



International Hydrological Programme

18th session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council
(Paris, 9-14 June 2008)

IHP-RELATED EXTRABUDGETARY ACTIVITIES

Item 10.2 of the provisional agenda

SUMMARY

This document recapitulates and updates information relevant to IHP extrabudgetary activities, and summarizes on-going extrabudgetary projects.

No decision is required.

BACKGROUND

1. The possibility of raising extrabudgetary funding in order to implement IHP programmes at national and regional level through field activities has always been of great concern to IHP. This report briefly reviews the background on this matter; it summarizes the most salient developments to date since the 17th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP (Paris, June 2006). The focus on the items discussed at the 41st Session of the IHP Bureau (26-28 March 2008).

STATUS OF EXTRABUDGETARY ACTIVITIES

2. During the last biennium (2006-2007) significant contributions to IHP were provided by the governments of Italy and Japan, and the Flemish Community of Belgium. Of particular significance is the partnership established with the Global Environmental Facility (GEF). A listing of ongoing and forthcoming IHP-related extrabudgetary projects is given in the Annex. A summary table per UNESCO office showing the total amount of extrabudgetary funds allocated for water projects and the funds assigned (committed and spent) in the biennium 2006-2007 are shown in Table 1.

Table 1.

UNESCO Office	Total extrabudgetary funds for water projects (USD)	Assigned of the total extrabudgetary funds for the biennium 2006-2007 (USD)
Headquarters	17,747,084	535,548
Nairobi	750,361	750,088
Windhoek	1,249,600	288,941
Beijing	133,900	59,551
Jakarta	203,000	194,592
Tehran	113,000	112,545
Baghdad	4,876,178	3,361,553
Cairo ¹	17,607,241	14,451,875
Guatemala	36,047	28,137
Montevideo	715,000	325,113
Total	43,431,411	20,107,943

3. Some recent developments, updates and items of general interest are the following:
- World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) is a major UN system-wide initiative financially led and hosted by UNESCO and involves 24 UN agencies. The 3rd edition of the WWDR will be presented at the 5th World Water Forum in Istanbul on 22 March 2009. The Government of Italy that will host the WWAP Secretariat in Perugia (Italy) is currently providing financial support with funds of 2.4 millions Euros per year for a 3 year period with a view towards providing funding for a long term period. The

¹ The figures provided here for UNESCO Office in Cairo include the Great Man-Made River Project in Libya, the total budget of which is 14,801,982 USD and funds assigned to the biennium 2006-2007 amount to 12,464,010 USD.

Government of Japan will continue to support the UN WWAP.

- The UNESCO/Flanders Trust Fund for the Sciences provides financial resources for the execution of IHP projects mainly within the priority areas of water resource management in arid and semi-arid zones. The Flanders Trust Fund has been extended into a second five-year phase. The Flemish Community is one of the largest donors to IHP projects.
- UNESCO – Italy Partnership: Water Programme for Africa and Arid and Water Scarce Zones (WPA Phase I, 2004-2007) - Water Programme for Environmental Sustainability (WPA Phase II, 2007-2009). From 2004 to 2007 the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS) provided IHP with \$US 1,308,767 to finance the “Water Programme for Africa and Arid and Water Scarce Zones” (WPA I): Integrated Water Resources Management Capacities Enhancement Programme. The project came to an end in December 2007. This project was part of the a larger programme, within the framework of the Sixth Phase (2002-2007) of the IHP, addressing UNESCO’s consolidated input into the integrated management of water resources in Africa, the Arab States and in particular in the arid and semi-arid countries. This project enabled UNESCO to contribute towards the improvement of integrated water resources management through the strengthening of institutions, the capacity enhancement of decision makers in the water sector, development of good governance practices and promotion of investments. The success of the activities carried out under this project justified the development of a second phase initiated in 2007 that is expected to end in 2009. The project is entitled “Water Programme for Environmental Sustainability” (WPA II) - Towards adaptation measures to human and climate change impacts”. For its implementation IMELS provided IHP with \$US 3,100.000. The main objective common to all project components is the enhancement of environmental sustainability through adaptation measures to remediate human and climate impacts on groundwater resources, with particular focus on coastal zones. The project provides a framework for bringing the different audiences of the water constituency together, including scientists, water resource managers and policy-makers in order to address locally defined climate and water challenges, global changes and environmental sustainability. In cooperation with the recipient countries the project develops methodology for the sustainable management of coastal aquifer systems and for the protection of groundwater dependent wetlands as well as for prevention of contamination of marine ecosystems.
- UNESCO-IHP and the GEF-International Waters Focal Area have established close cooperation to foster improved transboundary groundwater resources management in support of the achievement of global environment sustainability goals. UNESCO-IHP has been identified as the lead agency providing scientific and technical expertise in the field of groundwater resources and coastal aquifers, as reflected in the proposal for the new phase of the GEF and UNEP/MED/MAP Regional Component under the Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystems in the Mediterranean basin (MAP) 2005-2010. The GEF plays a catalytic role in helping nations make full use of policy, legal and institutional reforms and investments necessary to address these complex issues concerning transboundary water resources. GEF is one of the major funding mechanisms for environmental projects. In this framework, UNESCO-IHP is applying to obtain the status of GEF Executing Agency under Expanded Opportunities in order to create the conditions necessary to enable UNESCO-IHP to undertake favorably GEF-funded projects that may reinforce the implementation of the IHP VII Plan.

