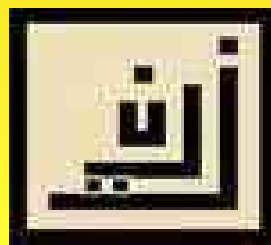




Stakeholder Dialogue and Participatory Strategy Development for Better Water Governance in Balqa Governorate

EMPOWERS Partnership - Jordan

**IRC Symposium on Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation:
Strengthening Capacity for Local Governance
Delft, the Netherlands, 26-28 September 2006**





Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Jordan:

- Location : Middle East
- Governorates: 12
- Capital : Amman
- Population: 5.2 m(2004)
- Area : 90.000 km²
- Climate : arid to semi arid



Balqa Governorate:

- Location : North western part of Jordan 30 km from Amman
- Area : 1,119 km², 1.2% of total area
- Population : 349000 (2004)
- Water resources: Surface, Ground





EMPOWERS Jordan

- ◆ The most important challenges facing the water sector in Jordan is the imbalance between supply and demand that leads to an increase in water deficiency, limited water resources and increasing growth rate
- ◆ To face these challenges Jordan worked on several strategies, the most important of which is water resources management.
- ◆ Here lies the significance of EMPOWERS Partnership as a way to improve water management in cooperation with stakeholders at all levels and especially end-users.
- ◆ So that livelihoods can be sustained and all have a say to reach water governance.



Water Governance

Water governance is the set of systems that control decision-making with regard to water resource development and management. (i.e. how, by whom, and under what conditions decisions are made) than the decisions themselves (Moench et al., 2003).





EMPOWERS Methodologies

- ◆ Using a process of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) planning and development activities are implemented with local communities.
- ◆ EMPOWERS operates through two related and overlapping processes called:
 3. The Planning Cycle Framework
 4. The Stakeholder Dialogue for Concerted Action.

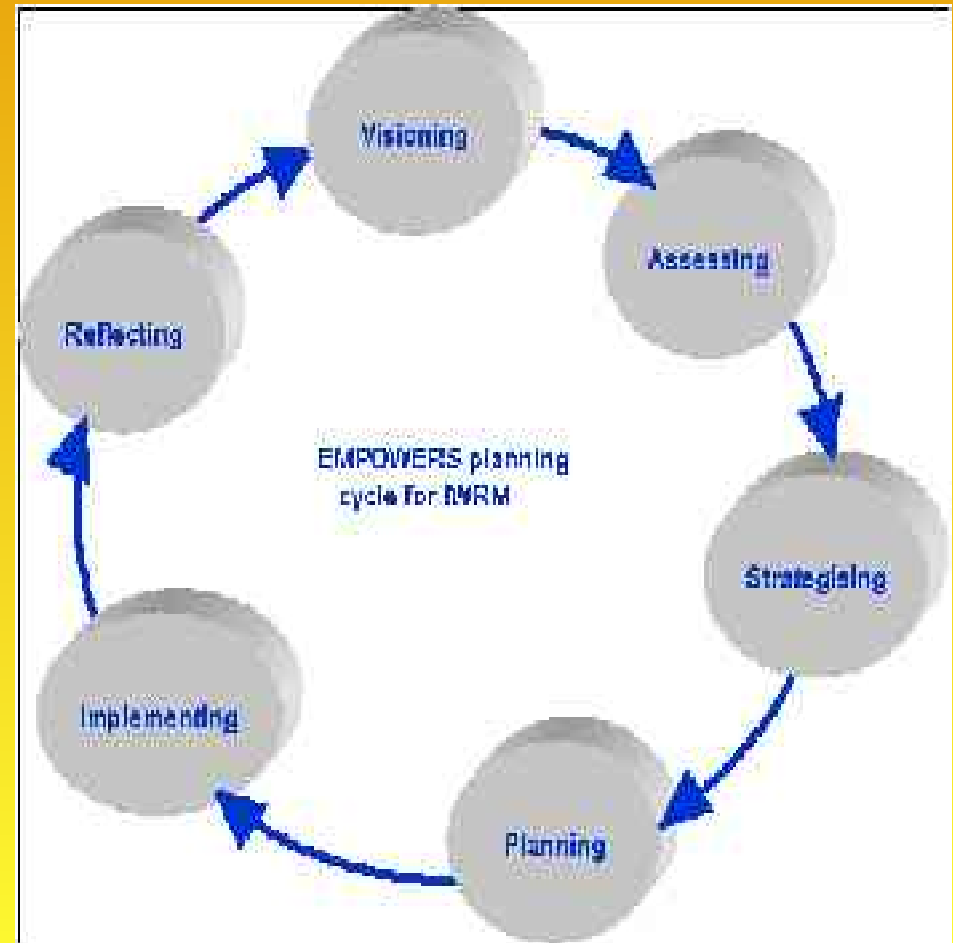
All start from “we have to do things better”

