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ADVANCING THE BLUE REVOLUTION INITIATIVE

QUARTERLY REPORT 8: APRIL - JUNE 2009

JULY 2009

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DISCLAIMER

The authors' views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

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PREFACE

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), through its Washington D.C.-based Bureaus for the Middle East (ME) and for Africa (AFR), and through its Office of Middle East Programs (OMEP) housed in USAID/Egypt, has contracted Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI) to implement a task order called Advancing the Blue Revolution Initiative (ABRI) under the Water Indefinite Quantity Contract II. The effective dates of the contract are May 1, 2007 through April 30, 2010. ABRI is headquartered at DAI's offices in Bethesda, Maryland; it engages technical expertise and subcontractors throughout the Middle East and increasingly in Africa.

DAI submits progress reports three weeks after the close of each quarter providing details on the status of implementation activities. The reports include a discussion of operational problems and policy constraints encountered; proposed solutions; subsequent work plan modifications; and a schedule of activities for the upcoming quarter. DAI provides updates on project finances and expenditure of personnel level of effort directly to USAID and separate from the quarterly reports.

More detailed information on ABRI is available in other reports for readers who may not be familiar with the project. These reports are available from our project offices and USAID.

Peter Reiss
Chief of Party
USAID/Advancing the Blue Revolution Initiative
Development Alternatives, Inc.
July 17, 2009
Bethesda, Maryland, USA

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACWUA	Arab Countries Water Utilities Association
ADWEA	Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Authority
AFR	Bureau for Africa
AFWA	African Water Association
ANE	Bureau for Asia and the Near East
AUB	American University of Beirut
AWCA	Arab Water Council
AWWA	American Water Works Association
BOT	Build Operate Transfer
BRI	Blue Revolution Initiative
CTO	Cognizant Technical Officer
DCA	Development Credit Authority
DSI	Devlet Su Isleri or State Water Works
EQI	Environmental Quality International
CEDARE	Center for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe
EGAT	USAID Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture, and Trade
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (United Nations)
ETIC	Euphrates-Tigris Initiative for Cooperation
GAP	Greater Anatolia Project
GDA	Global Development Alliance
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GOE	Government of Egypt
GTZ	Gesellschaft fuer Technische Zusammenarbeit
GWA	Gender and Water Alliance
GWC	Global Water Challenge
IWA	International Water Association
HIP	USAID Hygiene Improvement Project
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ICARDA	International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas
IDARA	Instituting Water Demand Management in Jordan Program (USAID)
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IP3	Institute for Public-Private Partnerships
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IWA	International Water Association
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
JEWEL	Jordan Education for Water and Environmental Leadership
JUST	Jordan University for Science and Technology
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NWSC	National Water and Sewage Corporation
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
OES	Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs
O/MEA	Office of Middle East Affairs
OMEF	USAID Office of Middle East Programs
ONEP	Office National de l'Eau Potable (Morocco)
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan

PWRF	Philippines Water Revolving Fund Program (USAID)
RAED	Arab Network for Environment and Development
SEEP	Small Enterprise Education Promotion Network
SIWI	Stockholm International Water Institute
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNESCO-IHE	UNESCO – International Water Education Institute
UNISDR	United Nations International Strategy on Disaster Reduction
UNU	United Nations University
WBCSD	World Business Council on Sustainable Development
WEF	Water Environment Federation
WEF	World Economic Forum
WOPs	Water Operator Partnerships
WWC	World Water Council
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Advancing the Blue Revolution Initiative (ABRI) addresses some of the most challenging water issues in the Middle East and Africa: the lack of access by the poor to improved water and sanitation services, inefficient and nonproductive water use, and transboundary river basin management. USAID manages and funds this contract through its Bureaus for the Middle East¹ and for Africa (AFR), and through its Office for Middle East Programs (OMEP) housed in USAID/Egypt. The period of implementation is three years from May 2007 through April 2010. Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI) serves as the prime contractor on the program. DAI implements the program with personnel based in Cairo, Egypt and Bethesda, Maryland and through the engagement of technical expertise and subcontractors throughout the Middle East and Africa.

This report presents the status of implementation for Quarter 8, the period of March through June 2009. The report follows the broad outline stated in the contract. It details the status of implementation activities, problems encountered, and proposed solutions and work plan modifications, schedule of activities for the next quarter, performance per planned targets, and updates on level of effort and budgetary expenditures. As appropriate, each of those main sections is divided in terms of the five major ABRI tasks and respective activities:

- Task 1: Promote Transboundary Water Cooperation to Improve Water Security
- Task 2: Improve Water Resources Management
- Task 3: Improve Water Supply and Sanitation Services
- Task 4: Overarching Program Support
- Task 5: Program Management

Major actions and achievements during the past quarter include the following:

- **Tigris-Euphrates Regional Track 2 Collaboration.** During the period, the activity team met in Damascus, Syria for a first implementation planning meeting. Country leaders from Turkey, Iraq, and Syria spent a three days with the ABRI COP, the activity manager, and research leader from the American University in Beirut to detail activities to carry out the inventory effort, including digitizing a multi-layered map of the region. The occasion was an international conference on decision-support systems organized by the German-Arab Alliance.
- **Identify Opportunities for Improved Aquifer Management in Yemen.** Over the course of two months, the ABRI team has worked closely with experts of the National Water Resources Authority (NWRA) to develop a database that is compatible with NWRA'S Main Database, the National Water Resources Information System (NWRIS). The new database was created in MS Access 2003 and includes a component that stores and coordinates all monitoring parameters for Wadi Buwaysh and Wadi Fuwwah. New monitoring parameters can easily be added without changing the structure of the database. Currently, water related data originating from other authorities are being added as well as data resulting from specific field studies, such as rainfall data, climate data, and ground water data. The well

¹ When ABRI began, the Bureau for the Middle East was part of what was the Bureau for Asia and the Near East (ANE). The abbreviation ANE is used frequently in program documents.

and spring inventory survey of Wadi Buwaysh and Wadi Fuwwah in Hadhramout Government is being conducted in accordance with NWRA's guidelines. For tabulation and analysis, all data collected from well inventory survey were entered into the database using the Microsoft Access Data Base program adopted by NWRA.

