

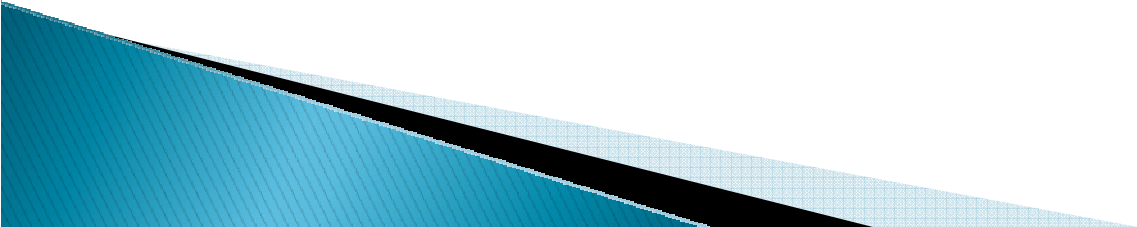
REGIONAL EXPERTS WORKSHOP ON WUAs IN THE SWIM-SM PROJECT COUNTRIES


Egypt Case Study

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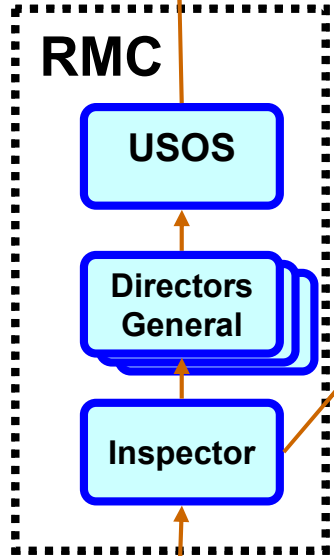


