

IRANIAN NATIONAL REPORT ON IHP RELATED ACTIVITIES

1. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE PERIOD JULY 2006 – MAY 2008

1.1 Meetings of the IHP National Committee

1.1.1 Decisions regarding the composition of the IHP National Committee

Iranian National Committee of IHP composed of 17 members representing various organizations such as Ministry of Energy, Water Resource Management Co, Department of Environment, Meteorological Organization, two category II Centers, regional center on urban water management, International Center on Qanats and Historic Hydraulic Structures, Amirkabir University, Sharif University, Khaje Nasir University, University of Tehran, Ministry of Agriculture, Geological Survey.

The committee convened approximately once a month discussing various issues of our contribution to the international programmes.

The secretariat of IHP National Committee sends IHP News Water Portal News to all members and also informs them about awards and bursaries and also national and international workshops, seminars and conferences. Members also represent their report in the Committee Meetings.

1.1.2 Status of IHP-VI activities

1.1.3 Decisions regarding contribution to/participation in IHP-VII

After going through the details of the various themes and keeping in view the interest of the country, The National Committee decided to participate in the following themes/focal areas.

Theme 1: Focal Area 1.2, Focal Area 1.5

Theme 2: Focal Area 2.2, Focal Area 2.3, Focal Area 2.4

Theme 3: Focal Area 3.2

Theme 4: Focal Area 4.1, Focal Area 4.3, Focal Area 4.4

Theme 5: Focal Area 5.4

1.2 Activities at national level in the framework of the IHP

1.2.1 National/local scientific and technical meetings

Iranian National Committee on Hydrology has been active in disseminating and promoting hydrological knowledge in the country by providing sponsorship to various organizations in the country for organizing national/regional and international events in the hydrology.

1.2.2 Participation in IHP Steering Committees/Working Groups

Iranian National Committee of IHP is not the member of the Intergovernmental Council and participates in the sessions as observer.

1.2.3 Research/applied projects supported or sponsored

- 1- Inventory of the countries utilizing the qanat technology: this project is aimed to prepare an international document which determines the dimensions of this technology usage in each country. Number of qanats, volume of supplied water, and ratio of supplied water to total water demand and the present situation of the qanats in the country will be analyzed.
- 2- Preparation of the Atlas of Qanats in the Central Plateau of Iran as a pilot project: in case this project would be successfully finished, we can make use of its methodology in extending the work to a larger area in order to prepare the world atlas of qanats.
- 3- A survey on the negative impacts of the developmental projects on qanats and the ways to prevent the further destructions. This project can be done with the support of the Iranian ministry of energy (WRMO).
- 4- Introduction of modern technology to operation and maintenance of qanats: this project examines how to apply the modern technologies in the construction and maintenance of the qanats.
- 5- Groundwater Management in the Arid Regions; Some Lessons from Indigenous Knowledge. This project has been put forward to UNESCO. It is hoped that the proposal would meet with UNESCO's approval. This project is to examine the situation of groundwater management in the arid regions of Iran as well as the ways through which we can incorporate some traditional methods into our modern groundwater management.
- 6- Survey on The law of Trans boundary aquifers

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

- The International Water Academy
- The International Water Association
- UNESCO-IHE
- UN-Water Decade Program on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC)

1.2.5 Other initiatives

1.3 Educational and training courses

1.3.1 Contribution to IHP courses

- Expert Group Meeting on "Municipal Wastewater Use for Irrigation", Sana'a, Yemen, 4th – 7th Nov. 2006.
- Participating in the 4th International Water Exhibition, Tehran, Iran, 22nd – 25th Nov. 2006.
- International Conference on "Water Resources Management in the Islamic Countries", Tehran, Iran, 1^{9th} – 2^{0th} Feb. 2007.
- International Symposium on "New Directions in Urban Water Management", Paris, France, 12th – 14th Sep. 2007.
- Co organizing 70 short courses in the field of wastewater with cooperation of faculty of water Shahid Abbaspour University and UNESCO-IHE institute in 2008 and 2009.

1.3.2 Organisation of specific courses

- Training of Trainers Workshop on "Application of Models and New Technologies in Groundwater Management in Arid and Semi-arid Regions", Karaj, Iran, 29th July – 1st Aug. 2006.
- International Workshop on "Flash Floods in Urban Areas and Risk Management", Muscat, Oman, 4th – 6th Sep. 2006.
- International Workshop on "Groundwater for Emergency Situations", Tehran, Iran, 29th – 31st Oct. 2006.
- Training of Trainers Workshop on "Integrated Urban Water Management (IUWM)", Lahore, Pakistan, 2nd – 5th May 2007.
- International Workshop on "Water Demand Management in Urban Areas in Light of Tourism", Muscat, Oman, 27th – 28th Aug. 2007.
- International Workshop on "Capacity Development for Water Journalists", Tehran, Iran, 26th – 28th Nov. 2007.
 - Organizing the International Training Course on Qanats "A Multidisciplinary Approach to Integrating Traditional Knowledge with Modern Development" 1 ~ 4 July 2007, Yazd – Iran

