



UNDP WGP-AS
Capacity Building
Workshop
Cairo
8-10 March 2010

Accountability and Rights Analysis

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IUCN ROWA**





Accountability and Rights Analysis

EMPOWERS
Training Workshop
on pro-poor
participatory
planning of
community water
services
Amman, Jordan
November 5-9, 2006

UNDP WGP-AS
Capacity Building
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Who cares for water ?
Water rights and local
accountability
in sustainable water
management

Peter Laban/EMPOWERS
IDRC Workshop on Water as a human
right
Cairo, 11-12 February 2006



Water rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

The emphasis on rights and local accountability adds a new and necessary dimension.

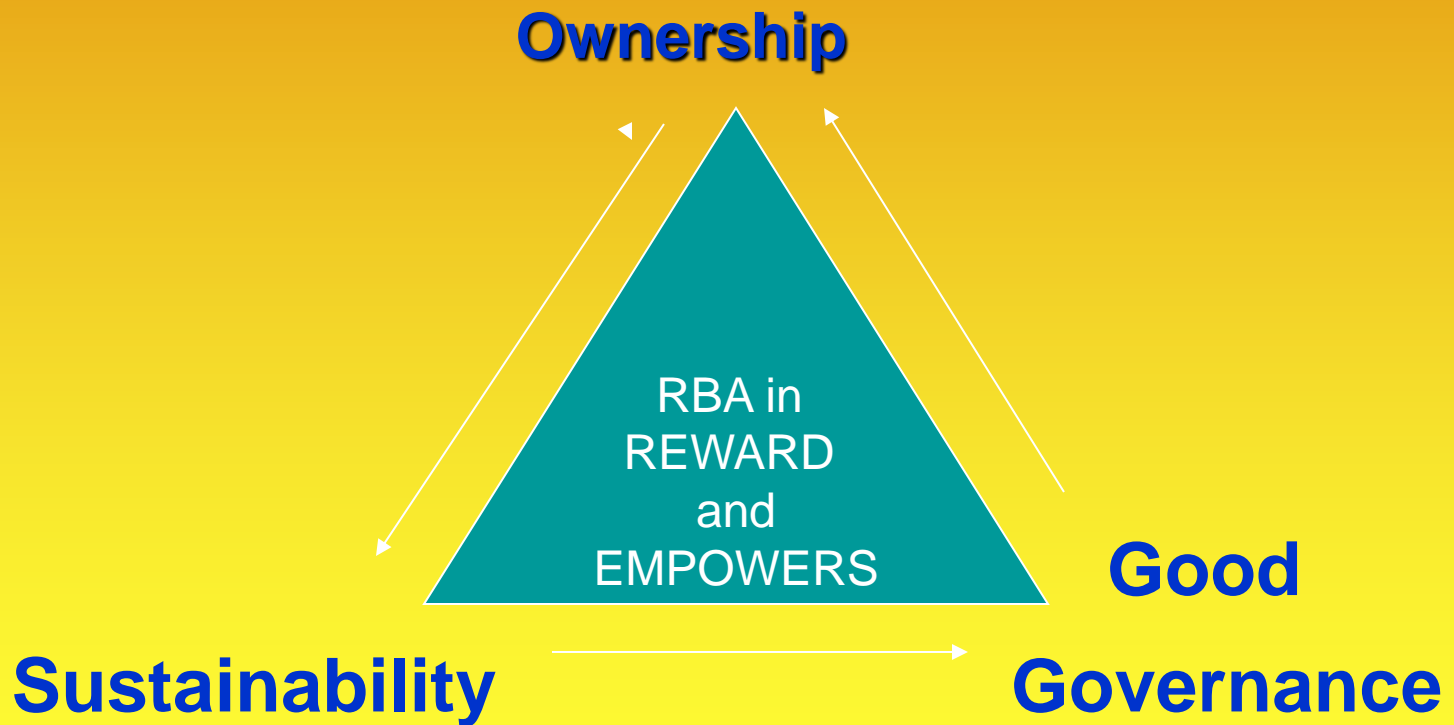
No sustainable development without explicit attention to these two issues that have to do with dignity and respect

