

A short report on the new ideas and implementation strategies I found during the workshop on River Basin Management and Organizations during the period from 25-29 April, 2005 organized by the International Water Management Institute

The yield available in the entire river basin must be the property of people in the basin. The waters available must be utilized with a right of equality for their drinking, irrigation, industrial needs, for which the River Basin must be organized in an integrated manner. The irrigation needs of the people in the basin must be protected for which an integrated approach is very essential. If the river basin covers two to three states it must require Inter-state policy on the river water allocation for their needs. And also it requires an apex body to see the equi-sharing of waters and to solve the disputes arose in due course.

The apex body must be formed with the representatives from Water users associations like distributary committees, project committees, NGOs, members from Ministry of Water Resources & environment and technocrats of the area. The apex body must form a Central Water Commission which must be empowered with magisterial powers to implement its decisions and certain guidelines framed by the apex body. The waters available in the basin must be shared among the states on a proportionate basis and a written agreement must be made and to take responsibilities for the implementation of the documented conditions.

Regarding the water regulation under a project, people's participation is very necessary. Representatives from Water Users Association, Distributary committees, Project Committees from Irrigation sector and proper representatives to look after the industrial and drinking water needs are must be elected local bodies. As such the representation must be from the grass root level to have the benefit of the project in a systematic manner.

A separate organization must be formed to look after the environmental problems in the basin under the control of the above commission. Similarly fishculture, flora and fauna, animal protection, soil conservation, revenue collection etc must be controlled by the respective government departments. These are all must implement under the guidelines framed by the elected bodies time to time.

A pollution control board has also to be established region wise. In such a way, the stakeholders' participation must be made mandatory for an effective River Basin Management and Water Regulation to the successful utilization of river waters.

In such a way I will implement the above pattern in our organization by conducting the meetings with the stakeholders, departmental officials and promulgate the methods through media and by enactments and framing the statutes for implementation in the field.

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