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Energy Efficient Buildings

Zero Carbon Footprint in Water Management Systems: The Path to Sustainability Content

Ing. Adam Kollár

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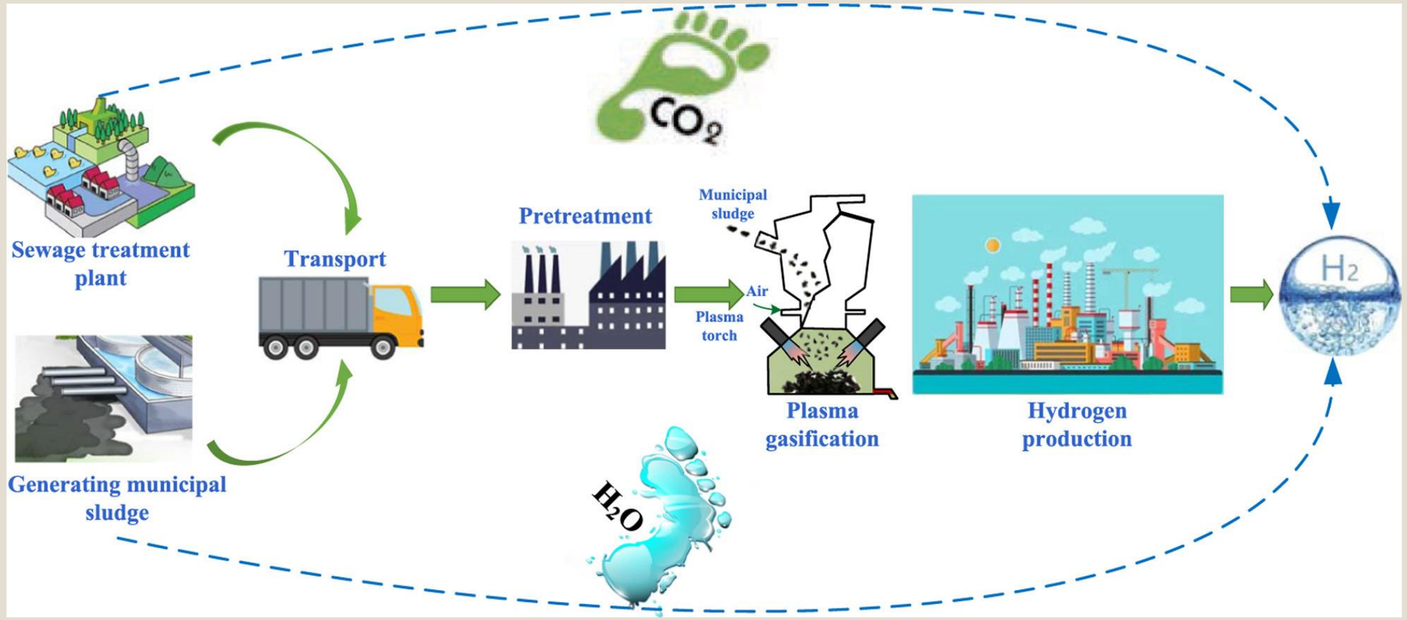
Introduction

- Water systems are essential but energy-intensive
- Water management plays a key role in reducing carbon emissions
- Focus on current carbon footprint, challenges, and solutions for zero carbon footprint

