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# ADVANCING THE BLUE REVOLUTION INITIATIVE

**QUARTERLY REPORT 7: JANUARY – MARCH 2009**

**APRIL 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.



## **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.

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Chief of Party  
USAID/Advancing the Blue Revolution Initiative  
Development Alternatives, Inc.  
April 21, 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
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 (German aid organization)
GWA	Gender and Water Alliance
GWC	Global Water Challenge
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
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
OMEP	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
SIWI	Stockholm International Water Institute
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNU	United Nations University
WBCSD	World Business Council on Sustainable Development
WEF	Water Environment Federation
WEForum	World Economic Forum
WWC	World Water Council



# 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 East<sup>1</sup> 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 7, the period of January – March 2009. The report follows the broad outline stated in the contract. It details the status of implementation activities, problems encountered, 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 this quarter, ABRI has been able to move ahead with the activity, after setbacks over funding use. ABRI signed a grant with the Euphrates-Tigris Initiative for Cooperation (ETIC) for the participation of Turkish and Iraqi members of the activity. It also has identified the American University of Beirut as the source of funding for Syrian participation, through AUB's Issam Fares Foundation. It also recruited Dr. Faisal Rifai as an activity manager.
- **Identify Opportunities for Improved Aquifer Management in Yemen.** The team submitted and received approval for its work plan from ABRI management, USAID, and Government of Yemen counterparts. The team has largely completed Task 1, review and consolidation of information and creation of a database. Field work has been started to gather data relevant to Task 2 (well inventory) and Task 3 (monitoring network).
- **Support to ACWUA.** During this quarter, ABRI completed a memorandum for ACWUA regarding the range of activities it would offer to support this fledgling institution. The menu included activities related to institution strengthening, support for the technical core, and opportunities to raise the profile and increase the credibility of the association. The Chief of Party held meetings with the ACWUA executive director and the president of the International Water Association (IWA). Together they agreed to prepare a workplan for joint implementation with ACWUA and GTZ.
- **Water Users Associations and Commercialization.** This activity moved into a new and exciting phase in this quarter. The program designed and convened workshops in Egypt and Morocco

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

around the development of business models and business plans to help association members expand their income and move aggressively into new markets.

- **Morocco Wastewater Reuse for Agriculture.** The team designing a pilot project for treated wastewater reuse in agricultural completed their work and produced the following three reports: (1) Diagnosis and Situational Analysis. Assessing current cropping systems, identification of potential irrigated perimeters, examining constraints for wastewater reuse, evaluation of farmers' concerns, and farmers' willingness to pay for treated wastewater and to participate to the Pilot project, (2) Mapping work. Maps were developed to show potential irrigated perimeters, administrative limits, agro ecologic zoning, topography, traditional irrigation network, and soil types, and (3) Pilot project design included technical and institutional assessments, irrigation system design, wastewater management guidelines and institutional framework.
- **Future Water Leaders Program.** The team met with potential partners abroad (the International Water Association) and in the United States (the University of North Carolina School of Business Executive Development Program) to discuss the future of this program beyond the contract period of ABRI. To ensure sustainability, we are proposing a model that has clear roles for an organizer, operator, and funder.
- **Fostering Partnerships.** A strategic partnership Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with International Water Association (IWA) laying the groundwork for a work plan to support ACWUA in the Middle East and possibly expansion into Africa. The MOU signing was highlighted by a press event at the Fifth World Water Forum in Istanbul in March 2009. A work plan with ABRI-IWA-ACWUA-GTZ has been drafted. A strategic partnership MoU has also been drafted between USAID and RAED – the Arab Network for Environment and Development - and is awaiting legal review and final signature in May. ABRI helped raise the international profile of USAID's water and finance programs during the Fifth World Water Forum in Istanbul in March 2009 by creating and managing the USAID booth and marketing materials in the USA Pavilion exhibition center and securing spots on various panel sessions. Out of thirteen sessions featuring USAID-funded programs and two thematic wrap-up sessions, ABRI helped secure seven (mainly on financing). The Forum provided an excellent venue through which to make new and deepen existing relationships with prospective partners in support of the various ABRI program activities, in particular ETIC, ACWUA and FWL.
- **Africa Bureau Activities.** ABRI continued implementation of a host of activities for the Africa Bureau, including further planning for two water, sanitation and hygiene (WSH) workshops in Maputo, Mozambique in May and Dakar, Senegal in June for mission staff to expand their understanding of WSH issues. Another focuses on the development of a programming guidelines manual on WSH. An ABRI team is developing the manual under the supervision of the Chief of Party. Rita Klees is working with the Department of State' Office for Oceans, Environment and Science to prepare a progress report on past G-8 progress on water and to develop a WSH strategy for the G-8. In addition, now DCOP Jeremy Hagger has taken the lead in developing twinning relations between utilities in Africa, including between utilities in Kenya and Uganda, Morocco and West Africa, and Sudan and Uganda.

# 1. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES

## TASK 1: PROMOTE TRANSBOUNDARY WATER COOPERATION TO IMPROVE WATER SECURITY

### Activity 1.1: Design and Hold an International River Basin Workshop and Convene a Technical Working Group for the Middle East, Africa, and Asia

We have cancelled this activity due to a lack of funds to sufficiently to manage an activity of this size.

### Activity 1.2: Design a Track 2 Shared Initiative by Riparians on the Tigris-Euphrates

Activity personnel: Faisal Rifai (activity manager).

