNECE, UNEP DTU, UNDP

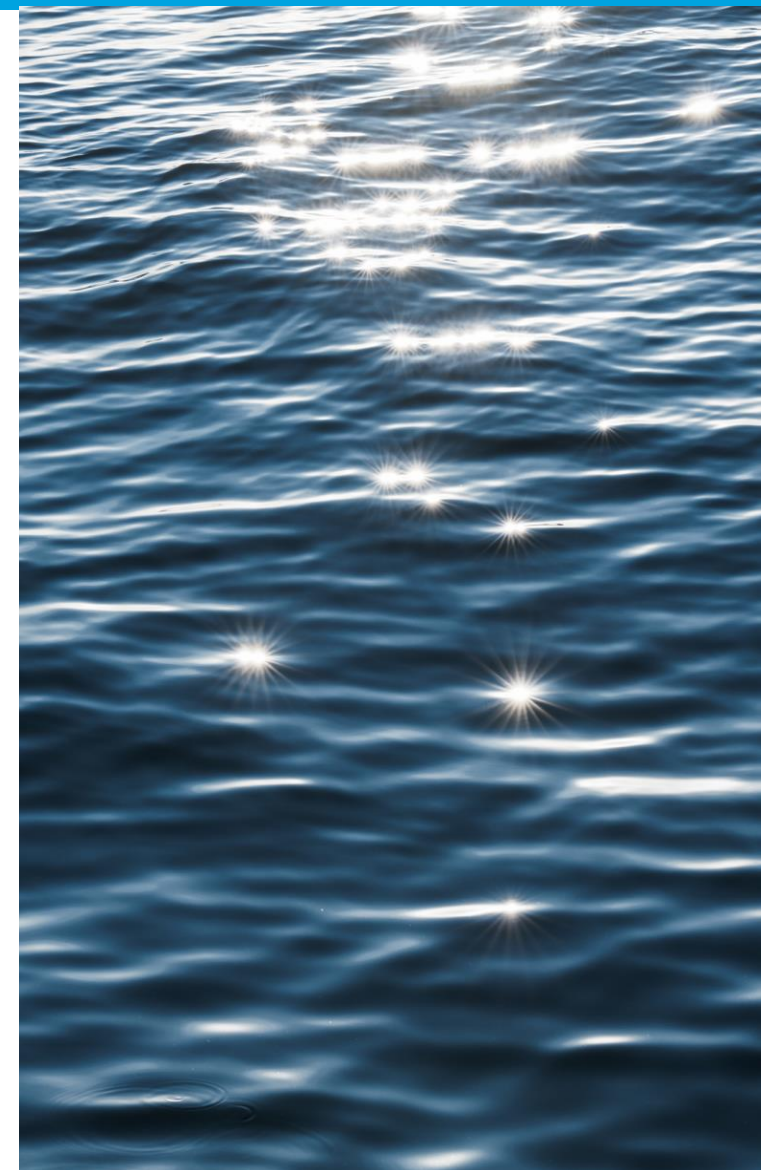


Module 8 – Smart Water Management

This Module of the Toolkit on Digital Transformation for People-Oriented Cities and Communities focuses on setting up and maintaining smart utilities, particularly smart water management.

Cities and communities that are starting on their digital transformation journey will find the resources highlighted within this Module useful toward planning, developing and sustaining smart water management practices.

This Module is also useful for cities and communities that have already made some headway into their digital transformation process but would like to validate the extent to which their water management is truly smart.



Module 8 – Smart Water Management

This Module will cover the following topics:

1. Water Management Challenges
2. Water Management Solutions
3. Key Smart Water Management Tools
 1. Tool #1: Smart water management technologies and tools
 2. Tool #2: Smart metering and sensing
 3. Tool #3: Climate proofing



A photograph of a water pipe system with a pressure gauge. The pipes are brown and set against a dark blue background. A white pressure gauge with a black dial and needle is mounted on a vertical pipe. The text '1. Water Management Challenges' is overlaid in white on the image.

1. Water Management Challenges

Water Challenges in Cities and Communities



Urbanization



Leadership and governance



Water utilities and infrastructure



Investment



Water availability and quality

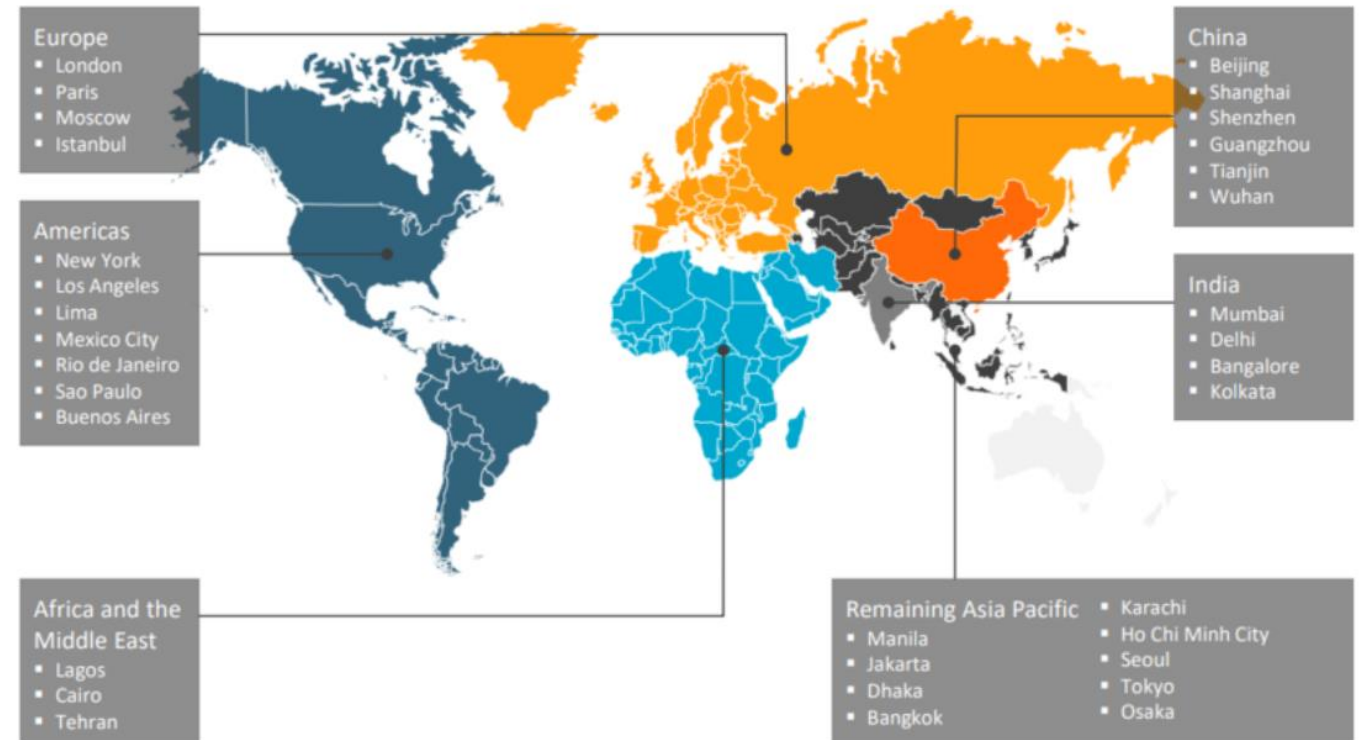


Climate change



Rapid Urbanization

These highly concentrated populations and the increasing size of cities and communities have posed severe strains on local water resources, as cities and communities are confronted by the need to meet an increasing demand for water resources.



Current megacities and communities ([image source](#))