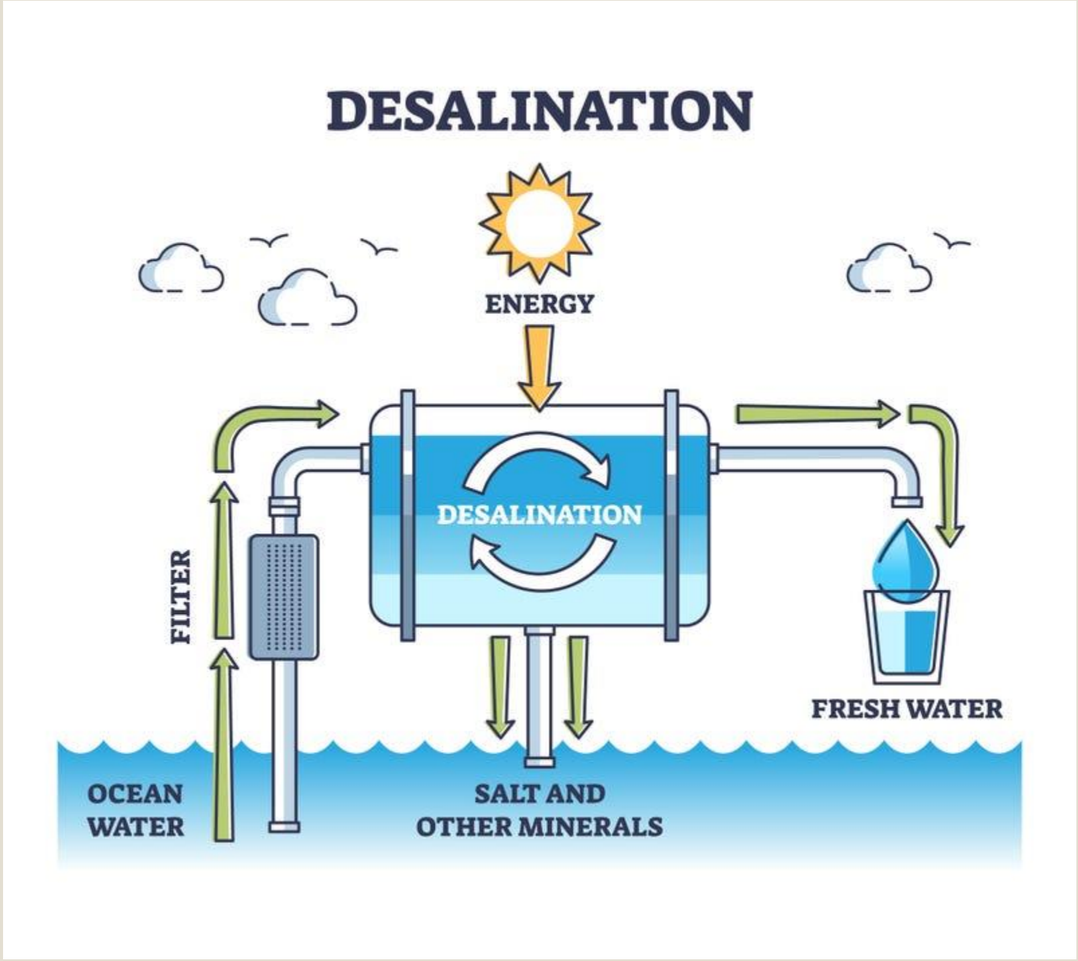
Defining Carbon Footprint in Water Systems

- Carbon footprint includes emissions from water extraction, treatment, distribution, and wastewater management
- Energy use (mainly from fossil fuels) is the largest contributor
- Key to understand sources of emissions for reduction strategies



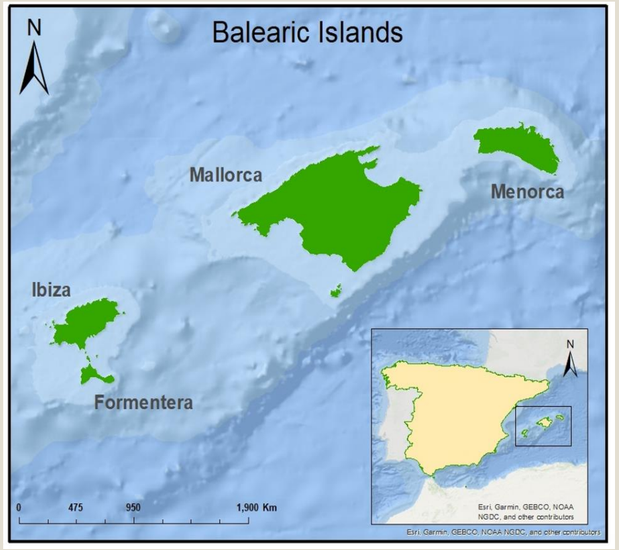
The Role of Desalination in Water Systems

