




# **Water Sector Status**

## **Legal and Institutional Aspects**

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# Water Sector Driving Forces

- - One of the important economic development factors is having a reliable and safe water supply.
- - Wastewater flows must be managed effectively to protect freshwater from pollution. They must be reintegrated safely in the water cycle and accounted for in the water budget.
- - Sustainable production of major food commodities and optimal land use depend largely on integrated approaches to land and water management, in order to achieve food security, alleviate poverty and protect the natural resource base.

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- ⊙ - **The coincidence of water scarcity in the region and weak water institutions will not allow doing any better with less water.**
  - ⊙ - **The water sector crisis is linked to institutional changes through a chain of economic, political, and natural factors, both within and outside the water sector.**
  - ⊙ - **Water institutions reduce uncertainty and optimize options in water supply for the present time as well as the future.**

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- ❁ - Economic development for the region including Palestine will continue to be limited and poor if efficient water institutions are not properly created, efficiently operated, and well maintained.
  - ❁ - Success in water policy reform hinges partly of identifying the proper institution (within government and/or private sector), with the power and authority to implement the intended policy reforms.
  - ❁ - An institutional reform strategy must be flexible and tailored to the requirements of individual countries and/or group of countries sharing surface or groundwater basins.

# Planning and management Requirements

- ?What do we need for planning and management?
- **1- Law** to guarantee sustainable development, optimal utilization and to regulate the planning, production and use of the WR in an effective and efficient manner
- **2- Policy** where WR should be developed and managed efficiently to meet the present and future needs in an environmentally and sustainable way.
- **3- Institutions** for planning , managing and developing the water sector in sustainable manner.



4- **Resources and infrastructure** supply the customer with water services (acceptable quantity ,quality and affordable price) ,

Identifying the needed resources and infrastructure.

# Legal framework for water management

## Legal framework

To develop, protect and manage the water sector.

### Oslo II article 40

the interim bilateral water and wastewater agreement is being used as the basis for water and wastewater sectors planning and project implementation during the interim period, until a final agreement is reached

### National level

1- **Presidential** Decree 5/1995 regarding the establishment of PWA

# Legal framework for water management

2- Law No 2/1996 regarding the establishment of PWA and defining its objectives, functions, and responsibilities.

3- Presidential Decree 66/1997, concerning the internal regulations of PWA.

4- Palestinian water Law No 3/2002

Defining everything to regulate, manage, develop, and protect water resources and systems.



# Legal framework for water management

## Objectives of the Water Law

- 1- secure sustainable development
- 2- provide and satisfy social and individual needs in an optimal and equitable way.
- 3- protect water resources from pollution .

## Key Elements of Water Law

- 1- Establish and authorizes water authority, & water council
- 2- Acknowledge water is public property under the administration of the water authority

# Legal framework for water management

- 3- Identifies national water plan as the guideline**
- 4- Authorizes the establishment of utilities.**
- 5- Establish the basis of water regulations**
- 6- Authorizes development of unified tariff structure ( water & treated wastewater reuse) .**

# Institutional framework for water Sector management

## Institutional Framework

- During the occupation period, the roles and responsibilities were scattered, fragmented and unclear.
- PWA found that there is an urgent need for restructuring the water sector to manage and develop the water sector in a sustainable manner.

