





# **Meso-level eco-efficiency indicators to assess technologies and their uptake in water use sectors**

Collaborative project, Grant Agreement No: 282882

# **Deliverable 3.2 Baseline eco-efficiency assessment in urban water systems**

February 2014

# **DOCUMENT INFORMATION**



# **Abstract**

The "Baseline eco-efficiency assessment in urban water systems" summarizes the results of the baseline assessments in the case studies in Sofia, Bulgaria and in Canton of Zurich, Switzerland of the FP7 EcoWater project. These results are building up on the previous EcoWater report, "Value Chain Description of the Analysed Urban Water Systems". In the report at hand a set of meso-level indicators has been derived to quantify the eco-efficiency of both current systems.

First, the case study areas are presented in a goal and scope definition and the inventory of relevant resources consumed and emissions produced by the water system is set up. This is followed by an assessment of environmental and economic performance of the water value chains.

For the environmental performance assessment a set of relevant environmental impact indicators is chosen followed by an estimation of these based on the derived resources consumption and generated emissions using corresponding characterisation factors commonly used in Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs).

For the economic performance assessment, the economic value from water use is estimated for domestic and non-domestic water users. Additionally, the total financial costs related to water supply and wastewater treatment are calculated for the case study areas. Based on the difference between the created economic value and the incurred costs, a total value added to the system from water use is estimated.

In a final step several eco-efficiency indicators are estimated as the ratio of the economic performance indicator and relevant environmental performance indicators.

The interpretation of the derived results will guide the selection of potential technologies to enhance the eco-efficiency of the system that will be assessed in a next phase. The next step will be an analysis of the expected effects of these innovative technologies and measures on the eco-efficiency of the urban water systems.

# **Contents**



# <span id="page-4-0"></span>**1 Introduction**

This report, i.e. "Baseline eco-efficiency assessment in urban water systems", summarizes the results of the urban case studies in Sofia, Bulgaria (Chapter 2) and in Canton of Zurich, Switzerland (Chapter 3) of the FP7 EcoWater project. A set of meso-level eco-efficiency indicators is derived and estimated to characterise the ecoefficiency of both investigated systems.

The proposed Eco-Efficiency Indicators (EEI) of the meso-level water use systems are defined as ratios of the economic performance of the system, i.e. economic benefits minus financial costs (a value chain related parameter) to the environmental performance of the system, i.e. environmental impact indicators relevant for the system (water supply chain and water use stage related environmental impact parameters) (see equation below).

> E E E

The requirements of the ISO standard for assessment of the eco-efficiency were considered as a basic methodological framework (ISO14045, 2012). The EcoWater project has tried to apply this general standard framework to the specific case of an urban water system. The main challenges, which have been faced, were:

- 1) Determination of the product of an urban water system, i.e. what kind of goods or services are delivered;
- 2) Determination of the system boundary, if foreground and background processes need to be considered in a Life Cycle Assessment;
- 3) The way different users are considered, i.e. domestic and non-domestic;
- 4) Selection of a functional unit, e.g. m3 of used water, satisfied consumers, different water services;
- 5) Lack of agreed research method for the Life Cycle Assessment of water abstraction;
- 6) Assessment of the product system value.

The following assumptions were made to derive the presented results:

- 1) The material flows of reagents, wastes, and emissions in the WTP are proportional to the quantity of purified water;
- 2) The material flows of reagents, wastes, and emissions in the WWTP are proportional to the number of persons' equivalent (p.e.) served. One p.e. corresponds to the organic biodegradable load having a five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD5) of 60 g of oxygen per day (Directive 91/271);
- 3) Water losses in the drinking water distribution network are equal to the difference between the revenue water metered and the total water quantity supplied (physical and commercial losses are included);
- 4) The average temperature of the supplied potable water is 10°C degrees;

The report consists of five main parts for each case study: 1) goal and scope definition; 2) inventory analysis of the collected data, accomplished with core necessary calculations, assisting SEAT and EVAT modelling; 3) assessment of the environmental performance; 4) estimation of the economic performance and, 5) first results for the eco-efficiency assessment for the current system, i.e. baseline estimations. At the end initial conclusions are drawn from this baseline calculation.

# <span id="page-6-0"></span>**2 Baseline eco-efficiency assessment for the city of Sofia, Bulgaria**

# <span id="page-6-1"></span>**2.1 Goal and scope definition**

# <span id="page-6-2"></span>**2.1.1 Objectives**

The goal for Sofia case study, as required by the standard, is shown in [Table 1.](#page-6-5)

### <span id="page-6-5"></span>**Table 1 Definition of the goal of the study**



The analysis is targeted on a meso-level that encompasses every stage of the urban water cycle and entails the consideration of the interrelations among the heterogeneous actors. Assessment will be performed in the baseline scenario which represents the reference point for benchmarking enhancements resulting from the upgrade of the value chain through the introduction of innovative technologies that will be examined in a later stage.

# <span id="page-6-3"></span>**2.1.2 Product system**

With respect to urban water systems, there is debate in the literature as to what the "product" is, i.e. whether water should be treated as a good or a service. Some authors state that the water in the urban water system is a good, because of its economic value (Rogers et al., 2002). An alternative interpretation is that the product in the urban water system is not the water itself, but the satisfied human water needs through the water services - "delivering water to the consumers with the required quality and quantity" and "transporting away the generated wastewaters". This understanding is in line with the core concept of the Water Framework Directive, namely "water is not a commercial product like any other but, rather, a heritage which must be protected, defended and treated as such" (EU Water Framework Directive, 2000). In this study the "product" of the urban water system will be the "water services".

# <span id="page-6-4"></span>**2.1.3 System Boundaries**

The studied system considers the entire life cycle of water from its origin as a natural resource until its release into the environment after being used in urban facilities, [\(Figure 1\)](#page-7-0).



### <span id="page-7-0"></span>**Figure 1 A conceptual model of the Sofia urban water system**

Urban water systems have two major external material inflows – energy and chemicals. The determination of the system boundary requires clarification of the length of these chains, e.g. should the assessment include the production of these two groups of consumables (with their respective values and environmental impact). There are "pros" and "cons" for the two possible solutions – inclusion or exclusion. This was one of the challenges faced.

In this study we have decided to consider the accessory chains (production of energy, chemicals, transport, etc.), but to differentiate them from the main product system by adopting the terms "foreground system" and "background system".

- Foreground system is the product system, e.g. the system of direct interest and includes all the stages along the water value chain (the water abstraction and treatment stage, the distribution network, the water use in urban facilities and the wastewater treatment plant) where resources are used and emissions are generated directly.
- Background system is the one, which includes the production processes of the various resources entering the system which are not included in the boundaries of the study system (i.e. energy production, chemicals manufacturing, fuels production and distribution etc).

These systems are visualised in [Figure 1.](#page-7-0) The summary of system processes and their characterization as Foreground or Background are described in [Table 2.](#page-8-1)



# <span id="page-8-1"></span>**Table 2 Foreground and Background processes for the City of Sofia**

*\*Although there are flocculants used in the WWTP, they will not be considered, because no data is available in LCA databases.*

Compared to the Deliverable 3.1, in addition to the new concept for foreground and background systems, the value chain of Sofia urban water foreground system has been updated as a result of:

- i. Gathering deeper knowledge on the system's performance and potential innovative technologies
- ii. Literature review;
- iii. Recommendations of the EcoWater midterm reviewer.

The changes are explained in [Table 3.](#page-9-0)

# <span id="page-8-0"></span>**2.1.4 Cluster Analysis**

The case study includes different water users. The relative environmental impacts can be expressed considering them as reference points. Users with the same consumptive patterns (e.g. technology, socio-economic characteristics) can be grouped in clusters. The subdivision of the mass and energy flows of whole system on cluster scale will be performed on the basis of the water volumes at the point of consumption and discharged pollution load into the sewerage network for water supply and sewerage processes respectively.

The entire study area can be distinguished in two main types of urban water users - Domestic and Non-Domestic Customers.

#### <span id="page-9-0"></span>**Table 3 Justification of the changes in the updated value chain**



Domestic users are further divided into 3 sub-clusters in relation to the way of water heating, respectively to: 1) domestic users with central water heating; 2) domestic users with local water heating and, 3) domestic users with alternative (from renewable energy sources) water heating.

