

# Water Resources Engineering and Management

(CIVIL-466, A.Y. 2024-2025)

5 ETCS, Master course

**Prof. P. Perona**

Platform of Hydraulic Constructions



Lecture 1-1: Introduction, rationales for Water Resources Engineering and Management and definitions



# General infos

Discipline: Civil and Environmental Engineering

Charge: 150 h

Language: English

Weeks: 14

Session: Summer

Hours week: 5

Semester: Spring

Course: 3 h

Exercises/project: 2 h

Exam type: Written

Classroom: INM 10

This course will be delivered in collaboration with the Swiss engineering company Gruner Ltd, which is one of the leading professionals dealing with water problems within both the national and the international panorama.

**gruner** >



# Course “credo”

## Student:

“I want to study Water Resources Management because I believe that the solutions to water problems are in management, not technology”

## Instructor:

“You are right, but you must work through a technical route (i.e., water engineering) to become a player”

(Source: Grigg – Water Resources Management 1996)





# Instructors

Academic and CO: Prof. **Paolo Perona**  
Teaching Assistants: Dr. Giulio Calvani  
Junjia Kang



External (Gruner Ltd): Dr. **Martin Bieri**



External (Gruner Ltd): Dr. **Marcelo Leite Ribeiro**





# Course content

EPFL: Perona

GRUNER: Leite Ribeiro

EPFL: Perona

GRUNER: Bieri



Academic Calendar 2024-25 Water Resources engineering and Management (CIVIL-466) in INM 10 classroom							
			Date	Time	Lecture topic	Delivery date	Who
1	WATER RESOURCES ENGINEERING	Introduction, history and main definitions	17.02.25	13:15 - 14:00	WREM-L1.1 - Introduction, history and program		PP
				14:15 - 15:00	WREM-L1.2 - Context of WREM		
				15:15 - 16:00	WREM-L1.3 - Definitions and International river basins		
				16:15 - 17:00	NO Exercise		GC, JK
				17:15 - 18:00			
2		Hydrological cycle, water bodies and uses	24.02.24	13:15 - 14:00	WREM-L2.1 - Water Resources - hydrol cycle and availability		PP
				14:15 - 15:00	WREM-L2.2 - Water Resources: catchment hydrology and surface water bodies		
				15:15 - 16:00	WREM-L2.3 - Water Resources: catchment hydrology and subsurface water bodies		
				16:15 - 17:00	Exercise L2		GC, JK
				17:15 - 18:00			
3		Pipeline hydraulics and hydraulic machines	03.03.25	13:15 - 14:00	WREM-L3.1 - Review of hydraulics of pressure systems (NEW)		PP
				14:15 - 15:00	WREM-L3.2 - Review of hydraulic pipe and network design and operation		
				15:15 - 16:00	WREM-L3.3 - Pumping systems: design and operation		
				16:15 - 17:00	Exercises L3		GC, JK
				17:15 - 18:00			
4		Water user, design and operations for traditional and non-traditional uses	10.03.25	13:15 - 14:00	WREM-L4.1 - Water Uses: definitions, consumptive vs non cons., tradition. Vs non trad.; reservoir design		PP
				14:15 - 15:00	WREM-L4.2 - Water uses: domestic water supply, population growth, distribution networks		
				15:15 - 16:00	WREM-L4.3 - Water uses: industrial water supply, aqueduct operations and emergency supply		
				16:15 - 17:00	Exercises L4		GC, JK
				17:15 - 18:00			
5			17.03.25	13:15 - 14:00	WREM-L5.1 - Water uses: Energy production, hydropower schemes design and operation		PP
				14:15 - 15:00	WREM-L5.2 - Water uses: navigation, flood control,		
				15:15 - 16:00	WREM-L5.3 - Water uses: non-traditional uses, environmental flows, static and dynamic		
				16:15 - 17:00	Exercises L5		GC, JK
				17:15 - 18:00			
6		Data analysis and modelling	24.03.25	13:15 - 14:00	WREM-L6.1 - Data analysis: 1		PP
				14:15 - 15:00	WREM-L6.1 - Data analysis:2		
				15:15 - 16:00	WREM-L6.3 -Data analysis: 3 - Hurst effect		
				16:15 - 17:00	Exercises L6		GC, JK
				17:15 - 18:00			
7			31.03.25	13:15 - 14:00	WREM-L7.1 - Data modelling, lin stoch models		PP
				14:15 - 15:00	WREM-L7.2 - Data modelling, ARMA and discharge modelling		
				15:15 - 16:00	WREM-L7.3 - Data analysis and modelling: precip and droughts		
				16:15 - 17:00	Exercises L7		GC, JK
				17:15 - 18:00			
8			07.04.25	13:15 - 14:00	WREM-L8.1 - Environmental Impact Assessment and sustainability		PP
				14:15 - 15:00	WREM-L8.2 - Conflicts and cooperation: game theory		
				15:15 - 16:00	WREM-L8.3 - Optimisation: linprogramming		
				16:15 - 17:00	Exercises L8		GC, JK
				17:15 - 18:00			
9	WATER MANAGEMENT	EIA, conflict & cooperation, optimisation	14.04.25	13:15 - 14:00	WREM-L9.1 - Water Management: Allocation, balancing demand and supply		MLR
				14:15 - 15:00	WREM-L9.2 - Water Management: conflict of interest & International river basins		
				15:15 - 16:00	WREM-L9.1 - Water Management: ESG & Sustainable Development		
				16:15 - 17:00	Practical Work: Case study hydropower - basic input data analysis and generation		GC, JK
				17:15 - 18:00			
10		Optimisation, Engineering economics and Optimal Water Allocation Model	28.04.25	13:15 - 14:00	WREM-L10.1 - Optimisation: dynamic and quadratic programming		PP
				14:15 - 15:00	WREM-L10.2 - Engineering economics, indicators		
				15:15 - 16:00	WREM-L10.3 - Engineering economics, marginal analysis		
				16:15 - 17:00	Practical Work: Case study hydropower - basic input data analysis and generation		GC, JK
				17:15 - 18:00			
11			05.05.25	13:15 - 14:00	WREM-L11.1 - Basin water allocation model AQUARIUS 1		PP
				14:15 - 15:00	WREM-L11.2 - Basin water allocation model AQUARIUS 2		
				15:15 - 16:00	WREM-L11.3 - Basin water allocation model AQUARIUS 3		
				16:15 - 17:00	Practical Work: Case Study Hydropower - AQUARIUS optimisation model		GC, JK (assistants)
				17:15 - 18:00			
12		Financial analysis and optimisation in practice	12.05.25	13:15 - 14:00	WREM-L12.1 - Water Management: Environmental, Social and Governance		MB
				14:15 - 15:00	WREM-L12.2 - Water Management: economics and financing, definitions, discounted cash-flow		
				15:15 - 16:00	WREM-L12.3 - Water Management: Sponsor's vs lender's perspective		
				16:15 - 17:00	Practical Work: Case Study Hydropower - Alternative Study and Cost Estimate		GC, JK (assistants)
				17:15 - 18:00			
13			19.05.25	13:15 - 14:00	WREM-L13.1 - Water Management: Risk Management, performance criteria		MB, MLR
				14:15 - 15:00	WREM-L13.2 - Water Management: Optimization techniques in practice		
				15:15 - 16:00	WREM-L13.3 - Decision making		
				16:15 - 17:00	Practical Work: Case Study Hydropower - Cash Flow, Economic and Financial Analysis		GC, JK (assistants)
				17:15 - 18:00			
14		Wrap up and exemplary exam questions	26.05.25	13:15 - 14:00	WREM-L14.1 - WREM wrap up and conclusions, exam questions		PP
				14:15 - 15:00	WREM-L14.2 - Guest lecture		
				15:15 - 16:00	WREM-L14.3 - Guest lecture		
				16:15 - 17:00			
				17:15 - 18:00			