- **Support the Arab Countries Water Utilities Association (ACWUA).** During the period, ABRI management met with the ACWUA secretariat twice in Amman in partnership with the International Water Association, which is jointly implementing the efforts. The ACWUA board of directors approved a joint plan of IWA, ABRI and GTZ to assist ACWUA. ABRI has taken responsibility for expanding the ACWUA business plan and carried out a first visit to Amman to initiate the expansion. The trip was very successful and led to agreement on a mission statement and vision. They also agreed to follow-up meetings in The Hague and Stockholm. The Holland meeting will include all parties and focus on knowledge and communications for ACWUA. The Stockholm meeting at the World Water Week will include a panel on water operator partnerships that was conceived by ABRI and a session of association leaders that is being organized by IWA.
- **Commercialization through Water Users Associations.** During the period, the team held workshops in Egypt and Morocco to develop business plans with water user associations. The first workshop was held in Egypt in April. The workshops resulted in forming two draft business models for each of the two WUAs. Several brainstorming sessions were held in June with board members of the two associations and participants the Irrigation Advisory Service, GTZ and extension service for drafting the business plans. In Morocco, ABRI's team held meeting in Marrakech in May. The workshop resulted in two draft business models for each of the two WUAs in Al-Fateh and Al-Sultanya.
- **Morocco Wastewater Reuse for Agriculture.** Currently, almost no urban areas in Morocco have wastewater treatment facilities for agricultural reuse. A notable exception is the Meknes wastewater treatment plant, located a few kilometers north of the city of Meknes. The facility includes a piped sewage network, run-off collectors, and treatment plant that was completed in late 2008 after nearly a decade of design and construction and an investment of \$70 million. The plant has nine football-stadium sized lagoons for primary treatment spread over 35 hectares. Once treated, wastewater will be discharged into the nearby river. Raw wastewater is dumped directly into the river, causing health problems for the community and farmers who depend on the river for irrigation and washing. In response, ABRI, during the quarter, completed a study of wastewater reuse for agriculture in Meknes. USAID/Morocco has requested the technical services of the ABRI to assist the Government of Morocco in identifying and assessing options for wastewater reuse for agriculture in the Meknes region. In close partnership with water agencies involved in Meknes, ABRI established the design of an innovative pilot project to evaluate options for reusing wastewater in agriculture. The Wali (Governor) established a Coordination Committee, which includes the principal agencies in the water sector, to participate in this project. The USAID/ABRI team, in close partnership with the water agencies involved, completed the pilot project study and organized a workshop.
- **Future Water Leaders Program.** ABRI conducted an extensive market analysis and mapping of over 20 leadership and water training organizations and programs that are based in the US, Europe and Middle East. The mapping, completed in early July, assessed the organizations' core competency and strategic fit with our Future Water Leaders program vision for the future. LEAD International and UNESCO-IHE were identified as key partners in our new conceptual model for the Future Water Leaders Program.

- **Fostering Partnerships.** ABRI launched its strategic partnership with RAED – the Arab Network for Environment and Development – at the co-sponsored Climate Change and Natural Disaster Reduction workshop, held in Rabat, Morocco on May 28-29, 2009. A press release was issued in English and Arabic to the Moroccan, Algerian and Tunisian media as well as via USAID Washington press contacts. ABRI actively engaged the International Water Association (IWA) and Arab Countries Water Utilities Association (ACWUA) to contribute to the success of the workshop by providing speakers, international and regional best practices and materials to the multi-stakeholder discussions.
- **Africa WASH Trainings.** ABRI continued implementation of a host of activities for the Africa Bureau, including design and delivery of the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Overview Course in Maputo, Mozambique in May and Dakar, Senegal in June. The purpose of the training is to increase the knowledge and skills of mission staff to design and integrate WASH programming into mission portfolios.
- **Utility Twinings in the Middle East and Africa.** The basic strategy of the utility twinings in the Middle East and Africa is to improve the performance of water and sanitation operators by facilitating partnerships that produce more systematic knowledge exchange. Water Operator Partnerships, (WOPs) are based on the premise that direct collaboration among operators at regional, sub-regional and national levels promotes “learning by doing” and spreads best practices. In this way, WOPs better equip key players to meet the challenges posed by the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in drinking water supply and sanitation. To be effective and sustainable, WOP partnership initiatives must be owned and managed by the utilities themselves. ABRI is supporting exploratory WOPs that will be followed by more extensive partnerships managed in conjunction with the African Water Association (AfWA), the utility trade association which covers the entire continent. In the Middle East, ABRI initiated a twining between Lebanon and the Philippines by making plans for the chief of party of the USAID Revolving Fund Program in Manila to spend two weeks in Beirut exploring opportunities for and interest in introducing innovative financial tools to increase domestic investment in the water sector. However, the effort was postponed until a current procurement by USAID/Lebanon is completed.
- **USAID Programming Guidelines Manual.** A team of water, sanitation, and hygiene experts from ABRI and the Hygiene Improvement Project (HIP) continued their efforts during the period to develop a manual for USAID missions to design new programs in water, sanitation, and hygiene. The team identified more than 60 interventions that can be used as a foundation for program construction. The team is working closely with USAID, most especially Carl Mitchell and Marc Andreini on the design.
- **G8 Support.** The G8 regard involvement in water supply and sanitation activities as essential to the core development agenda and central to all eight of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In particular, the G8 support Target 10 of MDG 7 which aims to, by 2015, halve the number of people without sustainable access to improved water supply and sanitation. At the 2003 Summit in Evian-les-bains (France) the G8 launched the Evian Water Action Plan (EWAP) to raise water issues to the highest level of political attention. During the summit, G8 members committed themselves to addressing the lack of basic water supply and sanitation services with a strategic and comprehensive approach. Since 2003, the G8 have reiterated the political commitments made concerning water and sanitation at Gleneagles in 2005, and in Hokkaido, Japan in 2008, where they formed a Water Expert group to review the EWAP. In Japan, in recognition of the 2008 International