Hence: “water as a human right” and RBA





Water rights and local accountability in sustainable water management



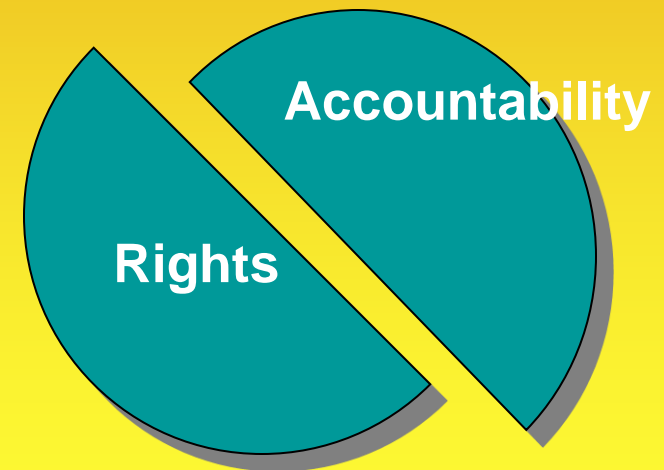


Water rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

RBA and OWNERSHIP

RBA is not only about rights but also about responsibilities, ownership and accountability.

This paper will focus on the institutional/socio-economic inadequacies for people to claim their rights and assume accountability in IWRM.





Water rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

ACCOUNTABILITY ??

- ◆ in financial terms,
- ◆ in a more narrow legalistic way
(to donors, general public, target groups,.....)
- ◆ or in more general, perhaps ethical terms





Water rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

Accountability ?

taking responsibility for one's own behavior and actions, while at the same time being able to account for the effects of such behavior and actions on others

or,

Can you account for what you do ??



Rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

Accountability at local levels ?

**What does this mean for
IWRM or NRM**

at local levels ?

In the majority of cases today
(here and elsewhere)

PEOPLE in local
communities

**CANNOT (are not able
to) ASSUME such
accountability**





Water rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

Why is such local accountability important ?

1. Dealing with complex informal structures of responsibility and ownership;
2. Protect informal rights to water, esp. when formal rights and neo-liberal pricing of water become a challenge;
(sensitivity of RBA ??)
3. Strengthen solidarity of under-privileged groups;
4. Upstream-downstream interaction among multiple water users;
5. Ensure ownership, impact and sustainability for water use and management activities beyond a (project/govt.) intervention.



Water rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

However, very often no conducive environment to enhance local level accountability.

Indeed, don't count on accountability among groups or individuals in local communities for IWRM activities when:

- ◆ they perceive no benefits,
- ◆ they don't feel that they can do it (knowledge, capacities,),
- ◆ they are not sure about their rights (access, control, etc), and when
- ◆ They have no claim-making power (influence).





Water rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

NGOs, local and national “duty-bearers” have a great responsibility to make sure that PRECONDITIONS for local level ownership and accountability in IWRM are in place.

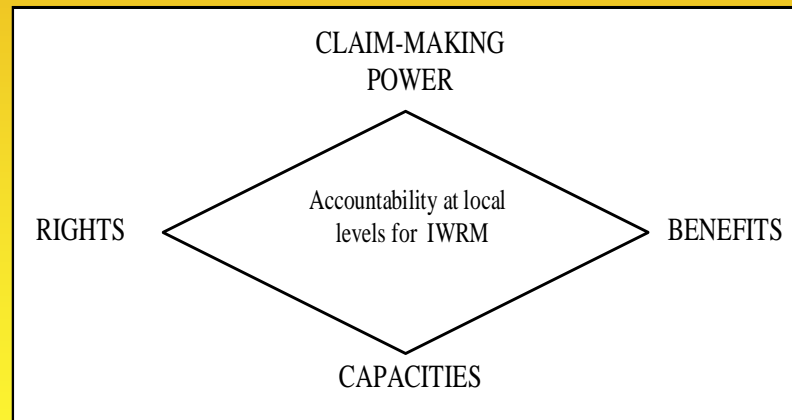


Figure 2. Preconditions which are necessary for local people to assume accountability and ownership for water resource management activities



Water rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

What info do we need to assess if people can assume accountability at their level?

