



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES



American Water Works Association
California-Nevada Section



GLOBAL STRATEGIES, LOCAL ACTION

A DANISH – CALIFORNIAN DIALOGUE ON WATER
EFFICIENCY AND LOSS PREVENTION



Engage on Social Media:

#CopenhagenToCali

#GlobalStrategiesLocalAction





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WELCOME

VELKOMMEN

SUE MOSBURG, CA-NV AWWA

JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR, STATE WATER BOARD

JESPER KØKS ANDERSEN, DANISH WATER TECHNOLOGY
ALLIANCE





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BEHIND THE METER

JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR, STATE WATER BOARD

MICHAEL ROSENBERG PEDERSEN, AARHUS VAND

AMY HOLMS, CLIMATE REGISTRY

BRIAN HEILAND DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES



Making Conservation a California Way of Life

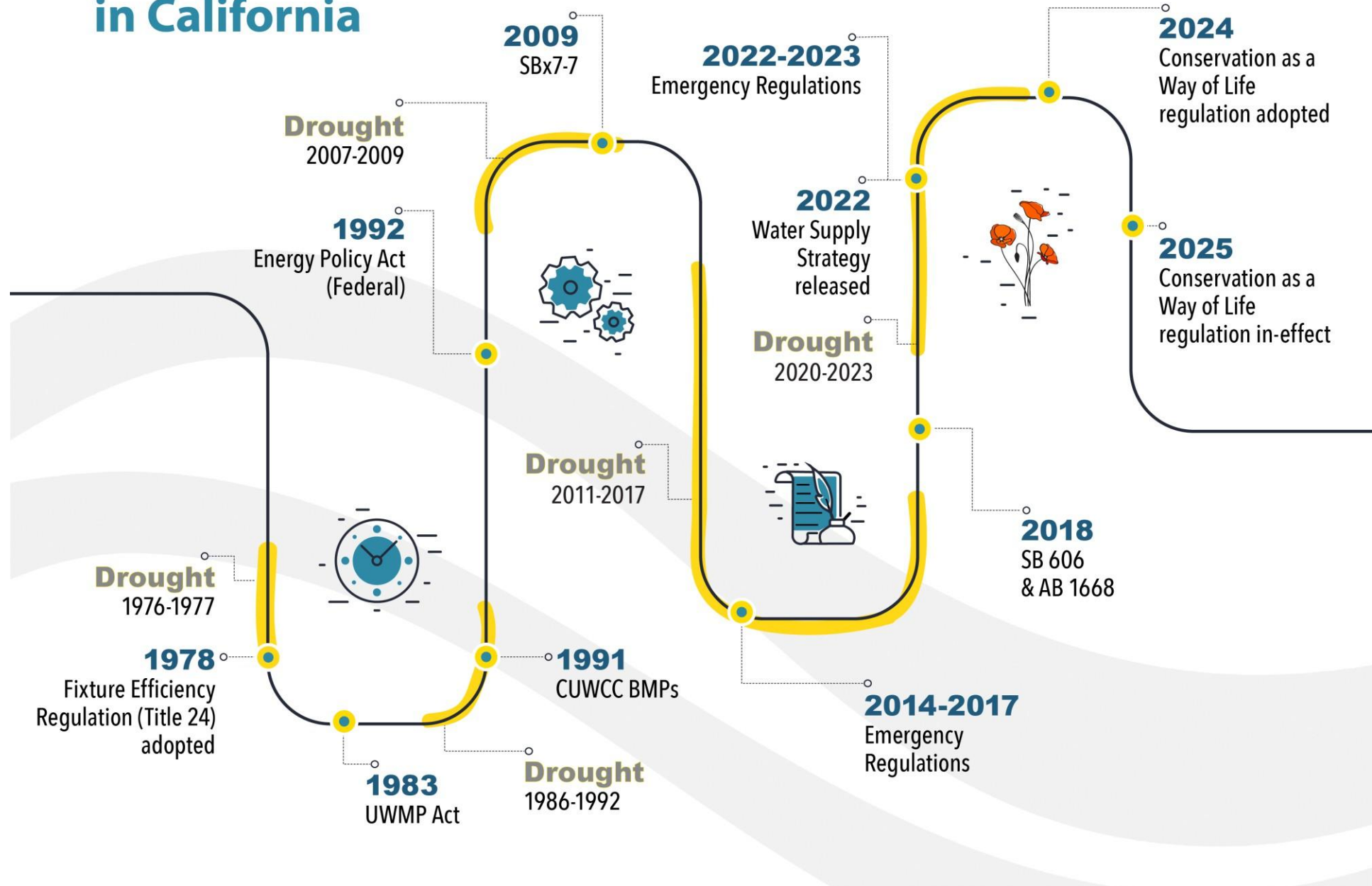
Overview

Joaquin Esquivel
Chair, State Water Board



State Water Resources Control Board

Drought and Conservation Milestones in California



Making Conservation a Way of Life

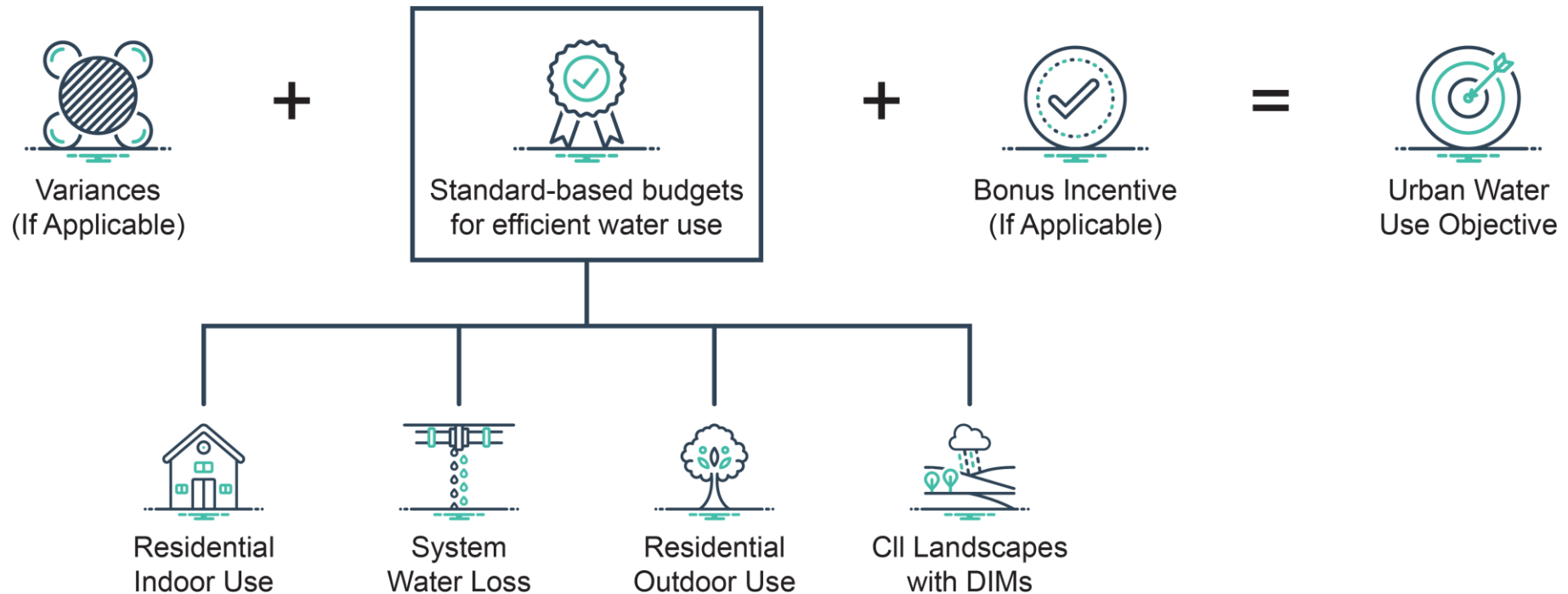
What does the regulation do?

- Establishes **efficiency standards** for urban water use
- Requires Urban Retail Water Supplier (URWS) to annually calculate customized **urban water use objectives** using efficiency standards.
 - Urban water use objective = estimated aggregate amount of water that would have been delivered the previous year by an agency if all that water had been used efficiently.
- Establishes **performance measures** for Commercial, Institutional, and Industrial (CII) water use and requires URWS to carry out those measures.
- Requires URWS to **annually report**



