Putting Water First

Raffaele Domeniconi

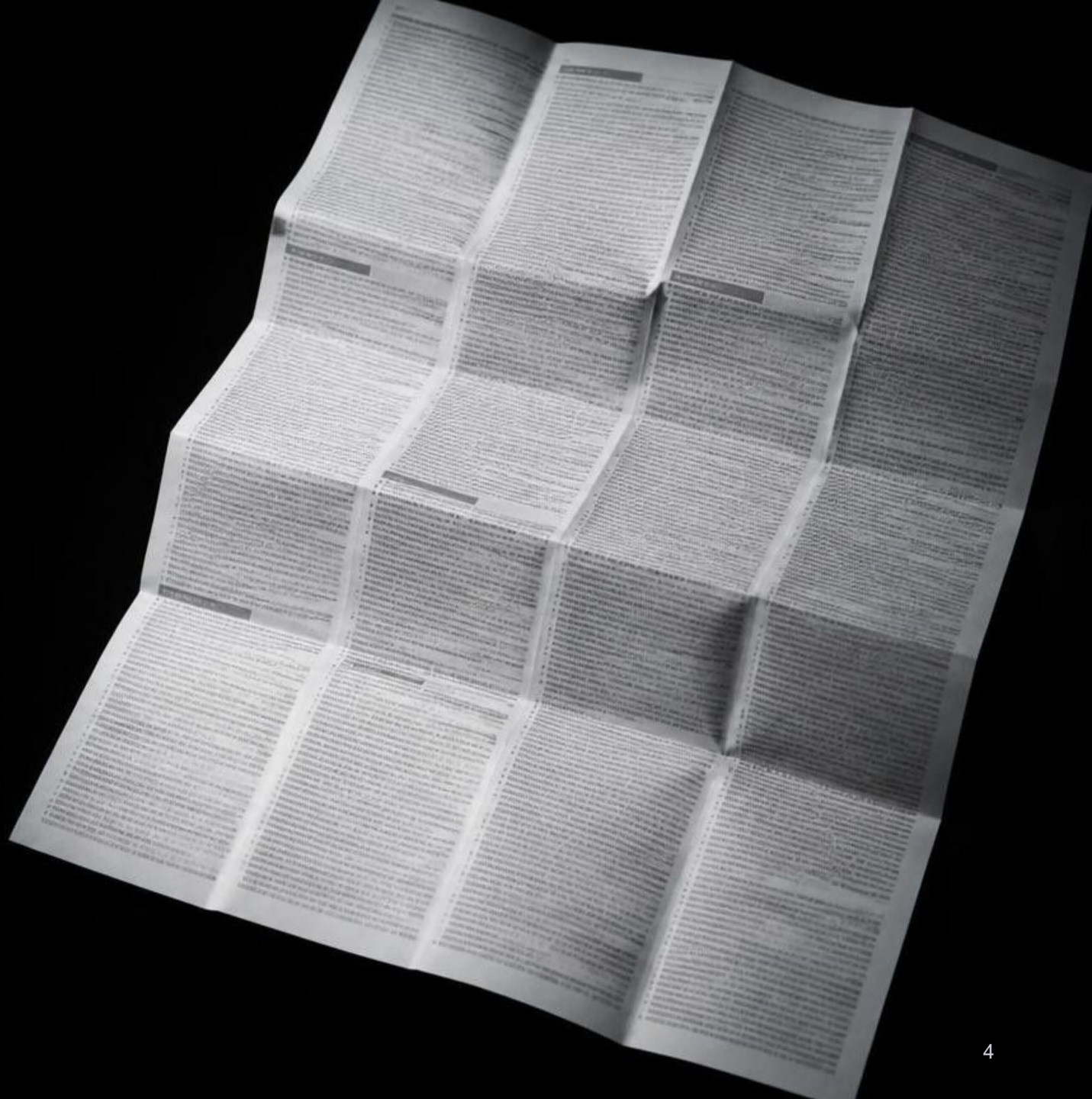