The intent of this effort in water resources data management and data retrieval in the TE region is to spark a sequence of efforts that will lead to greater cohesiveness among the riparian participants, attract a growing cadre of investigators in the TE region, and increase international attention in both the collaborative process and the achievements of that process. The success of this collaborative planning effort should encourage other like-minded groups to undertake similar and even more ambitious ventures in regional cooperation on international river basins, an overall goal of the Blue Revolution Initiative.

- ABRI negotiated and signed a grant through DAI with the Euphrates-Tigris Initiative for Collaboration. The grant focuses on the following:
  - **Data Inventory.** Data sets and resources are lacking in the TE Region. The effective management of water resources requires current and accurate information recognizing changes in water based studies and linking these trends with their likely causes. This task will create and maintain a data exchange network for the TE Region focusing on water, development, irrigation, soils, socio-economics, health, climate, environment, supplies, and demands information. This task will collect, process, and make available on the Internet a broad range of water and development based on above mentioned data on the T E Region, assemble these data that span the region, and assist in providing training on content and applications of these data through the Internet.
  - **Data Harmonization.** Data related to surface water, ground water, and land use must be coordinated in a uniform manner to permit regional approaches to be envisioned in order to manage and protect transboundary water resources effectively. Currently, data related to water availability, use, and disposal in the TE region are collected in a variety of procedures, manipulated in a variety of ways, stored and retrieved on a variety of hardware platforms, using a variety of software programs. In short, the data are not harmonized. The purpose of this task is to establish a sustainable transboundary harmonized data set related to the interests of the ABRI and to provide a transboundary case study on a non-contentious issue.
  - **Capacity Building.** The task will strengthen the data management skills of faculty, graduate students, government employees, and NGOs personnel to support longer-term regional cooperation on data management in the TE Region. ETIC will carry out training jointly with DAI and the American University of Beirut.
  - **Clearinghouse.** Our long-range goal is to establish an Internet-accessible clearinghouse of technical information on the TE region, tentatively modeled after the Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN), and to present this information in three languages: Arabic, Turkish, and English. GLIN has been the model for similar efforts, including the Baltic Sea Region On-Line Environmental Information Resources for Internet Access (BALLERINA), which is led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP/GRID-Arendal) and the Stockholm Marine Research Centre, with funding from the European Environment Agency, the ministries of environment in Norway and Sweden, and the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency. GLIN

has also been a model for the Gulf of Maine Information Exchange (GOMINFOEX), a hydrological information system for the Upper Paraguay River Basin, and the Border Information and Solutions Network (BISN), a binational regional NGO that promotes sustainable development of the Mexico-USA border region by enhancing collaboration and communication through the Internet. Completion of this project would have high impact in the TE region by enhancing transboundary collaboration among riparians and by increasing international awareness of technical matters in the TE region.

- ABRI also negotiated the terms of a grant with the American University in Beirut to permit the participation of Syrian members of ETIC to take part. ABRI is currently completing the grant, as the Chief of Party was to go to Beirut to set the terms at the beginning of April.
- ABRI recruited an activity manager, Dr. Faisal Rifai, who is director of ETIC.

## **TASK 2: IMPROVE WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT**

### **Activity 2.1: Promote Improved Valuation of Water**

We have cancelled this activity due a lack of funds sufficient to manage an activity of this size.

### **Activity 2.2: Identify Opportunities for Improved Aquifer Management in Yemen**

Activity manager: Ali Farhan (HydroYemen).

- **Review and Consolidation of the Available Information.** During December 08 and January 09, two members of our technical team worked very closely with technical staff from NWRA to collect all available monitoring information that had been previously recorded by NWRA. This information is related to wells and springs in Wadi Buwaysh and Wadi Fuwwah in Hadhramout Government. The work was undertaken in two governorates: Sana'a and Hadhramout. All water related facilities in Hadhramout were visited to ensure that all available data is collected. Since the beginning of February, our team has been engaged in reviewing and screening the collected data and facilitating a proper storage for it in the newly created database.
- **Creating Basin Management Database.** The goal of creating a new data base is to gather all relevant information on water resources in Wadi Buwaysh and Wadi Fuwwah in the Hadhramout Government and to facilitate a proper storage and manipulation of meteorological, ground water and surface water data. Our system analyst, Nabil Abdul Kader, has worked very closely with NWRA's experts for two months to develop database a version compatible with NWRA'S Main Database which is called National Water Resources Information System (NWRIS). The database has been created in MS Access 2003 and consists of a database component to store and coordinate all monitoring parameters for Wadi Buwaysh and Wadi Fuwwah. New monitoring parameters can easily be added without changing the structure of the database. In the second stage of this activity, water related data originating from other Authorities will be added as well as data resulting from specific field studies, such as rainfall data, climate data, ground water data. As stated in the previous bullet, we are currently loading the data to the database. This process will continue until next June.
- **Well Inventory and Monitoring Network.** Between March 17 and April 10, our technical team started the field work required under Tasks 1 and 2: well inventory and monitoring network of Wadi Buwaysh and Wadi Fuwwah in Hadhramout Government. Before splitting into two groups, the team conducted a series of technical and administrative interviews and meetings with all relevant local authorities in Hadhramout governorate including the governor. The general atmosphere was very positive and all local authorities offered help and cooperation to facilitate the work of the team. After splitting into two groups, the team spent the entire field period conducting surveying and gathering data on the existing wells and springs in the area. A unified technical form was developed to record 18 technical parameters for each of the existing wells and springs such as GPS reading, water levels,

PH and EC values. At the same time and during the field work, our team trained local staff on all activities that has been undertaken on the site. In both wadis, a total of 213 wells, 53 springs, 35 water harvest structures have been surveyed in addition to collection of data on existing observations wells. Currently, the team is assessing and transferring the collected data to the database.

