# WORLD WATER FORUM 2015



Living with Water in Cities – Interregional Session Europe, Arab region and Asia-Pacific 14 april 2015 – Hyundai Hotel, Gyeongju Outcomes of European Regional Process – Miriam Feilberg







### **Europe:**

More than 75% of EU citizens live in urban areas

### **Diversity:**

Leakages in water infrastructure cause water losses ranging between 5% and 50% accross the EU – Waste water treatment from 9 – 95%

# **Comprehensive Policy Framework in place – WFD complimented by:**

- Groundwater
- Floods Directive
- Urban waste water treatment Directive
- Drinking water Directive
- Bathing water Directive

# **But still challenges:**

Climate change, urban efficiency, aging infrastructure, urban water quality, technological development and innovation, stakeholder integration, knowledge sharing + policies and their implementation (efficiency)

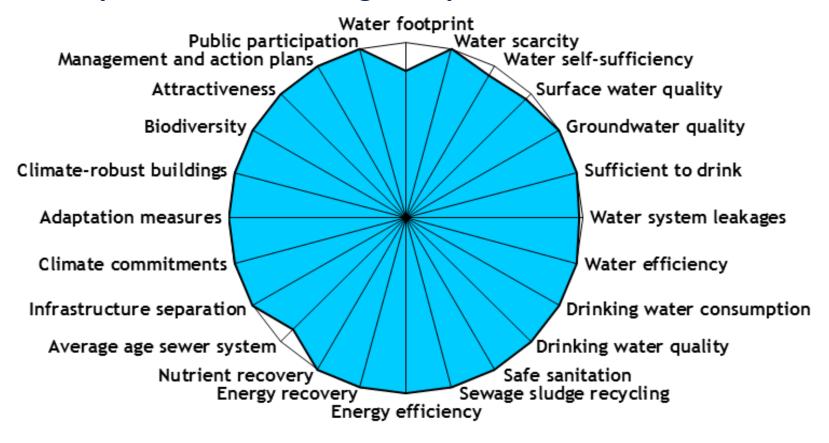


### Key messages

- There were presentations of good cases on innovative, integrated solutions to urban future challenges Paris, Istanbul, Rotterdam, Aarhus and CEE involving interdisciplinary approaches and methodologies
- It seems as if there is **not a profound scaling problem** in terms of where the different innovative urban solutions can be applied.
- Within the municipalities and in the public authorities in general there is an understanding of the **necessity of public acceptance and awareness** when introducing innovative solutions, but there are few good examples of involving the civil society and there is a need for developping methodologies for this element
- The thinking of circular economy is well understood and is underlying many of the current efforts. Water is never waste.
- In general there is a good regulatory and policy framework for introducing innovative solutions, but there are still some barriers in terms of strimulating water efficiency and linking urban and basin water governance



# Cooperation and sharing of experiences matters





CITY BLUEPRINTS