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WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN AFGANISTAN

Moh. Jan Roztazada

Back ground

- Afghanistan semi arid country 22 million population.
- More than 80% involued in agriculture.
- Water resource critical for countries other.
- New water law experted to approve in 2009.
- Lay foundation for water resources management in Afghanistan.
- New institutional will be established.

Keys for succes of the IWRM

Erecting The Support Columns

The policies and amendment of the water law show 4 major “columns” carrying the management of the water resources in Afghanistan.

- **Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)**-plans and activities in the different sectors of water use will be integrated at national, river basin and local level. Individual line Ministries can prepare their plans for development of their water “activity” , but final approval by SCWAM will be required after harmonizing the plans with others in the water sector

- **River Basin Approach** - the natural boundaries will be considered for drawing-up the plans for institutional set-up, development and management of the water resources. Although there are 8 river basin in Afghanistan, some will be combined for institutional and economic reasons to reduce the number to 5 river basins. The basins are North-Eastern basin, Northern basin, Western basin, Helmand basin and Kabul basin. to bring the day-to-day management even closer to the end-users, these basins will be split into sub-basins. A river basin might cover several provinces or parts thereof.
- Splitting functions
- Stake holder participation

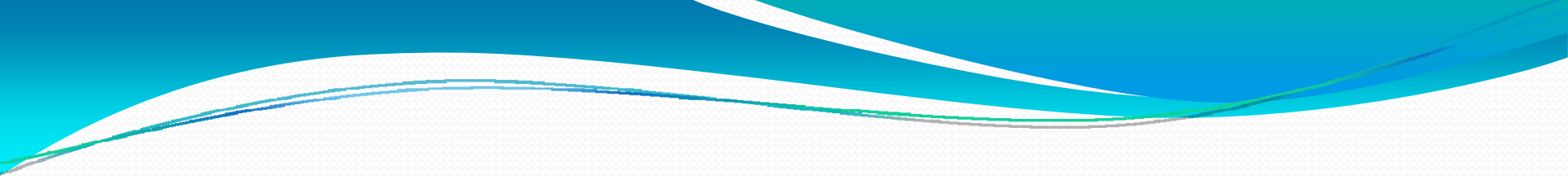
Expectations from the CRBOM

Following are the expected results for the coming 5 years:

1. Sustainable Water Resources Management plans and strategies prepared and legislations to support the plans approved
2. At least 30% of irrigation water coming from engineering waterworks
3. River Basin Management Institutions established (first in the Kunduz River Basin as a pilot case, the Balkh, Kokcha-Panj and Western Basin according to advances in donor financed Water Resources Management Projects)

4. Existing traditional Irrigation schemes rehabilitated and modernized; operated and maintained by trained community water users or staff employed by them
5. Plans design prepared for investment in water resources infrastructure like dams and other storage structures, irrigation system, erosion control , etc. Giving priority to those projects mitigating the negative effects of droughts and floods and increasing potential area for irrigation and creating employment

6. Staff of MEW and River Basin Agencies trained for leading and coordinating the implementation of the Water Resources Sector Strategy, for implementing the Water Resources Management and Irrigation Policies and for facilitating, coordinating, and monitoring the ongoing feasibility studies and investment.
7. Project in water resources infrastructure
8. Hydrometric network installed and operating; data collected, processed and information services effectively provided to users.

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9. Monitoring and Evaluation Units established in the Ministry and River Basin Agencies providing information to management and donor agencies
 10. National Water Resources Development plan prepared, indicating options for potential dams, storage reservoirs for multi-purpose use, irrigation expansion and improvement in efficiency and effectiveness of water use.

11. River Basin Management Plans prepared for basins with functional river basin institutions in place.
12. Water User Associations based on traditional Mirab system, formed by water user and participating in river basin management institutions (River Basin and Sub-Basin Councils)
13. Dialogue on trans-boundary water issues opened with some of the neighboring countries, memoranda of Understanding signed accommodating a holistic approach for dispute resolution and cooperation in activities related to water resources development (to be financed by donors)

14. Co-operation and communications between line Ministries in water sector improved and the Supreme Council for Water sector Functioning
15. Technical Secretariat of the Supreme Council for Water Affairs Management established, and personnel trained for the execution of their functions and duties
16. Capacity (consultancies, contractors, research, etc) in local private sector improved
17. Proper curriculum in water resources management development at local Universities and Technical colleges

Collaboration

- Communication sharing on part time basis
- We propose to actively participate in knowledge sharing event and not communication network
- Also although limited Afghanistan water resources specialist will contribute to CRBOM knowledge bank