### **Activity 2.3: Integrate Irrigation Water User Participation into the Latest Commercialization and Private Sector Management Thinking (Phase 2)**

Activity personnel: Amer Jabarin (STTA agricultural economist, ECO Consult).

- The team made a visit to Egypt and Morocco for the following purposes:
  - To refine and finalize the scope of work for the Water Users Association (WUA) activity
  - To present and discuss the concept with stakeholders in Egypt and Morocco
  - To identify the target WUAs in both countries
  - To initiate preparations for the workshops
  - To draft the abstract for SIWI on "Attaining Sustainable Income through Business Models (BM) for Water Users Associations in the MENA Region(The Case of the Jordan Valley)
- The team reformatted the original scope of work of the activity and the work plan for phase 2. The team submitted and received approval for its work plan from ABRI management.
- The main achievements of the visits can be summarized as follows:

#### Egypt

- Met key stakeholders from the private sector and relevant authorities
- Met main donors working with WUAs
- Met WUAs working at secondary and tertiary level canals
- Identified the target WUAs for the activities (in Kafer Al-Sheik)
- Discussed the GTZ contribution to the workshop
- Met with the General Coordinator of RAED to discuss the network's support to the activity
- Met with the communication team at EQI to discuss workshop design, logistics and coverage

#### Morocco

- Met with USAID Morocco – Mr. Jaouad Bahaj
- Met key stakeholders from the private sector and relevant authorities
- Met main donors working with WUAs
- Met several WUAs working at Al-Houz region
- Identified the target WUAs for the activities – Marrakesh region
- Arranged the venue for having the workshop and other supportive services

## **TASK 3: IMPROVE WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION SERVICES**

### **Activity 3.1: Support ACWUA and Its Technical Working Group on Poverty Orientation**

Activity personnel: Ra'ed Daoud (activity manager, ECO Consult)

During this quarter, the ABRI COP prepared and sent a memo to the ACWUA executive director which identified seven major activities in three categories that would be the locus of support to the association. These included institution building, core technical and outreach activities. In addition, the COP met with IWA's president, Paul Reiter and ACWUA director Khaldon Khashman in Amman in late March to develop a joint plan for support ACWUA. IWA and USAID signed an MOU at the 2009 World Water Forum to increase access to clean drinking water and sanitation throughout the Middle East and Africa by strengthening water utilities and their regional associations. ABRI, using USAID funding, will support ACWUA by providing technical experts to design and implement activities; covering the costs of convening workshops, conferences, and meetings for ACWUA management and members; brokering water operator partnerships and twinings within and across regions; and supporting nascent technical

working groups. IWA agreed to use in-kind resources to support leadership mentoring, organize meetings and conferences, draw on its technical working groups, and facilitate publications and knowledge sharing.

### **Activity 3.2: Develop Regulatory Reform Platform**

We have dropped this activity due a lack of funds sufficient to manage an activity of this size.

### **Activity 3.3: Promote Regulatory Twinning between Egypt and Abu Dhabi**

- There were no actions under this activity in the past quarter.

### **Activity 3.4: Support Water Utilities in Africa**

Activity personnel: Jeremy Hagger

- **Utility to Utility Partnerships or Twinning:** In response to a USAID request, Peter Reiss and Jeremy Hagger had a series of informational meetings with utility representatives to explore their willingness and commitment to enter into utility partnerships. Mr. Hagger attended two Nairobi-based meetings in late January dedicated to the Global Water Operators Partnership (GWOPs) program and the Water Operators Partnership Program – Africa (WOP-A) and met with senior officials from Uganda's National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) and their counterparts from the Kenyan utilities based in Nairobi and Kisumu. NWSC's Managing Director and the Kisumu-based Kenya utility expressed mutual interest in a partnership. Discussions were also held with NWSC concerning a potential arrangement with the Juba utility. NWSC External Relations Manager, Ms. Rose Kaggwa, stated that while she was interested in a partnership of this sort, substantial preliminary work would need to be done before the launch of such a program. She estimated that it would take at least one year's worth of preliminary discussions to organize such a relationship, but that something might be started in late 2010. Later, at the World Bank's Water Week, Mr. Hagger held informal discussions with NWSC's Managing Director and his counterpart from the Juba utility. They confirmed Ms. Kaggwa's conclusions.
  - Dr. Reiss and Mr. Hagger both met with Mr. Bensaid of Morocco's Office National de l'Eau Potable (ONEP). Mr. Bensaid was very encouraging about further discussion of a potential partnership involving ONEP and a francophone utility from sub-Saharan Africa. We agreed to continue this discussion.
  - Dr. Reiss and Mr. Hagger both met with the World Bank's Water Sector Manager for West Africa who stated that his group was considering supporting a partnership arrangement between Senegal's SDE and the four states in Nigeria which the Bank is presently supporting (Lagos, Cross River, Kaduna, and Ogun). The Bank urged USAID to consider supporting additional partnerships with other states.
- **Non-Revenue Water (NRW) Handbook:** USAID requested ABRI to investigate the production of a NRW Handbook for Africa. Mr. Hagger had a number of meetings with Jan Janssens, currently a consultant to UN-Habitat's GWOPs program, about the feasibility of funding the production of a NRW Handbook for Africa based on a similar product USAID funded for Asia. Mr. Janssens agreed to obtain relevant African case studies for the publication from the World Bank Institute.

