

Regional Water Governance Benchmarking

IRG

STRIVER final conference

28 - 29 May 2009

Brussels, Belgium



USAID
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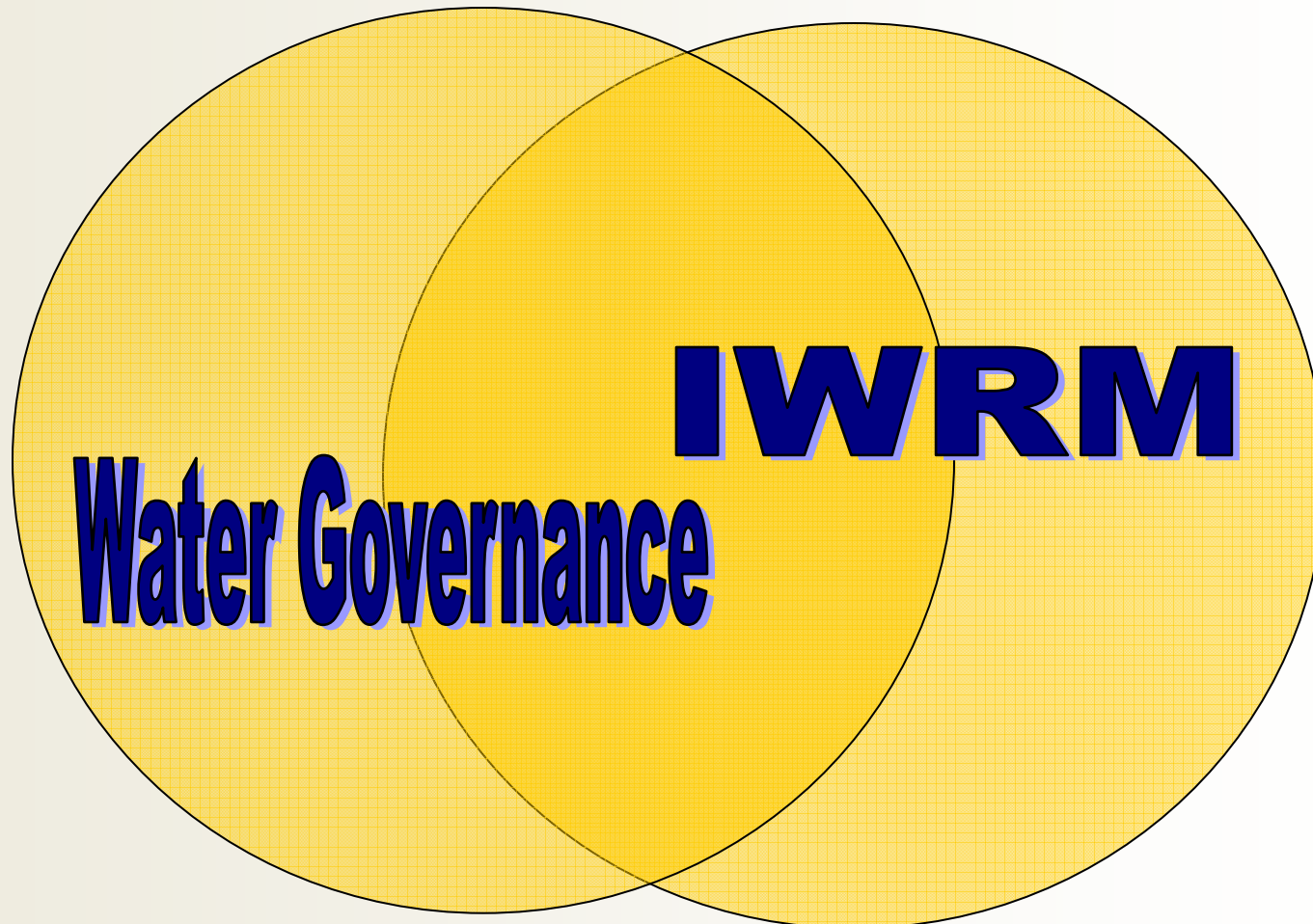
IRG is *ISO 14001* Certified.

