

NWSSIP Update



Republic of Yemen

Update of The National Water Sector Strategy and Investment Programme

The NWSSIP Update

December 17th, 2008

FINAL DRAFT

Key to Acronyms

DCG	Donor Core Group
DRA	Demand-Responsive Approach
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
IAS	Irrigation Advisory Service
IMSC	Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
JAR	Joint Annual Review
JAR III	Joint Annual Review for 2007 (held in July 2008)
MAI	Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoPIC	Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
MTEF	Medium Term Economic Framework
MWE	Ministry of Water and Environment
NIP	National Irrigation Programme
NWRA	National Water Resources Authority
NWSSIP I	National Water Sector Strategy and Investment Programme 2005-9
NWSSIP Update	The Update of NWSSIP 2008-2015
PMC	Programme Management Committee
PPC	Programme Preparation Committee
PPP	Public private partnership
RWSS	Rural water supply and sanitation
TS/MWE	The Technical Secretariat for Urban Water Reform in MWE
UWSS	Urban water supply and sanitation
WUA	Water user association
WSSP	The multi-donor Water Sector Support Programme

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Note: this is the English version of the NWSSIP Update. It faithfully reflects the text of the Arabic master version. The Arabic version is the official Update of the National Water Sector Strategy and Investment Programme

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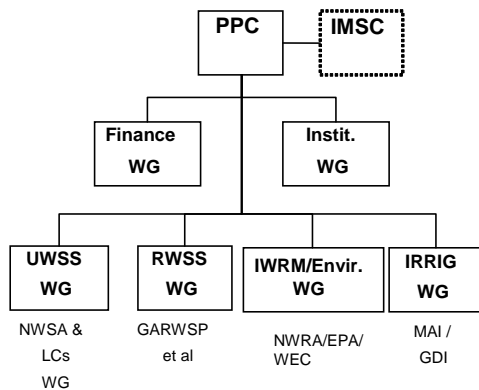
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Introduction: The NWSSIP Update Process

In late 2007, the Yemeni government took the decision to prepare an update of the National Water Strategy and Investment Programme 2005-9 (“NWSSIP I”). The reason for this decision was in part that experience showed that some improvements to NWSSIP were needed, to adjust policy and programme measures in the light of experience and to incorporate irrigation more fully into an integrated water resources management framework. There was, in addition, a determination by government to request external partners to take a sector wide approach to financing, and it was agreed with certain leading external partners that the proposed Water Sector Support Programme (WSSP) should be based on a “NWSSIP Update”.

For these reasons, government set up an Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee (IMSC) and a Programme Preparation Committee (PPC) to oversee the water sector, and more specifically to guide the preparation of both the NWSSIP Update and the WSSP. The Technical Secretariat in the Ministry of Water and Environment (TS/MWE) under Eng. Anwer Sahooley, the Team Leader of the GTZ/TS Component of the Yemeni/German TC Water Program, was appointed to support the PPC and facilitate the preparation process.



In January 2008, it was agreed to set up six NWSSIP Update working groups. Four of these were to be subsector working groups covering: (1) urban water supply and sanitation (UWSS); (2) rural water supply and sanitation (RWSS); (3) irrigation; and (4) integrated water resources management and environment (IWRM/Envir.). An additional (5) finance working group, comprising representatives of MoF, MoPIC, MAI, MWE and MoLA was to be set up to advise the four sub-sector working groups on the resource envelope and sources of finance.

An additional (6) institutional development group, chaired by MoPIC, was to cooperate with the sub-sector working groups to prepare an institutional development program for the water sector.

All these groups were duly set up, although the institutional development group was delayed starting, and the finance working group was only set up towards the end of the process. Over 100 stakeholders from government, parliament, local authorities, civil society and external partners participated. Consultant advisers were appointed to facilitate the work. The groups reported in May/June 2008, and a first draft report was prepared (dated July 6th, 2008).

The first draft was distributed to stakeholders and presented to the Water Sector Joint Annual Review (JAR III) on July 9th, 2008. A revised draft was discussed at a retreat of

water sector decision makers held in Ta'iz on August 23-25, 2008 under the chairmanship of H.E the Minister of Water and Environment and H.E the then Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation. Comments and decisions from these discussions have been incorporated into the Update.

A revised draft of the Update was presented to the external partners as the basis for appraisal of the WSSP in October/November 2008. In November 2008, the Update was finalized for validation by the government.