

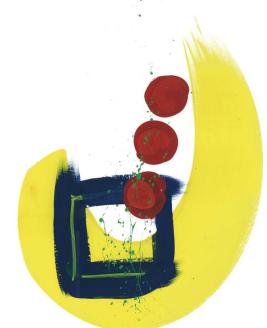


## MEDITERRANEAN WORKSHOP ON NEW TECHNOLOGIES OF RECYCLING NON CONVENTIONAL WATER IN PROTECTED CULTIVATION

29th April – 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008

### Wastewater separation as a base for the safe and efficient reuse of water and nutrients

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# Content

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- Introduction
- Terminology of wastewater separation
- Objectives
- Separation systems
- Treatment options
- Conclusions

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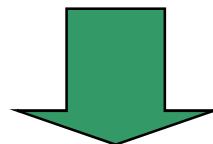
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# Main driving factors for ww reuse

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- Increasing costs for water supply (water scarcity, energy costs)
- Increasing water demand for irrigation, growing population & industry
- Increasing costs for mineral fertiliser
- Need for optimising water consumption and reusing nutrients



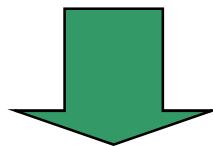
**WW as an unconventional source for irrigation and fertilisation**



# Main barriers for ww reuse

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- Reuse implies certain hygienic risks
- Legal limitations for ww reuse (setting standards & quality criteria)
- Image problems for crops irrigated with treated ww



## IMMENSE TREATMENT EFFORTS BEFORE WW REUSE

(removal of esp. pathogens, OM, nutrients, org. & inorg. pollutants)

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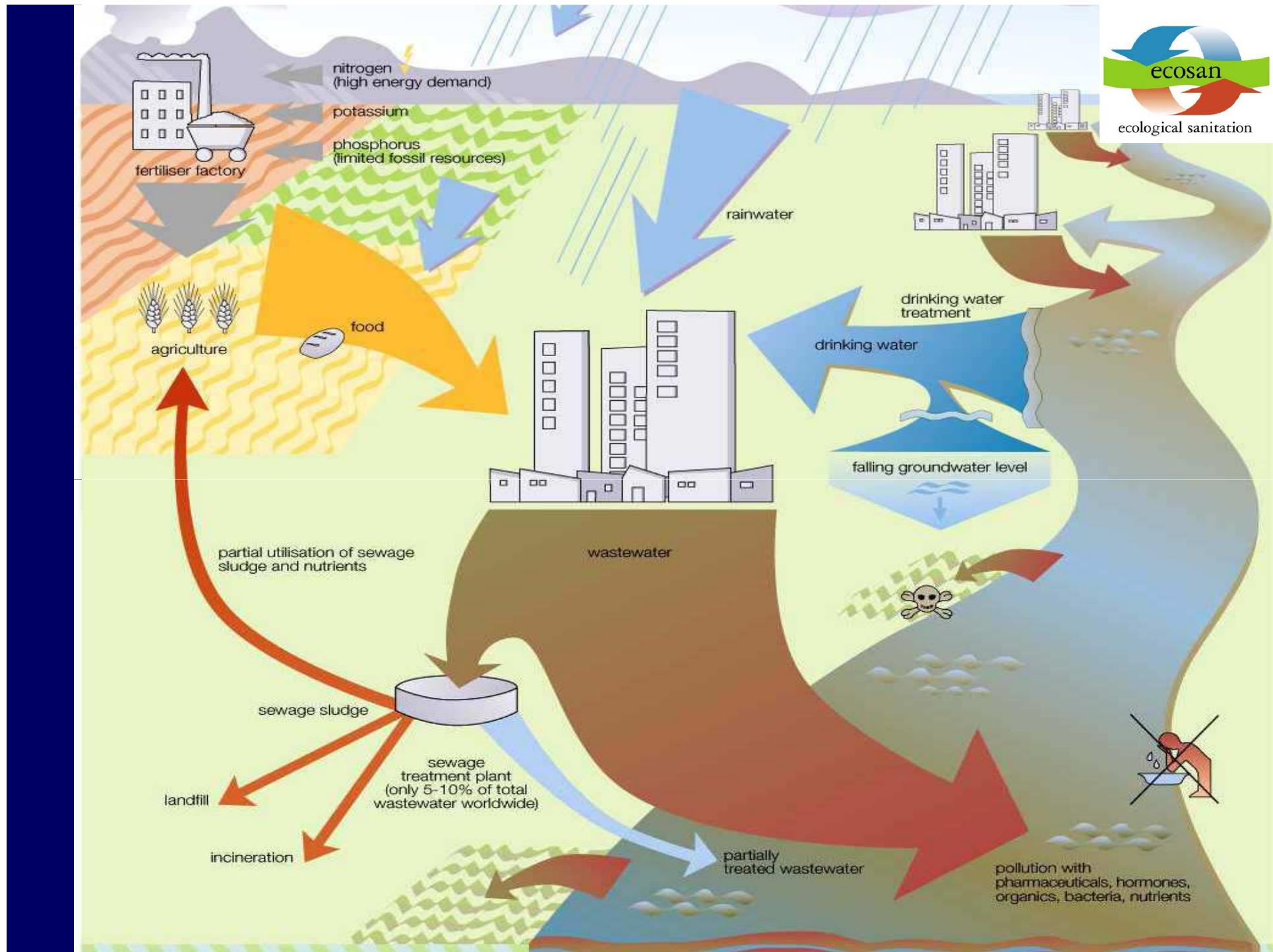


# Current situation in wastewater collection and treatment

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- Big contribution to improve hygienic situation in urban settlements
- Reduction of environmental pollution in receiving water bodies
- Characteristics of today's collection and treatment systems:
  - Mixed collection (toilets, kitchen, bathroom, [industry, stormwater runoff])
  - Water intensive flushing toilets (5-10 l/flush)
  - Long transport distances in sewers via pipes and gravity to centralised wwt (off-site treatment)
  - Cost intensive removal of pollutants/nutrients from water before discharge or optional reuse
  - Sewage sludge production (concentration of nutrients and pollutants)
  - End-of-pipe approach





# Current situation in wastewater collection and treatment

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- Effects of mixed wastewater collection in sewer systems:
  - Pollution of clean water (from water companies, wells or rainfall)
  - Dilution of resources (esp. P, N, organic matter)
  - Distribution of pollutants

## IS IT AN AFFORDABLE APPROACH FOR THE FUTURE?

(water scarcity, energy costs, investment costs, growing urban population, increasing costs for mineral fertilisers etc)



# Wastewater separation - Terminology

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- Separation of wastewater streams already **on household level**
- Separate collection and treatment before reuse/discharge