How to consider the non-domestic water users was another challenge. While all domestic water users, nevertheless the way water is heated, have relatively similar pattern of the water use and wastewater discharge, there is no such pattern for the non-domestic users. Their water consumption and pollution load depends on the production needs and varies significantly from one user to another. In order to overcome this challenge, the approach of substituting non-domestic users with equivalent citizens in regard to their water consumption and BOD pollution was applied according to the Urban Wastewater Directive (Directive 91/271). In relation to the BOD pollution level, non-domestic water users are divided into 3 sub-clusters: 1) non-domestic 1<sup>st</sup> category; 2) non-domestic  $2^{nd}$  category; non-domestic  $3^{rd}$  category. However, electricity consumption and other pollution loads for non-domestic users will not be considered, because of the impossibility to assess them due to the variety of the industries and products.

# <span id="page-10-0"></span>**2.1.5 Functional unit**

According to ISO14045 the functional unit shall be measurable and clearly defined, so that to provide a reference for the environmental assessment and for the product system value assessment. Having in mind that the product of the system has already been defined as "water service", it is logical to select as a functional unit "satisfied consumer", e.g. the eco-efficiency assessment will be done based on the number of the consumers, satisfied with the water service (supplied with drinking water, collection of the generated waste water and its treatment). Consumers could be either citizens (p.e. for non-domestic users) or households, because there is direct correlation between them (Statistical Institute provides mean value of the number of citizens in a dwelling).

Another theoretically possible functional unit is  $m<sup>3</sup>$  of used water. However, it is not appropriate one, because its use could lead to wrong conclusions. An illustrating example is given in Table 4 for the environmental indicator "Freshwater depletion": When the amount of the used water is used as a functional unit for the new technology associated with reduction of the used water (Scenario 1) the environmental indicator "Freshwater depletion" could have higher value (1.6 in the example) than in the baseline scenario (1.3 in the example). This means that Scenario 1 has worse environmental performance compared to the baseline scenario, which is wrong conclusion, because in scenario 1 less water is abstracted from the nature. [Table 4](#page-10-1) illustrates that the use of citizens as a functional unit gives correct trend for this indicator (last row of the table).



#### <span id="page-10-1"></span>**Table 4 Illustrative example for misleading use of m<sup>3</sup> as a functional unit**

# <span id="page-11-0"></span>**2.2 Inventory Analysis**

The resources of the modelled system for CS3 are presented in [Table 5.](#page-11-2)



<span id="page-11-2"></span>**Table 5 Resources of the Sofia Urban Water System (CS3)**

# <span id="page-11-1"></span>**2.2.1 Elementary Flows**

Year 2011 was chosen for assessment of the baseline scenario, because it was the closest year in which national census was performed. Part of the necessary information was extracted from the questionnaires, which every household filled in for the sake of the census.

Three main data sources were used:

- Local water operator "Sofiyska voda" AD;
- National Statistical Institute: and
- Literature data.

### **Data from Sofiyska voda**

The following tables present the data, which were provided by Sofiyska voda (the Sofia water operator) either upon request or from their officially published documentation.

### **Table 6 Inventory of flows in the stage "Water treatment plant" (annual values)**



# **Table 7 Inventory of flows in the stage "Wastewater treatment plant" (annual values)**



#### <span id="page-12-0"></span>**Table 8 Data for calculation of the flows, connected to transport associated with water treatment plant needs**



#### <span id="page-13-1"></span>**Table 9 Data for calculation of the flows, connected to transport associated with wastewater treatment plans needs**



# **Data from the National Statistical Institute**

### **Table 10 Data from the national census 2011**



# <span id="page-13-0"></span>**2.2.2 Economic Data**

# **Table 11 Economic data (from Sofiyska Voda)**



#### **Table 12 Additional data assisting calculations**



# <span id="page-14-0"></span>**2.3 Data processing**

Prior to the assessment of the eco-efficiency, a number of assisting calculations was performed. They are explained in the following sub-sections.

## <span id="page-14-1"></span>**2.3.1 SEAT input data**

#### **Domestic water use**

The domestic water consumption is one of the most important parameters in the foreground urban water system. There are no reliable official data about this parameter for Sofia urban system. To estimate it, data from two sources were collected and analysed:

### 1) National Statistical Institute (NSI) – purchased data

These data include specific information for each of the studied residential buildings from the census in 2011 – total number of apartments, number of inhabitable apartments, number of inhabitants, use of water appliances (washing machines and dishwashers).

### 2) Water Operator "Sofiyska voda" – these data were kindly provided to us

Two types of data were collected: records of the water meters of the buildings and record of the individual water meters in the households. Both hot and cold water records were collected. These data were requested for the two main types of water users:

- Type 1 households with district water heating;
- Type 2 households with local water heating (electric boilers or alternative heaters);

Sofia has above 1,000,000 citizens and it would be too time and money consuming process to analyse all districts. Because of this, representative areas were selected – 8 DMAs, which are relatively independent elements of the water supply system and could be used for further analyses in regard to implementation of new technologies. The results could be than extrapolated for the entire urban water system.

### **Type 1 households - with district water heating**

The studied extract includes 621 blocks with 54.380 inhabitants. In this area around 97% of the buildings are connected to district heating network thus most of the users take advantage of the district water heating service.

Some discrepancies between the data from NSI and Sofiyska voda and in each data set were found. The unreliable data were excluded and at the end only 90 blocks with population of about 16,000 inhabitants were selected for further analysis. The process with the justifications for exclusions of the records is presented in [Figure 2.](#page-15-0)



#### <span id="page-15-0"></span>**Figure 2 Selection of reliable data for further analysis**

To check the representativeness of the extract, a normality test with Shapiro-Wilk method was done. The average water consumption per inhabitant in each block was tested. The result shows that the data have a normal distribution and thus the calculated mean value for water demand per inhabitant is a reliable parameter [\(Figure 3\)](#page-16-0).

Total water use (cold plus hot) per capita in households with district water heating



<span id="page-16-0"></span>**Figure 3 Tests of normality and calculation of mean value of water consumption (90 records)**

The calculated average values of the representative extract of these 90 buildings are given in [Table 13.](#page-16-1) These data will be used as input data in the SEAT model.

<b>District water heating (Type 1)</b>						
<b>Water Demand</b>	39.54	m3/ca.year	108	$l$ /ca.day		
Hot water demand (45%)	17.79	m3/ca.year	49	$l$ /ca.day		
Cold water demand (55%)	21.75	m3/ca.year	59	l/ca.day		
Water demand per household	88.57	m3/hh.year	243	l/hh.day		

<span id="page-16-1"></span>**Table 13 Water use in households with district water heating**

# **Type 2 households - with local water heating**

No statistical data were purchased for this type of households. They are situated mostly in the surrounding areas of Sofia where there is no district heating and where the density of inhabitants per household is lower than in the central areas. An average of 2.12 inh./hh (inhabitants/household) was assumed for calculations. For these users only data for total (sum of cold and hot) water consumption are available and were provided to us by Sofiyska voda. Similar to the Type 1 households, Shapiro-Wilk normality test was performed. The results of the test are satisfactory so the calculated values are considered to be reliable [\(Figure 4\)](#page-17-0).

<span id="page-16-2"></span>**Table 14 Water use in households with local water heating**



Total water use (cold plus hot) per capita in households with local water heating



<span id="page-17-0"></span>**Figure 4 Tests of normality and calculation of mean value of water consumption (66 records)**

Data in [Table 13](#page-16-1) and [Table 14](#page-16-2) show that the consumers with district water heating use more water than these with local water heating. Possible reasons for that are: 1) lost volumes of water when the circulation systems in buildings are not working properly; 2) there is no limit of hot water so people spend more time under the shower.

Another parameter, needed for SEAT calculations is the distribution of the total consumed water between hot and cold water. In households with district water heating hot and cold water meters are available, so calculations were performed, which show that hot water is around 45% of the total water consumption. The customers with local water heating have only water meter for the total water consumed. For them it is assumed 35% hot water and 65% cold water consumption from literature data.

