

**Strategic Analyses of the National River  
Linking Project (NRLP) of India:  
Series 3**

Promoting Irrigation Demand Management in India:  
Potentials, Problems and Prospects

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**Rathinasamy Maria Saleth, editor**

INTERNATIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

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# Preface

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In 2005, the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) and the Challenge Program on Water and Food (CPWF) started a 3-year research project on ‘Strategic Analysis of India’s River Linking Project’. The primary focus of the IWMI-CPWF project was to provide the public and policy planners with a balanced analysis of the benefits and costs of different components of the National River Linking Project (NRLP).

The project consists of research in three phases. Phase I analyzed India’s water future scenarios to 2025/2050 and issues. Phase II, analyses how effective a response is NRLP for meeting India’s water futures and its social costs and benefits. Phase III contributes to an alternative water sector perspective plan for India as a fallback strategy for NRLP.

This volume, the third in a series of publications, presents findings of research in Phase III. It assesses the potential contribution, constraints and prospects of contributions from different demand management strategies in the irrigation sector to an alternative water sector perspective plan for India.