

water governance



"We have to face up to the threat of a catastrophic water crisis and counter such bleak forecasts by adopting a new spirit of stewardship. There must be solidarity in international and regional governance; there must be solidarity between sectors and stakeholders; and there must be political will amongst governments to work in good faith both with their neighbours and with their own people."

Kofi A. Annan, Secretary General, United Nations



ROYAL HASKONING

thinking in
all dimensions

Royal Haskoning currently assists and advises governments, water agencies, private sector organisations and other stakeholders to improve water governance in over 25 countries.

>> Albania >> Bangladesh >> Benin >> Bulgaria >> Cambodia >> Czech Republic >> Croatia >> Ecuador >> Ghana >>



Information sessions organised by the City of Constanta help in maintaining a high degree of transparency of the transaction process.

“Public-Private Partnerships are an attractive means to help address the urban environmental crisis. Both the public and private sectors can benefit by pooling their resources to improve the delivery of basic services to all citizens.”

UNDP, Bureau for Development Policy

Romania – Public-Private Partnerships can be instrumental in bringing about substantial improvements in the quality and availability of water and sanitation services in a cost-effective way. In Constanta, Royal Haskoning is acting as the transaction advisor to the Romanian Government aiming at concluding a concession contract with a private operator.

Key ingredients of the process are safeguarding strong political commitment, a high degree of technical skills, and fairness of the tender process. Involving stakeholders from the beginning can do much to ensure that legitimate concerns are heard and dealt with. Only then all parties, including users of water services, will benefit from the private parties’ know-how, skills and financial means.

our experience

> Egypt >> Hungary >> India >> Indonesia >> Kyrgystan >> Mali >> Moldavia >> Morocco >> Nigeria >> Pakistan >> Philippines >



Soil salinisation is a major problem in the Aral Sea Basin in Central Asia due to massive irrigation works. A legacy of lack of coordinated planning and cooperation.

“The Central Asian states recognise and understand the complexities of the water and environmental problems in the region and appreciate highly the inputs of Royal Haskoning experts in preparing and developing the approaches to solve these problems.”

Rim Abdullovich Giniyatullin, Director of the Water and Environmental Management Project, Aral Sea Basin

Central Asia – Kazakhstan, Kyrgystan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan share the waters of the Amu Darya and the Syr Darya, which ultimately discharge into the Aral Sea. The massive irrigation of eight million hectares now accounts for roughly 90% of the total water use in the basin. The sea is drying up, and its salinity is now twice as high as that of ocean water.

National and regional policies and action plans must be developed as a matter of urgency to safeguard what is left of the fragile delta environments of the two rivers. Royal Haskoning supports the five countries in developing a basis for entering into agreements on such issues as water sharing, the institutional structure required for shared management, and priority setting within a programme for future cooperation.



Water Board employees present and discuss plans for the expansion of irrigation works and the recovery of the costs.

“The results within the ten pilot Water Boards have been instrumental to the development of appropriate legislation and a new policy of participatory water management in Egypt.”

Yehia Abdel Aziz, Chairman of the Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Egypt

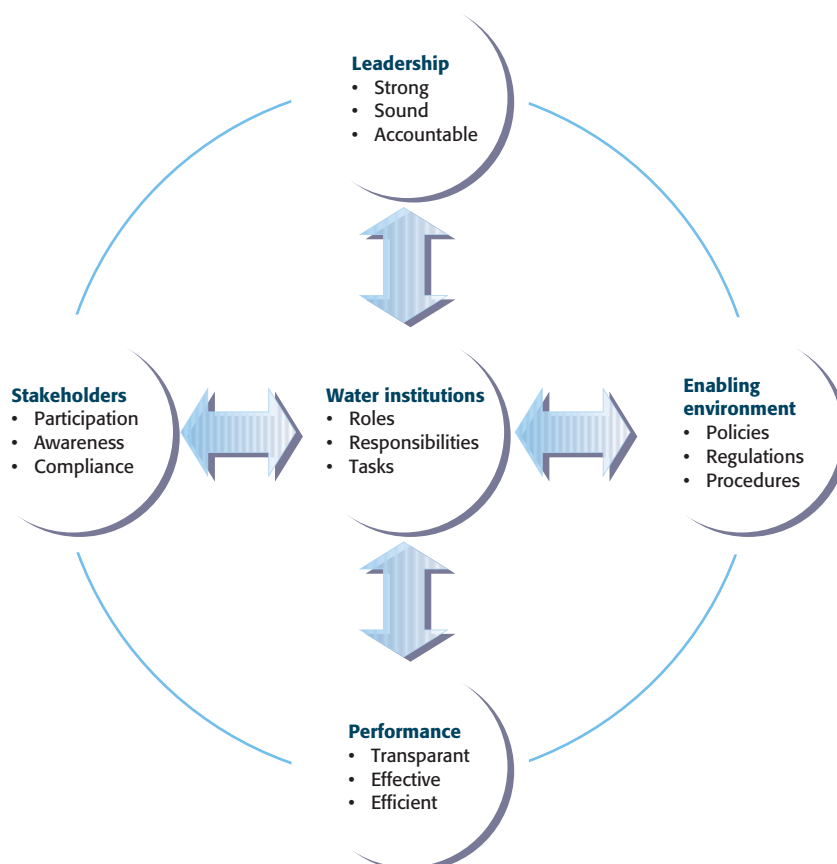
Egypt – Water sector reform is high on the agenda in Egypt. Royal Haskoning assists in establishing a unit in the Ministry to guide decentralisation and encourage the involvement of the private sector.

