

NATIONAL REPORT ON IHP RELATED ACTIVITIES, JORDAN

Correspondance:

Mohammad_Almomani@mwi.gov.jo

OR

Muawia_Samarah@mwi.gov.jo

Fax: 00962 6 5680075

Adress:

Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI)

Schmeisani

Amman, Jordan

P.O.Box: 2412-5012

1. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE PERIOD 2004 – 2006

1.1 Meetings of the IHP National Committee

There are seven meetings each year, about one meeting every two months.

1.1.1 Decisions regarding the composition of the IHP National Committee

* The committee is headed by H.E the Minister of Water and Irrigation, Jordan where the Vice Chair Person is Prof. Dr. Muhammad Shatanawi, the UNESCO Chair in Wadi Hydrology at the Univercity of Jordan.

The IHP National Committee composed with the following Institutions and Universities:

- Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI)
- Ministry of Education-National Commission for Education, Science and Culture
- University of Jordan, Amman – UNESCO Chair in Wadi Hydrology
- University of Science and Technology, Irbid
- Yarmouk University, Irbid
- Muta University, Karak
- Hashemite University, Zarqa
- Al Albayt University, Mafrag
- Balqa University, Salt
- Metorological Departement
- Natural Resources Authority (NRA)
- The Higher Council for Science and Technology (HCST)

In regard of re-composition of the National IHP Committee, a request has been sent to two universities and two institutions. One member of the committee has been replaced by another that has more time to contribute in the IHP activities.

The decisions of the Committee within the third quarter of April 2006 are nominations of the following Scientists and Specialists to the Category Centers as follows:

* Nomination of Prof Dr. Muhammad Shatanawi , the UNESCO Chair in Wadi Hydrology at the University of Jordan for the "Governing Board of the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education" .

* Nomination of Prof Dr. Anwar Jiries , from Muta University for the "Advisory Board of the International Centre of Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) in Tsukuba, Japan " .

* Nomination of Prof Dr. Abdallah Malkawi, from the Science and Technology University, Jordan for the "Advisory Board of the International Research and Training Centre for Erosion and Sedimentation (IRTCES) in Beijing, China..

1.1.2 Status of IHP-VI activities

1.1.3 Decisions regarding contribution to/participation in IHP-VII

The Jordan National IHP Committee Contributed on the preparation and commenting on the draft plan for participation in IHP-VII.

Concentration on the National Priorities as follows:

- * Surface water and Groundwater Resources Protection.
- * Public Awareness and Stakeholders Participation.
- * Watershed and Aquifers / Climatic Changes Impacts.
- * Hydrology / Ecohydrology.
- * Others

1.2 Activities at national level in the framework of the IHP

1.2.1 National/local scientific and technical meetings

* Two Workshops have been conducted in 2004 by the Jordan National IHP Committee. The first workshop conducted at the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Jordan where the second workshop conducted in the Hashemite University on the topic "Groundwater Resources Protection"

* Two Workshops have been conducted in 2005 by the Jordan National IHP Committee. The first workshop on "Groudwater Resources Management " conducted at the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Jordan in March 2005 followed the celebration in the International water day, where the second workshop conducted in the Hashemite University on the topic "Groundwater Vulnerability and Risk "

* A Workshops and a Seminar have been conducted in 2006 by the Jordan National IHP Committee. The first workshop on "Water and Culture" conducted at the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Jordan in March 2006 followed the celebration in the international water day, where the second event conducted in 30,th May 2006 at the University of Jordan on the topic " Aquifer dynamics- Water and Culture ". This Seminar organized in Cooperation between The Jordan National IHP Committee, the UNESCO Chair in Wadi Hydrology at the University of Jordan and UNESCO Amman Office.

The main topics of the seminar as follows:

- * The Water in the Arabian Culture.
- * Effects of Droughts on the Social, Cultural and Economic Activities.
- * Resolution of Conflicts.
- * The Conventional and Traditional Methods in Water Resources Management in Jordan.
- * The Role of Municipal Activities on Characteristics and Watershed Management.
- * Panel Discussion and Recommendations.

1.2.2 Participation in IHP Steering Committees/Working Groups

- * A member of the IHP Committee Participated in one of the Ecohydrology working groups.

1.2.3 Research/applied projects supported or sponsored

- * Applying for a study and research project in an artificial recharge of the flash floods at southern Jordan valley-south of the Dead Sea.