Excreta	urine and faeces
Faeces	solid human excrement
Urine	liquid human excrement
Mixed WW	including greywater, urine, faeces and flushing water
Greywater	domestic wastewater without urine or faeces
Blackwater	faeces, urine and flushing water
Yellowwater	urine and flushing water
Brownwater	faeces and flushing water

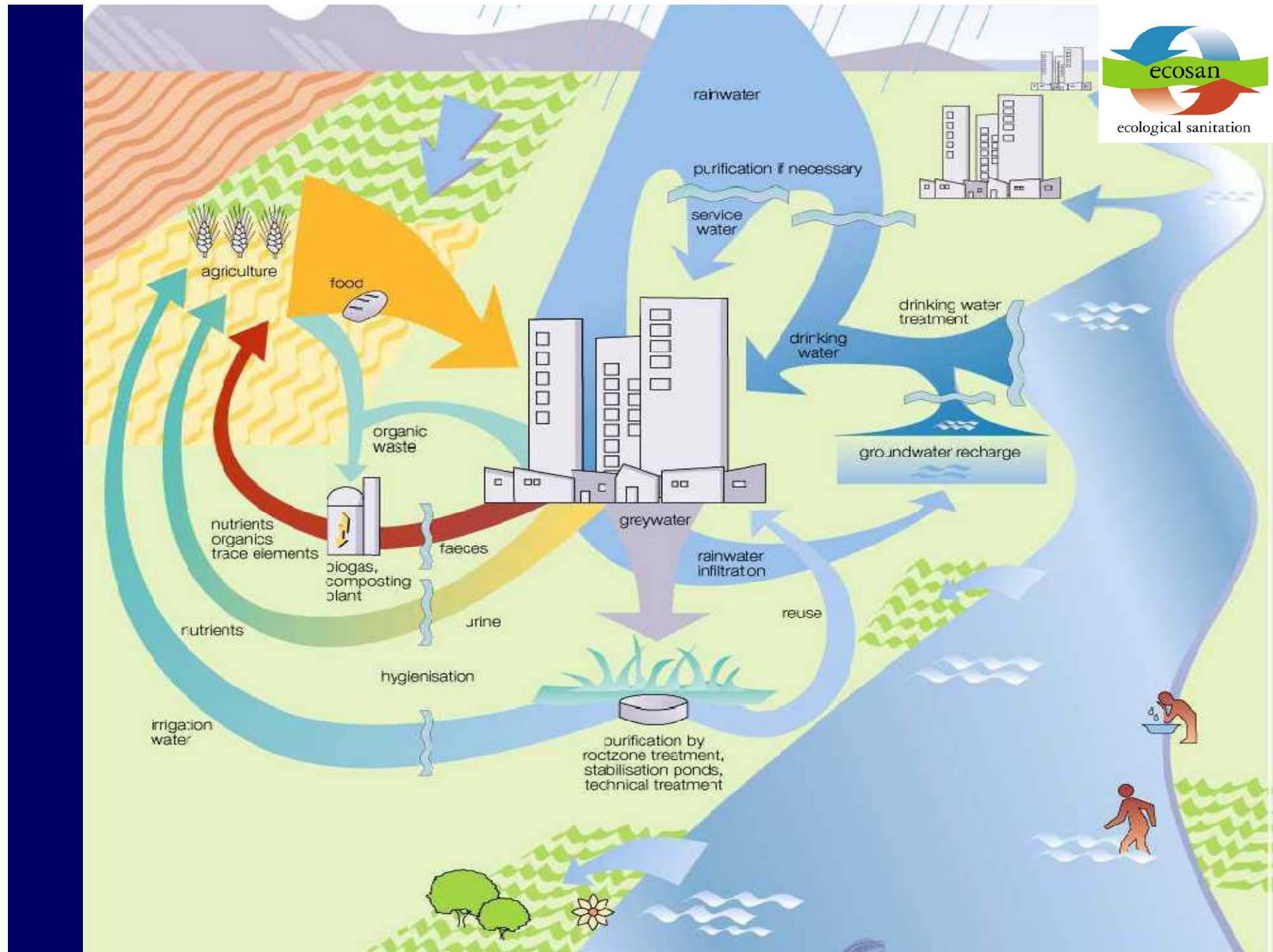


# Wastewater separation - Objectives

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- Implementation of a sustainable material flow management  
(3R waste management approach – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)
- Implementation of new sanitation concepts
- Better reusability of resources
- Saving water
- Improved (specific) treatment and disposal of pollutants
- Less pollution of receiving water bodies
- Saving costs for conventional wastewater treatment
- Achievement of international objectives on access to sanitation  
(MDG, Johannesburg Summit)





# Wastewater separation

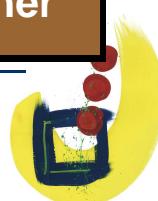
Chemical composition of different wastewater streams (source: OTTERPOHL 2007)

Annual loads (person/year)	GREYWATER	YELLOWWATER	BROWNWATER
	~ 25 – 100 m <sup>3</sup>	~ 500 liter Urine	~ 50 kg faeces
<b>Water</b> ~ 25 – 100 m <sup>3</sup>	~ 97 %	~ 1%	~ 2%
<b>N</b> ~ 4-5 kg	~ 3%	~ 87%	~ 10%
<b>P</b> ~ 0,75 kg	~ 10%	~ 50%	~ 40%
<b>K</b> ~ 1,8 kg	~ 34%	~ 54%	~ 12%
<b>COD</b> ~ 30 kg	~ 41%	~ 12%	~ 47%
<b>Potential Reuse</b>	Irrigation	Fertiliser	Soil conditioner

