

Morocco

Water Resources Program

Study period: from December 2007 to May 2008



Summary of the Evaluation

Japan has implemented cooperation for various water-related development issues in Morocco such as water resources development and management, urban and rural water supply, sewerage systems, etc., through three schemes, namely technical cooperation, ODA loans and grant aid cooperation. These cooperation projects were loosely grouped and the goal for the group was not set when the projects started. With the expectation that the inauguration of New JICA

would bring about synergy effects for different schemes, the evaluation study reorganized the ongoing projects in the water supply and sewerage area into a program. The study also conducted monitoring in order to examine the cooperation between the projects and the relevance of the program structure, as well as identifying lessons to be learned and making recommendations for future cooperation.

Evaluation Results

Background and Objectives of the Evaluation

In the Japan's ODA for Morocco, "water resources development for agricultural water supply and drinking water supply" is considered a priority area and various cooperation projects have been implemented in this field through technical cooperation, ODA loans and grant aid cooperation. The cooperation projects have dealt with various water-related issues, including water supply and sewerage systems,

irrigation and integrated water resources management for specific watersheds. In particular, many projects have been conducted for water supply and sewerage systems. The evaluation study reorganized the projects for water supply and sewerage systems into one program and examined the importance of the program in government policies, as well as examining its strategy and outputs.

The Framework and the Policy for Evaluation

The evaluation study examined the cooperation projects in the water supply and sewerage area in Morocco for 1999-2012. Table 1 on the next page shows the 15 projects subject to the study.

The program goal was set as "a safe and stable water supply." The study was conducted using the following procedures.

- (1) Confirm the consistency of the program with regard to Japanese government policy and Moroccan government policy.
- (2) Examine the strategy (consistency and outputs) of the program.
- (3) Confirm the results achieved by the program to date.
- (4) Examine the potential contributions of the water supply and the sewerage projects to the achievement of the program goal.

Evaluation Results, Lesson Learned and Recommendations

The evaluation study results confirmed that the program content met Japanese Government's country assistance policy, the basic ODA policy for the Middle East, the JICA Country Program, as well as complying with Morocco's Water Law (which is the basis for the development strategy in the water sector) and the 5-Year National Development Plan. Therefore, it was confirmed that the program is consistent with the policies and strategies of the Japanese government and the Moroccan government. For future cooperation in the water sector in Morocco, the study pointed out that the changes in the policies and priority issues of the Moroccan government for the water sector, such as an increased focus on integrated water resources management, should be taken into consideration.

Regarding the program strategy, the program does not have the most appropriate strategic structure or implementation methods for achieving the program goal since the program framework was only created for the sake of evaluation study implementation. Nevertheless, some significant cooperation between the constituent projects was observed. For example, a technical cooperation project increased the sustainability of rural water supply facilities which were conducted as grant aid cooperation projects. Long-term experts in the technical cooperation project were also cooperating with grant aid for grassroots cooperation. Active information sharing between

the ODA loan projects and other constituent projects was also observed. The Moroccan government had strong ownership of the projects and various donors, including the Japanese government, carefully considered the Moroccan government's intentions when formulating projects. This resulted in close cooperation and coordination between the projects as well as among the donors.

Individual projects (completed ones and ongoing ones) are also producing positive results. As of 2008, the number of beneficiaries in the project areas has already reached the targets set for 2012, which is the final year of the period subject to the evaluation study. Therefore, the program as a whole is greatly contributing to the achievement of the goal of PAGER (Program for Rural Water Supply). The program also contributed to the initial stage of the Moroccan sewerage program whose implementation was falling behind, and continuous cooperation in this area is expected. With respect to the technical cooperation project for the above-mentioned rural water supply, the project provided a solution to the problem of creating a system for sustainability of rural water supply projects and therefore it further increased the program effects.

To attain the program goal, the evaluation study concluded with the following remarks.

- In Morocco, the ongoing water sector policy reforms are aiming at

strengthening the watershed-level water resources management systems in addition to improving water usage efficiency, ground-water conservation and water quality.

- In response to this situation, Japan's cooperation in the water sector should be expanded to focus on integrated water resources management as well as water supply.
- Therefore, the program goal and the program components should expand their scope so that they can cover the whole water sector including (1) water resource management, (2) water usage, (3) water environment conservation and (4) watershed environment management), based on the priority policies and project content dealt with in the Moroccan government's water sector reforms.

The evaluation study report stated the three lessons learned from the study, as described below.



Rural water supply: residents maintaining a well constructed by the program

- (1) The necessity of strengthening the program management and operation system, and the importance of recruiting a program manager who will manage the whole program.
 - (2) The need for the development of a database that will be utilized for the sustainable operation of the facilities developed through grant and loan assistance, and for the realization of a stable water supply
 - (3) The necessity of considering the environmental impact of future wastewater increases due to the growing number of rural households that are directly connected to water supply systems
- Finally, regarding the planning and implementation phases of the program, the study report pointed out the importance of strengthening cooperation between related projects, and the importance of recognizing the Moroccan government's ownership of the program.

Table 1 List of Projects Constituting the Water Supply and Sewerage Program

Project name	Scheme	Implementation period
1. Component for the development of water supply systems for mid-sized urban areas		
Water Supply Improvement Project (I)	ODA loan	1995-2002
Water Supply Improvement Project (II)	ODA loan	1997-2009
Agadir Water Supply Project	ODA loan	2001-2008
2. Component for the development of rural water supply facilities		
Pre-Rif Region Drinking Water Supply Plan	Grant aid	1998-1999
Southern Provinces Drinking Water Supply Plan	Grant aid	2000
Benslimane Province Drinking Water Supply Plan	Grant aid	2005
Rural Water Supply Project (I)	ODA loan	2000-2007
Rural Water Supply Project (II)	ODA loan	2000-2009
Grant aid for grassroots	Grant aid	2000/2001
Rural Water Supply Project (III)	ODA loan	2008-2013
3. Component for strengthening the support systems for water supply facilities		
Support for the Rural Drinking Water Supply Plans	Technical cooperation	2005-2007
Project for Strengthening the Water Support Center 2	Technical cooperation	After FY2008 (under consideration)
4. Component for the development of sewerage facilities		
Sewerage System Development Project (I)	ODA loan	2005-2013
Sewerage System Development Project (II)	ODA loan	2007-2014
Urban Areas Living Environment Improvement Project	ODA loan	2007-2014

Structure of the Water Supply and Sewerage Program