OVERVIEW OF WATER USERS' PARTICIPATION IN EGYPT

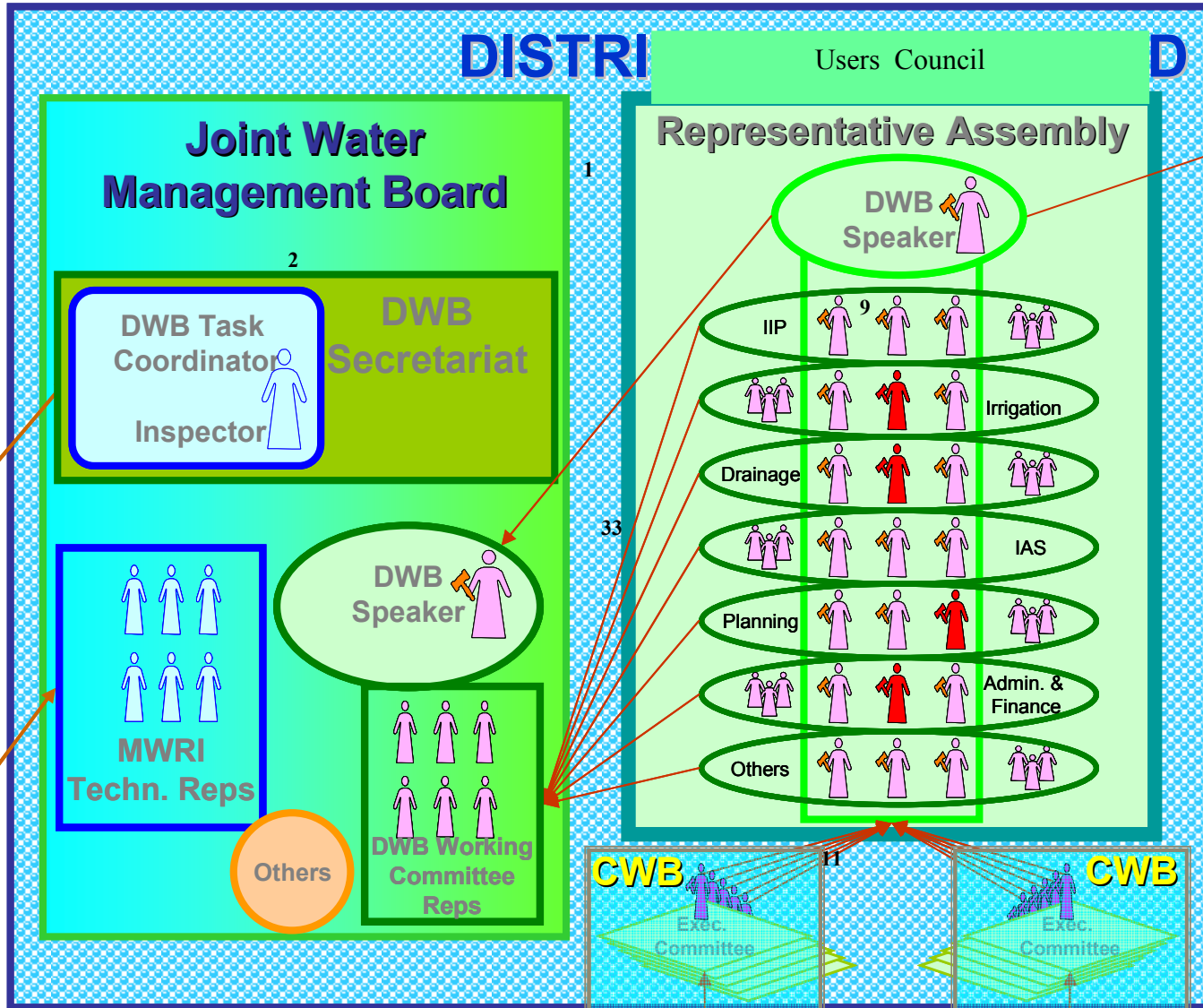
- ▶ Users' Participation in water management is not a new concept in Egypt.
 - ▶ **Traditional** forms of participation in water management existed before the concept of IWRM was known (e.g. *Munawba*, *Mutarfa* and the *Saqia-ring* for collective pumping of water and the concept of *Haq el Arab*); forming a code of laws regulating conflicts over property, water and land.
 - ▶ **Formal** user participation was introduced in its present form by Egypt Water Use and Management Project (EWUP) and the Irrigation Management Systems (IMS) project in 1986.
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- ▶ The present forms of Users' participation in irrigation have steadily developed from tertiary canal to branch canals and then up-scaled to district level.
 - ▶ The present number of the various associations:
 - 1) 5650 **Irrigation** (at the field level) over an area of about 400,000 acres of the old land.
 - 2) 4450 **Drainage** (on the collective drainage level) over an area of about 2,230,000 acres of the old land.
 - 3) 775 (at the **branch canals** level) over an area of about 1,940,000 acres.
 - 4) 27 **Integrated Water Management Districts** covering an area of about 1.2 million acres with 500,000 farmers.
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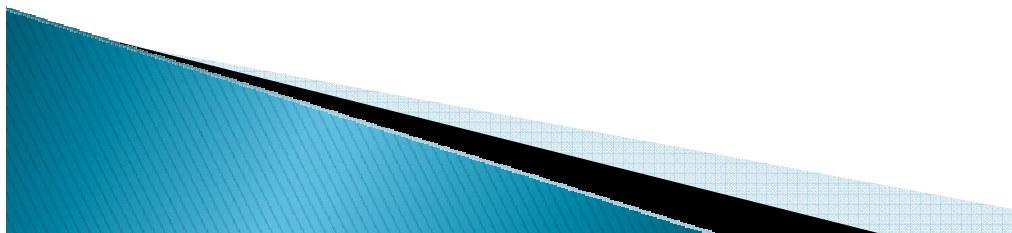
MWRI



District Engineers
 -Irrigation
 -Drainage
 -IAS
 -IIP
 -GWS
 -MED



Markaz or City Local Council Units



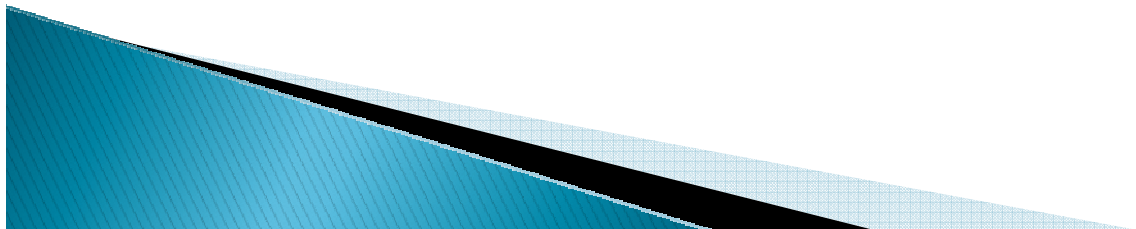
Main Features and Instruments for the Formation of WUAs

- ▶ The beginning depended mainly on imported means and forms introduced by donors.
- ▶ With the development and lessons learned from practical applications, local systems and instruments have been developed.
- ▶ Instruments at the beginning depended on **incentives**. But changed gradually when the farmers realized the gains.
- ▶ At present the main instrument is the **exchange of experiences** between farmers through visits.