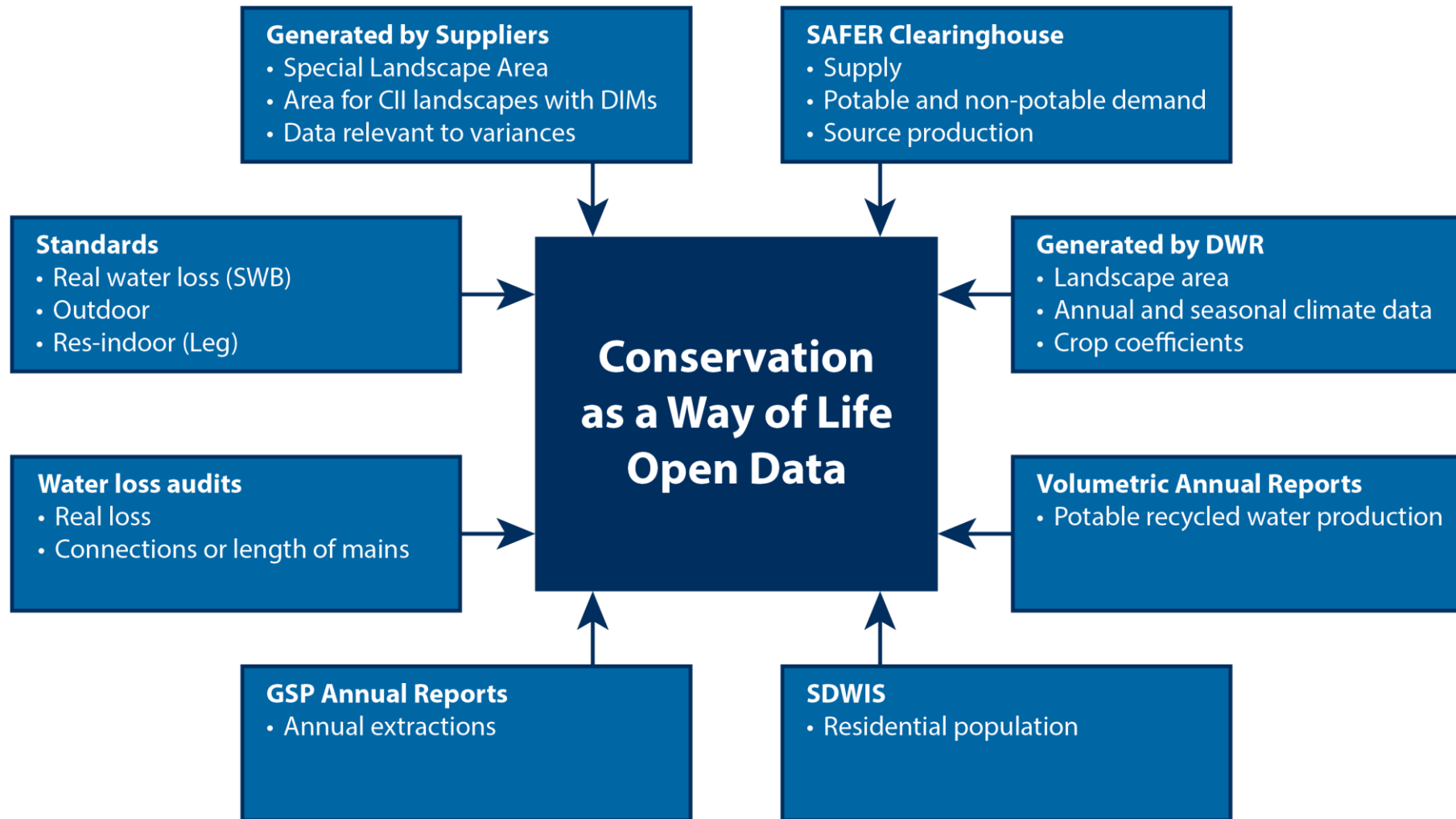
Calculating an Objective

Based on efficiency standards and customized, supplier-specific data



Data System Integration

What are we doing to streamline reporting?





On the CA Open Data Portal

<https://data.ca.gov/dataset/urban-water-use-objectives-conservation>

- PWSID-DWR ID Crosswalk
- Residential Population
- Residential landscape area
- Annual and seasonal weather data
- Real water loss standards
- Real water loss audit data
- Potable water production (per-source)
- Potable & non-potable deliveries
- Potable supply and sold/exported
- CII service connections

The screenshot shows the CA Open Data Portal interface. The header includes the CA.gov logo and navigation links for DATASETS, ORGANIZATIONS, and TOPICS. The breadcrumb trail indicates the path: Organizations / California State Water... / Urban Water Use Objectives – Relevant Data. The dataset title is 'Urban Water Use Objectives – Relevant Data' with 1 follower. The organization is the California State Water Resources Control Board, with its logo and website URL (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/) listed. The 'Data and Resources' section lists four datasets: 'PWSID-DWRID Crosswalk', 'DWR - Landscape Area Measurement Final', 'Real Water Loss Standards for Systems of Urban...', and 'Residential Population from SDWIS', each with a brief description.

CALIFORNIA
.GOV OPEN DATA PORTAL

DATASETS ORGANIZATIONS TOPICS

Organizations / California State Water... / Urban Water Use Objectives – Relevant Data

Urban Water Use Objectives – Relevant Data

Followers
1

Organization

California State Water Resources Control Board

Website: <https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/> To preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water.

Urban Water Use Objectives – Relevant Data

The Making Conservation a California Way of Life regulation requires suppliers to annually calculate indoor water use, residential outdoor water use, real water loss and commercial, industrial and institutional statewide efficiency standard and local service area characteristics such as population, climate, agricultural uses, or a bonus incentive for potable recycled water use.

Data and Resources

- PWSID-DWRID Crosswalk**
This dataset is a draft crosswalk, indicating which public water systems are...
- DWR - Landscape Area Measurement Final**
Release from the Department of Water Resources, containing a summary table of...
- Real Water Loss Standards for Systems of Urban...**
Consistent with California Code of Regulations title 23 §980 through §986,...
- Residential Population from SDWIS**
Consistent with Health and Safety Code section 116530 and California Code of...



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BEHIND THE METER

First Question: How are you measuring your organization's carbon footprint ?



