

# AquaConnect

## De waarde van water: de weg naar een toekomstbestendige afvalwaterzuiveringen

Jouke Dykstra, Sjoerd Kerstens  
12 October 2023

11-10-2023

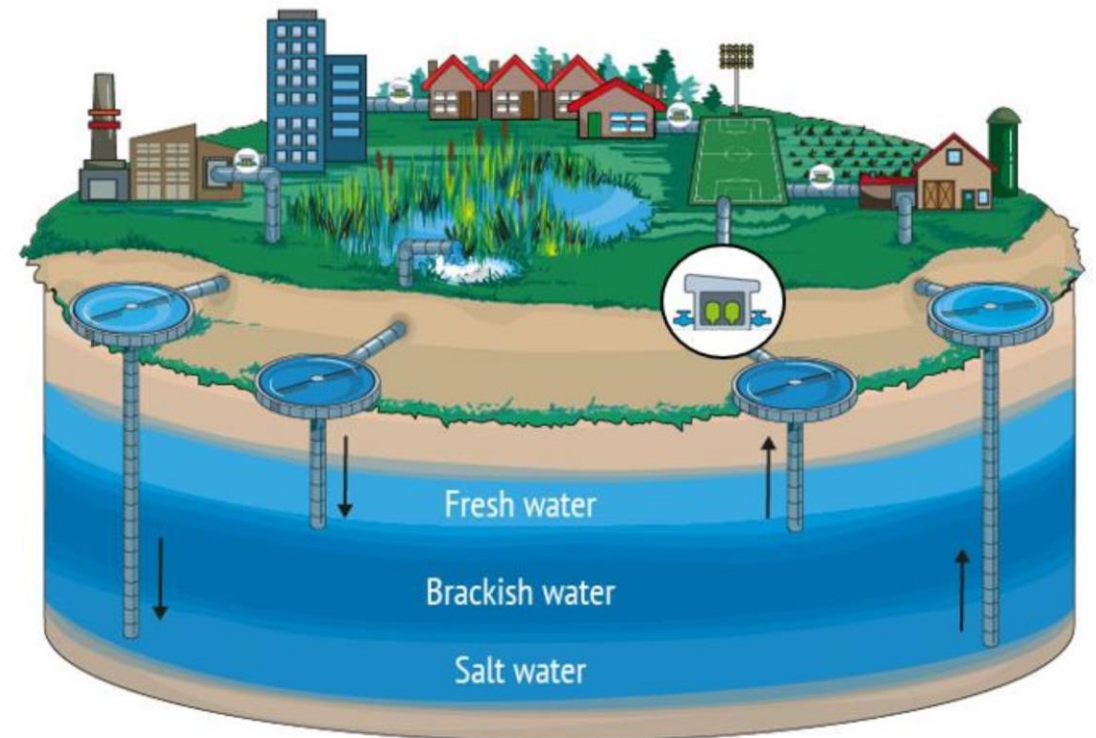
AquaConnect Stowa

Sjoerd Kerstens (RHDHV)

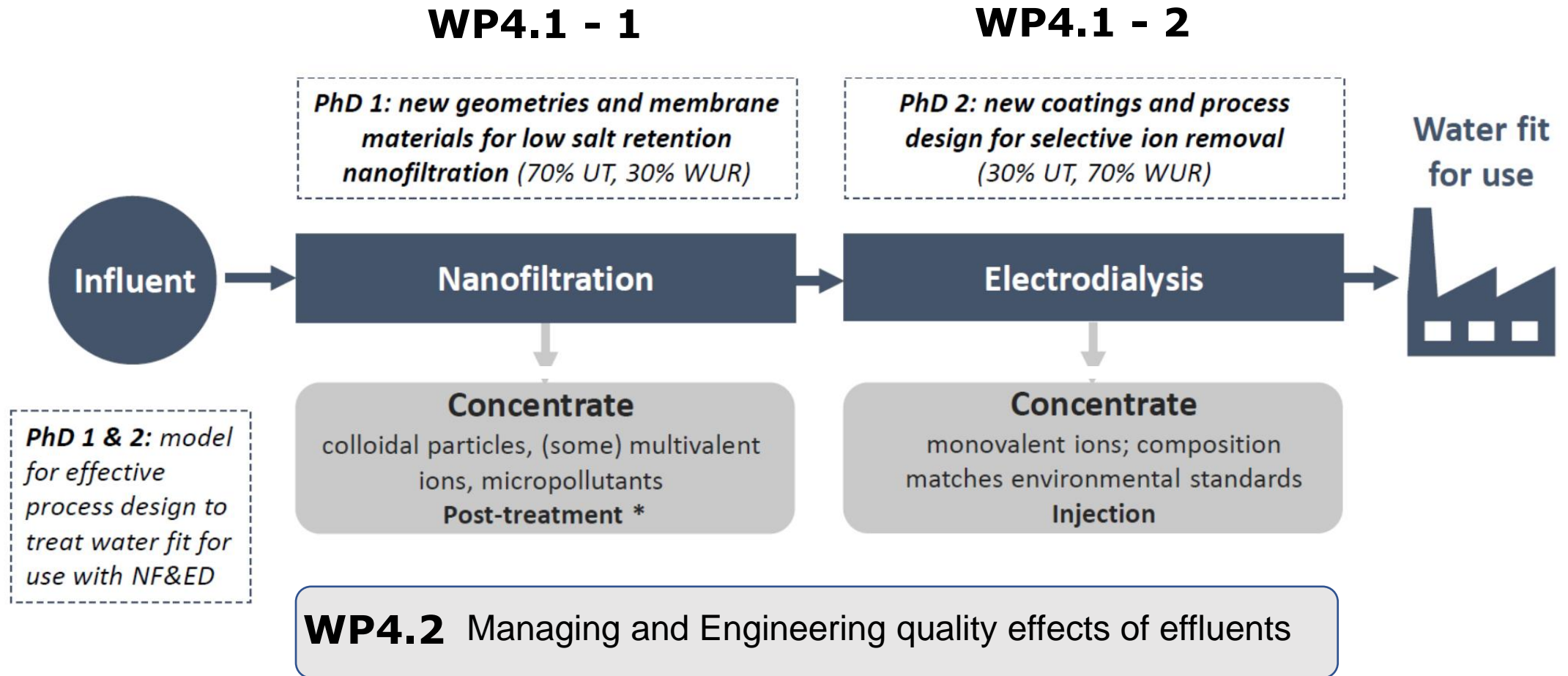
Jouke Dykstra (WUR)