- To develop a coherent set of practical, useful indicators of water governance for the MENA region
- To develop an ongoing system for measuring and reporting governance indicators – a benchmarking system

- Implementing Partners
 - IRG
 - OSU
 - IWMI
 - CADI
 - Nile Consultants (Cairo)
 - ECO Consult (Amman)
 - Resing (Rabat)
 - (USAID)

- Sponsor: USAID Office of Middle East Programs (OMEP)
- Funding: \$1.5 M
- Duration: Sep 2008 to Feb 2010 (18 months)
- Focal countries
 - Egypt
 - Jordan
 - Morocco
 - Oman
 - Turkey

- Hospitals - a classic application
 - Complication rates
- Development
 - Per capita income
 - Human development index
- Governance
 - World Bank governance indicators
 - Transparency International perceived corruption index



- **Water Governance:** The manner in which authority is acquired and exercised on behalf of the public in developing, utilizing, and protecting a nation's water resources
- **Structural dimensions**
 - **Policy:** A purposive course of action giving overall direction
 - **Law:** Codified or informal "rules of the game"
 - **Organization:** A group of individuals engaged in purposeful activity
- **Functions:** Well-defined goal-oriented activities involving choice among alternatives
- **Process features:** Attributes characterizing decision making processes

The Diversity Problem

- There are a vast number of organizational forms
- There is no good *a priori* way to evaluate and rate organizational forms
- Structures tend to converge as you move lower in the hierarchy; tasks are more universal
- This suggests a focus on water governance functions

Standard Water Governance Functions

- Organizing and building capacity in the water sector
- Planning strategically
- Allocating water
- Developing and managing water resources
- Regulating water resources and services

Standard Water Governance Functions

- Organizing and building capacity in the water sector
 - Creating and modifying an organizational structure
 - Assigning roles and responsibilities
 - Setting national water policy
 - Coordinating and integrating among sub-sectors, levels, and national sub-regions
 - Establishing linkages with neighboring riparian countries
 - Building public and political awareness of water sector issues
 - Securing and allocating funding for the sector
 - Developing and utilizing well-trained water sector professionals

- Allocating water
 - Awarding and recording water rights and corollary responsibilities
 - Establishing water and water rights transfer mechanisms
 - Adjudicating disputes
 - Assessing and managing third party impacts of water and water rights transactions

Processes of Water Governance

- Governance itself is well described as a process, i.e. a decision making process
- “How” decisions are made matters along with “what”

- Many lists of water governance principles (GWP, UNDP, UN-Water)
- Mix of objectives, values, process characteristics
- Separate out those that relate to governance decision making
 - Transparency
 - Participation
 - Accountability & integrity
 - Rule of law
 - Responsiveness

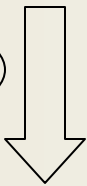
Functions

Process Features

Policy

Laws

Organizations



Management



Results

Organizing & Building Capacity

Planning Strategically

Allocating Water

Developing & Managing Water Resources

Regulating Water Resources & Services

Providing Water Services

Transparency

Participation

Accountability & Integrity

Rule of Law

Responsiveness

- Institutional structures (policy, law, organizations)
- Processes
 - Functional performance
 - Decision making processes
- Services
- Outcomes
- Impacts

- Possible indicator sets
 - Policy and legal framework
 - Functional coverage
 - Functional performance – 5 areas
 - Process quality – 5 features
 - Coordination/integration

- Tagged policy and legal database
- Organizations/functions matrix
- Scaled ratings
 - Functional performance
 - Decision making process quality
- Rating panels
 - Different subsectors
 - ~ 50 people/country

- www.rewab.net
- World Economic Forum – Jordan
- Striver – Brussels
- WWW – Stockholm
- American Water Resources Association – Seattle
- International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage – New Delhi
- Technical papers
- Project wrap-up conference – Amman
- Media



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