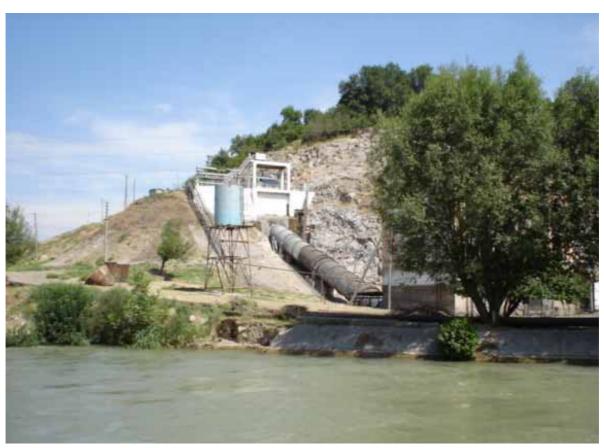




"ROAD MAP" PLANNED STEPS TOWARDS REALIZATION OF THE INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES and RATIONALE OF THE ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN





DUSHANBE - 2006

INTRODUCTION

The presented "road map" and rationale of the essential activities are the output of work of the national expert of UCC Water project in the Republic of Tajikistan and the National Group on Coordination and Support to the "IWRM – Fergana" project (NGCS IWRM), created at the end of 2005, within the framework of "IWRM-Fergana" project (SIC ICWC¹ – IWMI² under the SDC³ sponsorship). Experience and lessons learned by these specialists in introduction of the IWRM principles in the pilot objects of the "IWRM-Fergana" project have allowed them to work out the draft "road map" and rationale of the essential activities.

This "road map" describes process of the staged transition from vision to the IWRM plan. In the initial stage of the "road map" development the status of the national water resources management and the main provisions of the long-term program for water resources development in the Republic of Tajikistan⁴ have been assessed from the IWRM principles viewpoint in the context of the current socio-economic situation and taking into account the national vision of IWRM.

53 representatives from the key ministries and institutions, non-governmental organizations, apparat of the President of Tajikistan, the Parliament of Tajikistan, Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea, international projects, mass media and public relations participated in the Seminar #1 "Issues of intersectoral interaction in water use and transition to the integrated water resources management" (29.04.06, Dushanbe). The following issues were reflected in the presentations and reports discussed at the seminar:

- IWRM objectives and tasks and the planned approaches to their implementation;
- Problems associated with the establishment and state support to the WUAs;
- Perspectives for development of the water management sector from the IWRM viewpoint;
- Water legislation in the light of implementation of the IWRM principles;
- Strategy for development of water sector and priorities;
- Review of the "IWRM-Fergana" project results;
- Role of information system, capacity building, and public participation in the IWRM process;
- Water saving and metering as the basic principle of the IWRM;
- Technical, managerial, ecological and social aspects of the IWRM;
- Results of the gender study in water sector.

The participants of the seminar decided to entrust the national consultant to the UCC-Water jointly with the National Group on Coordination and Support to the Integrated Water Resources Management with preparation of the draft "road map" of activities aimed at transition to the IWRM for subsequent presentation of this draft at the regional seminar #1.

The draft national "road map" was discussed at the regional seminar on the subject "Speedup of IWRM – 2005 Objectives Implementation in Central Asia" (27-28.07.06, Bishkek).

During discussions (which were continued at the joint UNEP and GWP seminar on methodology for managerial capacity building on 30-31.07.06) participants of the seminar made the constructive comments and proposals on the presented draft national "road maps" (need to stress the improvement of water use productivity, prepare rationale of the essential activities, social mobilization of stakeholders, etc.).

The draft "road map" and rationale improved in accordance with these comments were discussed at the final national seminar #2 "Draft road map of the staged transition to IWRM in Tajikistan and the necessary actions" (31.10.06, Dushanbe), approved by the members of the NGCS – representatives of the key ministries and institutions (appointed by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan):

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¹ Scientific Information Center of the Interstate Commission on Water Coordination

² International Water Management Institute

The Swiss Agency for Development and Co-operation

⁴ National report of the Republic of Tajikistan within the framework of UNEP on assistance and aid to the developing countries for achieving of implementation target of "Integrated Water Resources Management and Efficiency Plans by 2005"., GWP CACENA – UCC Water, Dushanbe 2006, 24 pages.