# Course learning map

## Water Resources Engineering

## Water Resources Management

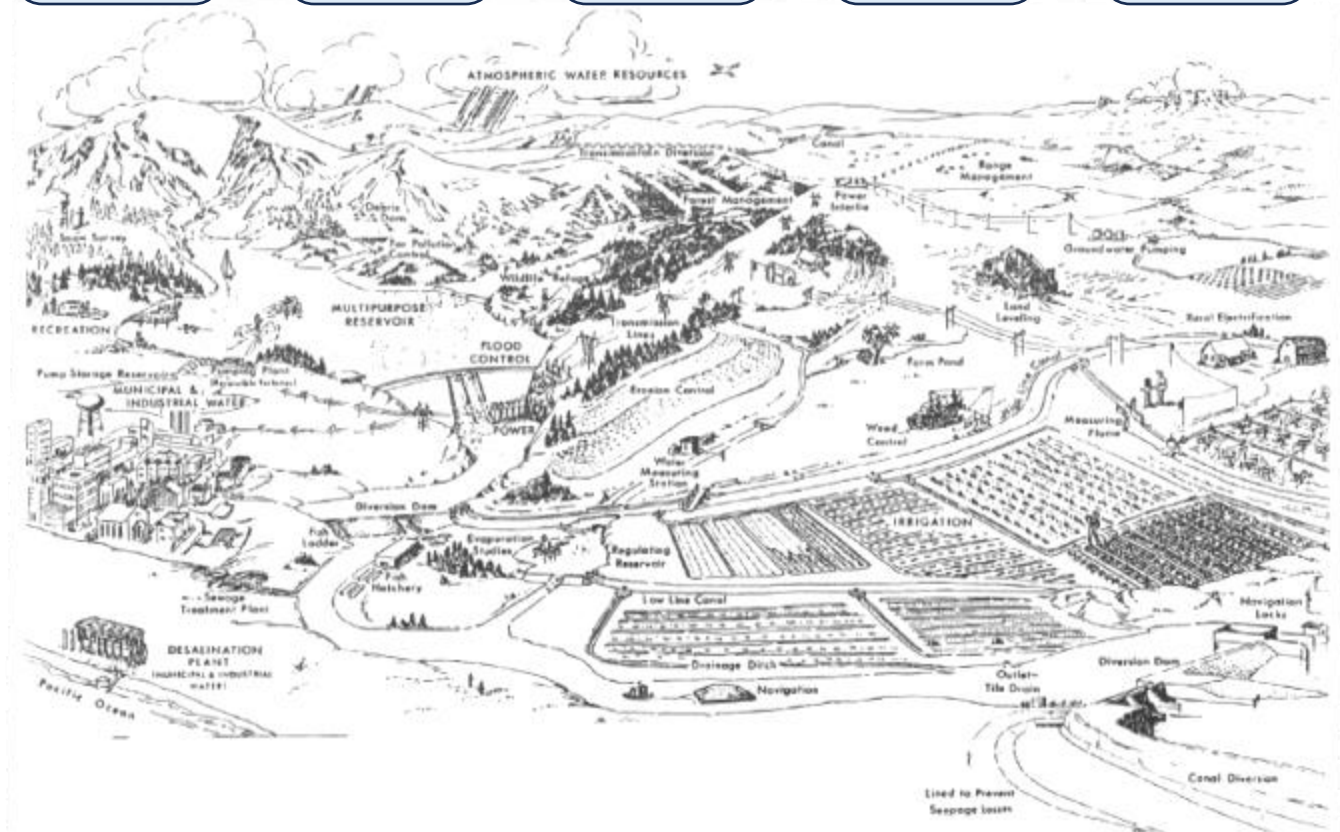
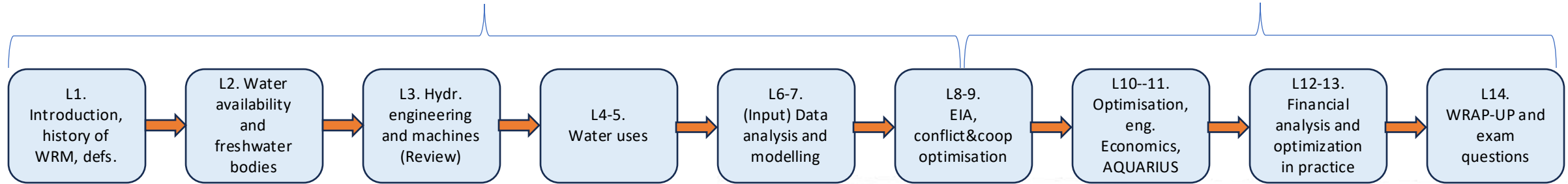
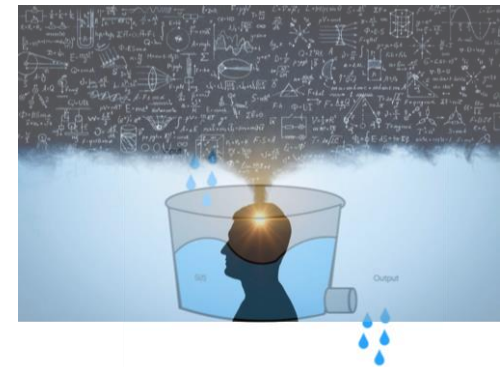


