



Projet APPIA (FSP 2002–37)

*Amélioration des Performances des
Périmètres irrigués en Afrique*

IPIA Project

*Improving the Performance
of Irrigation in Africa*

Proceedings of APPIA fourth Steering Committee

KARI Headquarters, Nairobi, 13th June 2006

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List of acronyms

AFD	Agence Française de Développement
ARID	Association Régionale pour l'Irrigation et le Drainage
FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
ICID	International Commission for Irrigation and Drainage
Ir ^{imLA}	International Program for Technology and Research in Irrigation and Drainage
IWMI	International Water Management Institute
KARI	Kenya Agricultural Research Institute
MoWI	Ministry of Water and Irrigation (Kenya)
NIB	National Irrigation Board (Kenya)

Introduction

The fourth Steering Committee of the APPIA project was held in Nairobi on 13th June 2006. The meeting brought together its active members representing the French ministry of foreign affairs, ARID, IWMI, EIER and the ministry of water and irrigation, Kenya. The French technical assistants and professionals from various African institutions (Arba Minch University, KARI, NIB, KickStart) also participate as facilitators of discussions. The list of participants is given in annex 1 and the program in annex 2.

Following presentations and discussions, the Steering committee made recommendations, namely relating to exchanges and networking across project regions and countries, inclusion of lessons learned from the project into National policies and strategies, and the possibility for a future project as the follow-up of APPIA.

1. Opening ceremony

1.1 Welcoming Remarks from KARI Director.

Dr. Jane Wamuongo on behalf of the Director of KARI made the welcoming speech to the participants. She reported that in Kenya, water resource management, is a priority. KARI has been mandated to carry out research in Land and water management where Irrigation and Drainage falls. She said that KARI has been happy with the progress of the IPIA project. She welcomed the participants and wished them fruitful discussions.

1.2. Remarks from the cooperation attaché, French embassy in Kenya.

The cooperation attaché, M. Pigeon, apologized for the inability for M. Serge Snrech, cooperation counsellor, to be in the meeting as he was on a mission in Paris. However, he reported that he had been involved previously with the APPIA project since its inception and hence was aware of the progress it had made. It was a great pleasure for him to participate in the fourth steering committee after attending a similar one in Ethiopia. He welcomed the participants from West Africa and Ethiopia. He hoped that the meeting would steer more partnership within the region. He stressed the paramount importance of food security as the region faces recurrent droughts sometime resulting with famine. He announced the French government has already given 1M euros to Kenya and 1m euros to Somalia of famine relief. He wished The IPIA project to address the issue of food security.

He referred to the high level workshop that was held in Kenya on National Irrigation Development in Kenya with the support of APPIA project. He stressed the need to get the recommendations of the workshop into the implementation stage. He also stressed that in its final year, the APPIA project should focus on the formulation on strategies for irrigation management and development, to increase project impact with policy makers.

1.3. Opening Remarks of the Permanent Secretary -Ministry of Water and Irrigation.

Mr. Nicholas Kamau, Director of irrigation and chairman of PMU in Kenya, représentée! Eng. Mahboub Maalim the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Water and Irrigation. He welcomed the members of the Steering Committee and acknowledged the presence of the West African and Ethiopian délégations.

He stressed the importance of irrigation development in Kenya and the priority that the Kenya Government initiated in the water sector reforms. As the largest consumer of water, Irrigation must also be affected by these reforms. To meet the required agricultural growth, the long term objective of the ministry of water & irrigation is to develop the country 1.3 million Ha irrigation potential from the current 109,000 Ha through adequate water storage, exploitation of groundwater and efficient water management practices. A national Irrigation policy is under development to address the problems facing the sub-sector.

He recognized the support of the APPIA project and the French Embassy in holding, in March 2006, the Stakeholders workshop on Irrigation Development in Kenya whose findings and recommendations would be implemented by the Ministry and its partners. The workshop provided the way forward for irrigation development in Kenya starting with a formulation of a National Irrigation policy

He mentioned about the successful coordination of the IPIA project by the Project Management Unit (PMU) which is a consortium of different partners from the line Ministries and the private sector

He mentioned that the pilot project should mature to a more infrastructure support project inclusive of the development of national irrigation strategies during the next year and phase of the project.

