The community politics of climate change adaptation for water utilities

Climate Change – Impacts on Water: an international adaptation forum

Sue Murphy
Chief Executive Officer
January 2010

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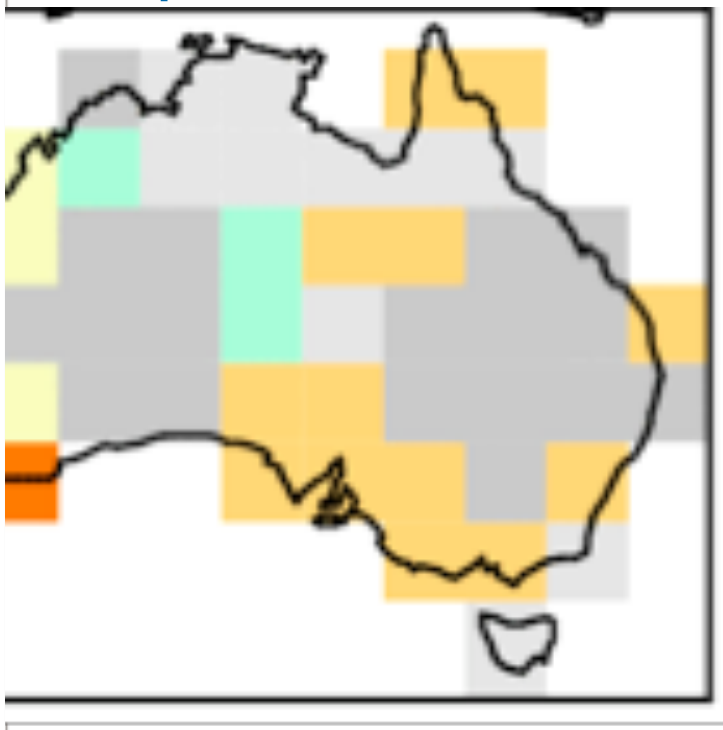
Perth, Western Australia

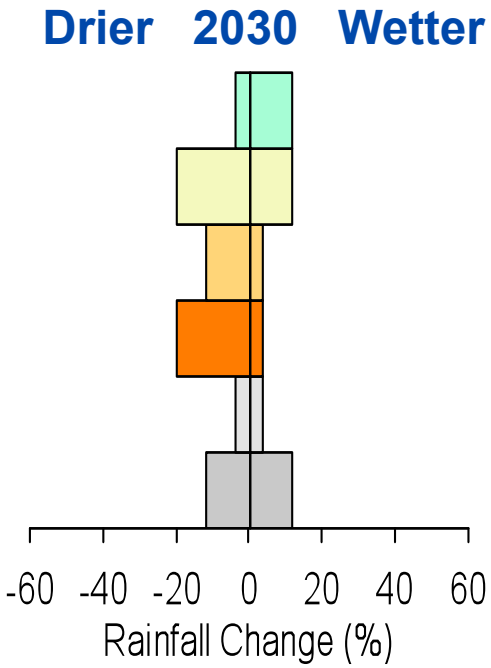
Water Corporation, Perth

Impact of Climate Change



Annual rainfall change (%)

2030 Wetter



Warming will change general climatic patterns and there will be greater climatic variability