1.3.3 Participation in IHP courses

- Training workshop on Reservoir sedimentation management (China, 10-16 October 2007),
- International workshop on Groundwater Modeling for Arid and Semi arid areas (China, 11 -17 June 2007)
- Workshop on Water resource management practices and strategies in arid and semi arid zones of Asia (Turkmenistan, 10-14 March 2008)

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

- Co organizing 70 short courses in the field of wastewater with cooperation of faculty of water Shahid Abbaspour University and UNESCO-IHE institute in 2008 and 2009.

- UNESCO – IHE

And also cooperation with following centers:

- Regional Centre for Training and Water Studies (RCTWS-Cairo)
- UNESCO Tehran Cluster Office
- UNESCO New Delhi Office
- UNESCO Cairo Office
- UNESCO Beijing Office
- Iranian National Commission for UNESCO
- Turkmenistan National Commission for UNESCO
- Pakistan National Commission for UNESCO

1.5 Publications

- Newsletters (January and June 2007, January 2008)
- Proceedings of the International Workshop on "Groundwater for Emergency Situations", IHP-VI, Series on Groundwater, No.16
- CDs:
 - Third International Workshop on "Innovations in Water and Wastewater Technology", Dec. 2005, Berlin.
 - International Workshop on "Ground Water for Emergency Situations", Oct. 2006, Tehran.
 - International Workshop on "Flash Floods in Urban Areas and Risk Management", Sep. 2006, Muscat.
 - Expert Group Meeting on "Municipal Waste Water Use for Irrigation", Nov. 2006, Sana'a.
 - International Conference on "Water Resources Management in the Islamic Countries", Feb. 2007, Tehran
 - Preparing the country report of qanats of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan

1.6 Participation in international scientific meetings

1.6.1 Meetings hosted by the country

- Technical Workshop on "Wastewater Reclamation and Water Reuse", Tehran, Iran, 5th May 2008.
- Technical Workshop on "Decentralized and Small Wastewater Treatment Systems", Tehran, Iran, 6th May 2008.
- 2nd Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development, Tehran, Iran, 12th – 15th May 2008.

1.6.2 Participation in meetings abroad

- 17th session of IHP Intergovernmental Council, UNESCO HQ, Paris, July 2006
- Meeting of the Directors of UNESCO's Water Related Institute and Centers, UNESCO-IHE, Delft, June 2007
- Implementation Planning Workshop on "IHP-VII Urban Water Management Program activities", Paris, Jan. 2008

1.7 Other activities at regional level

1.7.1 Institutional relations/cooperation

1.7.2 Completed and ongoing scientific projects

- Reconstruction of Hydro-meteorological Network of Afghanistan
- Establishment of Water Research Center in Kabul, Afghanistan

2. FUTURE ACTIVITIES

2.1 Activities planned until December 2009

- Impacts of Climate Change on Water Resources in MENA Region (emphasizing on supplying drinking water)
- Carrying out a research project during 2008 - 2009
- Holding a training workshop in Syria, RCTWS – Cairo, Late 2008
- Holding an Int. Seminar in Oman, Late 2008

- Arsenic Removal Technology
- Carrying out a research project in 2008 – 09
- Empowerment of Women's Role in Water Issues
- Preparatory phase will be launched in 2008
- Executive phase will start in 2009
- Training of Trainers on Urban Water Management Issues
- Holding a workshop in 2009
- Revising the manual in 2009
- International Conference on Water Resources Management (Middle East, CIS and MENA Countries)
- Coordinating for the 2nd Conference to be held in 2010 (venue to be determined)
- Health and Safety in Municipal Water Reuse for Irrigation
- Organizing an international workshop in 2008 / 2009
- Organizing a technical training course on qanat for Iraqi experts

2.2 Activities foreseen for 2010-2011

- Impacts of Climate Change on Water Resources in MENA Region (emphasizing on supplying drinking water)
 - o The work plan will be prepared after investigating the outcomes of 2008-9 activities
- Arsenic Removal Technology
 - o Practical implementation based on the research studies
- Empowerment of Women's Role in Water Issues
 - o Continuation of executive phase during 2010 – 11
 - o Assessing the outcomes in 2012
- Training of Trainers on Urban Water Management Issues
 - o Continuation of holding the event in different countries
 - o Assessing the measures carried out, every other 2 years
 - o Revising the Manual
- International Conference on Water Resources Management (Middle East, CIS and MENA Countries)
 - o Organizing the 3rd Conference to be held in 2013

2.3 Activities envisaged in the long term

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed and exchanged with International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) and short-term, mid-term and long-term activities have been included to be carried out in the framework of UNESCO-IHP phase VII.