Figure 19.1 Comprehensive watershed diagram (Source: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.)



# Teaching philosophy

- To provide differential viewpoints and perspectives to the **importance** and related **consequences** of **designing, planning and managing** water resource infrastructures and uses at the local, regional and transboundary scales.
- To illustrate the **mathematical tools** and to learn about their **quantitative use** in order to improve professional skills of engineering students.
- To drive the formation of today' engineering students toward **sustainability criteria** that embrace **technical, economic** and (important!) **ecological and social** aspects.





# Learning objectives and transversal skills

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Assess and model water resources availability at different scales;
- Calculate different water needs and design of related infrastructures;
- Formulate an integrated and sustainable water management concept;
- Perform a basic economic analysis and assess the economic value of water projects
- Distinguish between project development with or without profitability goal
- Evaluate key economic indicators (NPV, IRR, etc.)
- Optimise the use of water resources
- Evaluate the water issue in the current economic context

## TRANSVERSAL SKILLS

- To gain awareness of the environmental impacts in relation to the effect of actions and decisions on environmental components;
- To become aware of and comply with relevant legal guidelines and the ethical code of the engineering profession.
- To plan and carrying out intervention actions to optimize available time and resources.



# Teaching method and student activities

Ex cathedra, with **audiovisual means** and board  
**complementary explanations/derivations**



## Course organisation

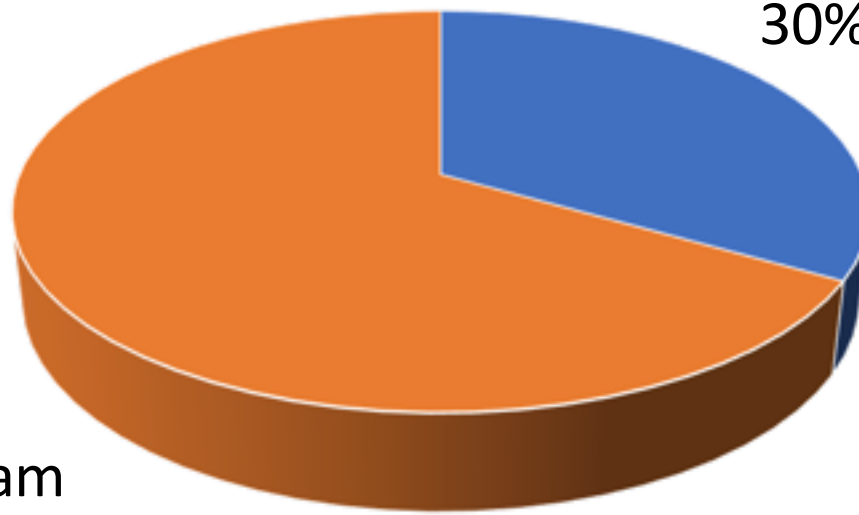
Lectures (3 hrs/week)

Exercises (2 hrs/week, 7 weeks)

Project work (2 hrs/week, 5 weeks, group of 3)  
**Compulsory for the exam**  
**(grade counts!)**



# Assessment methods



30% Course project

70% Written exam

$$G_{\text{final}} = 1 + 5 * (0.3 * G_{\text{proj}} / 100 + 0.7 * G_{\text{exam}} / 100)$$

Both grades for project and exam are expressed in percentage

- Exercises are not compulsory in order to access the final exam, but they are propedeutical for passing it;
- The project assignment (individual) is compulsory to access the exam, and it contributes to the final grade per 30%. The hand-in date is May 30;
- The exam is only written:
  - In general, 2 questions will concern with theoretical aspects, and 2 questions are exercises of the type developed during the exercise sessions
  - The exam lasts 2 hours, it is closed book and the official language (lecture+exam) is english.



Lecture slides from the course will be provided by the instructor, and will be downloadable from the course's web page.