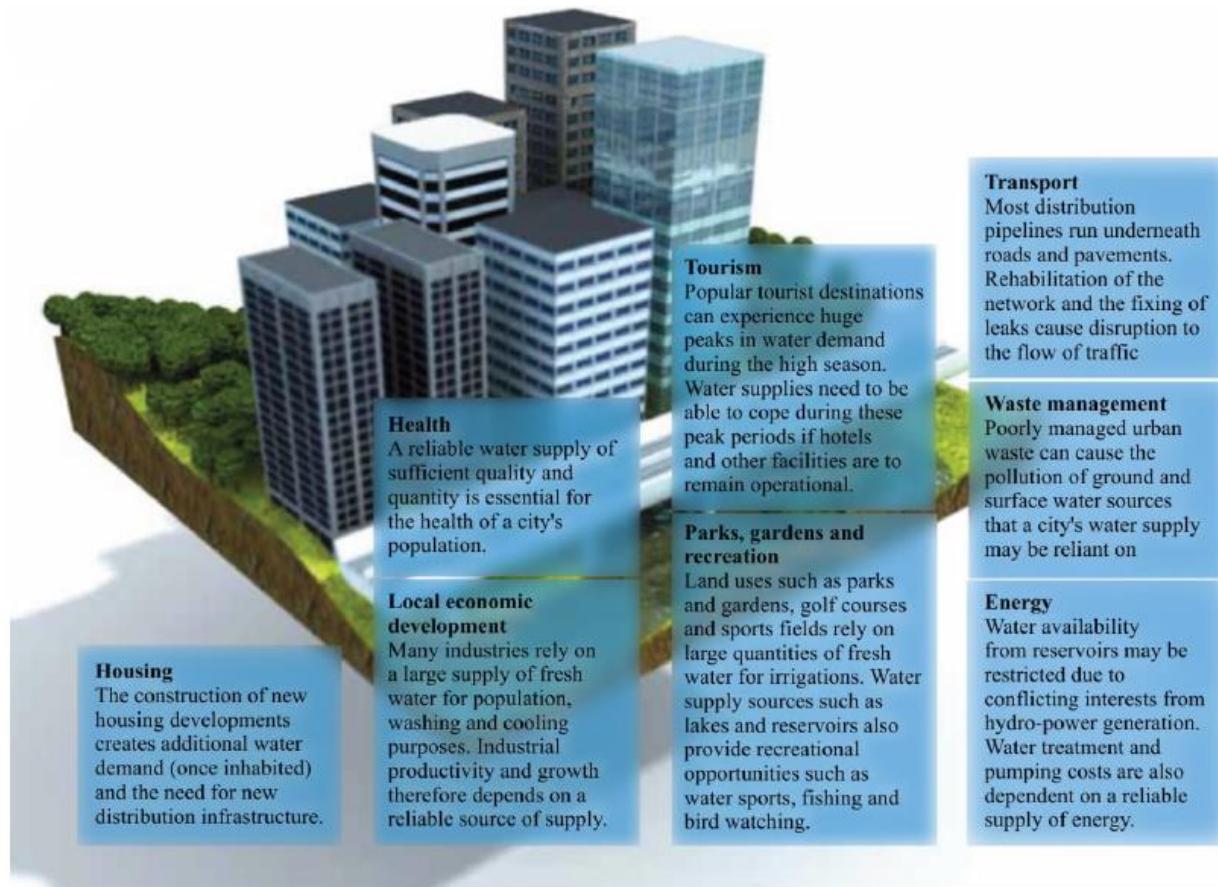
Leadership and Governance

Weak regulatory water and sanitation frameworks, along with overlapping functions within governmental agencies and institutions, have led to an unclear division of responsibilities and to uncoordinated efforts in urban water management



Principles on water governance ([image source](#))

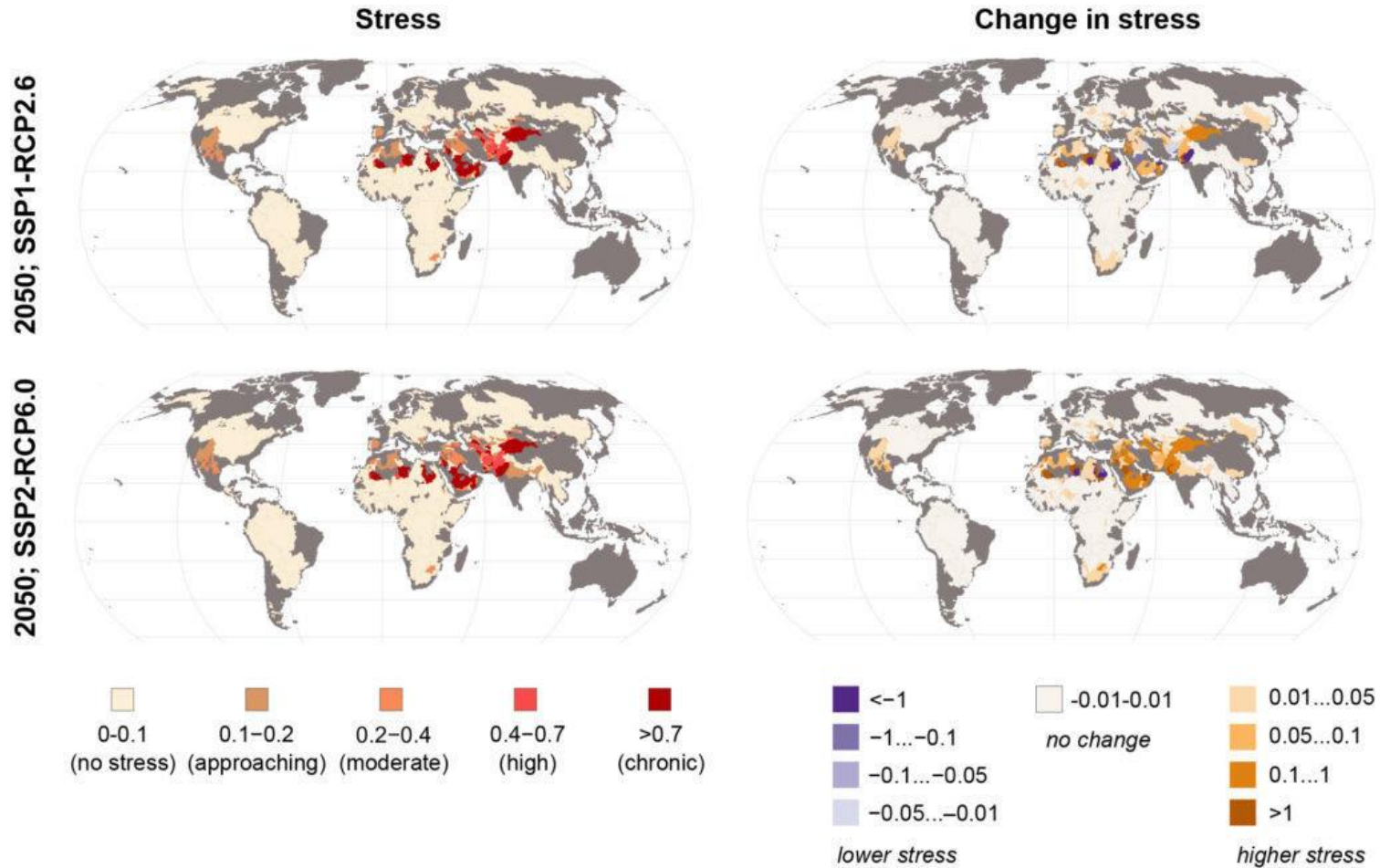
Water Utilities, Infrastructure and Investment



([image source](#))

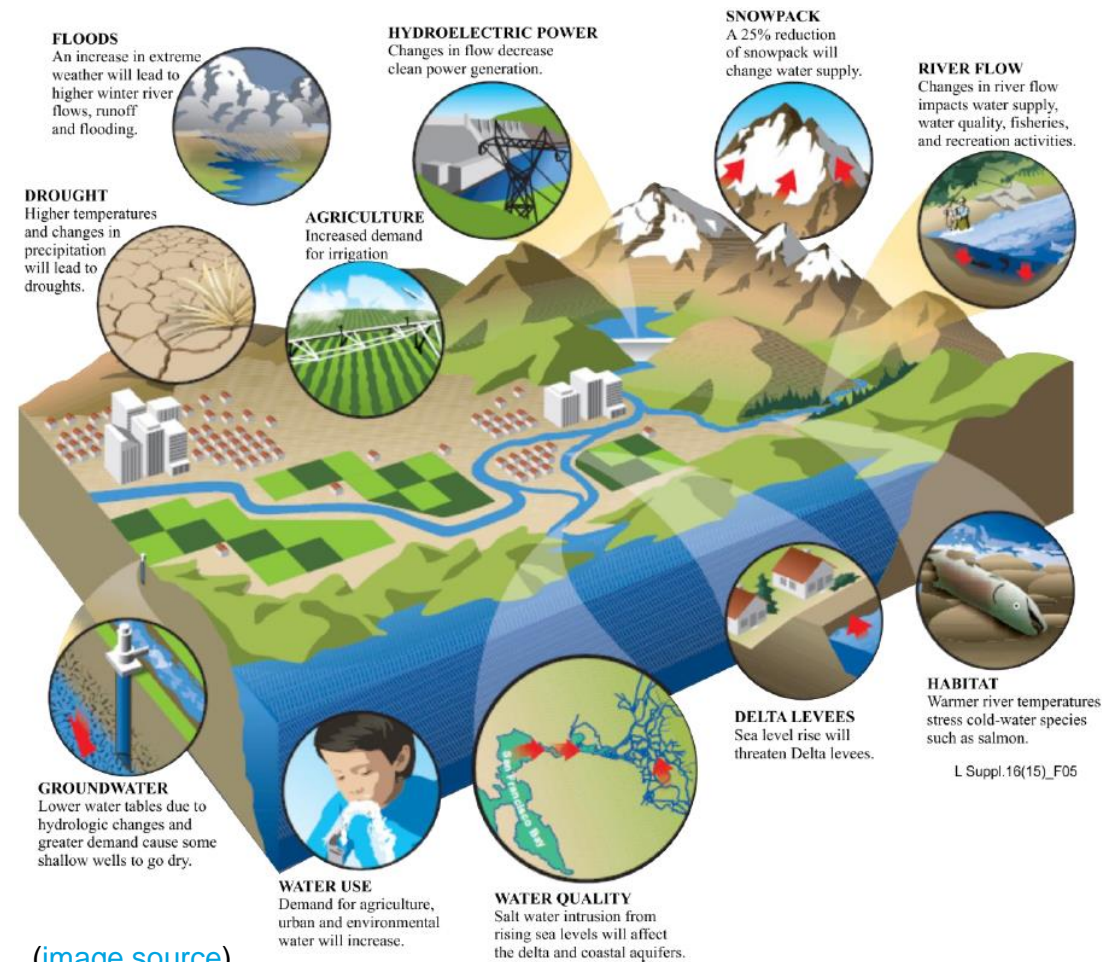
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Water Availability and Quality