Danish-Californian Dialogue – April 10th, 2025

Behind the Meter

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Key figures



Operator of the entire water cycle



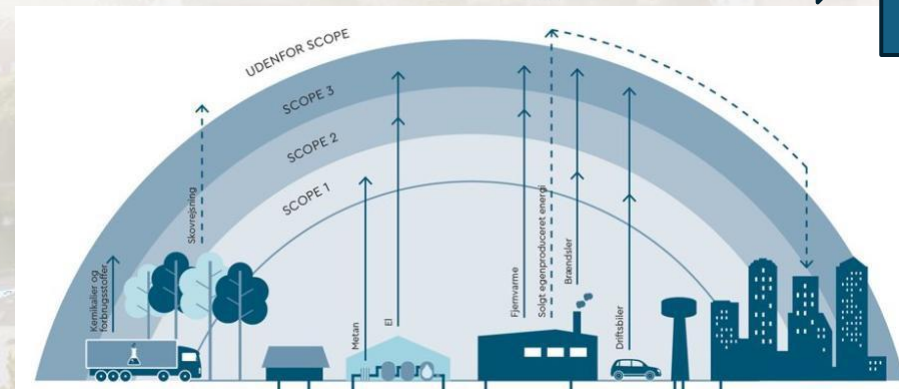
United Nations

Sustainability Development Goals



- 6 Clean water and sanitation
- 11 Sustainable cities and communities
- 13 Climate action
- 17 Partnerships for the goals

Paris model



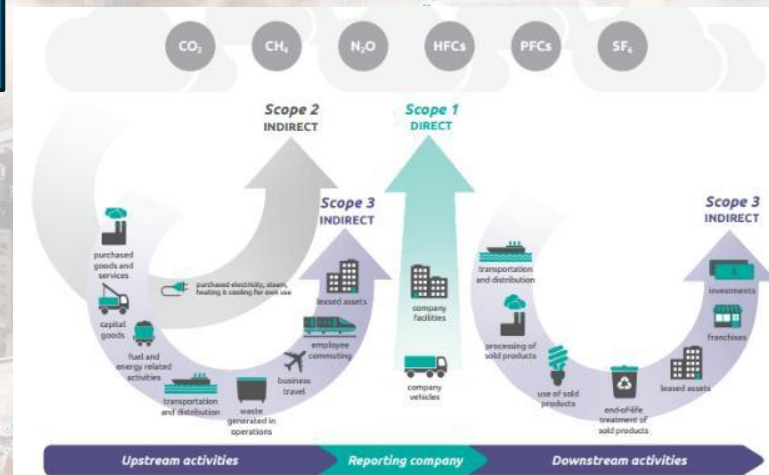
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Difference between Paris model and GHG protocol:

- Afforestation for drinking water protection purposes was previously allowed to be deducted from emissions
- Produced energy was previously allowed to be deducted from emissions
- Scope 3: previously only purchased chemicals used in operations

2022

Greenhouse Gas Protocol





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NEXUS REGISTRY**

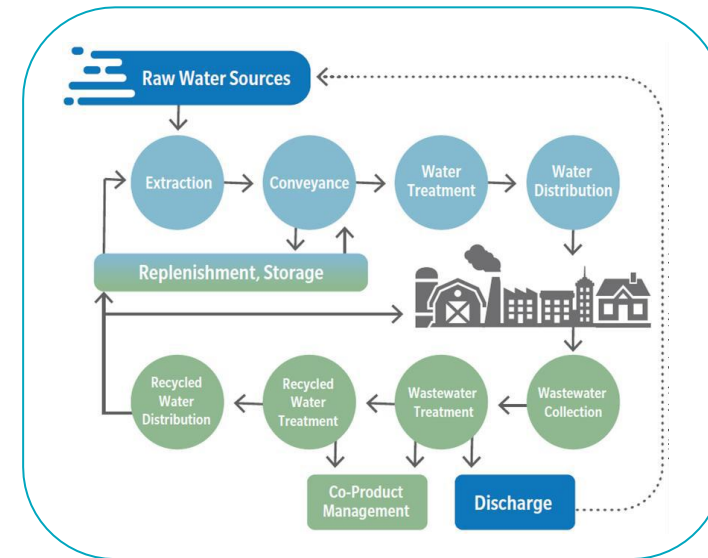


**THE CLIMATE
REGISTRY**

How the Water-Energy Nexus (WEN) Registry helps organizations measure their carbon footprint

Agencies gain a comprehensive understanding of emissions to:

- Make more efficient use of funding
- Make informed decision that drive innovation and support more resilient infrastructure
- Identify operational efficiency and GHG reduction opportunities
- Understand energy use and GHG emissions impact
- Inform climate action plans with accurate baseline data



**WATER-ENERGY
NEXUS REGISTRY**



**THE CLIMATE
REGISTRY**

The WEN Registry enables standardized GHG reporting which allows organizations to....

- Better understand energy use and GHG emissions impact
- Allows for apples-to-apples comparability with sector and year-to-year trends
- Inform climate action plans with accurate baseline data
- Identify operational efficiency and GHG reduction opportunities
- Make informed decisions that drive innovation, more resilient infrastructure, and recognition opportunities
- Utilize for communication with stakeholders



WATER-ENERGY
NEXUS REGISTRY





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RESOURCES***

April 2025

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

DWR's Mission

“To sustainably manage the water resources of California, in cooperation with other agencies, to benefit the State’s people and protect, restore, and enhance the natural and human environments.”