- ◆ What benefits they perceive to do so?
- ◆ What knowledge and capacities they have (not)?
- ◆ What effective rights (informal + formal) do they have and can exercise ?
- ◆ What claim-making power (influence) can they exercise (or not) to secure above

and

what has to be done about it ?



Water rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

What rights are important here

- ◆ Right to accessible and transparent information
- ◆ Right to assemble, voice and claim
- ◆ Right to adequate water
 - * collective community rights
 - * individual customary rights
 - * individual formal / legal rights



Water rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

Rights to adequate water as
one important condition for
accountability and
ownership in local IWRM:

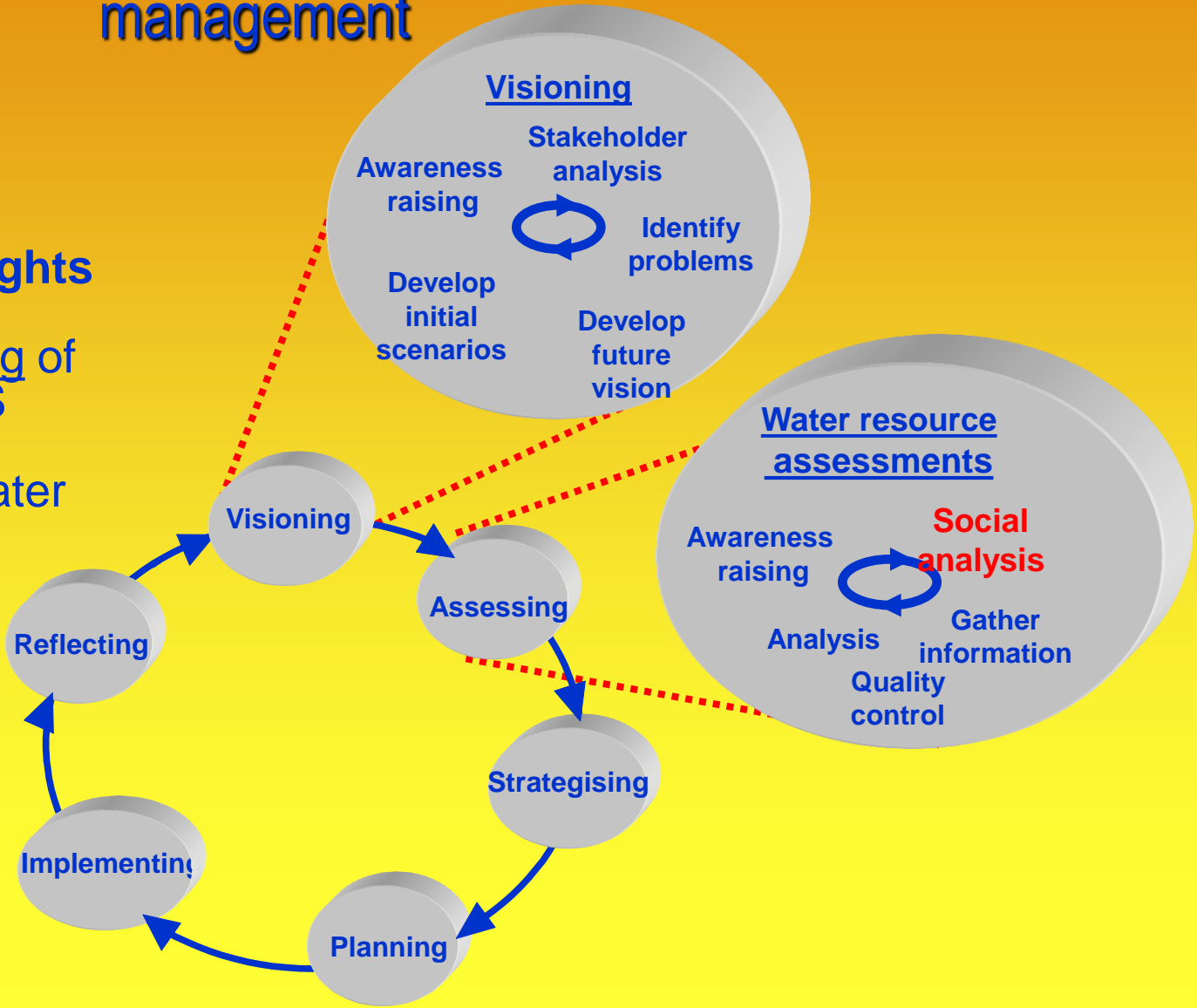
- ◆ Availability
- ◆ Access and control
- ◆ Quality
- ◆ Affordability (price)
- ◆ Acceptability (of technology and interventions)