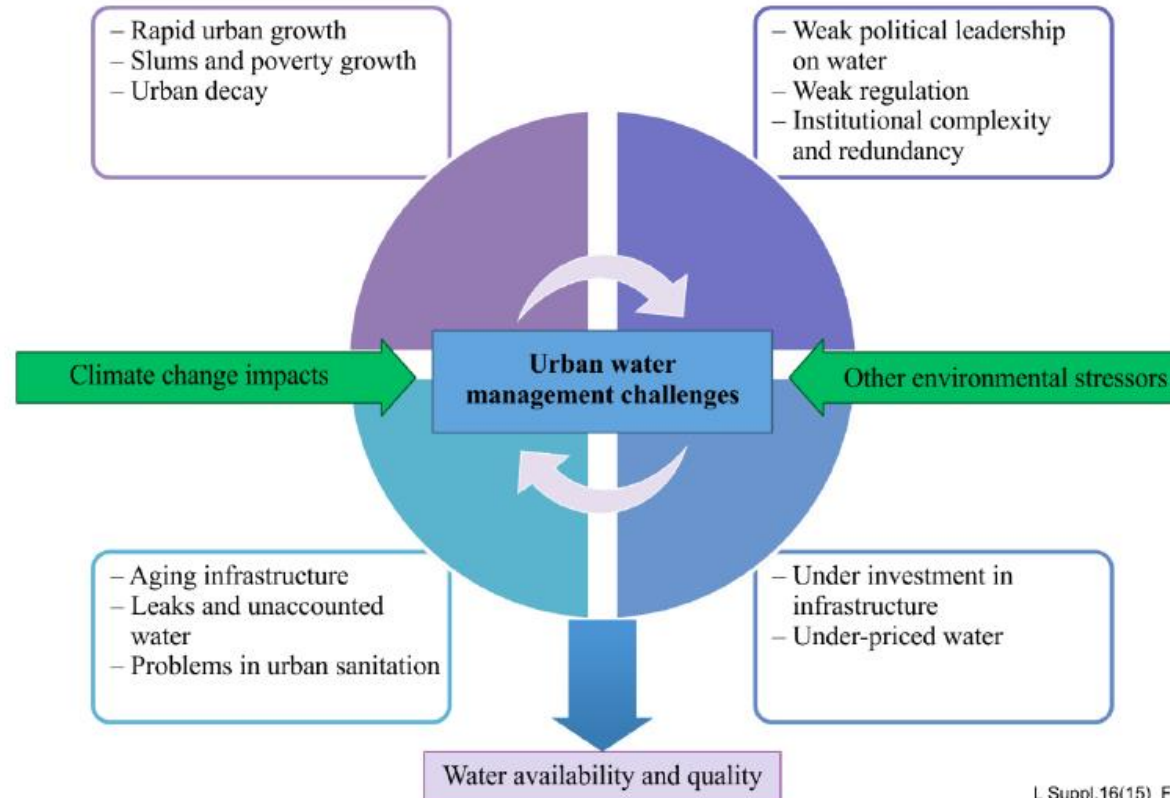
Projecting water stress ([image source](#))

Climate Change Effects on Urban Water Resources



[\(image source\)](#)

Influencing Factors on Urban Water Management Challenges



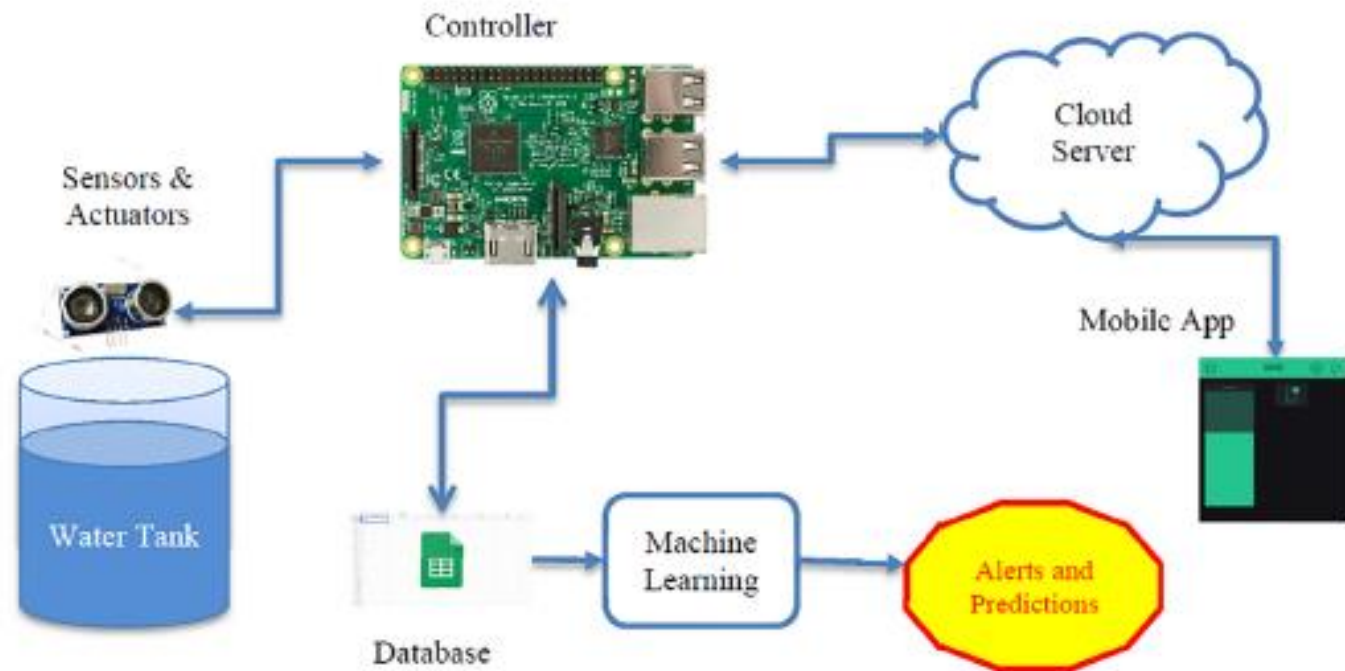
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([image source](#))

2. Water Management Opportunities and Solutions



IoT and Water Management Opportunities



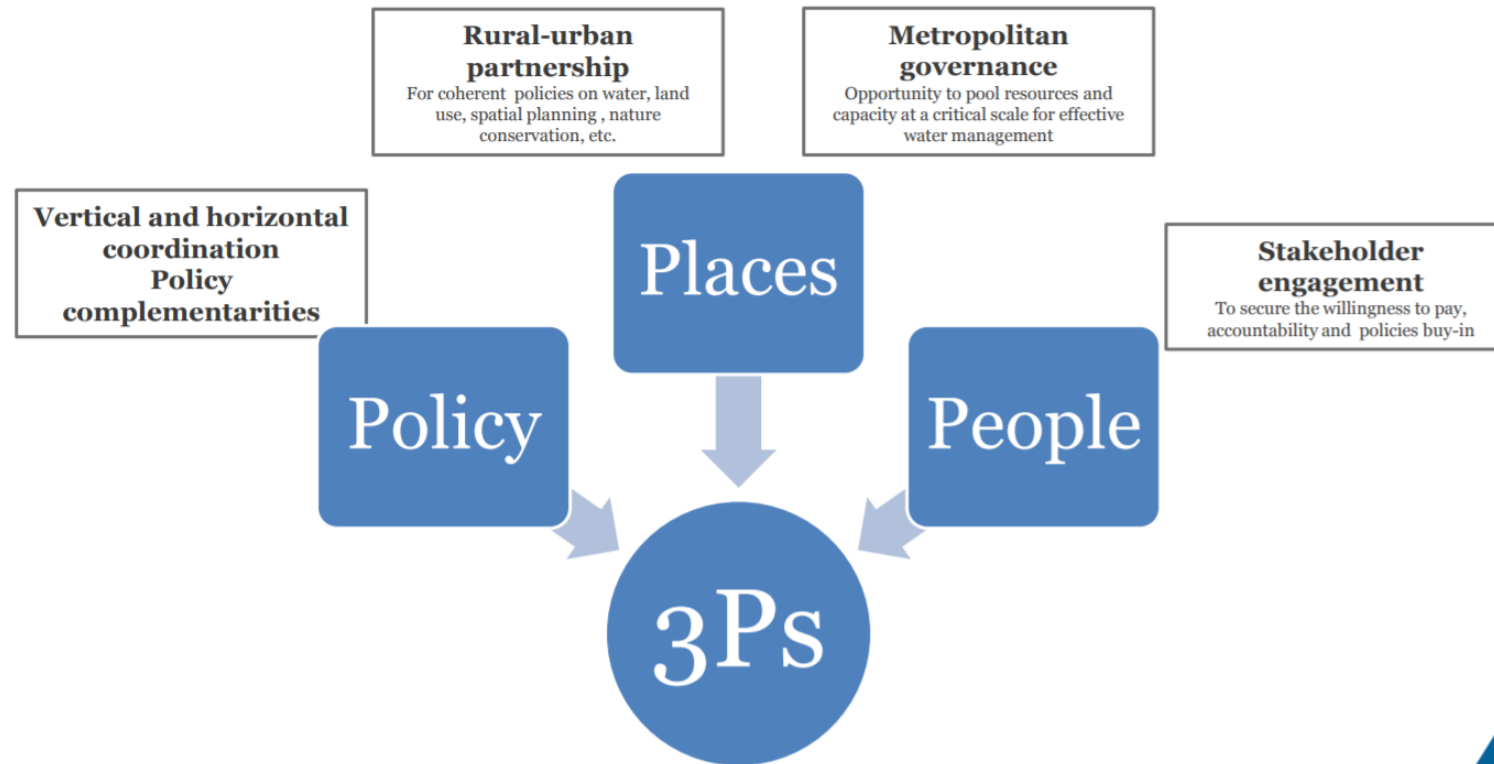
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Water Management Opportunities