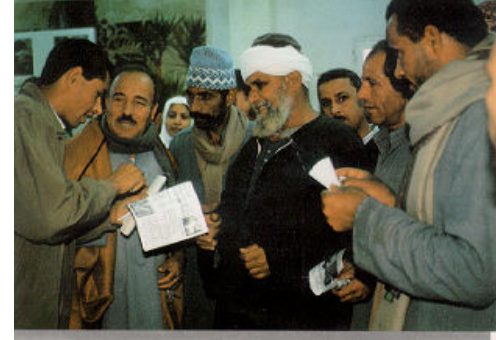


WEAKNESSES/CONSTRAINTS, REINFORCEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY OF WUAs

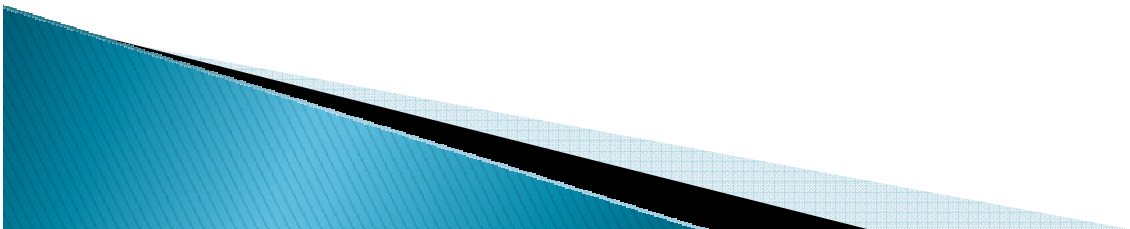
- ▶ WUOs differ in age, maturity and preparedness to participate in various levels of water management.
- ▶ In general, the **performance** of WUOs is declining sometime after establishment due to a lack of real participation in water management.
- ▶ Meetings of most WUAs are irregular, few of them maintain good **documentation** of the meetings, while there is no monitoring of the actions related to the decisions taken.




- ▶ Members of WUOs have negative attitudes towards **sharing the costs** of operation and maintenance of the water management system.



- ▶ The **sustainability** of these WUOs would deteriorate further if upgrading of their role in water management has to wait for the whole country to be covered with WUOs.
- ▶ *There is a need to support a much **stronger role** for WUOs in water management decisions by issuing the law that permit such action.*



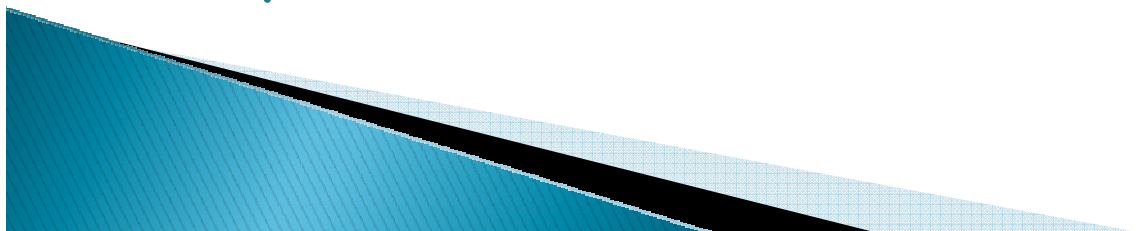
FACTORS OF SUCCESS AND FAILURE LESSONS LERNED AND BEST PRACTICES

- ▶ Main Problems include:
 - 1) Taking into account the sheer size of the Egyptian water management system, there is **no one single procedure** that can be applied.
 - 2) WUOs are sometimes considered as remedies against some shortcomings in MWRI's water management system rather than building blocks of MWRI's **institutional reform plan**.
 - 3) Due to the inherited systems of water management, field teams feel **loosing their power** when giving more space to WUAs.
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▶ **Major successes**, however, include:

- 1) **Gradual change** in both MWRI field teams and WUAs behaviors in various regions with the new instructions given to field teams and the continuous visits and exchange of experiences between new and old WUAs.
- 2) The introduction of **graduation systems** for WUAs based on accomplishments, taking into consideration celebration of such successes.
- 3) **Initiatives** made by a number of WUAs (e.g. El Rash el Gharbiya) in implementing an efficient drainage system in their command and dissemination of results among other WUAs in various commands.

- ▶ However, to **ensure continuity**, there is a need to
 - 1) Initiate an agency within the Ministry to be assigned the responsibility for the preparation of procedures, its introduction (training) to the MWRI field staff and the monitoring of its implementation.
 - 2) Those procedures to be developed would allow for WUOs of different capability to operate alongside each other at the same time.
 - 3) Ensure the issuance of the law as soon as possible.



Thank You

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