## Books and Manuals (non compulsory)

- Dinar et al. (2007) *Bridges over Water: understanding transboundary water conflicts, negotiation and cooperation*. World Scientific Singapore
- Grigg, N.S. (1996) *Water Resources Management: Principles, Regulations and Cases*. McGraw-Hill, USA
- Loucks and van Beek (2017) *Water resource systems planning and mangement*. (open access online)
- Diaz, G., Brown, T. C., Sveinsson, O. (2000) *AQUARIUS: a modeling system for river basin water allocation*. General Technical Report USDA
- Mays L.W., *Water Resources Engineering*, Wiley, New York, 2005

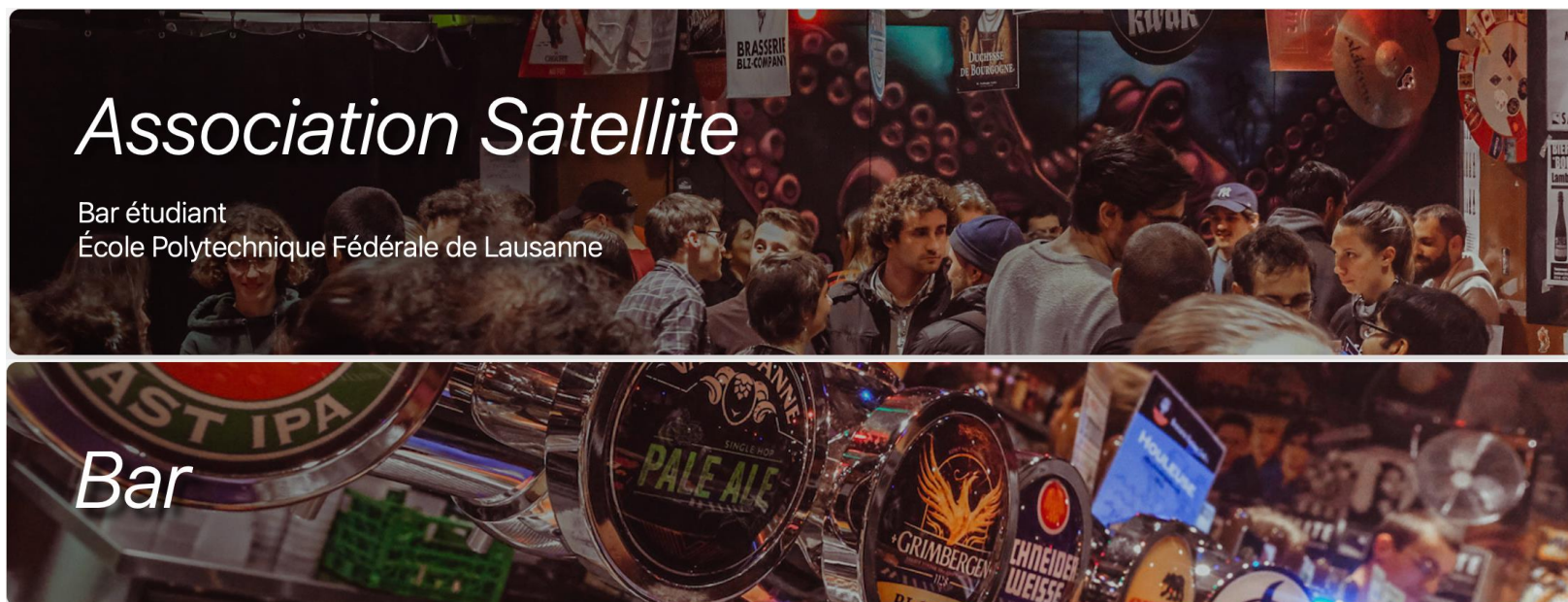
## •Articles

- See Lectures



**Enjoy the course, the semester and...remember...**

**EPFL has great locations where to relax!**





# **Water Resources Engineering and Management**

## **CIVIL-466**



# A few historical notes (water conveyance and use)

- First documented concerns about water quality appear dated about 2000 B.C. – purify water by boiling and filtering it.
- Ancient Romans awareness of the benefits of water quality management – aqueduct systems to provide the Roman Empire with fresh water.
- Seventeenth century – concerns over pollutant emissions to air (poorly controlled combustion of low grade fuels, such as sulfur-containing coal, for light industry, domestic heating, and cooking.

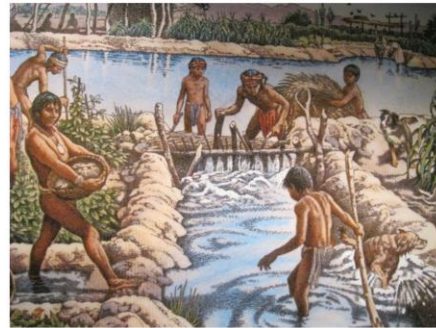


Other uses (irrigation): The artificial supply of water to crops to supplement natural rainfall; the aim is to create favorable conditions for production, in terms of both quantity and quality.

6000 B.C. Ubaid and Sumerians  
(Ancient Mesopotamia)



1600 – 1400 B.C. The  
native americans Hohokam



1750 B.C Hammurabi  
Babylonian king



250 B.C. Chinese  
engineer Zheng-Guo  
(Yellow River)



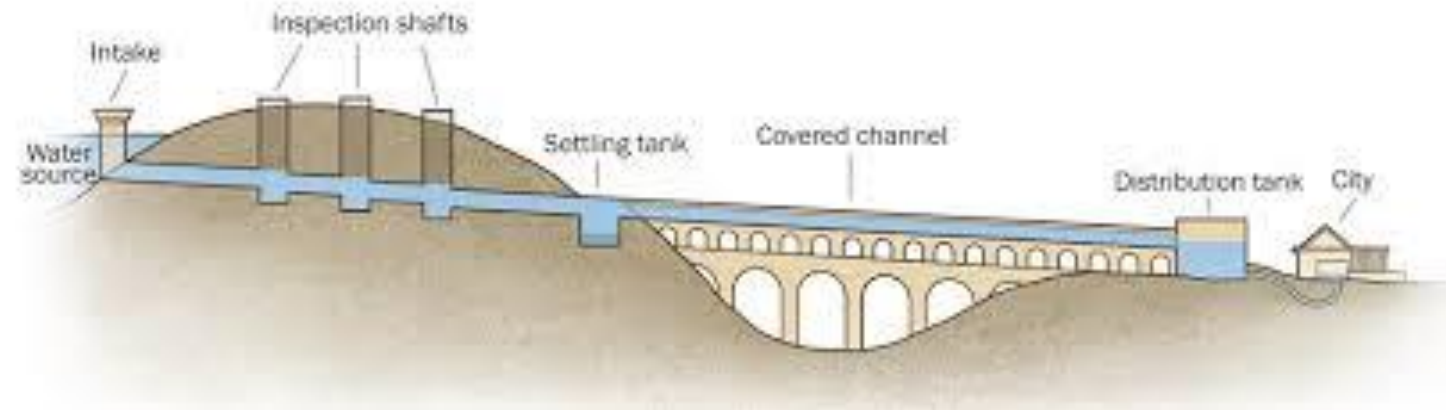
1250 – Les Bisses  
(Wallis)





