

RESOURCE The Issues and Challenges of Reducing Non-Revenue Water

Description / Abstract

For many cities, reducing NRW should be the first option to pursue when addressing low service coverage levels and increased demand for piped water supply. Expanding water networks without addressing water losses will only lead to a cycle of waste and inefficiency. Also, a high rate of NRW is closely related to poor energy efficiency, since water transported in networks is "loaded" with energy through the distribution and treatment processes. Thus, energy is lost along with the water. Therefore, reducing NRW is important to overall efficiency and financial sustainability, since it provides additional revenues and reduces costs.

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