



PUNE: Urban Hydrogeology | – recent experiences

1990

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2000

1990



Image Landsat / Copernicus

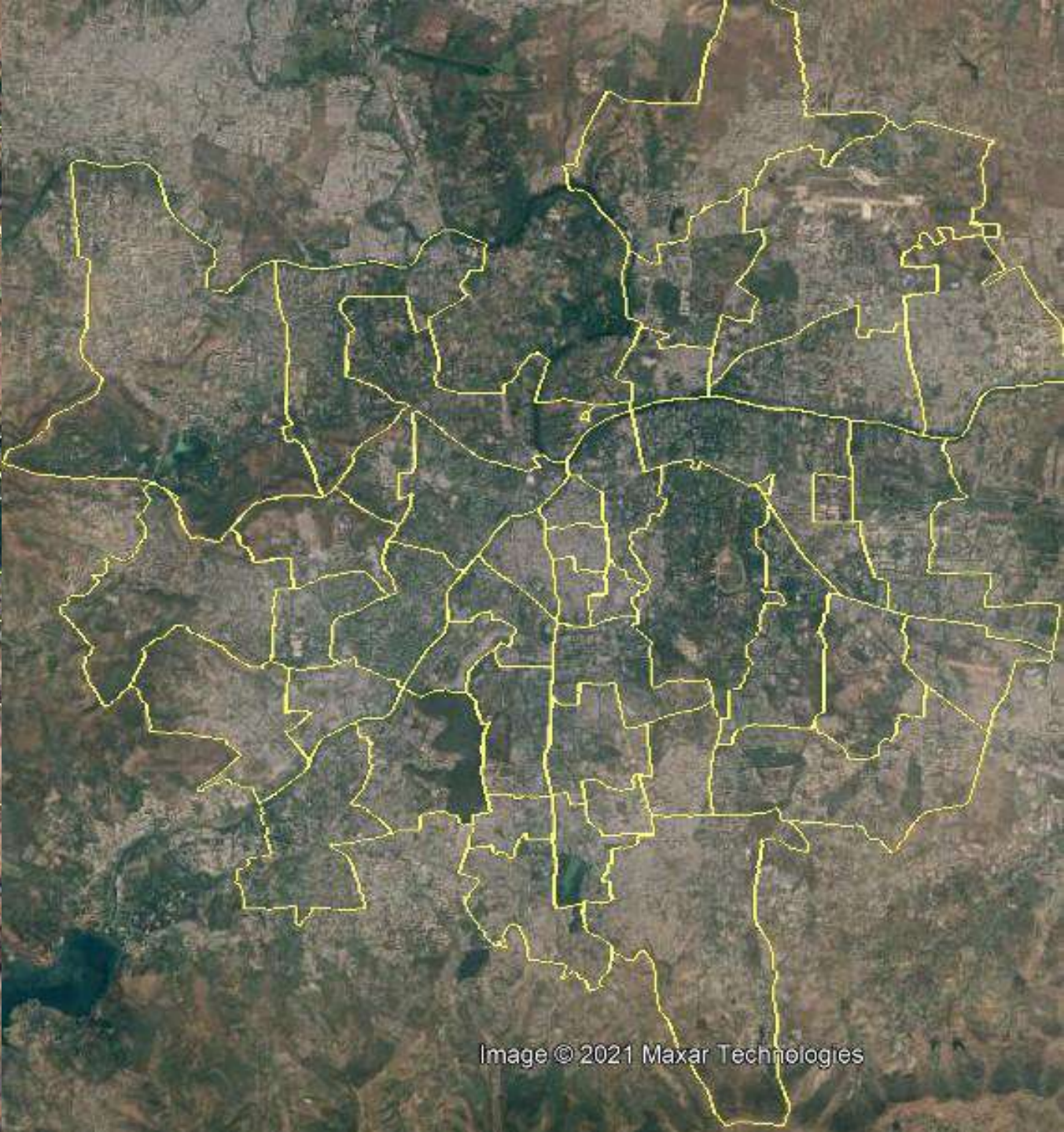
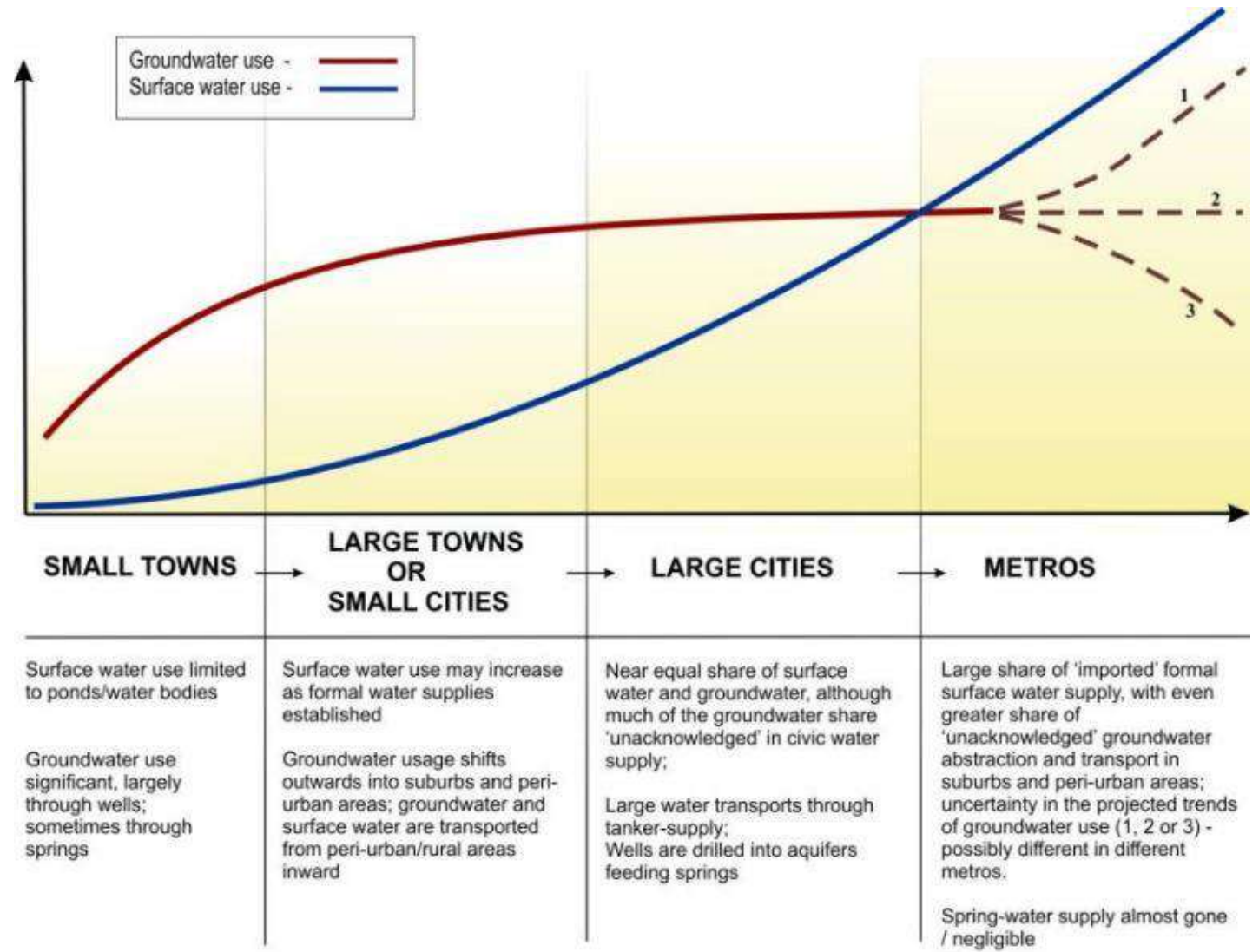