The last set of the necessary data concerns the distribution of users in relation to the type of the water heating. These data were taken from the NSI and were available in Deliverable 3.1. For clarity, a table is shown here as well [\(Table 15\)](#page-17-1).



<span id="page-17-1"></span>**Table 15 Distribution of users depending on type of water heating**

### **Non - domestic water use**

Sofiyska voda provided the total amount of the water used by non-domestic users. Its distribution among the 3 categories was assumed to be equal to the % distribution for the year 2012, for which data were available (SCEWM, 2013).

### <span id="page-18-0"></span>**Table 16: Water use by different types of users**



## **Calculation of the person equivalents**

The Sofia urban water operator has determined 3 categories of non-domestic users in dependence of their  $BOD<sub>5</sub>$  pollution, respectively:

- Category  $1 BOD_5$  up to 200 mg/l;
- Category  $2 BOD<sub>5</sub> 200$  and 400 mg/l;
- Category  $3 BOD<sub>5</sub>$  above 400 mg/l.

Data about the water quantities, consumed by these three categories are available [\(Table 16\)](#page-18-0).

According to the report of the water operator the wastewater is 90% of the water used (SCEWM, 2013). In order to perform the necessary calculations, the most common values from the measurements for the three categories were accepted as fixed characteristic values for these categories:

- Category  $1 BOD<sub>5</sub> = 180$  mg/l:
- Category  $2 BOD<sub>5</sub>=300$  mg/l;
- Category  $3 BOD_5 = 1,000$  mg/l.

With these data and the assumptions that BOD per citizens is 60 g/d, the p.e. were calculated as follows [\(Table 17\)](#page-18-1).

### <span id="page-18-1"></span>**Table 17 Calculation of the person equivalents**



# **Calculations related to material flows "Transport"**

There are two major transport contributors in the system – the water purification plant and the wastewater treatment plant. Data about the quantity per delivery, number of deliveries and distance to the provider were requested and provided [\(Table 8](#page-12-0) and [Table 9\)](#page-13-1) so the transport as t-km/year was calculated [\(Table 18](#page-19-0) and [Table 19\)](#page-19-1).



#### <span id="page-19-0"></span>**Table 18 Calculation of the transport flow in the WTP**

#### <span id="page-19-1"></span>**Table 19 Calculation of the transport flow in the WWTP**



### **Calculations related to heating of water with electric boilers for domestic use**

The energy for heating 1  $m^3$  of cold water is calculated using equation 1 (Dimitrov, 2009):

$$
N = \frac{Q \cdot \rho \cdot c \cdot (t_h - t_c)}{3600 \cdot \tau \cdot \eta} \tag{1}
$$

where:

- $\bullet$  N is the energy for heating 1m<sup>3</sup> of water
- $\bullet$   $t_c$  the temperature of cold water
- $\bullet$  *t<sub>h</sub>* the temperature of hot water (56 $^{\circ}$ C for average boilers)
- *ρ* the density of water
- $c$  the specific heat (4190 J/m<sup>3</sup>)
- *τ* the heating duration
- *η* the heater efficiency

$$
N = \frac{Q \cdot \rho \cdot c \cdot (t_h - t_c)}{3600 \cdot \tau \cdot \eta} = \frac{1 \cdot 1 \cdot 4,190 \cdot (56 - 10)}{3600 \cdot 1 \cdot 0.9} = 60kWh/m^3
$$

# **Calculations of the energy used by water appliances (dish washers and washing machines)**

In the domestic use of water, there are two more appliances beside water heating, which consume not only water, but energy as well. These are dishwashers and washing machines. Considering the cultural characteristics of Sofia citizens and the data, provided in the census questionnaires it is assumed that:

- There are two major types of households: households without dishwashers, which prevail being around 75% and households having dishwashers (the remaining 25%).
- The households without dishwashers are usually low-income ones, therefore their washing machines are old, here accepted being energy Class C;
- The households with dishwashers are usually high income ones, who replace regularly their sanitary appliances. Therefore, it is accepted that their appliances (both dishwashers and washing machines) are energy Class A.

The standard annual energy consumption (SAEc) of the household dishwasher is calculated using Equation 4 (COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION of 28.9.2010).

$$
SAEc = 25.2.ps + 126 = 25.2.10 + 126 = 378kWh/year
$$
 (4)

where ps is the average number of place settings. An average number of 10 place settings is assumed for most commonly used dishwashers.

According to literature data, the Energy Efficiency Index (EEI) of the dishwashers Class A is between 63 and 71 (COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) of 28.9.2010). Here a value of 67 is assumed, which gives energy efficiency of:

Energy efficiency dishwashers Class  $A = EEL.SAEC = 67\%$ . SAEc = 253 kWh/year

The standard annual energy consumption (SAEc) of the household washing machine is calculated according Equation 5 (COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) of 28.9.2010):

SAEc =47.0.c +51.7 = 47.0.6+51.7 = 334 kWh/year (5)

where  $c = 6$  kg average rated capacity of the household washing machine for the standard 60°C cotton programme at full load or the standard 40°C cotton programme at full load, whichever is the lower.

According to literature data, the Energy Efficiency Index (EEI) of the washing machines Class A is between 59 and 68, Class C between 77 and 87 (COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) of 28.9.2010). Here value of 53 is accepted for Class A and value of 80 is accepted for Class C, which gives energy efficiencies of:

- Energy efficiency Class A = EEI.SAEc = 53%.SAEc = 177 kWh/year
- Energy efficiency Class C = EEI.SAEc = 80%.SAEc = 267 kWh/year

These values are used for calculation of the energy, used by the households' sanitary appliances in the SEAT model.

### **Energy recovery**

Since 2006 a cogeneration technology is introduced in WWTP Kubratovo. It is a technology that simultaneously generates both heat and electricity. Cogeneration utilizes about 82% of the energy content of the fuel (methane gas from digesters) and turns it into a useful/utilized energy. It consists of three co-generators each with 1 MW power rating.

The entire produced heat energy is used for WWTP needs. Most of the produced electricity is used on site and only about 560,000 kWh/y are sold to the grid. This way the purchased electricity from the electricity provider is reduced [\(Table 20](#page-21-0)).

<span id="page-21-0"></span>



### **Calculations of the Freshwater Ecosystem Impact (FEI)**

Although many LCA studies consider fresh water use, there is no satisfactory and well accepted assessment method, especially when the production system is an urban water supply system. Some authors suggest that when water is abstracted from a river to provide drinking water for a city, there is no environmental concern. Urban water use is characterized as non-evaporative water use, because major part of the water returns back to the nature, nevertheless that 1) the discharge point is downstream of the abstraction point; 2) there is pollution associated with the discharge (Mila i Canals et al, 2009). Others state that when water is abstracted for human needs, the ecosystem equilibrium of the water source will be damaged between abstraction and discharge points. In our study the impact on the ecosystems due to abstraction of water is considered, because the discharge point is approximately 100 km downstream abstraction point. The methodology proposed by Milá i Canals (2009) will be applied, although they propose a constant value for the regional WTA (water withdrawal to availability) ratio, which does not correspond to the reality.

The Freshwater Ecosystem Impact (FEI) indicator is defined as:

$$
FEI = f_{w,0-1} \times WTA \tag{6}
$$

where:

 $f_{w, 0-1}$ : flow of freshwater abstracted

*WTA* water withdrawal to availability ratio, defined as:

$$
WTA = \frac{WU}{WR} \tag{7}
$$

where:

*WU*: the total annual freshwater withdrawal in a river basin; and

*WR:* is the annual freshwater availability in the same basin.

The average WEI for Sofia is 0.43 (Ribarova, 2009). However, since the freshwater ecosystem impact indicator refers to the foreground river basin only foreground impacts are calculated. Flows of the freshwater abstracted per stages are as follows:

- WTP process water and own consumption;
- Distribution network water losses in it;
- Water use stage recorded water use quantities;
- The entire system sum of the losses and the used water.