1.4 Presentation of IWMI activities in the Nile Basin in East Africa (NBEA)

Dr. Seleshi, Head of IWMI office for Nile basin and Eastern Africa (NBEA), gave a highlight of activities undertaken by IWMI in the Nile basin and East Africa. IWMI vision is to improve water management for food, livelihood and nature. IWMI strategy consists in mapping (and understanding) water productivity, mapping water poverty, analyzing high potential interventions and assessing their impacts on agricultural water management, livelihood and environment. A number of projects are on-going since the establishment of IWMI Nile Basin and Eastern Africa office in 2003(see *presentation 1*).

IWMI agreed to support KickStart initiative about undertaking a feasibility study on micro irrigation for smallholders. Dr Seleshi asked KickStart to submit a proposal that they would consider and indicated his willingness to support the initiative.

1.5. Présentation of ARID

Mr Adama Sangare, Président of ARID, made a présentation about the formation and rôles of ARID that brings together 23 countries in West and Central Africa. Goal of ARID is to promote land and water resources management including flood control for food

secure with due consideration for engineering, agricultural, économie, environmental and social issues (see *presentation 2*).

The Président of ARID agreed to share the feasibility study of ARID establishment with East African partners of the project and agreed to provide his assistance for the creation of a similar association in East Africa.

2. Recapitulation of decisions made at the third Steering Committee in Bamako and lessons from mid-term évaluation.

2.1. Proceedings for BAMAKO steering committee

A report to recapitulate décisions made by the third steering committee in Bamako was presented (see *presentation 3*). Bamako Steering Committee discussed the four following matters.

2.1.1. Promotion of phase 1 outcomes

The diagnosis methodology developed in East Africa has been translated into French and used in West Africa. The third steering committee recommended a large dissémination of this methodology through training of professionals and publications. The software tools for irrigation management developed in West Africa are not operational due to design problems.

2.1.2. Work plans and budget management for phase 2 (years 3 & 4)

The West African component planned régional activities implemented by ARID and national activities entrusted to the National Committees for Irrigation and drainage. Régional activities included:

- o Promotion of the participative diagnosis methodology
- o Development of irrigation management software tool
- o Development and publication of an Irrigation Resource book "*Memento de l'irrigation*"
- o Organization of the first African Irrigation Show in Ouagadougou.

Criteria for selection of national activities to improve and monitor irrigation performance were proposed and accepted.

In East Africa, proposed and accepted work plan included the following activities: o Implementation of action plans on pilot sites (continued) o Development of materials for capacity building of extension personals & WUAs o Scaling up & out PDRA methodology o Disseminate project results

Budget management

In Eat Africa, third year budget of 95,000 euros was accepted. For West Africa, the SC decided to split the available 508,903 euros in six parts, five parts for national activities in each country and one part for ARID régional activities.

2.1.3. Results of mid-term project évaluation

Mr. Hervé Levite (evaluator) presented the main findings and recommendations of mid term évaluation. They are recapitulated hereafter.

> *Findings*

The project responds to an actual need of irrigating farmers, extension personals and scheme managers. The project approach focusing on performance improvement of existing irrigation schemes is welcomed by national partners. It must be stressed that the project covered a large range of different irrigation systems, 27 in West Africa and 18 in East Africa.

The relevance of the large géographique area is not demonstrated. Exchanges between West and East Africa are very limited, although they constitute one objective of the project.

IWMI and ARID are strongly committed to the project. IWMI sees APPIA as a pilot action to strengthen its récent présence in East Africa. IWMI provides scientific support to the project. For ARID the project is an opportunity to strengthen its position as régional pôle of expertise ten years after its création.

The level of field activities is significant. Irrigation typologies in each country were developed, the methodology of diagnosis was developed and used through training and application on selected irrigation schemes, action plans hâve been prepared. Field activities involved irrigation professionals and students and farmers' organizations.

The project approach in the two regions is différent. In West Africa, project activities involve engineers wishing to develop sophisticated tools, i.e. software tools for improving irrigation management differs. In East Africa, the approach is perhaps of a more pragmatic nature based on a direct dialog with farmers.

Project visibility amongst actors of the French coopération and other donors (i.e. E.U) is a weak point. Limited budget and large geographical extension are probably causes of this weakness.

