

RESEARCH PROGRAM ON Water, Land and Ecosystems



## Business models for resource recovery and reuse in the wastewater sector

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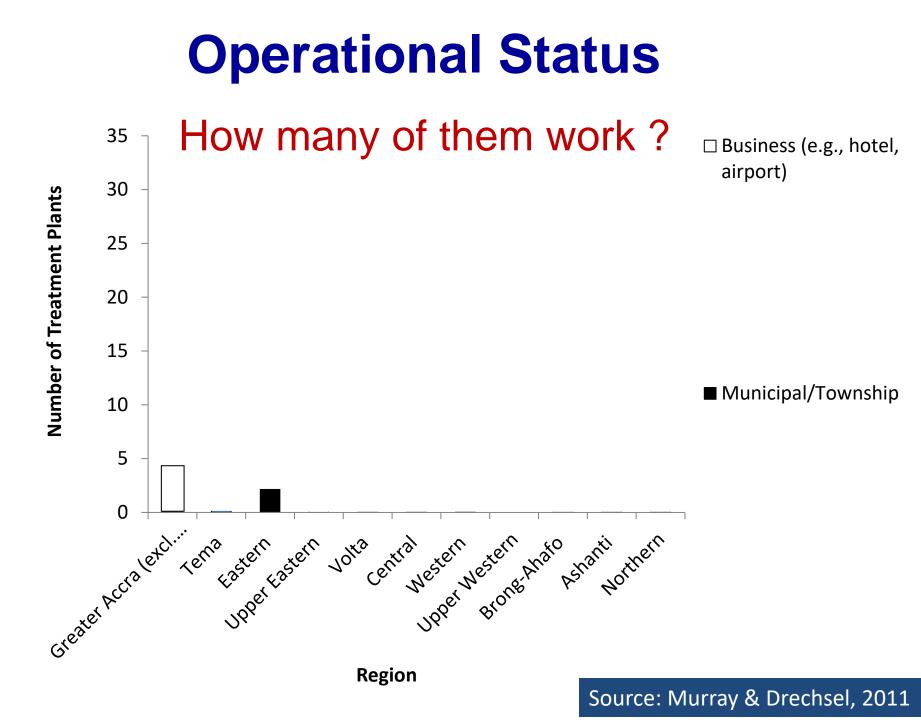






- Across the developing world, max. 20% of wastewater gets treated:
  - Public sector with limited incentives for O&M (absence of resources);
  - Driven by inadequate billing system, low hhld ability and willingness-to-pay.
- How do we achieve RRR <u>at scale</u> if we are still struggling with getting treatment plants to work?







# Challenges for business development in RRR sector

- Most RRR initiatives in low-income countries characterized by:
  - High dependence on **subsidies**;
  - Limited up-scaling potential.
- Challenges: Access to financing
  - Lack of local capital markets
  - New technology or business model
  - Liquidity concerns
  - Lack of track record, low credit worthiness
  - External factors introduce lending risk (geopolitical, political uncertainty, governance)

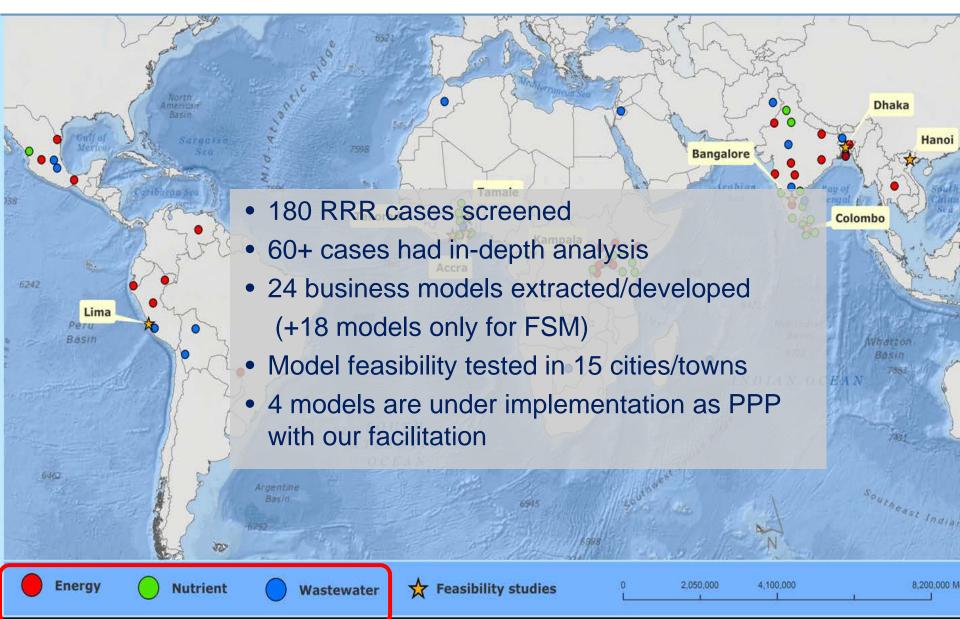


# Challenges for business development in RRR sector

- Gaps in business thinking and market-driven mechanisms that represent:
  - sources of revenue generation or social benefits for all relevant actors;
  - incentives for private sector participation.
- Fundamental gaps in **business capacity**:
  - Business planning and strategies, market knowledge;
  - Economic aspects and institutional linkages.