Royal Haskoning experts are also helping to set up Water Boards. These democratic bodies facilitate user participation in integrated water management.

Users of water for irrigation, domestic and industrial purposes take part in the decision-making and are keen to assume responsibility for operating and maintaining large sections of the water system. Ultimately the Water Boards should be self-sustaining, in line with the sector goals for decentralisation.

water governance

THE CURRENT WATER CRISIS IS MAINLY ONE OF WATER GOVERNANCE. SOLVING IT MEANS CHANGING THE POLITICAL, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEMS THAT GUIDE THE MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES AND THE PROVISION OF WATER SERVICES. FIRST AND FOREMOST, WATER USERS NEED TO BE INVOLVED IN DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES. THIS ENABLES A PROPER BALANCING OF THE TRUE VALUES OF WATER, AND SERVES TO ENHANCE AWARENESS OF WATER PROBLEMS AND ACCEPTANCE OF THEIR SOLUTIONS. AT THE SAME TIME, ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND TASKS HAVE TO BE CLEARLY DEFINED AND INSTITUTIONAL PERFORMANCE IMPROVED. TO FACILITATE THIS, WATER POLICIES, REGULATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES MUST BE HARMONISED AND MADE MORE TRANSPARENT. STRONG, SOUND AND ACCOUNTABLE LEADERSHIP WILL PROVE CRUCIAL IN BRINGING ABOUT SUCH CHANGES AND IS INDEED A KEY FEATURE OF GOOD WATER GOVERNANCE.



thinking in all dimensions

OUR CAPABILITIES

Royal Haskoning is a leading independent consultancy, with operations worldwide. The basis for the firm was established in 1881 in the Netherlands. The 3000 staff together represent a wide range of knowledge and experience. Rooted in engineering and technical expertise, our consulting services focus on the broad field of the interaction between people and their environment.

Knowledge creation and its transfer from one country to another can make a significant contribution to better water governance. The key is learning from others, assimilating that knowledge and adapting it to local circumstances. This offers opportunities for making significant progress without repeating the mistakes of others. Adaptation is crucial, because there is no one best way of governing water. If knowledge is to be effective, it must be applied locally in a creative and innovative manner.

Royal Haskoning is a partner in improving water governance. Our engineering and technical expertise in the fields of water resources management and water services provision is complemented by experience and expertise in reviewing institutional arrangements, supporting policy development and implementation, and managing change processes.

Our capabilities in the field of water governance include:

- Sector analysis and reform strategies
- Stakeholder analysis and participation programmes
- Institutional strengthening and organisational development
- Financial and economic performance improvement
- Strategies for establishing Public-Private Partnerships
- Human Resources Development and training



NIJMEGEN

Barbarossastraat 35
Postbus 151, 6500 AD Nijmegen
The Netherlands
Tel. +31 (0)24 328 42 84
Fax +31 (0)24 323 93 46
E-mail: info@nijmegen.royalhaskoning.com

OFFICES OVERSEAS

Bahrain
Bangladesh
Belgium
Burkina Faso
Cambodia
Cameroon

China - Hong Kong
Egypt
France
Ghana
Hungary
India

Indonesia
Ireland
Malaysia
Nigeria
Philippines
Poland

Romania
Thailand
Trinidad
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
Vietnam