- Mr. A.A. Nazirov: Minister of Amelioration and Water Resources (MAWR);
- Mr. T.Kh. Nazarov: Head of Science Administration, State Committee for Nature Protection and Forestry;
- Mr. A. Tirandozov: Head of Operation Administration of the MAWR;
- Ms. S. Ikramova: Head of Department of Environment, Water and Land Resources, Ministry of Economy and Trade;
- Mr. M. Amindjanov: Head of Department, SPA TajikNIIGIM;
- Mr. B. Samadov: Head of Administration of Investments and Foreign Economic Relations, MAWR;
- Mr. F.R. Dadaboev: Head of Administration of the International and Legal Relations and Protection of the Economic Interests, the Ministry of Justice;
- Mr. N. Izatov: Deputy Head of the Department for Monitoring of the Sectors of Economy, the Ministry of Finance;
- Mr. Z.B. Safarov: Adviser of Administration on the CIS, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

and then submitted to the key ministries and institutions for official approval.

Approvals were obtained from:

- The Ministry of Economy and Trade of the Republic of Tajikistan (#11/5-627, 08.11.06);
- The Ministry of Amelioration and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan (#1-1374, 09.11.06);
- The State Committee for Environment Protection and Forestry of the Republic of Tajikistan (#1088/17, 09.11.06).

Further steps envisage submission of the "road map" and rationale to the international agencies at the final regional seminar #2 "Speedup of IWRM -2005 Objectives Implementation in Central Asia" (29-30.11.06, Tashkent). Based on the results of discussions at this seminar these documents together with the protocol of seminar and letters of approval from the key ministries and institutions will be submitted to the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan to make decision on practical implementation of these activities.

"ROAD MAP" OF PLANNED ACTIVITIES ON TRANSITION TO THE INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (IWRM) IN THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

No	Necessary Actions	Objective and Tasks	Realization Time	Responsible Executors	Source of Financing		
	1. CREATION OF THE LEGISLATIVE AND POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT FOR THE STAGED TRANSITION TO IWRM						
	The Essential Period (2007-2008)						
1.1	Elaboration of strategy for development of water sector of the Republic of Tajikistan	Identification of the priority directions for development of the national and interstate water policy of the Republic	2007-2008	Ministries and Agencies	The International Grants and the Republican Budget		
1.2.	Improvement of the legislative basis of water sector	Adaptation of water sector of the Republic of Tajikistan to the new socio-economic conditions and speedup of this process on the basis of transition to the IWRM	2007-2008	Ministries and Agencies	The International Grants and the Republican Budget		
1.3.	Development, coordination and approval of the Concept and National IWRM plan of the Republic of Tajikistan	Identification of the current situation and main problems of the water resources management system in Tajikistan and possible ways for solution of these problems in the context of socio-economic reformations. Development of complex of measures aimed at implementation of IWRM principles in Tajikistan in pursuance of the Paragraph 26 of the Plan for implementation of proposals of the World summit on sustainable development in Johannesburg (September 2002) (WSSD).	2007-2008	Ministries, Agencies, WUAs, NGOs	The International Grants		
1.4.		Creation of the normative and legal basis for realization of the integrated water resources management principles in the Republic of Tajikistan	2007-2008	Ministries and Agencies	The International Grants and the Republican Budget		
The Mid-term Period (2007-2012)							
1.5.	Development, improvement and implementation of pricing policy and economic incentives in water use.	Identification of the actual economic parameters (supply and demand, solvency, water delivery cost, etc.) for various categories of water users in regard to water delivery services. Ensuring of financial independence and interest in water saving.	2007-2012	Ministries and Agencies	The International Grants and the Republican Budget		