## <span id="page-22-0"></span>**2.3.2 EVAT input data**

The economic performance of the system is estimated using equation 8:

$$
TVA = EVU - TFC_{WS} - TFC_{WW} + VP_{BP} - FC
$$
\n(8)

where:

- EVU is the total economic value from water use.
- $\bullet$  TFC<sub>WS</sub> is the total financial cost related to water supply provision for rendering the water suitable for the specific use purpose,
- $\bullet$  TFC<sub>WW</sub> is the total financial cost related to wastewater treatment,
- $VP_{BP}$  is the income generated from any by-products of the system, and
- FC is the annual equivalent future cash flow generated from the introduction of new technologies in the system.

For calculation of EVU it is assumed that the level of water services provided (the functional unit) will not change as a result of technology implementation (i.e. the application of a technology or management practice will not result in supply interruptions or render the quality of water unsuitable for the specific purpose) and that the total utility (the overall satisfaction of wants and needs) does not change between scenarios. The economic value from water use is given then by equation 9:

$$
EVU = EVU^{bl} = WTP \times f_{w,2-3}^{bl}
$$
 (9)

where:

- $\bullet$  *WTP* is the customers' willingness to pay for the services provided (defined as the maximum amount a person would be willing to pay in order to receive a reliable and adequate water supply);
- $\bullet$   $f_{w,2-3}^{bl}$ : the total quantity of water supplied to the processes of water use stage.
- $\bullet$  The superscript bl indicates the baseline scenario.

Тhe EVU in Sofia is generated from of the following services to the costumers:

- water supply service;
- water heating;
- wastewater discharge;

wastewater treatment.

[Table 21](#page-23-0) shows how EVU for these services per household in Sofia was calculated.

## <span id="page-23-0"></span>**Table 21 Calculation of EVU for domestic users (566,224 households)**



For non-domestic users it is assumed that their willingness to pay per  $m<sup>3</sup>$  of water is the same as for domestic thus their EVU is calculated in [Table 22](#page-24-2) .

# <span id="page-24-2"></span>**Table 22 Calculation of EVU for non-domestic users**



# <span id="page-24-0"></span>**2.4 Environmental performance**

# <span id="page-24-1"></span>**2.4.1 Assessment steps**

# **Life cycle inventory**

According to ISO 14045 the environmental assessment should be based on LCA. Life cycle inventory (LCI) is an obligatory step, while life cycle impact assessment (LCIA) could be optionally carried out. In this study first LCI was performed, followed by LCIA. The LCI for Sofia case study is well visualized in SEAT model for Sofia [\(Figure 5\)](#page-25-0).



<span id="page-25-0"></span>**Figure 5 The SEAT model of Sofia urban water system**

### **Life cycle impact assessment**

In relation to the LCIA, the two mandatory steps were done, namely:

- 1) Selection of impact categories and classification;
- 2) Characterization (ISO 14044, 2006).

Based on the list of the midpoint impact indicators proposed in the approach followed by the EcoWater Project (EcoWater, 2013), 12 impact categories are selected as the most representative for the environmental assessment of the system.

The characterization factors used for the estimation of the impact of the foreground system are presented in [Table 23.](#page-26-0)

The environmental impact factors per unit of produced good in the background processes are presented in [Table 24.](#page-27-0)

They are obtained from ELCD and Ecoinvent 2.2 databank with SimaPro 7 software using the following LCIA methods - CML 2001, TRACI and ReCiPe.

<span id="page-26-0"></span>**Table 23 Characterization Factors of Foreground Elementary Flows (Guinee et al., 2001)**

<b>Impact Category</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>COD</b> (per kg)	N (per kg)	P (per kg)	N <sub>2</sub> O (per kg)
Climate Change	kg CO <sub>2,eq</sub>				298
Eutrophication	kg $PO4-3eq$	0.022	0.42	3.06	0.27
Acidification	kg SO <sub>2,eq</sub>				
<b>Stratospheric Ozone</b> Depletion	kg CFC-11 <sub>.eq</sub>				
<b>Human Toxicity</b>	$kg1,4-DCB_{eq}$				
<b>Freshwater Aquatic</b> Ecotoxicity	$kg1,4-DCB_{eq}$				
<b>Terrestrial Ecotoxicity</b>	$kg1,4-DCB$ <sub>eq</sub>				
<b>Photochemical Ozone</b> Formation	kg C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4.eq</sub>		۰		

#### **Table 24 Environmental Impact Factors for Background ProcessesResults**



<span id="page-27-0"></span>The results of the environmental impact of the background and foreground systems as well as their cumulative values are presented in [Table](#page-28-1)  [25](#page-28-1) and [Figure 15.](#page-53-0)

# <span id="page-28-1"></span><span id="page-28-0"></span>**2.4.2 Results**

The results of the environmental impact of the background and foreground systems as well as their cumulative values are presented in [Table 25](#page-28-2) and [Figure 15.](#page-53-1)

<b>Impact category</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Value</b> $(\overline{Unit})$	<b>Foreground</b> <b>Value (Unit)</b>	<b>Background</b> <b>Value (Unit)</b>
Climate change	tn $CO2$ , eq	1,304,690	10,058	1,294,632
<b>Fossil Fuels</b> Depletion	GJ	6,027,939	0	6,027,939
Freshwater <b>Resource Depletion</b>	m <sup>3</sup>	71,659,616	71,659,616	$\Omega$
Eutrophication	kg $PO4-3,eq$	2,046,825	1,620,563	426,262
<b>Human Toxicity</b>	kg 1.4-DB,eq	41,845,153	0	41,845,153
Acidification	$kg$ SO <sub>2</sub> , eq	18,507,535	0	18,507,535
Aquatic ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DB,eq	6,903,629	0	6,903,629
Ozone layer depletion	kg CFC-11 eq	230	0	230
<b>Terrestrial</b> Ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DB,eq	159,085	$\Omega$	159,085
Respiratory Inorganics	kg PM10,eq	3,536,098	0	3,536,098
Photochemical Oxidation	kg C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ,eq	762,612	0	762,612
<b>Mineral Depletion</b>	kg Fe eq	3,495,351	0	3,495,351

<span id="page-28-2"></span>**Table 25 Environmental indicators results for CS3 baseline assessment**



<span id="page-28-3"></span>**Figure 6 Contribution of Foreground and Background Systems in the environmental impact categories**

[Figure 6](#page-28-3) shows that the foreground system has negative environmental impact only in regard to climate change, freshwater resource depletion and eutrophication. In addition to this analysis, it is useful to know what the contribution of each stage is. This will allow identification of the stages, which are environmentally weak as well as selection of technologies for their better performance. The environmental impact by stages is presented in two separate charts – one for the background system [\(Figure](#page-29-0)  [7\)](#page-29-0) and one for the foreground system [\(Figure 8\)](#page-29-1).



<span id="page-29-0"></span>**Figure 7 Environmental Impact Breakdown of the background system, percentage per stage**



<span id="page-29-1"></span>**Figure 8 Environmental Impact Breakdown of the foreground system, percentage per stage**

[Figure 7](#page-29-0) and [Figure 8](#page-29-1) show that for the background system the water use stage is the environmentally weakest one for all indicators. It is also the weakest stage in regard to one of the indicators of the foreground processes – the aquatic eutrophication. This confirms the conclusions, drawn from another studies that the most significant system component in terms of operational energy are the residential end uses of water due to heating the water and operation of dishwashers and clothes washers (Flower, DJM. et al., 2007). In the study of Flower, the mass of GHG emissions in an urban water system with gas storage hot water service was found to be 2088 kg  $CO<sub>2</sub>$ -eq. per household per year. The value for households with electric storage hot water service was reported to be  $6860$  kg  $CO<sub>2</sub>$ -eg. per household (Flower, DJM. et al., 2007). For Sofia urban water system these values are: 1814 kg  $CO<sub>2</sub>$ -eq per household with electric water heating and 2410 kg  $CO<sub>2</sub>$ -eq. per household connected to district water heating.

The second problematic stage is the wastewater treatment plant, which shows negative environmental impact in both foreground and background systems.

The third problematic stage is the distribution network, which shows the worst performance in regard to the most important indicator of the foreground system – the freshwater ecosystem impact.

The reasons for such performance of the stages should be well analysed in order to suggest appropriate innovative technologies, which will allow better environmental performance (will be done in Deliverable 3.3).