## **TASK 4: OVERARCHING PROGRAM SUPPORT**

### **Activity 4.1: Implement the Future Water Leaders Program in the Middle East and Africa**

Activity personnel: Manar Fayyad and Dan Rothberg (activity managers), and Samir Shawky (logistics and training specialist).

- Manar Fayyad traveled to Bethesda in February to assist in the planning of Module 3, preparations for Modules 4 and 5, and the future of the program beyond the life of ABRI.
- The Institute for Public Private Partnerships (IP3) prepared an agenda for Module 3, to be held in Rabat, Morocco and hosted by the Office National de l'Eau Potable.
- Fayyad surveyed the 26 participants to determine their interests and needs for potential future modules. To the extent that we can tailor training, it will be around waste water, pricing and economics, organizational strengthening, and individual leadership training, with a focus on skills enhancement and change management.
- Fayyad, Rothberg, and Peter Reiss discussed options for a potential Module 5, focusing the impact of climate change on water and wastewater.
- Fayyad and Rothberg led a lunch-hour discussion at USAID on the Future Water Leaders program. COTR John Wilson chaired the discussion, which was attended by various USAID/Washington personnel.
- Fayyad and Rothberg met with representatives from the Executive Development program of the Kenan-Flagler Business School at the University of North Carolina. For the past nine years, UNC has operated a two week leadership seminar for water and wastewater professionals from around the United States. UNC operates the program on behalf of a consortium of groups composed of the American Water Works Association, National Association of Clean Water Agencies, Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, and Water Environment Foundation (the AWWA consortium). The UNC program is of interest for two reasons: (1) UNC has submitted a proposal to actually run a Future Water Leader module on our behalf and (2) Fayyad and Rothberg wanted to assess how the UNC-AWWA consortium partnership functions and derive lessons for our own program.

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

Activity personnel: Kristina Kohler (activity manager, public-private partnership specialist, DAI), Nematalla Guenena (public-private partnership specialist, EQI) and Jeremy Hagger (Africa partnership specialist).

#### **ABRI Program Related Activities**

- **ACWUA.** Partnership activities have begun to support the various ACWUA activities:
  - **International Water Association (IWA):** USAID and the International Water Association (IWA) signed a strategic partnership Memorandum of Understanding at the Fifth World Water Forum in Istanbul. Kohler orchestrated the media launch of the strategic partnership including press release and TV coverage at the World Water Forum. ABRI-IWA-ACWUA partnership working meetings were held during and after World Water Forum, and an ABRI-IWA-ACWUA-GTZ partnership work plan detailing specific next steps has been drafted. Collaboration has begun in the area of climate change with RAED and ACWUA.
  - **Arab Network for Environment and Development Network (RAED):** Ms.Guenena drafted the strategic partnership Memorandum of Understanding with RAED as well as the first article to be published in Arabic in RAED's monthly newsletter, Muntada El Bia, introducing the ABRI program. Fayyad authored the second article focusing on Future Water Leaders and Hagger crafted the March edition which featured highlights from the Fifth World Water Forum. Kohler facilitated team meetings between Ase Johannessen from IWA's Climate Change Specialty Group, Emad Adly from RAED, Ra'ed Daoud from EcoConsult and Khaldon Khashman from ACWUA to ensure we are all coordinated for the April Lebanon and May Morocco workshops.
  - **American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham):** Nemat Guenena met with Mustafa Mustafa, CEO of Jordan's American Chamber of Commerce, to discuss ABRI participation in the upcoming conference on Water, Energy and the Environment which has been postponed from May to

October 2009. The two topics to be covered will be Corporate Water Footprint and Financing of Water. Kohler has secured initial expression of interest from CEO Water Mandate to partner in designing the Corporate Water Footprint panel and will work with Guenena, Hagger and DCA to flush out water financing agenda.