No	Necessary Actions	Objective and Tasks	Realization Time	Responsible Executors	Source of		
	Time Executors Financing The Long-term Period (2007-2025)						
1.6.	Development and improvement of market mechanisms for water use	Transition to the contracting system of water delivery and disposal services and the other works and services in the water sector. Increase efficiency of operations.	2007-2015	Ministries and Agencies	The Republican Budget and International Grants		
1.7.	Realization of the National IWRM plan in the Republic of Tajikistan.	Ensuring the sustainable development through transition to the integrated water resources management system.	2007-2016	Ministries and Agencies	The International Grants and the Republican and Local Budgets		
		2. MANAGERIAL CAPACITY BUILDI	NG				
		The Essential Period (2007-2008)					
2.1.	Establishment of the State Committee for Water Coordination (SCWC).	Capacity building for water resources management and carrying out the unified state policy in rational use and protection of water resources at the national and international levels.	2007-2008	Ministries and Agencies	The Republican Budget		
2.2.	Development of the political measures aimed at structural reorganizations in water sector of Tajikistan along with establishment of the specialized agencies for realization of the IWRM principles.	Managerial capacity building for increasing steerability of water resources at all levels of water hierarchy, productivity of water resources use, and stability and equability of water distribution.	2007-2008	Ministries and Agencies	The Republican Budget and International Grants		
2.3.	Establishment and organization of the Tajikistan's National Water Partnership within the framework of realization of the Global Water Partnership (GWP) plans.	Assistance to the process of water policy and strategy development, which include the main IWRM principles, involvement of public in water resources management process, dissemination of knowledge about IWRM.	2007-2008	Ministries, Agencies, and NGOs	The International Grants		
	The Mid-term Period (2007-2012)						
2.4.	Establishment of the National water/energy and ecological Information Center.	Information capacity building for increasing degree of steerability (operational efficiency, forecasting, planning, decision making, etc.) of water, energy and land resources.	2007-2010	Ministries and Agencies	The Republican Budget and International Grants		

No	Necessary Actions	Objective and Tasks	Realization Time	Responsible Executors	Source of Financing		
2.5.	Establishment of the National and Basin Water Councils.	 To ensure the efficient coordination of interaction amongst all stakeholders and water use entities; To ensure collectivity and transparency of procedures for making the strategically important managerial decision in order to prevent the sectoral monopolism and corruption; To improve procedure for the managerial decisions approval; To cut down the state expenses for maintenance of management bodies. 	2008-2011	The State Committee for Water Coordination (SCWC), Ministries and Agencies, WUAs and NGOs	The Republican Budget and International Grants and Projects		
	The Long-term Period (2007-2025)						
2.6.	Development and realization of programs aimed at improvement of education and increase of awareness and knowledge about the rational use and protection of water resources.	Increase of level of public awareness about use and conditions of water bodies and methodologies for the rational use of the natural resources. Preparation of highly qualified specialists.	2007-2025	Ministries, Agencies and NGOs	The Republican Budget and International Grants		
	3. THE TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL MEASURES						
		The Essential Period (2007-2008)					
3.1.	Inventory of the technical conditions and certification of the water management systems and structures of the Republic of Tajikistan.	Improvement of operational reliability of the irrigation and drainage systems and structures, and mitigation of threats associated with water.	2007-2008	Ministries and Agencies	The Republican Budget and International Grants		
	The Long-term Period (2007-2025)						
3.2.	Development of the Basin Master Plans for use and protection of water resources.	Identification of priorities, planning, forecasting and ways for improving efficiency of water resources use at the level of basins and sub-basins.	2008-2015	The SCWC, Ministries, Agencies, Basin Councils and Water Administrations	The Republican Budget and International Grants		

No	Necessary Actions	Objective and Tasks	Realization	Responsible	Source of
			Time	Executors	Financing
3.3.	Rehabilitation of the national system for hydro-meteorological and hydrological monitoring over conditions of water resources.	To ensure observations, inventory, assessment, forecast, management and control over water resources conditions in the Republic of Tajikistan	2007-2015	Ministries and Agencies	The International Investment Projects
3.4.	Rehabilitation of irrigation and drainage systems and structures and improvement of irrigation technologies	To increase efficiency and productivity of water and land resources use.	2006-2016	Ministries and Agencies	The International Investment Projects and Local Budget
3.5.	Rehabilitation (reconstruction) of wastewater treatment systems.	Reduction of the polluted flow disposal into water bodies	2006-2020	Ministries, Agencies, and the Local Authorities	The Local Budget and International Projects
3.6.	Development and introduction of water saving technologies in all sectors of economy.	Ensuring rational use of water resources and their protection at all levels of water hierarchy.	2010-2025	The Local Authorities, Ministries, Agencies, WUAs and Business Structures	Private and International Investments

THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

RATIONALE OF THE ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES ON TRANSITION TO THE INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Subject 1: CREATION OF THE LEGISLATIVE AND POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT FOR TRANSITION TO THE INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (IWRM)

Activity 1.1

Elaboration of strategy for development of water sector of the Republic of Tajikistan

Objectives: Identification of the priority directions for development of the national and interstate water policy of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Rationale:

Necessity and tasks of strategy that is being developed are determined by current conditions in the Republic of Tajikistan. Tajikistan is located in the Aral Sea basin with two main transboundary rivers of Amudarya and Syrdarya. Therefore, development and subsequent realization of the Strategy for water sector of Tajikistan will be a concrete contribution to implementation of the Specific Actions Program for improvement of ecological and socio-economic situation in the Aral Sea basin for the period 2003-2010 (ASBP-2). This program was approved by the Board of the International Fund for the Aral Sea on 28.08.2003, in Dushanbe. It is aimed at achieving of the positive regional effect.