# Why chemical and physical technologies?

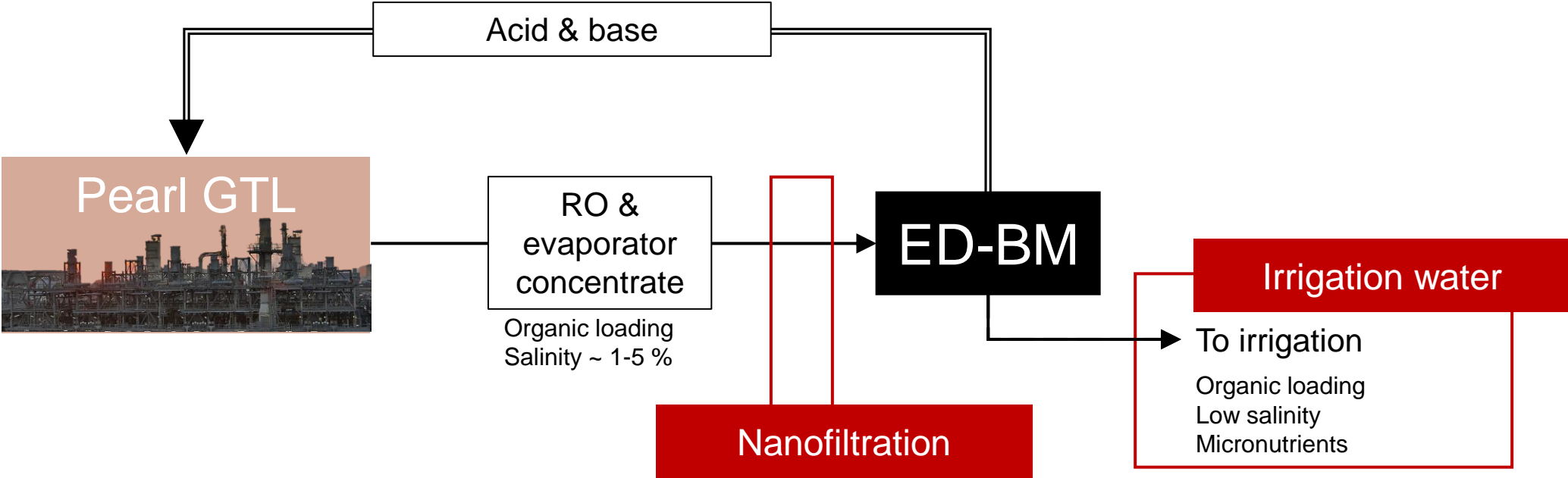
- Decentralized implementation: treatment to match supply and demand
- Water treatment fit for purpose
- Flexible use, no start-up time



