



Palestinian National Authority

March, 2012



Palestinian Water Policy



Palestinian National Water Policy

Palestinian Water Authority (PWA) has prepared the main principles for preparing the water policy which was set up in 1996, and this entitled PWA as a regulator for the water sector in Palestine.

This policy was then adopted by all legislative mechanisms, regulatory and administrative management of water resources.



The Structure of the Water Sector in Palestine

The structure depends on the following principles:

- Dividing the institutional structure of the water sector into three levels:
 - ☐ Political level (national water committee)
 - ☐ Regulatory level (PWA)
 - ☐ Operational level (service water providers)
- Consolidating institutions to provide water services that have financial and administrative independence.
- Integrating water supply and sanitation services in the proposed regional service providers, assuring the use of the treated wastewater as additional source of water.
- The establishment of a National Water Authority to provide bulk water supply to the water service providers.



Water Plans

- General Water Plan
- Drinking Water Development Strategy
- Wastewater Sector Development Strategy
- Quality Control Specifications and Standards
- Directory of Licenses



Principles & Priorities of water policy

- Ensuring sustainability of water supply services
- Water resources management - national level
- Organizing water supply services



PWA Strategy Objectives

- Insuring Palestinian Water Law
- Strengthening and promoting national water policies.
- Building institutional capacity and human resource development.
- Improving information services and water resources assessment.
- Organizing and coordinating investments integrated in the water and sanitation sector.
- Applying water protection standards.
- Raising awareness and supporting public participation in water resources management.
- Strengthening regional and international cooperation



Elements of the National Water Policy

- Water resources are public property
- Citizens have the right accessing good quality, sufficient quantity and affordable daily water supply.
- industrial and agricultural development should go in line with the available water sources, and based on the principles of sustainable development.
- Water has a social, environmental and economic values.
- Development and management of water resources in Palestine should be coordinated at the national level, and properly implemented at the local level
- The responsibility for managing the national water sector should be adopted by a sole organization, with emphasis on separating the regulatory responsibilities from service-providing responsibility.



Elements of the National Water Policy

- Stakeholders' participation should be guaranteed in water management
- Integrated water management should consider both water quality and quantity
- Water and wastewater sectors should be jointly managed.
- Optimal development of water resources management should be supported by a coordinated water demand analysis.
- “Pollutants pay” principle should be applied for pollution prevention.
- The water resources conservation and the optimal use of water should be enhanced.
- The Palestinian water rights should be recovered with special emphasis on shared water resources.



Legal Framework for the Water Policy

Current laws and Regulations

- Water Law 3/2002
- PWA Internal Bylaw 66/1997

Suggested Laws and regulations

- Amendment of the Water Law No. 3/2002.
- The amended Water law No. 9/1966 (Jerusalem Water Undertaking).
- Water tariff system.
- Water and wastewater services quality control system.
- Groundwater exploitation licensing system
- Water projects and groundwater exploitation tariff system.
- Protection and monitoring groundwater pollution system.
- National water undertaking system.
- Amended internal bylaw of PWA.
- Coast management system



The Official Statistics In Palestine

- Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) was established in 1993 by a decree issued by the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO).
- PCBS was the first institution operational after the implementation of the PNA administration in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.
- PCBS had the mission to set up and maintain the entire national statistical system of Palestine.





National Statistical System

According to Article 2 of the 2000 General Statistical Law, “The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics aims to develop and enhance the Palestinian official statistical system based on legal grounds that organize the process of data collection and utilisation for statistical purpose”.



Legal Status of Statistics

- The law detailing the missions and functions of the PCBS and its financial and administrative organization.
- This law created an Advisory Council on Statistics (ACS) and proposed a frame for the statistical activities.
- The law gave legal support to use the administrative records for statistical purposes.



Functions of PCBS

1. To establish a comprehensive and unified statistical system
2. To provide truthful and independent official statistics on demographic, social, economic and environmental sectors.
3. To enlighten the public with information provided through the media.
4. To cooperate with universities and other research organizations.
5. To conduct population, agriculture and Establishments Censuses every ten years or less.
6. To participate in the international cooperation and exchange of official statistics in accordance with international standards.
7. To publish statistical yearbook annually.



Coordination of the NSS

The Palestinian Statistical System is centralized at PCBS. PCBS coordinates all data producers and ministry entities to ensure efficient and harmonized statistical production and dissemination.



Inter-ministerial Consultation

- Inter-ministerial consultation is mentioned in law, which states that “The bureau (PCBS) shall in coordination with ministries collect, store, analyses and disseminate statistical data”.
- The law details the relation and duties of the various Ministries regarding statistics. In particular a statistical unit is established in each Ministry or government department. The PCBS is the coordinator for the work in these Ministry statistical units and is fully responsible for monitoring the technical definitions and concepts put in place in these units.



Inter-institutional Arrangements

Public institutions, in coordination with PCBS, carry out specialized field surveys and provide PCBS with access to their administrative records to derive official statistics. Some memorandums of understanding for the general organization of statistical work have been signed between PCBS and other Ministries.



Inter-institutional Cooperation

- The National Team for the Development of The Environment and Natural Resources Data.
- Signing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with ministries and universities.
- Establishing statistical units in the ministries (Strategic goal in the NSDS).
- Training of ministries on the statistical work, and sharing experience with them.
- User Producer Dialogue.
- Implementing of special workshops in the fields of environment themes.



Environmental and Water Statistics in Palestine

- Environmental and water statistics was established in 1996 to describe the environmental conditions and to focus on the environmental problems by sector, region, type of locality and governorate
- The Environment and water Statistics has the responsibility of creating and updating data on the statistical indicators of the pressure on the environment and water.