As for any other country, the sustainable development of Tajikistan is determined by the efficiency of use of the available natural, water, land, mineral, energy and the other resources, as well as human capacity. The significant reserves of water, hydropower and recreational resources, and the limited land resources determine subsistence and economic development of the country. From this viewpoint the problems of water resources, their integrated management, conditions of water sector infrastructure and perspectives of its development oriented on economic growth and reduction of poverty level in Tajikistan will be discussed in this document.

The strategy will be elaborated on the basis of the Program for economic development of the Republic of Tajikistan for the period up to 2015, Concept of rational use and protection of water resources of the Republic of Tajikistan, Concept of energy sector development in the Republic of Tajikistan, Report on capacity needs assessment for achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Tajikistan, and the other development programs approved by the government of the Republic of Tajikistan, and also taking into account the accomplished international projects and legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Approach:

Elaboration of water sector development strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan will be carried out by the working group approved by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan.

The sectoral approach to the branches of water management complex will be used for elaboration of the Strategy. The Strategy will comprise the strategic tasks and ways for their solution in the area of water resources management and development, urban and rural municipal and drinking water supply and sanitation, industrial water supply and pollution control, irrigation and drainage, hydropower, environmental issues, as well as control over flooding and readiness to undertake measures against the natural disasters.

Institutional development, legal basis, economic tools, regulation through tariff, rehabilitation and further development will be proposed for each of the considered sectors.

The conception of the Strategy for Water Sector itself is considered as a guiding idea and general plan for achievement of the planned objectives with specification of financial possibilities in the context of the objectives, concepts and development programs approved by the Government of the Republic of Taiikistan.

Realization Time:

12 Months

Responsible Executors:

Ministries and Agencies

Results:

Realization of Strategy will facilitate the sustainable development of Tajikistan and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals adopted by the world community at the Johannesburg Summit in 2002.

Strategy for water sector will create the reliable basis for ensuring rational and efficient use of water resources with maximum possible and balanced benefits for all water users and minimum adverse impact on environment.

Necessary Resources:

Estimated number of man-months: ____ man-months.

Planned contribution from the Republic's budget: USD 8 thousand Planned contribution from potential sponsors: USD 120 thousand

Activity 1.2

Improvement of the legislative basis of water sector

Objectives: Adaptation of water sector of the Republic of Tajikistan to the new socio-economic conditions and speedup of this process on the basis of transition to the IWRM.

Improvement of the current laws and bylaws and development of the new ones for transition to the IWRM.

Rationale:

The current legislative basis of the Republic of Tajikistan regulating activities in water sector was established during Soviet time at the beginning of transition towards market economy. The existing management structure of water sector was created in the conditions of the command-administrative economic system.

For sustainable operation of water sector of the Republic of Tajikistan in the market conditions the radical reformation of its management is essential. This reformation is held back due to imperfection of the current legislation.

Over the past six years since adoption of the Water Code of the Republic of Tajikistan many of its new articles are not implemented yet. At the same time macro and micro-economic conditions were changed, and thinking of society and the country's leadership in the direction of deepening of reforms in economy management evolved. These changes facilitated the necessity for introduction of the relevant amendments to some chapters and articles of the Water Code. It is obvious that development of water and other laws in the conditions of transition period will be going on along with changes and development of economic and social relationships.

First of all these changes will affect issues associated with ownership rights to water structures, transition to the basin principle of water resources management, regulation of economic relationships in water sector, as well as differentiation of functions between the governmental authorities dealing with management and protection of water resources, and also the other amendments, clarification and further development in accordance with the gaining experience.

In the conditions of market economy the clear legal identification of the ownership rights is the basis for successful operation of each organization. This is also applicable to water sector. Over the recent years, the issue associated with ownership rights in water sector develops towards privatization of the small scale water structures, especially the on-farm boreholes and pumping stations. There is no point now to prohibit to farmers to construct boreholes and pumping stations on their own territories, but this issue should be regulated in accordance with the relevant standards and norms. Gradually became obvious that free of charge transfer of the on-farm irrigation and drainage systems to the newly established water user associations is expedient.