- ① **Sustainability of supply**
- ② **Higher water quality**
- ③ **Lower cost**
- ④ **Servicing of marginalized communities**

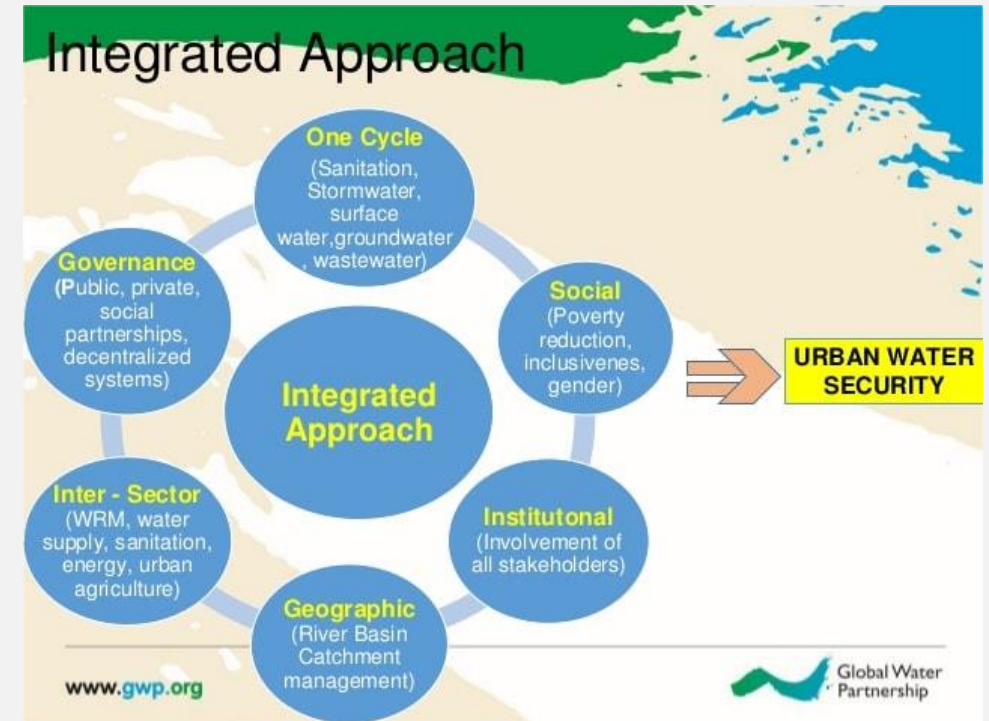
Water Governance for Cities and Communities: Tools to Bridge Gaps and Address the 3 Ps



(Image source)

Integrated Urban Water Management

- Urban water as part of full water cycle, within a watershed
- Considers the range of water uses, including ecological ones
- Coordinates horizontally across sectors & vertically across different tiers of authority and spatial scales
- Involves all players and embracing stakeholder participation



Source: <http://image.slidesharecdn.com/sustsanworkshop-integratedurbanwatermanagement-140505064514-phpapp01/95/sustsan-workshop-integrated-urban-water-management-by-ankur-gupta-3-638.jpg?cb=1399275034>

Sponge Cities

A city planned to absorb water to use as a resource for city water needs through actions such as :

Porous design

Contiguous open green spaces

Water savings and recycling

Green Roofs



Source: <https://www.chapmantaylor.com/insights/what-are-sponge-cities-and-why-are-they-the-future-of-urban-design>

Case Example

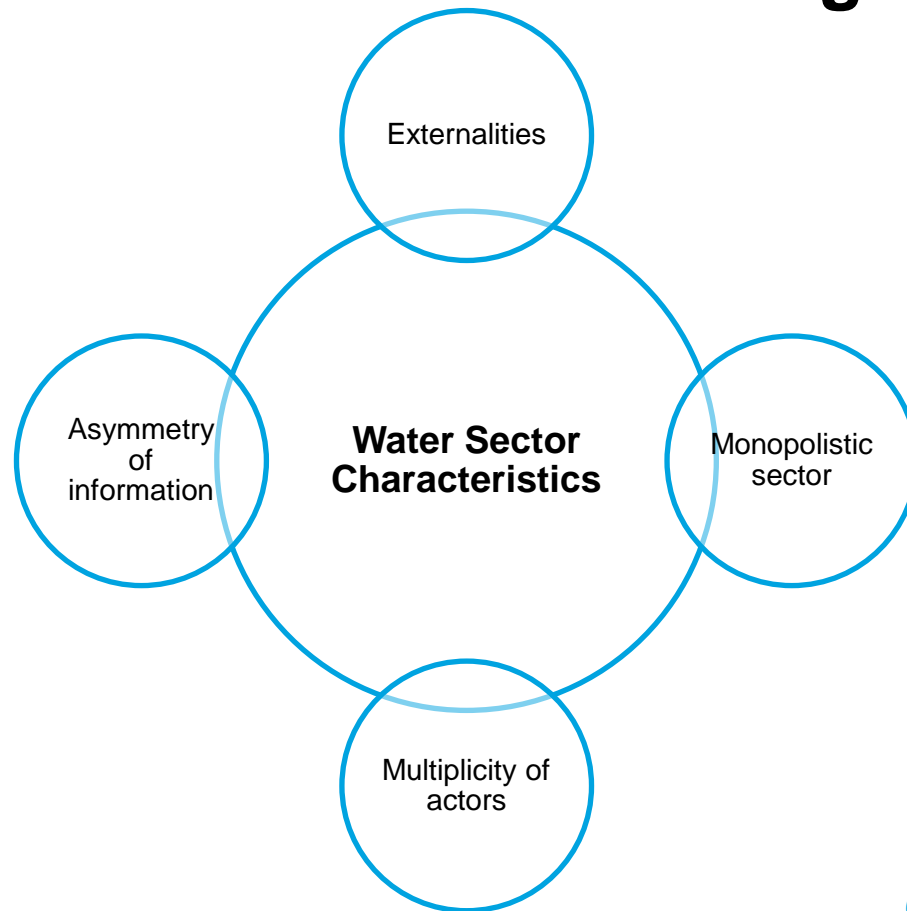
Sponge Infrastructure – Shenzhen, China



[Image Source](#)



Water Governance for Cities and Communities: Regulations



Regulation measures

- Tariff regulation
- Monitoring of service delivery performance
- Information and data gathering
- Analysing utilities' investment / business plans
- Customer engagement
- Consumer protection and dispute resolution
- Incentives for efficient investment
- Defining technical and service standards
- Etc.

[\(Image source\)](#)