- The U.K. Department of International Development has made a voluntary contribution to the Regular Programme which does not strictly qualify as an extra-budgetary activity, but is considered as additional appropriation. For 2006-2007, the important contribution that continued the support provided in the previous biennium and made it possible to significantly expand the arid lands activities of the global G-WADI network (Water and Development Information for Arid Lands) was US\$ 94,270.

4. Ensuring the necessary administrative support becomes a critical issue with the increase in extrabudgetary funding. Indeed the execution of these projects is experiencing some delay due to new administrative regulations approved by the last session of the UNESCO Executive Board (April 2008). In order to avoid a low implementation rate an adequate mechanism appropriate to the IHP programme specifications and within the administrative framework of UNESCO needs to be found: particularly concerning those linked to funds received from Multilateral Agencies in order to meet their requirements and to follow UNESCO administration policy in the application of the overhead generated by the extrabudgetary projects.

5. The above was reported to the 41st Session of the Bureau. The Bureau expressed concern and indicated:

“...that a great deal more flexibility needs to be exercised in establishing overheads, reflecting the actual costs of managing those funds. It was also noted that new mechanisms within the framework of UNESCO administrative policy need to be explored for the application of overhead expenses of extrabudgetary projects in general, and particularly in cases concerning the utilization of those funds from multi-national agencies such as GEF, where specific requirements need to be met. The Bureau took note that the preparation and implementation of extrabudgetary projects increases considerably the workload of the IHP Secretariat staff involved.”

[From Final Report of the 41st session of the IHP Bureau (IHP/Bur-XLI/3), paragraph 31]

6. Furthermore, in addition to welcoming the considerable progress made in the last biennium in raising extrabudgetary funds from bilateral donors and agencies, the Bureau encouraged the efforts towards UNESCO achieving the status of Global Environment Facility (GEF) Executing Agency ‘under expanded opportunities’. Finally, it:

“... recommended to the IHP Intergovernmental Council to consider appropriate measures to facilitate this process. The Bureau called for the support of IHP National Committees in coordinating with the corresponding national representatives in the GEF Council with respect to the consideration of this item in the GEF Council agenda.”

[From Final Report of the 41st session of the IHP Bureau (IHP/Bur-XLI/3), paragraph 30]

ANNEX

SUMMARY OF IHP-RELATED EXTRABUDGETARY PROJECTS

1. HEADQUARTERS

1.1. Project: World Water Assessment Programme

Second Phase Funding Agency: Governments of Japan, UK, Spain, Denmark and other donors

Third Phase Funding Agency: Government of Italy

Executing Agency: UNESCO (Secretariat located at UNESCO involving 24 UN agencies)

Amount: Phase I (2000-2003): US\$ 6 million from Japan; US\$ 627,000 total from UK for phase I & II

Phase II (2004-2006): US\$ 3.2 million from Japan; Denmark US\$ 1,113,350. \$US 2 million from Spain and its autonomous regions, US\$ 35,000 from Andorra, other minor contributions

Phase III (2007-2009): Euro 2.5 million annually from Italy. Italy will also host the Secretariat of WWAP and provide facilities

Period of Execution: Phase I: 2000-2003; Phase II: 2003-2006; Phase III: 2007-2009

Status: On going

Brief Description: WWAP is a major UN system-wide initiative. The primary mandate of WWAP is to produce periodically a comprehensive report, the World Water Development Report (WWDR), on the status of the resource and its management worldwide. The Second Report was launched in Mexico, 22 March 2006, the title is: Water: a shared responsibility. The report includes 17 case studies. There is also a regional report and activities that include reports on capacity-building such as: PCCP, Governance, (SAGA for the Americas) etc... A comprehensive Water Portal was also developed.

