The little blue book

A handy guide to water management resources available through IWMI
Why water management matters

Agriculture uses approximately 80% of the world’s annually available freshwater resources (rivers, lakes and groundwater).

As the world’s population continues to grow, urbanize and become wealthier, the pressures on global water supplies are intensifying. More water will be needed for industry, and more for food production.

At the same time, the natural systems that underpin the water cycle will be in demand for the commercial development opportunities they offer, while also being critically needed for the environmental services they provide.

Challenges

Climate change will bring yet more challenges. More extreme weather events are forecast, and that means more floods and more droughts.

The world’s poorest and most vulnerable people, such as the two billion who depend on smallholder farms for their livelihoods, are likely to be the most affected by these changes.

Water quality is also a growing issue: One in ten of the world’s population consumes food that is irrigated with wastewater and approximately two billion people, globally, are affected by water-related diseases.

Solutions

So there is a great need for a more integrated approach to water management, which addresses both the needs of various water users and fairly shares the benefits that water access brings.

Much can be done:

• New partnerships will enable those previously excluded from water management decision making to have their say.

• Innovations in on-farm water use can conserve resources, improve yields and boost the incomes of poor farmers.

• A greater understanding of the contribution that natural ecosystems make to human livelihoods and well-being can ensure environmental sustainability.

Smart solutions are underpinned by smart science. IWMI’s unique cross-disciplinary approach to water research can help inform policy, catalyze development and deliver sustainable water access for all.
Who are we?

The International Water Management Institute (IWMI) is a non-profit organization undertaking scientific research for development. We work in partnership with local, regional and international organizations to improve the management of land and water resources for food, livelihoods and the environment.

We focus on issues of surface water and groundwater supply, mitigating the effects of climate change, water allocation and use, water quality, wastewater reuse, and health and environmental risks as well as the crosscutting aspects of water management such as policy, governance and gender.

With 12 offices across Asia and Africa, IWMI’s scientists investigate the complex relationships between hydrology, water usage and ecosystems to find integrated solutions to land and water management issues.

Our Vision

Water for a food-secure world
In this book

...you will find a comprehensive guide to resources at IWMI

Our research results are international public goods and we are committed to sharing what we know with all stakeholders in our water-dependent world. We have organized our resources for ease of access.

Whether you are looking for the latest research on global water issues, an overview of our projects in your region or an expert you can interact with, you can find it all here.

Contents
Current issues
Regions
The Comprehensive Assessment
Data
Publications
Communication resources
News and events
Career opportunities
Experts
Partnerships

Need more help? Visit www.iwmi.org or email us at iwmi@cgiar.org
What issues are you interested in?

Newly collated resources available

Each section contains an overview, key messages, publications, related projects, data sets and multimedia for...

- Climate change
- Ecosystems
- Environmental flows
- Floods and droughts
- Food security
- Gender
- Groundwater
- Irrigation
- Land and water acquisitions
- Multiple-use water services
- Rainfed agriculture
- Resource recovery and reuse
- Wastewater use
- Water and health
- Water footprints and virtual water
- Water, land and energy nexus
- Water quality
- Water storage
- Wetlands

www.iwmi.org/Issues

Research themes

View our work by our research themes:
- Water availability and access
- Productive water use
- Water quality, health and environment
- Water and society

www.iwmi.org/Research/Research-Themes

Research projects

List or search our research projects:
www.iwmi.org/Research/Projects
Which region do you want to find out about?

IWMI works throughout Asia and Africa and our research provides input to policy and institutional reform in water management, urban agriculture and climate change.

Find out what’s happening in your region

East Africa
Southern Africa
West Africa
North Africa
Central Asia
South Asia
Southeast Asia
Middle East

Each section contains information on the issues, research needs, projects being undertaken and related publications.

www.iwmi.org/Offices
A comprehensive overview

IWMI’s Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture is a landmark in global research on water issues. In continuous use since 2007, it has profoundly influenced how we frame our water management challenges and the solutions we will need to develop to meet future water needs.

Discover what over 1,000 scientists from around the world have uncovered in the Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture.

www.iwmi.org/Assessment
Data, models and tools freely available

Decisions regarding water allocation for different users and sectors rely on water data. IWMI provides access to a large amount of water and agriculture-related data. This information can help farmers make better informed choices about what to cultivate, and how best to do it.

If we can measure it, we can help you manage it

GIS, remote sensing and hydrological data freely available
www.iwmi.org/Resources/Tools-and-Resources

The central Water Data Portal
http://waterdata.iwmi.org
Publications

Science for effective decision making

Free downloads of all of IWMI’s scientific publications
www.iwmi.org/Publications

To order (free of charge) all of IWMI’s 27 plus years of publications on a single DVD, please email iwmi-elibrary@cgiar.org

For the IWMI central library catalogue, visit http://iwmi.catalog.cgiar.org/qryscr/Catalogbs.htm

Photo: David Brazier/IWMI
Communication resources

Our online repository is a one-stop shop for all IWMI communication materials. Simple search options allow for easy access to a wide range of multimedia and other communication products.

Freely available communication resources

Success stories
Videos
Powerpoints
Photos
Media coverage
Posters
and more…

http://commsresources.iwmi.org
Want to know more about what’s happening in water management?

Stay current and have your say

Sign-up for email alerts on
Latest publications - News - Media releases - Jobs
www.iwmi.org/Media/Sign-up

For latest events see
www.iwmi.org/Media/Events

Apps for your mobile phone or tablet
Communication resources
Publications
Data
www.iwmi.org/Resources/Apps

Read the Agriculture and Ecosystems Blog for comment, discussion and analysis
http://wle.cgiar.org/blogs
Career opportunities

Join us!

Make a difference with IWMI, an award-winning international leader in science for better management of land and water resources for food, livelihoods and the environment.

Job opportunities
Internships
Postdoctoral fellowships

www.iwmi.org/About-IWMI/Vacancies

Reconnect with IWMI Alumni at
http://alumni.iwmi.org

Photo: Zerihun Sewunet
Experts

We have 280 locally and internationally recruited staff with a wide range of expertise in both the natural and social sciences.

Talk with an expert for

Policy advice
Research collaboration
Sustainable solutions for agricultural water management

IWMI staff
www.iwmi.org/About/Staff-List
For the past 25 years, IWMI has been working with developing-country farmers, civil society groups, industry and the government to increase agricultural water productivity and improve equitable access. We see partnerships as a creative and cost-effective way forward in the water arena.

Partner with us on
www.iwmi.org/About/Partner-With-Us

CGIAR Research Program on Water, Land and Ecosystems
http://wle.cgar.org

IWMI success stories
www.iwmi.org/Publications/Success-Stories

IWMI research impacts
www.iwmi.org/Research/Overview
Have you added water management to your solutions?