> *Recommendations*

Increase exchanges between West and East Africa, these exchanges are currently limited to the diagnosis methodology and organization of the Steering Committee meetings. IWMI, that is also présent in West and East Africa, should be able to facilitate these exchanges.

The project should better communicate its results. The African Irrigation Show to be organized by ARID in December 2005 could be a strong opportunity for better project communication. IWMI should also facilitate project communication across its networks and through its publications. Communicating project findings at ICID meetings may also be envisaged.

In Ethiopia and Kenya where donors and government want to re-engage in the irrigation sector, better communication about project results would be highly appreciated.

namely the transfer of responsibilities of water related projects to AFD¹, it is suggested. Finally and considering on-going reforms of the France international development policy, namely the transfer of responsibilities of water to better communicate with AFD personals.

Establish closer linkages with other sector relevant projects. The APPIA project can be a driving force to make propositions regarding national policies. It is suggested to call on French technical assistants expertise, namely in Niger, Mali and Senegal.

Géographie expansion may be envisaged. Despite the remarks about the geographic project area, expansion of project to Tanzania, where IWMI is présent, and Eritrea is désirable. In West Africa, Ghana where AFD is developing its activities should be included in project area.

However géographie expansion requires additional external human and financial resources.

Action plans preparation deserves a specific attention. Presentation of action plan is in some cases a bit confusing. Seeking of additional funding for action plans implementation implies high quality and cohésion of action plans and expected results.

2.1.4. Future project as a follow up of APPIA

The steering committee recommended preparing a follow-up of APPIA and searching for interested donors, European Water Facility and others.

¹ AFD: Agence Française de Développement

3. Progress and financial reports of year 3

Mr. Philippe Lemperiere and Mr. Jean-Paul Luc presented the report of the project respectively for East and West Africa (See *presentations 3 & 4*).

3.1. East Africa report

> *Implementation and monitoring of action plans in the 18 selected APPIA schemes*

Lessons from monitoring missions and progress reports from partners show significant performance improvements within a short time (1.5 year) and despite a limited amount of money. Some WUAs have been able to find complementary funds from Government, NGOs or projects.

However there is a need for a detail evaluation of action plans in both countries to assess their actual impact on irrigation performance and quality of extension work.

> *Development of materials / source books for extension organizations*

Nine source books relating to irrigation management, irrigated crops agronomy and irrigation technologies were developed and disseminated to project partners through training sessions.

> *Scaling up and out the diagnosis methodology*

The major achievement is the publication of the English version of the manual by FAO / IPTRID / IWMI. Training of trainers sessions for public extension service and project staff were also organized. It is also worth mentioning the manual was communicated to the World Bank for inclusion in the Bank tool kit for monitoring and evaluation of irrigation projects.

> *Dissemination of project results and communication*

- Several articles and seminar papers were published by IWMI. Project partners participated to various events in Ethiopia and Kenya.

- The major achievement is the organization of a national irrigation seminar in Nairobi in March 2006 where project findings were presented. Recommendations of the workshop will be implemented by the Kenya Ministry of Water and Irrigation.

Despite severe budget constraints, several Kenyan project partners participated to the symposium on irrigation technologies in Addis Ababa in March 2006 and to the African Irrigation Show in Ouagadougou in December 2005 where they presented APPIA activities in Kenya and examples of low cost irrigation technologies developed and used in Kenya.

> *Geographic expansion*

Philippe Lemperiere made a mission to Eritrea in July 2005 to carry out the feasibility of a future France funded irrigation project and assess possibility of developing APPIA activities. The mission did not produce expected results for reasons out of his control.

> *Financial report*

Amount of budget expenditures reported on 31st March 2006 is 88,329 euros or 93% of year 3 budget of 95,000 euros. On total recorded expenditures, 56% relates to activities in Kenya and 44% in Ethiopia. Report of expenditures chargeable to year 3 budget such as cost of organization of the national irrigation in Kenya and dissemination of proceedings was not available at the time of the Steering committee. A summary of budget expenditures is given in annex 3.

3.2 West Africa report

3.2.1. Regional activities

> *Promotion of diagnosis methodology*

Contacts have been established with IPTRID / FAO for future publication of the French version of the manual. A training of trainers session co-organized by EIER is scheduled in September 2006 in Ouagadougou. Synthesis report of diagnosis of the selected schemes in West Africa is available.

