

Name of the Partnership/Initiative

Initiative on the Internationally Shared (Transboundary) Aquifer Resource Management

Expected date of initiation: January 2003

Expected date of completion: January 2008

Partners Involved:

IAH (ICSU), UNESCO, OSS, Organization of African States for Cartography and Teledetection (OACT Algeria), University of Cagliari (Italy), Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of Niger, University of Niamey (Niger), University of Santa Fe (Argentina)

Governments: UNESCO IHP National Committees

Intergovernmental organizations: UNESCO, FAO, OSS, OSCE, UN ECE, OAS

Major groups: National Water Resource Management Agencies, Research and Scientific Communities, Local Authorities with water resource responsibilities.

Other: IAHS, CEDARE, ACSAD,

Leading Partner: International Association of Hydrogeologists

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Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative

Please provide a brief description:

WIDER OBJECTIVE

- To contribute to the multifaceted efforts in global cooperation through providing for the planets needs in sustainable environments, economy, social and political security, based on integrated water resource management, including internationally shared aquifers.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- To establish a network of multidisciplinary experts for identification and definition of internationally shared aquifers
- To promote scientific, legal, socio-economic, institutional and environmental assessment of internationally shared aquifer resources
- To identify several Case Study internationally shared aquifers and support experts teams of multidisciplinary experts to conduct detailed projects
- To learn, from Case Studies, the issues relevant to good management of internationally

shared aquifers resources

- To raise the awareness of policy and decision makers of the significant and importance of transboundary aquifer resources, forming a critical component of the world freshwater resources
- To disseminate the lessons learnt from Case Studies and encourage policy and decision makers to incorporate appropriate internationally shared aquifer management
- To promote cooperation among nations that share internationally shared aquifers, through making available scientific tools, water resource management options and methodologies that apply to such aquifers

Expected results:

Short term achievements (To August 2001)

- Preparation and wide distribution of an illustrated *framework document* promoting the concept of cooperation for optimal and sustainable management of internationally shared aquifers
Available from the following web site: <http://www.iah.org/News/2001/016.html>
- Dissemination of existing information on internationally shared aquifers, including the scientific, legal and other arrangements in FAO and other databases
- Launch of the framework document at the IHP/OHP Conference entitled 'Hydrological Challenges in Internationally shared Water Resources Management' Sept 2001, Koblenz
- Circulate and process a questionnaire to identify the significant internationally shared aquifers of the world
- Cooperation with UN Economic Commissions in particular with UNECE for the implementation of the guidelines on monitoring and assessment of transboundary groundwaters and the setting up of training and exchange of information with the other regions

Medium term (Two years: March 2003)

- Preparation of detailed Case Studies of selected internationally shared aquifers Latin American Region (through OAS), African Region (through SADC, OSS, ESCWA), East Europe (through OSCE & UN ECE)
- Report progress at the IAH-ALHSUD Congress on "Groundwater and human development", 21-25 October 2002 Mar del Plata, Argentina.
- Preparation of a bibliography and database of internationally shared aquifers
- Contributions for the improvement of standard monitoring procedures
- Contributions for the preparation of maps considering potential risk and groundwater vulnerability
- Organisation of several regional consultations, to ensure consensus and participation at regional level and to disseminate and debate the results of the Case Studies

Long term (six years: March 2005)

- Preparation of a "ISARM toolkit",
- Capacity building and advisory assistance to Member States based on the implementation of the toolkit, facilitated by regional workshops
- Holding a final conference to evaluate the products and the experience of their use.

<p>Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:</p> <p>See above</p>
<p>Coordination and Implementation mechanism Please provide a brief description of expected coordination/implementation mechanism of the Partnership/Initiative.</p> <p>Through voluntary participation by the international agencies and others, that plan to implement the objectives of the ISARM Programme in their region eg OAS in Latin America, SADC in S Africa, OSCE in the S Caucasus Region, UNESCO (Vienna) in the Balkan Region.</p>
<p>Arrangements for funding Please describe available and/or expected sources of funding for the implementation of the Partnership/Initiative (e.g. donor government(s); international organization(s)/financial institution(s); foundation(s); private sector; other major groups, etc.)</p> <p>Financing only available through the resources of each of the participating agencies.</p>
<p>Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer Please include information if the Partnership/Initiative provides for training, informational support, institutional strengthening and/or other capacity building measures:</p> <p>Capacity building through participatory seminars, consultative meeting, for the exchange of information within and beyond the region.</p> <p>Please also provide here a brief description of expected arrangements for technology transfer (if applicable).</p> <p>Generally through the implementation of regional programmes, eventually financed through donors.</p>
<p>Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any) Please provide a brief description:</p> <p>Through the auspices of UNESCO and other UN Agencies</p>
<p>Monitoring Arrangements Please describe expected arrangements for monitoring of progress in the implementation of Partnerships/Initiative after it will be launched at the WSSD: (e.g. frequency/modalities of preparation of progress reports; electronic updates, news-letters, etc)</p>

See the logical framework above

Other relevant information:

Web-site (if available):

www.iah.org

www.unesco.org

Name and contact information of the person filling in this table:

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