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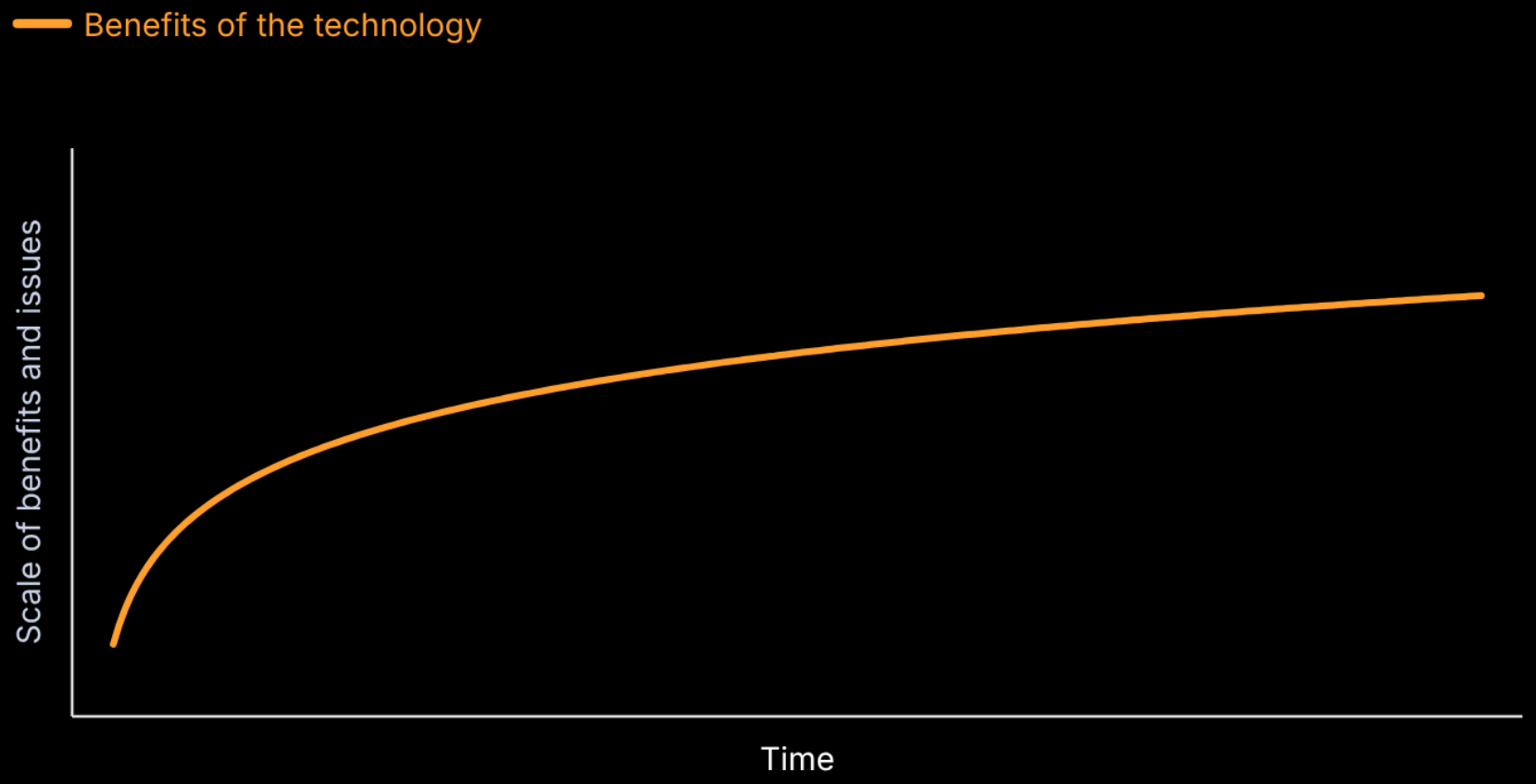