> *Development of a software tool box for irrigation management.*

An assessment of existing software was carried out in coopération with CIRAD, IRD and ENSA of Thies in Sénégal. Users friendly and adapted versions of existing soft wares were developed and field-tested. New software tools development, training sessions and completion of the tool box are planned in year 4.

> *Development of irrigation source book "Memento de l'irrigation"*

Adaptation and updating of the manual on irrigated rice developed in Mauritania is on-going. A manual about irrigation pumps is also in préparation. The memento will be published under the forms of several thematic booklets.

> *African Irrigation Show in Ouagadougou, December 2005.*

The irrigation show has been a success and a major achievement with 5,000 visitors. Approx 100 persons participate to the technical sessions and conférences and 17 countries were represented.

3.2.2. National activities

National action plans were completed. Description of action plans for Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Sénégal was presented at the steering committee. Conventions between the project and the individual national Committees detailing implementation procedures and funding modalities were signed.

> *Financial report*

Amount of reported budget expenditures is 181,877 euros or 43% of the initial available budget of 427,700 euros. Budget commitment for national activities in year 4 amounts to 196,350 euros and a sum of 44,900 euros is available for regional activities in June 2006 and onwards. A summary of budget expenditures is given in annex 4.

4. Work plan and corresponding budget in year 4.

4.1 East Africa (see presentation 5)

Activities in East Africa will consist mainly in up-scaling project approach at national level and make lessons learnt from the project available to policy makers. A six steps work plan was approved by the steering committee.

Step 1 : Evaluation of action plans on pilot sites

Step 2: Develop APPIA priority inputs for national irrigation strategies

Step 3: Updating training materials & institutional approach with respect to APPIA priority inputs

Step 4: Technical support to irrigation professionals with respect to priority inputs

Step 5: Implementation & évaluation of APPIA national solutions / inputs.

Step 6: Report back to policy makers and dissémination of lessons learnt.

The budget for year 4 activities amounts to 95,000 euros.

4.2 West Africa (see presentation 6)

Work plan for West Africa consists in the continuation of activities presented in 3.2. Régional activities include finalization of the soft ware tool box, promotion of the diagnosis methodology and development of the irrigation source book. National activities consist in implementing national action plans.

Corresponding budget requirement will be assessed later on.

5. APPIA follow-up and future project

To feed SC discussions and gets feed-backs and comments, Mr. Philippe Lemperiere presented a concept proposal as a way forward for APPIA in three East African countries: Ethiopia, Kenya and Sudan. This proposal was built on lessons learn from APPIA in East Africa and analysis of on-going reforms in the irrigation sectors in the three countries. Objective of the proposed project is to develop pragmatic national action plans for the implementation of effective and economically viable support services to irrigation water users associations.

The proposal was discussed and suggestions and recommendations made as outlined in the overall recommendations. *The draft proposal for the new project is attached in annex 5.*

6. Recommendations of Steering Committee members

After holding various discussions on presentations made and the following recommendations were made:

1. The resources books should also be translated into the local languages to be used by the other countries from both West and East Africa.
2. More exchanges and network between Kenya and Ethiopia should be formulated and enhanced. It was noted that networking is an important objective of the APPIA project.
3. The irrigation software being developed in West Africa should be made user friendly to external parties and the East Africa professionals should be invited to participate in the Training of Trainers to be held in year 4.
4. There is need to share stratégies on irrigation development from both regions.
5. The APPIA project should provide information and suggestion for formulation of National Irrigation Policies. The French government would like to see more linkages between APPIA and national irrigation stratégies.
6. National action plans in West Africa were found a bite of a dispersed nature. The Steering committee recommended paying attention to cohesion and evaluation of these action plans for future comparisons and more générai lessons to disseminate.
7. The new proposed project should incorporate networking between West and East African and within the Région.

There is a need to scale up and out the best practices, techniques and technologies already identified in the pilot stage through adaptive démonstrations to other areas and their inclusion in national stratégies.

