

Questions and Answers

Day 3: Capacity Building and Training for IRBM

Speakers: Dr. Frank van Steenbergen & Dr. Shiati, (PMSC)

- Q (Najafi). It would be better to talk about a framework for bringing stakeholders on board rather than just briefing colleagues.
- Q Please explain what is your view capacity building for officers related to the project.
- Q (Shawki) Can the training/capacity building framework be outcome based, using intended outcomes of the project as a starting point?
- Q (Mei) Most people visited the CAPIC. I think the centre is going to be very relevant to training. MOJA allocates money to the centre. Maybe CAPIC training programme can be linked to the project. This is just a suggestion. Maybe this could be raised with the MOJA minister?
- Q Training in irrigated agriculture requires three separate interventions:
1. Self-management and administration
 2. Irrigation methods
 3. Agricultural production
- Q Training is short term. Capacity building is a long-term process. Is there a specific strategy for capacity building, imbedded in the components, as a long-term process?

Answers

Dr van Steenbergen

All these suggestions are very useful and valid. It is indeed important to distinguish between training and capacity building – training is an important instrument in capacity building, but capacity building is broader than that. This is as mentioned the first step – next is to work out a detailed program, linking the capacity building closely with the intended outcomes of the project. An example is the suggestion on farmers training, which should support the objective of participatory irrigation management and increased water productivity. In having outcome based capacity building it is also important to take a good look at the training methods used – not to have training as an obligatory element but to look at how training effectively delivers.

The suggestion to integrate capacity building strategy under the AIWLMP with the ongoing training program of MOJA is very useful and should be pursued. As mentioned in the presentation we should try to avoid that the training programs under AILWMP become an isolated, one-time activity.

Dr Shiati:

There were problems (weak point) with training and capacity building in earlier WB project. All the money was spent on construction.

CAPIC is a training centre for water users, and there needs to be a similar centre for the project. Training should be provided year in, year out, for example as in Mexico where it is given every six months.

Dr Najafi

In response to the question on CAPIC, our main task is training. We have evolved from 'pure' learners to 'active' learners by the use of extension services for officers and farmers alike. CAPIC will cooperate with the project, but needs to know what is planned. We do not have details, and should know what disciplines are needed and the timing.