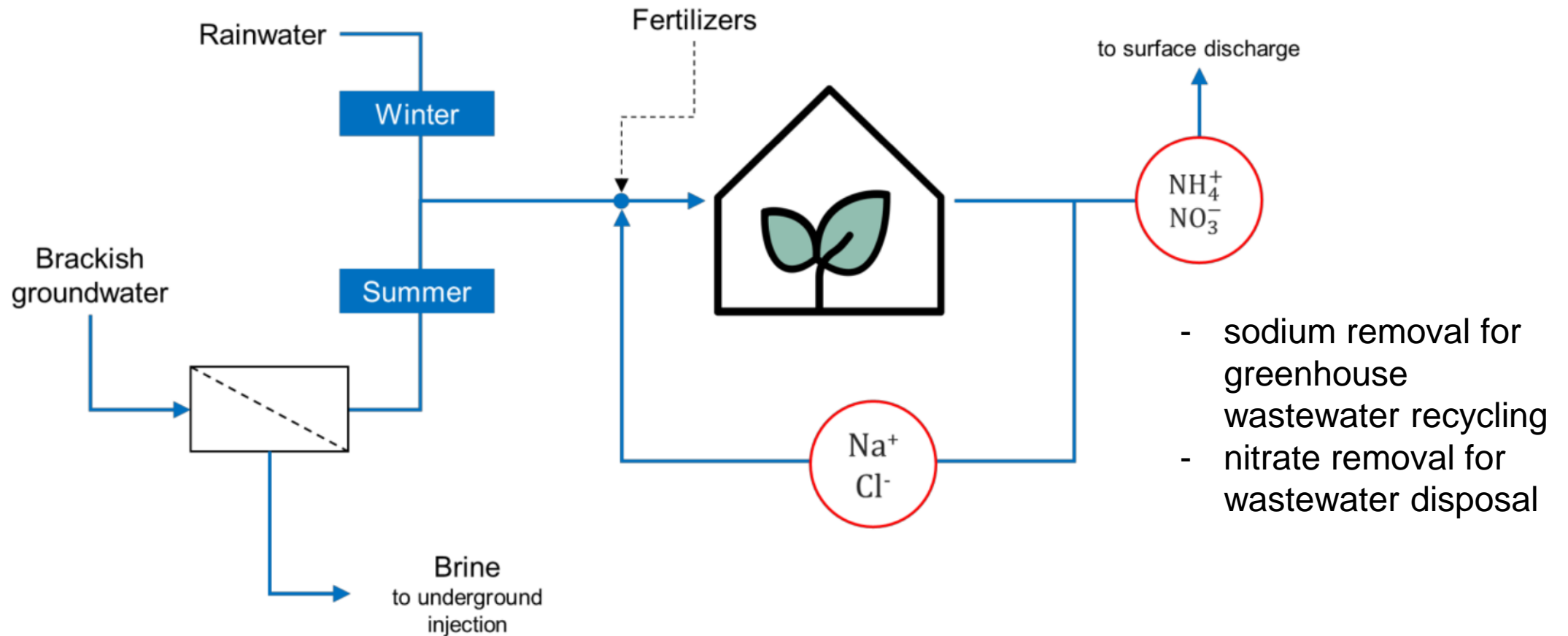
# Overview WP4



# Case study: production acids & bases at Shell, Qatar

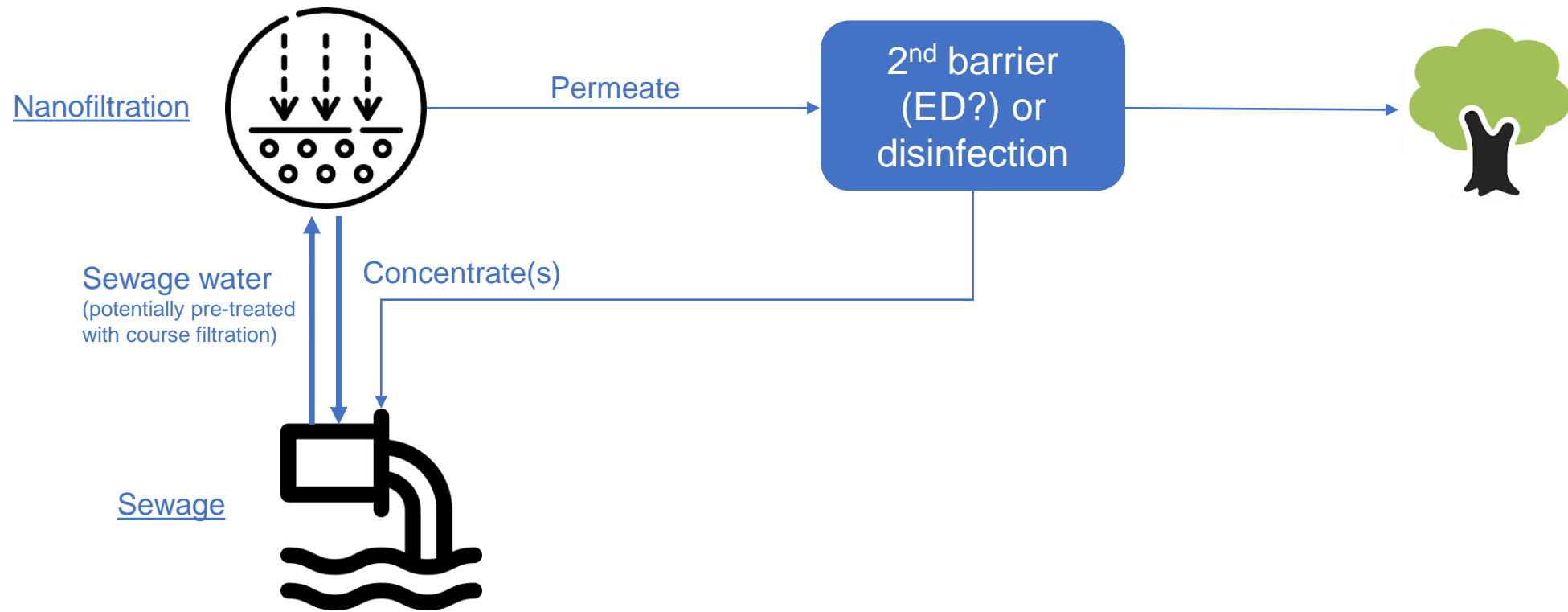


# Case study: closing water cycles greenhouses



- sodium removal for greenhouse wastewater recycling
- nitrate removal for wastewater disposal

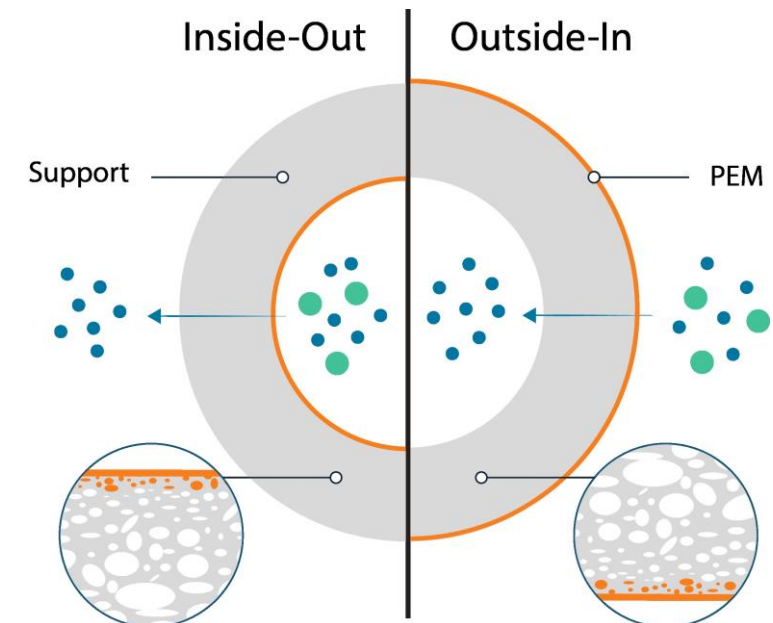
# Case study: water mining from sewage



# WP4.1 – Nanofiltration: Outside-In Polyelectrolyte multilayer membranes

Advantages outside-In over inside-out:

