

**Joint venture between Topics 2.3 and 5.2 -
DROPS and CROPS: Water demand management in agriculture**

Date of the session	Tuesday 17 March
Time of the session	8:30 - 13:00
Topic	Water for Food & Pricing Strategies as a tool for a Sustainable Water Sector
Main convening organizations	FAO, OECD, IWMI
Contact person(s)	Jean-Marc Faures, Daniel Renault, Thierry Facon (FAO) David Molden (IWMI), Kevin Parris(OECD) , Monica Scatasta (OECD)
Short description of what the session intends to discuss and the key questions that have been identified.	
<p>The demand for food and other agricultural products, including biofuels, calls for increased agricultural production and demand for water while competition for other services domestic supply and sanitation, environment, energy, industrial sector is also drastically increasing. Increasing water scarcity reduces the potential for expansion of irrigation: water development has reached the limits, and agricultural water use is facing increasing competition from other sectors.</p> <p>Current irrigation practices present substantial opportunities for improvement, but are constrained by ill-adapted policies and outdated infrastructure. Maintenance of large scale irrigation schemes are an issue, and frequent rehabilitation of infrastructure put heavy pressure on public finance. Attempts to improve water management in agriculture through irrigation management transfer and participatory irrigation management have often failed to provide adequate answers to the need for improved water service and sustainable finance. The concept of water delivery service remains largely unexploited.</p>	
Wider context of issues : Why is the question important to improving water challenges in the world today ?And how does it relate to issues outside the water sectors?	
<p>In past decades many financial or regulatory instruments have been introduced to improve water demand management in irrigated agriculture. In particular, water pricing has been advocated as a potentially powerful mechanism to reduce waste, while water allocation, through water markets or regulatory approaches have also been applied. To what extent they have succeeded depends mainly on specific conditions in which irrigation operates.</p> <p>How much does water service provision impact water demand in large irrigation schemes ? What are the lessons from past irrigation water management ? Have recent reforms in irrigation been successful ? What are promising options for the future ? These questions will be debated during the first sub-session where ways of bridging sectors for a more responsive water management services will be explored, looking at several possible perspectives on how to improve responsiveness in agriculture water management.</p> <p>What instruments do we have to manage water demand in agriculture ? What works, what doesn't</p>	

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work, where and why, will be the focus of the second part of the session. Here, we will review past experiences in a wide range of socio-economic contexts and explore possible large scale adoption potential. The sub-session will discuss water pricing, water markets, and other water allocation mechanisms.

List of Speakers and Timing

8.30 – 8.35 : Opening and welcome

Moderator: Jean-Marc Faurès, FAO

Sub session 1 : How can water service impact water demand in irrigation ?

8.35 – 8.50: Keynote : Water service provision in large irrigation schemes: issues, lessons from past reforms, and promising options for water demand management

Daniel Renault, FAO

8.50 – 10.10 : Panel discussion: What future for large scale irrigation management ?

Panellists:

Mohamed Ait Kadi, Morocco

Dr Li, China

Satya Murty, India

Henri Tardieu, AFEID

Peter Lee, ex-ICID

Tushaar Shah, IWMI

Daniel Renault, FAO

10.10 - 10.20 : Launching of the IWMI-FAO-ADB Report on the future of irrigation in Asia

David Molden, Aditi Mukherji, IWMI

10.20 - 10.30 : Concluding remarks

Moderator/Reporter

10.30 – 11.00: Coffee break

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11.00 – 11.05 : Sub Session 2

What instruments for water demand management in irrigation ?

11.05 – 11.20 : Keynote 1: Review of instruments for water demand management in agriculture

François Molle, IRD

11.20 – 11.35: Keynote 2: Exploring the use of water pricing as a policy tool to improve water resource use efficiency in the agricultural sector.

Kevin Parris, OECD

11:35 – 12:55: Panel discussion: Instruments for water demand management, what works what does not work and why ?

Panellists:

Kevin Parris, OECD

F. Molle, IRD

C. Perry, UK

Wouter Arjens, ADB

Simon Smalley, Australia

Thierry Facon, FAO

12.55– 13.00: Concluding remarks on the debate

Moderator/Reporter