3. Key Tools for Smart Water Management

Introduction to Tools for Smart Water Management

Tool #1:
Smart water
management
technologies and
tools

Tool #2:
Smart metering and
sensing

Tool #3:
Climate proofing

Tool #1

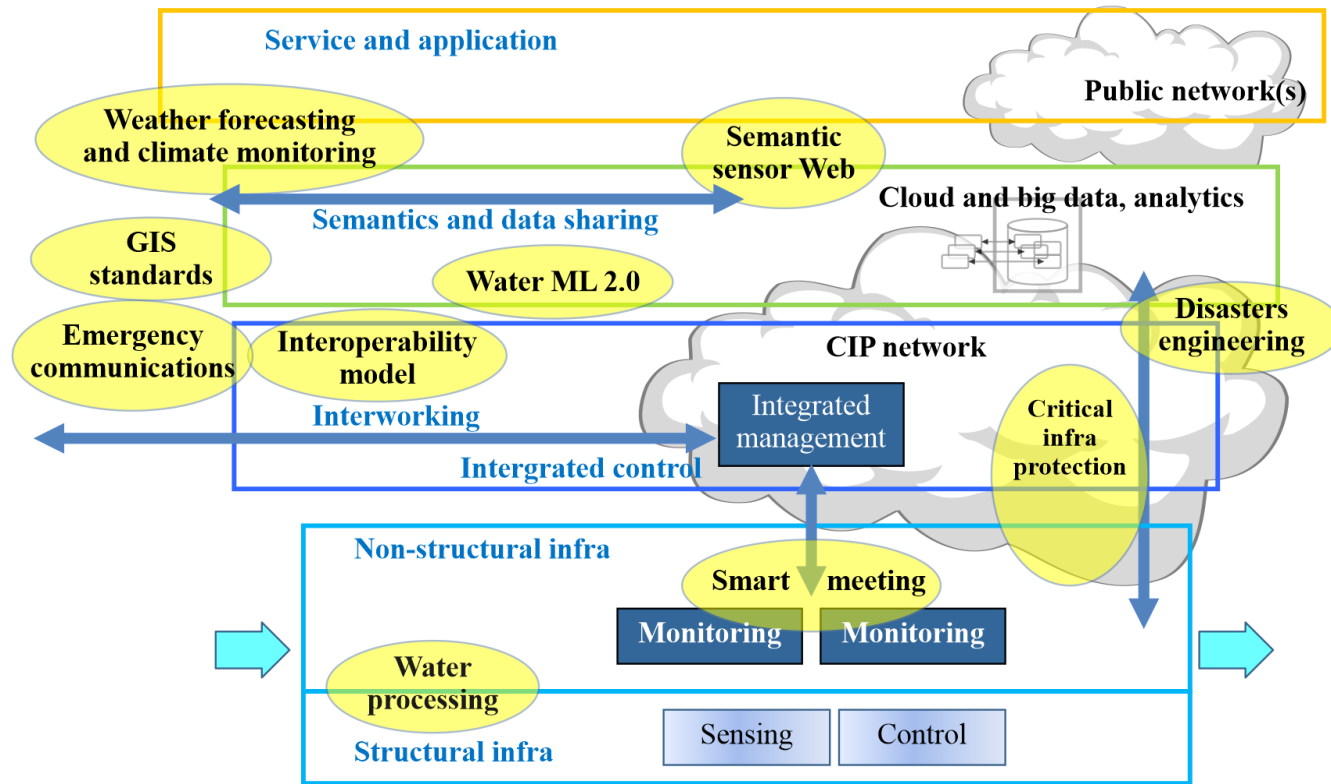


Smart Water Management (SWM) Technologies and Tools

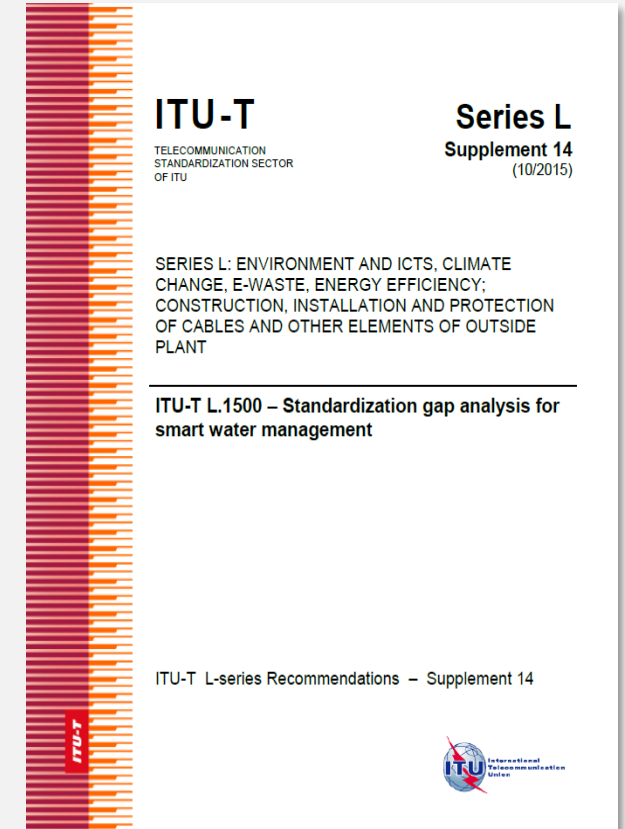


Smart Water Management Model

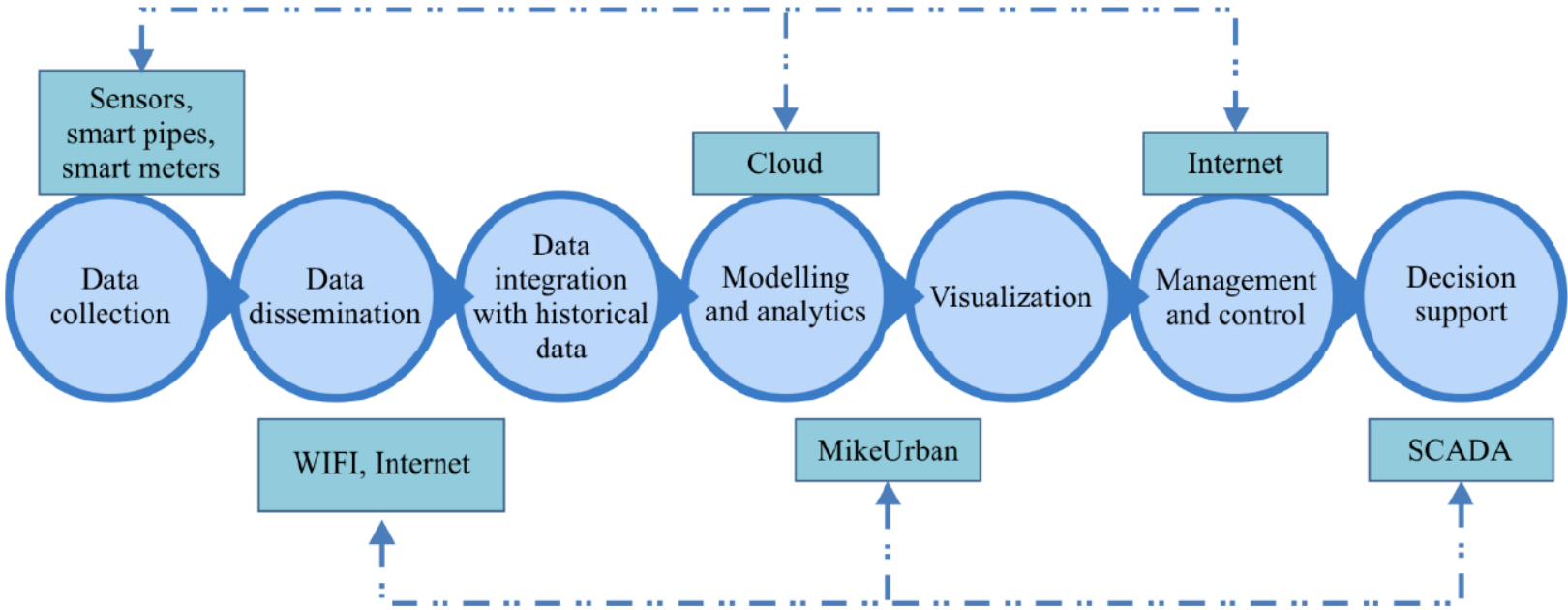
Domains of standardization in SWM model



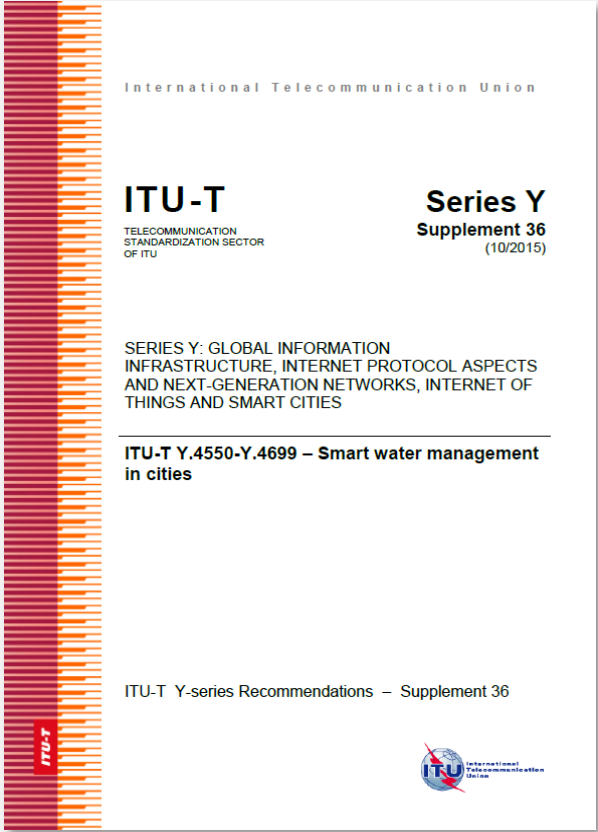
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Smart Water Management Technologies and Tools



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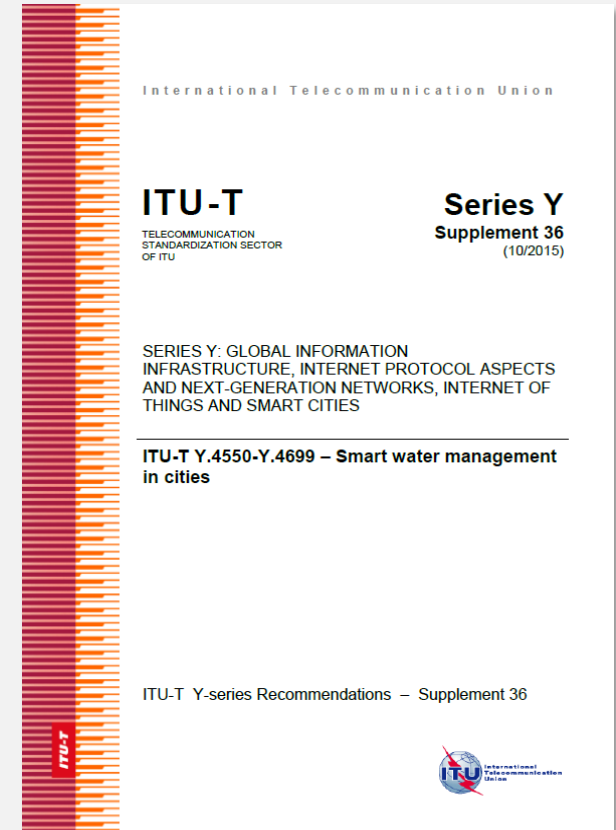
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Implementation of Smart Water Management Technologies and Tools