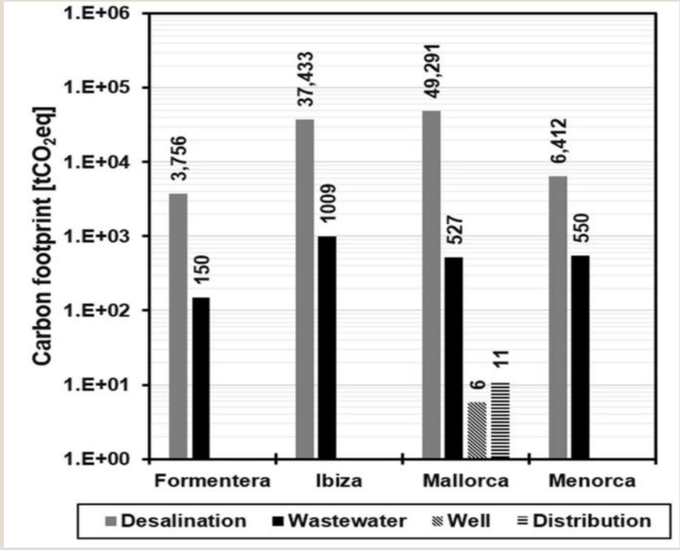
- Desalination’s challenge: Energy-intensive process critical in water-scarce regions
- Renewable-powered desalination: Use solar or wind to power desalination plants
- **Examples**: Mediterranean and Australian regions adopting renewable desalination
- **Impact**: Reducing reliance on fossil fuels, making desalination more sustainable