# <span id="page-30-0"></span>**2.5 Economic performance**

The ISO 14045 standard provides only general requirements for assessment of the product system value. The difficulty with its determination is that different stakeholders may attach different values to the same product system (ISO14045, 2012). Economics often determines the value of the product to the supplier (the water operator in our case) as a difference between income and cost, equal to the profit (ISO14045, 2012). For customers the value is called "surplus value" and is most often equivalent to willingness to pay (ISO14045, 2012).

After many discussions it has been decided that in EcoWater project product system value will be assessed through Total Value Added (TVA), which is explained in more details in chapter 2.3. In addition to it, the Sofia Case study applied the so called "One over cost" method, explained briefly below.

When comparable products are considered Monczka et al. (2005) suggest a value can be calculated as a ratio between function and costs:

$$
Product system value = \frac{function}{costs}
$$
\n(10)

In the case of urban water systems, the product is unity - the water service to the customers, as indicated above. As in other studies using equation (10) the function may therefore be accepted as equal to 1, where "1" means that the product system fulfils its functions (Michelsen , 2006; Monczka et al., 2005). So, the product system value is:

$$
Product system value = \frac{1}{costs}
$$
\n(11)

This approach sidesteps the difficulty with the different valuations of the stakeholders, because it considers only the associated costs of operation of the system and is not interested in the pricing policy, profits for the company or the benefits of the users. This makes its determination relatively easy, because it does not require confidential data such as profits and non-quantifiable data such as benefits to the users.



<span id="page-31-1"></span>**Table 26 Economic performance results (all results are in € per year)**





<span id="page-31-0"></span>

The assessment of the economic performance through TVA has the advantage that the share of each actor could be easily revealed and this could be a good base in debating about new technology implementation and the burden of each actor [\(Figure](#page-31-0)  [9\)](#page-31-0). [Table 26](#page-31-1) summarizes the economic performance assessment of the studied system using TVA method. The total value added to the product from the water use, is the sum of the net economic output of the actors, which is equal to 93,782,802  $\epsilon$ .

# <span id="page-32-0"></span>**2.6 Eco-efficiency indicators**

The eco-efficiency indicators are determined using environmental and economic assessment presented above. [Table 27](#page-32-1) summarizes the values of the eco-efficiency indicators, corresponding to the 12 relevant environmental impact categories and TVA method for calculation of the economic performance.



## <span id="page-32-1"></span>**Table 27 Eco-efficiency indicators using TVA**

[Table 28](#page-33-1) summarizes the values of the eco-efficiency indicators, corresponding to the 12 relevant environmental impact categories and 1/cost method for calculation of the economic performance.

### <span id="page-33-1"></span>**Table 28 Eco-efficiency indicators using 1/cost**



At this stage, when only the results for the baseline scenario assessment are available, comparison between the two methods for assessment of the economic performance of the system cannot be done. However, the results in the two tables show that the trends are similar.

# <span id="page-33-0"></span>**2.7 Next steps**

The baseline estimation showed that the stage with the highest negative environmental impact is the domestic use stage. The other two stages with high negative environmental impact are the distribution network and the WWTP. This analysis serves to the selection of the technologies, which will be used in the comparative scenarios [\(Table 29\)](#page-34-0). Most attention is paid on the weakest stage – the domestic water use.

These technologies are described in details in Deliverable 3.3. In the next project phase the eco-efficiency of the urban water system will be assessed for different scenarios, based on single or combination of implementation of these technologies.



# <span id="page-34-0"></span>**Table 29 Technologies, which will be used in the comparative scenarios**

# <span id="page-35-0"></span>**3 Baseline eco-efficiency assessment for the municipality of Waedenswil, Canto of Zurich, Switzerland**

# <span id="page-35-1"></span>**3.1 Goal and scope definition**

# <span id="page-35-2"></span>**3.1.1 Objectives**

The main goal of this study is the eco-efficiency assessment of the existing water value chain of the urban system of the municipality of Waedenswil as baseline for potential improvements. The analysis is targeted on a meso-level that encompasses every stage of the urban water cycle and entails the consideration of the interrelations among the heterogeneous actors. An assessment is performed for the baseline scenario which represents the reference point for benchmarking enhancements resulting from the upgrade of the value chain through the introduction of innovative technologies.

## <span id="page-35-3"></span>**3.1.2 System Boundaries**

The studied system considers the entire life cycle of water from its origin as a natural resource until its release into the environment after being used in urban facilities, [\(Figure 10\)](#page-35-4). The main stages in the system include:

- Freshwater abstraction from surface water bodies or groundwater resources (abstraction and intermediate pumping);
- Potable water treatment;
- Water distribution network;
- Water use (domestic and non-domestic users);
- Sewage network; and
- Wastewater treatment and discharge.



#### <span id="page-35-4"></span>**Figure 10 Stages and processes**

Additionally, a value chain mapping including the relevant actors at the different stages, their roles and their interactions has been performed. These actors and the corresponding stages of the water value chain are presented in [Figure 11.](#page-36-0)



<span id="page-36-0"></span>**Figure 11 Processes and involved actors in the water value chain of the municipality of Waedenswil, Canton of Zurich**

Each stage has been defined in such way that encloses the relevant actors involved in the system and the interactions among them. The actors involved in this case study are the following:

- The Association of municipalities for water treatment Hirsacker-Appital (Zweckverband Seewasserwerk Hirsacker-Appital)
- The Municipality Waedenswil which is responsible for sustainable and secure water supply (in means of quality and quantity) and Reliable water discharge
- Private persons/households
- Private companies using water and discharging waste water
- Office for waste, water, energy and air of Canto Zurich (AWEL) as indirect Actor for enforcement of legislation

For the life cycle assessment, the whole system is additionally divided into two subsystems:

- 1. **The Foreground system** which is the system of direct interest and includes all the processes along the stages of the water value chain (the water abstraction and treatment stage, the distribution network, the water use in urban facilities and the wastewater treatment plant) where resources are used and emissions are released directly.
- 2. **The Background system**, which includes the production and transport processes of the various resources entering the system which are not included in the boundaries of the study system i.e. energy production, chemicals manufacturing, fuels production and distribution, etc.

The summary of system processes and their characterization as Foreground or Background are shown in [Table 30.](#page-37-0)



#### <span id="page-37-0"></span>**Table 30 Foreground and Background processes of the municipality of Waedenswil, Canton of Zurich**

The technologies applied in the foreground processes are presented in [Table 31.](#page-37-1)

<span id="page-37-1"></span>**Table 31 Detailed analysis of the foreground system**





# <span id="page-38-0"></span>**3.1.3 Cluster Analysis**

This case study includes different water users and the environmental impacts can be expressed specifically using them as reference. As mentioned, for the entire study area two main types of urban water users are distinguished, i.e. Domestic and Non-Domestic water users. Users with the same consumptive patterns (e.g. technology, socio-economic characteristics) can be further grouped in clusters. The subdivision of the mass and energy flows of the whole system on a cluster scale will be performed on the basis of the water volumes at the point of consumption for water supply and discharged pollution load into the sewerage network for water discharge.

Domestic water users are subdivided in four clusters according to their source of energy for water heating: 1) domestic water users with electric water heating (25% of households), 2) with gas water heating (21%), 3) with oil water heating (40%) and 4) with alternative water heating (14%). For the fourth cluster it can be assumed, that water is heated with renewable energies, therefore this cluster is not considered in the environmental assessment. More conservative assumption would be to include some electricity consumption as heat pumps and solar heating consume some energy in their backup systems. The per cent data was derived from the national statistics on energy sources for domestic water heating (BFE 2012) and was assumed to be similar for Waedenswil.

At this stage of work, non-domestic water users have not been further clustered due to the fact that these are more heterogeneous water consumers with varieties of technologies. Data only for four SME could be gathered, as was presented in the previous Deliverable (3.1.), from which scaling up for the whole case study area was not possible. However, these non-domestic users can be analysed at a later step in specific scenarios.

# <span id="page-39-0"></span>**3.1.4 Functional Unit**

The functional unit to which all data are related should allow making different systems comparable. In this study two options have been examined:

- 1. When the unit of product/service delivered by the use of water is of interest, the functional unit is defined as 1 consumer being served, e.g. for water use for toilet flushing.
- 2. When the benefit derived is proportional to the quantity of water used then the functional unit is 1  $m^3$  of water used at consumer's level, e.g. for water use for drinking purposes.