Year of Sanitation, the G8 decided to focus the implementation of the EWAP on Sub Saharan Africa (SSA) and singled out sanitation as a priority issue. The EWAP progress report supports this decision, noting that while some advances toward achieving the water supply and sanitation targets have been made in the past five years, the gains have been uneven both regionally and thematically. In particular, SSA requires more focused efforts towards meeting the sanitation MDG. While the EWAP remains the guiding framework for action, the G8 has proposed the development of a partnership with Africa to direct attention and resources towards meeting the water supply and sanitation targets.

- **International Outreach.** ABRI finalized the agenda and speakers for the upcoming August 2009 World Water Week seminars: “Unpacking the Business Case for Microfinance for Water and Sanitation” and “Impact of Collaboration in the Tigris-Euphrates Region”. The team also secured the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as the financial co-sponsor (\$6,000) for the ETIC seminar and engaged the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation as content co-sponsor for the Microfinance seminar, helping to involve the Finnish Embassy in Ethiopia and WASTE, groups ABRI has not worked with before. In collaboration with RAED, IWA, and UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, ABRI has committed to co-author a paper for the African Water Association 15th congress that documents the process for creating a national multi-stakeholder climate change engagement program, building off the RAED climate change workshop held in Morocco in May of 2009.

1. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES

TASK 1: PROMOTE TRANSBOUNDARY WATER COOPERATION TO IMPROVE WATER SECURITY

Activity 1.1: Design a Track 2 Shared Initiative by Riparians on the Tigris-Euphrates

Activity Manager: Faisal Rifai (DAI)

Three teams of experts were formed and to examine publicly available data from all sources for developing an inventory, identifying the types of data available, and listing and cataloging them with details for possible cross-referencing. Framework for data harmonization has been established based on the consistency of data collection and analysis.

- Existing data was located for Iraq, Syria and Turkey. The inventory has been focused on, but not limited to, available digital data. Emphasis has been placed on cataloging natural resource and socioeconomic data themes. According to the availability of existing data sets, gaps have been explored with a view to determine the basis for future efforts. Standard data formats were established to synthesize data among the three countries. The experts in Iraq, Syria and Turkey have developed lists of identified data to be stored in a common database with standardized formats. The ETIC activity was highlighted in an Arabic article written by Faisal Rifai for the May issue of the magazine "Muntada Albeeat".
- Meetings were held in Beirut, Lebanon on May 25, 2009 between the ABRI/ETIC activity representatives and the AUB representative to discuss the details of the input of AUB in the activity
- ABRI and ETIC organized a side event in May 26, 2009 in the ACSAD/BGR conference in Sednaya, Damascus. ETIC representatives from Iraq, Syria, Turkey and Lebanon presented information about the two initiatives and the joint activity was presented to the participants in the conference. The participants of the conference expressed great interest in the activity and asked a number of thoughtful questions following the presentations.
- National teams in Iraq, Syria, and Turkey held several meetings in their home countries to discuss the compilation of data and the design of future work.
- Team coordination meetings were convened in Damascus on 25-27 May, 2009 and the ABRI Project Manager and AUB partner participated. The objectives of the meetings were to discuss the progress of the ongoing effort and plan for next steps. A framework for Task 4: Capacity Building was prepared and a tentative budget for the needs of next steps was established.
- Meetings were held in Aleppo from June 2 to 6, 2009 with ICARDA representatives. During this time, a seminar on the ETIC/ABRI activity was presented to ICARDA personnel and a group of trainees from Arab countries.

Proposed for the coming period:

To complete Task 2 by October of 2009, data sheets will be revised and the inventory will be developed and enhanced to account for variances in data content, coverage, producer, accuracy, and sources. Establishing a common standard on a searchable website and framework for the harmonization will be discussed in Ankara on July 5-7, 2009. The objectives of the planned second coordination team meetings will be:

- Finalize the production of ET multi-layer maps
- Facilitate collaboration among different languages, prepare a list in three languages of all major locations (town, cities, governorates mountains, rivers, dams, hydraulic structures etc) with correct writing and pronunciations
- Identify the common Euphrates-Tigris region data that will be used for data harmonization
- Define data gaps and share findings with experts
- Propose simple common GIS project for the Euphrates-Tigris region
- Introduce the Iraqis and Syrians team members to the Turkish team

A seminar in Stockholm's World Water Week has been planned for August 20, 2009. The Activity Manager has prepared the text and agenda for the upcoming WWW ETIC/ABRI/UNDP. The agenda was based on contacts made by the Activity Manager with UNESCO, ICARDA, IJC and UNDP to invite speakers from these organizations.