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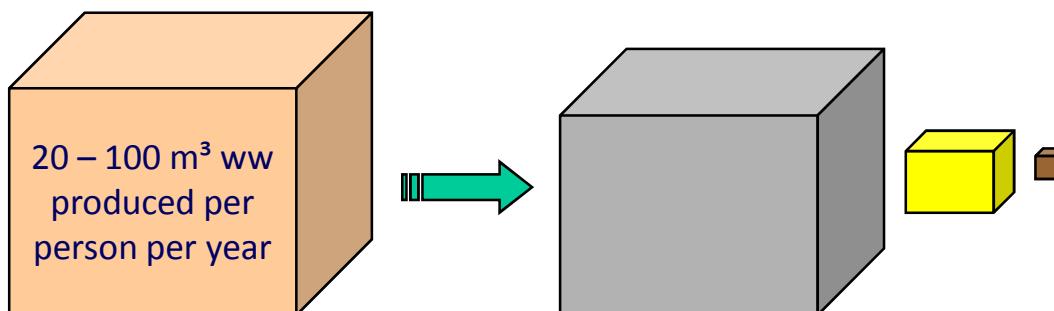
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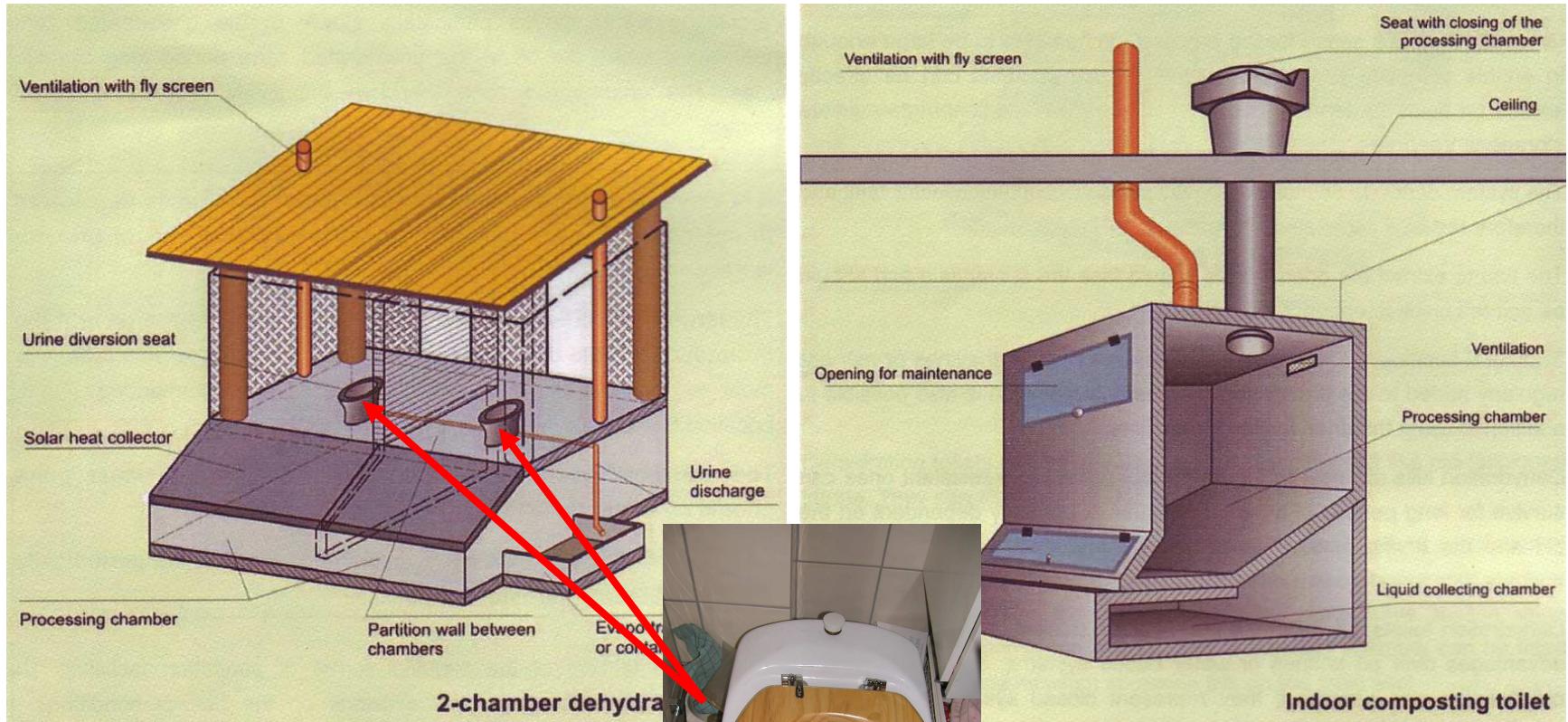


# Effects of separation

- Urine separation:
  - Removal of largest fractions of pharmaceuticals, hormones
  - Reduces demand for costly nutrient removal in remaining ww
- Brownwater (faeces) separation:
  - Removal of solids (COD) and large fractions of pathogens from ww
  - Low water content → easy treatment (e.g. composting)
- Greywater separation:
  - Easy and safe reuse due to low levels of pathogen contamination



# Separation systems (toilets, latrines, urinals)



(source: BGR 2007)

Urine separation systems (urine diversion toilets, urinals)



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# Separation systems (wet & dry)

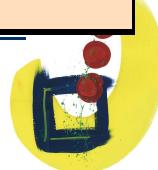
(Source: NETSSAF 2007)

no.	System name	Waste flowstreams
1	<b>Wet</b> mixed systems with on-site or off-site treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪mixed wastewater flowstream</li><li>▪faecal sludge flowstream</li></ul>
2	<b>Wet</b> blackwater systems (blackwater separated from greywater)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪blackwater flowstream</li><li>▪faecal sludge flowstream</li><li>▪greywater flowstream</li></ul>
3	<b>Wet</b> urine diversion system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪urine flowstream</li><li>▪brownwater mixed with greywater flowstream</li><li>▪faecal sludge flowstream</li></ul>
4	<b>Wet</b> urine & greywater diversion system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪urine flowstream</li><li>▪brownwater flowstream</li><li>▪faecal sludge flowstream</li><li>▪greywater flowstream</li></ul>
5	<b>Dry</b> greywater separate system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪excreta flowstream</li><li>▪greywater flowstream</li></ul>
6	<b>Dry</b> urine & greywater diversion system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪urine flowstream</li><li>▪faeces flowstream</li><li>▪greywater flowstream</li></ul>
7	<b>Dry</b> all mixed systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪excreta mixed with greywater flowstream</li></ul>