- **Improved Water Use Efficiency and Commercialization for WUAs.** Guenena worked with Jabarin to prepare for the Egypt workshop in April, identifying and communicating with relevant private sector stakeholders as well as donors involved in WUA-related interventions. Stakeholders were briefed about the concept, consulted about its viability within the Egyptian political and regulatory context and invited to participate in the workshop. Two tertiary canal WUAs in the Delta were selected and meetings were held with their boards as well as with Ministry of Irrigation representatives at the national and local levels.
- **Euphrates-Tigris Initiative for Cooperation (ETIC).** Guenena presented at the ETIC panel at World Water Forum in Istanbul. ETIC representatives expressed great interest in incorporating their initial work into an „Euphrates-Tigris Atlas’ which would be broader than just a water atlas, reaching out to other potentially interested groups in fields such as weather forecasting, etc.
- **Future Water Leaders.** Kohler set up meetings at World Water Forum to explore areas for collaboration with various partners on a Water Leaders Academy, including World Water Council, IUCN, Rand Water, UNU and to promote the Future Water Leaders program goals and partnership objectives going forward.
- **Roundtables for Private Sector in the Middle East.** The roundtable series for governance, IT and microfinance was dropped as it was determined that these should be housed under ACWUA for sustainability reasons, and ACWUA does not yet have the resources to manage ongoing communications with contacts/partners that would result from such a series. Kohler and Guenena met with a few Microfinance Institutions (MFIs) in Egypt to explore their views and interest as operators to join the discussion on microfinance for water and sanitation. Although initial interest was expressed, it was not significant enough to convince the Sanabel network of MFIs to dedicate a panel during which the topic would be discussed at their upcoming annual May conference in Beirut, Lebanon.
- **Financing for Water and Sanitation Round Tables.** Kohler prepared and facilitated round table discussion during the World Water Forum Session 5.3.2 on Microfinance for Sanitation. ABRI sponsored speaker Miguel Arce-Tellez, General Manager of Individual Accounts, Scotiabank in Peru, shared why a large commercial bank is interested in investing in water and sanitation services for the poor and how technology, market segmentation and partnerships have helped them build the business case and get buy-in from bank executives. Approximately 60 people attended the session. Discussions with Morocco’s water utility ONEP and IRC explored how ONEP is working with MFIs to finance the small entrepreneurs who are maintaining the water supply lines in the rural areas.
- **Women in Water.** Kohler facilitated and participated in meetings connecting Women for Water Partnership – the largest network of women’s organizations that ensure women are included in water policy and resource management issues – with the USAID Water Team (Carl Mitchell), Women in Development office (Kathy Blakeslee, Natasha Greenberg) and State Department (Aaron Salzberg, Ico San Martini), each group requested fact sheets and expressed interest to continue conversations. Kohler and Hagger attended the Istanbul pre-conference on Women in Water and met with Gender and Water Alliance who have 60 members in the Middle East, are working with mercy Corps in Jordan and WUAs in the region. GWA also does capacity development and train-the-trainer courses on gender and water.

#### **Activity 4.3.1: Support the Development of State-USAID Water Framework**

- DAI’s publications staff made edits to the Water for the Poor report at the request of USAID.

- Del McCluskey incorporated various edits and comments received from USAID. DAI's Publications team made the final document compliant with section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, ensuring that readers with disabilities are fully able to access the document.
- Mr. McCluskey prepared a two-page synopsis of the Framework report for public distribution at the World Water Forum in Istanbul, Turkey in March.

#### **Activity 4.3.2: Support to the Africa Bureau**

Activity personnel: Peter Reiss, Del McCluskey on the trainings and Jeremy Hagger (program management specialist, DAI).

The Africa Bureau engaged the ABRI team for multiple activities geared to improve the programming of funds by USAID Missions in sub-Saharan Africa.

- **WASH Training:** ABRI staff continued to facilitate, organize and plan two to three water, sanitation and hygiene training activities in Africa. USAID approved one-week courses in Maputo (18-22 May), Dakar (1-5 June), and Nairobi (TBD). ABRI (including Jeremy Hagger, Del McCluskey, and Walter Weaver from DAI, and Kathy Allison and Patricia Garcia from TRG) held several meetings with USAID trainers (including Carl Mitchell, Merri Weinger, Sharon Murray, Heather Skilling and Marc Andreini) during the quarter to coordinate training content and delivery approaches. Walter Weaver also traveled to Maputo and Dakar at the end of the quarter to identify appropriate site visits and make logistical preparations with the hosting Missions.
- **Programming Guidelines:** We produced a detailed outline of the Guide and began to draft illustrative sections. Peter Reiss chaired a progress review meeting of the full drafting team to assess progress in preparation for a meeting with USAID. Walter Weaver provided a draft two-page overview for the programming guide on targeting subsidies for the poor.
- **Bureau Decision Support:** Per instructions from Carl Mitchell, Heather Skilling (USAID) and Richard Rapiere (DAI) began work on three USAID Region profiles of water and sanitation and water resources in their respective regions (West, Southern, East) plus a pan African profile. To date, draft profiles for Pan and West Africa have been completed and research continues for Southern and East Africa region.
- **G-8 WSH Millennium Development Goals (MDGs):** ABRI engaged Dr. Rital Klees to produce input for an Africa strategy for the achievement of the WSH MDG. This report will be submitted to all G-8 members for their approval. It is anticipated that the G-8's adoption of the strategy will encourage the member states to support measures that will assist African countries obtain the MDGs for water and sanitation.

#### **Activity 4.3.3: Support to AFR Missions**

No actions were required on this activity during the quarter.

#### **Activity 4.4. Showcase ABRI in International Venues**

##### **World Water Forum, March 16-22, 2009, Istanbul, Turkey**

ABRI helped to raise USAID profile in the international water community in the following ways during the March 16-22, 2009 Fifth World Water Forum, as follows:

- It ensured USAID had a visible presence at the Forum by designing and managing the USAID booth and marketing materials, as well as securing USAID-funded programs on seven out of fifteen sessions and wrap-up sessions.
- ABRI coordinated a media event to highlight the signing of the strategic partnership MoU between USAID and IWA.