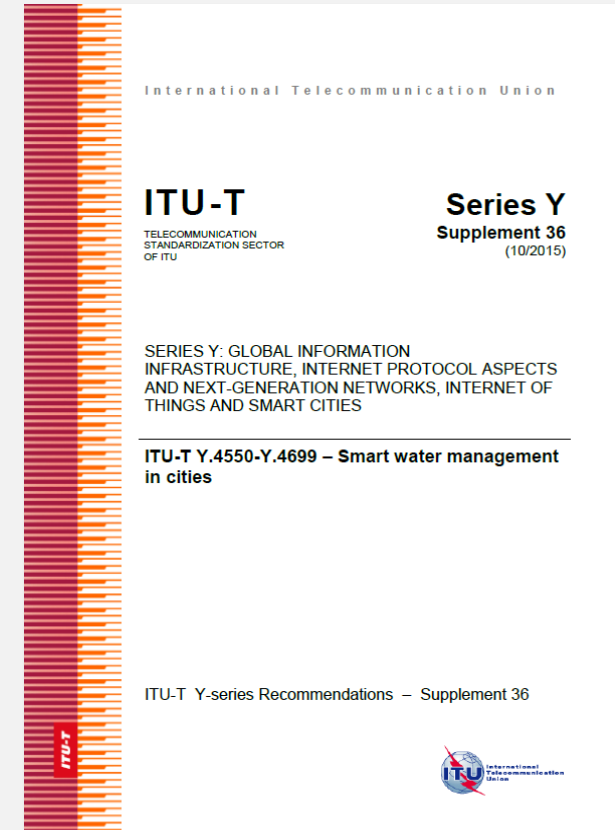
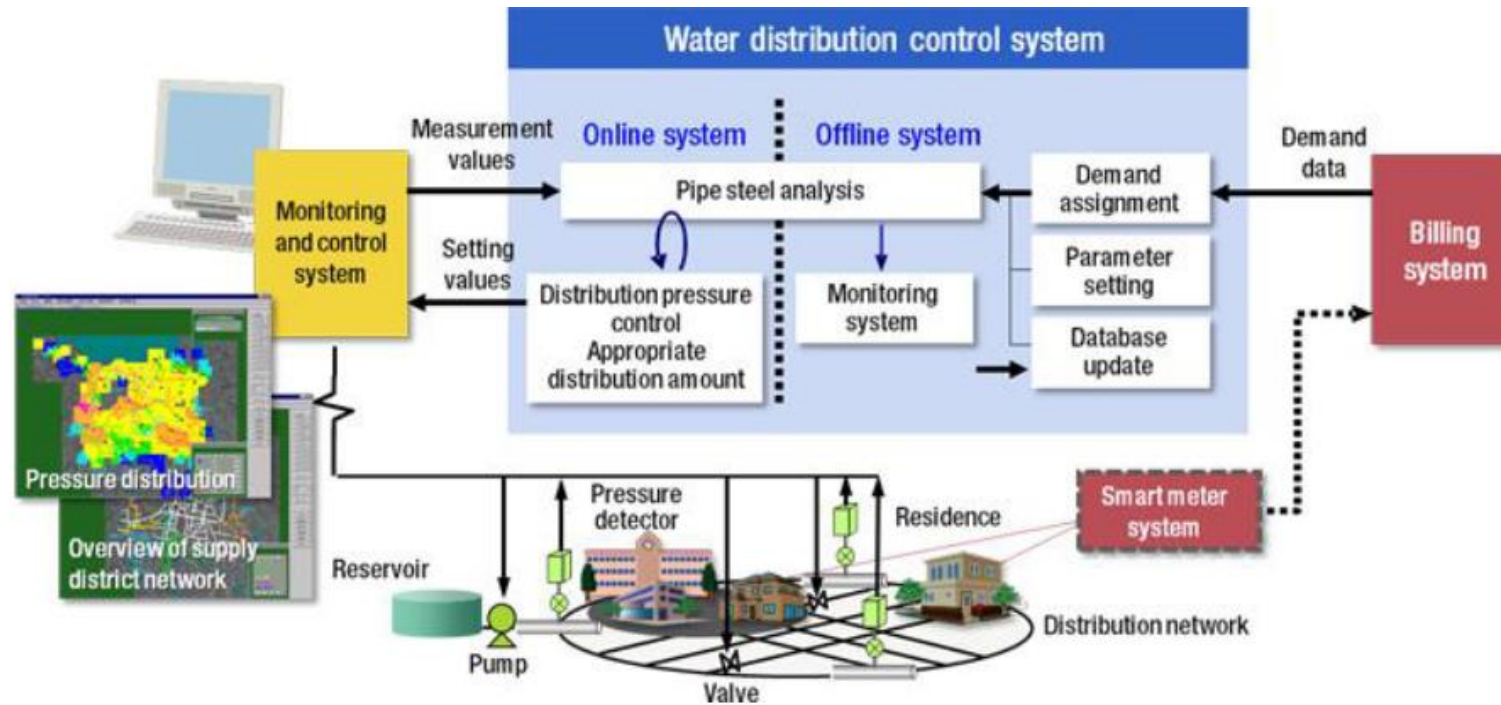


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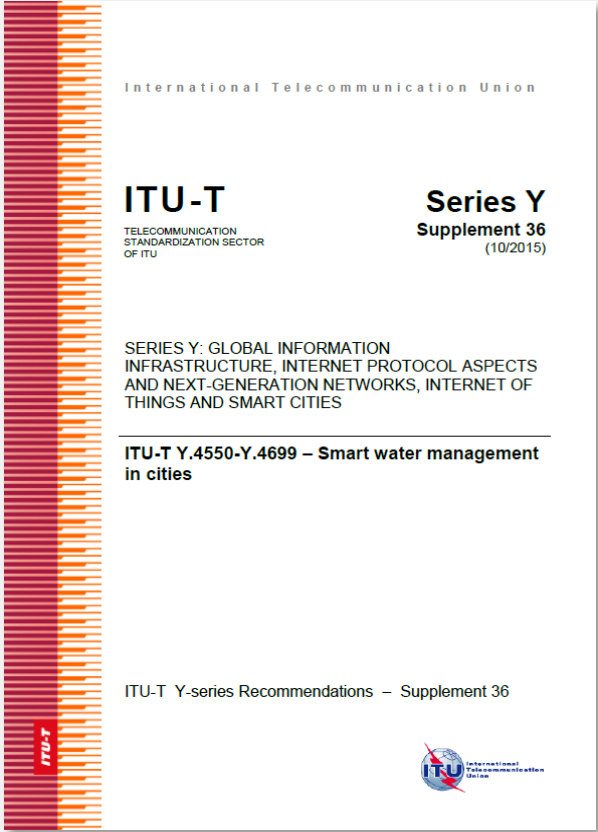
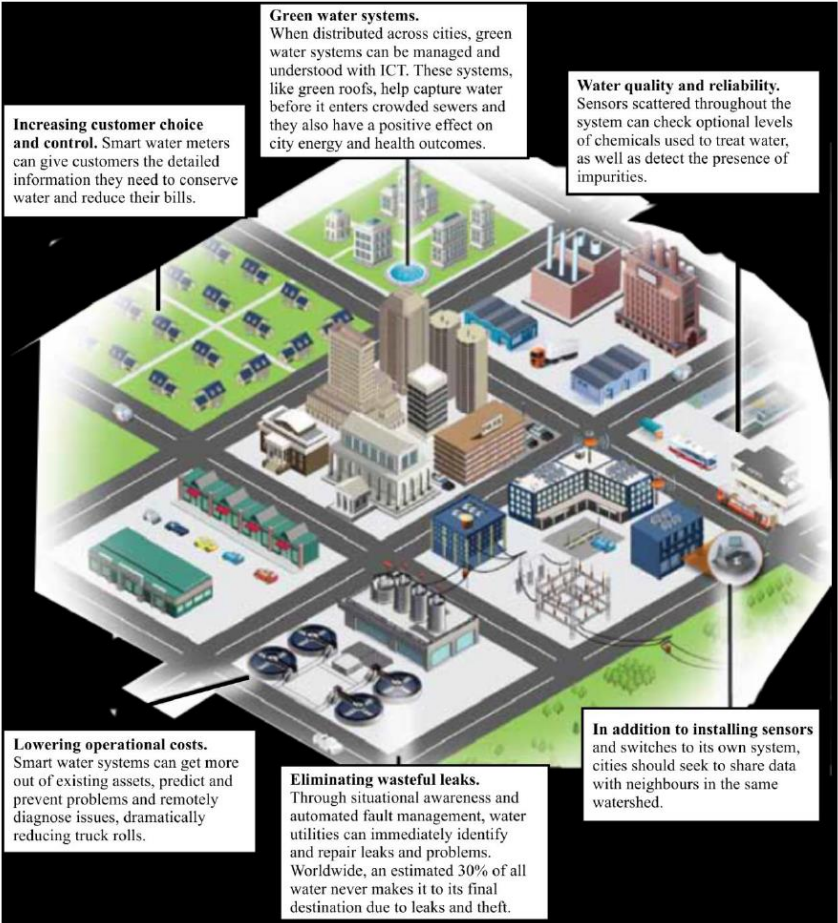


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Smart Water Management Networks



Advantages of Smart Water Management



Smart Water Cities Project

Identify and examine the technological solutions

Identify and examine the existing global standards frameworks and the Key Performance Indicators

Develop a new internationally recognized certification scheme for Smart Water Cities