more integrated; more nature; more participation



Planning Cycle

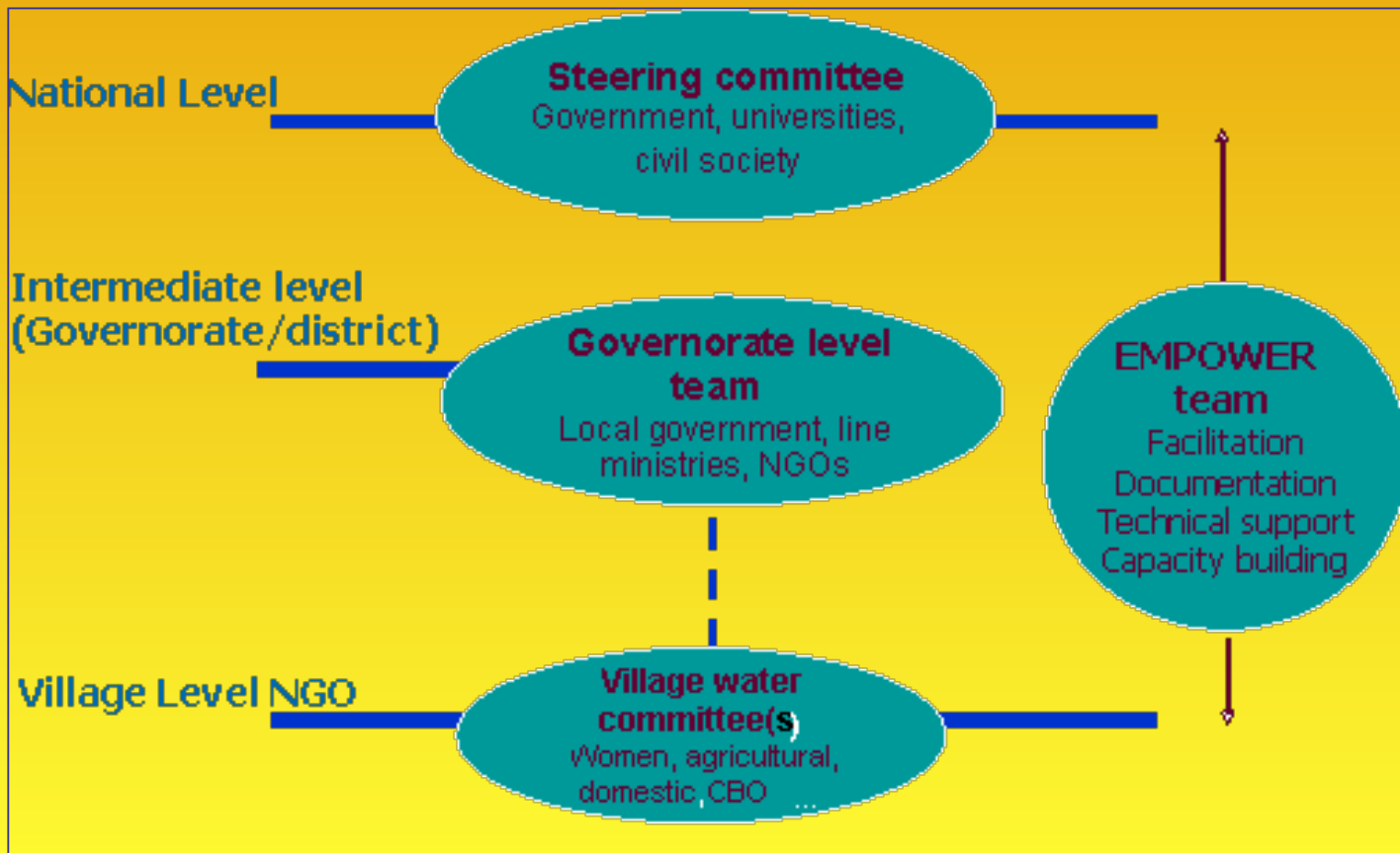
- The planning process identifies and develops location-specific long-term visions and strategies for water resource management.
- Based on a careful reflection of water-related problems and the development needs of the community.
- The process is supported by several tools for collecting and analyzing relevant information such as RIDA analysis and PRA.





Stakeholder Dialogue for Concerted Action

The EMPOWERS project cycle for IWRM is embedded in a process of dialogue among different actors





SDCA

People are brought together from the village and local authority levels through *local water committees* supported by *water stakeholder platforms at intermediate and national level.*

