



INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

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ABSTRACT

The demand for water resources across various sectors is expected to increase over time with growing population and improved living standards in India. These drivers in conjunction with improper pollution abatement and mitigation measures adversely affect water quality tool. Such serious quantitative and qualitative concerns about water need to be handled in a more professional, multi-disciplinary and time bound manner in the country.

Growing mismatch in the demand and supply for water also lead to various levels of conflict between different users and usage of these resources. This situation is made further complex due to transboundary nature of water resources. It would be prudent to state that it is not simply scarcity or low physical availability of water resources, but the way Indian economy as a whole values scarcity of this resources coupled with evolution of effective water management. Reengineering various institutions and process will determine the extent of avoidable scenario is already grim in the country and the situation may go out of hand if not handled effectively.

Water issue touches all segments of society and all economic sectors. Population growth, rapid urbanisation and industrialization, the expansion of agriculture and tourism, and climate change all put water under increasing stress. Given this growing pressure, it is critical and this vital resource is properly managed.

The pressure on water resources highlights the hydrological, social, economic and ecological inter-dependencies in river, lake and aquifer basins. These interdependencies demand more integrated approaches to developing and managing water and land resources. There is a dynamic relationship between basin stakeholders and central government, who have to work together to ensure the viability of their decisions in meeting sustainable development goals. To address the

multi-faceted nature of water management, many countries are now introducing an integrated approach to water resources management at the national and basin level.

The objectives of the paper are to discuss the History and Background, Principles, Water Management frameworks, Effective Governance, Integrated River basin Management etc, in Indian situations and to draw conclusions.