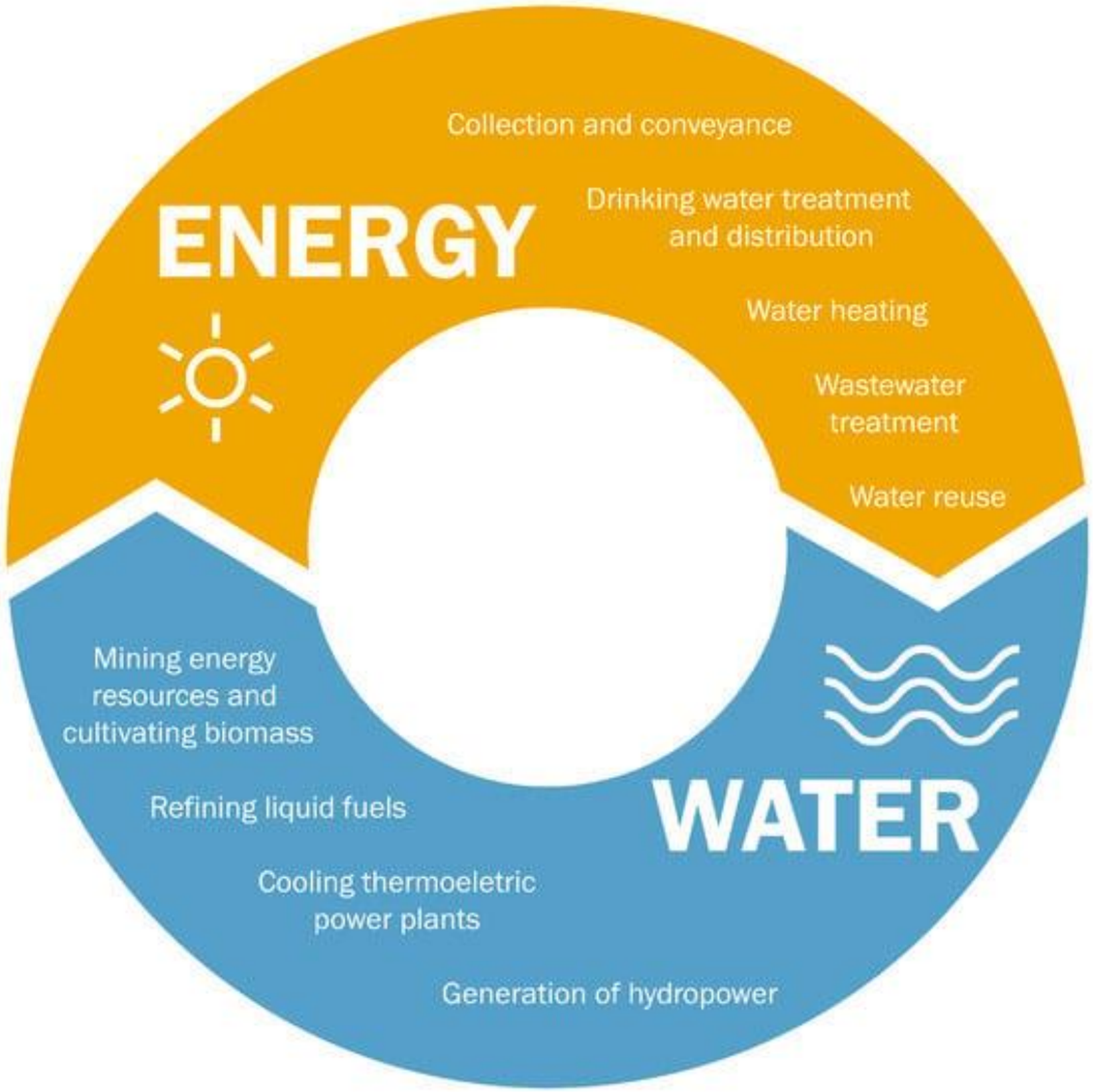


The Balearic Islands' Water System

- Water scarcity and reliance on desalination
- Desalination is energy-intensive and contributes significantly to carbon emissions
- The challenge: balancing water needs with sustainability