The Great Horse Manure Crisis of 1894



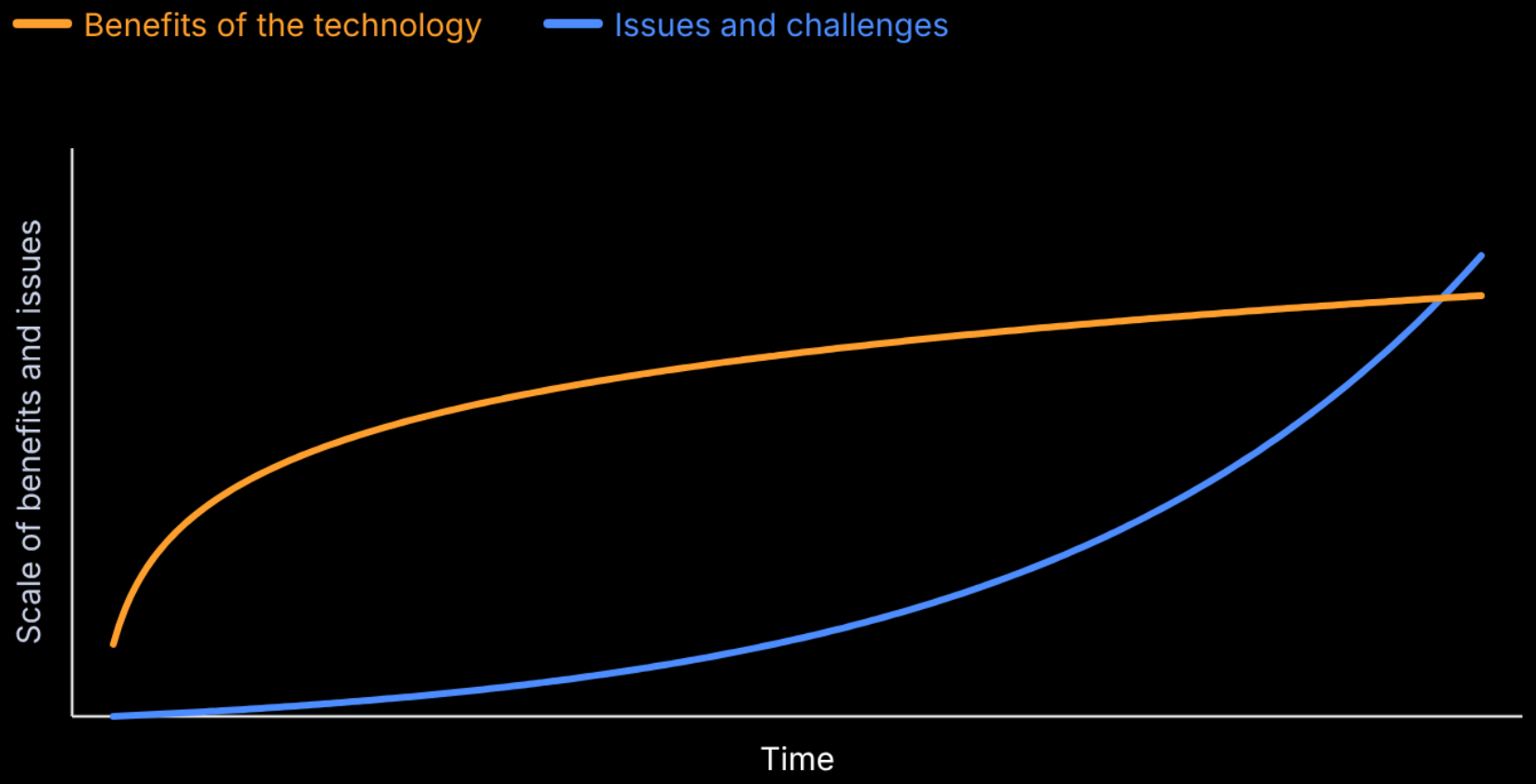


Benefits flatten.