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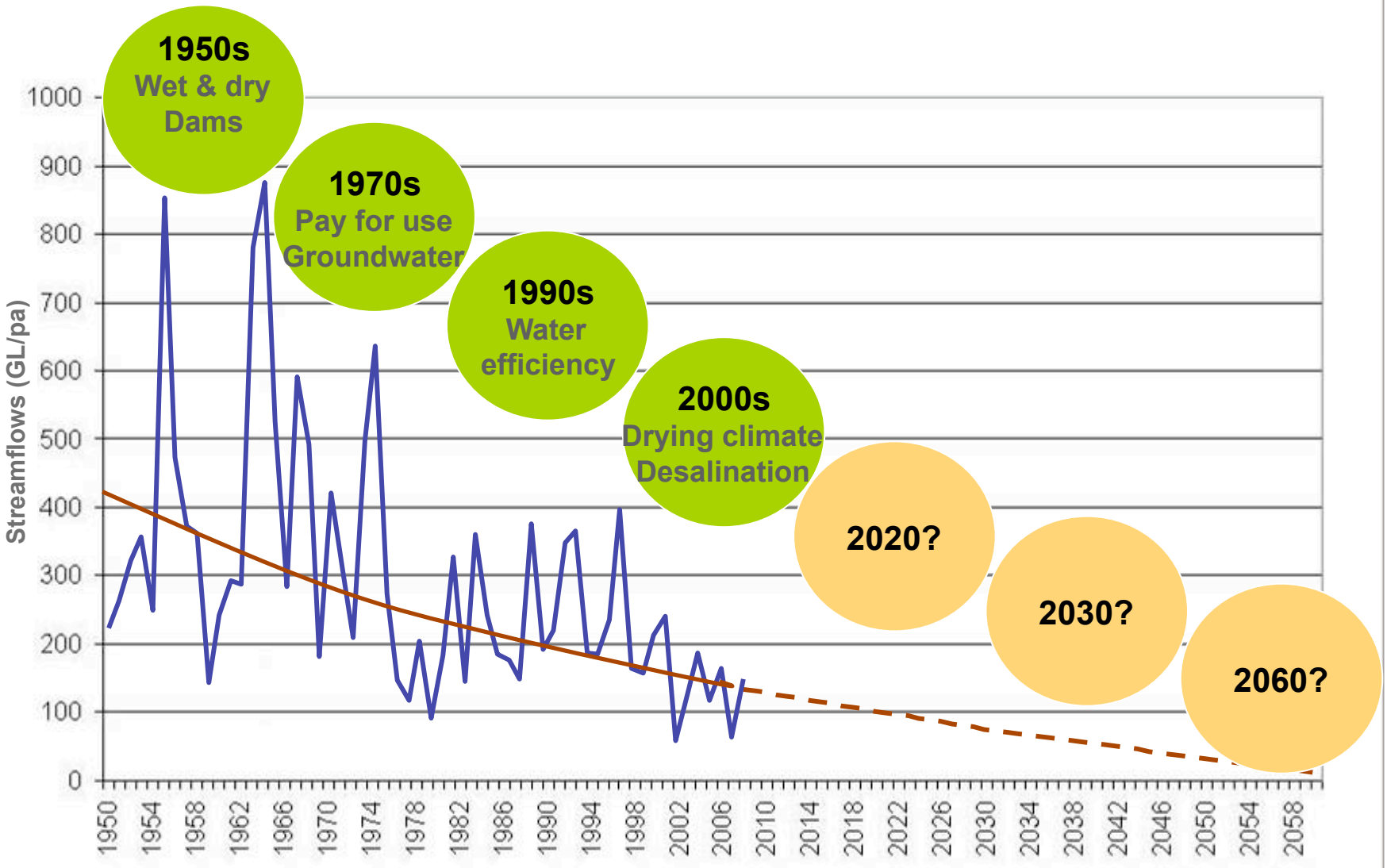
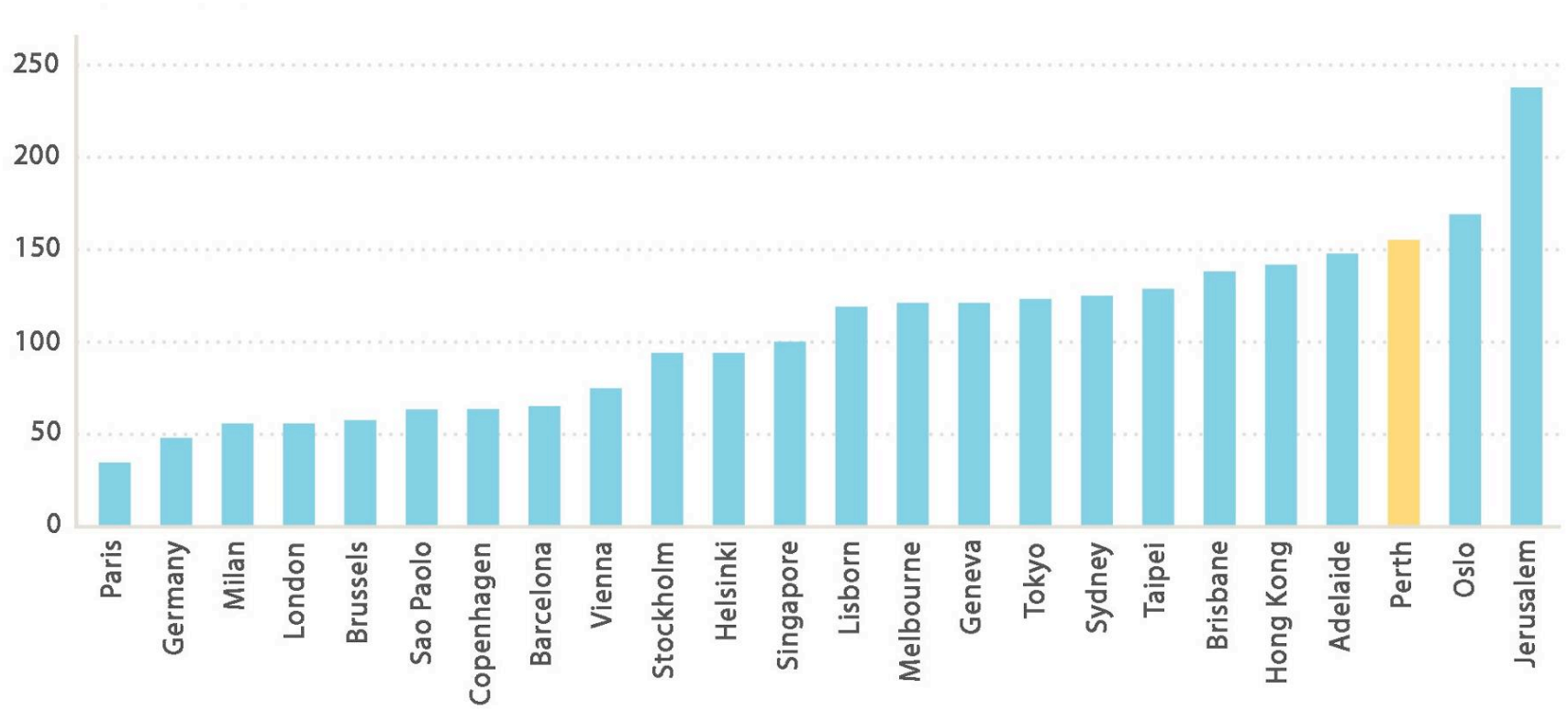
Deluge downgrades emergency, but water levels still critical
- The Age, October 2009
Rain and sprinkler ban boosts dam levels
- WA today.com, August 2009
Study probes safety of recycled Water
- West Australian, 17 August 2009
Saving the Murray - a long way to go
- Adelaide Now.com September 25, 2009
Old dam to boost Melbourne water supplies
- ABC News, June 2009
Govt high and dry after Victorian pipeline vote
- ABC News, August 13, 2009
Work begins on controversial desal plant
The Age, Oct 2009