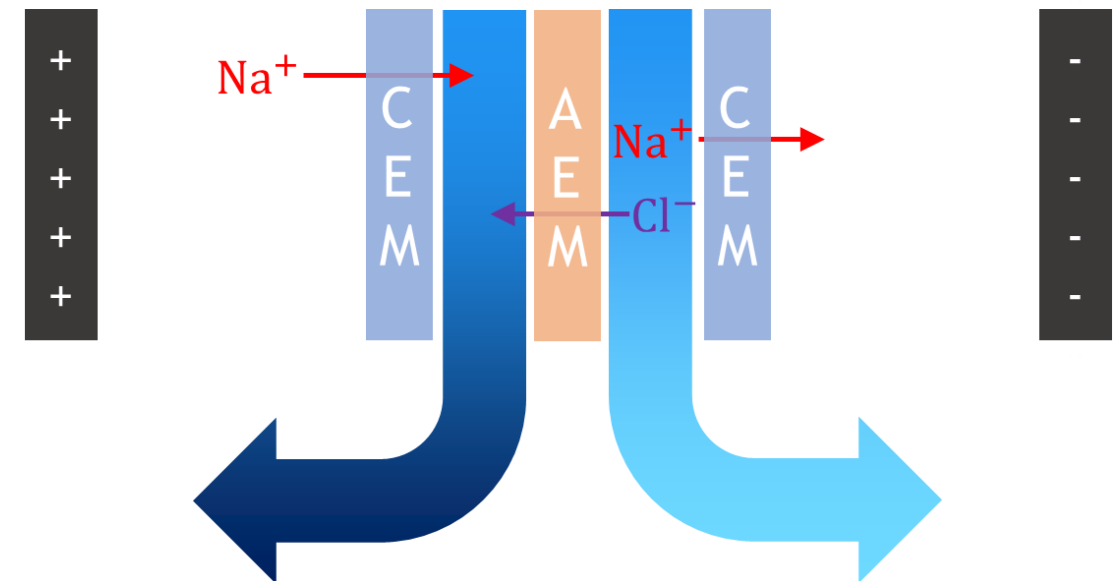
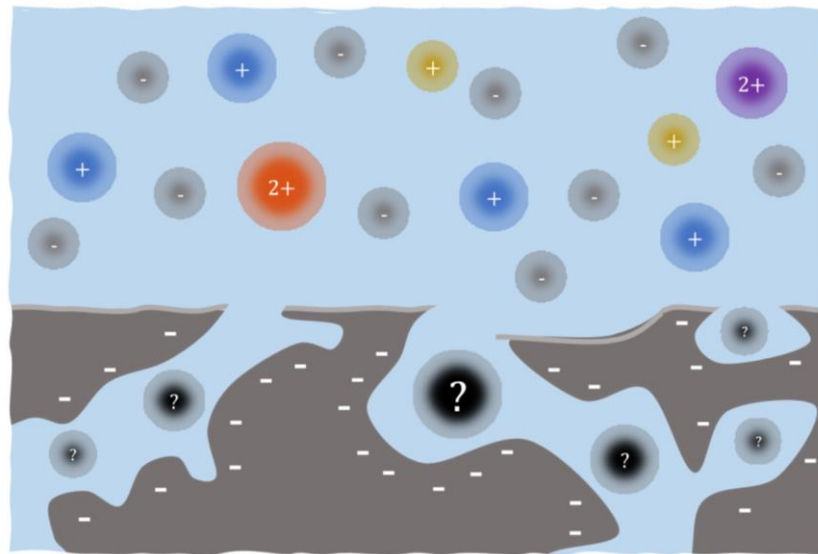
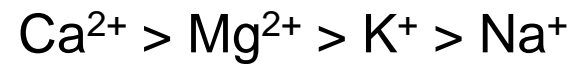
- Increase in active surface area per module → up to 5x
- Smaller fibres can be fabricated → Increase in mechanical strength leading to new possible applications
- New module designs possible limiting concentration polarization → better (micro)pollutant retentions



# WP4.1 – electrodialysis for selective-ion separations



- We investigated the ion equilibrium and transport across ion-exchange membranes.
- Multivalent ions, e.g.  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , dominate the equilibrium over the monovalent ones, e.g.  $\text{Na}^+$ .
- General affinity inside cation-exchange membranes:

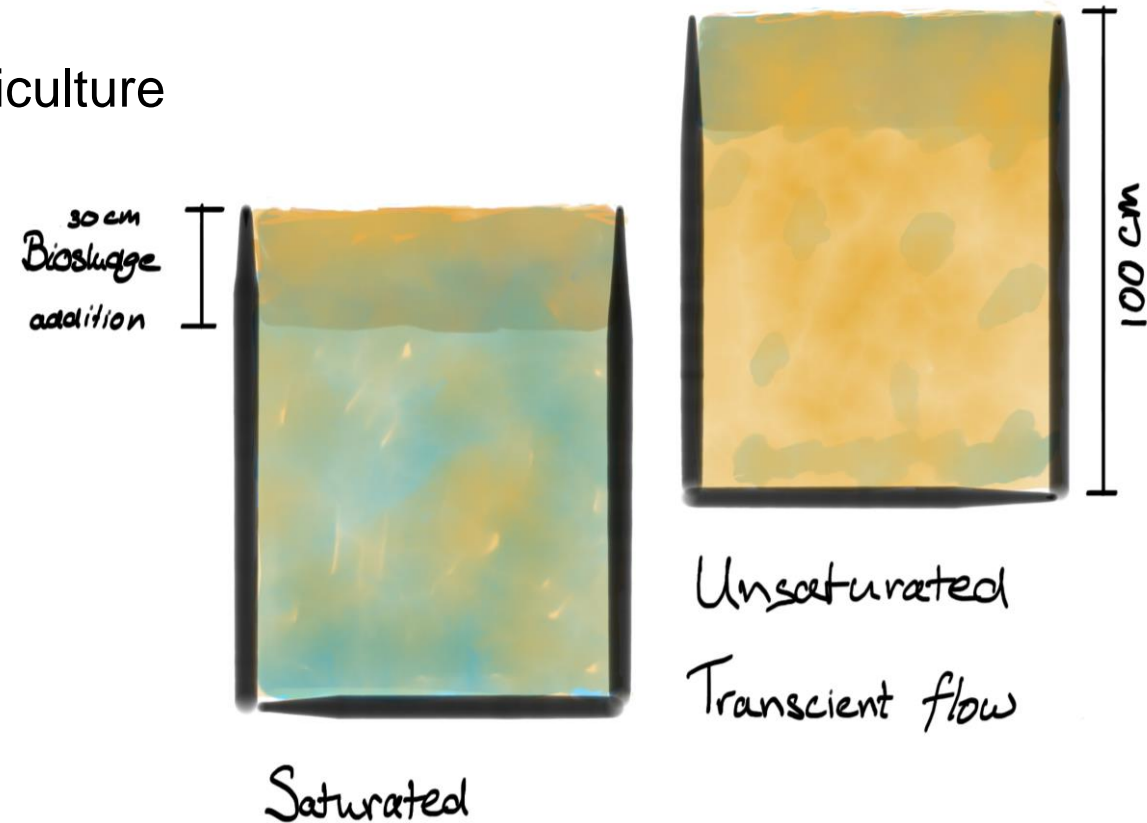




# WP4.2 – assessing the fate of contaminants of emerging concern (CECs) in effluents during irrigation



- Creating a contaminant transport prediction model that is suitable for extreme dry climates
- Contribute to safe reuse of effluents in agriculture
- Modelling leaching of metals from industrial biosludge used as fertilizer in arid/desert climate
- Model can be used for prediction of sandy soils in desert climate, still optimization needed



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# From reducing impact towards positive impact

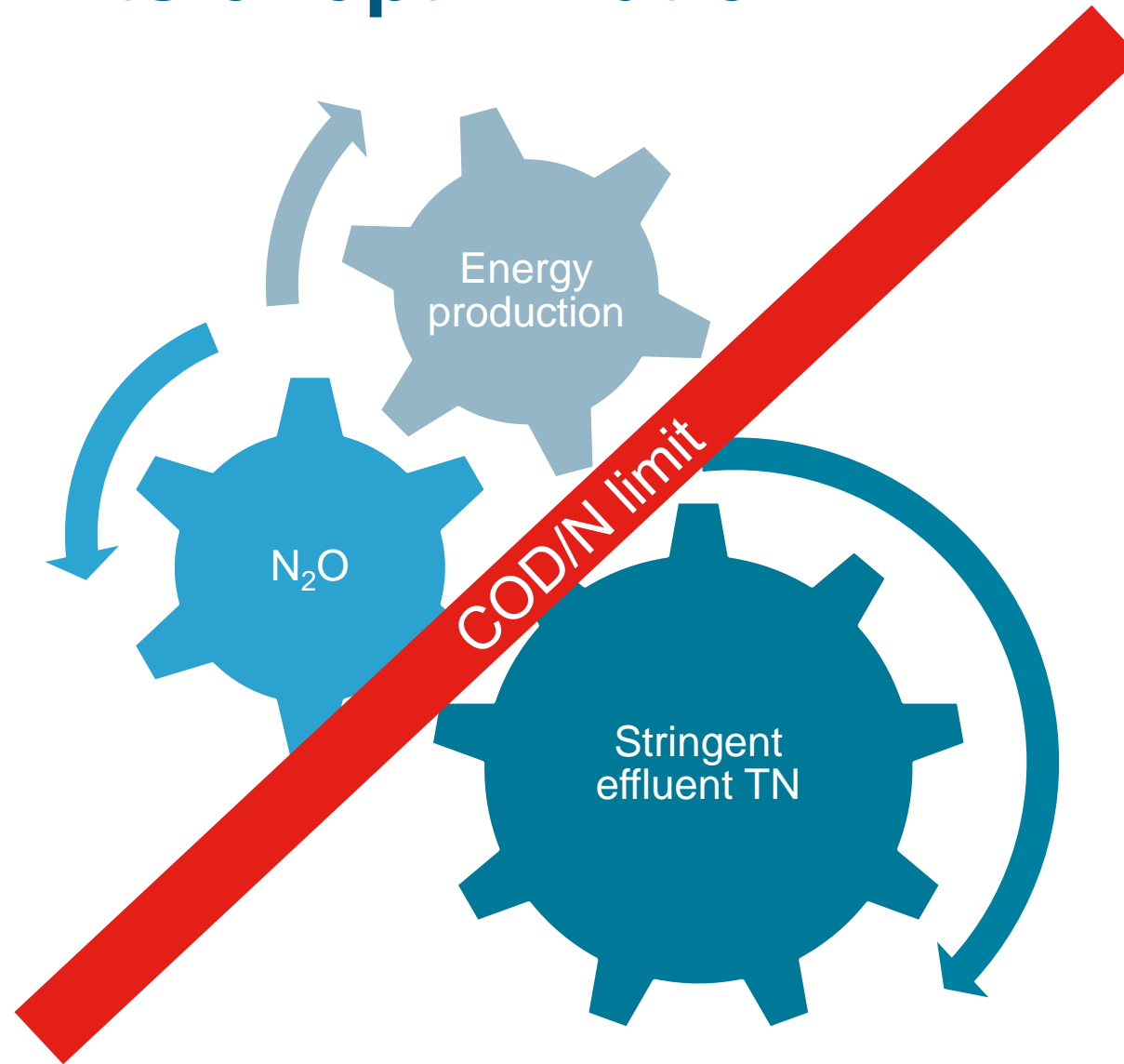


Energy saving, GHG  
reduction

Space saving

Reduce

# Reaching the limits of optimization



# Shifting from less negative to positive



Enhance

Energy production, CO<sub>2</sub> uptake, fossil fuel-based products replacements

Space creation

N&P fertilizer, N to energy, protein (feed)