Schematic illustration

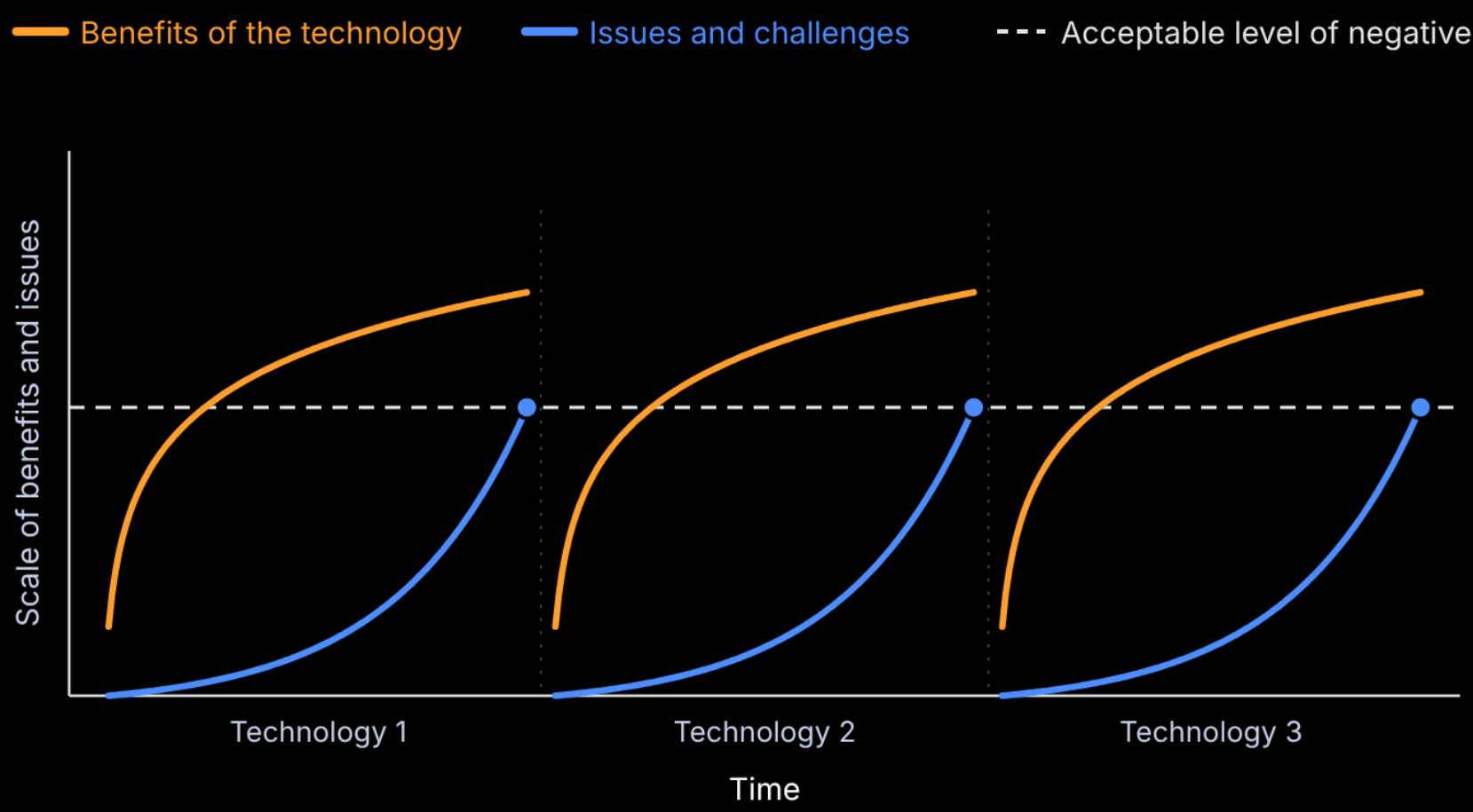
Benefits flatten. Problems grow exponentially.



Issues and governance curves: Jean-François Rischard, author of High Noon (Basic Books, 2002)

Interview “Network solutions for global governance”, openDemocracy, 16 January 2003 · Benefits curve: schematic addition