1.2. Project: Water Programme for Africa (WPA I) and Arid and Water Scarce Zones: Integrated Water Resources Management Capacities Enhancement

Funding Agency: The Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS)

Project Amount: US\$ 1,308,767;

Executing Agency: UNESCO, via the International Hydrological Programme

Period of Execution: October 2004 – December 2007;

Status: Closed

Brief description: The project is a direct contribution to the WSSD Type II Partnership/Initiative: Water Programme for Africa (WPA). The overall aim of this project was to contribute to the achievement of the principal objectives in the perspective of the Millennium Development Goals (Goal #7) with emphasis on North Africa and the Arab States. The WPA I was funded by the Italian Ministry for Environment and Territory, in the framework of a Memorandum of Understanding signed in Paris on January 27 2003. The WPA program is built around five main themes:

- (1) integrated water resources management;
- (2) wastewater treatment for re-use;
- (3) re-use of drainage water for irrigation;
- (4) managing groundwater recharge;
- (5) exploitation of brackish water and desalination.

Several training seminars were organized for technicians and experts from African countries. Training courses and workshops were held on groundwater management, water harvesting, wastewater reuse, Management of Aquifer Recharge (MAR) as well as on desalination and renewable energy. National pilot studies were conducted in Algeria, Egypt, Eritrea, Vietnam and Yemen. The final report and related training material are available and were published by UNESCO IHP in 2007.

1.3. Project: Water Programme for Environmental Sustainability (WPA II) - Towards adaptation measures to human and climate change impacts

Funding Agency: The Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS)

Project Amount: US\$ 3,100.000;

Executing Agency: UNESCO via the International Hydrological Programme

Period of Execution: January 2007 – December 2008;

Status: On going

Brief Description: The project aims to define projects on sustainable management of water resources in areas, which are particularly subject to the effects of climate variability. It seeks to identify best practices for remediation of water resources. Pilot studies will be conducted in Algeria, Brazil, Caribbean Islands, Iraq, Montenegro, Morocco, Tunisia, Vietnam and the South African Development Community (SADC). During 2007 project activities were undertaken in Algeria, Brazil, the Caribbean, and the SADC.

1.4. UNESCO FLANDERS Funds-in-Trust Co-operation

Funding Agency: Flemish Authorities

Executing Agency: UNESCO/IHP

Amount: US\$ 3.7 million (amount of commitments to IHP related projects in Phase II)

Period of Execution: First phase: 5 years starting 2001: Second phase started in: 2006

Status: On going

Brief Description: The Flanders UNESCO Science Trust Fund (FUST) agreement supports UNESCO's activities in the Field of Science. The agreement was initially signed for 5 years (1999-2003) and was renewed for an additional 5 years (2004-2008) in April 2003. Phase II of the FUST was evaluated in 2007 and the review concluded it to have been largely successful both at individual program level and collectively. The IHP-related large-scale projects supported by FUST funding include Flow Regimes from International Experimental and Network Data Nile (FRIEND-Nile I and II), Water Center for Arid and Semi-Arid Zones of Latin America and The Caribbean (CAZALAC I and II), Framework Programme for Research Education and Training in Water (FETWater I), and Capacity Building and Training on Environmental Planning and Management in Palestine II. According to the review, all of the programs managed to achieve their desired results, deliver the expected outcomes, and contribute to capacity building within their respective mandates. FUST is expected to be extended into Phase III, but this is subject to decisions to be taken by the Flemish authorities during the Spring and Summer of 2008.

Despite the emphasis on large and medium-scale projects, a number of small-scale activities have also been supported by FUST. For example, an international donor workshop to support the project "Eco-hydrological and socio-economical approach for the restoration of the lagoon Merja Zerga in Morocco" was organized in January 2006. This was complemented by a field campaign on the lagoon in May 2007. The total amount of funds made available to the project was 13,200 US\$.

1.5. Project: Managing Hydrogeological Risk in the Iullemeden Aquifer System

Funding Agency: GEF International Waters

Executing Agency: OSS

Amount: US\$ 80,000

Period of Execution: 2004-2007

Status: Closed – Second phase in preparation

Brief Description: Within the goal of sustainable environmental protection and sub-regional and national development, the general objective of the project is to establish capacity under a sustainable cooperative framework for joint management of risk and uncertainty, to jointly identify, reduce and mitigate transboundary risk from changing land and water use and from climate change in the shared Iullemeden Aquifer System by Mali, Algeria, Niger and Nigeria.

1.6. Project: Regional Dialogue and Twinning to Improve Transboundary Water Resources Governance in Africa

Funding Agency: GEF International Waters

Executing Agency: UNESCO-IHP

Amount: US\$ 100,000

Period of Execution: 2007-2010

Brief Description: The project goal is to increase African leaders' and stake holder's knowledge and political will for balancing sustainable uses of water resources at the transboundary and regional basin systems scales by institutionalizing systems-thinking and adaptive management feedback mechanisms. UNESCO IHP is leading the transboundary aquifer systems component.