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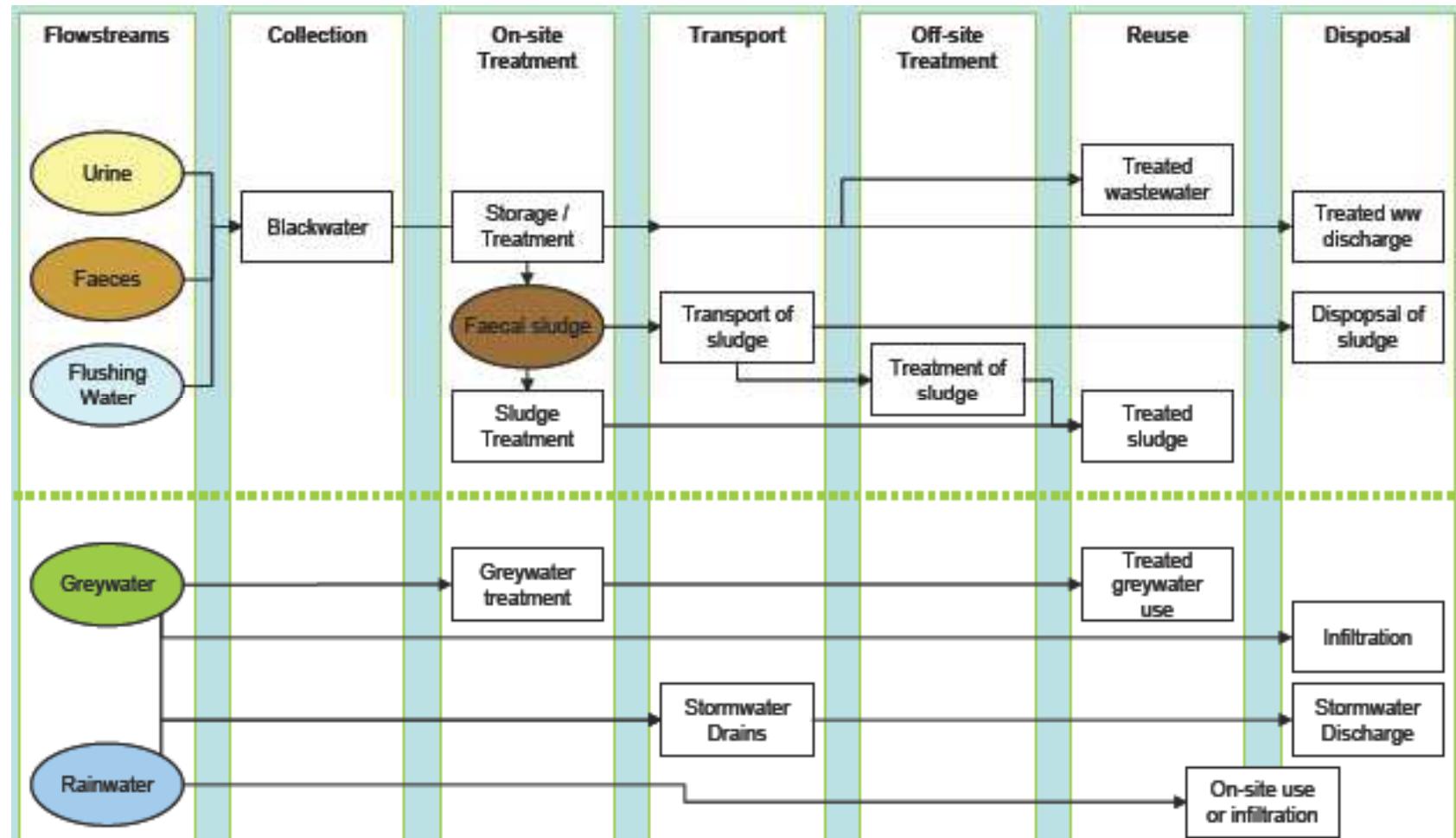
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# Wastewater separation - flowstreams

## Separated black water system

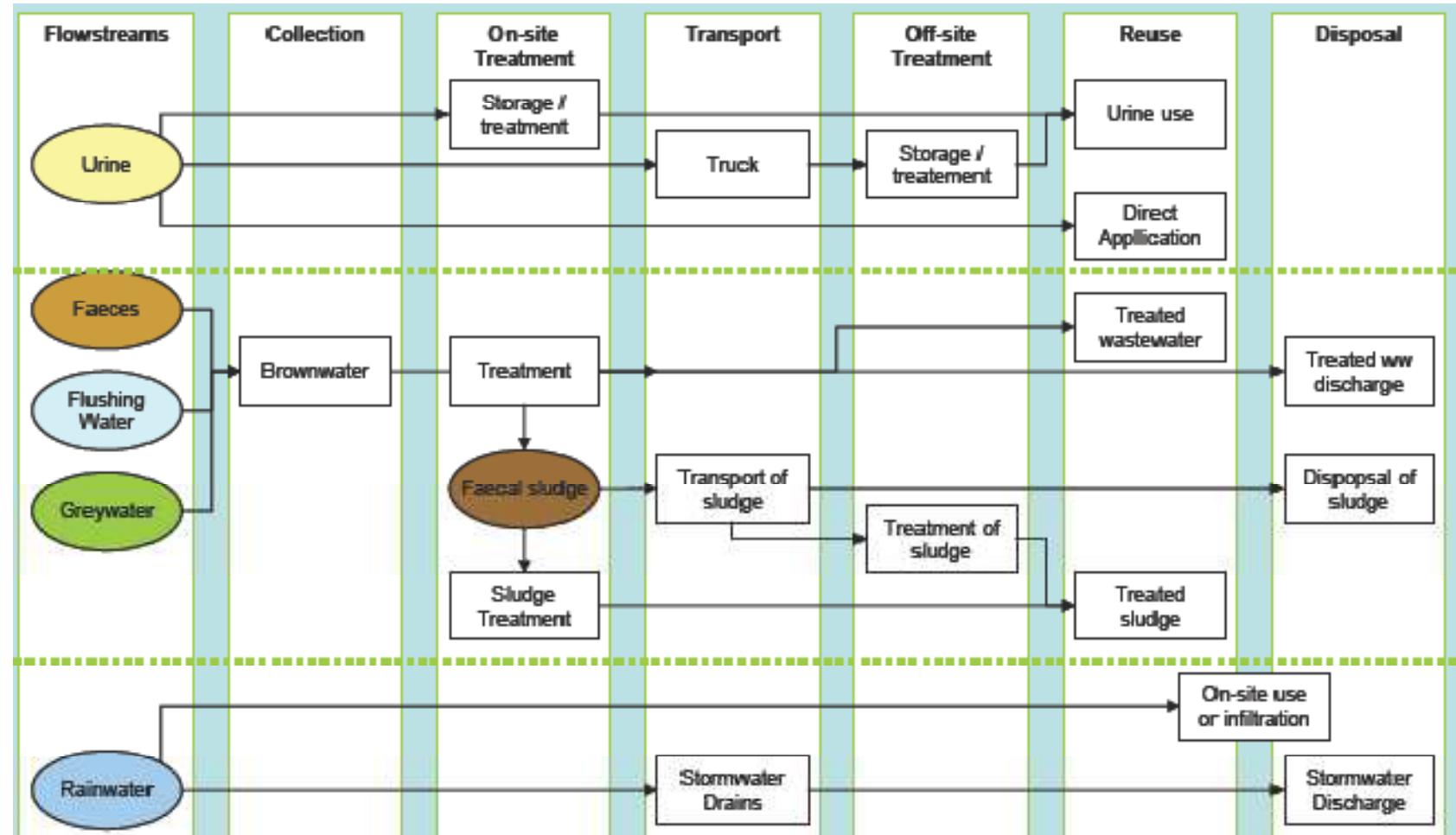
(source: NETSSAF 2007)