## From analysis to implementation (2012-2020)



## **Cost-recovery: Wastewater reuse for agriculture and**



- Limited alternative water sources;
- Appropriate **freshwater pricing** is needed to value wastewater;
- Different **constellations** of **institutional composition** can drive greater efficiency and cost-recovery;
- Unclear reuse standards and weak regulations limiting factor.



#### Egypt – El Berka WWTP

- WW trt: 450,000 m3/day; Reuse: 10,000 to 30,000 m<sup>3</sup>/day on max. 147 ha.
- Service by public sector company
- O&M costs: US\$ 3 m/yr for treatment plant;
- Revenues: US\$3.65 m/yr from hhld fees;
- US\$11,700-28,000/yr -ag system; US\$ 609,000/year -sludge sale

#### Morocco

- WW trt: 1,800 to 2,700 m<sup>3</sup> /day;
- PPP model
- O&M costs: US\$2300 to 3600/month;

## **Beyond cost-recovery: Leapfrogging the value chain**



- Great potential for replication in developing countries with supportive institutional envt.;
- Strong market demand (consumer perceptions) need for 3<sup>rd</sup> party <u>certification of product quality</u>;
- Clear structural elements of contractual PPP agreement;
- Sound technical and **business capacity;**
- Replication may be limited by **land requirements**.



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#### Ghana

- WW trt: 225 m<sup>3</sup>/day ;
- Cap. Invt: less than 30% borne by WE and over 70% by KMA.
- Service: PPP
- O&M: US\$ 3,429 /yr/WSP (5 WSP) to US\$11,440 /year/WSP (for 1 WSP)

#### Bangladesh

- WW trt: 300 m<sup>3</sup>/day;
- Cap. Invt: US\$ 20,000 for trt system (32% as loan for land & equip.; 68% land lease):
- Service: NGO & Private Trust partnership
- Revenue: US\$7,500 from fish (7.5 tons/yr of fish sold @US\$1/kg), US\$1000 from crops.
- Gross margin: 20%
- Payback period: 6 years (loan)

## Inter-sectoral water exchange



- Cost savings in water extraction, improve. in living standard and economic development because of additional freshwater, reduced overexploitation of aquifers, rivers and lakes;
- Incentive systems and well-formulated contracts to secure buy-in of large number of farmers who release freshwater required;
- Well-defined water rights or entitlements, which can be transferred, and regulations that allow the use of (partially) treated wastewater for ag. are required.

Crop sale

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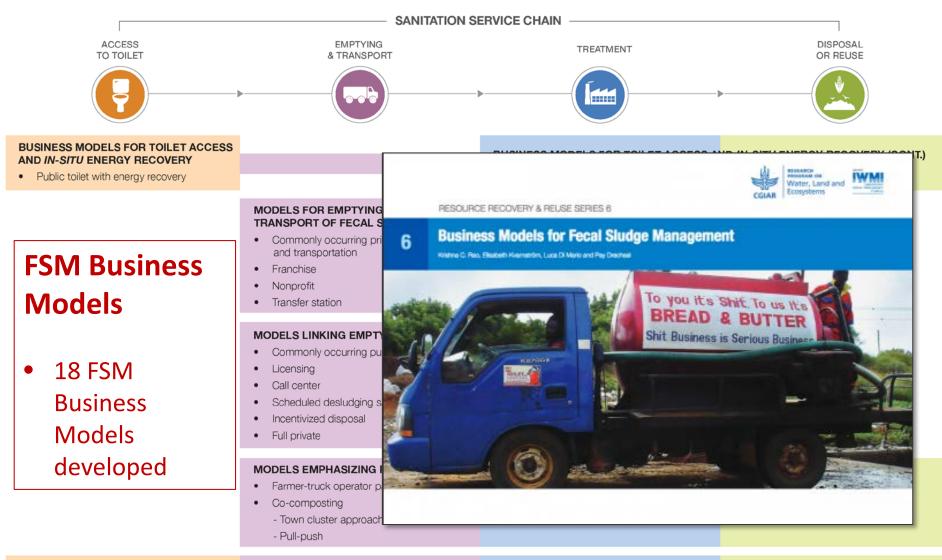
#### Iran – Kardeh dam

- WW trt: 25 MCM treated effluent used for irrigation;
- Service: Public and private (farmer assoc.)
- Cap. Invt: US\$ 6 million
- O&M: US\$ 650,000/ yr
- Output: Release of ca. 21 MCM of freshwater for municipal use