Water source to combat drought, for agriculture, nature, industry



Reduce

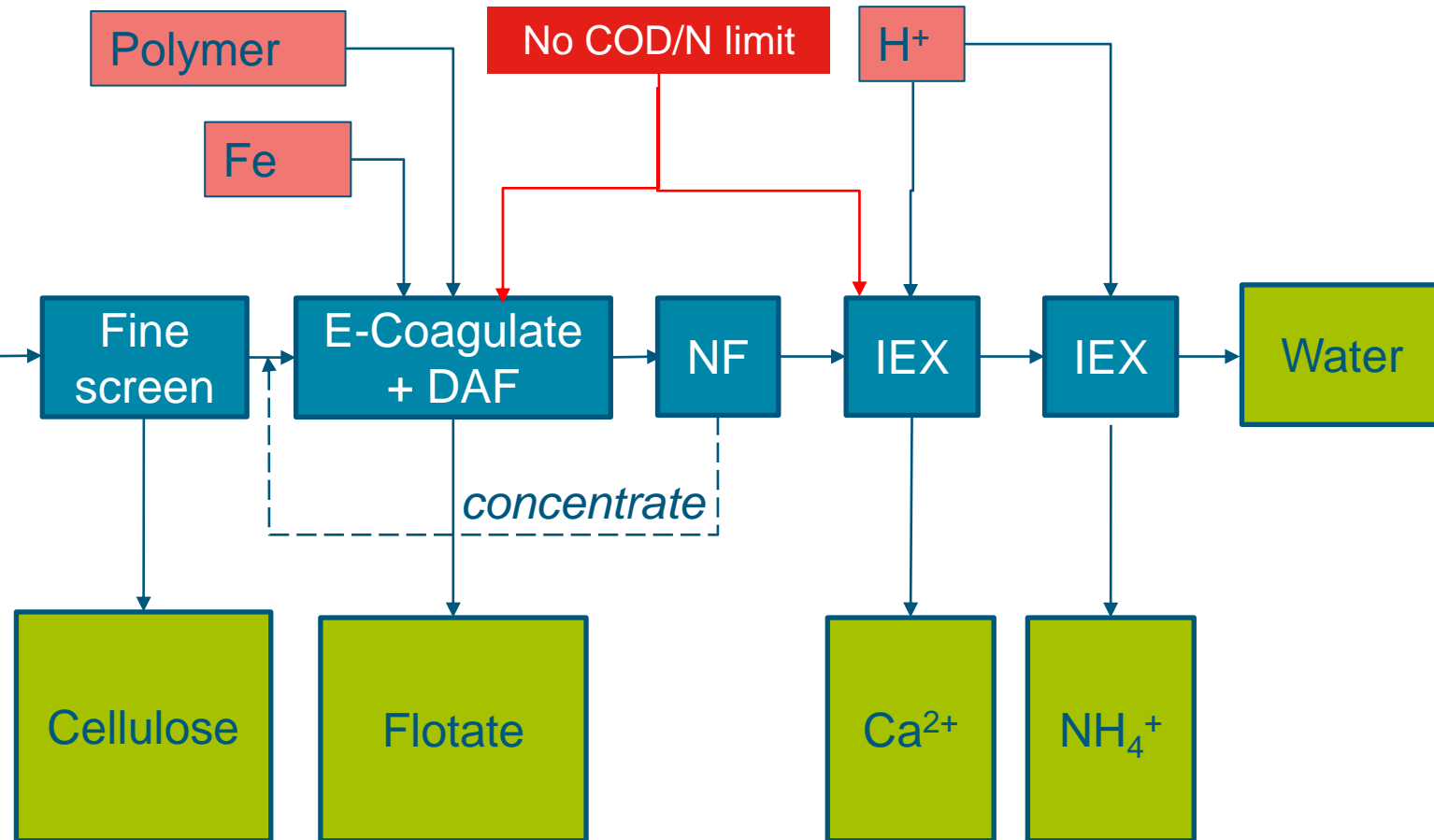
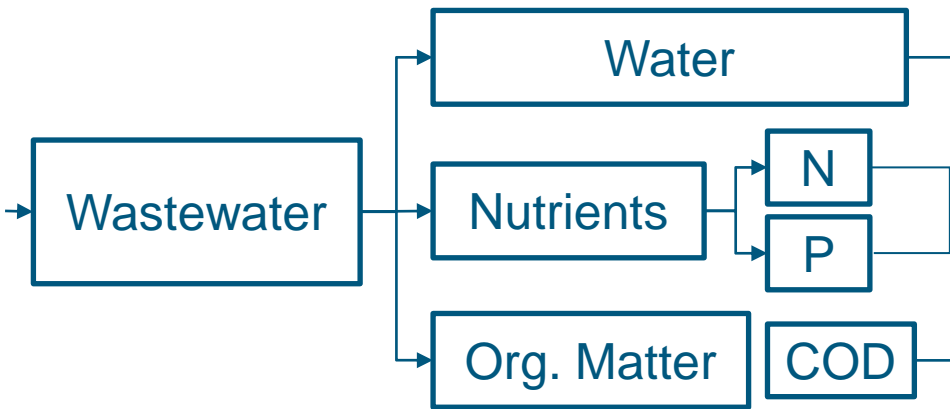
Energy saving, GHG reduction

Space saving

Reduction of N&P discharge

Reduce water consumption

# Water factory Wilp



# Outcome

- Excellent removal of TSS, N and P
- Poor removal of COD and insufficient of BOD
- CEC compliant with Guidelines of Ministry of I&W (IPMV)