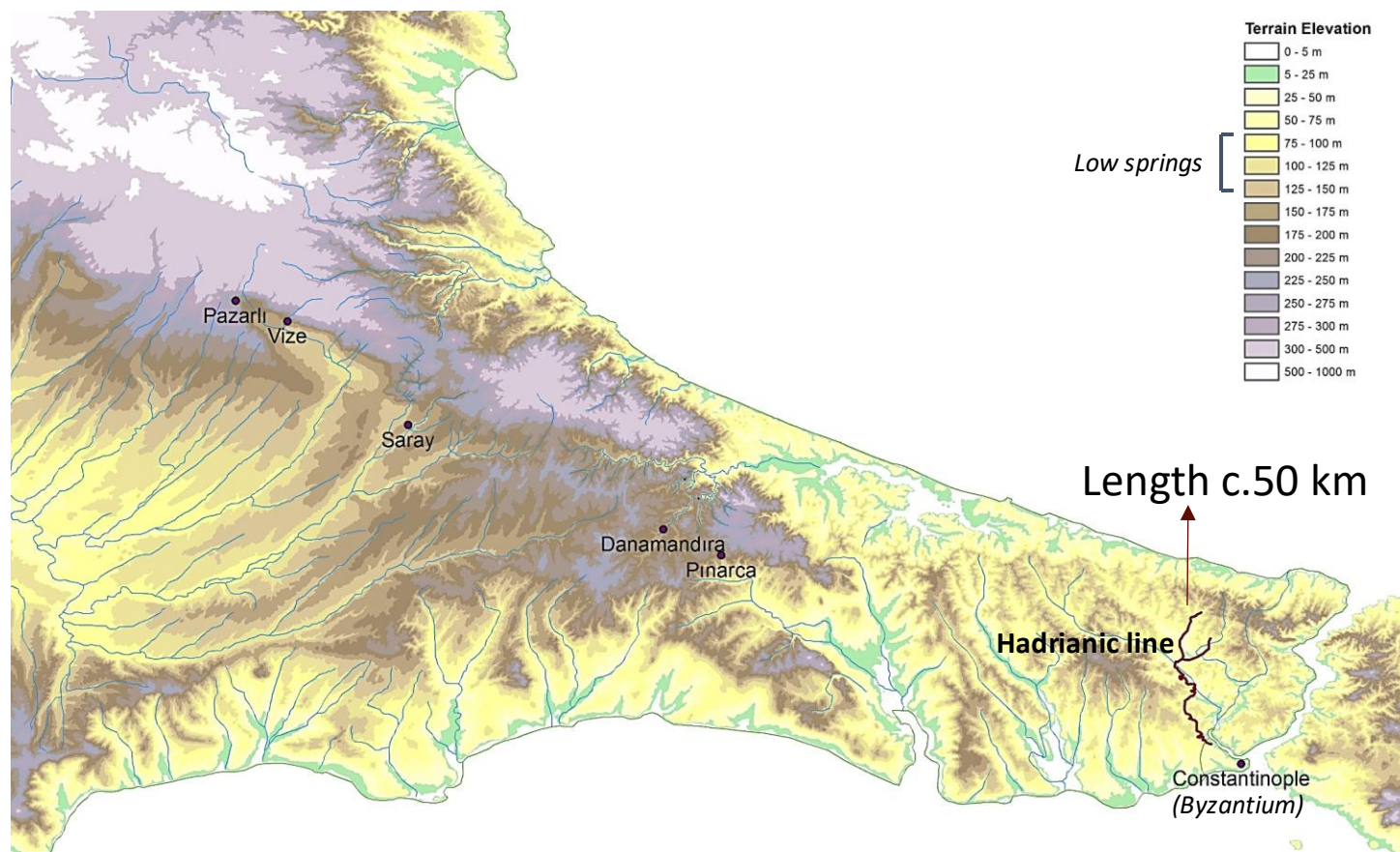
# Ancient water conveyance structures

Water management implies knowing the hydraulics of conveyance structures and of pipeline, of networks and hydraulic machines