TASK 2: IMPROVE WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Activity 2.2: Identify Opportunities for Improved Aquifer Management in Yemen

Activity Manager: Ali Farhan (HydroYemen).

From March 17 to April 10, 2009, our technical team started the field work component of Tasks 1 and 2: well inventory and monitoring network of Wadi Buwaysh and Wadi Fuwwah in Hadhramout Government. The team conducted a series of technical and administrative interviews and meetings with all relevant local authorities in the Hadhramout government, including the governor. After splitting into two groups, the team spent the remaining field period surveying and gathering data on existing wells and springs in the area. A unified technical form was developed to record 18 parameters for each of the existing wells and springs such as GPS reading, water levels, PH and EC values. The ABRI team also trained local staff on activities that have been undertaken on the site. In both wadis, a total of 213 well, 53 springs, and 35 water harvest structures have been surveyed. The team is currently transferring the collected data to the database.

Proposed for the coming period:

Work on the final task (task 4: Groundwater Modeling) will commence in July of 2009. This task will assess aquifer opportunities for actions in the two wadis of Hadramout/Yemen. Work will include updating the estimates on annual recharge and discharge, making predictions for groundwater table changes, assessing the general flow direction of groundwater, and examining the possibility of interference of groundwater aquifers layers both horizontally and vertically. The activity deliverables will be submitted by the end next of September.

Activity 2.3: Integrate Irrigation Water User Participation into the Latest Commercialization and Private Sector Management Thinking

Activity Manager: Amer Jabarin (ECO Consult).

In April and May, the team visited Egypt and Morocco to:

- Organize the first Multi-stakeholders workshop in Egypt – Kafer El-Sheikh during 27-28, April 2009.
- Organize the first Multi-stakeholders workshop in Morocco - Marrakech during May 12-13, 2009.
- Prepare business models and business plans for two selected WUA in the Egypt and Morocco following the commencement of the two workshops in the two countries.
- Work with local and international organizations in the two countries on building cooperation and partnerships with the WUA.

The main achievements of the visits can be summarized as follows:

Egypt

- The first Workshop was held in Egypt during April 27-28, 2009 in Kafr El-Sheikh. The workshop was attended by more 50 participants from the WUAs members, Irrigation Advisory Service (IAS), Extension Department, Crop Life International -Egypt, Life Project (a USAID funded project), Alexandria Business Association, and other participants from the local community. The workshops resulted in forming two draft business models for each of the two WUAs.
- Several brainstorming sessions were held during June 10-20, 2009 in Kafr-El-Sheikh with board members of the two associations and participants from IAS, GTZ and extension service for drafting the business plans. Ouiam Lahlou attended the workshop to help facilitate the brainstorming sessions and to learn from the gained experience in Egypt to organize for the upcoming sessions in Morocco during August 2009.

Morocco

- Met with USAID/Morocco: Jaoud Bahaji who oversees the activity for the mission
- Met key stakeholders from the private sector and relevant authorities in Rabat, Casablanca and Marrakech;
- Held in Marrakech from May 12-13, 2009. The workshop was attended by more 50 participants from the WUAs members, ORMVA, Extension Department, Crop Life International - Morocco, Agribusiness Project (a USAID funded project), Drip Irrigation Association, and other participants from the local community. As in the case of Egypt, the workshop resulted in forming two draft business models for each of the two WUAs in Al-Fateh and Al-Sultanya.

Proposed for the coming period:

- Complete two business plans for the selected WUAs in Kafer El-Shiekh (Al-Bayda and Um Henish). The two business plans will be presented in one report scheduled for completion by the end of July, 2009.
- Organize brainstorming sessions in Marrakech - Morocco to prepare the two business models and business plans for the two selected WUA. The sessions are scheduled to take place in August 2009 which should result in drafting the main components of the business plans. A report that contains the two business plans will be ready before the end of August.

TASK 3: IMPROVE WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION SERVICES

Activity 3.1: Support the Arab Countries Water Utilities Association

Activity Manager: Peter Reiss (DAI)

The ABRI team, along with IWA representatives, held a meeting with ACWUA Secretary General in the headquarters in Amman. The meeting discussed the joint activities and corresponding work plan that ABRI and IWA are currently implementing to support ACWUA. The meeting discussed the following points:

- New Structure of ACWUA Working Groups. It was agreed that ABRI, in partnership with IWA, will support the formation and establishment of scope of work for the technical working groups in ACWUA.
- Business Planning. It was agreed that ABRI business planning experts Philip Giantris and Ahmad Nizam will start working on the expansion of ACWUA business plan.
- Communication and Knowledge Management. It was agreed that ABRI will prepare the terms of reference for short term Communications and Knowledge Management consultants. They will work on preparing communications strategy and knowledge management strategy and will work in close collaboration with the business planning team as well as ACWUA program director.
- Funding from other programs and proposals to UN-Habitat and the Islamic Bank. It was agreed that ABRI will prepare 3 proposals for 3 different activities for ACWUA to be presented to UN-Habitat and Islamic Bank for funding.
- Meeting in The Hague on Business Planning with Communications and Knowledge Management Experts on 21-23 July. IWA arranged for the meeting which will include ABRI business planning team, ACWUA Secretary General and GTZ advisor. ABRI will be financially covering the participation of ACWUA in the event (logistics and travel).
- Communication Plan for Activity - Monthly Progress Updates and Calls. It was agreed that periodic meetings reporting progress on the schedule of activities will be held through ECO Consult with ACWUA team and GTZ advisor.
- Utilities Questionnaire – Profiling ACWUA Member Utilities. IWA representative Tom Williams provided ABRI with a questionnaire for utilities in Africa that will be tailored to incorporate the suitable profiling information needed to cater for the needs of ABRI's business planning team, knowledge management and communications consultants and the technical working groups. This questionnaire is expected to be circulated among the members of ACWUA.
- Participation of ACWUA in the World Water Week in Stockholm August 2009. It was agreed that ABRI will support the participation of ACWUA Secretary General at the WWW in August.
- Participation of ACWUA in Upcoming Climate Change Workshops to be held in Egypt tentatively in October 2009 and the AmCham Conference on Water, Energy and Environment to be held tentatively in October 2009. It was agreed that ABRI will support the participation of ACWUA in these events.

A follow up meeting was held by ACWUA attended by ACWUA secretary general, GTZ advisor and ABRI representative, to report the progress on schedule of activities. Discussion points included the formal launching event of ACWUA to be held on July 30-31. ABRI will facilitate the meetings on the first day of the event, and ABRI business planning expert, Philip Giantris is expected to present to the Board of Directors the outline of the expanded business plan up to this point of time. Furthermore, ABRI is expected to support the participation of ACWUA Board members in the launching event.

ABRI, through its partnership with ECO Consult, prepared the scope of work for the Program Director position in ACWUA. The position is expected to be filled during the month of July. The director will work with ABRI's team of experts on the technical working groups, their structure and tasks.

The ABRI team prepared the terms of reference for short term Communications and Knowledge Management consultants. They will work on preparing communications strategy and knowledge management strategy and will work in close collaboration with the business planning team as well as ACWUA program director once they are hired.

ABRI business planning team (Philip Giantris and Ahmad Nizam) conducted a visit to ACWUA during the period of June 19-23. The team conducted consultation sessions with ACWUA Secretary General and GTZ advisor to set the base for working on expanding ACWUA's business plan.

Proposed for the coming period:

- Engage the ABRI business planning team and short term communications and knowledge management consultants with the ACWUA appointed program director to finalize the expanded business plan, including a communications and knowledge management strategies.
- Participate in the official launch of ACWUA on July 30-31. ABRI will facilitate the meetings on the first day of the event, and ABRI business planning expert, Philip Giantris is expected to present to the Board of Directors the outline of the expanded business plan up to this point of time. Furthermore, ABRI will provide the facilitator, Ra'ed Daoud, for the meeting of the ACWUA Board members in the launching event on 31 July.
- Provide support to ACWUA technical working groups (scopes of work, approach and communication plan) contingent on their formation.
- Participate of ABRI and covering the participation of ACWUA Secretary General in the business planning meeting to be held in the Hague during the period of 21-23 July 2009.
- Support the participation of ACWUA in the World Water Week in Stockholm in August 2009.

Activity 3.2: Support the Egypt Regulatory Agency

Activity Manager: Peter Reiss (ABRI COP)

There were no implementation efforts during the period.

Proposed for the coming period:

The COP will meet with Mohamed El Alfy, director of the Egyptian Water Regulatory Agency, to discuss how best to use the remaining funding in the activity.

Activity 3.4: Develop a Utility Twinning Relationship in the Middle East

Activity Manager: Peter Reiss (ABRI COP)

At the request of the Bureau for the Middle East, ABRI initiated an effort to explore the opportunities for using innovative financial tools in Lebanon, working closely with Ministry of Finance and the south Lebanon Water Establishment. It carried out initial discussions in Beirut in May and recruited a team of two experts, including the chief of party of the USAID Revolving Fund Project in the Philippines, Alma Porciuncula, and Roger Melki, a financial expert. Together, they were to explore the interest in the government and the private sector in initiating innovative financial tools, including a revolving fund, to stimulate domestic investment in the water sector. They were also to assess the appropriateness of the Philippines model now underway and suggests alternatives, if necessary. The deliverables included: presentation on the Manila revolving fund to be given to the government and at USAID and a report detailing the objectives of the assignment, the substance of all interview with all contact information included in an annex, options for the future with interest found, next steps. However, the visit was postponed indefinitely in consultation the USAID after it became clear that USAID/Lebanon was entering into a major new procurement in the sector at the time.

Proposed for the coming period:

Once the award is made, ABRI will determine if this activity is still worth pursuing.

Activity 3.4: Develop a Twinning Relationship in Africa

Activity personnel: Jeremy Hagger (ABRI DCOP)

From April to June, ABRI supported USAID's Africa Water team by holding preliminary discussions with selected East African water utilities regarding the possibility of establishing a Water Operator Partnership (WOP). USAID has recently announced its intention to support AfWA.