Approach:

Working group comprising the qualified specialists will carry out:

- Studies and assessments of the existing water management structures of the Republic of Tajikistan, as well as the main documents regulating activities of the water management organizations (laws, bylaws, provisions and the other normative documents);
- Studies of water management systems in the developed countries, as well as in the countries which are in transition to market economy and with the nature conditions similar to those of Tajikistan;
- Development of proposals for introduction of changes and amendments to the current legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan, as well as a new laws and their submission to the Government and Parliament of the Republic of Tajikistan for consideration and decision making.

Realization Time:

18 Months

Responsible Executors:

Ministries and Agencies of water sector

Results:

Improvement of the current and development of new laws and bylaws will create the necessary conditions for successful implementation of water and land reforms aimed at introduction of new efficient forms of farming in agricultural and water sectors of economy, which are adequate to needs of the market economy development and reduction of poverty level. In general the reliable legal basis for transition to the IWRM will be created.

Necessary Resources:

Estimated number of man-months: man-months.

Planned contribution from the Republic's budget: USD 10 thousand Planned contribution from potential sponsors: USD 160 thousand

Activity 1.3.

Development, coordination and approval of the Concept and National IWRM plan of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Objectives:

- a. Identification of the current situation and main problems of the water resources management system in Tajikistan and possible ways for solution of these problems in the context of socio-economic reformations;
- b. Development of complex of measures aimed at implementation of IWRM principles in Tajikistan in pursuance of the **Paragraph 26** of the Plan for implementation of proposals of the World summit on sustainable development in Johannesburg (September 2002) (WSSD).

Rationale:

The following conditions justify the necessity for development of the National IWRM plan:

- Water resources experience the increasing anthropogenic pressure from growth of population, economic activities and competition for water amongst various water users. Water intake increases in accordance with growth of population;
- More and more intensive development causes increase of environmental impact;
- Concernment with the current climate change requires improvement of water resources management in order to withstand flooding and droughts;
- Sectoral approaches to water resources management predominate as in the past and lead to uncoordinated use of water resources, inefficiency of which is more and more obvious;
- Out of 600 collective and state farms existed in Tajikistan more than 400 were already reformed and replaced by more than 40,000 private farms. In general, the on-farm irrigation and drainage systems are managed inefficiently. At the national level the water resources management is a structure inherited from the command-administrative system where changes just began in accordance with the market relationships. Along with the relatively high level of the inter-farm water management, the on-farm water use remains at poor level;
- The integrated water resources management (IWRM) envisages harmonization of all the main factors affecting the efficient management and use of water, land, energy and the other resources

taking into account the political, legal, economic, financial, technical, managerial, social and the other aspects at various levels of sectoral and administrative hierarchy in order to ensure sustainable economic development and social well-being of population.

Approach:

Working group comprising the qualified specialists will carry out:

- study of experience and methodology for development of the national IWRM plans in the other countries where conditions similar to Tajikistan's ones;
- preparation of system and successive programs, tasks and work schedules for development of components of the IWRM plan;
- institutional studies in water sector;
- informing about and support to the IWRM process from stakeholders;
- monitoring and evaluation of the IWRM implementation process;
- development of information network, carrying out seminars, etc.;
- realization of the main IWRM principles and actions plan in the selected pilot river basin;
- establishment of the new water resources management structures;
- development, publication and dissemination of the special recommendations on transition to the IWRM.

Realization Time:

24 Months

Responsible Executors:

Ministries, Agencies, WUAs and NGOs

Results:

The integrated water resources management (IWRM) ensures actual equality of all water users, coordination of water use in all sectors of economy, and also participation of beneficiaries, transparency and profitable local management.

The National IWRM plan is aimed at achievement of the following results:

- 1. Managerial capacity building on the basis of participation of all stakeholders and social mobilization of public;
- 2. Capacity building of water management organizations and WUAs established in the pilot systems with potential expansion and replication of experience all over the country (communication network, information system, education system, set of models);
 - 3. Establishment of water management organizations within the hydrographic boundaries;
- 4. Creation of reliable and trustworthy legal and economic basis that includes mechanisms for resolution of conflicts;
 - 5. Organization of the efficient system for delivery and distribution of water;
 - 6. Perspective opportunities for efficient use and protection of water resources.

Necessary Resources:

Estimated number of man-months: ____ man-months.