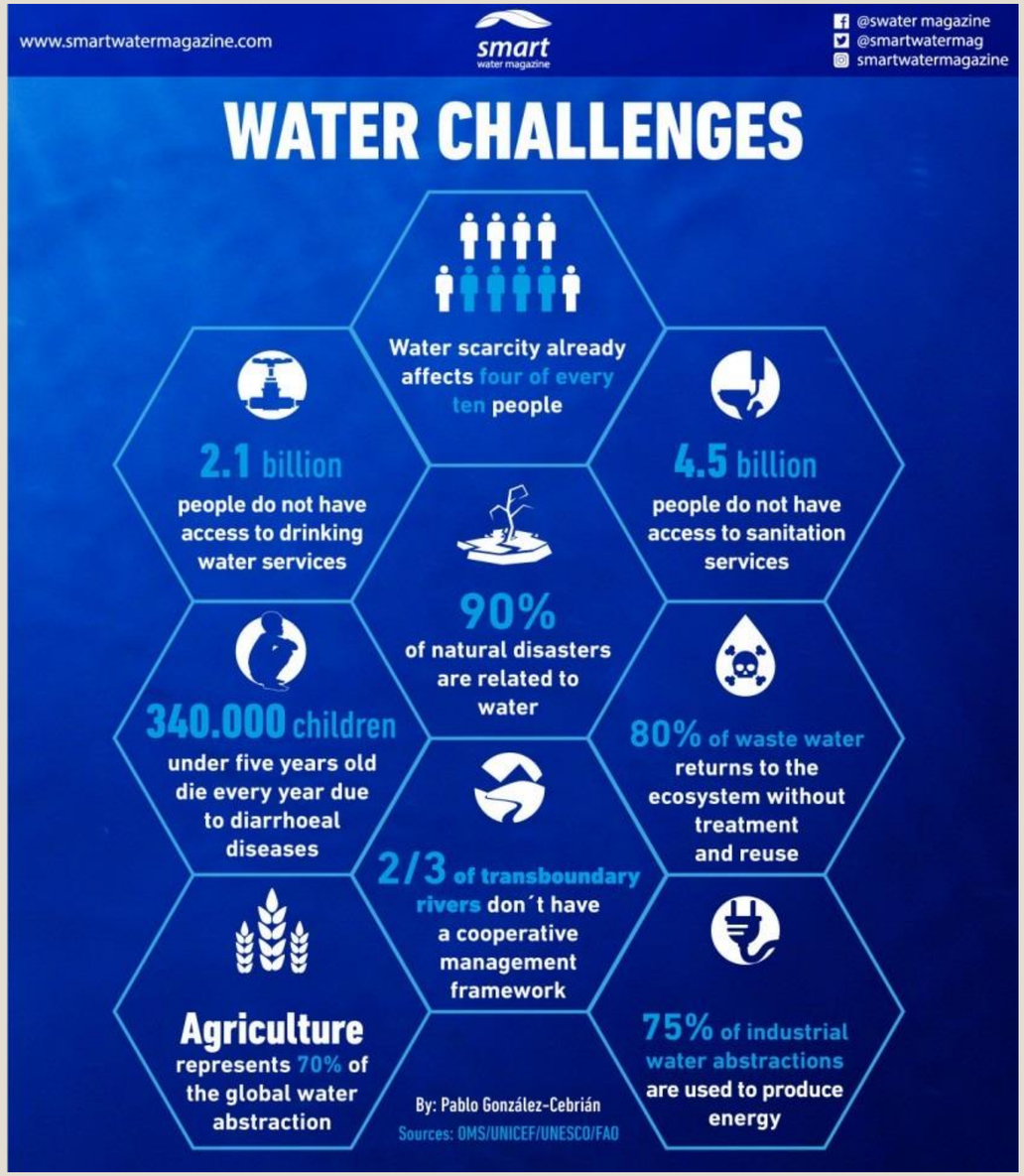


The Water-Energy Nexus

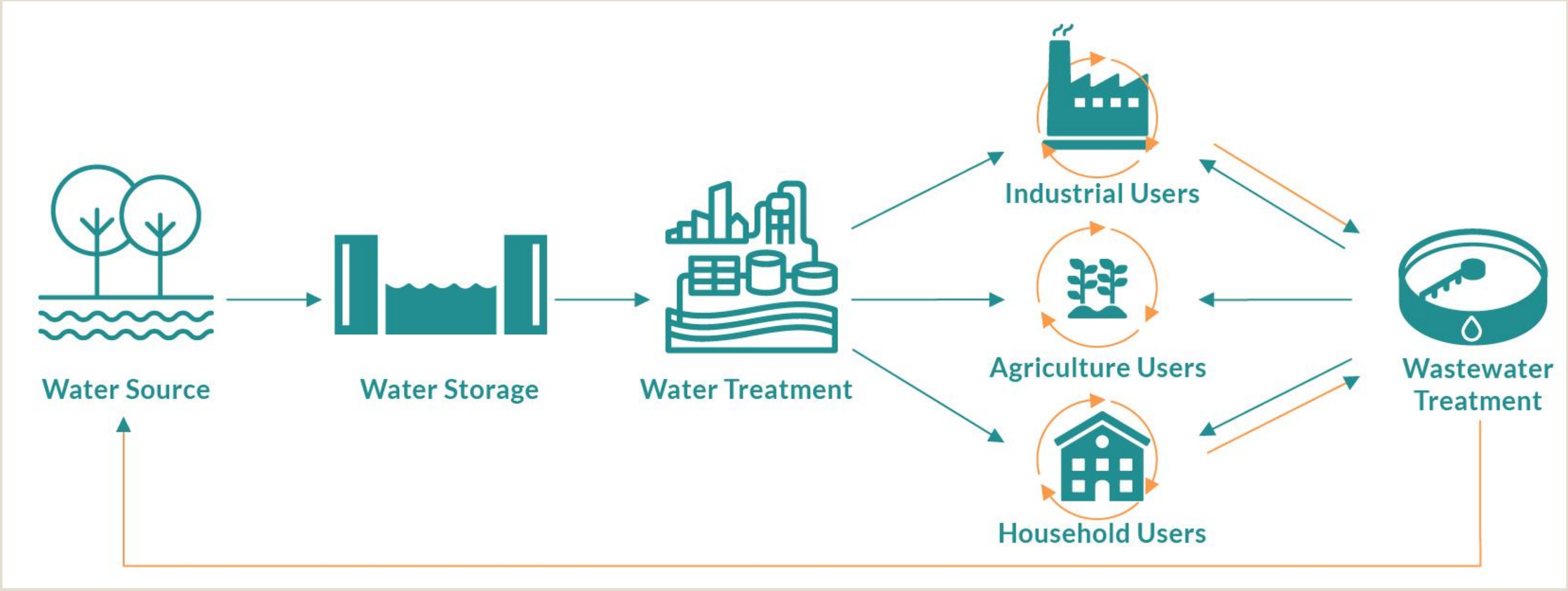
- Interdependence between water production and energy consumption
- Desalination and groundwater pumping increase energy demand, raising emissions
- Reducing emissions requires addressing both water efficiency and energy use

Global Challenges in Water Management

- Increasing water demand due to population growth and urbanization
- Climate change exacerbates challenges like droughts and infrastructure stress
- Cities like Tokyo, Amsterdam, and Melbourne set ambitious carbon reduction targets.

