

Saudi Arabia

Ministry of Water and Electricity National Report for the 17th Session of IHP Intergovernmental Council (Paris 3-7 July 2006) UNESCO.

1.1 Meeting of the IHP National Committee

1.1.1 Decisions regarding the composition of the IHP National Committee.

The Existing formed IHP National Committee does not play its role perfectly. A new Saudi IHP National Committee will be formed shortly. The new Committee will include representatives from Several Governmental institutions, such as: Ministry of Water and Electricity research centers, universities, and Private Sector.

1.1.2 Status of IHP-VI activities.

The Saudi Ministry of Water and Electricity conducted several activities for the achievement of IHP –VI, particularly in the field of non- renewable groundwater management, water quality, sanitation, food security, and water analyses technology.

1.1.3 Decisions regarding contribution to/participation in IHP-VII

Currently, Saudi IHP National Committee does not contribute or participate in IHP–VII phase.

1.2 Activities at National level in the framework of the IHP.

1.2.1 National/local scientific and technical meetings

There is no National or local scientific and technical meetings. A consultations and exchange of ideas in the fields related to water and climatic changes is taking place.

1.2.2 Participation in IHP Steering Committees/Working Groups.

Saudi IHP National Committee always participates in IHP steering committee or working groups.

1.2.3 Research/applied projects supported or sponsored.

The Saudi Ministry of Water and Electricity applies many research and supported many projects, especially in the filed of groundwater investigation and non-renewable water resources management.

1.2.4 Collaboration with other National and International Organizations and/or programmes.

- A. Saudi Ministry of Water and Electricity and the World Bank have fully collaboration programme in the filed of water strategy integrated Water Resources Management, and action Plan for Water Conservation and rationalization.

- B. Ongoing cooperation Programme between Saudi Ministry of Water and Electricity and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) aiming for:
 - Determination of consumed groundwater quality for Agricultural purpose during last 20 years.
 - Capacity Building, social and environmental factors affected by agricultural income.
 - Establishment of cadastre (Date Base)
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- C. Saudi Ministry of Water and Electricity is collaborating with World Water Council in the field of Water.

- D. A collaboration program for training of trainees to transfer information about integrated water resources management to related Saudi institutions is currently executing between the Saudi Ministry of Water and Electricity and economic and social committee of western Asia (ESCWA)

- E. Saudi Ministry of Water and Electricity have fully cooperation programs with National Universities and research centers.

1.2.5 Other initiatives.

1.3 Educational and training courses.

1.3.1 Contribution to IHP courses

1.3.2 Organization of specific courses

1.3.3 Participation in IHP courses

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

1.6 Participation in international scientific meetings

1.6.1 Meetings hosted by the country

1.6.2 Participation in meetings abroad

The Ministry of Water and Electricity participated in the Arab IHP meeting held in Damascus, Syria in 2005

1.7 Other activities at regional level

1.7.1 Institutional relations/cooperation

1.7.2 Completed and ongoing scientific projects

During last two years (2003 -2005) Saudi Ministry of Water and Electricity carries-out several scientific projects which realizing the objectives of IHP. These projects include but not limited to the following.

- Preparation of integrated water resources management strategy in collaboration with World Bank. Such strategy consist of three phases:
 - (A) Assessment of current situation of Water Resources (Completed)
 - (B) Evaluation of different water usages, its Economic and Social effects. Also the administrative and institutional regulations of water facilities assessment

considered one of the vital part of such phase. (Anticipated completion date is last of year 2006).

(C) The Action Plan which will be executed after the completion of phase A and B.

2. Updating of groundwater mathematical models of major aquifers.
3. Detailed water resources studies of non-sedimentary rock which known as (Arabian shield) and to depend on renewable water resources.
4. Study of Water potentials in basaltic and sub-basaltic aquifers
5. Preparation of comprehensive water system and development of needed regulations for its execution.
6. Preparation of studies and designs for treated wastewater reuse in different purposes, (domestic use is excluded)
7. Updating and development of hydrological and observation well network.

2. FUTURE ACTIVITIES

2.1 Activities planned until December 2007

2.2 Activities foreseen for 2008-2009

2.3 Activities envisaged in the long term