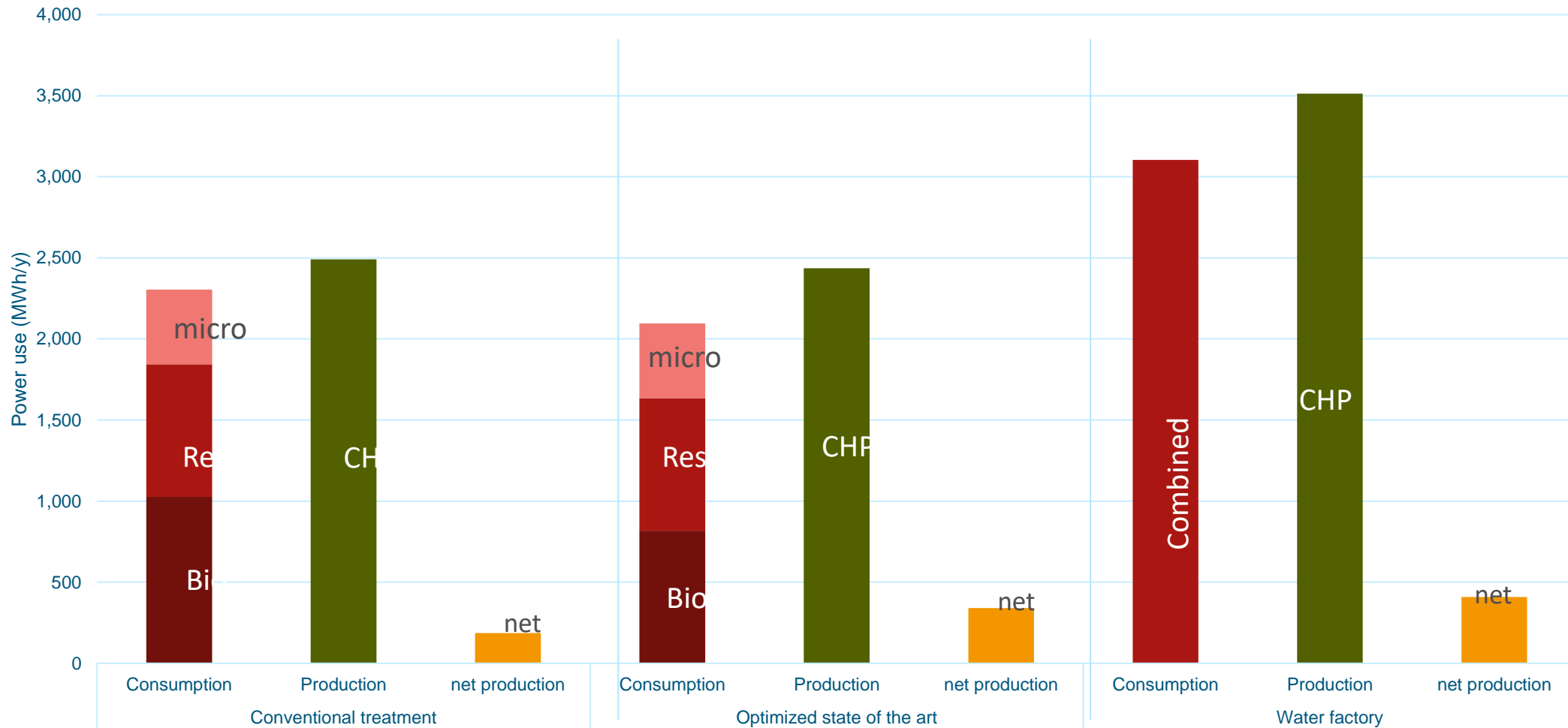
Parameter	Unit	Requirement (EFD)	Average	Maximum
TSS	mg/l	< 3	0,0	<5
P-total	mg/l	< 0,15	0,01	0,05
N-total	mg/l	<4,8	0,87	1,27
COD	mg/l	<125	74,2	79
BOD	mg/l	<20	30	53