What We Do

- Dam Safety
- Emergency Management
- Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability
- Flood Management
- Hydropower
- Infrastructure - SWP
- Recreation
- Science
- Water Education
- Water Storage & Supply

CALIFORNIA STATE WATER PROJECT







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BEHIND THE METER

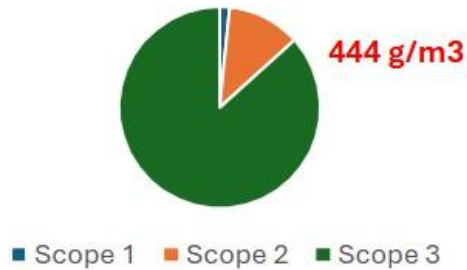
Second Question: How are you measuring the carbon intensity of the water supplied?



Carbon intensity

Water

Drinking water emissions



Scope 1: Emissions mainly from transport related to operations

7 g/m³

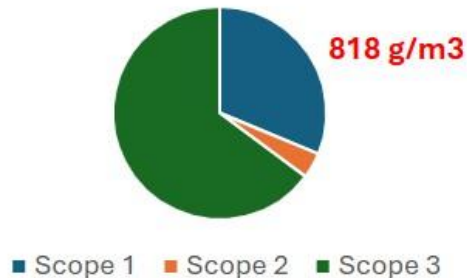
Scope 2: Purchased energy: electricity and heating

52 g/m³

Scope 3: Purchased goods and services, construction work by contractors, commuting, business travel, waste generated, transportation of goods, capital goods, energy related

385 g/m³

Wastewater emissions



Scope 1: Emissions mainly from nitrous oxide and methane from biogas leakage

256 g/m³

Scope 2: Purchased energy: electricity and heating

32 g/m³

Scope 3: Purchased goods and services, construction work by contractors, commuting, business travel, waste generated, transportation of goods, capital goods, energy related

530 g/m³

WEN Registry helps organizations measure the carbon intensity of the water supplied by providing key water metrics:

- **System Average** – GHG per unit of total water delivered
- **Water Product** – Emissions tied to specific water sources
- **Groundwater Basin Average** – GHG per unit of recharged groundwater
- **Biosolid & Biogas Products** – GHG per unit of product managed/sold



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**THE CLIMATE
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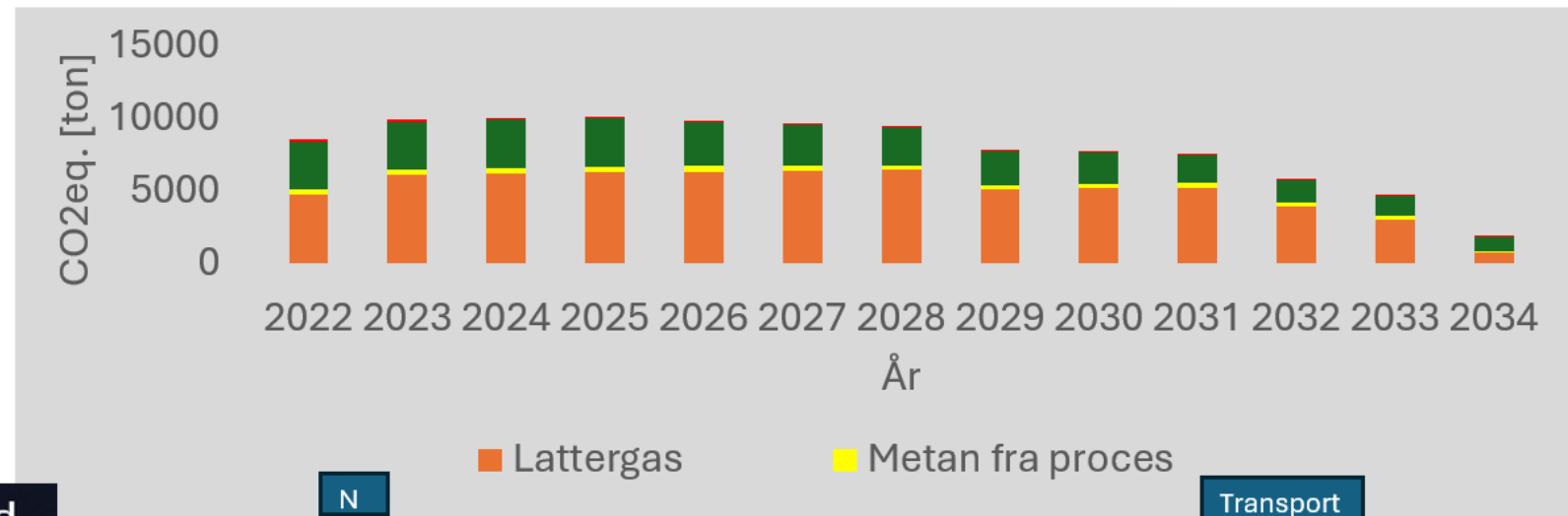
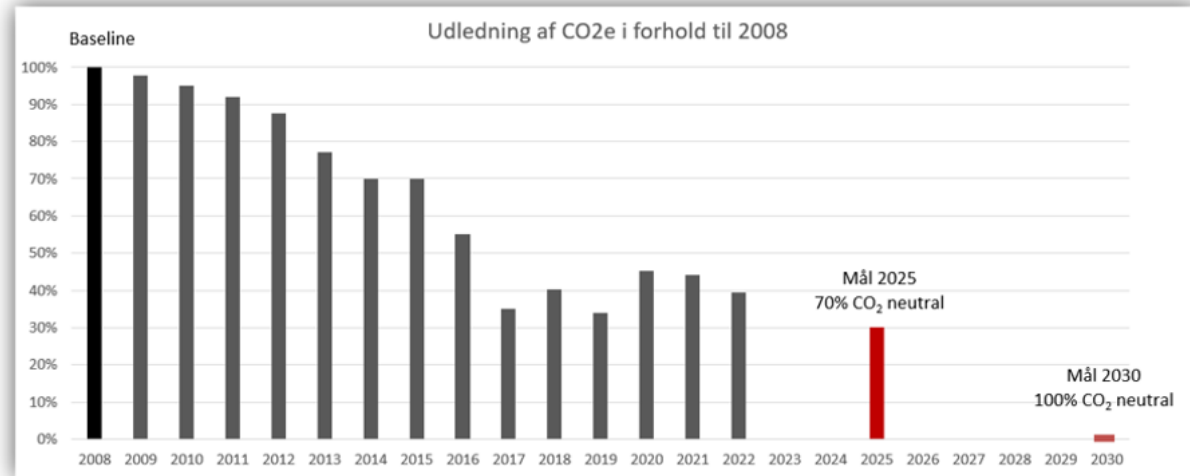