- ABRI team members presented on WWForum panels – Kohler presented at Session 6.3.2 on Professional Associations and facilitated the roundtable discussion for Session 5.3.2 Microfinance for Sanitation; Guenena presented at the ETIC side event and Hagger attended and supported various financing panels and participants.
- ABRI funded the attendance of three speakers including Under Secretary Jeremias Paul from the Ministry of Finance, Philippines, General Manager Individual Accounts Miguel Arce-Tellez from Scotiabank, Peru and Kamal Zoubi, former CEO from Amman Water Authority.
- Kohler began preparations on the Microfinance for Water seminar with partners IRC, BRAC and WPI for the SIWI World Water Week in Stockholm, August 2009.

#### **Activity 4.5. Conduct Study of Wastewater Reuse in Morocco**

Activity personnel: Said Ouattar (team leader), Mustafa Naimi (GIS and soil scientist), Jean Karam (Lebanon, institutional expert), Mohammed Bourrass (irrigation engineer and financial analyst) and Ahmed Abu Awwad (Jordan, Wastewater expert).

- In response to a request in mid-2008 from USAID/Morocco, we are assisting the Government of Morocco in identifying and assessing options for wastewater reuse for agriculture in the region of Meknes. This includes designing a pilot project.
- The team members made all needed field visits and 28 meetings with the Coordinating Committee and various Government entities.
- The team conducted a survey of farmers and processed and presented its data. The survey assessed the willingness of farmers to participate in the pilot project and whether they are willing to pay for treated wastewater.
- The team identified three potential irrigated perimeters based on their field visits and processed satellite images. The team developed seven maps showing targeted perimeters, administrative boundaries, soil types, irrigation networks, and cropping systems. For clarity and practical use, we combined all deliverables in the form of 4 reports as follow:
- Report 1, Completed: Diagnosis and Situational Analysis. Assessing current cropping systems, identification of potential irrigated perimeters, examining constraints for wastewater reuse, evaluation of farmers' concerns, and farmers' willingness to pay for treated wastewater and to participate to the Pilot project.
- Report 2, Completed: Mapping work. Maps were developed showing potential irrigated perimeters, administrative limits, agro ecologic zoning, topography, traditional irrigation network, and soil types.
- Report 3, Completed: Pilot project design that includes technical and institutional assessments, irrigation system design, wastewater management guidelines and institutional framework.
- Report 4 is not completed and will be produced upon the organization of the final workshop as its proceedings.

### **TASK 5. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**

#### **Activity 5.1 Provide Program Management**

Activity personnel: Peter Reiss

During the period:

- The Chief of Party relocated from Cairo to the original location at DAI in Bethesda MD following USAID approval.
- ABRI closed the Cairo field office, released the Program Accountant, and closed the local bank account.
- There was considerable activity on preparing grant documents, terms of reference, subcontracts and scopes of work.
- A new DCOP joined ABRI - see Section Two.
- The team worked on the realignment of the budget.



## 2. OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

- **Program Management - Change in Deputy Chief of Party:** During the period, the Dan Rothberg was replaced by Jeremy Hagger as Deputy Chief of Party. With the relocation of the Chief of Party to Washington, DC, the roles and responsibilities of the program's management have changed. The Chief of Party has reassumed the role of hands-on program manager, directly overseeing contracting, subcontractor relations, and client management. The role of the Deputy Chief of Party, therefore, will now be focused on providing intellectual leadership to the Africa component, as well as supporting the Chief of Party in overall program management. Jeremy Hagger, as Deputy Chief of Party, will directly manage the increasingly complex component being carried out for the Bureau for Africa, while the Chief of Party will manage the component for the Bureau for the Middle East. This change in responsibilities has necessitated a change in program personnel. The selection of Mr. Hagger as Deputy Chief of Party was made with a number of advantages in mind:
  - Mr. Hagger has already been closely engaged with ABRI for a year. He has been involved in the design of activities in Africa and knows the program, the team, the objectives, the approach and the operations well. No learning curve is necessary, and he can be effective immediately.
  - Mr. Hagger already had close professional relationships with USAID missions in Africa, with senior government officials throughout Africa, and has longstanding and productive relationships with international organizations working in Africa. As DCOP, he widely expands ABRI's contacts and he adds credibility to ABRI on the continent.
  - As DCOP, Mr. Hagger brings to ABRI his experience as a distinguished former foreign service officer of USAID who understands the operations of the agency and will be an effective liaison between ABRI and USAID. As an officer of USAID, he was assignment to Africa both long- and short term, and he was closely involved with GDA and other private sector efforts in water and sanitation, areas of critical importance to ABRI.
  - As DCOP and overall manager of the Africa component, he will be able to integrate the disparate activities in Africa into a more cohesive whole and thus increase the effectiveness and impact of the component.
  - Mr. Hagger is an experienced and successful program manager who brings both wisdom and maturity to the program and will be able to translate his vision of ABRI's initiatives in Africa into realistic, implementable efforts.

The USAID CTO and Contracts Officer approved the change during the period, and Mr. Hagger has assumed his new responsibilities.

- **Future Water Leaders:** The third module, on public-private partnerships, had been tentatively scheduled for early June in Rabat, Morocco. However, we have opted to delay the module until September or October as we balance the overall costs of the program against other ABRI-funded activities. The first two Future Water Leaders modules (in August and December of 2008) were successful, but we are now taking this opportunity to revise the program in a way that is more sustainable beyond the life of ABRI. This includes making logistic and technical arrangements that are more cost effective, relying more on the inputs of regional experts, and tailoring the modules to meet participant demand for career enhancement. We are contacting the participants to let them know of our revised plans.
- **Yemen Aquifer Management:** The team encountered modest delays with the Yemeni National Water Resources Agency in relation to Task 3 (creation of a monitoring network), but these have been overcome.