# Wastewater separation - flowstreams

## Wet urine diversion system

(source: NETSSAF 2007)



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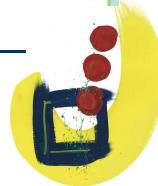
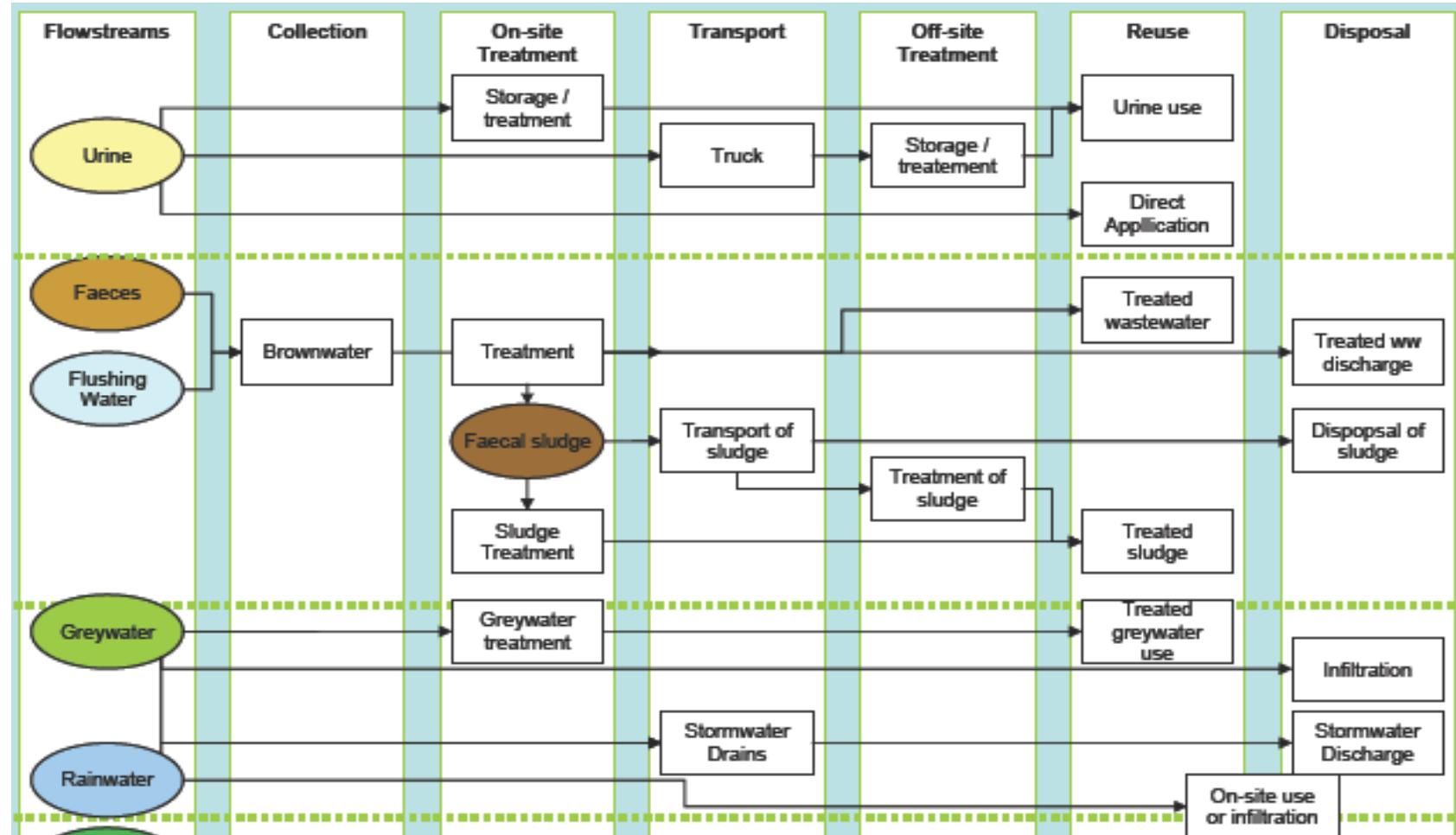
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# Wastewater separation - flowstreams

## Wet urine & greywater diversion system

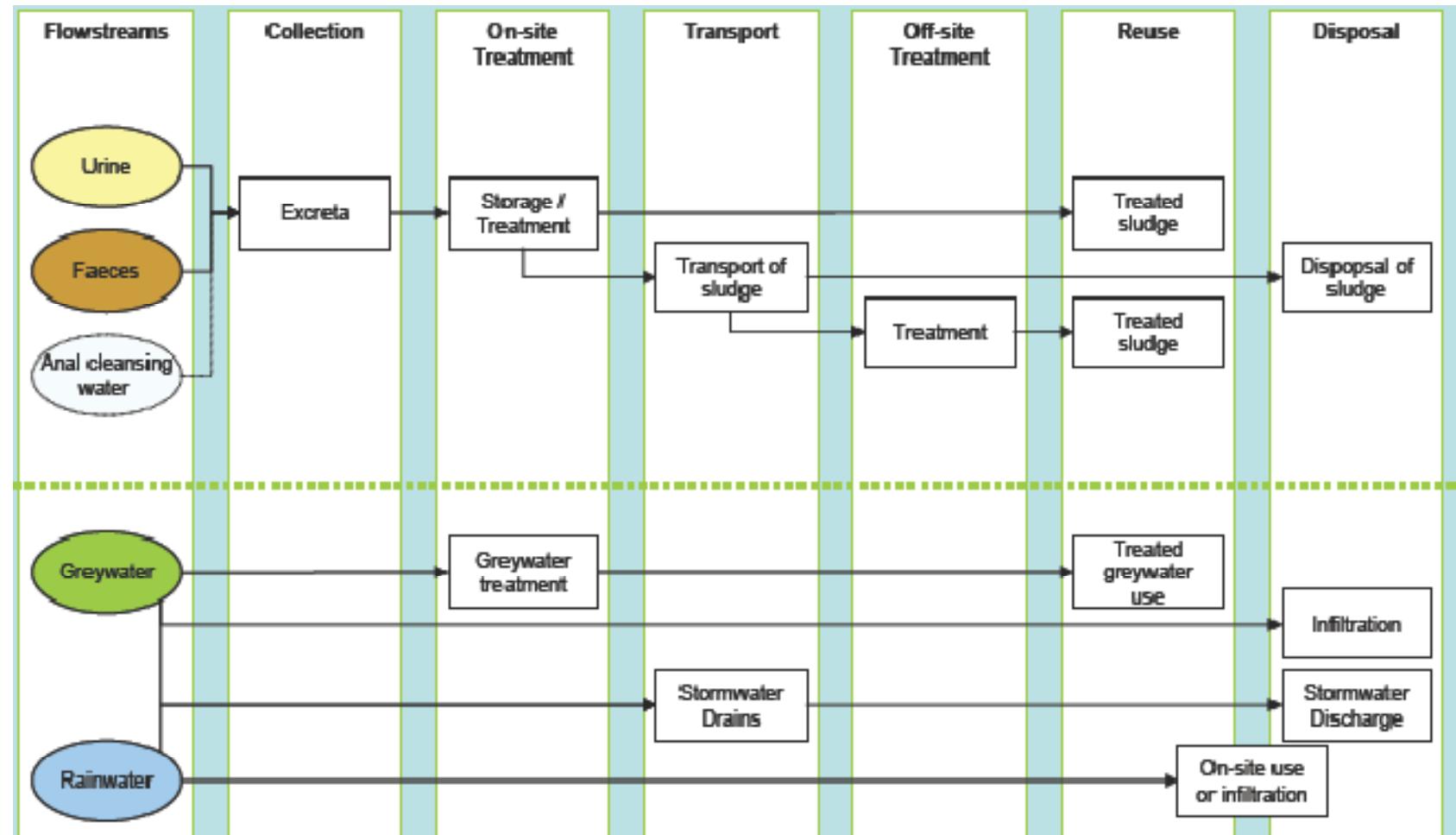
(source: NETSSAF 2007)