BEHIND THE METER

Third Question: What are your organization's GHG reduction goals? What have you achieved?



GHG Goals



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Scope 1 & Scope 2

2030 - 70% reduction

2035 - Neutral compensated with nature and afforestation

Scope 3

2050- Neutral compensated with nature and afforestation

WEN Registry Goals: Helping organizations reduce GHG emissions in operations, lower costs, and secure water for future generations

- Water agencies face climate-driven extremes – floods, droughts, and wildfires as well as rising energy costs
- WEN Registry members leading the way:
 - ★ **Sonoma Water**
 - ★ **Las Virgenes Municipal Water District**
 - ★ **Helix Water District**
 - ★ **Irvine Ranch Water District**



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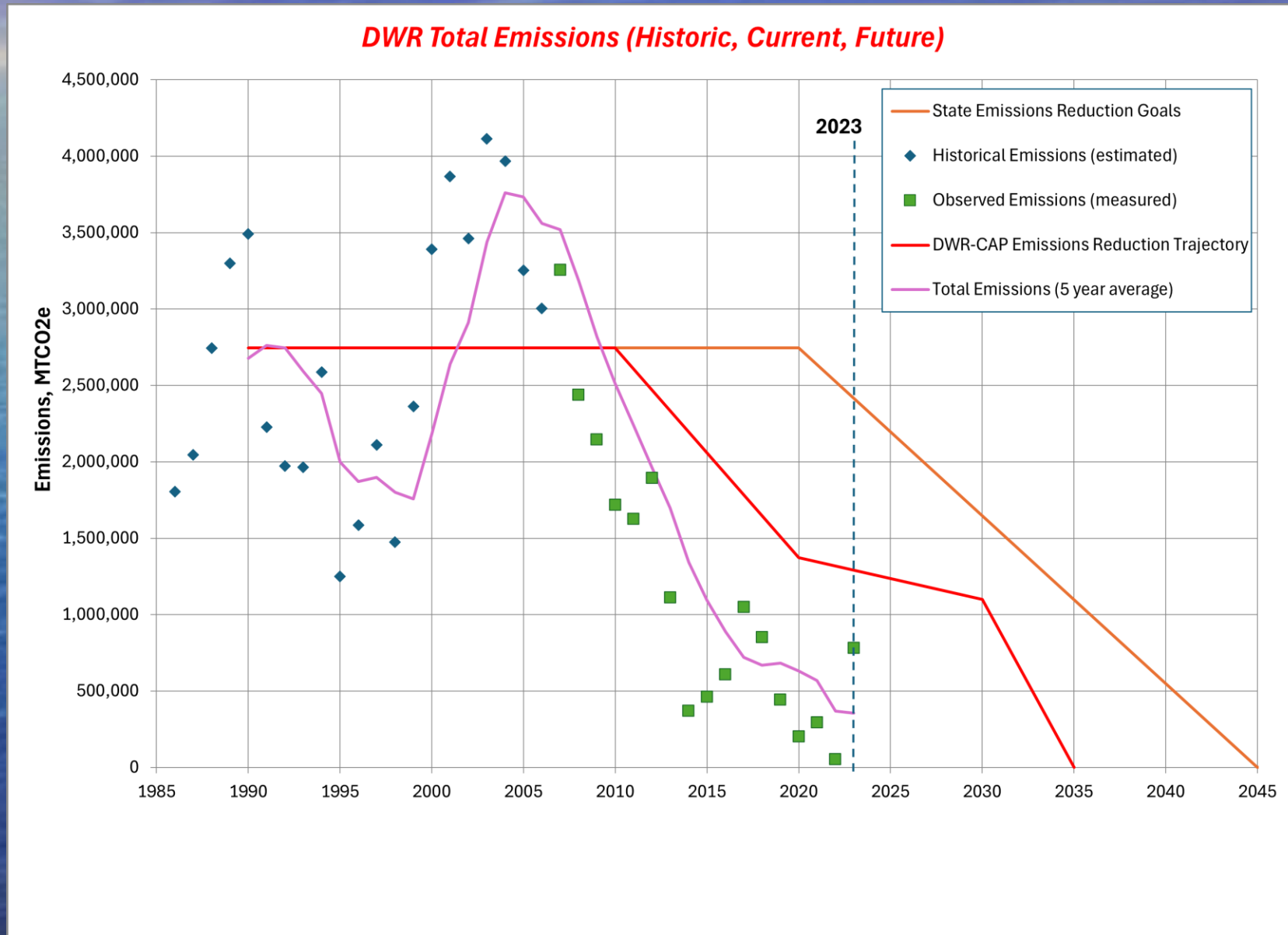