Planned contribution from the Republic's budget: USD 20 thousand Planned contribution from potential sponsors: USD 680 thousand

Activity 1.4

Improvement of the normative and legislative acts for execution of the Water Code of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Objectives:

Creation of the normative and legal basis for realization of the integrated water resources management principles in the Republic of Tajikistan.

Rationale:

For sustainable operation of water management complex of Tajikistan in the market conditions the radical reformation of management is required that is restrained due to imperfection of the current legal and

normative basis. The Water Code is in force since 2000, but its main provisions are not being realized due to lack of the appropriate mechanisms and norms (tools) that should comprise the normative and legislative basis of water management complex. Water resources management is carried out mainly by the command-administrative methods, transition to the hydrographical principles of management is still at the level of plans and elaboration. At the present moment the operational, managerial, technical, economic and ecological issues of management are not resolved to full extent and highly efficient and productive use of water resources are not achieved. The insufficient normative and legislative basis delays realization of the integrate water resources management in the country.

Approach:

Creative team comprising the qualified specialists and scientists will carry out:

- Development of the action plan (programs, terms of reference, work schedules, etc.) for fulfillment of the objectives and tasks of project;
- Study the current normative and legislative basis of water sector and its adequacy to practice.

Action plan for development and improvement of the normative and legislative basis of the water management complex will be approved by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan. This work will be organized in the consistent, systematic and collegiate manner with participation of public and stakeholders. Seminars, round tables and public hearings will be organized.

The following draft decrees of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan will be developed:

- 1. Procedure for transfer of management rights to water infrastructure to the local and foreign legal entities on the contractual basis;
- 2. Plan (A) and procedure (B) for the staged transition to the basin water resources management system. Identification of boundaries and development of the structural models (B) of the basin water management organizations (BVO, BVA, Water District, Water System, etc.);
- 3. On procedure for introduction of the State Inventory of the Water Management objects of the Republic of Tajikistan;
- 4. On procedure for establishment and use of Water Fund, approval of water use norms and limits;
- 5. On procedure for development and approval of the Master plan of integrated water resources use and protection in the Republic of Tajikistan;
- 6. On the state support to the development in the area of drinking water supply;
- 7. On procedure for compensation of damages caused to the physical and legal entities, owners of the water management objects;
- 8. On procedure for privatization of the water sector objects:
- 9. On procedure for involvement of water users in implementation of the irrigation and ameliorative works.

Improvement of the normative basis of water sector will be carried out in respect to the following aspects:

- a) development of the rough norms of costs for operation, and capital repair of the inter-farm irrigation and drainage systems and structures;
- b) development of mechanisms for improvement of water use efficiency on the basis of introduction of the differentiated tariffs;
- c) development of criteria for assessment of water structures importance from the viewpoint of their inclusion in the State Inventory of water management structures.

Realization Time:

12 Months

Responsible Executors:

Ministry of Amelioration and Water Resources

Results:

Strengthened the normative and legislative basis of water management complex that will be acceptable for the staged transition to the integrated water resources management principles. In general, the capable operational service will be created, economic, technical and managerial issues resolved, rational use of water ensured, and productivity of water and land resources use increased.

Necessary Resources:

Estimated number of man-months: man-months.

Planned contribution from the Republic's budget: USD 5 thousand Planned contribution from potential sponsors: USD 70 thousand

Subject 2. MANAGERIAL CAPACITY BUILDING

Activity 2.1.

Establishment of the State Committee for Water Coordination (SCWC).

Objectives:

Capacity building for water resources management and carrying out the unified state policy in rational use and protection of water resources at the national and international levels.

Rationale:

Currently the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan identified four specially authorized state agencies for regulation of water resources use and protection: the Ministry of Amelioration and Water Resources (in the area of irrigation); the State Committee for Nature Protection and Forestry (excluding irrigation); Tajikglavgeology (underground waters); Gosgortechnadzor (underground thermal and mineral waters).

There are a number of sectoral and intersectoral problems:

- Lack of coordination amongst water users of agricultural sector, energy and environment needs;
- Lack of precise mechanisms for mutual settlements between suppliers and users of water;
- Planning of water resources distribution is based on sharing of available water without proper consideration of economic, social and ecological impacts;
- Administrative and hydrographical boundaries are not always coincide; there are a lot of difficulties in regard to material and technical supply, planning, operation and maintenance of water delivery systems;
- Development and use of lands are hampered due to poor investment support;
- Around 59% of population has access to the tapped drinking water supply, that of in the rural areas is only 47%. Around 25% of population uses a poor quality drinking water from irrigation canals. Events of water-borne diseases are very frequent and their number is increasing;
- There is no detailed plan of investment activities in water management sector. As a result, it is difficult to coordinate activities on rehabilitation/reconstruction of water infrastructure;
- On-farm irrigation and drainage systems are not transferred with ownership rights to farmer-water users. Therefore, there is no practically management and maintenance of these systems, and they are currently in a very poor technical conditions.