# <span id="page-39-1"></span>**3.2 Inventory Analysis**

The Life Cycle Inventory flows for the Waedenswil case study were visualized in the SEAT program as presented in [Figure 12.](#page-40-0)



<span id="page-40-0"></span>**Figure 12: SEAT visualisation for Life Cycle Inventory flows of the Waedenswil case study**

A list of the inputs and outputs taken into account for the system of CS4 and their categorization is presented in [Table 32.](#page-41-1)

<span id="page-41-1"></span>



# <span id="page-41-0"></span>**3.2.1 Elementary Flows**

The values of the elementary flows in each stage are shown in the [Table 33](#page-42-0) to [Table](#page-47-1)  [39.](#page-47-1) Data from 2011 were used for water flows and data from 2010 were used for the chemicals at the WWTP. Some energy consumption values had to be estimated from the costs data. All data shown are exclusively for the Waedenswil region.

# **Stage 1: Water Abstraction**

The water abstraction processes, from the lake and from groundwater, were modelled in this stage.



# <span id="page-42-0"></span>**Table 33 Inventory of flows for the Water Abstraction Stage (Stage 1) (annual values)**

The water abstraction was separated into two different parts based on the different involved actors:

- Water abstraction from the lake, managed by Zweckverband Hirsacker-Appital, the responsible institution also for the Water Treatment Plants (WTP) and
- Water abstraction from groundwater, managed by the municipality **Waedenswil**

The total electricity consumption by the Stages 1 and 2 is estimated based on the costs and the specific prices for electricity paid for both stages, and not individually per stage. An equal share of 50% was assumed for each stage. This means that the electricity related emissions will be the same for both stages. Water losses are not considered. [Table 33](#page-42-0) presents the inventory of flows from Stage 1, separated into inflows and outflows from the abstraction from lake and from groundwater.

# **Stage 2: Water Treatment**

In Stage 2 the water from the lake is treated in two WTPs, i.e. Appital and Hirsacker. Water from groundwater is not treated, but directly pumped from Muelenen Station into the distribution network. Stage 2 is divided into two parts for the two involved actors. [Table 34](#page-43-0) shows the elementary flows involved at Stage 2, separated in inflows and outflows in both parts, i.e. the Water Treatment Plants and the Pumping **Station** 

As mentioned, the total electricity consumption by the Stages 1 and 2 is derived from costs for both stages together, but not per stage, so for simplicity a 50% share was assumed for each stage.

### **Stage 3: Water Distribution**

In Stage 3, the water from the WTPs and from Muelenen Station is distributed to the different users. [Table 35](#page-43-1) presents the elementary flows involved at Stage 3, separated in inflows and outflows. Energy required for distribution throughout the network was estimated from the respective costs. The distribution network water losses are around 9.6% of the total of water that comes into the network (Stadt Waedenswil 2012).



#### <span id="page-43-0"></span>**Table 34 Inventory of flows for the Water Treatment Stage (Stage 2) (annual values)**

<span id="page-43-1"></span>**Table 35 Inventory of flows for the Water Distribution Stage (Stage 3) (annual values)**



### **Stage 4: Water Use**

Use of water is allocated to two main types of users: domestic users and nondomestic users. For non-domestic users, some water remains in the products or is evaporated during the processes, so an estimated 90% of the water used was considered to be returned to the system as wastewater. [Table 36](#page-43-2) shows the inflows and outflows, resources and emissions for non-domestic water users.

#### <span id="page-43-2"></span>**Table 36 Inventory of flows for the Non-domestic Water Use Stage (Stage 4) (annual values)**





The BOD load for non-domestic water users has been calculated from the assumed BOD concentration in industrial wastewater of 60 gram/capita/day which results in 21.9 kg/capita/year. This value has been multiplied by the person equivalents accounted to the non-domestic users of 7,188 to get the amount of BOD out of 157,417 kg/year.

Domestic water users are subdivided into four clusters based on the source of energy used for water heating like stated in chapter [3.1.3.](#page-38-0) The data was derived from the national statistics on energy sources for domestic water heating (BFE 2012). To calculate the number of households, the average number of 2.2 people per household was taken from statistical information. Accordingly, a number of households and the corresponding water-related energy demand for water heating can be estimated.

For electric and gas water heating an average energy demand of 61 kWh per  $m^3$  of water was assumed, for oil water heating an energy demand of 59 kWh of oil per  $m<sup>3</sup>$ of water was assumed according to Dimitrov 2009 (Chapter [2.3.1\)](#page-14-1).

Additionally electricity needed to operate washing machines and dishwashers was estimated. Likewise as in the Sofia Case Study, an electricity consumption for dishwashers class A of 253 kWh per year and for washing machines class A of 177 kWh per year was assumed (Chapter [2.3.1\)](#page-14-1), i.e. a total electricity consumption for devices of 430 kWh per household. Furthermore, it was assumed that each household in Waedenswil case study area has a dishwasher and a washing machine.

Wastewater from domestic users is considered to be 90% of the water consumption due to some losses stemming from water of gardens, for example. [Table](#page-45-0) 37 shows the inflows and outflows, resources and emissions for domestic water use.



## <span id="page-45-0"></span>**Table 37 Inventory of flows for the Domestic Water Use Stage (annual values)**

# **Stage 5: Sewerage Network**

In the sewerage network the wastewater from domestic users and from non-domestic users is jointly collected. Water from rainfall is also entering the sewerage network as it is a combined sewer system in most of the area and additionally infiltration from groundwater has to be expected. Rainfall and infiltrated groundwater represent on a yearly average more than 50% of the total wastewater that arrives to the WWTP. The wastewater is transported to the Waste Water Treatment Plant WWTP (Stage 6). Losses have not been accounted for in this stage as only the net fluxes in and out of the network are considered. Further it has been assumed, that BOD, Phosphorus and Nitrogen are reduced already in the network due to certain biological processes to a certain percentage. [Table 38](#page-46-0) presents the elementary flows for Stage 5.

 $\overline{\phantom{a}}$  $<sup>1</sup>$  A more conservative assumption would be about 30% of households with electric water</sup> heating as some electricity is still consumed by the background system of heat pumps and solar heating.



### <span id="page-46-0"></span>**Table 38 Inventory of flows for the Sewerage Network Stage (Stage 5) (annual values)**

### **Stage 6: Waste Water Treatment**

Wastewater from users and rainfall/infiltration water arrive at the WWTP. In the WWTP, electricity and natural gas are used as supplementary resources. Furthermore, electricity and heat are produced from the biogas derived from the surplus sludge. This electricity is used for own consumption and the heat is sold to a neighbourhood district heating system.

When the rainfalls in the region are strong, some amount of untreated water is discharged directly to the lake. According to the data from 2011, around 10% of the wastewater was discharged into the lake without biological treatment. Input and output data are shown in [Table 39.](#page-47-1)



### <span id="page-47-1"></span>**Table 39 Inventory of flows for the Wastewater Treatment Stage (annual values)**

# <span id="page-47-0"></span>**3.2.2 Economic Data**

The economic performance indicator used to assess an EcoWater meso-level water use system is the **Total Value Added** (TVA) to the product/service due to water. It includes both the water supply and the production chains and is expressed in monetary units (Euros) per year. It is estimated as:

 $TVA = EVU - TFC_{WS} - TFC_{WW} + VP_{BP}$ 

Where on an annual basis:

- EVU is the total economic value created from water use,
- TFC $_{WS}$  is the total financial cost related to water supply provision for rendering the water suitable for the specific use purpose,
- $\bullet$  TFC<sub>WW</sub> is the total financial cost related to wastewater treatment and
- $\bullet$  VP<sub>RP</sub> is the income generated from any by-products of the system.



### <span id="page-48-0"></span>**Table 40: Unit costs of raw materials and supplementary resources<sup>2</sup>**

A specific methodological challenge in the Urban Case studies is the estimation of Economic Value from Water Use (EVU) for domestic and non-domestic users. The Economic Value from Water Use refers to the total benefits from direct use of water, which cannot directly be derived for domestic water users, as domestic water users do not gain any monetary benefits from water use like companies, but are profiting from the different services provided. Therefore, the estimation of the economic value from water used is based on the customers' willingness to pay for these services.