Context for our long term planning



How Perth's water use compares internationally

(Kilolitres per person per year)



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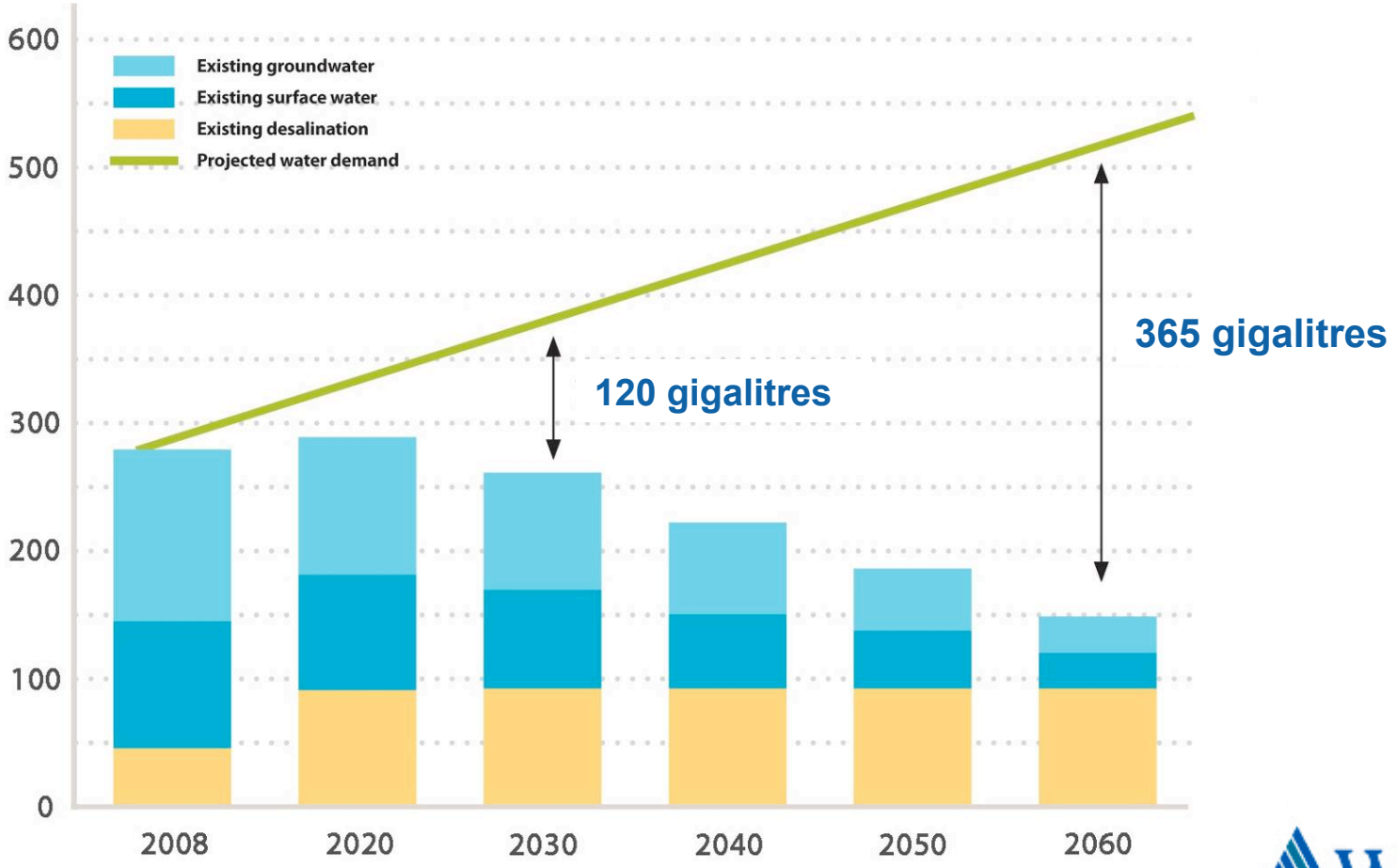
Double water supply in next 50 years?