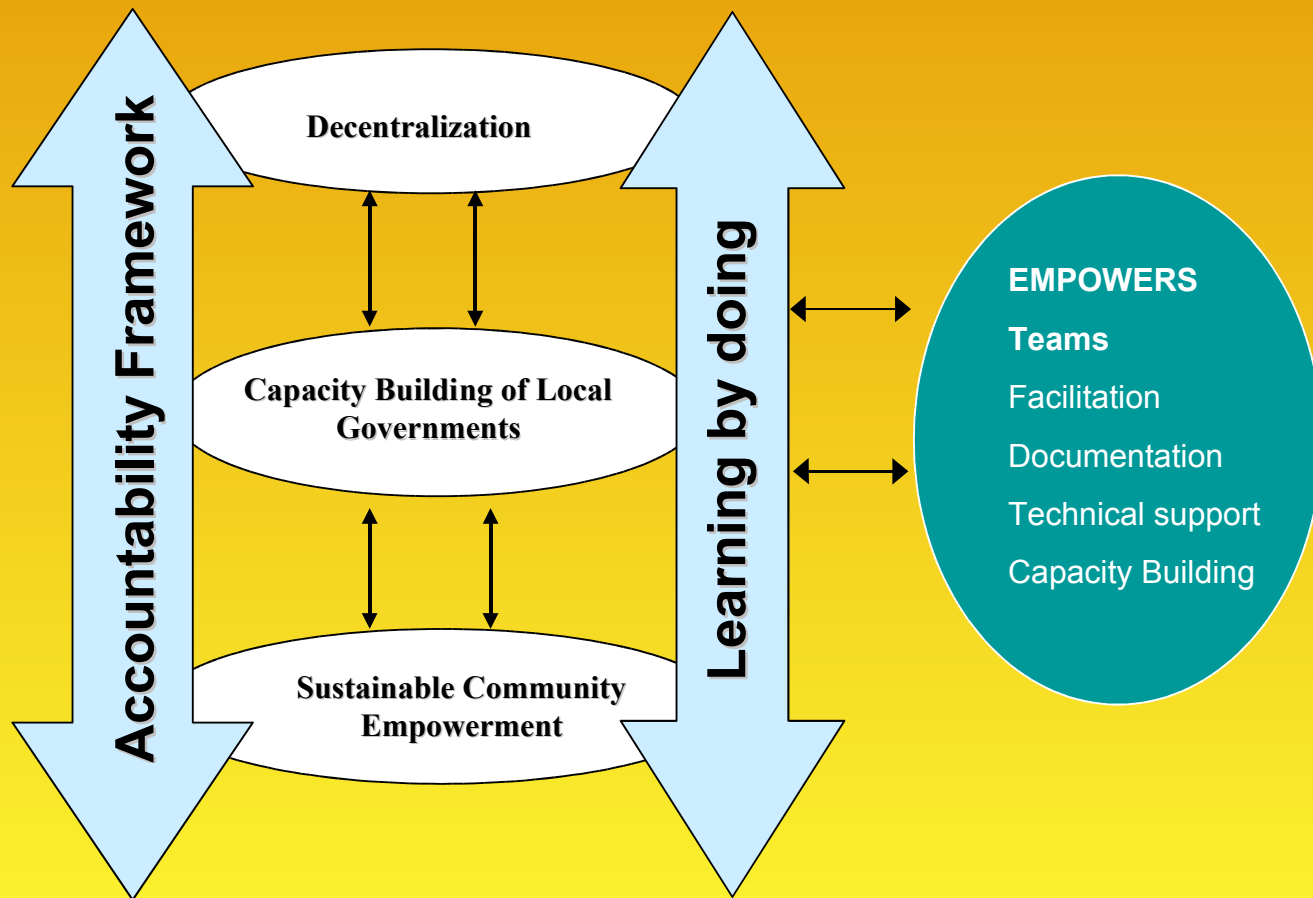
Aims:

- Identify different opinions, perceptions, preoccupations, assumptions, and judgments
- Identify opportunities for mutual benefit
- Raise awareness of constraints and opportunities that affect everyone
- A greater emphasis on pro-poor and rights-based approaches





Intervention





Capacity Building

❖ Empowerment local level:

- Empowering the local community to be able to participate in the decision making process concerning their water resources. Among these tools PRA, stakeholder analysis and RAAKS.
- The local capacity exists, but need empowerment to be harnessed.
- Creating sustainable networks and communication mechanisms with various stakeholders especially local government.



❖ Strengthening local government:

- To reach the stage of full decentralization the capacity building
- Focus on strategic planning development at the governorate level to build the capacity of the local government to be able to fulfil its responsibilities and their new role
- Proper channels of communication to encourage strong institutional decentralization



Challenges Faced

- People reluctant to volunteer – they want to know how they will benefit and how long it will take
- Low skills base among volunteers and limited resources for skills development
- Vital to have a leader among the village participants



Work overload on EMPOWERS team members
Little communication or cooperation between different departments within the Governorate



Lessons learned

- **Changing attitudes takes a great deal of time and effort – opening dialogue is the first step**
- **Local CBO's need to be trained to work as intermediaries between the local community and government institutions**
- **Inspiration and suitable leadership is the way to make changes rather than through direction**



Without management training the ability of people in the different participating agencies to scale up is very limited

Understanding local gender roles is key to understanding a community's water management



Lessons learned

The key to the success of the project is less about the results of these processes, but rather in building the capacity of the participants to learn from participating in the process and be able to continue working towards the successful management of their water resources in the future.



This capacity building processes lies under a main frame work; that those processes are done by an approach of learning by doing to sustain the results, and the accountability framework introduce by EMPOWERS Jordan to set the preconditions to tassess the kind of intervention that should by agreed upon from the different stakeholders



Thanks for your attention



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