JEDIC Journal of Ethics and Diversity in International Communication

| e-ISSN: 2792-4017 | www.openaccessjournals.eu | Volume: 1 Issue: 4

Economic Bases for Improving the Use of Water Management Systems on Irrigated Lands in Market Conditions

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ABSTRACT: This article discusses the technical and economic problems of the use of water and land resources, provides comprehensive analyzes of the economic aspects of improving the use of water management systems in a market economy. The ways of rational use and effective management of irrigated land use systems are determined.

KEYWORDS: land, water, irrigated land, use, resource, legal, regulatory, water management, system, agriculture, effect.

The problem of irrigated water use in agriculture implies the use of land and water resources in a mutually agreed manner. Their inseparable cohesiveness requires the efficient use of land and water resources. In fact, in irrigated agriculture, land and water are the main means of production, while in the whole, they are both the object of labor and the means of labor.

Due to the chemical, physical properties of water, which is taken from the source of irrigation and sent to the nutrient layer of the soil, it affects the plant and ensures its biological growth.

At present, irrigation systems in the country are financed by the state and serve agricultural enterprises. In this regard, reclamation organizations carry out operation and construction work within the framework of unplanned plans and estimates in the conditions of frequent changes in the economic activity of agricultural enterprises. This makes it difficult to accurately account for the results of agricultural producers in the system of financing reclamation measures.

Theoretically, it is difficult to determine which of these two resources (water and land) is sustainable in irrigated agriculture. When studying land resources in irrigated areas, we no doubt consider that they are used in conjunction with water. Also, in solving the problem of use of land and water resources in agriculture, of course, we must take into account the scale and level of their use in the studied areas.

At present, scientists are conducting research to develop a single document for the harmonious use of land and water resources. It is difficult to find a solution to this problem due to the interdependence of land and water resources. Each of them has its own place in solving global problems as an object and subject of research [5].

Today, you will not find a single country that does not fulfill its economic function. These include, first of all, the functions of creating the legal basis for ensuring the effective functioning of the market economy, the redistribution of income and material wealth, and the stabilization of the economy.

In conducting economic policy, the state uses legal regulations of economic activity, including legal documents such as the promotion of healthy competition, protection of consumers and the environment in order to prevent monopolistic policies.They mainly belong to the following areas:

bank list;

tax system, tax benefits and financial sanctions;

regulatory system;

budget allocation;

targeted socio-economic and investment programs and others.

It is known that water resources are the property of the Republic of Uzbekistan. This means that prices need to be regulated by the state in a centralized manner, setting economic standards for water use. On the one hand, such an arrangement prevents the plundering of economically and physically limited resources and unjustified high profits, on the other hand, it contributes to the development and protection of water resources at the expense of the state as a whole [7].

ISSN 2792-4017 (online), Published under Volume:1 Issue: 4 in September-2021

In a market economy, the formation of economic relations in the field of water use in irrigated agriculture is the most important component of economic reforms. Its level of development depends on the rational use of water management systems and the efficiency of its management.

In general, the goal of reforming economic relations in the field of water management is to create a new mechanism of territorial governance in all spheres of material production and to fully implement the principles of trade relations [8].

This reform is closely linked with the establishment of new forms of organization of operational activities for water supply, the organization of joint-stock companies. However, it is difficult to introduce them in the water sector for the following reasons:

first, despite the fact that the water sector has a very large production base, it is not sufficiently formalized as an independent sector of the economy;

secondly, enterprises have not yet achieved economic independence and do not have sufficient conditions to operate on their own;

thirdly, the current state of water management is related to the use of land and water natural resources, the issue of property is not legally or economically fully resolved;

and finally, fourthly, this last and foremost factor is that the nature of the network activity, on the one hand, means its monopolistic nature, and on the other hand, means that the activity is socially oriented. This necessitates the participation of the state in the activities of water management.

The situation is exacerbated by the fact that the current free use of water resources is one of the main reasons for the critical environmental situation in many water bodies of the country and the acute territorial problems of water supply to the economy.

The spread of the world market, the reduction of budget funding, the fact that all used resources are paid directly by consumers, the partially modernized management and management of water resources in river basins over the past decades, as a single source of funding due to environmental, economic and social problems the water management system is still not able to fully perform the tasks assigned to it. The scope of economic activity of water management enterprises is differentiated by the departments of water resources funds, the system of payments for water use and the most accurate statistical reports on water economy of industrial enterprises on the economy of the Republic of Tajikistan exaggerates.

The most important economic aspects of high productivity of land and water resources in irrigated lands are the widespread introduction of the most advanced farming methods as an integral part of economic accounting and the development of agricultural resources [9].

At present, all irrigation systems in the country are being built and operated by the state. Water management organizations are financed from the state budget without establishing contractual relations with water consumers.

Agriculture provides water to consumers free of charge according to their requirements. As a result, the actual cost of agricultural products is declining, and the net income of water companies is increasing in the amount of government spending on irrigation.

During the years of independence, a number of measures have been taken to radically reform the country's water management.

According to the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated April 17, 2018 № 5418, separate Ministries of Agriculture and Water Resources were established on the basis of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of Uzbekistan [2]. According to the Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, in order to establish market relations at all levels of water use, a flexible centralized administrative-territorial method of water management has been introduced. The creation of a two-tier water management system in the country through the establishment of the Basin-Based Irrigation Management Basin (BIMB) and the Water Consumers' Association (WCA) is an important part of the ongoing agricultural reform [3].