Gap between water supply and demand to 2060 (Gigalitres per year)



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Our journey

October 2007

Get involved

April 2008

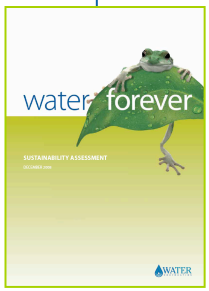
Options

Public Comment Phase 1

August 2008

Reflections

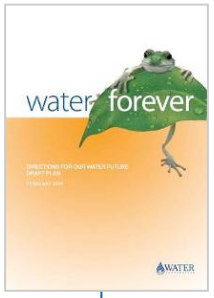
December 2008



Sustainability Assessment

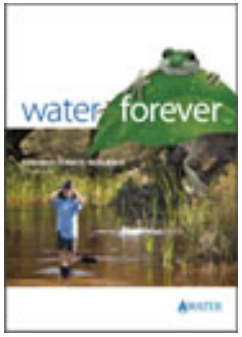
February 2009

Draft plan



Public Comment Phase 2

October 2009



50 year plan

Community Engagement

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Listening to the community

- Customer and staff surveys – 2321
- Comments received – 3,500
- Written submissions – 42
- Online registrations – 2,280
- Website sessions – 170,237
- Attendance at events – 2051
- Mail outs – 2,729,303

