

Experience in improving water resources management



Colombia: Integrated Groundwater Management Pilot Project

Client: Ministry of Environment/UK Department for International Development

Water Management Consultants provided technical assistance to the Government of Colombia to build institutional capacity to take an integrated, participatory approach to the management of groundwater.

Working with the Ministry of Environment at national level and CVC in the Cauca Valley and CORALINA on San Andres Island at regional level, replicable approaches to water resources management which are socially equitable, economically viable and environmentally sustainable were established.



Colombia: education of people on the importance of water should start at an early age.

Training was given in areas such as stakeholder analysis, socio-economic impact evaluation, formulation of communication strategies, planning and working as effective teams as well as in the technical fields of groundwater and solid waste management. A replication strategy developed during the project is currently being implemented.

Tanzania: Sustainable Management of the Usangu Wetland and its Catchment

Client: Ministry of Water and Livestock Development/UK Department for International Development

The aim of this project, based in the headwaters of the Rufiji river basin, was to sustainably develop local capacity to manage water and other natural resources (land, livestock, fisheries and wildlife) for the maintenance and improvement of rural livelihoods.

Competition for scarce water resources exists between large and small scale irrigation schemes and domestic use upstream and ecological demands downstream.

Working in association with HTS Development Ltd, Water Management Consultants was responsible for building government capacity in water resources management at regional, river basin and district levels. Investigations to understand the hydrological functioning of the catchment have contributed to the basis of a strategy for managing water resources at local level that will be developed by stakeholders in the catchment and downstream.



Tanzania: the Usangu wetland exerts a demand on the water resources of the catchment.

Experience in improving water resources management



Brazil: Planning and Environmental Management for the Pirapama River Basin, Pernambuco

Client: CPRH/UK Department for International Development

Water Management Consultants has been working with ERM to build the capacity of CPRH (the environmental regulatory agency in Pernambuco state) and stakeholder institutions in the city of Recife, northeast Brazil, to take a participatory approach to planning and management of river basins. Water Management Consultants provided technical assistance and training in water resources assessment, water resource modelling, water quality assessment, formulation of river water quality objectives and a framework for carrying out baseline studies which would form a basis for strategy formulation.



Cities in the developing world are placing unprecedented pressure on local water resources making water conservation and demand management real priorities.

The Bahamas: Development of Regulatory Framework for Integrated Groundwater Management and Pollution Control

Client: Water and Sewerage Corporation

Water Management Consultants was commissioned to develop the principles for groundwater policy in the Bahamian context and a regulatory framework for groundwater abstractions and pollution control.

Services provided by WMC included reviews of the natural resources system, the socio-economic system, the administrative and institutional system, water policy and legislation. The exploitation and pollution status of groundwater was assessed, technical measures for protection were evaluated and 15 existing and proposed regulatory instruments were presented. Options for institutional arrangements were identified and assessed.

Recommendations were made for a new regulatory agency, mechanisms to ensure efficient allocation of water, monitoring and enforcement, and an implementation strategy. Legal, administrative and technical guidelines for developing an integrated strategy to manage groundwater and control pollution were provided. Recommendations were made for strengthening the Water and Sewerage Corporation as an organisation. The work was completed within eight months.