8. There has been increased interest in irrigation development in Sudan and hence including Sudan in the future project is fully justified. Tanzania, a country with very close links with Kenya, could also be included.
9. Feasibility report on National irrigation and drainage Association done in ARID should be shared with Kenyan counterparts who should seek the assistance of ARID in the formulation of a National Irrigation Association in Kenya.
10. There are enough studies and analysis on irrigation available and there is a need to implement grass-root development by developing the Irrigation policy. IWMI can offer a policy briefing.

11. An ex-post evaluation of the APPIA project must be carried out,

Closing remarks

Mr. Nicholas Kamau mentioned he was very happy with the way the meeting went. He invited the participants for the field trip which was to take place on 14th and 15th June 2006 in some of the pilot IPIA project schemes in Mount Kenya Region. He apologized for his inability to join the field trip but noted that the Kenyan PMU team members will accompany the participants from West Africa and Ethiopia.

Mr Adama Sangare expressed his satisfaction about the role of the APPIA in promoting ARID and requested the French government to continue to support the programme.

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ANNEX 1 : LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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ANNEX 2: PROGRAMME

8:30	Registration of participants	IPIA Secretariat
9:00	Opening ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Welcome address o Opening remark o Official opening 	Director of Kari Représentative of French Government PS Ministry of Water and Irrigation
9:30	Introduction of participants	
9:45	Presentation of the agenda	Ph. Lempérière
10:00	Présentation of ARID	A. Sangare
10:15	Présentation of IWMI, office for Nile Basin and East Africa	Dr. Seleshi Bekele
10:30	Tea / coffee break	
11:00	Récapitulative of décisions made by the third steering committee in Bamako	J.P. Luc and Ph Lempérière
11:15	Reporting of project activities in West Africa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Activities carried out and results o Comparison to initial work plan o Financial reports o Explanation of différences o Questions and answers 	J.P. Luc and project partners Chair : Dr. Seleshi Bekele
12:00	Reporting of project activities in East Africa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Activities carried out and results o Comparison to initial work plan o Financial reports o Explanation of différences o Questions and answers 	Ph Lempérière and project partners Chair: Adama Sangare (Mali)
12:45	Lunch	
14:00	Work plan and corresponding budget for year 4 in the 2 regions of the project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Presentations o Question and answers o Recommendations of Steering Committee members 	J.P. Luc, Ph Lempérière. Chair : Dr Tarekeng Tadesse (Ethiopia)
15:00	Discussion on follow-up of APPIA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Presentations of new possible project o Discussion o Recommendation of steering committee members 	Chair: Dr. Seleshi Bekele
16:00	Tea Break	
16:30	Final wrap up : Synthesis of recommendations of steering committee members	Chair: Director irrigation, Kenya
17:30	End of meeting	

ANNEX 3: SUMMARY OF BUDGET EXPENDITURES IN EAST AFRICA, YEAR 3.

Activities	Total	Kenya	Ethiopia
1. Action plans	68 276,82	41 071,43	27 205,39
2. Training materials	2 357,14	2 357,14	-
3. Scaling up PRDA	10 692,13	-	10 692,13
4. Communication &	13 817,78	9 948,80	3 868,98
Sub-total activities	95 143,87	53 377,37	41 766,50
<i>% Sub total activities</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>56%</i>	<i>44%</i>
Project management	10 851,51		
Total	105 995,38		

USD

Initial installment: 95,000 euros

114,000.00

Expenditures as per 31 March 2006

105,995.38
(93%)

Balance on 31 March 2006

8,004.62

Cost of irrigation seminar, trips to Rome / Paris to be accounted for on remaining year 3 budget and year 4 budget.

ANNEX 3: SUMMARY OF BUDGET EXPENDITURES IN WEST AFRICA, YEAR3.

	F CFA	Euros
Remaining budget january 2005:	51 000 000	77 625,57
Deposit SCAC	230 000 000	350 076,10
Total available income	281 000 000	427 701,67
Expenses		
AMAURID Workshop creation	3 500 000	5 327,25
Mid term evaluation mission	1 000 000	1 522,07
Steering committee 2005	8 500 000	12 937,60
National workshops for action plans	3 000 000	4 566,21
Putting in place missions for action plans	12 000 000	18 264,84
CIID mission	1 500 000	2 283,11
Workshop software Ouagadougou	5 000 000	7 610,35
Computer engineer salary	3 000 000	4 566,21
IRD -IGB Pixy Demonstration	1 000 000	1 522,07
SAFID	20 000 000	30 441,40
Steering committee 2006	8 000 000	12 176,56
1st deposit Burkina, Mali, Niger Senegal	56 000 000	85 235,92
Total expenses	119 500 000	181 887,37
CNID Commitments for 2006	129 000 000	196 347,03
Remaining budget for regional actions and project management at June 2006	29 500 000	44 901,07

Project proposal for effective and economic viable support services to smallholder irrigation management.

