



**MALAYSIA'S EXPERIENCE
IN INTEGRATED RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT**

BACKGROUND

- **ABUNDANT RAINFALL BUT DISTRIBUTION UNEVEN BOTH IN SPACE AND TIME**
 - INCREASE IN WATER DEMAND DUE TO INCREASE IN POPULATION AND RAPID ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES
 - SHORTAGE OF WATER ESPECIALLY DURING DROUGHTS
 - INCREASE IN FLOOD DAMAGES DUE TO INCREASED DEVELOPMENT IN FLOOD-PRONE AREAS
 - SEVERE POLLUTION OF RIVERS; SEDIMENT, GARBAGE, UNTREATED DOMESTIC AND INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENT
 - LOSS OF BIODIVERSITY
 - CAUSES OF PROBLEMS ARE WIDE-RANGING AND COMPLEX
 - IRBM TO MEET THE CHALLENGE

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GLOBAL COMMITMENT AND COOPERATION

- **CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**
 - RAMSAR CONVENTION ON WETLANDS
 - MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON MARCH 2000
 - GLOBAL WATER PARTNERSHIP
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NATIONAL WATER VISION

MALAYSIAN VISION FOR WATER TO THE YEAR 2025 (MALAYSIA WATER PARTNERSHIP):

“ IN SUPPORT OF VISION 2020 (TOWARDS ACHIEVING DEVELOPED NATION STATUS), MALAYSIA WILL CONSERVE AND MANAGE ITS WATER RESOURCES TO ENSURE ADEQUATE AND SAFE WATER FOR ALL (INCLUDING THE ENVIRONMENT).”






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FEDERAL-STATE JURISDICTION OVER WATER
(CONSTITUTIONAL POSITION)

- **FEDERAL LIST:**
 - **UNDER WHICH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS SOLE JURISDICTION TO MAKE LAWS**
 - **STATE LIST:**
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 - **CONCURRENT LIST:**
 - **UNDER WHICH BOTH THE FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS HAVE JURISDICTION TO MAKE LAWS**
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LEGISLATION

- **MANY EXISTING LAWS (TABLE 1) ARE FRAGMENTED TO SUIT THE SECTORAL MANAGEMENT AND USE OF LAND AND WATER RESOURCES**
- ENACTMENTS RECENTLY PASSED THAT PROVIDE FOR IRBM ARE:
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ADMINISTRATION

- **MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES CURRENTLY INVOLVE MANY DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES (CONFLICTS RESOLVED THROUGH AD-HOC INTER-AGENCY CONSULTATIONS).**
- NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL WAS FORMED IN 1998 (MORE EFFECTIVE WATER MANAGEMENT)
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 - GAPS AND OVERLAPS
 - WITH RESPONSIBILITY NO POWER
 - INADEQUATE PENALTY
 - LACK OF POLITICAL WILL
- **NEW LAWS (PROBLEMS MAY PERSIST)**
 - LACK OF MANPOWER AND POLITICAL WILL

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WATER POLICIES

- **CURRENT POLICIES ON WATER SECTORAL IN NATURE**
- FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS OWN SET OF POLICIES (DIFFERENT MINISTRIES)
- STATE GOVERNMENTS HAVE OWN SETS OF POLICIES
- NATIONAL WATER POLICY AT DRAFTING STAGE (OVERARCHING POLICY)
 - GUIDING PRINCIPLES IN WATER MANAGEMENT CONSISTENT WITH IRBM APPROACH

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PLANS AND PROGRAMMES

- **8TH MALAYSIA 5-YEAR PLAN, THIRD OUTLINE PERSPECTIVE PLAN AND NATIONAL SPATIAL PLANNING SPECIFY NEED FOR IRBM APPROACH.**
- NO FORMAL ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR IMPLEMENTING IRBM
- LOCAL CONSULTANTS CARRIED OUT STUDIES FOR SIX RIVER BASINS USING "IRBM" APPROACH
- THREE IRBM PROJECTS WITH IMPORTANT INPUTS FROM FOREIGN EXPERTS.
- IRBM MASTER PLANS FOR ALL RIVER BASINS.
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- **NO SPECIFIC TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR IRBM**
 - EXPOSURES IN CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND STUDY TOURS
 - LEARNING BY DOING
 - TRAINING MODULES IN IRBM UNDER DANIDA STUDY
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OTHER IRBM ACTIVITIES AND RELATED PROJECTS

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- **JICA HAS ALSO IMPLEMENTED A NUMBER OF TECHNICAL PROJECTS IN RIVER MANAGEMENT**
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RIVER BASIN INFORMATION

- **NATIONAL RIVER BASIN DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEM (NRBDSS) (EARLY STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT BY DID)**
 - MULTICENTRIX INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LOCALLY DEVELOPED)
 - TEMPLATES FOR THE RIVER BASIN INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM COMPLETED (A COMPONENT OF NRBDSS)
 - INPUT AND CONTINUAL UPDATING OF INFORMATION FROM ALL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCHES REQUIRED

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ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES

SUFFICIENT RESOURCES TO IMPLEMENT IRBM:

- CAPACITY BUILDING
- MASTER PLANS PREPARATION
- IMPLEMENTATION
- FOREIGN FUNDING

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- **MASTER PLANS PREPARATION**
- **IMPLEMENTATION**
- **FOREIGN FUNDING**



ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES

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PROPOSED ACTION PLAN FOR NARBO

1. TRAINING PROGRAMME:

- COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING MODULES (STANDARD FRAMEWORK)
- DIFFERENT CONTENTS TO SUIT LOCAL CONDITION
- SECRETARIAT IN EACH COUNTRY
- FOREIGN EXPERTS FUNDED BY NABRO.

2. RIVER BASIN INFORMATION SYSTEM:

- DEVELOP AFFORDABLE INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (DEVELOPED LOCALLY OR IN THE REGION).

3. IRBM MASTER PLANS:

- NABRO PARTIAL FUNDING (EXPEDITE IMPLEMENTATION)

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