In May, Jeremy Hagger, ABRI's DCOP, participated in preliminary discussions between USAID's Africa Water Team Chief and USAID's senior water and sanitation advisor in Southern Sudan regarding the establishment of a WOP program for the water utilities in the region. Agreement was reached in principle, and the advisor noted that Mission funding might be available to continue the effort at the conclusion of ABRI's support. Later, the DCOP participated in parallel discussions, also led by USAID's Africa Water Team Chief, with the Managing Director of Uganda's National Water & Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) regarding their participation in a WOP with Southern Sudan. The Managing Director, William Muhairwe, confirmed NWSC's interest and stated the relevance of the current USAID-supported NWSC water and sanitation program in northern Uganda. Mr. Muhairwe pointed out the ethnic and linguistic similarities between the people of Northern Uganda and Southern Sudan. Further, he stated that the type of post conflict work that NWSC's employees in Northern Uganda had just completed would be relevant to the rebuilding efforts now underway in Southern Sudan.

Proposed for the coming period:

The twinning activities will continue in 2009 with addition meetings in Africa. NWSC initially offered to host a meeting of USAID and the parties in Kampala in June to discuss further

aspects of establishing a WOP. Although NWSC suggested a late June date for such a meeting, the Southern Sudan utility was unable to mobilize its representatives in time. ABRI is in communication with the parties to re-set the meeting for September 2009 in Kampala. Further arrangements will be discussed with NWSC at the Stockholm Water Week where the Managing Director has indicated that he will be in attendance.

TASK 4: OVERARCHING PROGRAM SUPPORT

Activity 4.1: Future Water Leaders Program (Manar Fayyad, DAI)

ABRI conducted an extensive market analysis of leadership and water training organizations and programs that are based in the US, Europe and Middle East. The mapping assessed over 20 organizations and their core competency and strategic fit with our Future Water Leaders program vision for the future. LEAD International and UNESCO-IHE were identified as the key partners to pursue in our new conceptual model for this program.

Proposed for the coming period:

Meetings with LEAD International and UNESCO-IHE are scheduled for July to discuss curriculum development, budgets, and a Memorandum of Understanding for collaboration. A workplan detailing the partnership outputs should be articulated by beginning of September. In collaboration with IWA, we will also convene a meeting with other interested parties, in August at World Water Week, to discuss the creation of a possible Leadership for Water and Sanitation coalition to promote leadership training in the sector on a wider scale.

Activity 4.2: Mobilize Private Sector and Foundation Involvement in ABRI Activities

Activity Managers: Kristina Kohler (Public-Private Partnership Specialist, DAI) and Nemat Guenena (Public-Private Partnership Specialist, EQI)

RAED Climate Change Workshop: ABRI launched its strategic partnership with RAED – the Arab Network for Environment and Development – and co-sponsored RAED's second Climate Change and Natural Disaster Reduction workshop, held in Rabat, Morocco on May 28-29, 2009. The strategic partnership was announced to the workshop participants, including media professionals from Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia and via a press release in English and Arabic that was distributed by USAID's Washington headquarters and the Moroccan mission press offices. ABRI's contribution to the workshop was not only by providing financial support but also by tapping its strategic partnership with the International Water Association (IWA). IWA provided materials to the workshop and sponsored presenter Carol Howe, climate change and water expert from Sydney Water, to share lessons learned and new approaches from Australia that are relevant to Morocco. ABRI also involved the Arab Countries Water Utility Association (ACWUA) in the multi-stakeholder workshop. Mr. Samir Bensaid, Executive Director of the Office National de l'Eau Potable (ONEP), and Mokhtar Jaait represented ACWUA actively in the workshop, and declared the event to be a launching pad for ACWUA's work on climate change as well as its collaboration with RAED in the national hotspots project.

ETIC Activity: ABRI secured \$6,000 from UNDP to underwrite the Syrian participation in the ETIC seminar at World Water Week.

World Water Week: ABRI secured \$8,000 from USAID's Development Credit Authority (DCA) to underwrite the USAID booth and Microfinance seminar at World Water Week.

Proposed for the coming period:

RAED Climate Change Workshop: ABRI and IWA will draft a solicitation letter and conduct outreach meetings to private sector targets to jointly (a) fundraise for the next Climate Change and Natural Disaster Reduction Workshop scheduled for October 2009, in Cairo, Egypt, and (b) generate interest, investment and involvement in the follow-on national hot spot projects. Furthermore, ABRI will co-author a paper with IWA and United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) documenting the process for the African Water Association (AfWA) climate change congress in Kampala, March 2010.

ETIC Activity: ABRI will discuss with Mirey Atallah from UNDP the possibility of additional support for ETIC. We will also discuss with Leshia Witmer, consultant to World Wildlife Fund (WWF) possible introduction to Norwegian international aid contacts as well as opportunities to involve Women for Water Partnership members in the region.

Activity 4.3: Support the Annual Water for the Poor Act Report to Congress

Activity Manager: Kristina Kohler (DAI)

ABRI managed the design and production of the 2009 Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act congressional report. A printed version as well as a 508 compliant online version was delivered to the US State Department on June 30, 2009.

Proposed for the coming period:

200 glue-bound copies of the final report for 2009 will be delivered to the US State Department on Monday, July 20, 2009.

Activity 4.4: WASH Training Sessions for USAID Missions in Africa

Activity Manager: Kathy Alison (Training Resources Group)

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Overview training course
ABRI staff continued to design, organize, plan and then facilitate two deliveries of the. The first delivery of the course was in Maputo, Mozambique (18-22 May) and the second delivery was in Dakar, Senegal (1-5 June). The course will be delivered for the third time in Nairobi in October / November (TBD). ABRI (including Jeremy Hagger, Del McCluskey, and Walter Weaver from DAI, and Kathy Alison and Patricia Garcia from TRG) held a series of design and planning meetings with USAID trainers (including Carl Mitchell, Merri Weinger, Sharon Murray, Heather Skilling, Jay Graham, and Marc Andreini) during the quarter to develop detailed designs for each session that integrated adult education and experiential learning approaches into the design.