1.7. Project: Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem – Regional Component: Implementation of agreed actions for the protection of the environmental resources of the Mediterranean sea and its coastal areas—GEF /UNEP/MAP

Funding Agency: UNEP/GEF International Waters

Executing Agency: UNESCO-IHP

Preparatory Phase: 2005-2007 – Amount US \$55,000

Amount (project execution): US\$ 1,700,000

Period of Execution: 2008-2012

Brief Description: Integrated approaches for the implementation of the management of coastal aquifer systems. The work will involve all stakeholders in the Mediterranean with particular emphasize on enhancing capacity in governments to address environmental problems and to incorporate environmental considerations into national planning. As follow up of the Memorandum of Understanding that was signed in 2005 between UNESCO-IHP and the Coordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP/MAP) – UNEP/GEF the preparative activities were finalized by UNESCO-IHP at the beginning of 2007, and the conditions for their execution have been approved by the GEF Secretariat. UNESCO IHP will execute the groundwater component of the approved Full-Sized project.

1.8. Project: Strengthening Global Capacity to Sustain Transboundary Waters: The International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network (IW:LEARN), Operational Phase

Funding Agency: GEF

Executing Agency: UNOPS (UNESCO-IHP contribution)

Amount: US\$ 100,000

Period of Execution: 2004-2008

Brief Description: The project aims specifically to establish and technically support a series of face-to-face and electronically-mediated structured learning activities – or learning exchanges – among related projects of the GEF International Waters (IW) portfolio. UNESCO-IHP, supported by IGRAC, organizes a series of learning exchanges for the freshwater – particularly aquifer/groundwater – subset of the GEF IW portfolio. UNESCO contributed to the GEF International Waters Conference 3 (IWC3) in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil, in 2005 and to the (IWC4) in Cape Town, South Africa in 2007 with the organization of learning sessions including facilitation, moderators and priority topics on groundwater and transboundary aquifers.

1.9. UNESCO Great Man-Made River International Water Prize

Funding Agency: The Great Man-Made River Authority, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

Executing Agency: UNESCO-IHP

Amount: US\$ 350,000 (Transferred in 2001)

Period of Execution: On going

Brief Description: The purpose of the UNESCO Great Man-Made River International Water Prize is to reward remarkable scientific research work on water usage in arid areas as well as areas subject to drought and also for the development of food agriculture for the benefit of humanity and the environment. In September 2007 the "Committee of the Great Man-Made River International Water Prize" met to review the nominated candidates and select the winner of the 2007 prize. Applications from twenty countries were reviewed for the year 2007. The Prize was awarded to senior research scientists, Mr James Shuttleworth and Mr Soroosh Sorooshian, for their contribution to water resources management in arid zones as well as the successful implementation of the G-WADI project.

1.10. Project: Preparation of an IOC-IHP GEF project on groundwater management in the coastal zone of the Caspian Sea

Executing Agency: UNESCO

Amount: US\$ 50,000 (GEF)

Period of Execution: 2006-2007

Status: Completed

Brief Description: A preparatory grant of US\$ 50,000 was received in September 2006 by UNESCO-IOC from the Global Environment Facility to prepare a project on the Caspian Sea area, aimed at developing regional and national capacity for groundwater management in the coastal zone of the Caspian Sea. The project was developed jointly by IOC and IHP in consultation with the representatives of the littoral countries (Azerbaijan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation and Turkmenistan) and involving experts from the region. With the support received, two technical meetings were organized in Tehran in October 2006 and in Paris in June 2007. The planned groundwater component was not finally approved for inclusion in the overall framework of the 3rd phase of the GEF-funded Caspian Environment Programme.

1.11. Project: Great Man-Made River Project

Funding Agency: Libyan Government

Executing Agency: UNESCO, (SC/PSD until February 2008, thereafter IHP)

Funds (total income): US\$ 14,824,115.33

Funds Available (as of 31/12/2007): US\$ 2,353,500.14

Period of Execution: 1990-2008

Brief Description: In 1990, UNESCO and the Great Man-Made River Authority (GMRA) signed an agreement on the development of a human resources operation and maintenance project. The service to be provided by UNESCO relates to:

- Preparation of a management structure for the project including the assessment of manpower in terms of qualifications, job titles, nature of work and numbers as well as administrative and financial regulations and procedures.
- Training of technical managers, senior and junior engineers, technicians and administrators to enable them to assume their responsibilities successfully,
- Establishing a documentation centre and water information system,
- Extending support to the Authority during the operation of the project as and when required.
- In order to enable UNESCO to meet the entire cost of these services UNESCO has received US\$ 12,478,657 from GMRA.
- As for the request of the GRMA annual training have been conducted by Delft Hydraulics in the Netherlands for the engineers from GRMA, the average number of participants is 10 with training period of 10 weeks,
- In 2004, in cooperation with Delft Hydraulic, a review of the hydraulic engineering report for Ghadames Water Supply Project was conducted and an alternative location for safety provisions of the booster system in SS/TB line was found.
- In 2005, a consultant has been sent to GMRA to assess the GMRA's Documentation Centre in Bengazi which has already in operation for more than one decade, and to make the proposal to update the information system at the Centre,
- Early 2006, a contract (No. 901/LIB/2047/3250019060) was signed between Logos Progetti, the Great Man Made River Authority and UNESCO to update both the hardware and the software of the Centre. The updating process will be complete by the end of May 2008.

1.12. Project: PCCP initiative (From Potential Conflict to Cooperation Potential)

Funding Agency: Governments of Japan, Spain and Andorra (in addition to IHP's Regular Budget)

Amount: US\$ 788 858, of which:

JFIT: US\$ 235 858

Government of Andorra: US\$ 35 000

Spanish Government: US\$ 383 000

UNESCO's IHP Regular Budget: US\$ 135 000

Executing Agency: UNESCO

Period of Execution: 2003-2006

Brief Description: Extrabudgetary funding to IHP also contributes to the work of the PCCP (From Potential Conflict to Cooperation Potential) initiative. The Government of Andorra contributed to the development of a case study on Lake Titicaca. The publication is now

available as a technical document in hydrology, in English and Spanish. The Japanese Funds-in-Trust supported a series of courses on conflict prevention and cooperation in the management of international water resources. The course material has been adapted to, and implemented in, different regions of the world, with the aim of contributing to regional water security and peace through water diplomacy. PCCP has contributed to the development of an awareness raising programme for children concerning climate change and its consequences on the management of shared water resources. PCCP has also supported the preparation and publication with ISARM and FAO of a book that contains a variety of international legal instruments on groundwater resources, both transboundary and domestic. Finally, PCCP prepared the chapter on “Sharing water resources” for the 2nd World Water Development Report.

2. UNESCO VENICE OFFICE

The Italian government has provided UNESCO Venice office with extrabudgetary funding to reinforce IHP projects and related activities, the value of which was US \$ 60,000 in 2006 and US\$ 135,000 in 2007. The funds have been used for the following activities:

- Assessment of Climate Change Impact on the Elements of Hydrological Cycle in South-East Europe, a project led by the Bulgarian IHP National Committee: US\$ 30,000 (2006);
- Seismo-hydrogeological Vulnerability of the Environment and Society in the Balkan Region, led by the Geological Institute of the Bulgarian Academy of Science: US\$ 30,000 (2006);
- Cooperative project “Assessment and Management of Transboundary Water Related Risks in the Balkans” (TRANSRISKBA) was implemented with the support of the Hellenic IHP National Committee together with the UNESCO Chair/INWEB in Thessaloniki, Greece, with the aim of developing an appropriate database and implementing an inventory of shared surface waters in the SEE region. This inventory was then extended to groundwater systems (GO-TRANSKARSTBA) in SEE with the view of publishing data on the web: US \$ 25,000 (2007). The possibility of developing a related project for GEF funding is being explored.
- Implementation of the IHP-Danube cooperative research project on “Sediment Balance of the Danube River” as a contribution to ISI: US\$ 65,000 (2007);
- Further development and dissemination of the Ecohydrological approach for the Integrated Water Resources Management of Estuaries and Coastal Areas in Europe and support of the Task Force on Coastal EH: US \$ 45,000 (2007).

3. UNESCO CAIRO OFFICE

3.1. Project: Capacity Building and Networking of the Nile Countries: FRIEND (Flow Regimes from International Experimental and Network Data) Nile Project

Amount: Phase I: US\$ 929,700

Period of Execution: Phase I: 2002-2006

Status: On going

Brief Description: The FRIEND/Nile Project was initiated by UNESCO in March 1996. It aims at creating more understanding and quantification of the river Nile system in order to enhance the management of the Nile water resources and to improve the planning of water resources projects in the Nile Basin countries. Phase II of the project has been approved in principle and is currently being implemented 2006-2009.

