



Capital city: Tehran
Inhabitants: 83 Million

INSTITUTIONAL SETTING AND PURPOSE

The Ministry of Energy (MOE) and the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) are responsible for the water resources assessment in Iran. The department of Water Resources Management (WRM), operating under the authority of MOE, is mainly involved in collection of surface and groundwater data, as well as in allocation of water for domestic, industrial and agricultural purposes. Conversely, the MOA is in charge of farm development and irrigation. It regulates the amount of water allocated for agriculture.

In 2014, a groundwater recovery plan was enacted and launched, with the objective of overcoming several problems that Iran has been facing due to the decreasing of groundwater levels in the last 30 years, Figure 1.

The plan covers:

- A collaborative management of the groundwater resources;
- Development of a piezometric network including data metering and transferring tools;
- Establishment of a monitoring and recharge control system (flow meters) on water wells;
- Filling and sealing of unauthorized wells.

In 2016, about 12,000 wells have been available to measure the groundwater level every month. Within the recovery plan, it was expected to repair 8,000 wells. Additionally, wells have been provided with online measuring tools. Up to 2016, 50,000 flow meters have been installed to measure abstraction.

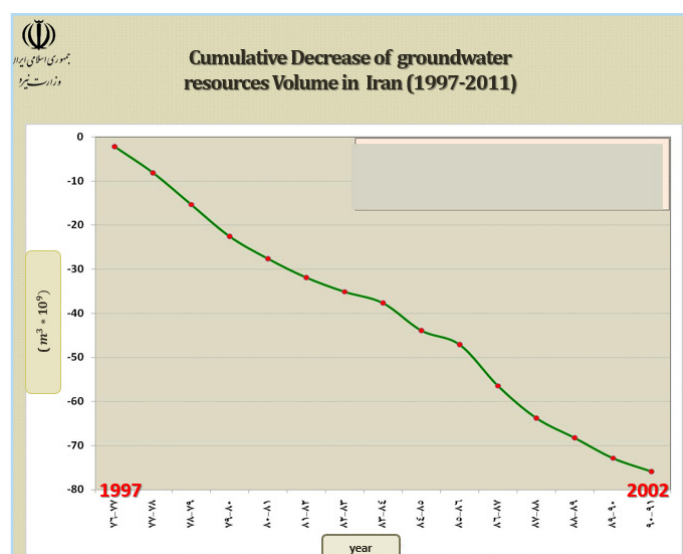


Figure 1 – Cumulative decrease of groundwater resources volume in Iran (1997-2011)



Figure 2 – Water Mill on a Qanat in Boshrouyeh, Khorasan, Iran, by: S. Ghiaseddin

Sources

- Feedback from WRM - received on 17-03-2020; and
- GGMN Workshop in Thailand - 2016.