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TRENDS IN SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER USE ACROSS VARIOUSLY SIZED URBAN SETTLEMENTS IN INDIA (after:Shah and Kulkarni, 2015)



Factors that accelerate challenges in urban groundwater surveys

- Personal interests and agenda
- People cannot spare enough time for social and ecological issues around groundwater
- Preconceived notions and limited sensitivity to groundwater (and aquifers)
- Lack of political will





What are these structures ???

Concepts and reality

- The fine line dividing concepts and misconceptions may lead surveyors on the wrong path
- Surveys, questionnaires have to be sharp and strategic so as to capture the real situation on the ground





Groundwater discharge in
the basement of many
buildings....

Observations at
the micro-level
reveal many
surprises and
surprising
realities...





Maintained and
unmaintained
sources

- Availability of alternate source
- Quality of water

YES, WE HAVE A BOREWELL !!!

- A matter of pride – we have our 'own' independent source...
- We need it – since public water supply falls short, especially in summer
- It is a perpetual necessity – we pump it every day





Digging for development with scant regard for aquifers - "what is that?"

Development, Sustainability, Environment, Ecosystem ???

The ubiquitous dugwell: it is everywhere - from a city farm to the crematorium

- Wells in farms
- Wells in public places – parks, crematoriums
- Wells in basements
- Wells in backyards
- Wells on the street



Making the invisible visible: challenges

- Survey wise ward map and information not available
- Difficulty in access to the source
- Gathering information on ground from right person
- Limitations in communication
- Hesitancy in sharing the water draft and source information
- No separate metering for source
- Private sources maintained
- No conservation or protection to public sources
- No water quality testing on private sources
- Used for domestic purposes
- Ownership issues
- No proper information or documentation on old Katraj to Shaniwarwada aqueducts – *we suspect there are wells tapping this system too*
- Basement flooding issues in many parts of the city
- Spring discharge connected to storm water drains in many places
- Many seepages and springs along Mula – Mutha river channel, but not protected and conserved through a concerted effort



Our unstinting effort on 'groundwater literacy'

- Entire effort is based on partnership and collaboration
- Sensitization and awareness – various stakeholders
- Protection of natural recharge areas through policy
- Incentivization for groundwater recharge in recharge zones
- Ward-wise citizen group for groundwater monitoring
- Centralized system to update and maintain data
- Conjunctive use of groundwater with formal municipal water supply
- Decision support system to ensure the safe and secure groundwater for future use
- Interdepartmental and inter-organizational effective, efficient and timely communication
- Incorporation of findings and recommendations to upcoming developmental projects and plans
- Public systems of Managed Aquifer Recharge as a priority





CEE

Centre for Environment Education

THANK YOU !!!!!



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