- **Morocco Wastewater Re-use Study:** The team developed and implemented extra tasks and more work than planned in order to meet specific requests of different Moroccan government agencies that are members of the Coordinating Committee. In addition we needed to produce all documents in two languages, English and French; which added another time consuming constraint.

### 3. SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES: APRIL – JUNE 2009

#### TASK 1: PROMOTE TRANSBOUNDARY WATER COOPERATION TO IMPROVE WATER SECURITY

##### Activity 1.1: Design and Hold an International River Basin Workshop and Convene a Technical Working Group for the Middle East, Africa, and Asia

- This activity is cancelled.

##### Activity 1.2: Design a Track 2 Shared Initiative by Riparians on the Tigris-Euphrates

During the coming period:

- ABRI will complete the draft grant with AUB in Beirut and seek DAI agreement and the approval of the CTO
- IC, ABRI and AUB members will attend a workshop in Damascus on decision support systems held by the German government and use the occasion to give a side session and convene a meeting of the lead members of the implementation team
- ETIC and AUB will both submit first milestones deliverables to ABRI.

#### TASK 2: IMPROVE WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

##### Activity 2.1: Promote Improved Valuation of Water

- This activity is cancelled.

##### Activity 2.2: Identify Opportunities for Improved Aquifer Management in Yemen

- Tasks 1 (information collection and database), 2 (well inventory), and 3 (monitoring network) will be completed and deliverables will be submitted on scheduled time.
- Work on Task 4 (groundwater modeling) will start by mid-April.

##### Activity 2.3: Integrate Irrigation Water User Participation into the Latest Commercialization and Private Sector Management Thinking (Phase 2)

As per the approved action plan, the scheduled activities for the second quarter include:

- Egypt workshop will take place in Kafr El-Sheikh on April 27-28, 2009 as it has been agreed with all stakeholders and the Irrigation Advisory Service (AIS). The number of participants is expected to be around 35-40 including ABRI team. The venue has been hired and all logistic services arranged by the team and local assistants. The deliverables will be submitted on scheduled time as soon as the workshop is completed.
- The Morocco workshop will take place in Marrakesh on May 12-13, 2009 as agreed with the ORMVA and other stakeholders. Also the number of participants is expected to approach 35-40. The workshop will take place at Ryad Mogador Opera hotel. The venue has been reserved and logistical services are arranged. The deliverables will also be submitted as scheduled once the workshop is completed.
- Based on the experience gained in building the "business models" in Egypt and Morocco, the team will work with the two WUA in Jordan to produce "the Jordanian business model". This is expected to take place during June.

##### Activity 2.3: Integrate Irrigation Water User Participation into the Latest Commercialization and Private Sector Management Thinking (Phase 2)

Activity personnel: Amer Jabarin (STTA agricultural economist, ECO Consult).

As per the approved action plan, the scheduled activities for the second quarter include:

- The Egypt workshop will take place in Kafer El-Sheikh on April 27-28, 2009 as it has been agreed with all stakeholders and the Irrigation Advisory Service (AIS). The number of participants is expected to be around 35-40 including ABRI team. The venue has been hired and all logistic services arranged by the team and local assistants. The deliverables will be submitted on scheduled time as soon as the workshop is completed.
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- Based on the experience gained in building the “business models” in Egypt and Morocco, the team will work with the two WUA in Jordan to produce “the Jordanian business model”. This is expected to take place during June.

### **TASK 3: IMPROVE WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION SERVICES**

#### **Activity 3.1: Support ACWUA and Its Technical Working Group on Poverty Orientation**

During the coming quarter, ABRI will:

- Submit a joint work plan with IWA to ACWUA for approval of the executive director and board of directors.
- Launch the activity to expand the existing business plan with a visit by Philip Giantris and Ahmad Nizam to Amman in May.
- Recruit experts in knowledge management and in communications for short-term support to design the unit.
- Attend a meeting convened by IWA in The Hague with communications leaders, bringing in Khaldon Khashman, Philip Giantris and the COP.
- Attend the launching of the ACWUA headquarters in June.

#### **Activity 3.2: Develop Regulatory Reform Platform**

- This activity is cancelled.

#### **Activity 3.3: Promote Regulatory Twinning between Egypt and Abu Dhabi**

- ABRI will work with the Egyptian Water Regulatory Agency to determine next steps.

#### **Activity 3.4: Support Water Utilities in Africa**

- April: Jeremy Hagger will draft terms of reference for Malcolm Farley to write the NRW Handbook for Africa, with expectation to have Mr. Farley fully engaged and working by early May.
- June: receive first draft of NRW Handbook.
- June: Jeremy Hagger will travel to Uganda and Kenya to negotiate utility twinning between the NWSC and Lake Victoria South.