1. Background

1.1. Current situation and justification of the project

In Sub Saharan Africa, future required agricultural growth will have to come from intensification in the forms of yields increase and higher cropping intensities rather than from arable land expansion. Irrigation provides such an option for increasing agriculture productivity and food security in a region facing recurrent droughts and where the irrigation potential is little developed, i.e. 20 % in Kenya, 5% in Ethiopia.

For many African countries, irrigation is a key for intensification and governments advocate for significant investment increases in the sector both for new and rehabilitated irrigation schemes. However and since the 1990's, liberalization of the economy and consecutive downsizing of irrigation agencies and irrigation management transfer that started have created new challenges for irrigating farmers. Throughout Africa, there are hardly any cases of successful and sustainable farmer management in smallholder irrigation schemes. The APPIA project carried out assessment of 18 smallholders irrigation schemes in Ethiopia and Kenya, results show a similar pattern of constraints across schemes of both countries: Farmers dependency - absence of real farmers participation to the design of irrigation projects - ineffective water management - poor maintenance and dilapidated water infrastructure - low production levels - little knowledge of crop production and irrigation - ineffective extension - lack of markets and credit - difficulty of sourcing inputs - declining of soil fertility.

In this context, piecemeal interventions based on capacity building and punctual rehabilitation of irrigation schemes are not likely to work. To significantly enhance water use efficiency and irrigated agriculture productivity, the need is to identify all the players and their roles in the irrigation sector in its wider definition and to design institutional interventions that address the entire set of constraints that smallholder irrigation are facing

At a time when donors, such as the World Bank and ADB, are re-engaging in irrigation development, the proposed project wants to develop pragmatic action plans in Ethiopia, Kenya and Sudan for implementation of effective and economically viable support services to smallholder irrigation for successful and sustainable farmer management of irrigation.

1.2 Cohesion with Regional and National Policies

Strategies for agricultural water management are the first pillar of NEPAD.

As today, Ethiopia and Kenya have no national irrigation policy. In Kenya the Ministry of Water & Irrigation has started preparing a policy in consultation of all stakeholders.

Kenya's "Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation" (ERS) recognises the immense potential of irrigation to contribute to economic development. The ERS outlines various strategies for the development of the sector. The government has multiplied by five the credits for irrigation development over the past three fiscal years and has set the target of 10,000 Ha new irrigated area per year.

In Ethiopia, the target of the water sector development program is to achieve 450,000 Ha under irrigation by 2016 compared to the current 250,000 Ha. However the program is more a plan for investment than a real irrigation policy.

The Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty (PASDEP) recognises irrigation as one key for breaking out from the low income levels and low productivity growth in the agriculture sector. The agricultural strategy revolves around efforts to support intensification of marketable farm products both for domestic and export markets and puts the emphasis on strengthening the private sector, including the millions of small scale farmers.

In the Sudan, a complex mix of financial, technical and institutional problems resulted in serious fall of productivity of large centrally managed schemes like the Gezira irrigation scheme, the largest one in Africa. To address some of the problems facing irrigation management, the government has formalized a policy framework that includes:

- o Transferring the operation and production of large and médium size schemes to the farmers through the establishment of Water Users Associations
- o Fostering sustainable sustainability of the large schemes through rehabilitation combined with institutional reforms
- o Rehabilitating and handing over to individual farmers, coopératives or private companies, the relatively small size pump schemes in the Blue Nile and the White Nile.

2. Implementing institution and partners

The International Water Management Institute (IWMI, Office for the Nile Basin and East Africa in Addis Ababa) will be the implementing agency in the three countries in cooperation with national partners. IWMI is a research institute in the field of water for agriculture and a member institute to the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). The project is perfectly cohérent with IWMI mission: "to improve the management of land and water for food, livelihoods and nature". In East Africa and the Nile basin, irrigation management is one of IWMI's focus areas.

