

Annual Report submitted to NARBO

by

International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

1 Summary

The International Water Management Institute (IWMI) is an international research organization and one of fifteen centers of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). Our mission is to improve water and land resources management for food, livelihoods and nature. The Institute is a non-profit institution and a Future Harvest Center. IWMI's headquarter is in Colombo, Sri Lanka with regional and country offices in many Asian and African countries. IWMI joined NARBO at the first AGM in Malang, Indonesia on February 2004 as an International Knowledge Partner.

1.1 Organization

IWMI was established in 1984 in Sri Lanka as the International Irrigation Management Institute (IIMI) with an initial mandate to improve the management of irrigation systems with a specific focus on the institutional and organizational issues impacting irrigation performance. In 1998 the institute name was changed to the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) to reflect the broader research mandate the Institute had implemented on water resources systems as a whole and improved water management in rivers basins through better technologies, policies, institutions, and management.

IWMI conducts a global research and capacity building program to improve water resources and irrigation management so as to reduce poverty and to conserve the environment, maintain food security, and provide poor and disadvantaged people better access to water resources. Research is implemented through an extensive network of national, regional and international partner organizations with IWMI offices in many countries in Asia and Africa.

The objectives of the IWMI research program are to:

- **Identify the larger issues related to water management and food security** that need to be understood and addressed by governments and policymakers.
- **Develop, test and promote management practices and tools** that can be used by governments and institutions to manage water and land resources more effectively, and address water scarcity issues.
- **Clarify the link between poverty and access to water** and to help governments and the research community better understand the specific water-related problems of poor people.
- **Help developing countries build their research capacities** to deal with water scarcity and related food security issues.

IWMI is a member of the Future Harvest group of agricultural and environmental research centers. The Institute has an annual budget of approximately US\$ 25 Million and receives its principal funding from 58 governments, private foundations, and international and regional organizations known as the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). Support is also received from the governments of Ghana, Pakistan, South Africa and Thailand. These organizations are dedicated to contributing research and knowledge to eradicate poverty.

The IWMI management team consists of the Director General, Deputy Director General (Operations), and the four directors of the Research; Global Research Division; Africa Regional Program and Asia Regional Program. The research program is managed by five theme Leaders and Head of IWMI offices.

1.2 NARBO Activities

IWMI joined NARBO at the first AGM in Malang, Indonesia on February 2004 as an International Knowledge Partner. During the AGM, IWMI offered to assist NARBO on a number of the items identified in the work plan and has subsequently taken an active part in:

- design and development of the NARBO web page
- development of guidelines for benchmarking RBO's
- implementation of training in River Basin Management and organizations in South Asia
- support to river basin organizations in Thailand through field studies and site visits

2 Organization

2.1 Purpose of the organization

The International Water Management Institute (IWMI) is an international research organization and one of fifteen centers of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). The Institute is a non-profit institution and a Future Harvest Center. IWMI's headquarter is in Colombo, Sri Lanka with regional and country offices in many Asian and African countries including India, Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand, China, Laos, Vietnam, South Africa, Ethiopia, Ghana, Uzbekistan and Iran. The Governments of Cambodia, China, India, Iran, Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka and Thailand provided program support for IWMI-related activities in those countries.

Our mission is to improve water and land resources management for food, livelihoods and nature.

2.2 Organization and legislative backing.

The organization was originally established in Sri Lanka as the International Water Management Institute (IIMI) under Act No. 6 of 1985 (certified on 9th January 1985) which was published as a supplement to Part II of the Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka of 11th January 1985. The Institute revised its name to the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) in 1998, a change ratified by a further Act of Parliament in Sri Lanka as Act No. 50 of 2000.

2.3 Development of IWMI

IWMI was founded in 1984 as the International Irrigation Management Institute (IIMI), with an initial mandate to improve the management of irrigation systems. The Center is based in Colombo, Sri Lanka. In 1991, IIMI joined the CGIAR network, changing the name of the Institute to IWMI (International Water Management Institute) in August 2000. IWMI receives its principal funding from 58 governments, private foundations, and international and regional organizations known as the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). Support is also given by the Governments of Ghana, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

IWMI's approach is to build partnerships through collaborative research, drawing on the strengths of partners in the developed and developing countries, through research networks and consortia. In 2001 the institute's merger with the International Board for Soil Research and Management (IBSRAM) and brought a new dimension into IWMI's knowledge base, increasing our capacity to implement an integrated land and water resources strategy. This opened doors for land resource management programs in Southeast Asia under the Management of Soil Erosion Consortium (MSEC) and the Asialand network (both programs initiated by IBSRAM and continued by IWMI). Currently, IWMI is expanding land management projects into Africa, where a similar network is being set up.

