



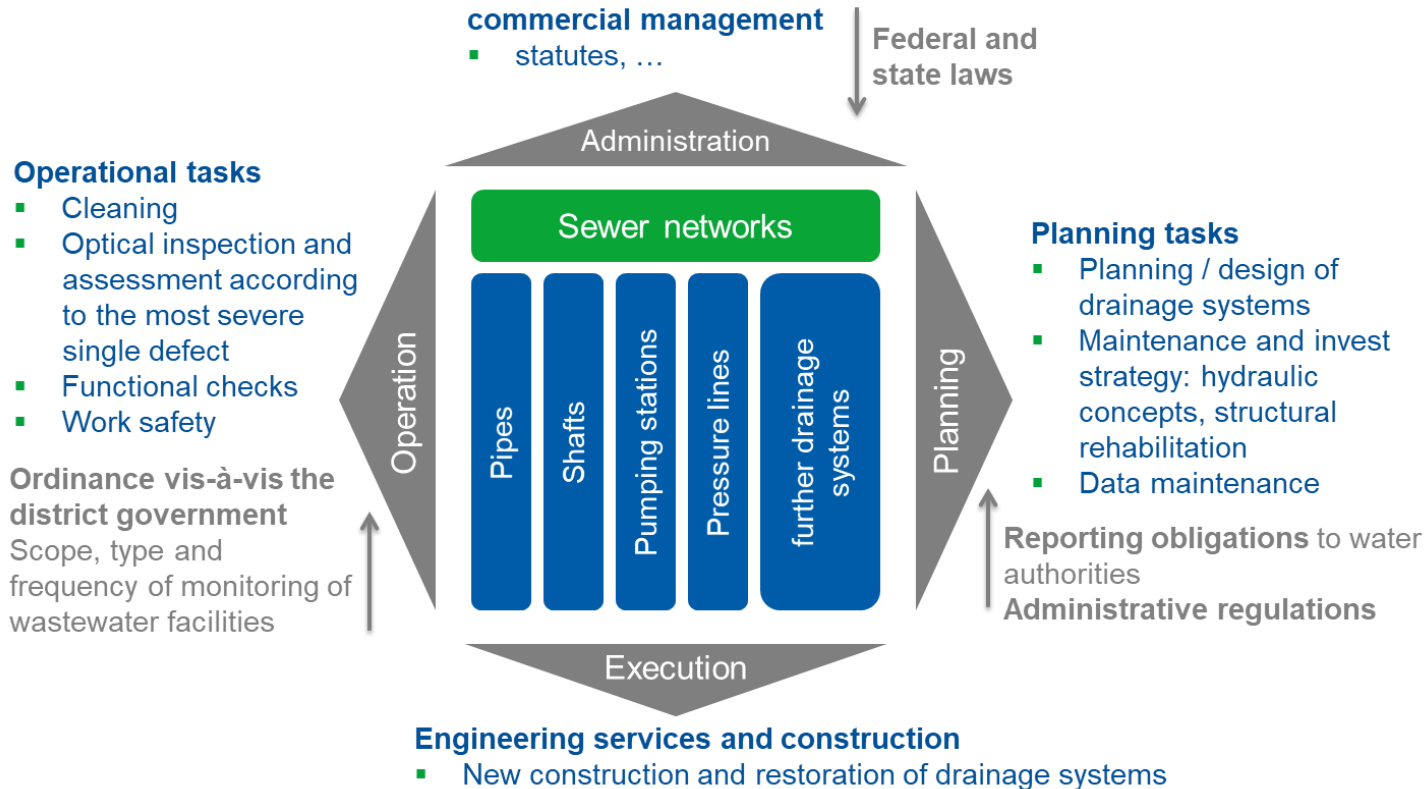
# HOW REGULATION HAS TO SUPPORT TECHNICAL PROGRESS

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# DUTIES OF A CITY DRAINAGE

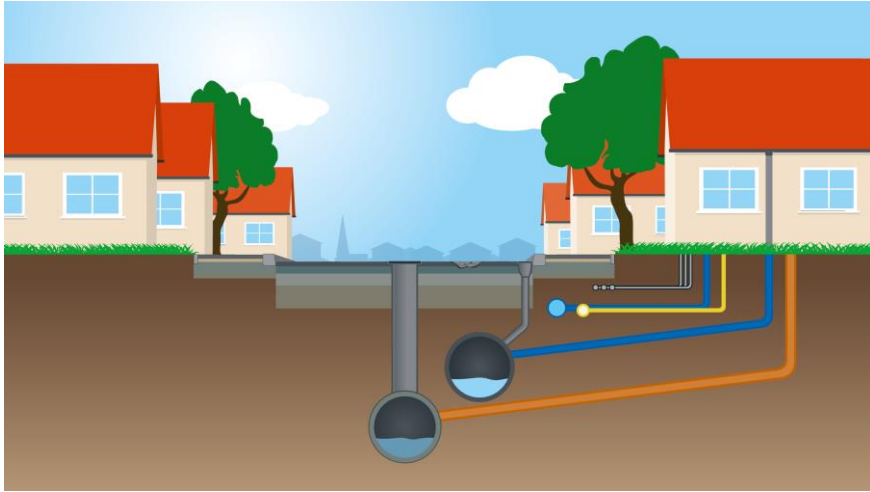
GERMANY



# REGULATORY DENSITY AND REGULATORY EFFECTIVENESS

- High regulatory density
- Irrespective of the size of the municipal wastewater companies (there are 6.000 in Germany!)
- Technical and management standards develop continuously
- BUT: Further development is only conditionally included in the regulatory mechanisms. → Investment planning based on the most severe single defect and status classes continues to be state of the art
- Digitization and modern controlling instruments play no role in the dialog between municipal wastewater companies and regulatory authorities
- Low willingness to change in the operational work to implement new technologies like artificial intelligence
- Hypothesis: today's regulation does not generate optimal maintenance and investment strategies

# THE FIRST STEP TO IMPROVEMENT



- We must realize: Wastewater is one of the biggest assets in the municipal budget
- Wastewater plays a central role in the integral redevelopment planning of the various divisions (wastewater, road, water, gas, electricity, telecommunications)
- We need the most modern approaches to rehabilitation planning in order to maintain this infrastructure in the long term in the best possible way, both technically and economically.

# HOW CAN WE GET BETTER



- Increase dialogue between municipal wastewater utilities and regulators, outside of established corsets.
- Further develop regulatory framework in this way, differentiate between different company sizes.
- Actively work on the qualification of network operators, provide assistance.
- Allow innovative forms of infrastructure management and controlling.
- Use previously collected data to show advantageousness of investment planning based on substance.
- Strengthen benchmarking in the wastewater sector.