National partners

In Ethiopia: the Ministry of Water resources, Ministry of agriculture, Régional Bureaus of Rural Development (in charge of agriculture including irrigation), university of Addis Ababa and Arba Minch, NGOs involved in the irrigation sector

In Kenya: Ministry of Water & Irrigation, Ministry of Agriculture, National irrigation board, KARI, JKUAT, NGOs involved in the irrigation sector.

In Sudan: Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Irrigation agencies and the Gezira university in Wad Medani

International partners:

IPTRID for linkage with international institutions (ICID, FAO, FIDA) and possible contribution to mid-term and final evaluation.

International consultants will provide technical support to the project. In particular, one Irrigation agency of Southern Europe managing large irrigation schemes will bring its expertise and experience to the project based on its experience.

3. Beneficiaries

Direct beneficiaries: policy makers and donors

The project will provide first hand information and propose strategies to address the problems facing smallholder irrigation management and development.

Indirect beneficiaries: Support services involved in the irrigation sector

They will contribute to information production and design of strategies and will benefit of the project for providing more effective services and increasing their financial sustainability.

Final beneficiaries: smallholder irrigating farmers and their organizations

By designing strategies and interventions addressing the entire set of constraints of irrigation management, the project will contribute to increase productivity and income of smallholder irrigation.

4. Description of the proposed project

4.1 Goal:

To contribute to sustainable irrigated agricultural productivity growth in Ethiopia, Kenya and Sudan.

Namely the project aims helping the irrigation sector to cope with the economic challenges of more productive use of natural resources (land and water) and cost recovery of irrigation management. This refers to the concept of irrigation modernization that includes intensification of irrigated farming, improved economic and financial irrigation management, and new partnerships between water users association and public irrigation agencies or other support services belonging to the public and private sector.

4.2 Objective:

To develop pragmatic national action plans for the implementation of effective and economically viable support services to water users associations.

4.3 Indicators of success:

- o National reports of potential and conditions for effective support services to irrigating farmers and water users associations approved by policy makers and key stakeholders.
- o Existence of consulted and pragmatic national action plans for effective modernization of the irrigation sector in the three countries.
- o Approval and starting of implementation of these action plans by national governments.

4.4 Assumptions:

- o National policies and institutional reforms for promoting more effective and accountable support services to the irrigation sector and participation of water users associations and the private sector to irrigation development are not re-questioned and are provided with a sufficient budget by governments and / or donors.
- o Political leadership provides support to the project
- o Stakeholders of the irrigation sector agree to cooperate, provide and exchange information, expertise and experiences.

4.5 Activities

The project involves three components of activities that follow each other in time. A fourth component is devoted to general project management and evaluation.

Component 1 Appraisal of opportunities and conditions for effective support services to irrigation water users associations.

A first policy round table in each country between policy makers and key stakeholders will decide on priority issues to be addressed. The appraisal in the three countries (Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan) will be done to get an insight of the current practices, strengths, weaknesses and constraints to establish effective irrigation support services for successful farmer- management of irrigation. This will involve a detailed analysis of the existing institutional framework, rôles of the various players and co-ordination mechanisms, and opportunities for promoting private sector participation. Activities include:

- o Review national policies and strategies with respect to measures for irrigation management transfer, sector co-ordination, extension and other support services.
- o Evaluate research advance and transfer of new irrigation technologies
- o Identify the various public and private stakeholders and their rôles in delivering services to irrigating farmers. Carry out case studies on irrigation management transfer, inputs and marketing channels in selected representative areas.
- o Address the issue of financing and cost recovery of support services: socio-economic acceptability.
- o Evaluate the impact of decentralization: a number of local governments will be studied. Do local governments /administrations have the capacity (manpower and finance) for effective support to water users associations? What are the linkage mechanisms between regions and central governments for developing and sharing knowledge?
- o Consultations with key players and soliciting inputs and ideas for the design of effective support services and strengthening water users associations.

Two mission travels to France and a North African country will be organized to analyse experiences of irrigation management transfer and support services and assess the possibilities for transferring or adapting these experiences.

Preparation of national appraisal reports.

