

## Water Governance Benchmarking Criteria

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### **A. GOVERNANCE FUNCTIONS**

- 1. Organizing and building capacity in the water sector**
  - 1.1 Creating and modifying an organizational structure
  - 1.2 Assigning roles and responsibilities [1](#)
  - 1.3 Setting national water policy [2, 3](#)
  - 1.4 Establishing linkages among sub-sectors, levels, and national sub-regions
  - 1.5 Establishing linkages with neighboring riparian countries
  - 1.6 Building public and political awareness of water sector issues
  - 1.7 Securing and allocating funding for the sector [4, 5](#)
  - 1.8 Developing and utilizing well-trained water sector professionals
- 2. Planning strategically**
  - 2.1 Collecting, managing, storing and utilizing water-relevant data
  - 2.2 Projecting future supply and demand for water
  - 2.3 Designing strategies for matching expected long-term water supply an demand and dealing with shortfalls (including drought mitigation strategies)
  - 2.4 Developing planning and management tools to support decision making
- 3. Allocating water**
  - 3.1 Awarding and recording water rights and corollary responsibilities
  - 3.2 Establishing water and water rights transfer mechanisms
  - 3.3 Adjudicating disputes
  - 3.4 Assessing and managing third party impacts of water and water rights transactions
- 4. Developing and managing water resources**
  - 4.1 Constructing public infrastructure and authorizing private infrastructure development
  - 4.2 Forecasting seasonal supply and demand and matching the two
  - 4.3 Operating and maintaining public infrastructure according to established plans and strategic priorities
  - 4.4 Applying incentives and sanctions to achieve long and short term supply/demand matching (including water pricing)
  - 4.5 Forecasting and managing floods and flood impacts
- 5. Regulating water resources and services**
  - 5.1 Issuing and monitoring operating concessions to water service providers
  - 5.2 Enforcing withdrawal limits associated with water rights
  - 5.3 Regulating water quality in waterways, water bodies, and aquifers (including enforcement)
  - 5.4 Protecting aquatic ecosystems
  - 5.5 Monitoring and enforcing water service standards

## **B. GOVERNANCE PROCESS CHARACTERISTICS**

- 1. Transparency.** 6
- 2. Participation.**
- 3. Accountability and Integrity.**
- 4. Rule of law.** 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
- 5. Coherency and Integration.**
- 6. Responsiveness.**

## **C. CROSS CUTTING CATEGORIES**

- 1. Water Sources**
  - 1.1 Surface water 13, 14, 15
  - 1.2 Groundwater 16, 17
  - 1.3 Derivative water (reclaimed, reused, desalinated)
- 2. Water Uses**
  - 2.1 Irrigation
  - 2.2 Municipal 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23
  - 2.3 Industrial
  - 2.4 Environmental
  - 2.5 Hydropower
  - 2.6 Fisheries, navigation, recreation
  - 2.7 Other uses (including social, esthetic, and religious uses)

**Joint Order No. 2283-03 of 29 Chaoual 1424 (24 December 2003) of the Minister of the Interior, Minister of Finance and Privatization, and the Minister for Land Use Planning, Water and the Environment, relative to the royalties for using public domain water to supply water to populations 2, 18**

**The Minister of the Interior,**

In view of Decree no. 2-97-414 of 6 Chaoual 1418 (4 February 1998) regarding the methods and procedures for setting and collecting the royalty for the use of public domain water, 3, 4, 7, 19

**Hereby resolves:**

**Article 1:** When public domain water is used to supply water to populations, the royalty rate stipulated in article 2 of the aforementioned decree no. 2-97-414 of 6 Chaoual 1418 (4 February 1998) is set at 0.04 dirhams per cubic meter of water withdrawn. 5, 8, 20

This rate shall be applied progressively according to the calendar and percentages indicated in the following table:

Year	2004	2005	2006 and beyond
Royalty percentage rate (%)	50	50	100

**Article 2:** The royalty for use of public domain water is calculated according to the following formula: 21

$R = t \times V \times c$  where:

R is the royalty stated in dirhams;

t is the royalty rate expressed in dirhams per cubic meter;

V is the volume of water measured or declared by the user, expressed in cubic meters;

c is the regulation coefficient indicated in article 3.

**Article 3:** In compliance with paragraph 2 of article 2 of the above-cited Decree no. 2-97-414, the regulation coefficient is set as follows: 9

Origin of the water	Regulation coefficient
- Surface water controlled by a public hydraulic structure 13	1
- Surface water not controlled by public hydraulic structures, and	0.5

**Article 4:** Pursuant to article 3 of Decree no. 2-97-414 cited above, when the water used is groundwater or surface water requiring discharge, the royalty is calculated according to the following formula: 10, 15, 17

$R_r = k \times R$ , where:

$R_r$  is the royalty applied to groundwater or surface water requiring a discharge:

$R$  is the royalty calculated according to article 2 above;

$k$  is the drawdown ratio, which varies according to the heights, as indicated below:

Height of the discharge in meters	K
Less than 100 m	1
100 m and higher	0.90

**Article 5:** Pursuant to article 4 of Decree no. 2-97-414 cited above, the flat rate royalty is set at: 11

- 10 dirhams per year when the volume of water is withdrawn directly from the natural environment, is supplied for domestic use, and is less than 10 cubic meters per day; 22

- 200 dirhams year when the drinking water service is provided directly by the commune, or when the volume of water is withdrawn directly from the natural environment, serves rural populations grouped by their drinking water supply and is less than 200 cubic meters per day. 23

**Article 6:** Outside the areas of action of the hydrological basin agencies and in accordance with article 11 of the above-cited Decree no. 2-97-414, the royalties are paid to the general treasury by means of collection orders established by the Minister responsible for water. 1, 12

The royalty is paid half-yearly by the user at the end of March of year  $N + 1$  for the half-year extending from July 1 of year  $N$  to December 31 of year  $N$ , and at the end of October of year  $N + 1$  for the half-year extending from January 1 to June 30 of year  $N + 1$ .

**Article 7:** This Joint Order shall be published in the *official state gazette*. 6

Rabat, 29 Chaoual 1424 (24 December 2003).

*The Minister of the Interior*  
**El Moustafa Sahel**

*The Minister of Finance  
and Privatization,*  
**Fathallah Oualalou**

*The Minister for Land Use Planning,  
Water and the Environment,*  
**Mohamed El Yazghi**