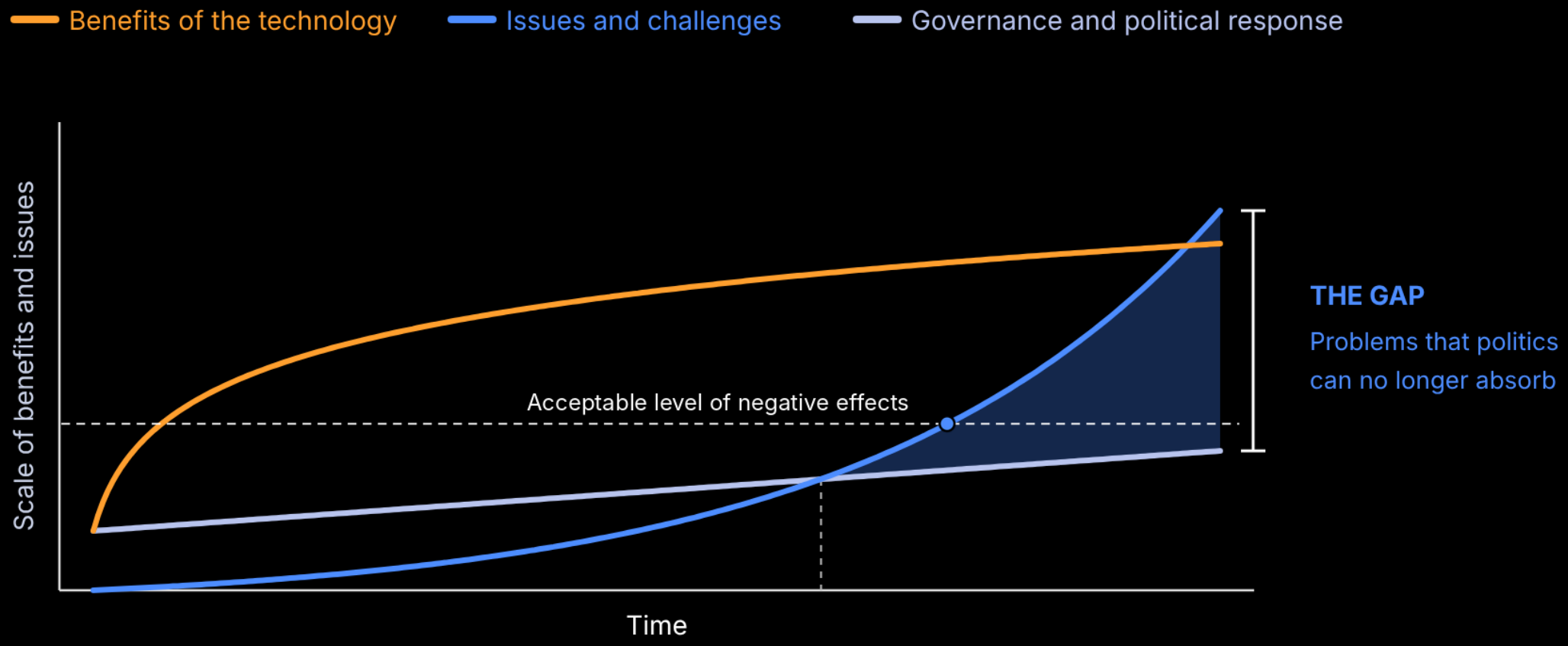
In theory: when problems hit the limit, we switch technology.



THE THRESHOLD
Negative effects we are ready to accept

Issues curve: Jean-François Rischard, author of High Noon (Basic Books, 2002)
Benefits curve, threshold and repeated cycles: schematic illustration

Benefits flatten. Problems grow exponentially. Governance grows linearly.



Issues and governance curves: Jean-François Rischard, author of High Noon (Basic Books, 2002)

Interview “Network solutions for global governance”, openDemocracy, 16 January 2003 · Benefits curve: schematic addition