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SCIENCE

STAKEHOLDERS

Healthy eco-systems

Water conservation and efficiency

Water recycling

Fit for purpose alternative water supplies

Climate resilience

Community education

Pricing

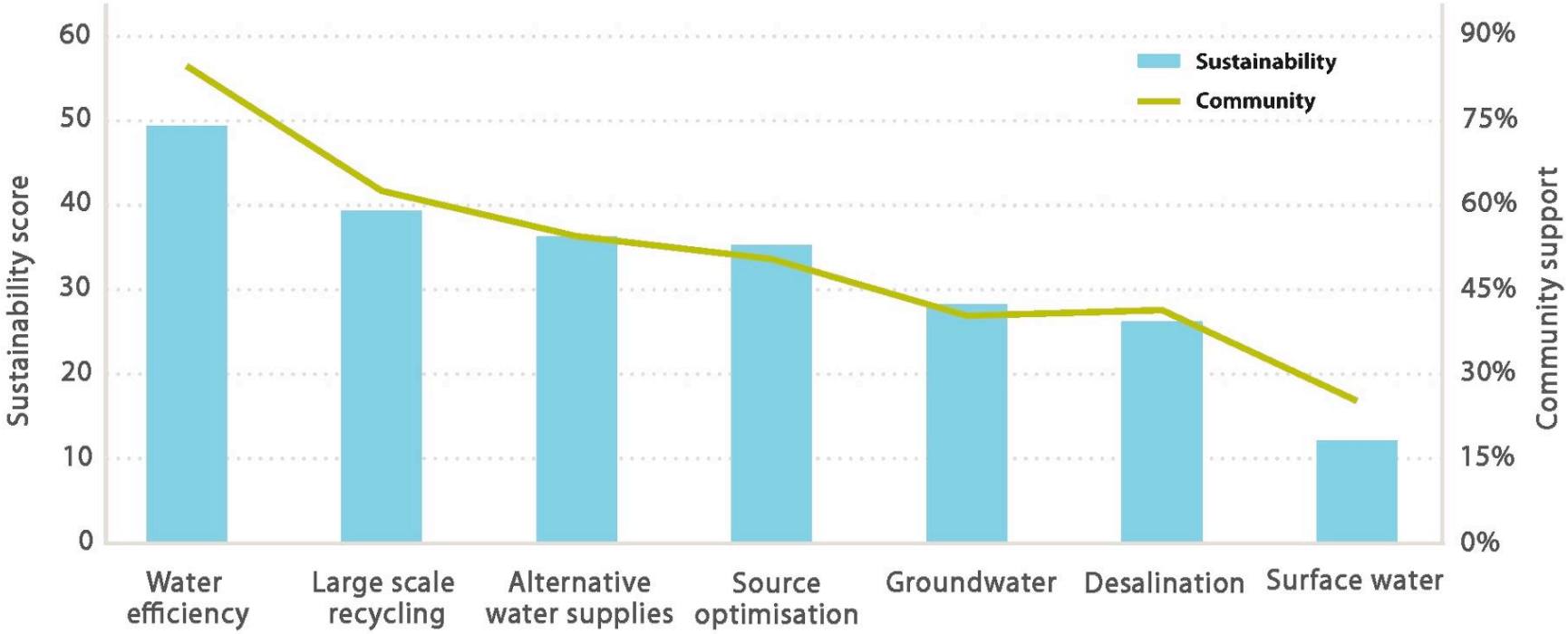
Energy

Integration with land planning

POLICY

COMMUNITY

Sustainability Assessment & Community Support



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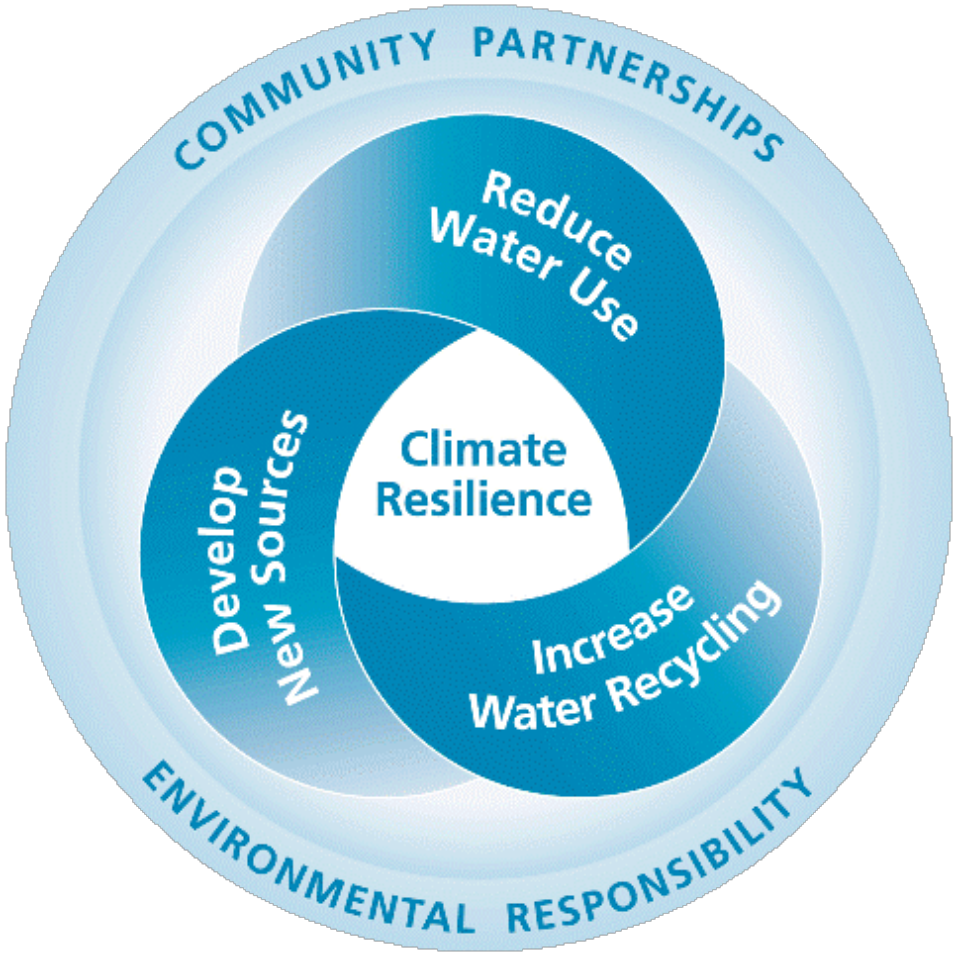
A portfolio approach



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Portfolio of options

Summary of water options that could be implemented by 2030 and 2060 *(table 1)*

(Gigalitres per year)