### **TASK 4: OVERARCHING PROGRAM SUPPORT**

#### **Activity 4.1: Implement the Future Water Leaders Program in the Middle East and Africa**

- The ABRI team will reduce the number of remaining modules to two and reconsider alternative approaches for costing and partnering. ONEP in Morocco or American University of Beirut in Lebanon, to run all elements of a module, including technical direction and logistics.
- We are exploring a model similar to the one implemented by UNC (the “operator”) and the AWWA consortium (the “organizer.”)
  - The organizer is the host/sponsor/owner of the program. It lends credibility to the program in terms of the topic, adds an element of branding, ensures continuity of the program, may raise external funds, provides guidance on the technical shape of the program, and serves as the lead participant recruiter. We will continue discussions with IWA, ACWUA, and other groups which may take on this role.
  - The operator has a dedicated educational purpose, including, for example, universities with water programs (e.g., the University of Jordan), but also including not-for-profit organizations with a more general, but long-lasting education purpose – in the U.S. (e.g., the Academy for Educational Development or Institute for International Education) or the Middle East (e.g., Young Arab Leaders Organization, based in Dubai); or an international training body (e.g., the United Nations University International Leadership Academy). The operator needs to incorporate the dual technical goals of water supply and sanitation and leadership. The operator should have long-term corporate capability and independent sustainability beyond Future Water Leaders. In other words, FWL cannot be the sole purpose of the operational home; rather, the operational home should lend credence and branding value to FWL. We would expect an operational home to run the FWL program on a daily basis, including recruitment, training, and participant networking.
  - The Partnership and Alliance team will seek a third party to serve as a “funder.” Under the current FWL model, USAID serves as the funder. In the UNC-AWWA consortium model, the participants’ employers (i.e., utilities) pay their tuition. We would like to move from full donor funding to an eventual model that sees participants employers or other entities paying.

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

##### **ABRI Program-Related Activities**

- **ACWUA.** The partnership team will continue to support the ACWUA activities as needed.
  - **Climate Change Workshops:** Guenena and Kohler will continue to support the RAED workshops to be held in Lebanon (April 24) and Morocco (May 29-30), helping to ensure ACWUA, IWA and USAID are fully engaged. Hagger and Kohler will explore feasibility and value-add of leveraging this activity into the AfWA Climate Change Conference targeted for March 2010 and discuss options with Tegan Blain, Advisor on Climate Change for Africa
  - **RAED:** The design of RAED’s website will be handled directly by RAED; the monthly newsletter articles will continue to be supplied by the ABRI team.
  - **AmCham Workshop:** Kohler and Guenena will work toward securing partners for speakers and content and work to create a role for ACWUA to demonstrate their leadership in bringing together the private sector and water utilities in the region. In particular, Kohler will continue conversations with Gavin Power from UN Global Compact to identify which CEO Water Mandate members active in the Middle East are best targets to engage.
- **Improved Water Use Efficiency and Commercialization for WUAs.** Following the workshops in Cairo and Morocco, Guenena will work with Jabarin in bringing the private sector into the business models and plans. Kohler will connect Guenena with Netafim to explore their possible role in the future.

- **Euphrates-Tigris Initiative for Cooperation (ETIC).** After ETIC's next meeting in May, the partnership team will identify specific areas to help promote their activities and attract future funders.
- **Future Water Leaders.** Kohler and Guenena will work together to flush out partner mapping details and provide strategic decision matrix for next steps. Meetings with WWC, IUCN and others are already scheduled.
- **Financing for Water and Sanitation Round Tables.** Kohler will work with partners IRC, BRAC and WPI as well as incorporate the DCA office to establish content and clear objectives for action from the Microfinance for Water seminar sponsored by ABRI in August at SIWI's World Water Week.

#### **Activity 4.3.1: Support the Development of State-USAID Water Framework**

- No further work is anticipated for this activity.

#### **Activity 4.3.2 Support to the Africa Bureau**

- All country and regional profiles will be completed in "final" version and delivered to USAID.
- We will conduct training on water and sanitation programming for USAID Mission personnel. There will be one training in Maputo, Mozambique the week of May 18 and a second training in Dakar, Senegal the week of June 1.
- A final draft of the G-8 WSH MDG Strategy for Africa will be complete by June 1.
- The first draft of the Water and Sanitation Programming Guidelines for Africa will be complete by June 1.

#### **Activity 4.3.3: Support to AFR Missions**

- No activities currently planned.

#### **Activity 4.4. Showcase ABRI in International Venues**

- We will pursue conference panel opportunities with IWA's Development Congress (Mexico, Sept 2009) and suggest and possibly submit panel topics for the upcoming August SIWI World Water Week.
- We will explore possibilities for USAID to get involved with the 2<sup>nd</sup> African Water Week (date TBD).

#### **Activity 4.5. Conduct Study of Wastewater Reuse in Morocco**

- The Reports 2 and 3 are in the process of translation from English to French.
- A conference will be given to present project findings during Morocco International Agriculture Fair. The conference will be organized April 23th, 2009. This was a request from USAID Rabat in order to disseminate this work.
- The team will prepare the remaining workshop. Report 4 will be completed upon organization of the workshop. This activity is remaining to be implemented.

### **TASK 5. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**

#### **Activity 5.1 Provide Program Management**

- ABRI has asked the USAID CTO to convene a third year planning meeting to review program progress and to discuss next steps, with particular attention to activity results and indicators. This meeting is expected in mid-April.

- ABRI will also complete the realignment of the budget for submission to the CO for approval.
- ABRI will prepare a popularly written progress report tied to a meeting with the Water Team and Country Desk Officers
- ABRI will design the currently static website to hold all reports and documents.

## **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.