

Presentation

Presentation from the 2009 World Water Week in Stockholm
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WORLD
in Stockholm,
August 16–22, 2009 **WATER**
WEEK

Water Governance:
Why does it matter and how can we measure it?



IRG

World Water Week
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Water Governance?

- **Governance** is about making decisions, i.e. the exercise of authority
- **Water governance** relates to decision making about water

Examples of Water Governance

- Dividing water between cities and agriculture
- Assigning water responsibilities among ministries and departments
- Assessing future water supply and demand
- Deciding on new water infrastructure, e.g. dams and treatment plants
- Determining environmental water needs
- Establishing a system to measure and protect water quality
- Contracting with and regulating WUAs
- Regulating groundwater use

Governance Attributes

- Structure in which decisions are made
- The actors who make and influence decisions
- Kinds of decisions that are made
- The way in which the decisions are made

Governance and management

- **Governance** is making the big decisions about water
 - Broad is scope
 - Less frequent
- **Management** is about the routine decisions
 - More specific
 - Daily

- On-farm Water Management
- Irrigation Management
- Water Management
- Water Resource Management
 - Water Resource Planning and Management
 - River Basin Management
- Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM)

- Scope gradually expanded from water services (i.e. irrigation, water supply) to water resources, to water and watersheds
- Early conceptualizations were technical and managerial
- Purview expanded to include policy and power
- Dilemma: How to address power and politics without getting caught up in national cross-currents
- Those elusive “universal values”

What water governance is not

- A project or program to be implemented
- A set of ideals or values
- A prescription for improvement

Structure of the Seminar

1. Governance
2. Water governance
3. “Good” water governance
4. Measuring and assessing water governance



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