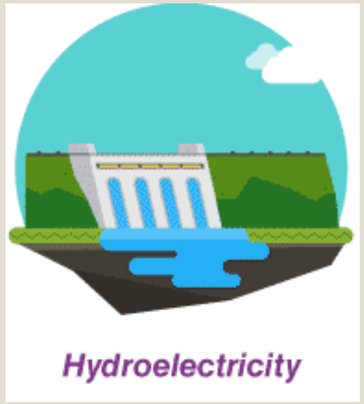


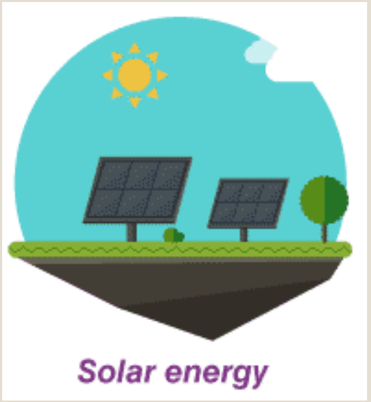
Energy Efficiency in Water Management Systems



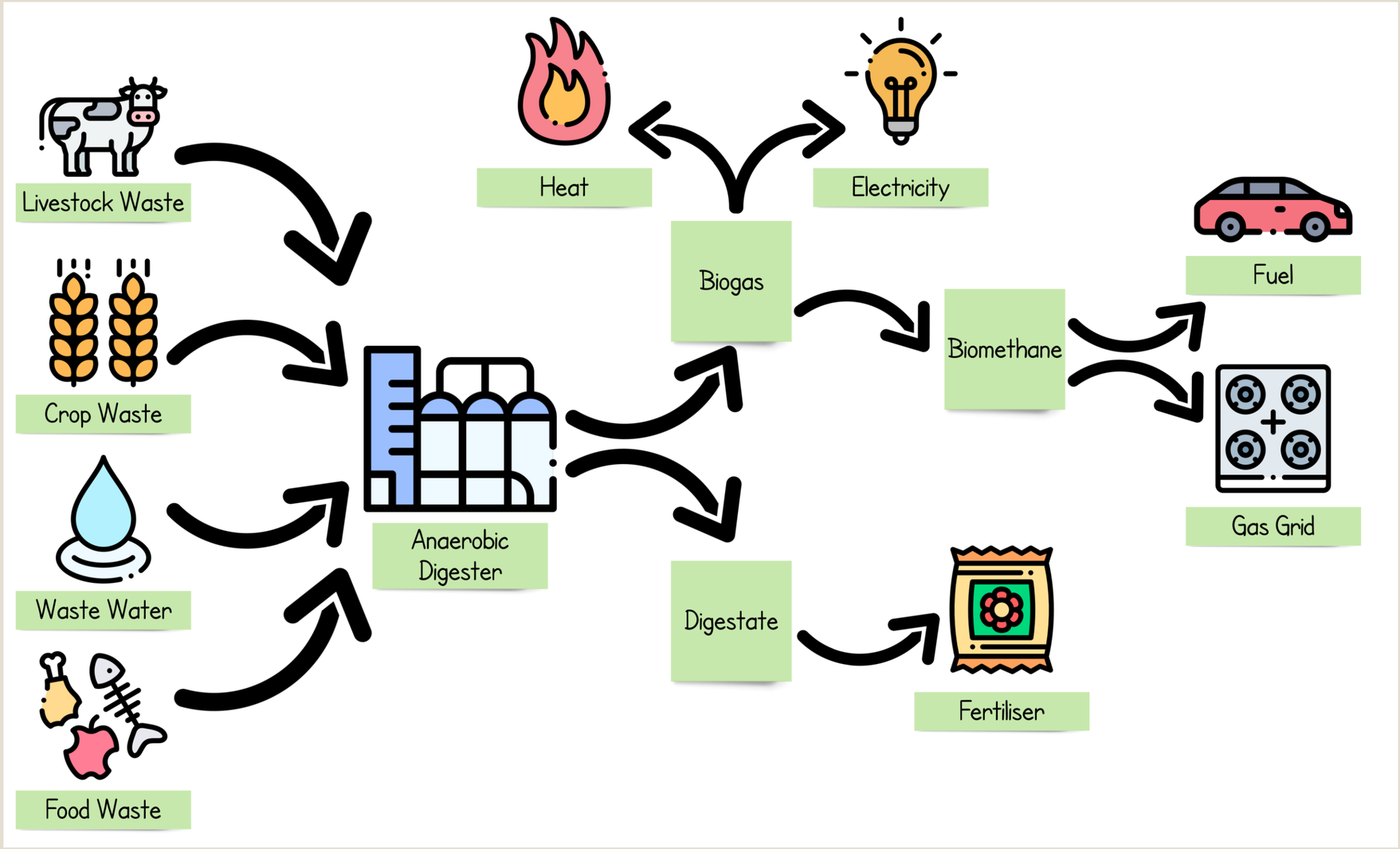
Renewable Energy Integration

- Transitioning to renewable energy: solar, wind, biogas integration
- Desalination plants benefit from renewable energy, reducing emissions
- Innovations: floating solar panels on reservoirs, hydroelectric in pipelines
- Renewable energy enhances resilience and reduces vulnerability to fossil fuel market changes
- Utilities setting ambitious renewable energy goals to align with climate action targets





Renewable Energy Projects in Water Systems



Optimizing Wastewater Treatment