# Institutional framework for water management

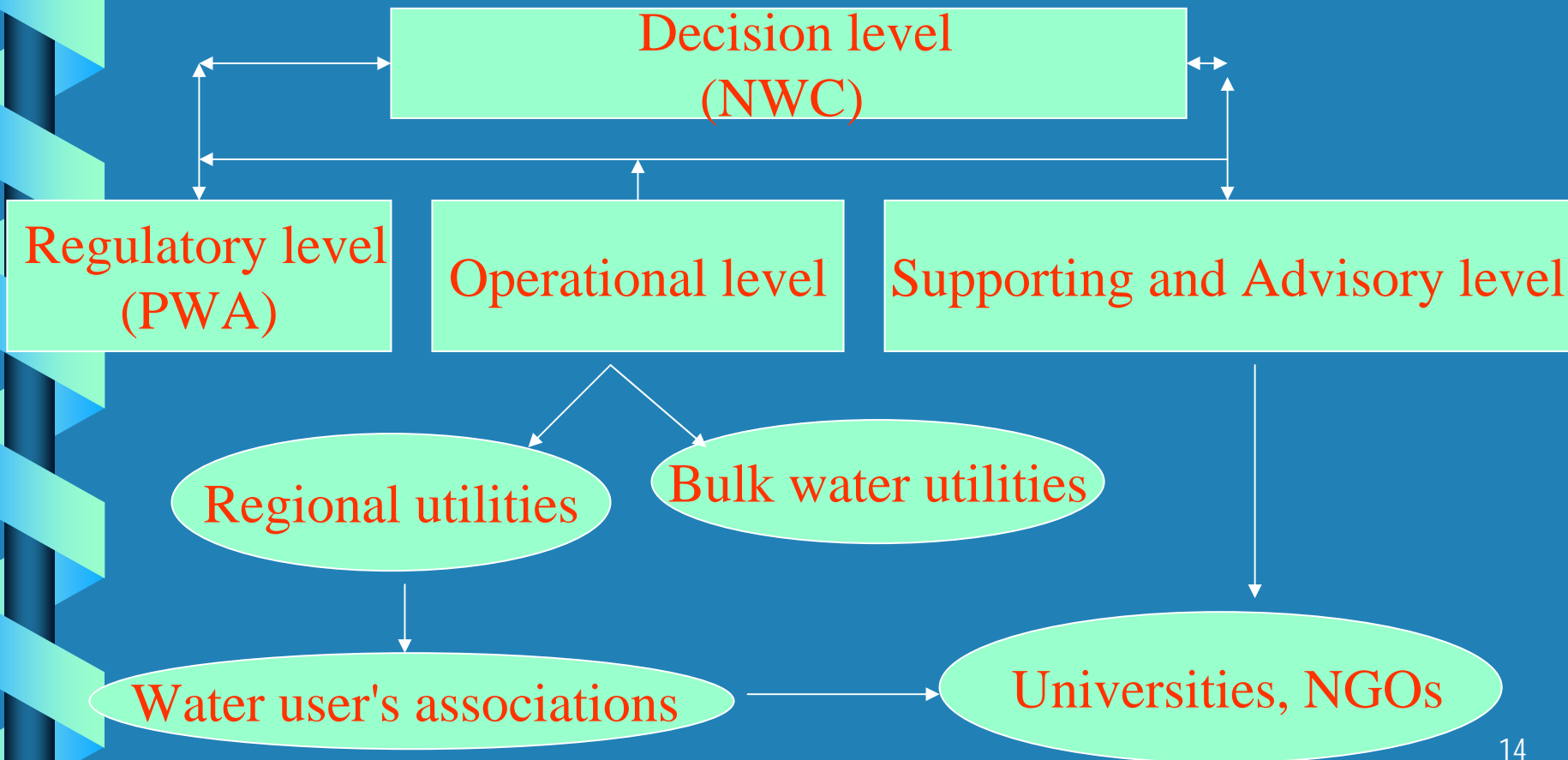
## Principles of institutional reforms

- 1- one responsible body, with separation of the institutional responsibility for policy and regulatory functions from those of service delivery**
- 2- Three regional utilities in WB and One in GAZA to provide water and wastewater services.**
- 3- Encourage involvement of the private sector in the funding and implementation projects .**



**Who are the parties responsible for managing, regulating, controlling and developing the water and wastewater sector?.**

# Future Institutional Framework





# Planning framework for water management

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**Who is planning for water sector development?????**

**Everyone is planner, but all plans should be coherent with national planning**



**National level (PWA):**

the national water sector planning should be carried by one responsible body with coordination with other stakeholders

**Utilities** - Facilities planning

**Municipalities and Village Councils** Facilities planning

**Ministries** sub\_sector and project planning



# Planning Elements

What are the factors that we took into account in our planning

Growing Demand (continuously growing) due to population growth, economical development and raising standards.

Scare resources (semi arid region, disputed, increasingly costly to develop).

Constrained infrastructure development (inefficiently developed and insufficient control on Water and wastewater sector development).

# Reforms Driving Forces

Increasing demand and short supply are driving legislative and institutional reforms and development.

Projected Water Demand: supply does not meet current and future demands.

Scarcity of Supply: a big gap between the projected demand and the existing supply.

Water Institutions: represent the driving force behind changes in the overall management of the water sector.