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, USAID staff are able to:

- Describe why the WASH sector is important for USAID

- Discuss and apply institutional and legal requirements to USAID programming in the WASH sector
- Examine proven interventions in Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene that are available to accomplish WASH objectives
- Plan how to apply USAID resources and programming mechanisms to address challenges and comply with regulations in the WASH sector – leading to effective and responsive WASH programming

Mozambique Course (May 18-22, 2009)

- USAID / ABRI team: Carl Mitchell, Sharon Murray, Merri Weinger, Heather Skilling, Kathy Alison (facilitator) plus Hilary Langer and Jeremy Hagger (coordination and logistics)
- 18 USAID participants, representing 9 bilateral missions (Ethiopia, Mozambique, Madagascar, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, Angola, South Africa) and 1 regional mission (South Africa)
- Sectors represented in the course: Economic Growth, Health, Environment plus the Program Office

Senegal Course (June 1-5, 2009)

- USAID / ABRI team: Carl Mitchell, Sharon Murray, Heather Skilling, Jay Graham, Marc Andreini, Kathy Alison (facilitator) plus Hilary Langer and Walter Weaver (coordination and logistics)
- 19 USAID participants representing 7 bilateral missions (Senegal, Ethiopia, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Zambia, DRC) and 1 regional mission (West Africa)
- Sectors represented in the course: Education, Health, Rural Development, Food Security, Rural Development, NRM, Agr, Environment plus the Program Office

Course Evaluation Results

Participants were very positive about the outcome of the 2 course deliveries. Several mentioned that the course was the best USAID training they had ever attended. Typical comments from the evaluation included:

- “The WASH course has been one of my favorite courses taken because of the availability of so many experts for each topic and because of the friendly atmosphere”,
- “It was a great week – lots of good information, presented in an accessible, fun and easily digestible way”
- “We suggest that WASH training be done every year to ensure that everyone in the mission is designing and implementing programs that are in line with the earmark”
- “Good course. Nice job to all of the facilitators and presenters. I am leaving with an improved understanding and knowledge of WASH. Congratulations for a job well done. Thank you!”

Proposed for the coming period:

- After action review to identify modifications / tweaks needed in course design
- Selection of the Nairobi training team
- Redesign of sessions by end of August
- Materials preparation
- Identification of participants
- Training site selection and site visit logistics

Activity 4.5: USAID Programming Guidelines Manual

Activity Manager: Peter Reiss (ABRI COP)

A team of water, sanitation, and hygiene experts from ABRI and the Hygiene Improvement Project (HIP) continued their efforts during the period to develop a manual for USAID missions to design new programs in water, sanitation, and hygiene. The team identified more than 60 interventions that can be used as a foundation for program construction. The team is working closely with USAID, most especially Carl Mitchell and Marc Andreini on the design.

Proposed for the coming period:

Completion of the full draft by mid-August.

Activity 4.6: Support G8 and WSH Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Activity Manager: Rita Klees (DAI)

Aaron Salzburg (State/OES) and Jim Franckiewicz (USAID) requested that ABRI provide the services of Rita Klees to assistance in the preparation of the draft EWAP Progress Report and the draft concept note for the G8 Africa Water Supply and Sanitation Partnership.

The draft EWAP report prepared by Ms. Klees includes:

- The state and challenges of the water supply and sanitation sector.
- The G8 commitments to water supply and sanitation.
- Details of the G8 approach to the five EWAP thematic areas: promoting good governance, utilizing all financial resources; building infrastructure by empowering local authorities and communities; strengthening monitoring, assessment and research; and reinforcing engagement of international organizations.
- G8 best practices and success stories in water supply, sanitation, and hygiene activities.

The draft ESAP progress report was discussed at a meeting of the G8 Water experts during the 5th World Water Forum in Istanbul in March of 2009. This report has subsequently been revised.

The draft concept note prepared by Ms. Klees outlines the status of the water supply and sanitation sector in Africa, progress and obstacles towards reaching the MDGs, and the international and SSA response. It outlines the goals of a G8 Africa partnership and describes one process model to reach the partnership objectives. The draft concept note also presents a number of issues and questions for consideration in further developing the partnership. The draft G8 Africa Water Supply and Sanitation Partnership concept note was submitted to USAID (Carl Mitchell) July 10, 2009, and is under review.

Proposed for the coming period:

The next steps for the draft concept note will be determined based on results of the July 2009 G8 Summit discussions regarding this new partnership.

Activity 4.7: Showcase USAID and ABRI in International Venues

Activity Managers: Kristina Kohler and Nemat Guenena

During this period:

World Water Week – ETIC Seminar: ABRI solicited and received financial support (\$6,000) from the UNDP Environment Finance Group to fund the participation of two Syrian experts presenting in the ABRI sponsored seminar at the World Water Week in Stockholm on the topic of "Impact of Collaboration in the Tigris-Euphrates Region." UNDP will also be an official co-sponsor of the seminar and present on "the Impact of Data Management in Academic and Government Institutions on Collaboration and Good Governance."