1.2.4 Collaboration with other national and international organizations and/or programmes

- * UNESCO Chair in Wadi Hydrology at the University of Jordan, Amman.
- * UNESCO Chair in Desertification Protection at the Yarmouk University, Irbid
- * Higher Committee of Climate change at the Ministry of Environment.
- * Higher Committee of Desertification Protection at the Ministry of Planning-Ministry of Environment.
- * UNESCO, Amman Office and UNESCO Cairo Office.
- * ALECSO, ROSTAS and ACSAD.
- * Non Governmental Organizations and Associations in Jordan

1.2.5 Other initiatives

- * Proposal for a land use study and research project of three wadis having different environment in Jordan. The finance of this proposal is going to be submitted through the extra budgetary resources at UNESCO.
- * Celebration in the international water day in 2004, 2005 and 2006. The celebration in 2006 concentrated on the Theme "Water and Culture" with presence of students, institutions and non governmental organizations having a role in public awareness of water and culture. Prizes were distributed through that event.

1.3 Educational and training courses

1.3.1 Contribution to IHP courses

Contribution to the annual Wadi Hydrology training course in Amman, Jordan. This Course is conducted by UNESCO Cairo Office, UNESCO Chair in Wadi Hydrology at the University of Jordan. In 2005 this course conducted at Balqa University, Jordan.

1.3.2 Organization of specific courses

1.3.3 Participation in IHP courses

- * One participant trained in IHP course in a training center in Cairo.
- * Trainees participation in the annual Wadi Hydrology Course, Amman.

1.4 Cooperation with the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education and/or international/regional water centres under the auspices of UNESCO.

1.5 Publications

- * Publication of the scientific papers of the workshop in "Groundwater Protection" held at Hashimiyya University in 2004 through a CD.
- * Publication of the scientific papers of the workshop held at Hashimiyya University in September 2005 through a CD.
- * The papers presented in the seminar "Water and Culture" held at the University of Jordan in 30 of May 2006 will be published through a CD.

1.6 Participation in international scientific meetings

1.6.1 Meetings hosted by the country

- * Annual Wadi Hydrology Course in the University of Jordan in 2004.
- * Annual Wadi Hydrology Course at Balqa University, Jordan in 2005.

1.6.2 Participation in meetings abroad

- * Participation in the 11th Arab National IHP Committees Meeting in Damascus, Syria in September, 2005. The National Country report about the water sector has been submitted to the meeting. Actually this meeting is conducted each two years through UNESCO Cairo Office, ALECSO and other Organizations.

* Participation in the 3rd International Conference in Wadi Hydrology in Sanaa, Yemen in December, 2005. Three Scientific papers have been submitted to the Conference.

* Participation in the meeting of the Steering Committee of Wadi Hydrology conducted parallel with the 3rd International Conference in Wadi Hydrology.

* Participation in two Scientific meetings abroad.

* Intergovernmental Council meeting held in UNESCO headquarter in paris in September 2004.

* 38th session of the IHP Bureau meeting from 4-6 June 2005 in Paris where the general secretary of Jordan National IHP Committee is a member of the IHP Bureau, represents the Arab Region.

* 39th session of the IHP Bureau meeting from 3-5 May 2006 in IHE-Delft.

1.7 Other activities at regional level

1.7.1 Institutional relations/cooperation

* Cooperation with several governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations and Associations at the regional level.

* Cooperation with Wadi Hydrology Network, UNESCO Cairo Office, UNESCO Chair in Wadi Hydrology.

* Cooperation with Groundwater Protection Network, UNESCO Cairo Office, Acsad.

* Cooperation with the Yemeni National IHP Committee, where two specialists and officials from the Yemeni National IHP Committee visited Jordan National IHP Committee from 28 May to 3 June 2006. The trip covered a visit to the Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI), Jordan National Committee for Education, Science and Culture. UNESCO Amman office, and four Universities. The mission includes a field trip to potential water projects at the Jordan valley, also attending a seminar held in the University of Jordan.

1.7.2 Completed and ongoing scientific projects

2. FUTURE ACTIVITIES

2.1 Activities planned until December 2007

There are three foreseen activities planned as follows:

* Celebration in the international water day in March 2007 at the Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI) headquarter, Amman in cooperation with the Non governmental organizations, UNESCO Chair in Wadi Hydrology and UNESCO Amman office.

* A scientific workshop in March 2007 about "Water Resources and Land Use".

* A scientific Seminar followed by a panel discussion within the third quarter 2007 in one of the Jordan Universities outside the capital city of Amman. The topic will be selected to coincide with one of the themes mentioned in the sixth mid term plan of IHP- VI from (2002-2007) and with the national priorities in the water sector in an arid environment.

2.2 Activities foreseen for 2008-2009

- * Celebration in the international water day in March 2008.
- * A Workshop at the first quarter 2008.
- * A Scientific Seminar Probably in the second or third quarter 2008.
- * Celebration in the international water day in March 2009.
- * A Workshop at the first quarter 2009.
- * A Scientific Seminar Probably in the second or third quarter 2009.

2.3 Activities envisaged in the long term