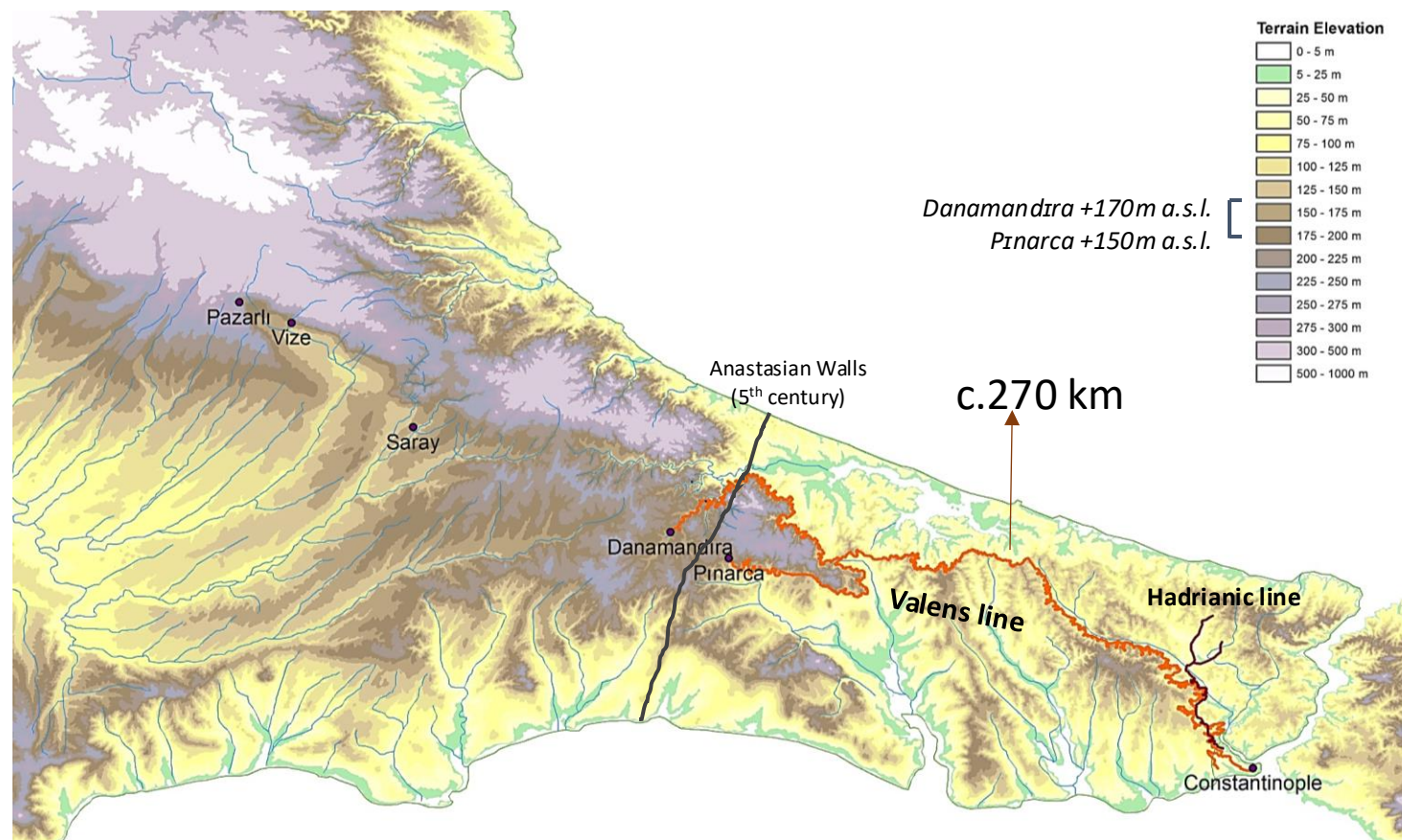
# Hadrianic line (Emperor Hadrian 117-138 AD)



Map of Turkish Thrace



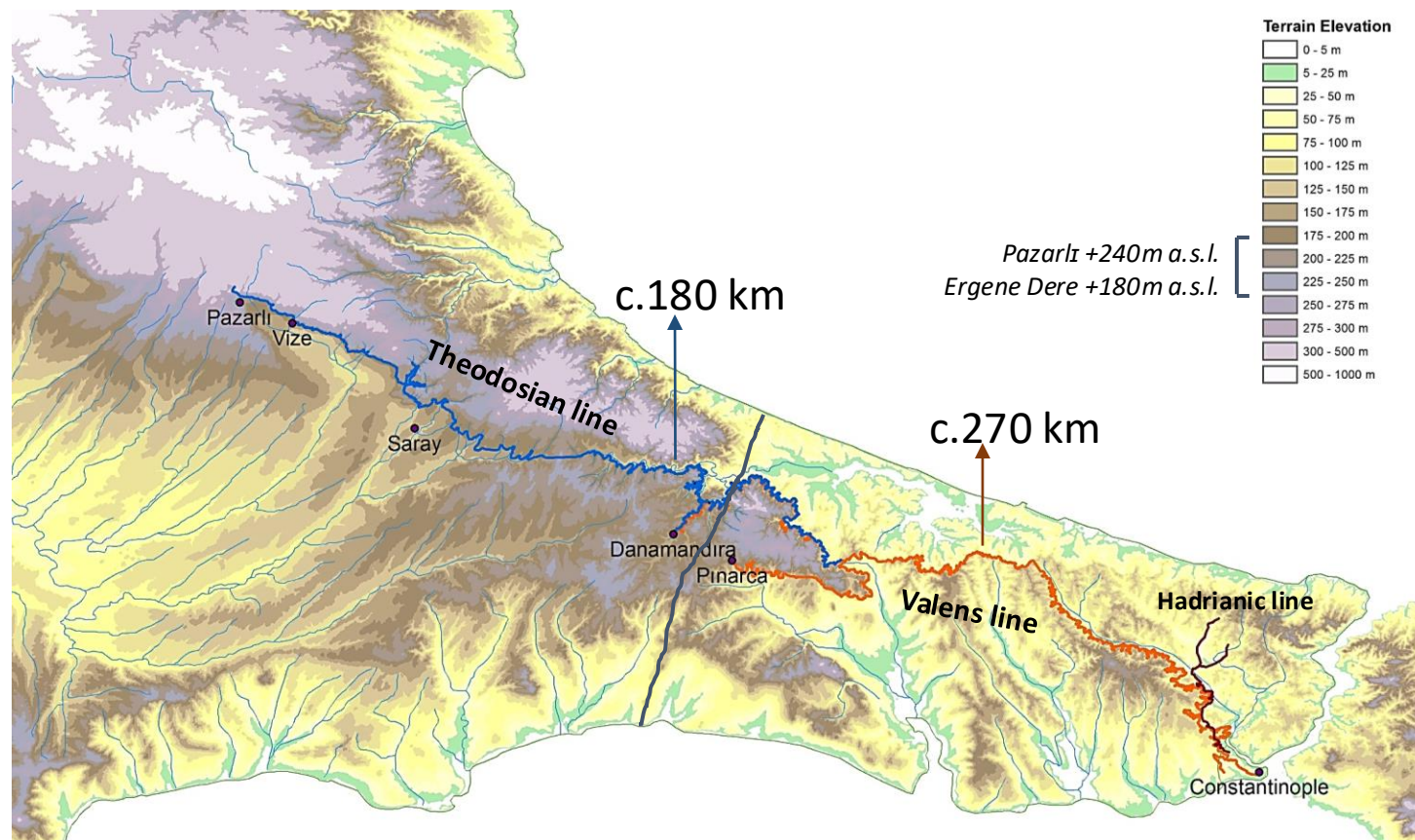
# Valens line (357-368/373 AD)



