

APWF 7th Governing Council

FAO follow up initiative progress report June 2010

Reminder:

- A FAO-IWMI Initiative on Re-inventing irrigation and agricultural water governance in the Asia Pacific to meet the Millennium Development Goals- A regional programme to support action at all levels through knowledge sharing, capacity building and implementation
- Designed to enable implementation of the recommendations of the 1st Asia Pacific Water Forum
- Initial focus: Irrigated Agriculture: human development and environmental targets will not be met if this sector does not adopt adaptive forward-looking strategies
- Key objective: to support feasible pathways to re-invent irrigation and re-think agricultural water governance to ensure sustained food security and poverty alleviation in the river basins of the region
- Concepts behind the initiative design: necessity to achieve consistency at all management levels; support for existing effective practice and identification of new knowledge
- 5 inter-related components
 - Development of communities of practice for policy makers, implementing agencies, water resources and irrigation system managers, water user and farmer organizations
 - A knowledge hub for a knowledge network on irrigation and groundwater governance
 - Supporting action in representative basins and their groundwater systems: support to initially 7 basin centres of excellence/reference, to functional centres of excellence /reference within these basins
 - Development and adoption of regional guidelines for monitoring investment and results including a harmonized regional irrigation benchmarking system
 - Mobilization of the professional community in the region for analysis, advocacy, dissemination and promotion of national initiatives
- Implementing organizations: FAO, IWMI
- Tentative partner organizations: Global Water Partnership; IPTRID; ADB; AIT; ICID; WBI; INWEPF; ESCAP; UNESCO-IHE; Singapore; PUB; IUCN; Krishna CP, KNNL and MWR, Karnataka State, India; MWR, NCIDD, Shanxi DWR and JMK project, China; DID, MADA, Malaysia; MRCS and national MRC Committees; national ICID committees; CSIRO; NARBO; University of Melbourne; Vietnam: Cau RBO, MARD, MONRE, VIWRR; Indonesia: Citarum basin, BAPPENAS, etc. Pakistan: ARC, etc.

Progress:

- FAO and IWMI have confirmed partnership and will shortly establish a Joint Interim Secretariat. A two-year regional project became operational in April 2010 to develop the initiative framework, establish partnerships, formulate regional and 7 river basin components: Muda, Yellow river, Bang Pakong, Cau, Krishna, Indus, Citarum, establish communities of practice and mobilize resources.
- A 3-year project (MAFF/Japan) became operational in May 2009: water allocation to agriculture, establish community of practice, and support activities in 4 basins (Muda, Cau, Bang Pakong, Yellow River). Case studies and river basin dialogues have been initiated. Regional components to start in July-August.
- A 2-year project on capacity building and community of practice on modernization of irrigation systems: Malaysia, Thailand, China, Viet Nam, became operational in April 2010.
- A Knowledge Hub on Irrigation Services Reform: IWMI with FAO as a partner.
- Partnership established with Australia-China Water Resources Research Council to establish Shanxi Province Water Resources Department as a Centre of Excellence.
- IWMI with FAO as partner have completed an ADB-funded study on Revitalizing Asia's Irrigation: to sustainably meet tomorrow's food needs. Main report published August 2009.
- IWMI and FAO have collaborated to AWDO 2010 to produce the KD2 indicators, report and case studies.
- FAO to collaborate with UNESCO on a volume of the UNESCO river Basin Management guidelines focused on IWRM and agricultural water management.