Case studies from cities, regions and countries



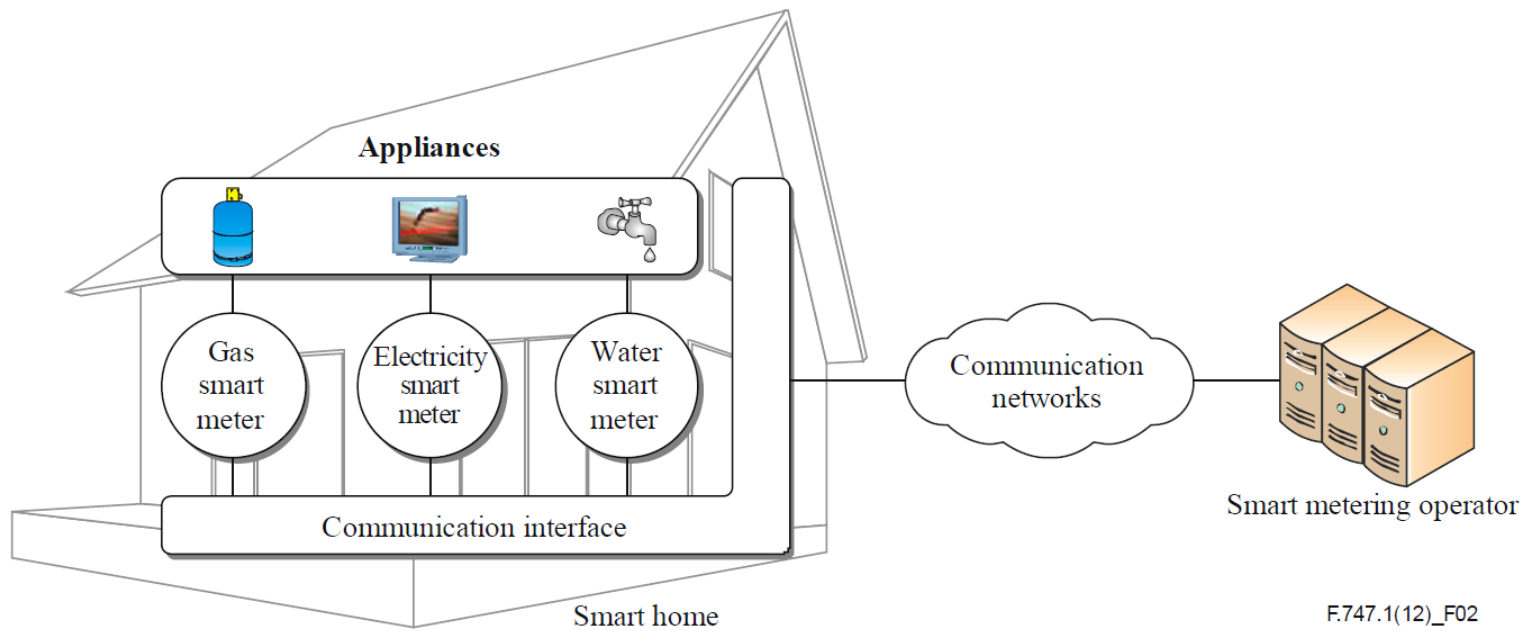
Tool #2



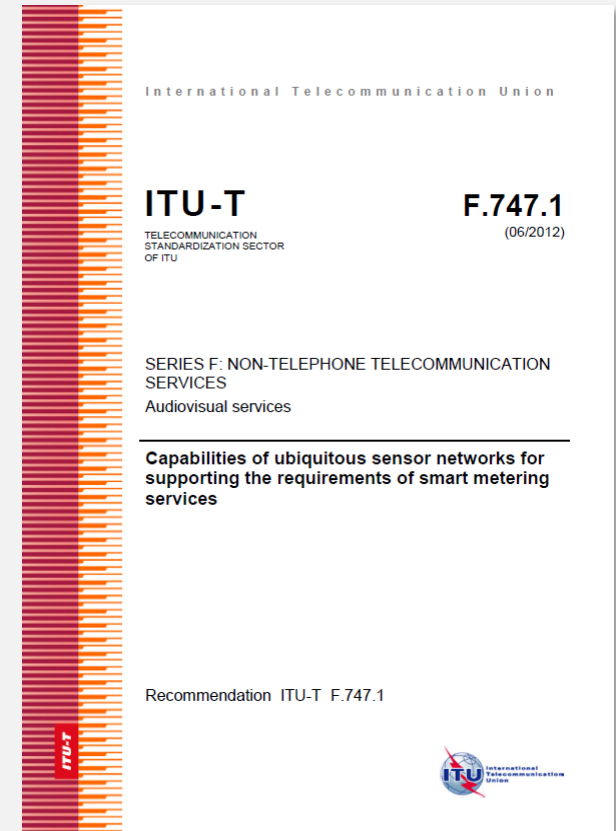
Smart Metering and Sensing



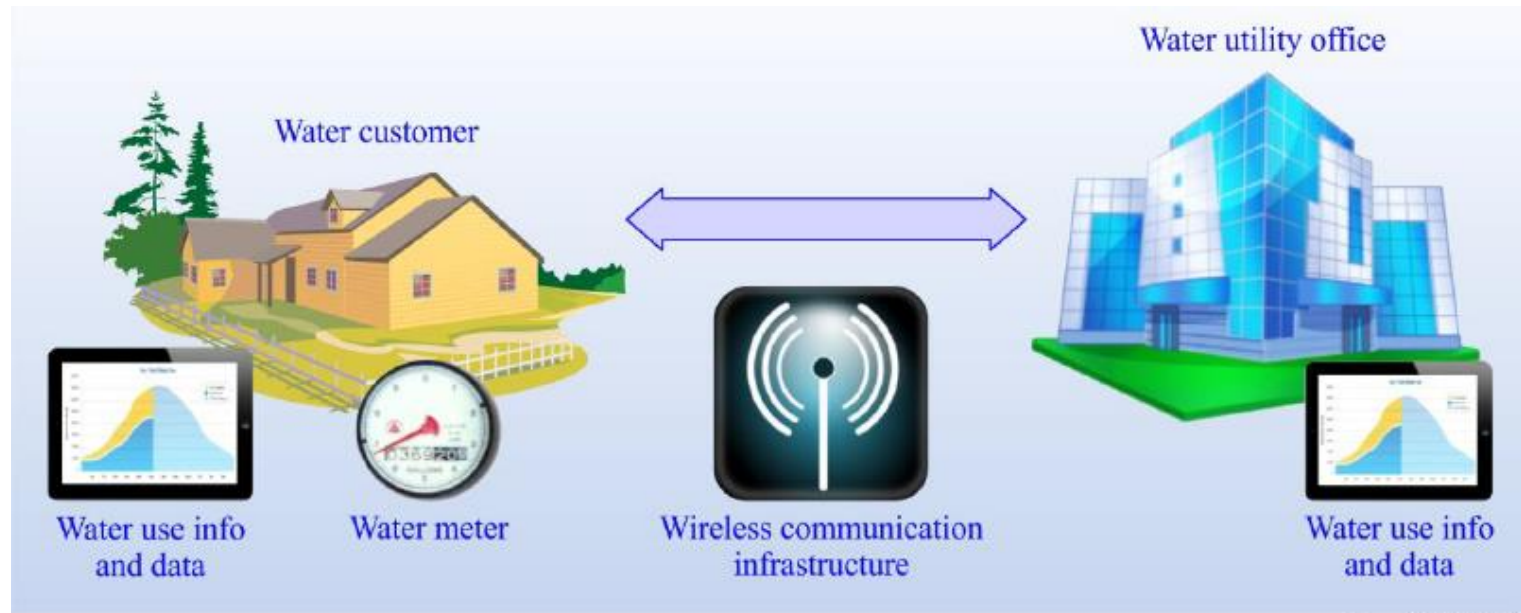
Smart Metering



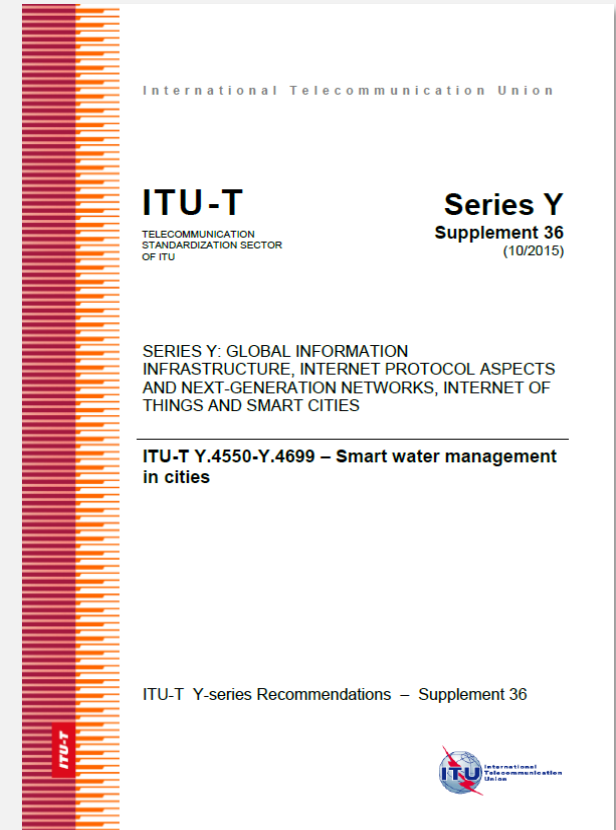
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Smart Meter Technologies