# Growing Water Demand

<b>Additional Supply</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Total Water Demand</b>	<b>Available Water</b>	<b>Additional Supply*</b>
<b>2000</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>212</b>
<b>2005</b>	<b>622</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>343</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>444</b>



# Water Sector Status

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- Water Resources
- Water Demand
- Water Supply
- Coverage
- Infrastructure Development
- Wastewater
- Water Tariff

# Institutional Status

## **Institutional and Human Resources Constraints:**

This is characterized by organizational, technical, administrative, and logistic weaknesses, a lack of flexibility and bureaucratic limitations, general inefficiency, over-employment, and high salary rates relative to the total expenses.

**Lack of Coordination between Related Institutions:** This deficiency has resulted in a failure to integrate the various economic sectors in Palestine and has had a negative effect on the overall efficiency of water services and use and the inter-related water issues and aspects in Palestine as a whole.



- ❁ **Financial Constraints:**

- ❁ Most of water-related institutions suffer from severe financial deficits and a lack of funds, which limits both development and the extent and quality of delivered services.

- ❁ **High Percentage of Unaccounted for Water:**

This percentage which ranges between 25-55% of the total water supply are mainly a result of deteriorated water infrastructure, illegal practices of the part of consumers, and metering problems.



- ❁ **Ineffective Fee Collection Practices:**


- ❁ The prevailing social, economic, and political conditions in Palestine have resulted in many public groups refusing or un-able to pay their water bills to the service providers.

- ❁ **Contradictory Taxing and Pricing Procedures:**

- ❁ The methods of calculating unit costs and prices are not standardized. Most service providers do not keep proper financial records or registers of assets.

- ❁ **Cost Recovery and Operational Performance:**

Cost recovery including operation and maintenance costs, capital costs, the costs of environmental protection, and the costs reserved for future development of the water infrastructure has not been accomplished by the service providers, very few achieve the operation and maintenance cost recovery

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- ❁ **Political and Water Availability Uncertainty:**  
The Israeli control over the Palestinian water resources and infrastructure development had resulted in poor capacity building in the water sector, limited rural development, poor if not negative economic growth, an increase in poverty, poor health and sanitation conditions, and physical and human environment deterioration in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.






- ❁ **Government Involvement and Bureaucratic Control:**

The institutional reforms need to be structured in nature and to include legal reforms which should insure that the PWA and other PA organs synchronize their policies, plans, and actions.


- ❁ **Water Infrastructure:**

The water infrastructure in Palestine is characterized by the existence of disjointed remote sites and locations thus it will take extreme efforts, considerable time, and large amounts of money to turn it into a reliable and integrated national water system.

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- ❁ **Water-Related Environmental Consideration:**  
Environmental considerations are of critical importance as far as people, their resources, and sustainable economic growth are concerned. They therefore need to be given due consideration in the future water sector institutional reforms.
  - ❁ **Palestinian-Israeli Joint Water Committee:**
  - ❁ The JWC, throughout its Ten years of existence, has been considered by the Palestinian side a cause of further and continuous suffering due to the fact that what was agreed upon was never accomplished, this in addition of being an obstacle for infrastructure development in Palestine.

# Legal and Institutional

- ◉ Summary
- ◉ **1- The Legal and Institutional framework for water sector management and development in Palestine are in place.**
- ◉ **2-The National Water Council should be restructured and activated to take its role.**
- ◉ **3- PWA should be empowered as the responsible institution for water sector national planning to guide the water sector development.**
- ◉ **4- The gap between supply and demand is driving development actions at the institutional and infrastructure level.**

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- 5- The Institutional reforms in the water sector should be given priority in action.**
  - 6- Enforcement of Law and regulations.**
  - 7- Securing Palestinian Water rights should be given utmost priority.**
  - 8- Treated wastewater reuse to fulfill agricultural demands.**
  - 9- Funds are required for water supply and wastewater infrastructures.**
  - 10- Capacity building and training for service providers.**

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- ❁ **The continued Israeli occupation of Palestine and the presence of the Israeli illegal settlements on the Palestinian land have tremendous negative impacts on all aspects of the Palestinians life and is demeaning Palestinian political sovereignty and preventing any regional interconnections whilst preventing the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, the Israeli settlements stand as a barrier in front of the defining of the potentiality for future socioeconomic development and the absolute future needs, in terms of water and land, of the ever-growing population in Palestine.**



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Thank you very much