
Public Water Investment

The Government considers that a consistent and uniformly applied analytical framework for project appraisal is essential to equitable, efficient and effective water resources management. A true multi-objective analysis of the water needs of an area, and the formulation of options for investment and management must consider the interrelations among different sources of water, different management schemes and the interaction between needs of different users and purposes. Investments in infrastructure may displace people and disturb ecosystems and, as such, broader water resources planning assessments and specific project appraisals must consider these cross-sectoral implications.

The policy of the Government in this regard is to ensure that:

- a. Water resource projects, as far as possible, are developed as multipurpose projects with an integrated multi-disciplinary approach from planning to implementation to monitoring.
- b. Planning and feasibility studies of all projects will follow the Guidelines for Project Assessment (GPA), the Guidelines for Peoples Participation (GPP), the Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), and all other instructions that may be issued from time to time by the Government.
- c. All relevant analytical procedures and evaluation methods, such as mathematical modelling, physical modelling, cost-benefit analysis, risk analysis and multi-criteria decision making are routinely used as part of water resources planning and project appraisal.
- d. Public water projects are designed with specific provision for future disinvestment, if and when feasible.
- e. Interests of low-income water users, and that of women, are adequately protected in water resource management.

There is continuous updating and archiving of water resource data and basic information by relevant public sector agencies.