Approach:

In order to involve water users from water sector into management process it is proposed to establish the State Committee for Water Coordination (SCWC). The main function of this committee is coordination of activities in water sector and establishment of water policy. The Committee should comprise representatives of the following stakeholders: the Ministry of Amelioration and Water Resources, Ministry of Energy, State Committee for Nature Protection and Forestry, and river basin organizations. This Committee will be subordinated to the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan. Establishment of the State Committee for Water Coordination (SCWC) will be carried out by working group. This working group will work out the new institutional structure, provisions on the SCWC, specifying its rights and obligations, and procedure for the intersectoral interaction.

Realization Time:

12 Months

Responsible Executors:

Ministries and Agencies of water sector

Results:

The unified state water policy aimed at the rational use and protection of water resources at the national and international levels will be ensured. Sustainability of water distribution system based on the water law will be improved.

Necessary Resources:

Estimated number of man-months: man-months.

Planned contribution from the Republic's budget: USD 5 thousand Planned contribution from potential sponsors: USD 80 thousand

Activity 2.2.

Development of the political measures aimed at structural reorganizations in water sector of Tajikistan along with establishment of the specialized agencies for realization of the IWRM principles.

Objectives:

Managerial capacity building for increasing steerability of water resources at all levels of water hierarchy, productivity of water resources use, and stability and equability of water distribution.

Rationale:

During the process of water management complex reformation, change of functional tasks of the management structures and interrelations between water suppliers and users, transition to fully chargeable water use and new methods of management, the need for establishment of the specialized organizations for implementation of the IWRM principles was revealed. The need for establishment of new structures is determined by the following circumstances:

- Insufficient control over water use; poor water metering; non-observance of agreements between water suppliers and users; violation of irrigation schedules and ecological requirements.
- Insufficiency of methodological, normative and legislative basis for establishment of WUAs, lack of the special standard recommendations and state support to WUAs (apart from WUAs established within the framework of IDA, ADB, and IWRM-Fergana projects), and advisory services;
- Lack of the State inventory of water structures with the systematized data of inventory and certification. Need for improvement of the procedure for licensing of the specialized water use. Lack of the approved mechanisms for integrated water resources management of the international water bodies. Complications with preparation of the annual water cadastre;
- Lack of unified sectoral program on investments, ranked by priorities, poor international interaction. Deficiency of highly qualified specialists in the area of the water law.

Approach:

On the basis of system approach the working group comprising the qualified specialists will carry out the following actions:

- Development of program and selection of tools for realization of the planned tasks;
- Analysis and assessment of the existing situation in the structural reformations;
- Assessment of the institutional reforms in the developed countries and their applicability in the conditions of Tajikistan;
- Development of provisions for the newly establishing structures, identification of their functional responsibilities, staffing and procedure for interrelationships with the other structures;
- Coordination and approval of provisions. Managerial and technical support to establishment of the new structures and improvement of old ones.

Realization Time:

12 Months

Responsible Executors:

Ministries and Agencies of water sector

Results:

Relationships between water suppliers and users will be regulated, and control over water use arranged. Process of the WUAs establishment will be accelerated and productivity of land and water resources use increased. Development of the national and international water relationships and also water law will get an impulse. Management, use and protection of water resources will advance to the market conditions and the IWRM principles.

Necessary Resources:

Estimated number of man-months: ____ man-months.

Planned contribution from the Republic's budget: USD 9 thousand Planned contribution from potential sponsors: USD 140 thousand

Activity 2.3.

Establishment and organization of the Tajikistan's National Water Partnership within the framework of realization of the Global Water Partnership (GWP) plans.

Objectives:

Assistance to the process of water policy and strategy development, which include the main IWRM principles, involvement of public in water resources management process, dissemination of knowledge about IWRM.

Rationale:

At the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002, the Leaders of the world countries called on all the countries to "..... achieving of implementation target of "Integrated Water Resources Management and Efficiency Plans by 2005". In accordance with this call the main objective of the Global Water Partnership (GWP CACENA) is to facilitate realization of the IWRM principles in Central Asia. This objective should be achieved through involvement of public in the decision making process, changing of political will towards cooperation, initiating dialog amongst all stakeholders and supporting practical actions aimed at realization of the IWRM principles.