Component 2: Development of national action plans

Based on the above, comprehensive and pragmatic action plans will be developed for effective support services to water users associations. National action plan will borrow from best practices in the three countries and beyond. Main activities will involve:

Analysis of national appraisal reports for identification of priority actions to undertake. Second policy round table: Report back and consultation with policy makers and key stakeholders. Develop of national action plans for implementation including budget and implementation modalities. Submit finalized action plans for approval by government.

Component 3: Implementation of pilot actions

According to national action plans, pilot projects will be implemented in each country to provide policy makers and key stakeholders feed-back on implementation modalities. Nature of pilot projects would concern one or several of the issues hereafter:

- o Support services to technical aspects of irrigation management: technology transfer, water scheduling, on-farm irrigation practices, etc.
- o Support services to financial and economic aspects of irrigation management: management of operation and maintenance fee, inputs supply and marketing channels, credit access, farm economic management.
- o Institutional arrangements: co-ordination of support services, partnerships/contracts between water users associations and irrigation agencies or other support services, financing and cost recovery of support services, development of tools for decision making and negotiation processes.

To implement pilot projects, tools and methodologies will be developed and capacity of concerned stakeholders including farmers will be built.

A final policy round table will be organized to report on lessons learnt from pilot projects.

5. Implementation modalities

5.1 Capacities of partners and project co-ordination

The project activities will be coordinated by a project leader from IWMI office for the Nile Basin and East Africa. The project leader will benefit from the scientific support and experience of IWMI researchers in the domain of agricultural water management. Role and responsibilities of the project leader will be:

- o Administrating the project according to the terms of the General service supply agreement between IWMI and the French ministry of foreign affairs
- o Designing methodology and preparing ToR of studies in co-ordination with PMUs
- o Giving impetus to, and monitor project activities at the regional level.
- o Reporting on project activities and financial management.
- o Ensuring co-ordination of project activities between the three countries
- o Ensuring project communication through publications and participation to seminars.

A Project steering committee will be established at the beginning of the project. Members will be:

- o The Permanent secretaries of the Ministry of Water or Agriculture of each country,
- o Chairpersons of the national monitoring committees
- o IWMI representative for Nile Basin and East Africa
- o Representative of the donor
- o Project leader

The steering committee will supervise project implementation, approve annual strategy and work plan, and approve the reports prepared by the national monitoring committees.

National monitoring committees will be established at the beginning of the project.

Chaired by Director of irrigation or agriculture the national steering committee will have the following other members:

Senior executives of main partners of the public and private sectors

Members of project management unit

Representative of donor in country

Project leader

National monitoring committees will ensure close supervision of the project, approve annual work prepared by the project management unit plan before presentation to the steering committee, approve ToR for implementation of project activities and studies, nominate or select consultants, decide of change in project implementation that do not necessitate approval by the steering committee, approve project reporting by the project management unit before presentation to the steering committee, ensure project communication with policy makers and donors in each country. The national steering committee will meet on a quarterly basis.

National project management units (PMU) will be established at the beginning of the project. The PMUs will be constituted of a national project co-ordinator, other staff of partner institutions and an administrator.

The PMUs will be in charge of planning, managing, monitoring and reporting of project activities. The administrator will be in charge of logistic and administrative tasks, and bookkeeping.

The project will call on expertise of

- o Staff of national institutions of the public and private sectors
- o French consultants and IWMI researchers for short term assignment on methodology design, data analysis and processing, participation to policy round tables.
- o IPTRID for participation to policy round tables, evaluation of project and linkages with international similar experiences.

At least two MSc students of each country in the relevant field will carry out case studies on specific issues under the supervision of the French technical assistant and IWMI or national researchers.

6. Duration and time table

The duration of the project is three years

Quarters	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Component 1												
First policy round tables												
In depth analysis and case studies												
Mission travels												
Preparation of national reports												
Component 2												
Analysis of national reports												
Second policy round table												
Development of action plans												
Présentation to governments												
Component 3												
Préparation of proposals of pilot project												
Implementation												
evaluation												
Third policy round table												
Project management												
Management & communication												
Evaluation												

7. Budget

Overall budget is estimated to 1 000 000 euros (1.25 million US\$). A detail budget breakdown will be developed for final full proposal.