3.2. Project: Support to Flow Regimes from International Experimental and Network Data of the Nile Project (FRIEND/NILE) Phase II

Funding Agency: Flemish Authorities

Executing Agency: UNESCO/IHP

Amount: US\$ 950,000 + US\$ 66,000

Period of Execution: 2006-2010

Brief Description: Based on the remarkable achievements of the FRIEND//Nile: Phase-I Project, UNESCO succeeded in securing funds (US\$ 950,000) through the UNESCO/Flanders Science Fund-In-Trust cooperation. The second phase was launched in August 2006. The second phase is ongoing and covers the period 2006-2010. The second phase will continue to serve as a platform for the exchange of experience and hydrological knowledge between researchers and scientists in the Nile countries and the Flemish community. It was agreed that an ecohydrological component should be added to the project and the donor has agreed in principle to grant an additional \$US 66,000 from 2008 to 2009 for the related training and research activities.

3.3. UNESCO-Flanders Science Funds-In-Trust Project on Capacity Building and Training on Environmental Planning and Management in Palestine: Phase-II

Funding Agency: Flemish Authorities

Executing Agency: UNESCO/IHP

Amount: US\$ 850,000

Period of Execution: 4 years (2003-2006)

Status: On going

Brief Description: The second phase of the Capacity Building and Training on Environmental Planning and Management project was launched in January 2003 for a period of 4 years and funded by the Government of Flanders, Belgium. The project activities were executed and implemented by UNESCO Cairo Office in joint collaboration with all the universities, water institutions and NGOs working in the field of water resources management and environment in the Palestinian territories. The project aims to ensure the long term conservation of water resources in the Palestinian Territories through building capacities and setting up a water resources network to foster the cooperation between the actors in the field, with respect to training, research and public awareness.

The research priorities and main components of the project have been identified by high level Palestinian and Flemish water experts. During the project period, both the Steering Committee and the Technical Network Commission were formed and convened once a year to review, discuss and approve the overall workplan and implementation of the project activities. Moreover, the following activities were implemented:

Twenty one research projects were funded through competitive process and reached completion by the middle of 2006.

Eight training workshops were successfully organized and more than 180 participants were trained in the identified priority areas.

The documentation center at Al-Azhar University in Gaza has been equipped with three desktop PCs, three LCD Monitors, one laptop computer, one LCD Projector with ceiling kit and movable projection screen were purchased. A collection of books were procured for the documentation centre. A video conference system has been purchased, installed and now operational at Al-Azhar University.

A network of scientists and experts working in the field of water resources and environment was developed and strengthened.

One Palestinian participant was supported to attend an international course on Scientific and Technological Information Management in Universities and Libraries in Brussels, Belgium. A website was developed for the project and the project brochure was prepared, printed and distributed to all water institutions and universities working in Gaza and West Bank and other stakeholders. An international conference on "Sustainable Development and Management of Water in Palestine" was organized in Amman, Jordan, 27-28 August 2007.

3.4. Project: Secondment of Mr Willy Bauwens to IHP / Small Scale Activity

Amount: US\$ 60,500

Period of Execution: 2002-2006.

Brief Description: The main objectives of Prof. Willy Bauwens secondment to IHP is to: contribute to the implementation of, and the enhancement of the outcomes from the Rainfall/Runoff component of the FRIEND/Nile Project; provide technical advice to enhance the implementation methodology and the outcomes for Phase II of the “Capacity Building and Training on Environmental Planning and Management in Palestine” project; and Enhance capacity building in water resources management in arid and semi-arid zones through organisation of a high level training course at the Regional Center for Training and Water Studies (RCTWS) of Egypt. During the last period, Prof. Willy Bauwens has successfully undertaken missions to the Palestinian territories and the Nile countries and his active involvement in the ongoing UNSECO-Flanders projects is highly recognized by stakeholders and partners alike.

4. UNESCO BEIJING OFFICE

4.1. Project: UNESCO Chair on Sustainable Water Management

Funding Agency: Private Industrial Partners Schlegel GmbH & Co. KG and WASY GmbH, Germany

Amount: US\$ 100,000

Executing Agency: UNESCO Office Beijing

Period of Execution: 2006-2008

Status: On going

Brief Description: UNISPAR (University-Industry-Science Partnership) establishes industry-sponsored UNESCO Chairs at universities to enhance engineering education, research and private industry co-operation for sustainable development. The UNESCO Chair in “Sustainable Water Management” was established in 2005 at Hohai University, Nanjing, China and is coordinated by the UNESCO Office Beijing. Activities are mainly sponsored by Regierungsbaumeister Schlegel GmbH & Co.KG, Munich, Germany and also, during the first year, by WASY GmbH, Institute for Water Resources Management and Systems Research.