•**Anaerobic Digestion**: Implementing anaerobic digestion can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to **50-75%** in wastewater treatment plants, depending on the efficiency of the biogas capture and utilization systems

•**Energy Savings with Aeration Upgrades**: Advanced aeration control systems can reduce the energy consumption of wastewater treatment plants by **15-40%**, as aeration typically accounts for **60%** of a plant's total energy use

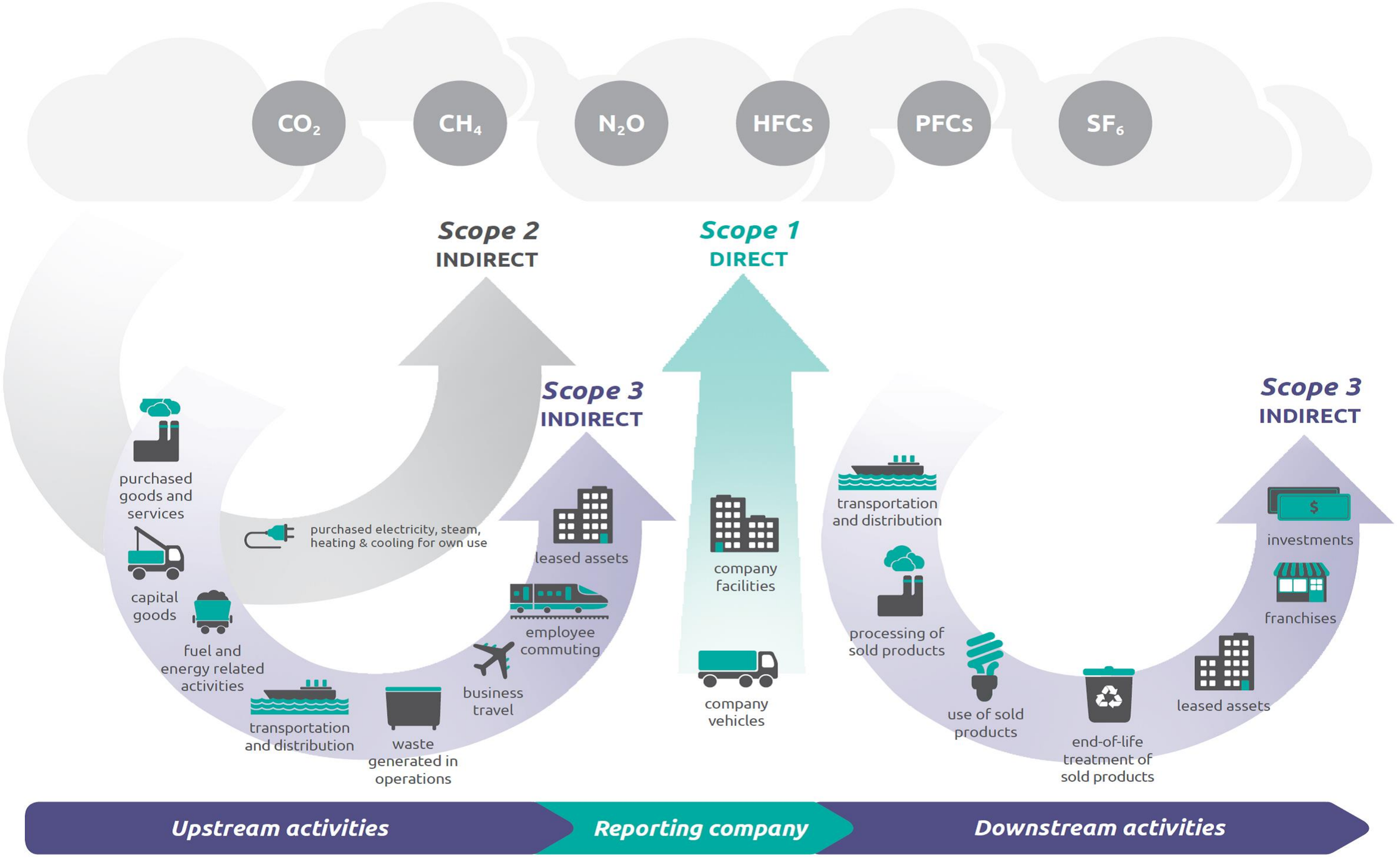
•**Nutrient Recovery**: By recovering phosphorus and nitrogen, wastewater plants can reduce the need for synthetic fertilizers by up to **80%**, which in turn lowers the carbon emissions associated with fertilizer production