Portfolio of new water options	Yields 2030	Yields 2060	Portfolio total
Reduce water use	74	102	176
Increase water recycling	39	48	87
Develop new sources	218	335	553
Total options to meet future supply – demand	331	485	816

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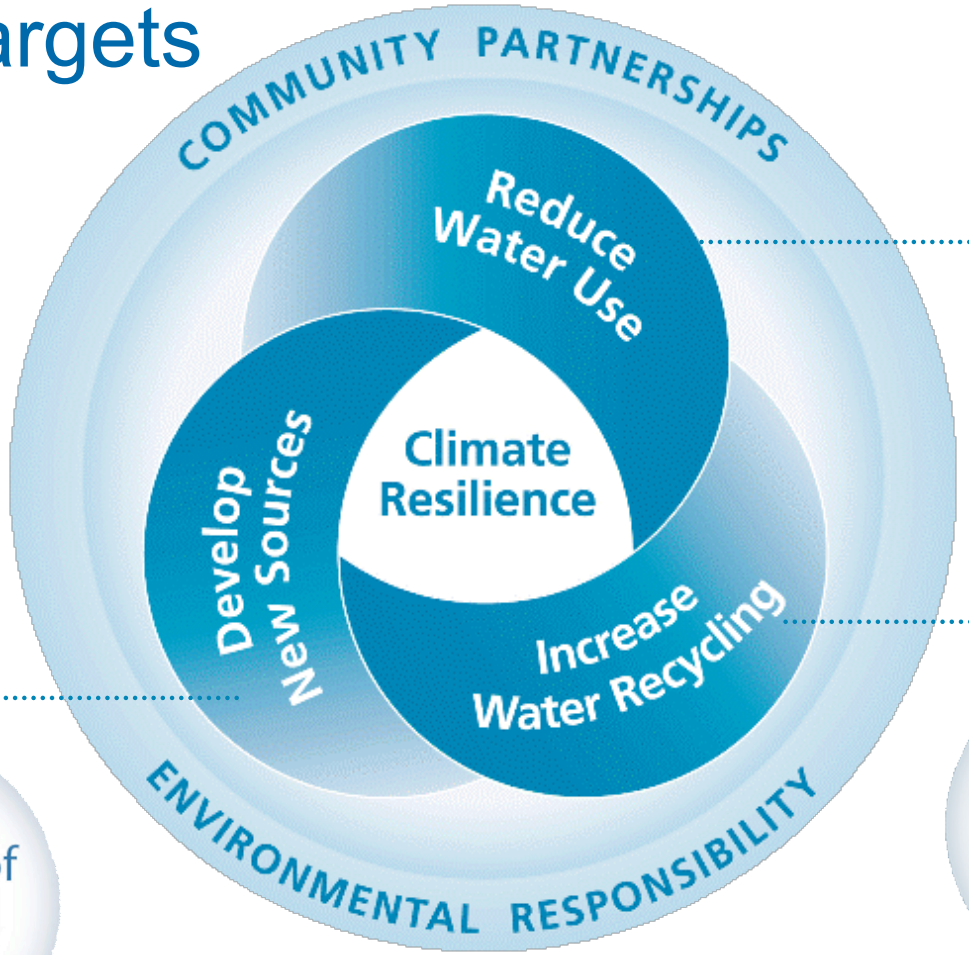
Portfolio of options
2030 Targets



Reduce water use by 15% by 2030

30% metropolitan wastewater recycled by 2030

70 - 100 gigalitres of additional water by 2030

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Support for proposed direction

Feedback from the community revolves around four key themes:

Level of support for the plan **92%**	Community engagement with initiatives	Confidence the plan will be successful **89%**	Areas of Concern
	**Water recycling** considered the most important		**No major issues** Pockets of discomfort: - Price rises - Desalination - Groundwater - Recycled water for drinking

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Persuading others to share your vision works best when you issue an invitation

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