

# The role of Municipal Water and Sewerage Companies towards SDG6

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# Municipal Water and Sewerage Companies

- Have been operating as municipal and non profitable companies since 1980 (law 1069/80)
- Provide water and sewerage services to **5,2 million** citizens in **126** municipalities apart from the cities of Athens and Thessaloniki
- Provide irrigation and teleheating services in some cases
- Potentially, they could provide natural gas, waste disposal and renewable energy services



# Water Supply and Sewerage projects (1/2)

Municipal Water and Sewerage Companies (D.E.Y.A.):

- have thousands of water storage facilities (tanks), own & control over **5,500** groundwater sources and operate **70** desalination plants
- manage total water production of **550 million m<sup>3</sup>/ year**
- manage & maintain about **3 million** water meters
- manage & maintain more than **70,000 km** of water supply networks
- operate over **170** Wastewater Treatment Plants
- manage & maintain approximately **30,000 km** of sewerage networks



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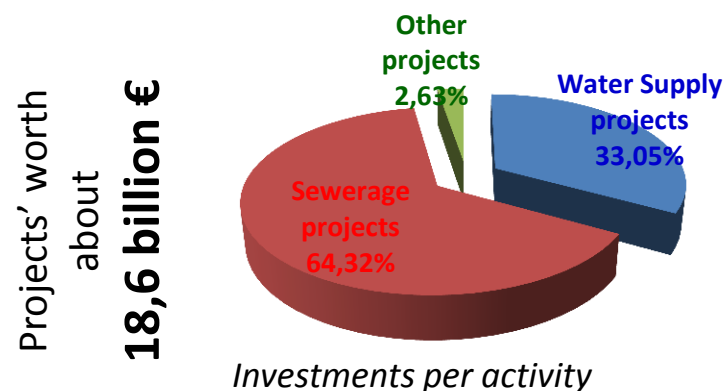
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# Water Supply and Sewerage projects (2/2)

- Funding water supply and sewerage projects is achieved by:

- National funding tools
- European funding tools
- Bank lending
- Own resources



- **99%** of Greeks citizens drink clean and safe water, while **80%** enjoy sewerage and wastewater treatment services
- Municipal Water and Sewerage Companies operate about **50** fully equipped laboratories for monitoring and controlling the drinking water quality



# Interacting with the Society

- The average water tariff provided by Municipal Water and Sewerage Companies is about **1,57 €/m<sup>3</sup>**
- In order to ensure access to clean, safe and affordable water and sanitation for all citizens, **social tariffs** for vulnerable population groups have been adopted
- Furthermore, a strong relationship with the society is built through **awareness campaigns** for the sustainable use of water and through environmental education



# Risks and Challenges

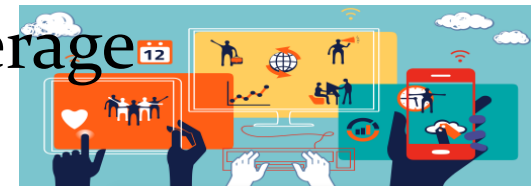
- Municipal Water and Sewerage Companies are currently facing risks and challenges such as:
  - extreme weather phenomena due to climate change such as floods and water scarcity
  - non –revenue water
  - unsustainable use of water
- Measures taken by Municipal Water and Sewerage Companies are:
  - speeding-up network projects
  - collecting and storing storm water
  - enhancing water potential through desalination and water reuse
  - monitoring water and sewerage networks using telemetry (SCADA)





# Towards a Sustainable Water Management

- Decrease the relatively high rate of water losses
- Construct and operate Wastewater Treatment Plants according to the European and National Law
- Increase the water reuse
- Reduce the carbon print and turn to “green” energy
- Implement Water Safety Plans and Master Plans
- Modernize Municipal Water and Sewerage Companies



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# Hellenic Association of Municipal Water and Sewerage Companies (E.D.E.Y.A.)

Our vision is the development and operation of an "Integrated Water Infrastructure Management Tool" that will:

- map all water infrastructures using GIS,
- collect at almost real time level all water infrastructures' operational characteristics,
- gather Municipal Water and Sewerage Companies' financial data, as well as data on their human resources



This vision started its implementation in **2017** by the development and operation of an Information System for the drinking water quality and benchmarking of Municipal Water and Sewerage Companies.



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# Benchmarking

- The Benchmarking Subsystem gathers Municipal Water and Sewerage Companies' financial and technical data
- An **evaluation report** on the performance of each company is produced by calculating specific indicators
- Based on the report, which highlights the company's "**strengths**" and "**weaknesses**", an appropriate plan of actions is developed for each company
- Finally, the plan is implemented and its results are evaluated.
- Our goal is to **improve** companies' **performance** for the social benefit and achieve integrated water infrastructure management leading to sustainable water management



# Drinking water quality

- The Subsystem for drinking water quality, which has been supported by the Ministry of Health, collects all **drinking water analyses** carried out by greek water companies
- Through the system, the Ministry of Health and the European Commission are informed about the water quality in Greece
- Greek citizens and tourists, using the mobile app or visiting the website, can **easily, immediately** and **comprehensibly** be informed about water quality in each area they live or visit
- The system is going to be a tool of **transparency** and **active participation** of the society in the sustainable water management



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# SDG6 – Public/Municipal Water Management

- SDG6 and its sub-targets should be integrated into the water companies' strategies and work plans

## Our view

- SDG6 and its sub-targets can only be achieved through public or municipal water management
- Any different option does not ensure the sustainable water management. European and international experience assures that.



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# Thank you!

*World Water Day*

*Leaving no one  
behind*



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