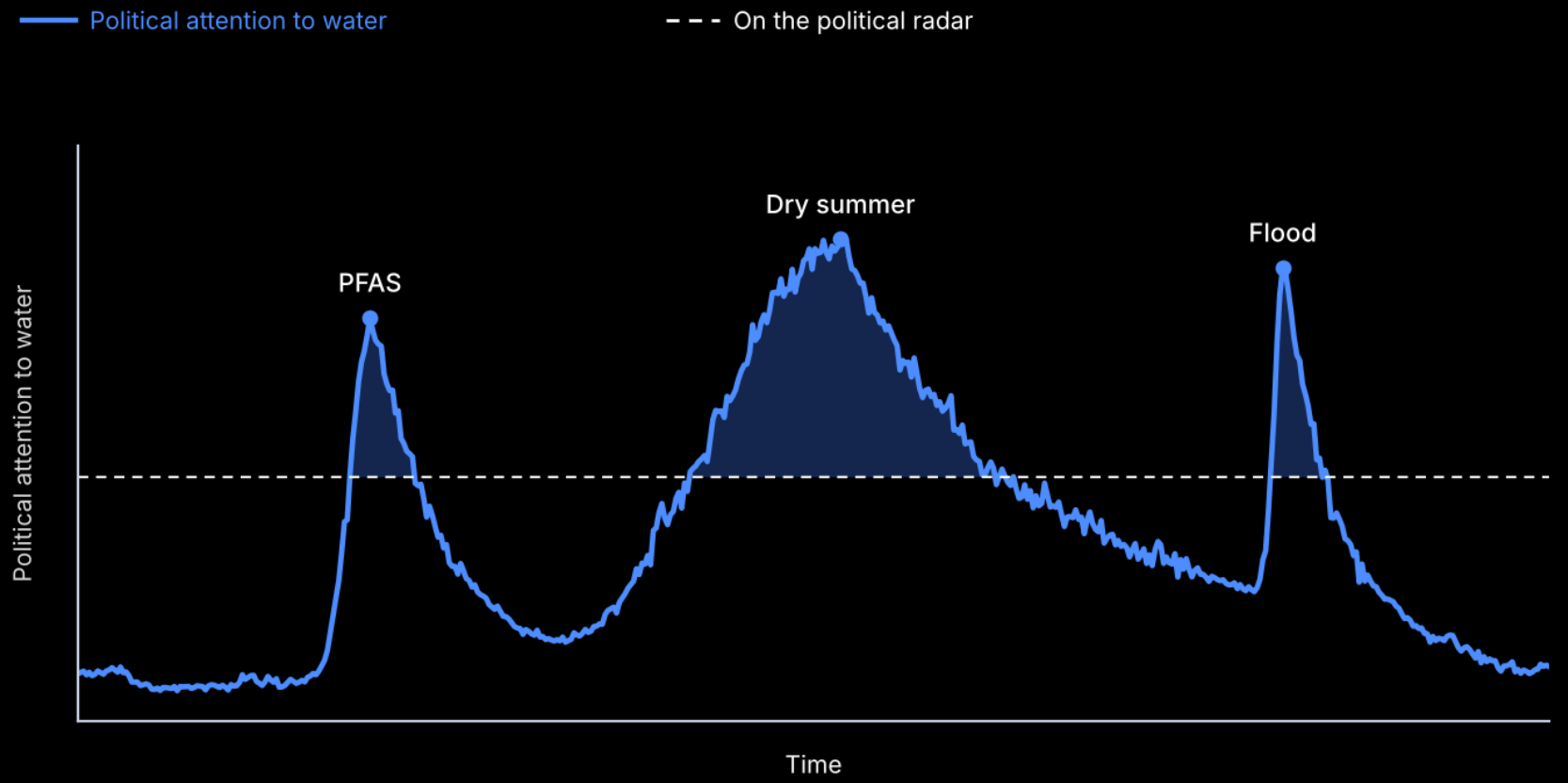


Lake Constance (Untersee) near Berlingen, 19 August 2026


CURIA CONFOEDERATIONIS HELVETICAE

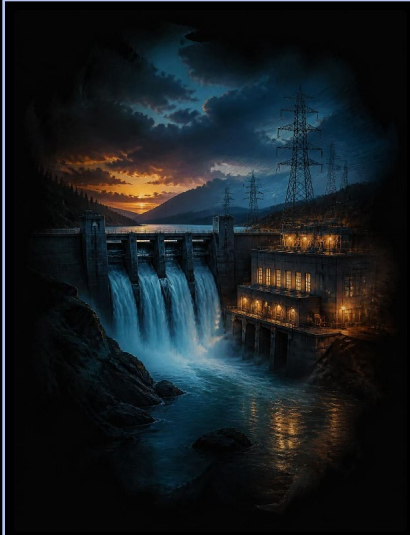
POLITICAL ATTENTION

Water is on the radar only in a crisis.



Schematic illustration

Water is not a sector. Water is the foundation.



ENERGY



AGRICULTURE



INDUSTRY



TOURISM

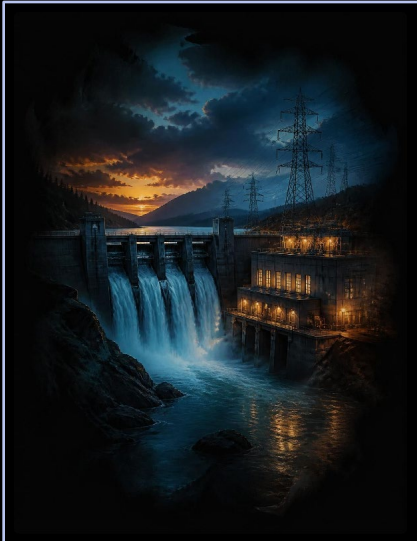


ENVIRONMENT

WATER

Water at the top of the political agenda.

WATER



ENERGY



AGRICULTURE



INDUSTRY



TOURISM



ENVIRONMENT

1 No technology is perfect

2 Polarisation is a hurdle

3 Water at the top of the agenda



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