[Table 40](#page-48-0) presents the data required to calculate the financial costs of the system. The Economic Value from Water Use (EVU) is estimated by:

$$
EVU = EVU^{bl} = WTP \times f_{W,2-3}^{bl}
$$

Where:

- WTP is the customers' willingness to pay for the services in  $\epsilon/m^3$  provided by a certain quantity of water in the baseline scenario (defined as the maximum amount a person would be willing to pay for a certain amount of water from a reliable and adequate water supply);
- $\bullet$   $f_{w,2-3}^{bl}$  is the total quantity of water supplied to the processes of domestic and non-domestic water use stages [m<sup>3</sup>/y]. The superscript *bl* indicates the baseline scenario.

Willingness to pay for water services was derived from the maximum prices for drinking water and wastewater services in Switzerland as shown in [Figure 13](#page-49-0) and [Figure 14,](#page-49-1) respectively. Based on the average 3 person household, representative for Waedenswil, and on the 2.2 persons per household assumed above the maximum prices are about 4.3 and 3.8 CHF/ $m<sup>3</sup>$  for drinking water and wastewater, respectively. Accordingly, the total price for water service amounts to about 6.5  $\epsilon/m^3$ , assuming an exchange rate of 1.2 CHF/€.

 $\overline{\phantom{a}}$  $2$  Costs for chemicals shown here are average values due to lack of better cost data. Nevertheless, multiplied with the respective amount of chemicals used, they represent well the variable costs for productive inputs.

D3.2: Baseline eco-efficiency assessment in urban water systems Page 49 of 62



**\*Without the 25% most expensive and 25% cheapest**

<span id="page-49-0"></span>



**\*Without the 25% most expensive and 25% cheapest**

<span id="page-49-1"></span>**Figure 14: Waste water prices in Waedenswil in comparison to Swiss average**

[Table 41](#page-50-0) and [Table 42](#page-50-1) present the economic value added and the expenditures for the non-domestic water users.

#### <span id="page-50-0"></span>**Table 41: Economic value added from water use of non-domestic water users**



### <span id="page-50-1"></span>**Table 42: Expenditures for water services of non-domestic water users**



[Table 43](#page-50-2) and [Table 44](#page-51-1) present the economic value added and the expenditures for the domestic water users.

#### <span id="page-50-2"></span>**Table 43: Economic value added from water use of domestic water users, i.e. for 9,901 households (hh)**

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Unit</b>				
EVU for water supply, waste water sewerage and treatment						
Average water consumption per household in baseline scenario <sup>3</sup>	128	$m^3/hh$ /year				
Water tariff (water supply, waste water sewerage and treatment)	3.25	$€$ /m <sup>3</sup>				
Willingness to pay per m <sup>3</sup> (derived from max. price paid in CH)	6.50	$€/m^3$				
EVU for water per household	835	€/hh/year				
EVU for water per year	7,592,000	€/year				
<b>EVU for water heating</b>						
Hot water consumed in average household	38.54	$m^3/hh$ /year				
Maximum costs for heating 1m <sup>3</sup> of water	6.10	$€/m^3$				
Willingness to pay for water heating (assumed, the maximum costs for heating the water is increased with 20%)		7.32 $€/m^3$				
EVU for water heating per household	282	€/hh/year				
EVU for water heating per year	2,564,928	€/year				
<b>Total EVU</b>						
Total EVU per household	1,117	€/hh/year				
<b>Total EVU per year</b>	10,156,928	€/year				

 $\overline{\phantom{a}}$  $3$  Based on the following calculation: Average consumption of 58.4  $m<sup>3</sup>$  per person per year times 2.2 persons living in a household.



#### <span id="page-51-1"></span>**Table 44: Expenditures for water services of domestic water users**

# <span id="page-51-0"></span>**3.3 Environmental performance**

Based on the list of the midpoint impact indicators proposed in the approach followed by the EcoWater Project (Van Vliet et al 2012), 13 impact categories have been selected as the most representative for the environmental assessment of the water use systems. The characterization factors which were used for the estimation of the impact of the foreground systems and the background process are presented in [Table 45](#page-52-0) respectively. Similarly to the Sofia Case Study, the environmental impact factors are obtained from open access database ELCD and from the Ecoinvent 2.2 databank. The method applied is CML 2001, from which 9 Impact Categories are chosen. For the impact categories "fossil depletion" and "respiratory effects" TRACI method is used. The characterization factors were derived with the help of SimaPro 7 software.

The freshwater resource depletion impact indicator was calculated as the product of the total water abstracted for the system multiplied by the total withdrawal to availability ratio.

A 0.05 factor for the withdrawal to availability ratio is used, which is the value for whole of Switzerland (EEA, 2012), resulting in a value for the freshwater resource depletion impact indicator of 87,239  $\mathrm{m}^3/\mathrm{y}$ .

<span id="page-52-0"></span>

**Table 45: Environmental Impact Factors for Background Processes (ELCD for electricity mix and Ecoinvent 2.2 for other processes)**

The results of the environmental impacts of the entire system and of the contribution of the background and foreground processes into the system are presented in [Table](#page-53-2)  [46](#page-53-2) and [Figure 15.](#page-53-1)



<span id="page-53-2"></span>

<span id="page-53-0"></span>

<span id="page-53-1"></span>

The results on environmental indicators are presented as percentage per stage in [Figure 16.](#page-54-0) Solid bars represent the foreground system and transparent bars the background system.



<span id="page-54-0"></span>**Figure 16: Environmental impact breakdown, percentage per stage of total except for freshwater resource depletion and eutrophication presented in the next figure**

The Eutrophication and the Freshwater Resource Depletion indicator are presented separately [\(Figure 17\)](#page-54-1) because the allocation of the environmental impacts per stage is not based on the point of exit of the elementary flows from the system (Stage 6. Wastewater Treatment), but is based on the processes which generate these flows in the first place (Stages 4a and 4b, Water Use).



<span id="page-54-1"></span>

# <span id="page-55-0"></span>**3.4 Economic performance**

[Table 47](#page-55-1) summarizes the economic performance assessment of the studied system. The total value added to the product from the water use, is the sum of the net economic output of the actors, which is equal to  $5,681,407 \in$ .

<b>Actor</b>	<b>Annual</b> <b>Equivalent</b> <b>Investment</b> <b>Cost</b>	<b>Annual</b> <b>O&amp;M Cost</b>	<b>Gross</b> <b>Income</b>	<b>Revenues</b> from Water <b>Services</b>	<b>Net</b> <b>Economic</b> <b>Output</b>
Zweckverband	1,003,880	297,486	0	1,311,182	9,816
<b>Municipality</b>	2,894,520	1,796,475	53,384	4,712,206	74,595
<b>Domestic Water</b> <b>Users</b>	0	1,262,637	10,154,647	$-4,259,742$	4,632,268
<b>Non-Domestic</b> <b>Water Users</b>	0	0	2,728,375	$-1,763,647$	964,729
<b>Total Value Added</b>					5,681,407

<span id="page-55-1"></span>**Table 47 Economic performance results (in € per year)**





**Figure 18 Economic Performance per Actor**

15M

# <span id="page-56-0"></span>**3.5 Eco-efficiency indicators**

The eco-efficiency indicators are evaluated from the results of environmental and value assessment presented above. [Table 48](#page-56-1) summarizes the values of the ecoefficiency indicators, corresponding to the 13 relevant environmental impact categories.

<span id="page-56-1"></span>



# <span id="page-57-0"></span>**3.6 Next steps**

Based on this baseline eco-efficiency assessment the following types of technologies were preselected to be assessed in the scenario analysis whether they could improve the eco-efficiency in the future.