#### Spain

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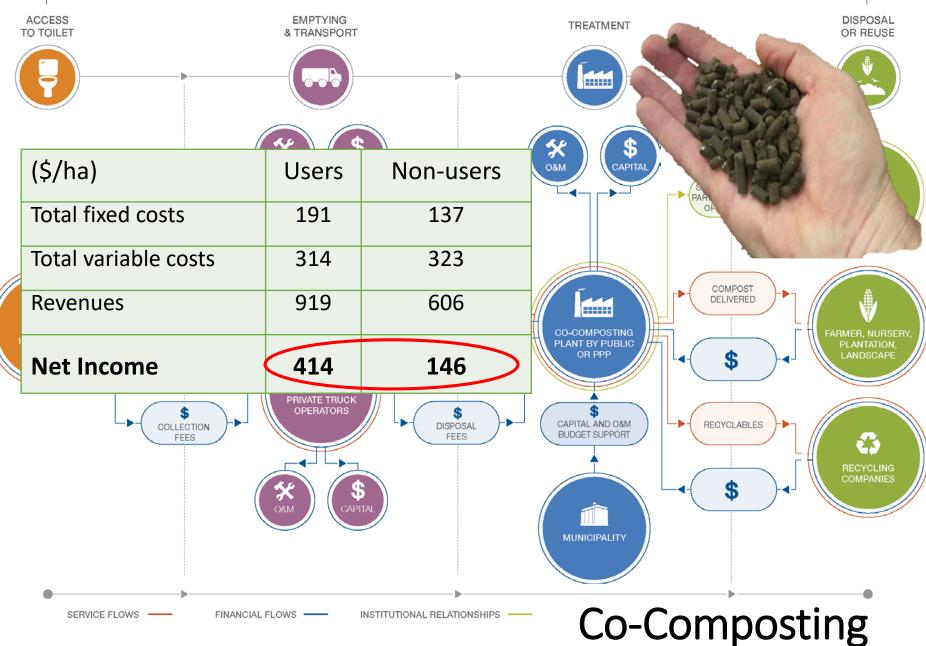
- WW trt: 146 Mm<sup>3</sup>/yr, 20 Mm<sup>3</sup> for ag. (water swap);
- Service: Public and private
- Cap. Invt: €15.12 m (treatment upgrades)
- BC ratio: 2.9 5.4



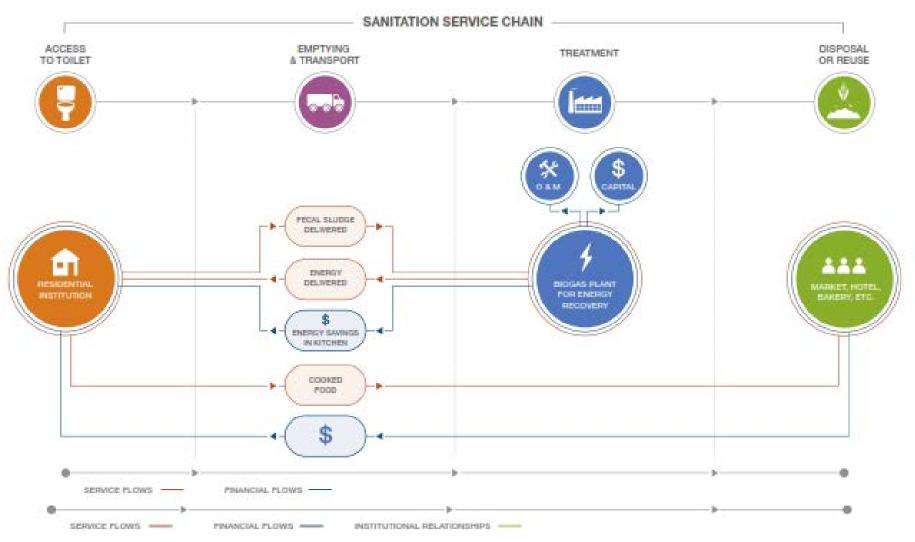
MODELS COVERING THE ENTIRE SANITATION SERVICE CHAIN FROM TOILET ACCESS TO REUSE

- Non-movable UDDT installation
- Container-based sanitation (CBS)

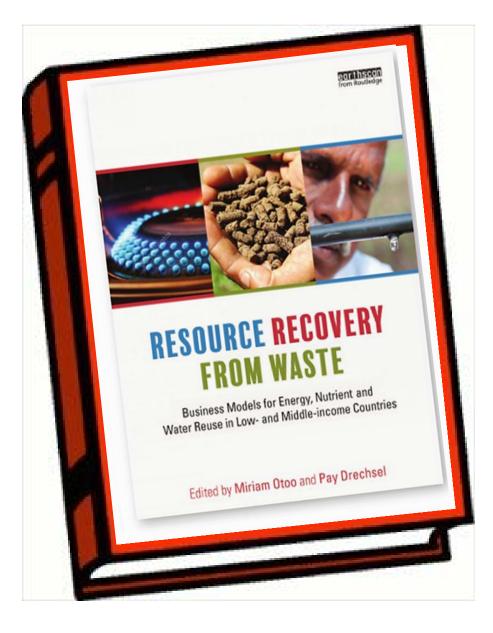
#### SANITATION SERVICE CHAIN



## A range of possible business model which require local feasibility studies and adaptation



## **On-going & Future Work**







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# Thank you.



