

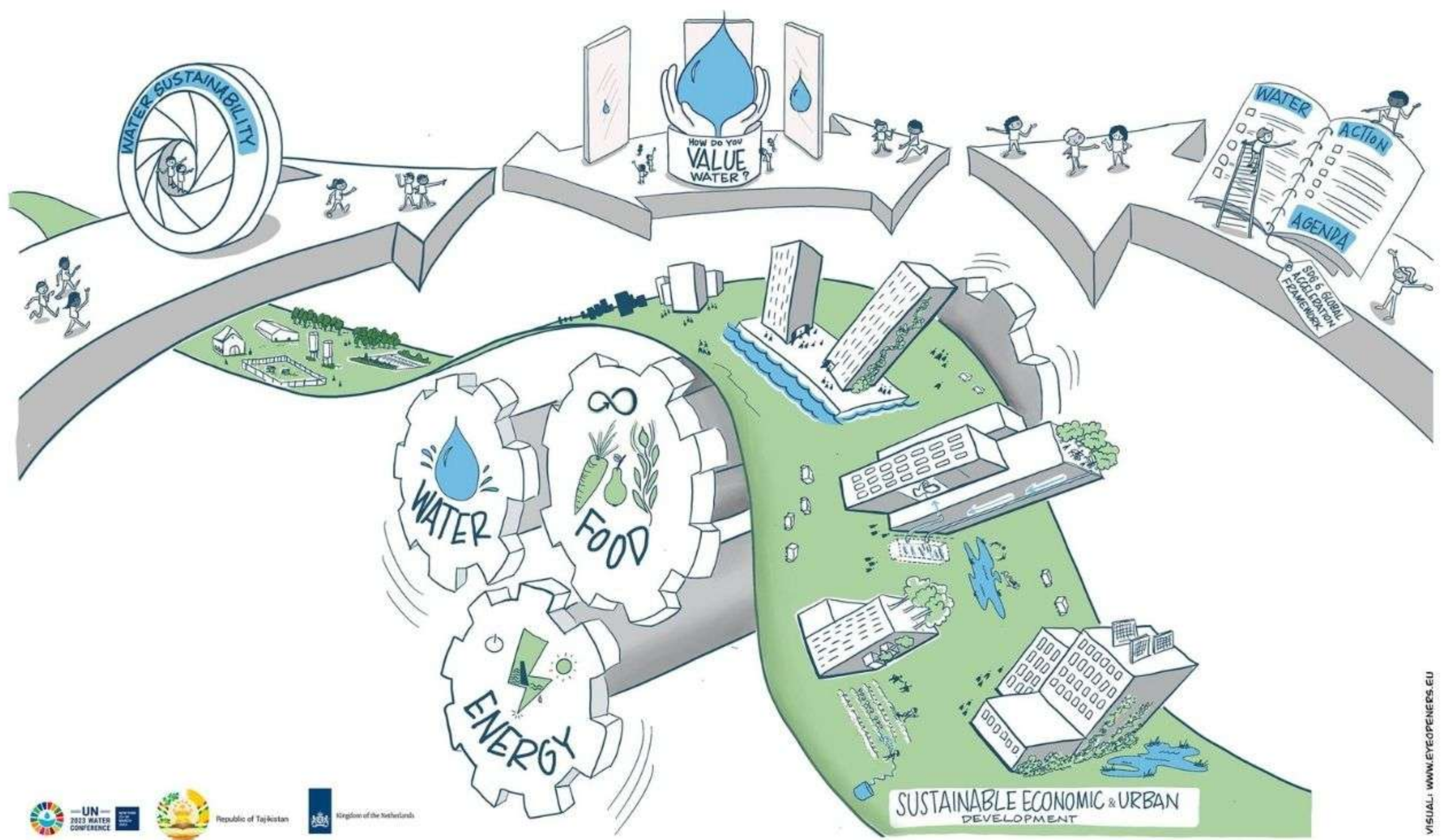
WORLD WATER DAY 2023

Accelerating Change & Charting a Water-Wise Path



WATER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:

VALUING WATER, WATER-ENERGY-FOOD NEXUS AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT



The complex emerging new challenges in the water sector are well recognized by the Water Resources Department, the Government of Karnataka and several new initiatives were taken up to address the water security of the State. Emphasizing the commitment towards charting a water-wise path, the new State Water Policy 2022 further offered an integrated, holistic, and coordinated governance enabling a collaborative & inclusive engagement in water management.

Exploring the topic of wisdom in the age of information, poet, author and essayist, Maria Popova in one of her essays wrote – “Information is having a library of books on shipbuilding. Knowledge applies that to building a ship. Once you’ve built your ship, wisdom is what allows you to sail it without sinking, to protect it from the storm that creeps up from the horizon in the dead of the night, to point it just so that the wind breathes life into its sails.”

ACIWRM efforts are focused on building knowledge with a thrust to transmuted it into wisdom. ACIWRM estimated Evapo-Transpiration data for the entire State, assessed the Water Productivity, and computed Water Resources Accounting for large irrigation projects using remote sensing data, to interpret and draw linkages between various dimensions of water - efficiency, multiple uses, health, energy, and food security. Armed with this knowledge it developed the capacity of WRD engineers and other department officers in considering innovation, and new technology, and embracing the best practices.



The challenges with water management are however enormous. The various key stakeholders have learnt critical lessons and built new water narratives. We need to fast track the progress on various water related goals, as articulated in the new State Water Policy 2022, more than ever before. This demands a united effort where all stakeholders have to participate to bring about effective change.

Ahead of the first UN Water Conference in 46 years and World Water Day 2023, let us take a moment to reflect how we could be water-wise. Wisdom would be in developing a practice – where-in the knowledge from collaborations and research ideas transforms into a work-in-progress, where stakeholders understand and contribute well to this water wisdom.



Now is the time to translate knowledge to accelerate change and establish a water-wise world.