Map of Turkish Thrace



# Theodosian line (> 400 AD)



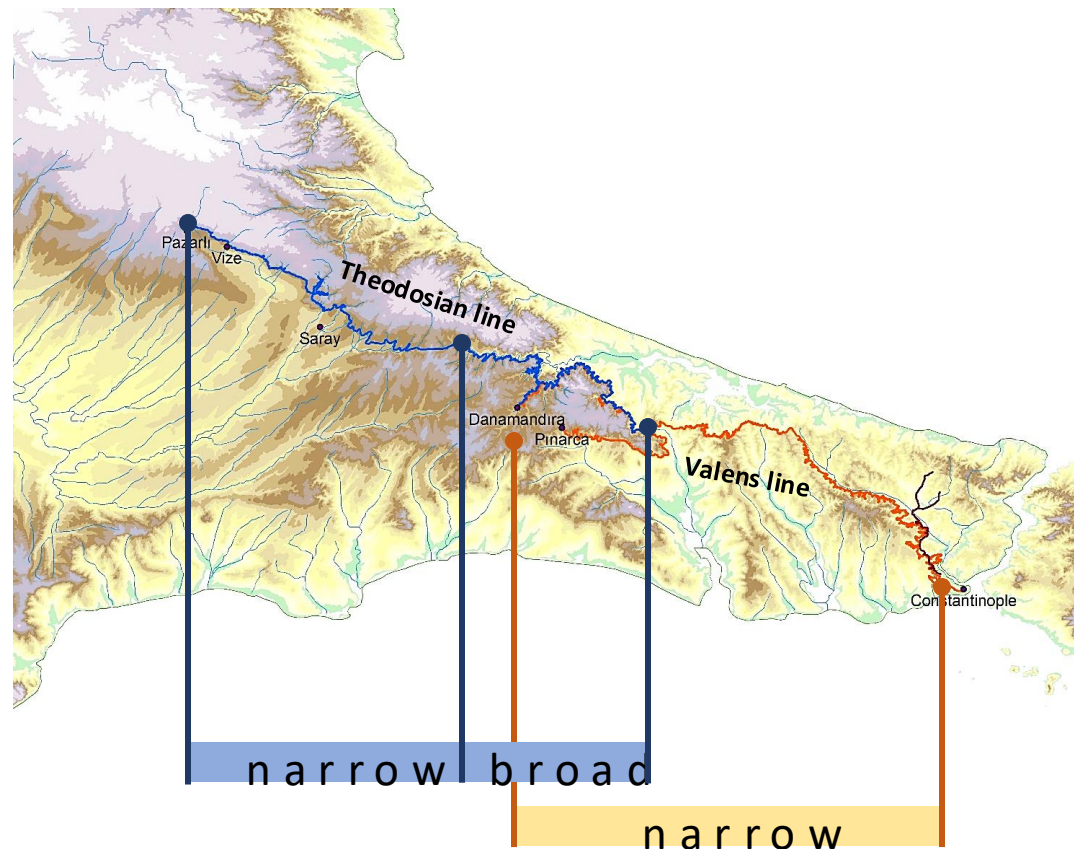
Map of Turkish Thrace



# Channels



**Broad channel**  
 $1.6\text{m} \times 2.0\text{m}$



**Narrow channel**  
 $0.65\text{m} \times 1.60\text{m}$



# A few historical notes (sewer systems)

- First documented concerns about water quality appear dated about 2000 B.C. – purify water by boiling and filtering it.
- Ancient Romans awareness of the benefits of water quality management – aqueduct systems to provide the Roman Empire with fresh water.
- Seventeenth century – concerns over pollutant emissions to air (poorly controlled combustion of low grade fuels, such as sulfur-containing coal, for light industry, domestic heating, and cooking.



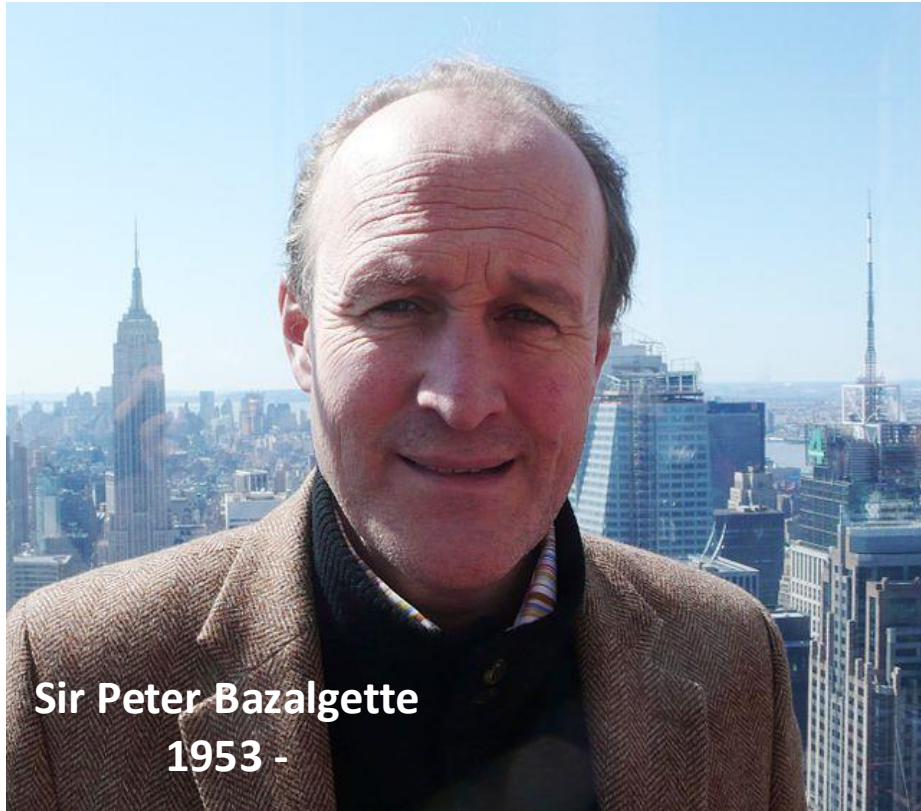
Today: better understanding of climate change effects shifts again the attention to the future water availability, scarcity and security