The Institute's aim is to be a recognized world-class knowledge resource center by the year 2008. To achieve this goal, IWMI is developing four key knowledge roles as part of its knowledge philosophy; knowledge generation, knowledge sharing, knowledge brokering and knowledge dissemination. A number of practices, information tools and platforms are helping to improve the effectiveness of IWMI's research, while strong links with partners to reach educational communities and those at field level have helped extend the impact of the institute's research. IWMI today not only contributes to changing the way water and land are managed in agriculture but also the way international agricultural research is conducted.

Further information on the work of IWMI can be accessed on our website:
<http://www.iwmi.cgiar.org/>

2.4 Constitution and staffing of IWMI

As at the 31st March 2005, the complement of staff at IWMI across all offices is 348 of which 105 are designated as researchers, 66 are research support staff and a further 177 are non-research and administrative support staff. IWMI has staff drawn from 32 countries, with the senior research team drawn almost equally from countries of the North and South. IWMI is committed to gender and diversity and is actively recruiting a gender and racially balance organization.

2.5 Financing and Budget

IWMI is a member of the Future Harvest group of agricultural and environmental research centers. The Institute has an annual budget of approximately US\$ 25 Million and receives its principal funding from 58 governments, private foundations, and international and regional organizations known as the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). Support is also received from the governments of Ghana, Pakistan, South Africa and Thailand. The operational budget for IWMI during 2005 is estimated at US\$ 25.5 million.

2.6 Mid-term plan

IWMI research program is conducted within the framework of the Institute's Medium Term Plan (MTP), a three year rolling plan, updated annually. The 2005-2007 MTP includes seven projects: five projects implemented as the IWMI core program and two System-wide Initiatives involving a range of CGIAR centers. The MTP projects are:

MTP PROJECT 1: AGRICULTURAL WATER MANAGEMENT

Goal: Improved management of water and land resources for food, livelihoods and nature.

Intermediate goal: To contribute to the understanding, development and application of water management strategies that enhances water productivity; food production and livelihoods.

MTP PROJECT 2: SMALLHOLDER LAND AND WATER MANAGEMENT

Goal: Improved management of water and land resources for food, livelihoods and nature.

Intermediate Goal: To contribute to the sustainable management of land and water resources in order to raise the economic productivity of smallholders equitably and to enhance the provision of environmental goods and services.

MTP PROJECT 3: GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

Goal: Improved management of water and land resources for food, livelihoods and nature.

Intermediate Goal: To contribute to achieving sustainable use and management of groundwater in ways that promotes food and livelihood security for poor women and men in Asia and Africa.

MTP PROJECT 4: WATER RESOURCE INSTITUTIONS AND POLICIES

Goal: Improved management of water and land resources for food, livelihoods and nature.

Intermediate goal: To develop and promote better policies, governance frameworks and organizational designs to improve the productivity of water and land in order to enhance food security, promote livelihoods and sustain the environment and build capacity of national partners and collaborators.

MTP PROJECT 5: WATER, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

Goal: Improved management of water and land resources for food, livelihoods and nature.

Intermediate goal: To contribute to improved human health, better livelihoods and greater environmental sustainability in water and land resources development and management by: (i) increasing knowledge of the relationships between water, human health and ecosystems through a process of scientific documentation, and (ii) developing practical measures to minimize negative and maximize positive health and environmental impacts.

MTP PROJECT 6: COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT OF WATER MANAGEMENT IN AGRICULTURE (SWIM-2)

Goal:

Improved management of water and land resources for food, livelihoods and the environment.

Intermediate goal:

To strengthen the knowledge base on water-agriculture-livelihoods-environment and promote its use in developing consensus on investment strategies.

MTP PROJECT 7: SYSTEMWIDE INITIATIVE ON MALARIA AND AGRICULTURE (SIMA)

Goal: Improved management of water and land resources for food, livelihoods and nature.

Intermediate goal: To contribute to malaria reduction resulting in improved health and well being, increased agricultural productivity, and poverty alleviation.

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SYSTEMWIDE INITIATIVE ON
MALARIA AND AGRICULTURE
(SIMA)

3 NARBO Activities

3.1 Annual General Meeting

IWMI was represented at the 1st AGM in Indonesia by Ian W Makin, Regional Director of Southeast Asia. Mr. Makin presented a paper at the AGM titled “River Basin Organizations – Lessons from Recent Research”, coauthored by Dr. M Samad and Dr. Tushaar Shah.