•**Biogas Utilization**: Utilizing biogas for energy generation can cover **50-100%** of the energy needs of a wastewater treatment facility, significantly lowering external energy reliance

•**Real-time Monitoring**: Plants with real-time monitoring and optimization tools can see an overall energy efficiency improvement of **10-20%**, by quickly identifying inefficiencies and correcting them

•**Traditional vs. Optimized Treatment**: emissions can be reduced by up to **60%**.

Amsterdam's Water Industry


CO_2
CH_4
N_2O
HFCs
PFCs
SF_6
Scope 2
INDIRECT
Scope 1
DIRECT
Scope 3
INDIRECT
Scope 3
INDIRECT
purchased goods and services
capital goods
fuel and energy related activities
transportation and distribution
waste generated in operations
business travel
employee commuting
leased assets
purchased electricity, steam, heating & cooling for own use
company facilities
company vehicles
transportation and distribution
processing of sold products
use of sold products
end-of-life treatment of sold products
leased assets
franchises
investments
Upstream activities
Reporting company
Downstream activities

Collaborative Approaches for Carbon Neutrality

- **Cross-sector collaboration**: Partner with energy, waste, and agricultural sectors
- **Renewable energy partnerships**: Water utilities work with renewable energy providers
- **Waste management**: Recycle and reuse materials to reduce emissions
- **Examples**: Amsterdam's collaboration with food businesses for recycling water and energy production

Smart Water Management Technologies

- **IoT and smart sensors**: Monitor water usage and detect leaks in real-time.
- **Energy optimization**: Use data to improve energy efficiency across water systems.

- **Predictive maintenance**: Identifies inefficiencies before they become major issues.
- **Examples**: Smart grids, automated systems reducing energy consumption and emissions.

Circular Water Economy

- Water systems are essential but energy-intensive
- Water management plays a key role in reducing carbon emissions
- Focus on current carbon footprint, challenges, and solutions for zero carbon footprint
- The circular economy in greenhouse

Challenges and Barriers to Implementation

Upfront costs: High capital investment for renewable energy and infrastructure upgrades

Retrofitting issues: Complexity and cost of upgrading older water systems

Regulatory challenges: Policies may not align with sustainability goals

Solutions: Innovative financing models and policy support needed for green technologies

Future of Carbon-Neutral Water Systems

Investment in new technologies to achieve carbon neutrality

Predictive models: AI helps forecast water demand and optimize treatment

Low-energy desalination: New technologies reduce energy intensity

Emerging technologies like AI and machine learning to predict water demand and reduce energy use

Conclusion

- **Zero carbon footprint**: Achieving this goal is crucial for combating climate change
- **Energy efficiency**: Focus on improving water system energy use and integrating renewables
- **Collaboration**: Foster partnerships across sectors for a more sustainable future
- **Global examples**: Cities like Amsterdam and Melbourne demonstrate success in reducing emissions

Thank you for your attention.