Political and legal basis for development of the country's water sector in the current conditions is the legislative and program documents adopted by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Efficient water resources management is the important factor in development of economy. In the Governmental document "Progress in achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the Republic of Tajikistan" (2003) introduction of the integrated water resources management principles is specified amongst the main goals for achievement of sustainable development. This is the enabling political environment for introduction of the IWRM principles in Tajikistan. These provisions were taken into consideration in the developed draft "Law on WUAs" and amendments to the Water Code of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Gradual steps towards reformation of water sector, including introduction of the IWRM principles and approaches in Tajikistan are in general identified by the Strategy for reduction of poverty, approved by the Parliament in June 2002.

Need for establishment of the national water partnership is identified by lack of the target public and governmental structures, which will be dealing directly with the IWRM issues and involvement of public in this process.

Approach:

In order to achieve the objectives the following actions will be implemented:

- Working group will be created for establishment of the national water partnership. This group will develop provisions, programs, constituent instruments, structure of the partnership's network and carry our registration in the Ministry of Justice;
- Realization of the planned tasks will be carried out through: organization of the political dialog on use of the IWRM at the national level (in the form of intersectoral seminars and round tables); support to the public awareness campaign; coordination of the joint actions with the ongoing projects in the republic, cooperation with ToolBox for its practical use; dissemination of knowledge about the IWRM concept; organization of training seminars; cooperation with programs of the EC IFAS, ICWC, GENDER, VEKCA, REC (Regional Ecological Center), and others; joint actions with the regional and national non-governmental organizations (NGOs); creation and regular update of the National Water Partnership Internet site.

Realization Time:

12 Months

Responsible Executors:

Ministries, Agencies, local authorities, and NGOs

Results:

The National Water Partnership of Tajikistan will be established for the first time. In will facilitate implementation the integrated water resources management principles in the Republic of Tajikistan, and increase public role and its participation in the IWRM process.

Necessary Resources:

Estimated number of man-months: man-months.

Planned contribution from the Republic's budget: USD 7 thousand Planned contribution from potential sponsors: USD 160 thousand

Subject 3: THE TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL MEASURES

Activity 3.1.

Inventory of the technical conditions and certification of the water management systems and structures of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Objectives:

Improvement of operational reliability of the irrigation and drainage systems and structures, and mitigation of threats associated with water.

Rationale:

- On the basis of certification of water structures on irrigation systems, analysis of their technical conditions, and the Program for economic development of the Republic of Tajikistan up to 2015, approved by the Government, measures aimed at implementation of the intended targets will be developed;
- Currently the fixed assets of irrigation and drainage systems are worn out by more than 50%, and in the area of lift irrigation this figure is up to 60%;
- Amongst the vulnerable structures are irrigation tunnels (their total length is 26 km), aqueducts, inverted siphons, reservoir dams, large pumping stations, main canals, etc. These structures are mainly of inter-rayon importance. For instance, failure of only one inverted siphon "Laikasai" on the canal "Right Branch" in the Yavan-Obiliy valley has left three rayons without water during 46 days causing huge losses. In this situation failure to undertake measures may lead to the secondary desertification of lands.

Approach:

Working group, approved by the Government will carry out analysis of technical conditions and certification of irrigation and drainage systems by the following group/types of structures:

- Water structures:
- Pumping stations and vertical drainage wells;
- Collector and drainage network;
- Land amelioration (degree of drainage, degree of soil salinization, etc.).

The short-, mid-, and long-term measures aimed at rehabilitation and modernization will be proposed for each type of these structures. Realization of these measures will ensure the reliable operation of irrigation and drainage systems and stable water delivery to water users, and therefore, improve efficiency of water and land resources use.

Realization Time:

18 Months

Responsible Executors:

The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan Ministry of Amelioration and Water Resources

Results:

- Reliable operation of water structures;
- Improved water metering;
- Increased crop yields;
- Timely distribution of water and agricultural information amongst water management organizations, WUAs and farmers;
- Improved ecological situation;
- Irrigation water saving;
- Reduction of poverty level amongst rural population.

Necessary Resources:

Estimated number of man-months: man-months.

Planned contribution from the Republic's budget: USD 11 thousand Planned contribution from potential sponsors: USD 190 thousand

Note: Estimated requirement of financial resources includes involvement of the international consultants.

CONTACTS AND INFORMATION

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