

PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES INFORMATION SHEET

Name of the Partnership/Initiative

International Network for Capacity Building in Integrated Water Resources Management (Cap-Net)

Expected date of initiation: March 2002

Expected date of completion: March 2006

Partners Involved:

Governments:

Netherlands; France and Japan have shown interest to participate. The programme being global, many countries are partners through regional and/or country networks for capacity building (see under major groups)

Intergovernmental organizations:

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

International Institute for Infrastructure, Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering (UNESCO-IHE)

Global Water Partnership (GWP)

Collaboration being initiated with:

World Bank Institute (WBI)

Water Utility Partnership (WUP)

Office de l'eau

International Centre for Water and Sanitation (IRC)

Gender Water Alliance (GWA)

International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE)

Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF)

Major groups:

Regional Networks for Capacity Building in IWRM:

WaterNet (eight SADC countries)

AwareNet (eight countries in the Arab Region)

NileNet (ten countries in the Nile basin)

SeaCapNet (Southeast Asia)

WA-Net (sixteen countries in West Africa)

LAWetNet (Latin America)

Central America

Country Networks:

Argentina

MyCapNet (Malaysia)
InaCapNet (Indonesia)

Leading Partner:

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Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative

Many developing countries have not yet been able to develop and integrate the requisite suite of human and institutional capacities into an effective water management regime. In the past, capacity-building activities have often been ignored or, when attempted, were short term, fragmented and counter-productive. A supply-side, top-down, water aid strategy has often been the norm, based on donor conditionality and dominance by overseas experts. Activities were thus too isolated, or misdirected in their implementation, and too short in duration, to create sustainable capacity. As a result, many countries still lack modern indigenous water monitoring and research institutions; efficient public and private-sector services; essential higher education programmes in water science and management; and the institutions, policies and leadership needed to provide effective watershed and urban water management.

What is urgently needed is a new water paradigm, one of integrated, holistic capacity development based on country ownership, adaptive homegrown policies, inclusive stakeholder participation and greater equity in the North-South development relationship.

Through partnership with national and regional capacity building networks in integrated water resources management, and as GWP's spearhead for capacity building, with support of IHE, UNDP/Cap-Net supports the establishment of networks and facilitates their access to global information. It also facilitates the exchange of information between the regions and responds to demands from regional and country networks. It aims to improve access to capacity building materials and in partnership with the networks to develop new tools and materials based on capacity building needs analysis. UNDP/Cap-Net strongly advocates local ownership of networks and capacity building activities and materials being developed for integrated water resources management. At the global level Cap-Net takes the role of ensuring access to information and experience for local practitioners. Local adaptation must then take place to ensure cultural and technical relevance to specific country situations. This way local ownership and responsibility is being enhanced. In collaboration of specialized international agencies, UNDP/Cap-Net develops adequate tools and materials to be put at the disposal of regional and country networks based on their demands and to improve their capacities in addressing capacity building for integrated water resources management.

Please also provide a brief description of the relationship of the Partnership/Initiative with the objectives of Agenda 21 as well as relevant goals and objectives of the United Nation Millennium Declaration:

Under Agenda 21, UNDP has a mandate to act as a lead UN agency in organising efforts towards capacity building at the local, national and regional level. Its role is also to mobilise donor

resources for capacity building in recipient countries. (Agenda 21, Chapter 38).

Relevance to the goals and objectives of the United Nations Millennium Declaration follows from article IV, paragraph 23, that calls for halting the unsustainable exploitation of water resources by developing water management strategies at the regional, national and local levels. Growing awareness of decision makers of the need to adopt integrated water resources management policies to ensure sustainability of water resources for future generations has raised a demand for capacity building in integrated water resources management that is yet to be met. Cap-Net's partnerships with regional and national networks, as well as with international organisations, are aimed to deliver integrated capacity development at the regional and national levels to develop strategies for and to strengthen implementation of integrated water resources management.

Expected results:

This partnership of capacity builders is set out to share information and expertise, and to be proactive in synthesizing experiences and identifying research area in order to enhance human resources development for integrated water resources management. The coordinated activities of the partner institutions, agencies and networks should lead to established or strengthened regional and national networks in capacity building for integrated water resources management, and improved availability of capacity building materials as well as developed adequate materials that respond to the demand for capacity building. The networks should also be able to assist in the development of capacity building strategies of countries and regions. It is expected that networks members as capacity building implementers show a better performance in capacity building for integrated water resources management.

Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:

Within the four years of implementation, the initiative is set out to:

- establish an operational, sustainable and functioning global network for the support of regional networks for capacity building in integrated water resources management and for the development of a framework for capacity building tools and materials
- develop and strengthen regional networks and facilitate exchange between sectors, network members and disciplines for the purpose of developing integrated water resources management
- to develop knowledge and raise awareness among decision makers and stakeholders on integrated water resources management through training of trainers and awareness building events
- to have a framework for materials and tools (innovative and strategic) developed and to act as a resource base for education and training

Coordination and Implementation mechanism

Activities of the Partnership for capacity building in integrated water resources management are coordinated by the Cap-Net secretariat, hosted by UNESCO-IHE. A Management Committee, made up of UNDP, UNOPS, IHE and the Government of The Netherlands, oversees the implementation of Cap-Net and provides guidance on its policies and strategies. An International Advisory Committee, composed of the Management Committee and representatives of regional networks from Asia, Africa and Latin America, will advise on Cap-Net's policies and operations. The overall responsibility for the implementation is with Cap-Net's director, Dr Paul Taylor

<p>Arrangements for funding</p> <p>Cap-Net is currently funded by the Government of The Netherlands and UNDP. The Governments of Japan and France have shown interest to (co-) fund specific activities. Financing arrangements for the regional and national networks may differ for each of the networks. Coordinated activities between the different partner organizations are carried by those organizations.</p>
<p>Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer</p> <p>The Partnership presented here has as main objective to enhance capacity building in integrated water resources management. Arrangements are made through established networks as well as at the global level through dissemination and making available of appropriate training materials.</p>
<p>Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any)</p> <p>Many of the partner organizations are sustainable development activities in their own right. Cap-Net is an associated partner (AP) of the Global Water Partnership. The regional and national networks each have specific arrangements with different organizations. E.g. WaterNet has strong relations with UNESCO-IHE, whereas NileNet is emerging from the Applied Training Programme of the Nile Basin Initiative.</p>
<p>Monitoring Arrangements</p> <p>Activities are closely monitored through the institutional arrangements of Cap-Net with prominent roles for the Management Committee and International Advisory Committee. Progress reports are produced every six months and progress of work can be equally followed through Cap-Net's web-site.</p>
<p>Other relevant information:</p> <p>Web-site: www.cap-net.org</p>
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