Groundwater management is the responsibility of a specially authorized body in coordination with the State Committee for Land and Geodetic Cadastre. In 1999, the State Water Inspectorate was established, whose main task was to inspect the country's major irrigation and drainage infrastructure and to make proposals to the government to rehabilitate and improve them, as well as to address their shortcomings.

ISSN 2792-4017 (online), Published under Volume:1 Issue: 4 in September-2021

According to the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On water and water use", the main responsibilities of water management organizations include [1]:

implementation of state management of groundwater resources on the basis of basin systems of irrigation systems and the introduction of market trends at all levels of water use;

Implementation of measures to improve the reclamation of old irrigated lands and development of new lands:

participation in the implementation of investment policy in agriculture, water and forestry;

ensuring strict compliance with land and water use legislation;

policy in the sector of agriculture and water resources;

introduction of new technologies in the field of agriculture and water resources;

coordination of the activities of service providers and enterprises operating on market economy trends;

investing in irrigation and land reclamation systems to improve water resources management;

development of rules of procedure for conducting policy and conducting activities for basin management organizations;

Despite the incentive functions of the measures taken for the effective management of water management organizations in the process of transition to a market economy, the possibility of normal operation of irrigation systems and facilities of water management organizations in the country is declining.

Due to the inability of state-owned enterprises to cover the large costs of irrigation and drainage systems of independent agricultural enterprises in a declining market environment, the water supply to the farms is in short supply. As a result of agricultural reforms and the splitting of the former collective and state farms (company farms) into many small farms (farms and dehkan farms, etc.), the domestic economy is becoming more and more important. There is a need for joint use by dehkan farms and other agricultural entities. Due to their importance, these water facilities are public and inseparable, but in many places they have become ownerless.

Nowadays, the protection of the rights of private property owners through the use of irrigation water and irrigation and drainage systems is ensured through the establishment of water consumers' organizations (WCOs). However, the effectiveness of the Water Consumers' Association depends to a large extent on the consistency of the payment for water and the creation of the necessary income base for agricultural producers.

Typically, the government is interested in WSOs to manage the irrigation system and reduce the costs associated with its operation, while WSOs, like farmers, are looking for ways to obtain water and at the same time spend less on these processes. The liquidated companies are not able to receive the necessary funds for their staff and water management activities due to the incompleteness of the legal mechanisms of financing in the Water Consumer Organizations established on the territory.

To do this, it is necessary to improve the status of WSO, sources of funding, as well as legal and regulatory documents aimed at improving water management relations between water consumers [10].

The strategy for the development of economic relations in the water sector is to optimize the tariff and tax policy of the republic without reducing tariffs and tax policy, taking into account the costs required for the operation of fixed assets of water management, the solvency of the population and water users. The low technical condition of fixed assets of water management, the current level of prices for equipment, refined materials and resources, as well as the real solvency of water consumers, the decline in financial support from the state to the sector, as well as its deterioration.

In order to encourage the introduction of water-saving technologies, stratification of tariff rates by categories of water consumers, scarcity of water resources in low water periods, restoration of obsolete funds, etc., are factors such as the rate of depreciation. It is also necessary to clarify (specify) the existing legislation, which has not yet been implemented, which provides for the application of tax and tariff benefits.

It is known that the basis of agricultural production in Uzbekistan is irrigated agriculture. It accounts for more than 90% of the country's agricultural output [4].

Agricultural production is mainly formed by two components and at the same time limits its further development. These include limited land resources and limited water resources, which are expensive to transport to the field.

Nowadays, the integration of water resources management in the world operation, ie the hydrogeographic basin approach and at the same time the transition to the wider involvement of water consumers in this process is developing.

ISSN 2792-4017 (online), Published under Volume:1 Issue: 4 in September-2021

The transition to integrated water resources management involves achieving the following results:

first of all, comprehensive and effective management of water resources, reduction of water losses;

secondly, it leads to the simplification of the network management structure;

In conclusion, it should be noted that in spite of the measures taken in the country to effectively manage water management organizations in a market economy, the following acute problems remain in the water management system today:

physical and mental obsolescence of water infrastructure facilities;

Insufficient incentives for water consumers to save water.

privatization of fixed assets of water economy, lack of water and services market;

Despite the introduction of market elements, the management of water resources, based on the principles inherited from the former system of command and control, has been preserved.

This is due to the fact that inter-farm and on-farm irrigation systems have not yet been privatized, their financing from the budget has been preserved, and the existence of state-owned water resources.

The tasks and responsibilities of water management organizations that guarantee economic stability at the national level in the system of water use of irrigated lands in the conditions of transition to market relations are as follows:

strengthening administrative and civil liability of water consumers for irrational use of water in irrigated agriculture, hydropower and other sectors of the economy;

determination of the monitoring system and the share of the state budget in covering the internal costs required for the operation of water facilities;

to impose obligations on water consumers to maintain the sustainability of water facilities and water bodies of national importance;

improving economic structures, ending unprofitable production and increasing the efficiency of water and land use.

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ISSN 2792-4017 (online), Published under Volume:1 Issue: 4 in September-2021