# Wastewater separation - flowstreams

## Dry greywater separation system

(source: NETSSAF 2007)



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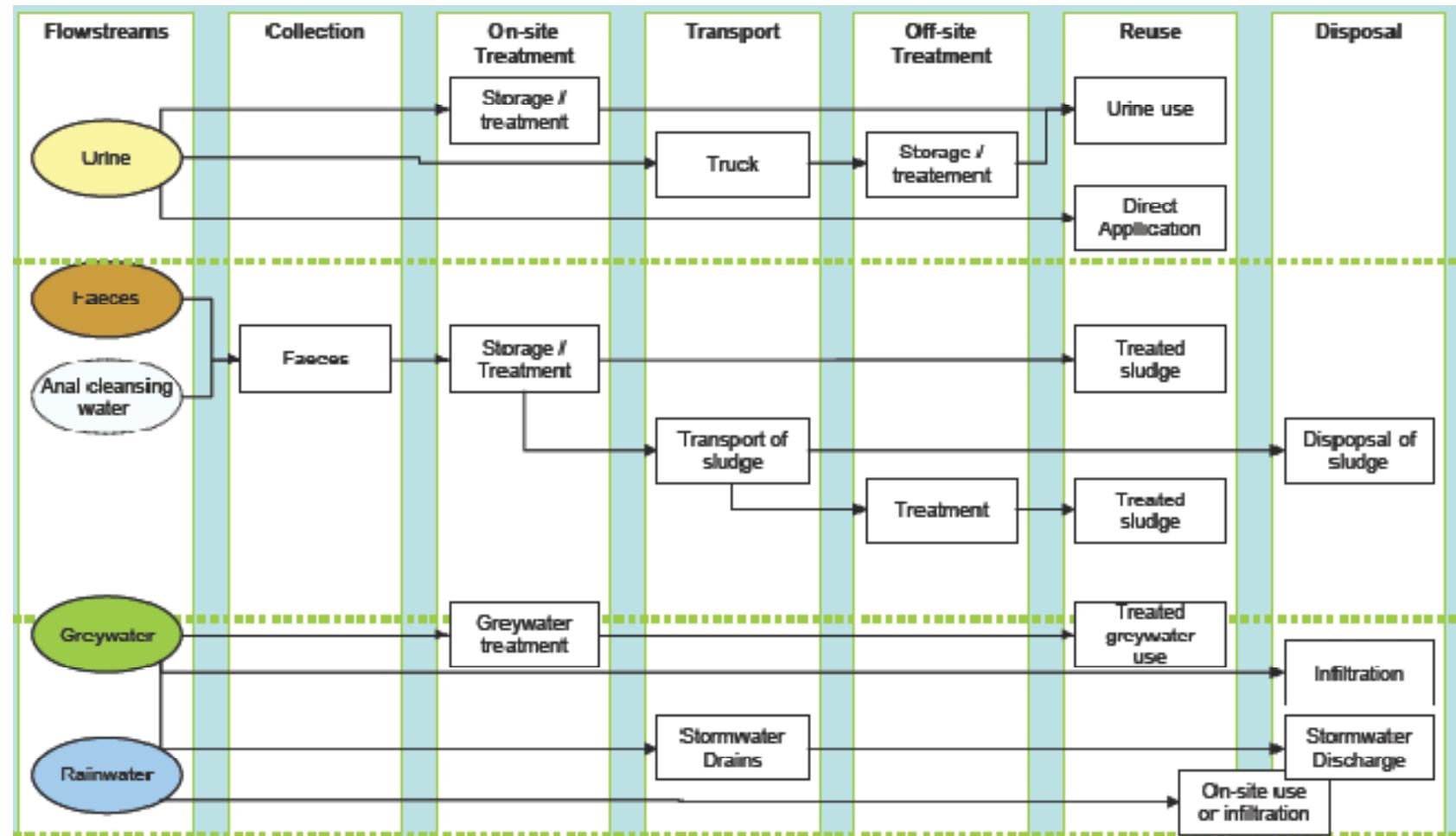
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# Wastewater separation - flowstreams