Water rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

Accountability/Rights Analysis fits in Step 2. Assessing of the EMPOWERS planning cycle to enhance local water governance, as part of the social analysis





Rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

Why is this rights/accountability/gender analysis important ?

- ◆ In-depth social analysis
- ◆ Programming/planning
- ◆ Advocacy (influencing policies)
- ◆ Monitoring





Water rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

Research Questions ?

*What are the reasons why
people*

can or cannot

- ◆ *achieve their rights to
water and*
- ◆ *assume accountability for
the management of water
resource systems*





Water rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

With accountability/rights studies it is important to differentiate

- ◆ Between different water use groups in a community

(farmers with or without well; at tail-end of a canal; HHs with/without network connection; with/without private/collective sanitation system; on the higher/lower slope;kazakaza)



NB. Poor/wealth ranking often does not work !!



Water rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

With these studies it is also important
to

differentiate among gender for

*priorities, interests,
perceptions, inequalities, rights,
access, security, degree
men/women can assume
accountability*

NB. Gender participation has rarely
led to gender equality !!

NB. Granting formal rights to women
not necessarily ensures higher
water security !!





Rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

Accountability analysis through parameters for pre-conditions:

- ◆ Rights
- ◆ Benefits
- ◆ Knowledge/capacities
- ◆ Claim-making power





Rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

Summary of analysis (community levels)

| Pre-conditions | Low | Slight | OK | High |
|--------------------------------------|-----|--------|----|------|
| Rights | | | | |
| Benefits | | | | |
| Awareness, knowledge + Capacities | | | | |
| Claim-making power | | | | |



Rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

Examples of parameters:

Claim-making power: “*the extent that decisions of women groups are accepted and implemented in a community*”

Rights: “*rights (titles / long term agreements) on water access and use secured for farm households and women*”



Water rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

- ◆ TOOLS ?
- ◆ PRA + semi-structured checklists of questions;
- ◆ Particip. Identification of problems and opportunities (PIPO; problem tree + ranking priorities)
- ◆ WRAs + RIDA (water resources, infrastructure, demand and access)
- ◆ Accountability analysis framework + semi-structured checklists of questions + definition of parameters
- ◆ Gender analysis tools
- ◆ RBA tools





Water rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

A final note:

Accountability at local levels NOT
NOW as a condition/requirement
imposed on local people, but

As a vision/objective for long-term
sustainable IWRM

*“Water is everybody’s business
and shared control implies
a seat at the (water) table”*





Water rights and local accountability in sustainable water management

Questions for the workshop

- ◆ On the basis of the accountability/rights analysis (hand-out) and your own observations please discuss what are the implications for further planning of community water projects, if women and the poorest have to be involved more closely.
- ◆ Consider the four preconditions for accountability (benefits, knowledge, rights and claim-making power) and assess to what extent they are really within reach of these target groups to assume accountability.
- ◆ Assess to what extent in the community rights to water can be assured (availability, access and control, quality, affordability and acceptability)



SHUKRAN KETIIR

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