



Module 1: Introduction and Main phases of PIM/ IMT programmes

1. Goal

To understand that the adoption of Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM) and Irrigation Management Transfer (IMT) programmes is a complex decision that requires: political support, financial resources, good diagnosis of the problems affecting irrigated agriculture and considerable time for its implementation.

2. Learning Objectives

To familiarize the participants with:

- a) the large coverage of PIM /IMT programmes in many countries and the reasons leading to their adoption
- b) The political support as an important condition for creating an enabling environment for the PIM/IMT programs.
- c) the main phases that are generally adopted by countries to implement them

3. Key messages.

- a) The concepts of PIM and IMT are similar but not the same
- b) Motivations for adopting PIM/IMT programmes include among others:
 - Governments need to reduce public expenditures
 - Centrally financed bureaucracies tend to lack the capacity to be effective providers of irrigation water services
 - WUAs have proven in many countries to be effective managers of the irrigation water
- c) The expected benefits of PIM/IMT programmes may include
 - Substantial reduction of the public yearly expenditures and reduction of the government staff.
 - Increased efficiencies of the irrigation systems
 - Increased mobilization of local resources (human and financial)
 - Contribution to greater agricultural productivity
- d) PIM/IMT programmes are long time undertakings that are generally divided in several phases.
- e) The first phase is about assessing the need for IMT/PIM and creating **an enabling environment** for supporting the adoption of a transfer policy.
- f) In assessing the need for a PIM/IMT programme it is important to understand the performance gaps of the irrigated agriculture and assess if physical improvements will improve the situation or major institutional reforms are needed.
- g) Political support is a key element for creating an enabling environment in the implementation of the programmes.
- h) Stating clearly the government goals in the implementation of the programme is of key importance and facilitates much its implementation.

4. References

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