## Dry urine & greywater separation system

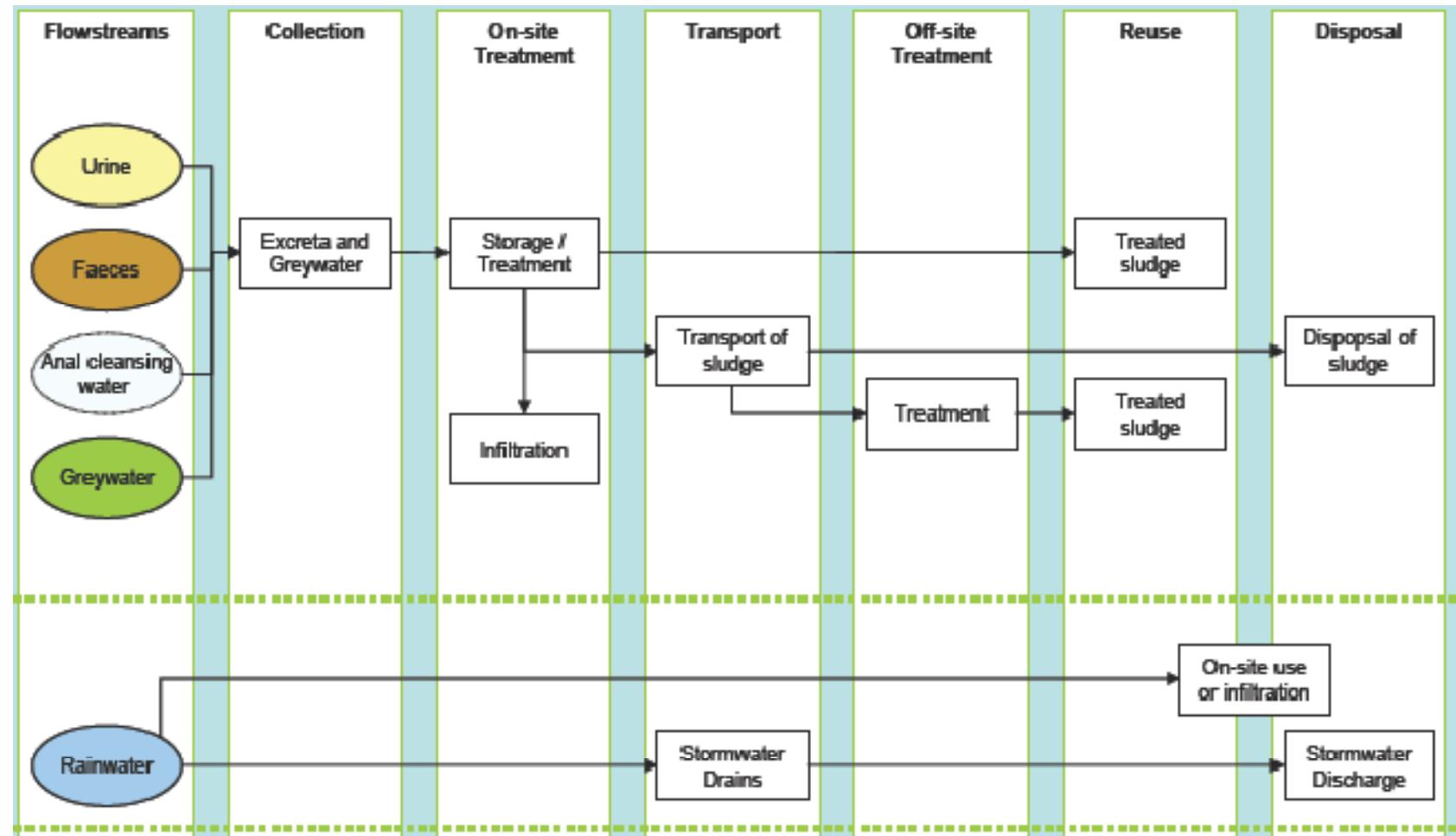
(source: NETSSAF 2007)



# Wastewater separation - flowstreams

## Dry system with mixed flowstream

(source: NETSSAF 2007)



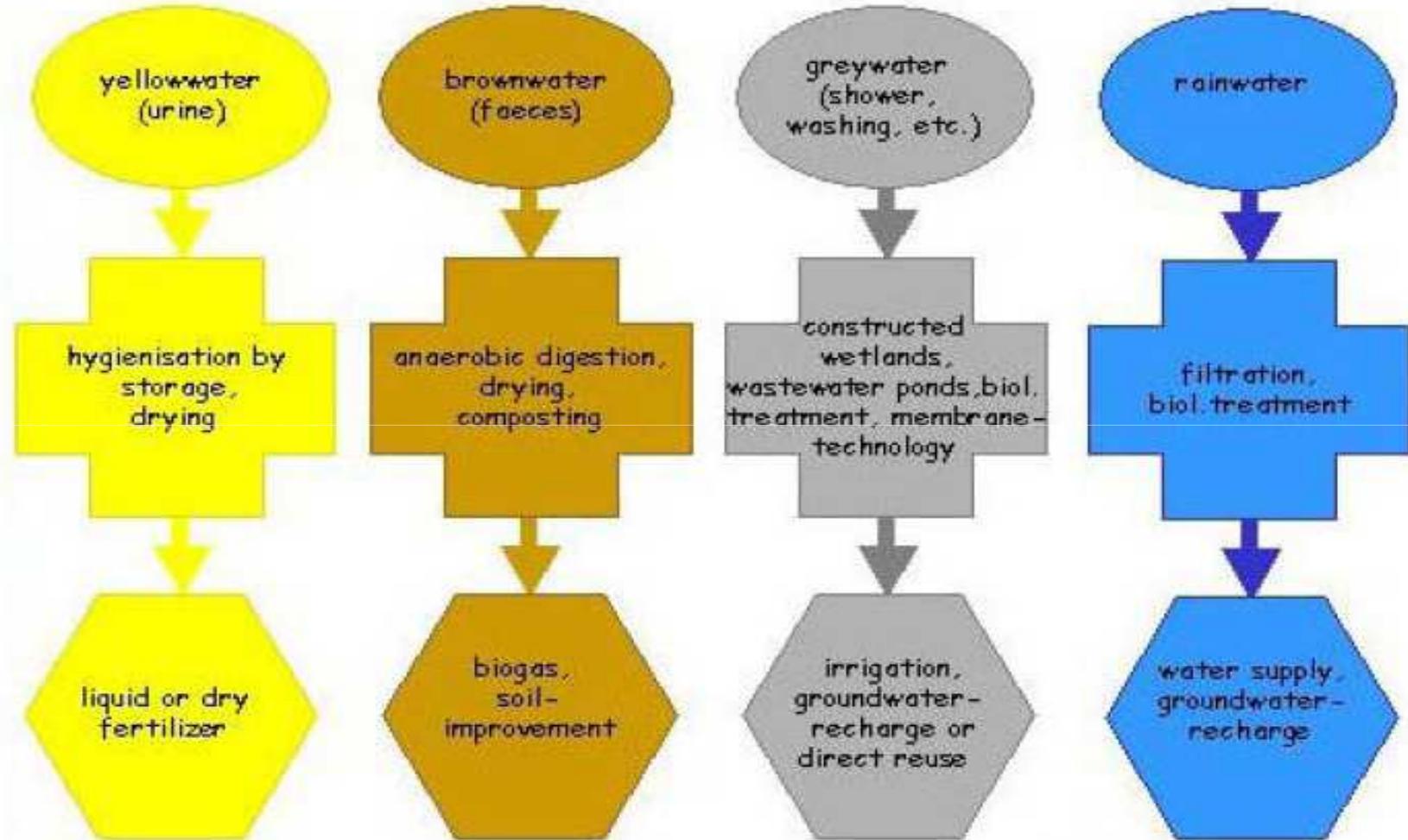
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# Pre-treatments before reuse



