

Water governance: toward a model to address global water needs

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Abstract. No one can dispute that water resources must be managed responsibly because they are essential to life and limited in their capacity to meet all human and environmental needs. To achieve responsible management requires good policy, capable organizations and workforces, adequate resources, and regulation.

This set of controls is referred to as water governance, which is required for all water management sectors with the goal of water stewardship by empowering and regulating sectors such as drinking water and sanitation. The paper will explain water governance and offer a framework for it that is based on the premise that water stewardship requires an effective combination of management and governance. It will give examples, link the success of governance to sustainability in water resources management, and outline the major issues faced in different scenarios around the world. The paper draws from the first volume of a new book series being launched by IWA Publishing with the author as the series editor.

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