Themes of Environmental and water Statistics in Palestine

- Sustainable Development
- Water and Water Accounts
- Meteorology
- Emissions to Air and Air Quality
- Wastewater
- Solid Waste



Data Sources for Environmental and Water Statistics in Palestine

- Population, Housing and Establishment Census
- Environmental Surveys: That are designed to fulfill the data gaps of the administrative records. These surveys normally cover household and establishments.
- Administrative records of :
 - Environment Quality Authority.
 - Palestinian Water Authority.
 - Ministry of Local Government.
 - Ministry of Transport and Communication.
 - NGO's: various data
- It is the policy of PCBS to efficiently carry out surveys on regular basis. Environmental surveys are carried out through attachments to major surveys such as households, establishment agricultural surveys.



Indicators for Environmental and Water Statistics

- Annual available water quantity.
- Number of Palestinian ground water wells and it's annual pumping quantity.
- Number of Palestinian springs and its annual discharge.
- Environmental accounts for Palestinian households.
- Source of water supply in houses, establishments, health care centers, and locality.
- Wastewater disposal and the existence and use of cesspits in houses, establishments, health care by locality.
- Annual quantity of water supply for domestic sector.
- Rainfall quantity by month and station location .



Water Account Current Status

- During 2008, a technical mission was received concerning water accounts.
- Assessment report was prepared by the mission, included recommendations to add questions to environmental questionnaires.
- One of the recommendations is to implement an environmental survey for the public sector.
- During 2010, a team was formed to work on the subject.
- The team is working on the assessment of the available data and indicators.
- Work in progress on the tables related to (Use and Supply) in physical units besides the emission table account.

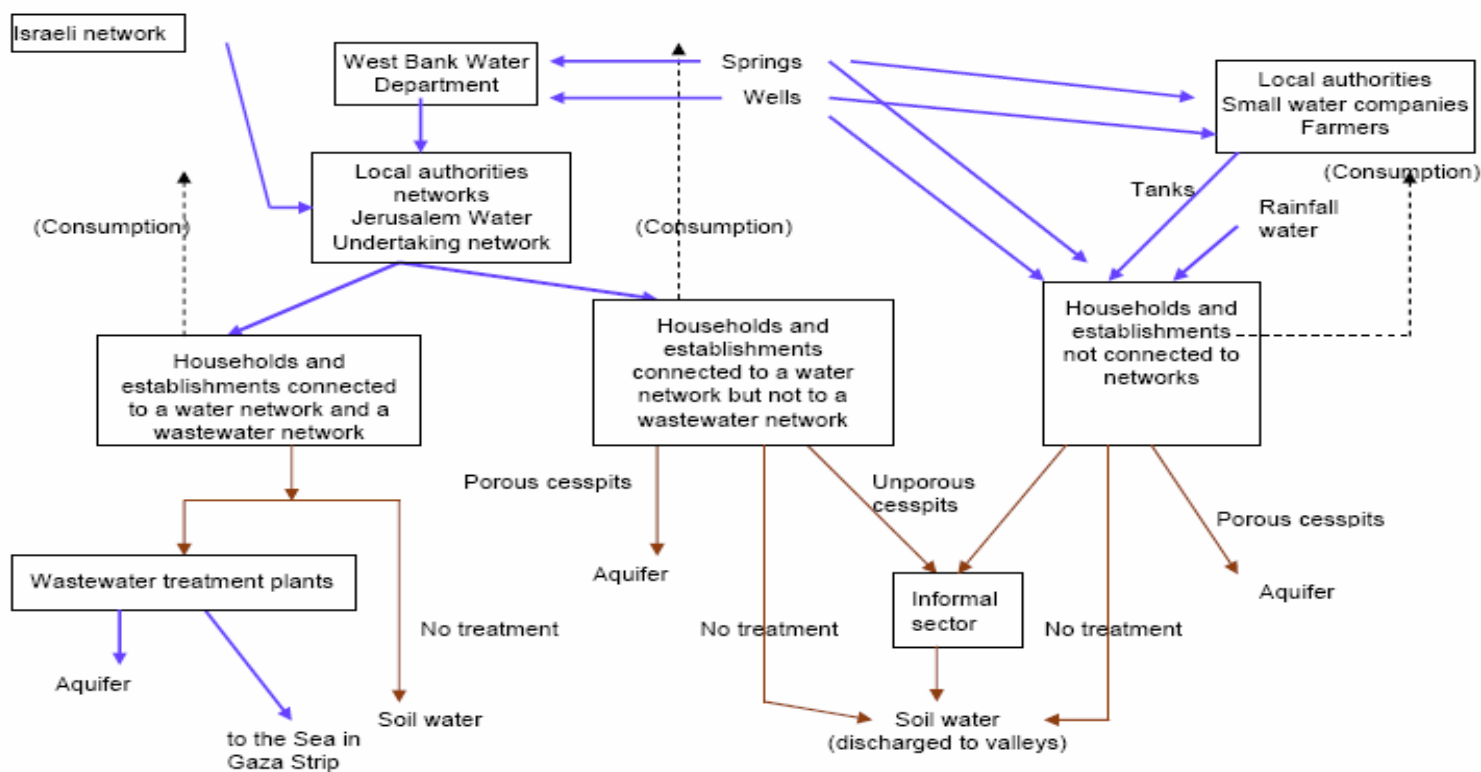


National Accounts and Water Accounts

- PCBS uses ISIC 4 since 2010
- PCBS uses SNA 1993
- All data are available under water and electricity (ISIC36) from 1994-2009
- The data under sector Water supply, sewage-waste, management and rendition activates (ISIC 36-39), are available since 2010



Mains flows due to economic activities





Thank you