# Treatment of urine

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- Long time storage in hermetical storage tanks (1-6 months) for hygenisation



- Desiccation (reuse of dried crystals)
- MAP-dissipation (conversion of liquid urine into powder)



# Treatment of faecal sludge, faeces & excreta

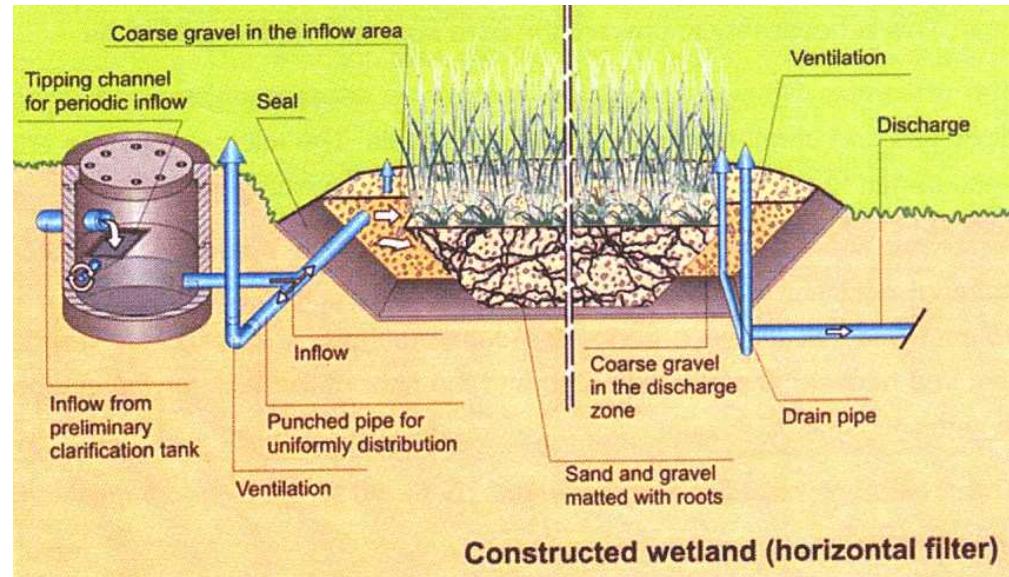
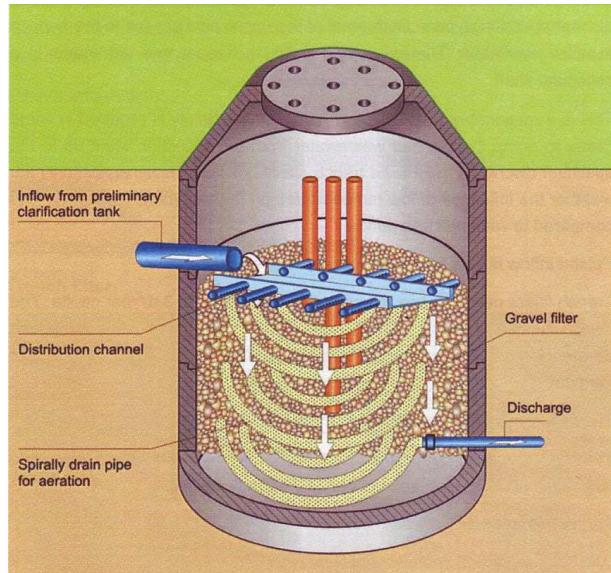
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- Dewatering (drying beds, presses, centrifuges, thermal)
- Aerobic digestion (open digesters)
- Composting (windrows, static piles, closed reactors)
- Anaerobic digestion (closed biogas reactors)
- Hygienisation (thermal, chemical)



# Treatment of greywater

- Floatation – grease trap
- Slow sand filtration
- Constructed wetlands (horizontal/vertical flow)



(source: BGR 2007)

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# Conclusions - Strengths

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- Water and energy saving technologies
- Concentration of nutrients → Better reusability of resources
- Improved (specific) treatment and disposal of pollutants
- No mixing with industrial effluents
- Better traceability of pollution
- Saving costs for conventional wastewater treatment
- Less investment and maintenance costs for new sewer systems
- New business concepts for SMEs (sanitation services)
- Achievement of international objectives on access to sanitation  
(MDG, Johannesburg Summit)

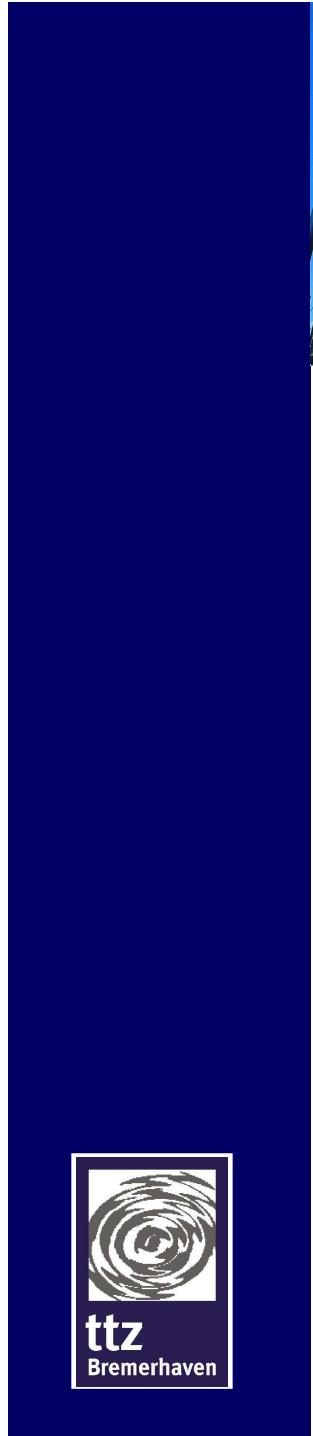


## Conclusions - Weaknesses

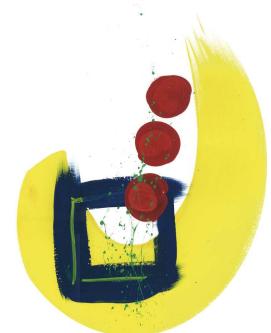
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- Higher investment costs for separation technologies
- Low public awareness of such a new approach → Reluctances
- Decentralised monitoring and control of proper treatment





# Thank you for your attention!



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