Highlighting Bottlenecks in Enabling Environment for Private Sector Participation in RRR

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(Bottlenecks in) ‘Enabling Environment’ for RRR

Perspectives of Private Sector Service Operators are similar for all operators

- Politico-economic value chain
- Public perception
- Political perception
- Pollution prevention
- Principle of precaution (a pervasive challenge)
- (Financing)
- Materials market
Links in the Water Services Value Chain

For the chain to work each link must be:
- Distinct
- Strong
- Connected to the others
- Pulled in the same direction
• Getting people to understand the problem and their responsibilities
  – 'Flush & forget'
  – Many are unaware
  – Hidden 'vices' in products
  – Some have no choice
  – For many it is too much trouble

• Getting people and others to act
  – Education is increasing awareness
RRR - Political Perception

- Political responsibility
- Government hierarchy
  - International
  - National
  - Local
  - Regional
- Where are the votes
- Long time horizons
- Expensive investments
- Need to demonstrate the benefits of the circular economy in terms political decision makers can appreciate

Co-ordination: Which level is responsible for what?
Resources: Does that level have the resources it needs?
Public Administration and Regulation

• Pollution prevention
  – Principle of precaution
  – Categorising potential pollutants
  – Balancing benefits vs harms of products
  – Permitting or 'red listing' products/compounds

• Licensing & Control of Pollution
  – Principle of precaution
  – Pollution prevention & pollution management
  – Ensuring safe use application of products
  – Resources & skills required
  – Cost of 'policing'
  – Applying fines & penalties
  – Being even handed
Nosedo WTP & Reuse Milan

- Milan no WWT until 2003
- Emergency Programme initiated 2003
- Special Powers granted by Prime Minister
- 1.25 Million Population Equivalent
- 3,700 Ha irrigated farmland
- Corn 45% - Rice – 15% - Grass & Grain 45%
- 150 M€
## Milan - Treated water quality: contractual, legal and actual values

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Public Administration and Regulation

- Licensing & Control of Circular economy
  - Principle of precaution
  - What is 'safe'?
  - Ownership & rights
  - Measuring & reporting performance

- Investment & cost control
  - Up-front capital investment
  - Operating costs
  - Public budgeting constraints

- Public procurement
  - Can be too rigid to allow innovation
About 50 years – Croissy le Pecq

- Protection of the aquifer
- Reliability of supply
- Alternative storage
- 20 M m³ per year recharged to the aquifer
- 52 M m³ per year extracted
- Value of water recharged is paid as a ‘negative’ abstraction charge
Materials Market

- Saleability of recovered materials
- Timing & Demand
- Perceptions of quality
- Competition
- Materials markets fluctuations
Private Sector

• Private sector
  – Pioneers in innovating & providing solutions
  – Commercial incentives
  – Risk management
  – Critical scale

• Public policy integration
  – Private sector is ‘part of’ not ‘apart from’ society
  – Policy formation & review
  – Policy implementation & feed-back