London  
Cholera  
epidemic  
1851-1854



# An interesting curiosity about sewer systems



**Sir Peter Bazalgette**  
1953 -

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter\\_Bazalgette](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Bazalgette)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QHbGjA\\_RXaY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QHbGjA_RXaY)



**Sir Joseph Bazalgette**  
1819-1891

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph\\_Bazalgette](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Bazalgette)



# Not much has changed today in ODA countries



Photo credit: Martin Crapper, Malawi



Photo credit: Paolo Perona, Lake Turkana, Kenya



# What is Water Resources Management?

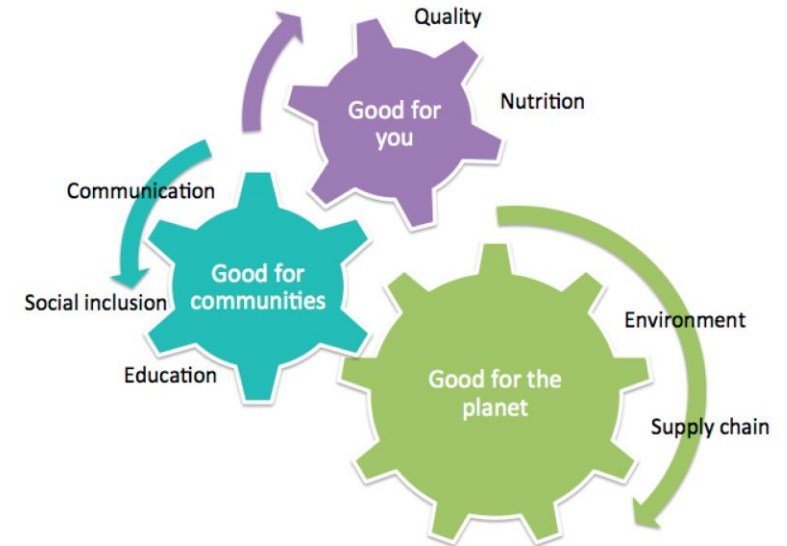
## 1950-1970' Policy

WRM is a primary engineering task to build dams, lay pipelines, install pumps, and operate systems



## Today's Policy

WRM must pursue **sustainable development with measures** that manage water for human system, but at the same time protect and nurture natural systems for the benefit of future generations (Sustainable Water Management)





# Water Resources Engineering and Management's expertise



Education is clearly one of the leading drivers and players are involved in WREM problems at different levels of engagement



A time of construction 1920 -

Engineers/  
design,  
operation



environmental engineering students interacting with several disciplines!!

*(Adapted from Hirji et Davis, 2009; Liggett, 2002)*



# Water Resources Management policy

Today WRM' policies imply dealing with complex problems



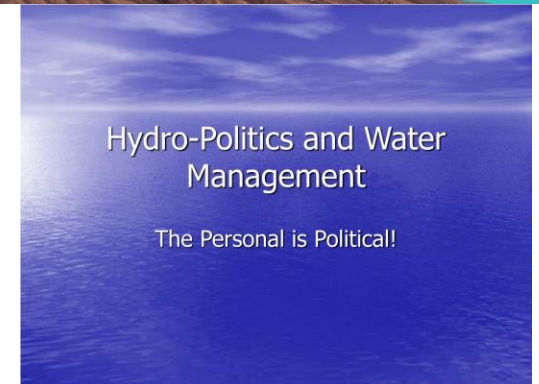
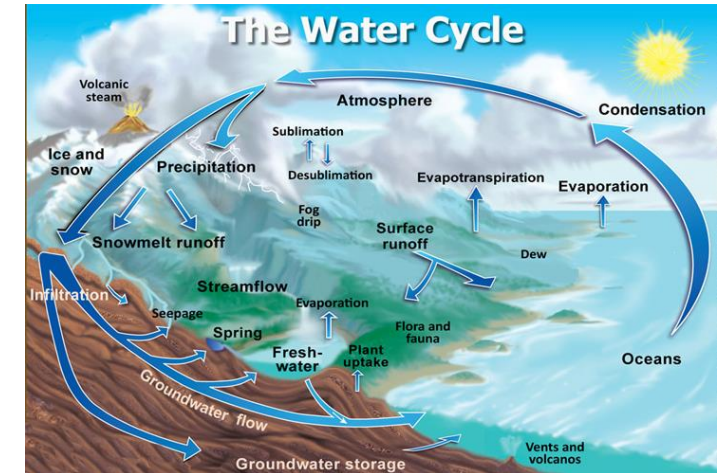
This may imply dealing with deep conflicts



WR manager requires skills well beyond technical training (e.g., pure engineering, science, management, or law)



WR manager must be able to communicate, cooperate in teams, speak other languages, work with other cultures, understand environmental problems and **resolve conflicts via cooperation**



...but what are the problems, exactly and what is their origin?