The UNESCO Chair in “Sustainable Water Management” promotes the interaction between engineering education, research and private industry through training courses on highly important topics for China’s sustainable development. Decision makers, scientists and industries were invited to attend. In addition university courses related to sustainable water management are offered, some of them enhanced by blended learning internet material, established according to the latest teaching methods. The establishment of blended learning materials is supported financially by the German UNESCO-IHP National Committee. The Chair also offers a research component aimed at a scientifically sound, but simple Decision Support System (DSS) to select cost-effective, best water management practices. Finally pilot studies are promoted and assistance is provided in preparing related proposals.

5. UNESCO JAKARTA OFFICE

5.1 Project: Fight Against Desertification; Groundwater Artificial Recharge in Viet Nam

Funding Agency: Italian Ministry for Environment, Land and Sea

Executing Agency: UNESCO Jakarta Office

Amount: US\$ 50,000 (2005) + US\$ 50,000 (2006)

Period of Execution: 2004-2006

Status: On going

Brief Description: This pilot project on artificial recharge in Viet Nam with three major components, research investigation monitoring, water supply and capacity building, was implemented within the framework of the extrabudgetary activities funded by Italian Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea. The investigation and research activities in Hong Phong (with funds from the Viet Nam Government, the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea, ICSU and UNESCO) included geophysical, geological and hydrogeological studies to assess the suitability of the area for the management of aquifer recharge. The involvement of several Vietnamese scientists from different scientific institutions, both in terms of applied research and participation in local training courses organised in the project framework, as well as participation in international meetings and workshops, has positively contributed to the development of MAR in Viet Nam.

5.2 Activities Funded by Japan

Funding Agency: Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Sports (MEXT) via Japanese Funds-in-Trust (JFIT)

Executing Agency: UNESCO Jakarta Office

Amount: US\$ 65,000 (2006) + US\$ 65,000 (2007)

Period of Execution: 2006-2007

Status: On going

Brief Description: In 2006, the contribution of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Sports (MEXT) was used to cover the expenses for the 14th IHP-Regional Steering Committee Meeting (RSC) in Bangkok (Thailand) October 2006, and the 16th IHP Training Course on "Oceanographic Basics" held in Nagoya, Japan, from 26 November to 9 December 2006.

In 2007, the contribution of the MEXT covered the expenses for the 15th RSC in Manila (the Philippines), November 2007, and the 17th IHP Nagoya Training Course on Numerical Prediction of High-Impact Weather Systems, held in Nagoya, Japan, 2 - 15 December 2007.

The proceedings of the International Symposium on Managing Water Supply for Growing Demand held in Bangkok, Thailand and IHP papers from the International Conference on Hydrology and Water Resources Management for Hazard Reduction and Sustainable Development held in Manila have been published.

6. UNESCO MONTEVIDEO OFFICE

6.1. Project: Support for implementing the Regional Water Center for Arid and Semi-Arid Zones in Latin America and the Caribbean (CAZALAC)

Target Country or Region: Latin America and the Caribbean

Funding Agency: UNESCO Flanders Trust Fund, Government of Chile

Amount: US\$ 715.000

Implementing Partners: Government of Chile, University of La Serena

Period of Execution: January 2006 - December 2009

Brief Description: The Centre for Arid and Semi-arid Zones for Latin America and the Caribbean is a centre under the auspices of UNESCO-IHP that aims at systematically addressing the main problems caused by extreme water shortages and impairment in arid and semi-arid environments and to develop favourable conditions for regional cooperation and the exchange of experiences regarding these issues.

Within the main objectives of the programme it is possible to make an emphasis on: promotion of scientific research on water and management difficulties in the arid and semi-arid zones in LAC; promotion of networking among researchers working on water resources in the region;

dissemination of the results of research carried out in relation to water resources in the arid and semi-arid zones in the region; capacity-building and training on sound water resources management and support to the improvement of regional researchers' capacities, establishment of a programme on sustainable water management in pilot areas in the region following the Dublin principles. During its second phase (2006-2009), the workplan of the Center will be devoted to consolidate research, capacity-building, dissemination and extension of activities within the field of arid and semi-arid zones.

6.2. Project: Outreach Activities – Complementary to IHP Project CAZALAC (code 513/RLA/2040): Development of Internet Tools for Teachers and Professionals

Target Country or Region: Regional

Funding Agency: UNESCO Flanders Trust Fund

Amount: US\$ 12.000

Implementing Partners: UNESCO Montevideo

Period of Execution: 2 May 2006 - 31 March 2008

Brief Description: This project includes the development and implementation of two e-learning courses, one on water use and conservation for teachers of basic education and the other on rainwater harvesting for professionals. The first e-learning course is on Water Resources for Basic Education Teachers, and was structured, containing information on the water cycle, water availability and worldwide distribution, water and climate, population, water uses, and health, water conservation, and water treatment. The course is undergoing the evaluation by the Regional Coordination Unit of the UNESCO-IHP / Project WET Water and Education Programme for the Americas and the Caribbean, in order to adapt the course content to the objectives and contents of the UNESCO/WET joint water education programme.

