

**National report on  
Monitoring progress and promotion of water demand management policies  
EGYPT**

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**Overview and conclusion**

The designing and implementation of sustainable development strategy including the indicators, the analytical methods and the integration of water policies are matching the Egyptian case of integrated water policy and the national water resources plan. Moreover the Egyptian example includes more aspects of the demand management such as fish farming, life stock, and environmental demand. For Both cases (the Egyptian and the MSSD methodology) more analysis on the geographical distribution of resources and demands need more attention.

Despite that Egypt national water resources plan looks well formulated and developed the implementation plan faces another type of challenges. The financial requirements to implement the plan is huge in particular the budget required for Municipal water development. The budget needed for constructing new plants (drinking water and sewage treatment) to satisfy the demand increase as well as rehabilitation of the old systems to increase efficiency.

Egypt applies the Integrated Water Resources (an demand) Management on different levels and aspects. MWRI establish Integrated Water Resources Management districts and directorates. These are the management units in the MWRI structure. The old system was one unit for irrigation management and another unit for drainage management and another unit for ground water management. The integrated units will deal with all possible resources and used in one geographical unit.

Water User Associations concept is applied on the smallest irrigation canal (mesqa) which is originally a private canal. MWRI supports the establishment of WUA and provide technical and administrative guide. Another institutional aspect is the Institutional reform policy of MWRI. A special unit has been established to develop a reform vision and assist in the implementation. The reform vision established 8 principals for reform and they are; 1) participation; 2) decentralization; 3) basin organization; 4) water quality; 5) private sector participation; 6) privatization, 7) cost recovery; and 8) inter ministerial coordination. It is expected to implement the reform on stages following the implementation stages of the National Water resources Plan.