IWMI joined NARBO as a founding member classified as an International Knowledge Partner. During the AGM discussions of the NARBO work plan IWMI agreed to collaborate with ADB to develop and pilot test methodologies for benchmarking the performance of river basin organizations. IWMI also offered to assist with the development of the NARBO website.

3.2 Web site

In August 2004, IWMI organized a two day workshop on the design and development of the NARBO web in Bangkok. This workshop brought together the NARBO Secretariat team developing the NARBO web site, six representatives of the NARBO RBO members and knowledge partners; and experienced web developers from IWMI, IRRI, and ADB.

The web development specialists demonstrated a variety of web sites, illustrating how different approaches to web page design and implementation can add value for the site users. All stressed the need to define the objectives and target audiences of the web content at an early stage.

The NARBO members shared their expectations regarding the services to be provided via the NARBO web site. In addition, they indicated their willingness to contribute additional context on relevant activities and data.

The proposed structure of the web site and the inclusion of a NARBO member only discussion forum and information exchange were discussed in detail. It was concluded that, in general, all information should be in the public domain, however, a members only section may be developed at a later stage to facilitate content management and exchange of information between members

In early 2005, IWMI developed a web enabled data base and web page to publicize and manage the 2nd NARBO training event River Basins Management and Organizations to be held in Sri Lanka during April 2005 (Section 3.7). Over 90% of requests to participate were received through on-line applications filled in through the web page. Careful management of the web Meta tags and positioning links to the page on strategic sites, (ADB, GWP, IWMI, ICID, etc) resulted in Google searches for “basin management” hitting NARBO sites less than ten days after release of the site. The web site and database can be used by NARBO for future events.

3.3 Guidelines & Source Books

In collaboration with ADB, IWMI is developing guidelines for Benchmarking of RBO including procedures for peer reviews (see section 3.5) as well as web based information exchange for participating organizations.

3.4 Performance Benchmarking RBO

In collaboration with ADB, IWMI developed a discussion paper giving the theoretical basis for performance measurement and the application to RBO's. The discussion paper (Makin, Parks, and Linckeaen-Arriens 2004) was used as the basis for a scoping workshop with 15 NARBO members in October 2004. Following revision after these discussions the paper was used as the basis for a consultation workshop used with 57 NARBO members in November 2004. From these two sets of discussions and further research with ADB and World Bank staff, guidelines are being developed for a pilot implementation of Performance Benchmarking in eleven RBOs leading up to a formal launch of the benchmarking initiative at the 2nd South East Asia Water Forum (SEAWFII) in August 2005

3.5 Training Workshop in River Basin Management and Organizations for mid career water professionals from South Asia

A training workshop on River Basin Management, held in Sri Lanka from 25th to 29th April 2005, was designed to assist officials and professionals from government and non-government organizations in Asia to (i) understand the concepts and principles of river basin management; (ii) evaluate the priorities and phases in establishing effective river basin organizations; and (iii) investigate strategies and solutions applicable to the situation in their parent organization and country. Funding for the workshop was provided by The Asian Development Bank (ADB) under the Water Partnerships program. This program is part of the regional technical assistance for promoting effective water management policies and practices (referred to as "RETA-6219") approved by ADB in 20 December 2004 and financed by the Cooperation Fund for the Water Sector, a multi-donor umbrella fund administered by ADB.

Training materials for the course draw on the findings of the ADB RETA program (RETA 5812) completed by IWMI between 1999 and 2002 which studied the development of river basin organizations in five countries in Asia. In addition, the training workshop utilizes the knowledge gained from case studies of additional river basin management approaches such as the Murray Darling River in Australia and the Brantas River in Indonesia

3.6 Advisory visits to RBO

IWMI is working closely with the Bang Pakong River Basin Committee (BPRBC) in Thailand to help the organization develop procedures for water allocation amongst competing water use sectors. This is carried out in collaboration with Dept. of Water Resources, the Apex Body in Thailand and funded by ADB as a Pilot demonstration activity (PDA).

In addition IWMI is advising the nascent sub-basin organization in Mae Sa, a tributary of the Ping River, in the north of Thailand. Mae Sa River originates in Mae Rim District, Chiang Mai Province has a watershed area of 150 sq.km. The major economic activities in the basin are agriculture and tourism; both depend on maintenance of adequate allocations of good quality water.

As one of the task force, IWMI is providing technical support in terms of transferring experiences from Bang Pakong water allocation studies to the basin.