6.3. Project: Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean (CATHALAC)

Funding Agency: Government of Panama

Period of Execution: 6 years

Amount: US\$ 570.000

Status: Operational

Brief Description: CATHALAC was established under an agreement between the government of the Republic of Panama and UNESCO in 1997.

7. UNESCO NAIROBI

7.1. Project: Awareness and Dissemination of Information on Groundwater Pollution and its Impact on Water Resources and Health in African Cities

Funding Agency: UNEP

Executing Agency: UNESCO-IHP

Amount: US\$ 34,000

Period of Execution: 3 months (April - June 2006)

Brief Description: UNEP and UNESCO started a joint activity in 2000 with the Economic Commission of Africa (ECA) and UN-Habitat to assess groundwater vulnerability in African cities. A network of 11 countries from West, East and Southern Africa (Benin, Ivory Coast, Niger, Ghana, Mali, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Ethiopia, Kenya, Zambia and South Africa) was established to develop appropriate methodologies for optimal monitoring of the pollution of urban aquifers under the project: Assessment of Pollution Status and Vulnerability of Water

Supply Aquifers of African Cities. The participation of the public in activities within this project was seen as a vital function of the project over the long term. The aim is to raise public awareness of the issue of groundwater pollution and its impact on water resources and health.

7.2. Project: Capacity Building Towards Risk Management and Protection of Groundwater and Water Supply Aquifers in Urban Areas of Africa

Funding Agency: UNEP

Executing Agency: UNESCO-IHP

Amount: US\$ 30,000

Period of Execution: April - June 2006

Brief Description: Development of strategies in order to address risk management and protection and threats to groundwater systems in Africa and based on the results of the previous UNEP/UNESCO project.

8. UNESCO NEW DELHI OFFICE

Project: Support to Flow Regimes from International Experimental and Network Data of the Nile Project (FRIEND/NILE) Phase II

Funding Agency: Ford Foundation

Executing Agency: UNESCO-IHP

Amount: US\$ 200,000 (Transferred in four instalments 2003-2007)

Period of Execution: 2003-2007

Brief Description: Under the Humid Tropics Programme, and the Ford Foundation funded extra budgetary project (2002-2007) entitled "Land Use Change, Watershed Services and Socio-Economic Impacts in the Western Ghats, India", all scientific investigations were successfully completed to address the global issue of the presently unknown hydrological impacts arising from reforestation of degraded lands in the humid tropics. Two articles for the refereed journals have been successfully prepared and a major publication has been published under the Tata McGraw-Hill, Negotiations are currently underway to publish the final report with a reputed publisher in India"

9. UNESCO WINDHOEK OFFICE

9.1. Project: Framework-Programme of Education and Training for Water

Funding Agency: Flemish Authorities

Executing Agency: UNESCO-IHP under the lead of UNESCO Windhoek office

Amount: Phase I: US\$ 207,900, Phase II: US\$ 1,041,700

Period of Execution: Phase I: 2002-2006 – Phase II 2006-2010

Brief Description: The Framework Programme for Research, Education and Training in Water (FETWater) is a programme for effective cooperation in research, education, training and capacity building initiatives to achieve integrated water resource management in South Africa. It provides institutional support and financing in the form of seed funding to encourage the creation of training networks as a method for effective co-operation between universities, research institutions, and the public and private sectors in South Africa. The project was launched in March 2002. Phase II was approved in principle and is currently being implemented 2006-2010.

During Phase I, three networks were established and approximately 400 professionals and students have received training, substantially increasing the number of trained professionals

country-wide. The trained professionals contribute to the water resources management which in turn allows average citizens to utilize their resources in a sustainable manner.

Phase II of the project started in June 2006 and since then four new networks have been approved. Furthermore, 34 participants from 10 SADC Member States were trained during a course on Environmental Water Requirements, (Stellenbosch 4th to 14th December 2006); the session was a joint cooperation between FETWater, WaterNet, IUCN, and GWP-SA. An additional 20 participated in a training course on the Olifants Doring Catchment Environmental Flow Requirements that took place between 22 and 26 October 2007. Moreover 30 students attended the national bi-annual groundwater conference in Bloemfontein from 8 to 10 October 2007 and were exposed to current groundwater-related research in the country. Eight modules will be produced by the wetlands and rivers Network.