Influent      Flotate      DAF effluent      NF filtrate      IEX filtrate



# Energy consumption & production (100,000 PE)

Yearly total power consumption and production

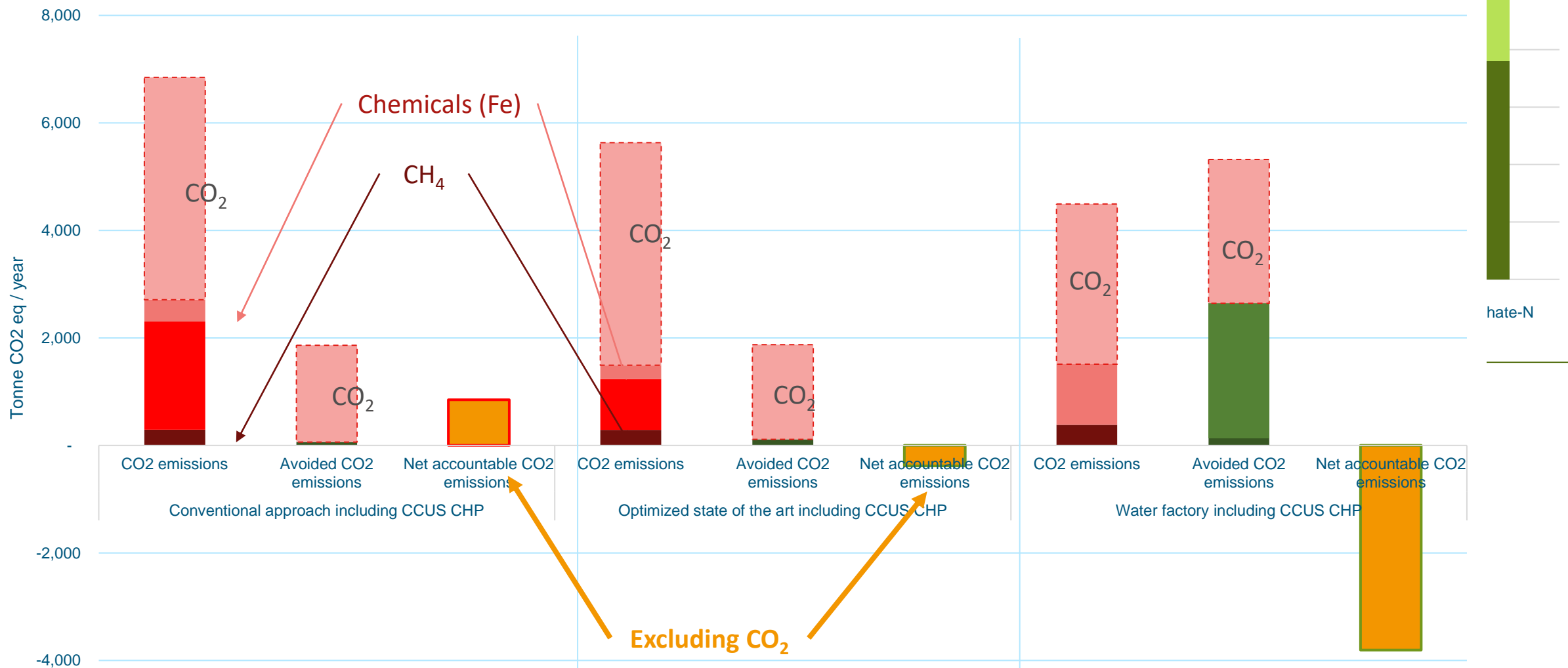




# CO<sub>2</sub> balance of operation (100,000 PE)

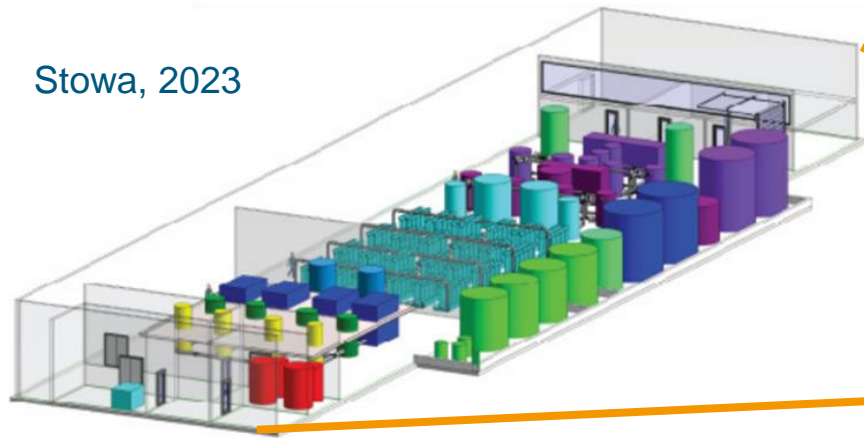
Avoided CO<sub>2</sub> of products  
3,000

Emitted, avoided and net CO<sub>2</sub> (equivalents) emitted including CCUS on CHP

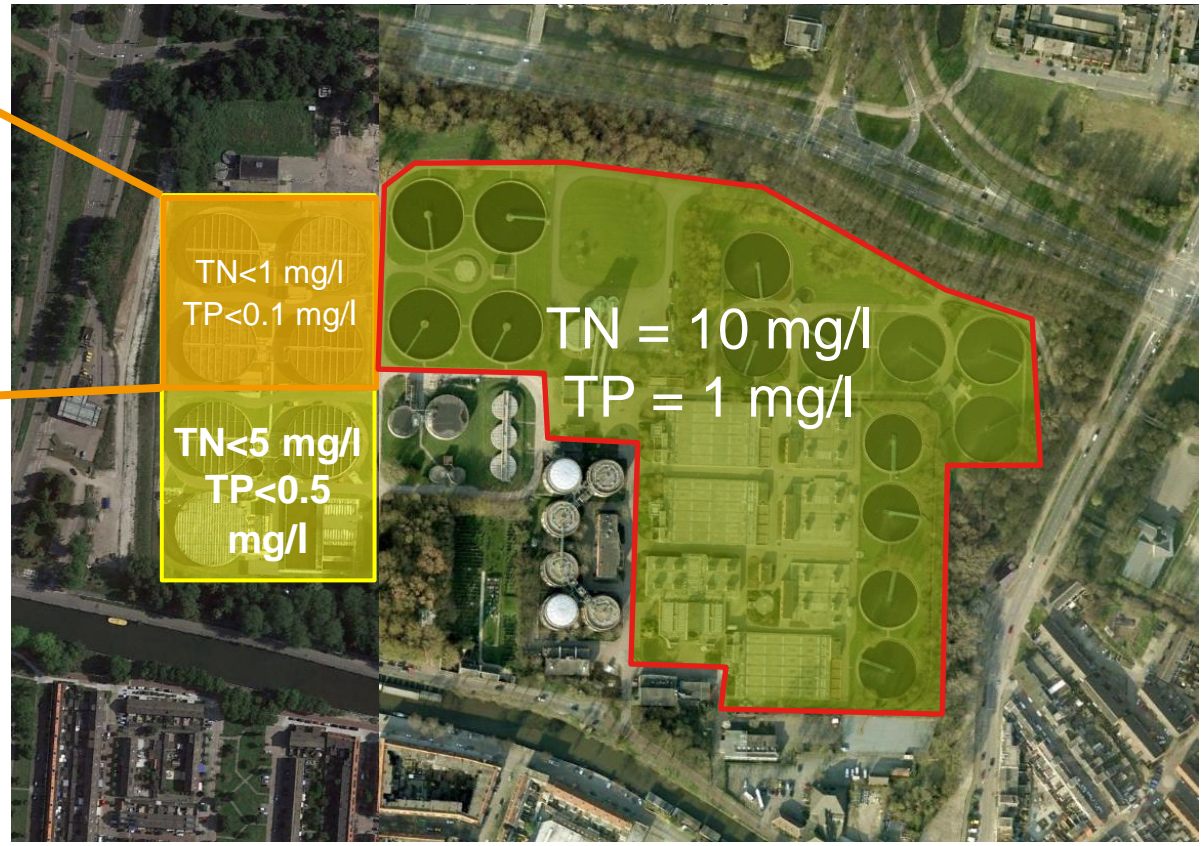


# Space creation in a bird view

Stowa, 2023



- Coarse screen
- Fine screen
- Electro coagulation
- Flocculation
- Dissolved Air Flotation
- Buffer
- Nano filtration
- Ion exchange (1)
- Ion exchange (2)
- pH correction
- PE-preparation
- Chemicals



# Conclusions

- Future societal challenges require new approaches in WWT
- Boundaries are reached in optimizing effluent levels, energy and GHG, space
- New approaches will involve more chemical/physical processes
- These processes produce a high-water quality, are climate positive and free up space
- Identified bottlenecks in this technology development are:
  - COD and BOD soluble in effluent
  - High Fe and other chemical usage

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