

The Economic Map of New Syria

Water Sector

- Briefing -



Economic Map of New Syria: Water

Abstract

This is just a summary of the complete study. It covers an overview of the Water Sector in Syria and the recommendation for three-phase planes, immediate, medium and long terms.

Overview

The area of Syria is 185180 square meters and its population is about 23 million. The average rainfall is about 46 billion cubic meters a year. The rainfall is characterized as being variable from year to year. It decreases from the west and north towards the east and south- east

Water Resources

Traditional water resources: Water located beneath the earth’s surface in soil pore spaces, (permanently running rivers as Euphrates and Tigris, non-permanently running rivers) and the ground water (Aquifers); which lies within geological layers from Jurassic up to the modern ages.

The international water resources form the largest mass of the surface water, that is why it’s being focused on.

The traditional water resources mass is estimated to be around 10.33 billion cubic meters. In addition to, more than 6.627 billion cubic meters from Euphrates River, and more than 1.250 billion cubic meters from Tigris River. Consequently, a total of more than 18.207 billion cubic meters are distributed over seven water basins which are: Al-Yarmouk , Barada, Awaj, Costal , Orantes , Steppe, Euphrates and Aleppo, Tigri and khabour.

Non- Traditional water resources:

Irrigation drainage water	1.527 billion cubic meters
Sewage and industry drainage water	1.2billion cubic meters
Desalination water	Newly started

General consumption:

Irrigation	14.097	billion cubic meters
Drinking water (domestic)	1.127	billion cubic meters
Manufacturing	0 .574	billion cubic meters

Institutions:

Institutions need reconsideration, especially the General Commission of Water Resources and the General Company of Hydro Projects. We must revert back to the General Directorates of Irrigation Water Basins and apply the principle of integrated management of water basins to achieve a sustainable development of water resources.

Legislative Condition: It is good, though it needs reactivation and honest dedication. However, new additions must be added to catch up with investment orientation of the sectors.

The general situation of the sector have been studied and reviewed in details based of the above mentioned facts in order to prepare for the reconstruction and rehabilitation plan. In addition, the main damages that have hit the sector have been listed with the estimated value.

The main damages can be summarized by damages caused by breaking in the pumping stations and stealing power cables, cars, and engineering machines, in addition to destroying few irrigation channels and knocking it down with their equipment. The total estimated amount of damages is estimated to be nearly half-billion Syrian pounds so far.

A three stages plan has been set:

A six months plan (emergency plan):

The work in this stage consists of making an initial assesment about the size of damages and starting reconstructions and rehabilitation within the available capacity and resources; as well as reviewing the undergoing projects and the International Cooperation Projects and proposing the necessary suggestions.

Two-Year Plan:

This phase is the most effective one in which reconstructions, rehabilitation and inauguration of the undergoing projects will be continued. As well as, a comprehensive reviewing of the land restoration projects will be done. Final decisions about dragging water from Euphrates River will be taken with a

comprehensive review for land reclamation projects. The possibilities and potential of investing in this sector will also be studied.

Five-Year Plan:

Is the stage of institutional reform, and the development of an investment map for water and irrigation sector in all its aspects (irrigation, drinking water, natural water, desalination)

In addition to the development of an integrated action plan for the next stages ...

The role of Syrian and international businessmen and the group of friends of the Syrian people is highly important in terms of finance, investment, technical assistance and funds particularly.

Consequently, a set of proposals were presented for water projects whether from the financial side or the investment side. These proposals came after a complete field scanning for the projects that were damaged or stopped while being under construction. In addition to the importance of the international bi-cooperative projects which need to be re-launched.

In addition, a detailed statement of the upcoming government action and responsibilities for the first day, month and the remaining period was presented. The goal is to transform the ministry into a workshop from day one and optimize the available capabilities starting from construction and damaged projects rehabilitation. To secure a fresh start while, establishing trust in the existing man-power.