World Water Week – Microfinance Seminar: ABRI secured the participation of Rachel Cardone from the Gates Foundation as co-moderator as well as six expert panelists including:

- Mr. Antti Inkinen, Development Cooperation Advisor, Embassy of Finland in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Dr. Babar Kabir, Director, WASH and Disaster, Environment & Climate Change Programme, BRAC, Bangladesh
- Dr. Erin Mote, Manager Resource Development, CHF International, USA
- Mr. Mark van Doesburgh, Director, Triple Jump, the Netherlands
- Mr. Valentin Post, Senior Advisor, WASTE, the Netherlands
- Dr. Koanda Halidou, Director of Research, CREPA, Burkina Faso
- Dr. Richard Thorsten, Director of International Programs, WaterPartners International, USA

World Water Week – Water Operator Partnerships (WOPs) Seminar: ABRI is co-sponsoring a joint seminar on WOPs with UN-HABITAT and IWA.

Proposed for the coming period:

World Water Week: ABRI will prepare the USAID booth, work with seminar participants on final content and set up meetings with target partners for Africa (Carl Mitchell) and ETIC (Faisal Rifai). We will discuss with DCA the opportunity to conduct a press event to launch the Water Finance Toolkit and we will work IWA to jointly plan a Water Leadership coalition follow-on meeting to Istanbul, as well as a meeting for Water Utility Association Leaders.

African Water Association (AfWA) 15th Congress: ABRI will work with IWA to draft a document outlining the climate change workshop process during the World Water Week in Stockholm. The paper will guide the RAED presentation on "Partnerships for Climate Change and Water Issues in the Middle East and North Africa" to be presented at the AfWA congress in March 2010.

SEEP Annual Conference (microfinance): ABRI will work with SEEP members to submit a seminar proposal on Microfinance for Water and Sanitation for the upcoming annual SEEP international conference to be held in Washington DC in November 2009.

Activity 4.8: Develop a Strategy for Wastewater Reuse in Morocco

Activity Manager: Said Ouattar (DAI)

The ABRI team implemented the wastewater reuse pilot project in close partnership with the Wastewater Treatment and Reuse Coordination Committee established by the Wali of Meknès in May 2008. The member agencies included: The National Drinking Water Authority (ONEP), which leads over the Committee, the Autonomous Electricity and Water Distribution Authority (RADEM), the Agricultural Production Directorate (DPA), and the Sebou River Basin Agency (ABH-Sebou). In addition, the committee included the Wali's office representative, the representative of the regional council/municipality, representatives of the Regional Department of Commerce and Industry (MCI), regional representative of the CGEM, the Regional Health Authority and the Department of the Environment. These agencies' representatives participated in the committee's meetings upon invitation by the Chairman. The coordinating committee was instrumental during all project stages.

Following the completion of the USAID/ ABRI wastewater Reuse Pilot Project field activities, a Workshop was held on the 9th of June 2009 to discuss the findings and to make final recommendations. This was an important regional and national event. The project is regarded as a lead that could be replicated in other regions. The Wali of Meknès presided over the final Workshop and he participated as the chairman to the workshop.

Recognition included a paper published by "Le Matin", the national known daily newspaper and also a publication prepared and sent to the "Magazine Albaia" to published by Raed in Egypte in July 2009.

Proposed for the coming period:

A Pilot irrigation perimeter was identified and the irrigation network and equipment components selected. The cost of the whole system presented. Project financial issues were also discussed. Providing the initial capital investment needed for setting up the irrigation perimeter for this pilot project would be shared among the Ministry of Agriculture, the Sebou Basin Agency. 60% of the irrigation network and equipment will be obtained as subsidies from Agriculture Credit Bank (CNCA). International donors will be also asked for seed contributions. Tariffs to be paid by farmers would have to be based on a detailed financial study taking into account the stipulations of the applicable statutes, the real costs to be recovered, the capacity of the farmers to pay, and the contribution of Ministry of Water and Environment and Ministry of water. The two Ministries are promoting wastewater reuse programs to safeguard the environment and health in wastewater producing cities. The partners agreed to continue their efforts to implement the above recommendations.

TASK 5. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

The ABRI team submitted a budget realignment to reflect activity funding levels through the end of the contract in April 2010.

Proposed for the coming period:

The ABRI team will continue to oversee ongoing activities.

2. OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

There were no operational problems during the period.

ANNEX A. ABRI PUBLICATIONS TO DATE

1. Training Report, Future Water Leaders Module 2. January 2009.
2. Training Report, Future Water Leaders Module 1. October 2008.
3. ABRI Quarterly Report 4: April – June 2008. August 2008
4. ABR Year Two Workplan. July 2008
5. Mapping of Alliance and Partnership Opportunities and Implementation Plan. June 2008
6. Water User Associations in the Middle East: Drivers for Commercialization and Improved Water Management? June 2008
7. Quarterly Report 3: January – March 2008. April 2008.
8. Future Water Leaders Program Announcement and Application. April 2008.
9. ABRI Co-investment Strategy. March 2008.
10. Water User Associations in the Middle East: Preliminary Findings and Next Steps. March 2008.
11. ABRI Quarterly Report 2: October – December 2007. January 2008.
12. Assessing Transboundary and Domestic Aquifer Opportunities for Joint Action in Yemen, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia. January 2008.
13. ABRI Quarterly Report 1: May – September 2007. November 2007.
14. Bujagali Dam Environmental Mitigation Assessment. August 2007.
15. ABRI Year One Workplan. June 2007.