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Smart Metering Benefits



Lower cost



Water savings



Supply reliability



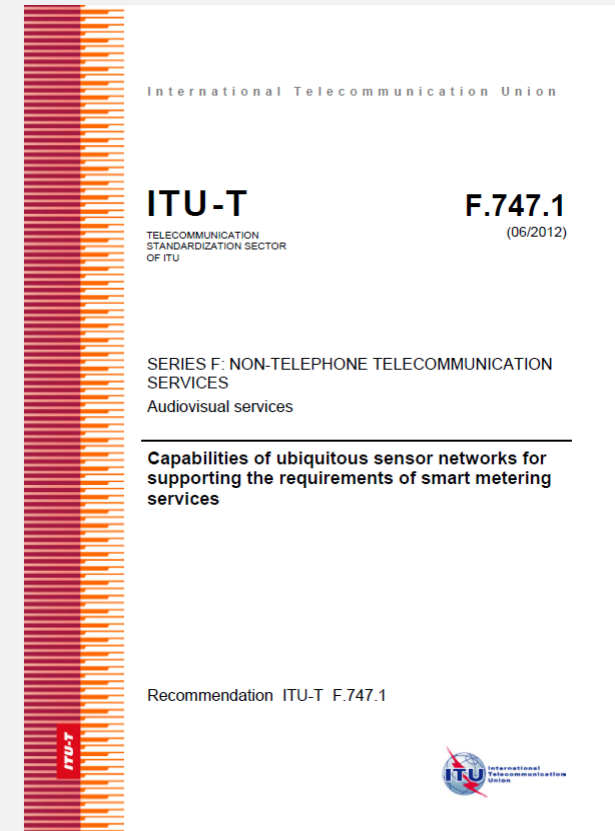
Various pricing schemes



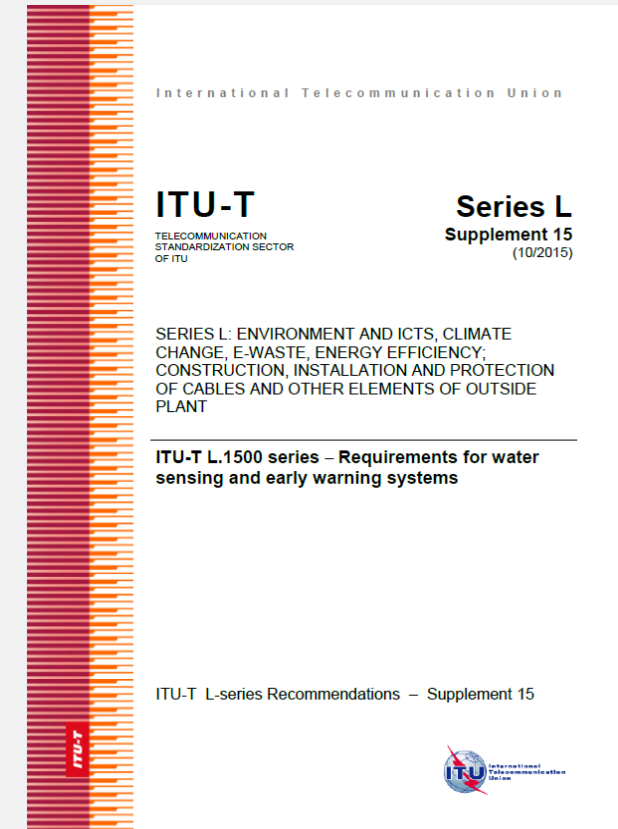
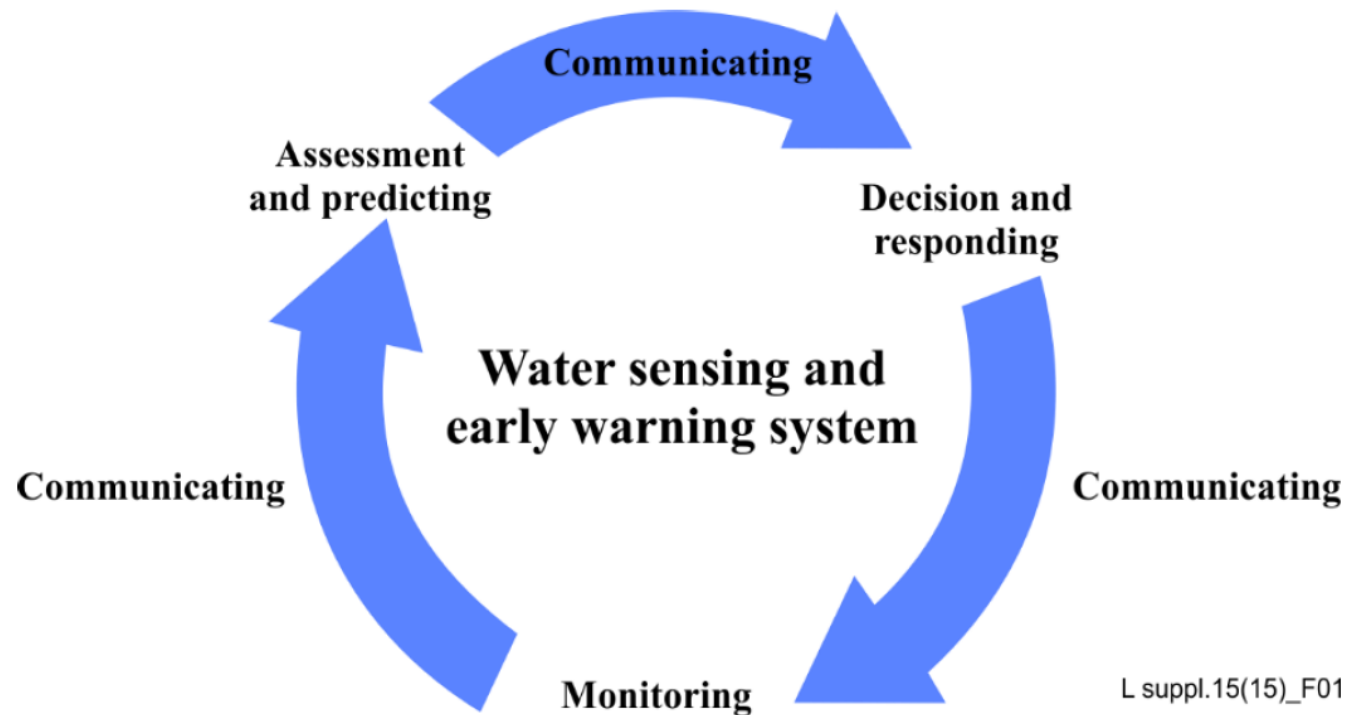
Water loss detection



Automated billing



Water Sensing and Early Warning Systems



Tool #3



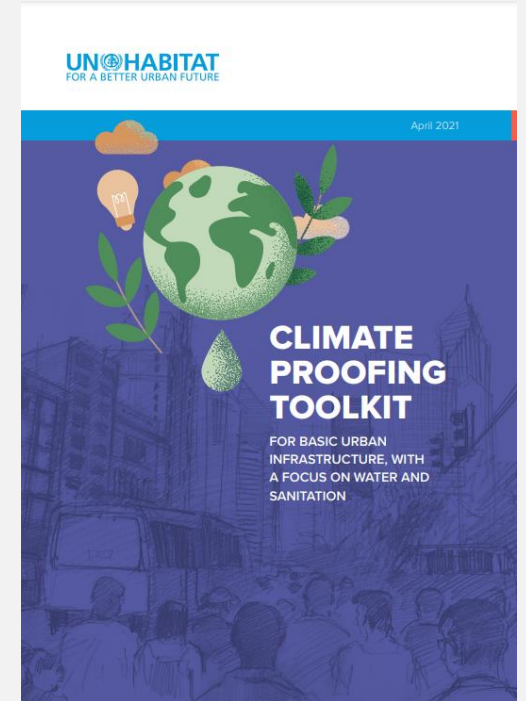
Climate Proofing of Water Infrastructure



Climate Proofing of Water Infrastructure

Taking climate change risks into account when:

- Planning
- Locating
- Designing
- Building
- Operating



Toolkit Structure

TOOLKIT STEPS

STEP 1: Screening, hazard identification and levels of exposure



STEP 2: Sensitivity measures



STEP 3: Adaptive capacity analysis



STEP 4: Vulnerability assessment for infrastructure



STEP 5: Options for identification and assessment of climate proofing



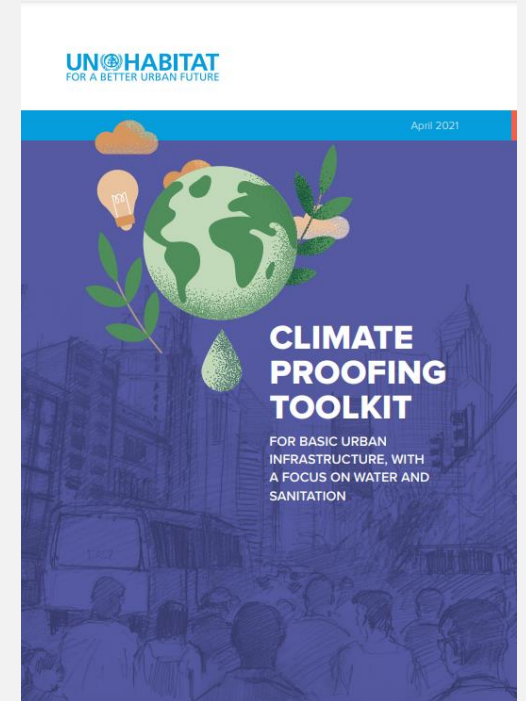
STEP 6: Governance, infrastructure, and capacity-building



STEP 7: "Soft" climate proofing options for general infrastructure



STEP 8: Implementation of climate proofing measures



Module 8 – Smart Water Management

Thank you for completing this Module of the ITU Toolkit on Digital Transformation for People-Oriented Cities and Communities.

We hope that you found the information in this Module useful toward planning and initiating your city or community's digital transformation process.

Please review the resources highlighted within for further details, including valuable real-world use cases, on how to get started on – and optimize from the onset – your city or community's digital transformation journey.



[Toolkit on Digital Transformation
for People-Oriented Cities and
Communities](#)



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