- 1. **Water-saving appliances for domestic and non-domestic water users** will not only save the amount of water and wastewater which hast to be paid by the users, but also the consumption of energy for the use of warm water. These measures will show in the indicator climate change.
- 2. **Micropollutants removal technology** will be probably applied by the WWPT in the next few years as the micropollutants discharge into Lake Zurich from a WWTP of such size is seen as a major environmental problem and will be regulated by law. Such technologies usually have removal rates of over 80% and will improve the eco-efficiency significantly.
- 3. **Pressure reducing valv**es will reduce water losses in the distribution system and therefore reduce the amount of water which has to be abstracted and increase the eco-efficiency with the indicator resource depletion freshwater.
- 4. **Smart pumping** will reduce the consumption of energy in the water distribution network and therefore improve the climate change indicator.
- 5. **Water reuse** will reduce the amount of water which has to be abstracted and therefore improve the freshwater resource depletion.
- 6. **Advanced phosphorus recovery** will show the improvement in the economic performance of the system if phosphorus will be recovered and sold. At the moment, this is rather a long-term option.

# <span id="page-58-0"></span>**4 Conclusions for the urban case studies**

The most important material flows in urban water systems are water and energy flows. There are also flows associated with transport of products to and from water and wastewater treatment plants. The concept for foreground and background system was adopted in order to consider the environmental impact caused by all flows: these, which are within the studied meso-level system itself, e.g. within the urban water system and these, which contribute to system's functioning, but are outputs of other product systems. Twelve indicators from the list of the LCA mid-point indicators were selected and assessed.

The eco-efficiency assessment of the baseline scenario in urban water systems led to the following main conclusions:

**Meso-level eco-efficiency:** A methodology, which is in compliance with ISO standards on eco-efficiency and life cycle assessment, has been developed in the framework of the EcoWater project. The methodology has been tested for two quite different urban water systems - Sofia and Zurich. This will allow more profound conclusions about its strengths, weaknesses, limitations and future uses to be drawn. A comparison of the final results for the two case studies to derive generic and site specific conclusions and recommendations is envisaged.

**Relevance of background systems for environmental impact:** The results show that the main environmental impacts for most investigated indicators are due to the background systems, where production of energy, reagents and fuels is realised. The actual urban water system, i.e. the foreground system, has as currently modelled direct negative environmental impacts only to three out of twelve of the selected environmental impact indicators: fresh water depletion, aquatic eutrophication and climate change. These results confirm the importance to include background processes in the environmental assessment for a comprehensive analysis.

**Limitations of modelling of domestic and non-domestic users:** In the current model the main environmental impacts stem from the water heating of domestic users. The environmental impacts of the non-domestic users are not represented comprehensively as this would require more detailed information on company/sector level which is beyond the scope of this project and therefore only water consumption has been considered for non-domestic water users. For the technology assessments these limitations have to be considered.

**Indicators for new challenges:** For the Zurich Case Study beside eleven LCA midpoint indicators one regional indicator (Freshwater Resource Depletion) and one special, case-study relevant indicator to account for a recent evolving challenge, i.e. micropollutants, was considered. There are methods to assess the impact of micropollutants in the category Aquatic Ecotoxicity Chronic, but not for all the present micropollutants characterisation values are available. In this area the research is ongoing. One possibility to account for the micropollutants release in the indicator Aquatic Ecotoxicity is focusing on some of the specific micropollutants for which characterisation factors are known.

**Estimation of economic value generated by water users:** The economic value added is generated only in the water use stages, as estimated in the present study. As the water operators in the system have to operate cost-covering they will pass on additional costs to the users in the system. Sofia case study will apply an additional method for the assessment of the value generated by the system different from the presented in this study. The strength and weaknesses of the two methods will be discussed after getting the final results, i.e. the assessment of scenarios with innovative technologies.

# <span id="page-60-0"></span>**5 References**

BFE (Bundesamt für Energie) (2012), Analyse des Schweizerischen Energieverbrauchs 2000 - 2011 nach Verwendungszwecken. Link: [http://www.bfe.admin.ch/php/modules/publikationen/stream.php?extlang=de&name=](http://www.bfe.admin.ch/php/modules/publikationen/stream.php?extlang=de&name=de_394202287.pdf) de 394202287.pdf Federal office for energy (2012), Analysis of Swiss energy consumption 2000 – 2011 according to applications.

Council Directive concerning urban wastewater treatment, Directive 91/271, 21 May 1991, Official journal of the EU Communities, L 135/40.

COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) of 28.9.2010, supplementing Directive 2010/30/EU of the European Parliament and of the Councilwith regard to energy labelling of household dishwashers

Dimitrov, G. Trichkov, I., 2009. Water supply and sewerage of buildings, Technica.

Denkstatt, 2012. Inventory of emissions of CO2, released into the atmosphere as a result of energy consumption on the territory of Sofia Municipality. Final Report.

EEA, 2013. Specific CO2 emissions per tonne-km and per mode of transport in Europe, 1995-2011

EcoWater, 2013. Deliverable 1.3 Populated Technology inventory

EC DG Environment, 2009. Study on water performance of buildings, Final report, Reference 070307/2008/520703/ETU/D2

ELCD (2013), ELCD database, Retrieved from ELCD website: <http://elcd.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ELCD3/processList.xhtml>

Flower, DJM., Mitchell, VG., Codner, GP., 2007. Urban water systems: Drivers of climate change?.

[http://search.informit.com.au/documentSummary;dn=889378592864493;res=IELEN](http://search.informit.com.au/documentSummary;dn=889378592864493;res=IELENG) [G.](http://search.informit.com.au/documentSummary;dn=889378592864493;res=IELENG)

Guinée, B. J. et al., 2001. Handbook on Life Cycle Assessment: Operational Guide to the ISO Standards. Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publishers.

ISO 14031: 1999. Environmental management - Environmental performance evaluation - Guidelines. International Organization for Standardization, Genève.

ISO 14040: 2006. Environmental management - Life cycle assessment - Principles and framework. Second edition. International Organization for Standardization, Genève.

ISO 14044: 2006. Environmental management - Life cycle assessment - Requirements and guidelines. International Organization for Standardization, Genève.

ISO 14045: 2012. Environmental management - Eco-efficiency assessment of product systems - Principles, requirements and guidelines", CEN.

Michelsen, O., 2006. Eco-efficiency in redesigned extended supply chains; furniture as an example. in "Quantified eco-efficiency in theory and practice". In Huppes, G. and Ishikawa. M. (Eds.). Springer, Dordrecht.

Milà i Canals, L., Chenoweth, J., Chapagain, A., Orr, S., Antón, A., & Clift. R. (2009). Assessing freshwater use impacts in LCA: Part I - inventory modelling and characterisation factors for the main impact pathways. International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment, 14 (1), 28–42

Monczka, R., Trent, R., Handfield, R., 2005. Purchasing and supply chain management.Third edition. Thomson South-Western, Mason, Ohio.

Ribarova, I., Sharing water under conditions of scarcity and stress, in "Water stress mitigation: the Aquastress case studies", ed. D. Assimacopoulos, 2009

Ribarova, I., Stanchev, P., Dimova, G. Assimacopoulos D., 2013. A first iteration of an eco-efficiency assessment of Sofia's urban water system, Proceeding of CCWI'2013 conference;

Rogers, P., de Silva, R., Bhatia, R. Water is an economic good: How to use prices to promote equity, efficiency, and sustainability. Water policy, 4, 1-17.

Stadt Waedenswil (Municipality of Waedenswil) 2012. Rechnung 2011 mit NPM Berichten.(Annual financial statement 2011 with NPM reports) [www.waedenswil.ch](http://www.waedenswil.ch/) accessed 15.02.2012

Sweden Green Buildin Council, 2012. Treatment of Scandinavian District Energy Systems in LEED version 1.0

SCEWM, № В – Дк - 57/05. 04. 2013. Report from directorates "Regulation and Control - Water supply and sewerage", "Economic analysis and regulatory audit", "Legal" about Application for approval of prices of water supply and sewerage services provided to consumers by "Sofiyska voda" AD, Sofia

State Gazette, 2011. Tariff of fees for the right to water use and/or authorized use of water body, 50.

Toplofikaciya EAD, 2013. Annual report on greenhouse gas emissions in 2012.

Van Vliet, L., L. Levidow, S. Alongi Skenhall, M. Blind, 2012. Review and selection of eco-efficiency indicators to be used in the EcoWater Case Studies. EcoWater Project Deliverable 1.1.