

Presentation to Pakistan Development Forum

**Water Sector Improvement Programme
in
Sindh**

By
**Chairman
Sindh Irrigation & Drainage Authority**

Aim of Presentation

- To highlight the importance of linking infrastructure development to poverty alleviation by ensuring equitable water distribution through fostering partnership and empowerment of beneficiaries
- To bring out achievements in implementation of the Programme

Introduction

- Sindh- a widely acknowledged template of Irrigation Reforms
- Infrastructure for prosperity not for status quo
- Investment towards improving Water Management
- Water Management to address problems of poverty pockets
- Empowerment of beneficiaries
- Accountability of irrigation officials

Sindh at a Glance

- Has 26% of Pakistan's cultivated area
- Contributes 24 % of National Production of major crops
- 2.2 million hectares(43% of the CCA) water logged
- Efficiency of irrigation use is 35 %
- 78 % of CCA underlain by saline ground water
- Scanty rain fall i.e. 140 mm (5.5 inches)
- Sea intrusion threatens 7% of coastal population (1.2 million acres land lost to sea)

National Drainage Programme

- a shared destiny of prosperity

To improve efficiency of irrigation and drainage System in Pakistan and ensure it's sustainability through:

- A Policy and Institutional Reforms in Water Sector
- Improving irrigation and drainage infrastructure
- Strengthening Sector planning and research

National Drainage Programme Components

- Physical Works
- Institutional and Policy Reforms
- Education and motivation of beneficiaries
- Structured learning in drainage
- Instituting regular changes in legal and regulatory frame work

The Reform Package

- To promote stronger participation of farmers
- To bring accountability to water service
- To improve collection of Abiana (water charges)
- To bring equity amongst farmers
- To increase productivity in the use of water
- To stall the incidence of disjointed and unsustainable infrastructure development

Sindh and the Reforms

- The only Province to follow the original parameters.
- Challenges of pervasive poverty
- Disparity in the size of land holding leading to social imbalance
- Reforms offer due share in management to abjectly small land holders.
- Depoliticizing development

Continued...

Sindh and Reforms

- SIDA Act passed by Sindh Assembly in 1997
- SIDA Act 1997 reviewed in 2001-2002
- Sindh Water Management Ordinance (SWMO) promulgated in Oct 2002
- SWMO debars office holders from any political or party position

Continued...

Sindh and Reforms

- Out of 13 Canal Commands, 5 notified as Area Water Boards (AWBs); out of which 3 are functional
- Nearly 200 Farmer Organizations (FOs) in 3 Area Water Boards already formed
- 134 distributaries / minors handed over to FOs with full responsibilities of operation; maintenance; Abiana (Water Charge) assessment and its collection

Social Awakening

- Over 50,000 farmers mobilized towards participatory process.
- 45% FOs Chairmen elected from tail, 35% from middle reach and 20 % from head reach.
- About 70 FOs chairmen hold less than 50 acres of land.
- FOs in Nara have collected 95% of targeted Abiana
- Farmers in Left Bank AWB effected closure of 48 illegal outlets (ranging up to 30 years old)

Investment Portfolio

● Works completed	Rs. 2,375.00 million
● Works under implementation	Rs. 1,329.00 million
● Works under procurement	Rs. 2,298.00 million
● Planned for implementation upon extension	Rs. 1,333.9 million
● Total size of investment portfolio	Rs. 7,335.9 million

Objectives of Investment

- Rehabilitation and improvement of existing drainage system
- Preventive drainage through lining of water courses and distributaries / minors
- Modernization of irrigation system through adoption of international best practices
- Accurate and continuous water discharge measurement through telemetry system across the network

Conclusion

Sindh envisions an efficiently managed, environmentally responsible Irrigation and Drainage Sector contributing to sustainable agricultural growth of the Province through:

- Comprehensive and irreversible management transfer to farmers
- Modernization of the canal system
- Prevention of the loss of agricultural land due to poor drainage and sea intrusion
- Integration of drainage system
- Checking water losses at watercourse and field level through multi-faceted interventions
- Supporting alternate irrigation means for small landholders to help conserve water
- Instituting formal capacity building mechanism through local and international inputs

Thank you