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April 2025

CAP EMISSIONS REDUCTION TARGET





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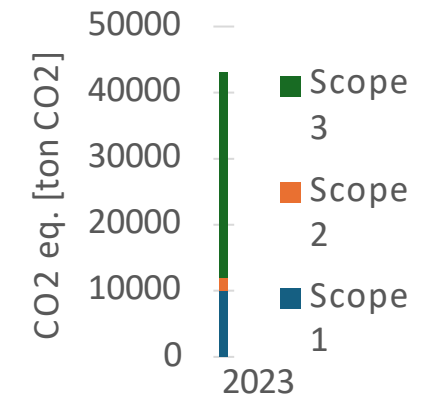
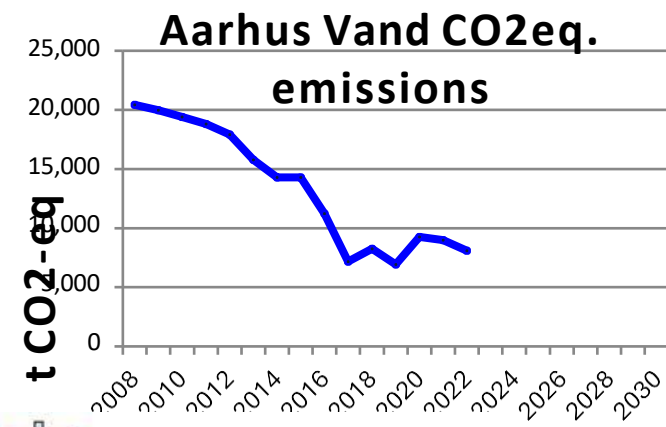
BEHIND THE METER

Fourth Question: What challenges are you facing in meeting those goals?



Meeting the goals

Challenges

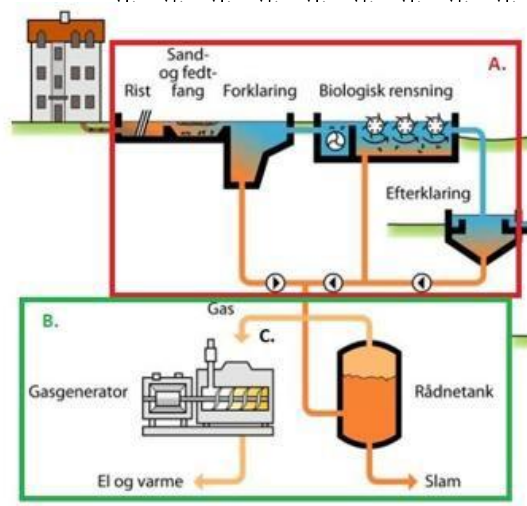


Focus on energy and process optimization

Process control and optimization for reduction of nitrous oxide production

Upgrade of infrastructure to reduce biogas leakage

Destruction of nitrous oxide and methane coupled with our ventilation systems



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Challenges Facing Water Agencies

- **Weather whiplash** – extreme variability in rain, runoff, and temperature
- **Droughts & wildfires** impact water supply and infrastructure
- **Resources (staff & funding) for climate vulnerability** planning, which is critical for long-term sustainability
- **Leadership commitment** around the benefits of measurement and use of climate data



