

## Water Governance Benchmarking Criteria

Click on each red number in order to link to the corresponding paragraph.  
Click again on the red number in order to return to criteria page.  
Numbers found next to an article or item title correspond to the entire article or item.  
Numbers found next to document title correspond to the entire document.

### **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
  - 1.3 Setting national water policy [1](#), [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
  - 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.**
- 2. Participation.**
- 3. Accountability and Integrity.**
- 4. Rule of law.**
- 5. Coherency and Integration.**
- 6. Responsiveness.**

## **C. CROSS CUTTING CATEGORIES**

### **1. Water Sources**

- 1.1 Surface water
- 1.2 Groundwater
- 1.3 Derivative water (reclaimed, reused, desalinated)

### **2. Water Uses**

- 2.1 Irrigation
- 2.2 Municipal
- 2.3 Industrial
- 2.4 Environmental
- 2.5 Hydropower
- 2.6 Fisheries, navigation, recreation
- 2.7 Other uses (including social, esthetic, and religious uses)

**DAHIR (ROYAL DECREE) OF 28 SAFAR 1357 (29 APRIL 1938) CREATING AN ISOLATION ZONE  
AROUND CEMETERIES IN NEW TOWNS**

(Official state gazette no. 1332 of 6 May 1938, page 612)

PRAISE BE TO THE ONE GOD!  
(Great Seal of Sidi Mohamed)

Let it be known – may God elevate and fortify its essence!

That our Sharifian Majesty,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

**ART. 1** – Three protective zones of thirty (30) meters, seventy (70) meters measured from the first zone, and two hundred (200) meters measured from the second zone, are hereby created around cemeteries receiving burials and cemeteries in disuse for less than five years.

In the first, 30-meter zone, no well may be dug and no building constructed. **1**

Likewise, in the second, seventy-meter zone, no construction or well digging is permitted. However, in certain particular cases, as an exception, derogations of the above provisions may be granted by the local authority after a hydrogeological study has been conducted by the department of mines and the opinion of the competent board of health has been considered. The orders issued under these conditions may call for special measures to be taken in the interest of health, decency and the peace and tranquility of the area. The expenses incurred by the administration when studies are conducted at the request of private citizens shall be reimbursed by the interested party or parties according to the terms to be established in orders issued by our pashas or kaid. Noisy premises (entertainment facilities, drinking establishments, classified industries, playgrounds, etc.) are prohibited in this zone. **2**

In the third zone, well digging may be prohibited after a hydrogeological study has been conducted according to the terms established in the previous subparagraph. **3**

**ART. 2.** - Existing constructions inside the first two zones may not be restored nor enlarged without an authorization from the local authority.

After expert examination and assessment according to the "right to reply" procedure, wells may be filled at the request of the local authority.

**ART. 3.** - This Royal Decree in no way overrides the special regimes instituted for certain population centers after the Royal Decree of 7 Rebia II 1335 (31 January 1917) creating an isolation zone around cemeteries in new towns.

**ART. 4.** - Infractions of the provisions of this Royal Decree and of the orders issued for its application will be punished by the penalties stipulated in Title V of the Royal Decree of 20 Joumada I 1332 (16 April 1914) regarding alignments, urban land use and extension plans, road network easements and taxes\*, without prejudice, in undemarcated population centers and when there is no subdivision, to the obligatory demolition of building works executed in violation of the provisions above, entirely at the expense of the party found guilty of such violation.

**ART. 5.** - As a temporary measure, the preceding prescriptions will not be applicable to the lands surrounding the cemeteries which are still inside native towns.

**ART. 6.** - The above-cited Royal Decree of 7 Rebia II 1335 (31 January 1917), regarding the same subject, is hereby repealed.

In Rabat, 28 Safar 1357 (29 April 1938)

Approved for promulgation and enforcement:

In Rabat, 29 April 1938

The Resident Commissioner General  
Signed: NOGUES