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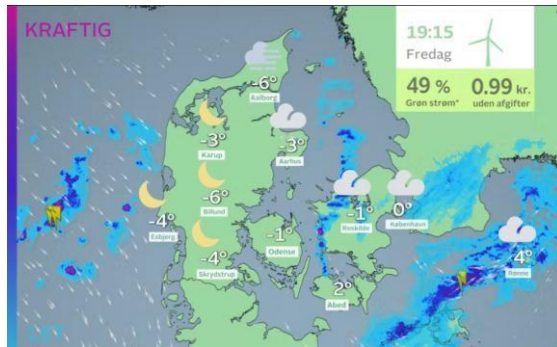
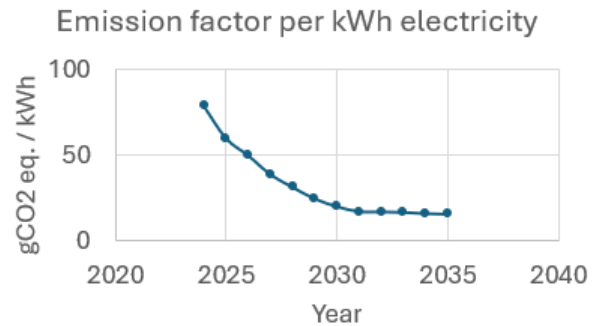


BEHIND THE METER

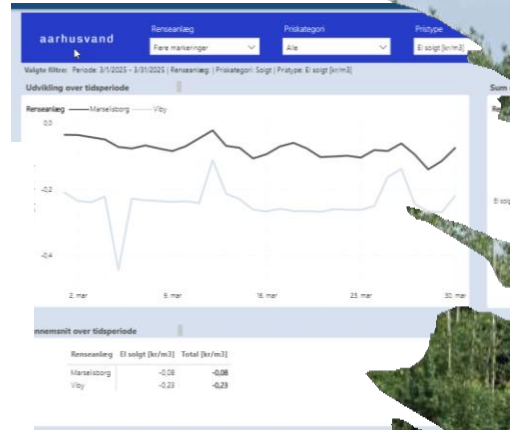
Fifth Question: What opportunities do you see?



Meeting the goals Possibilities



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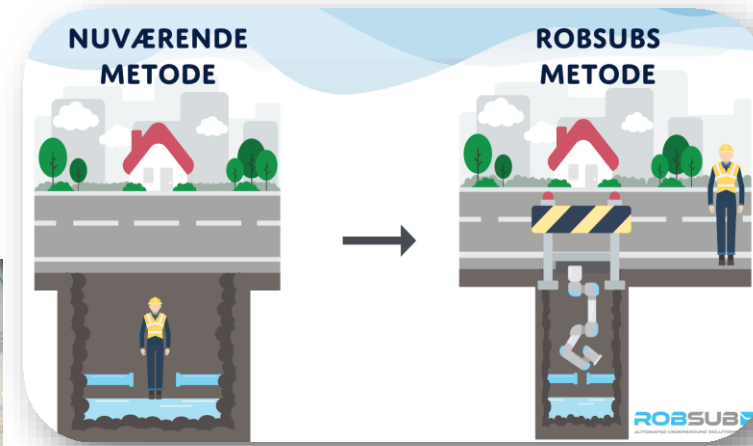
Afforestation and Nature

- Groundwater (/drinking water) protection
- **Uptake of CO₂**
- Providing recreational areas for surrounding communities
- Improving conditions for biodiversity and thriving ecosystems

Meeting the goals

Scope 3

Indirect emissions

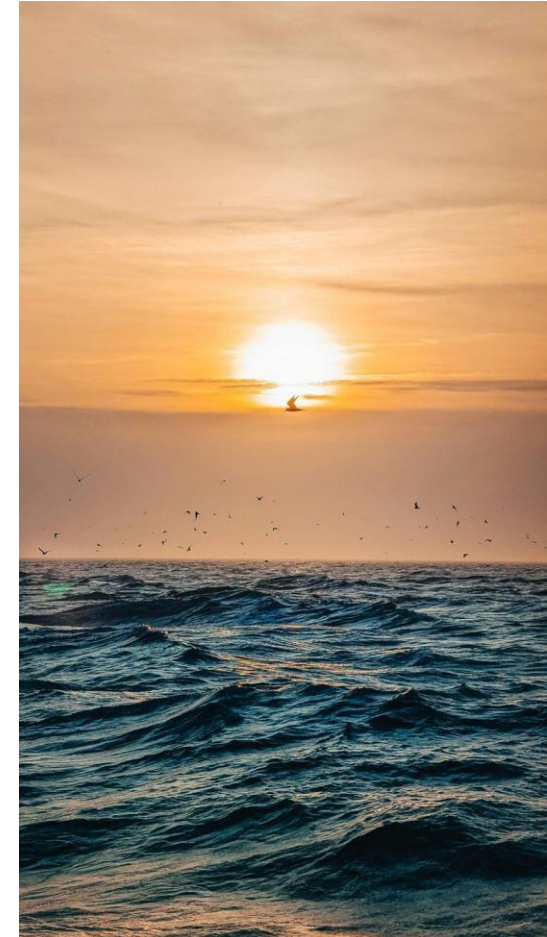


*Through collaborative
partnerships, solutions for a
more sustainable future*

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Reason for Hope

- Proactive planning & emissions tracking through the WEN Registry
- Helps water agencies:
 1. **Reduce** their carbon footprint
 2. **Save** money
 3. **Strengthen** climate resilience
 4. **Adapt** to more extreme weather events
- Measuring leads to managing: data-driven action for a sustainable future
- SB 654 legislation



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