

# Ekxang trial from the viewpoint of water users' group

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# Establishing GW Users' Group

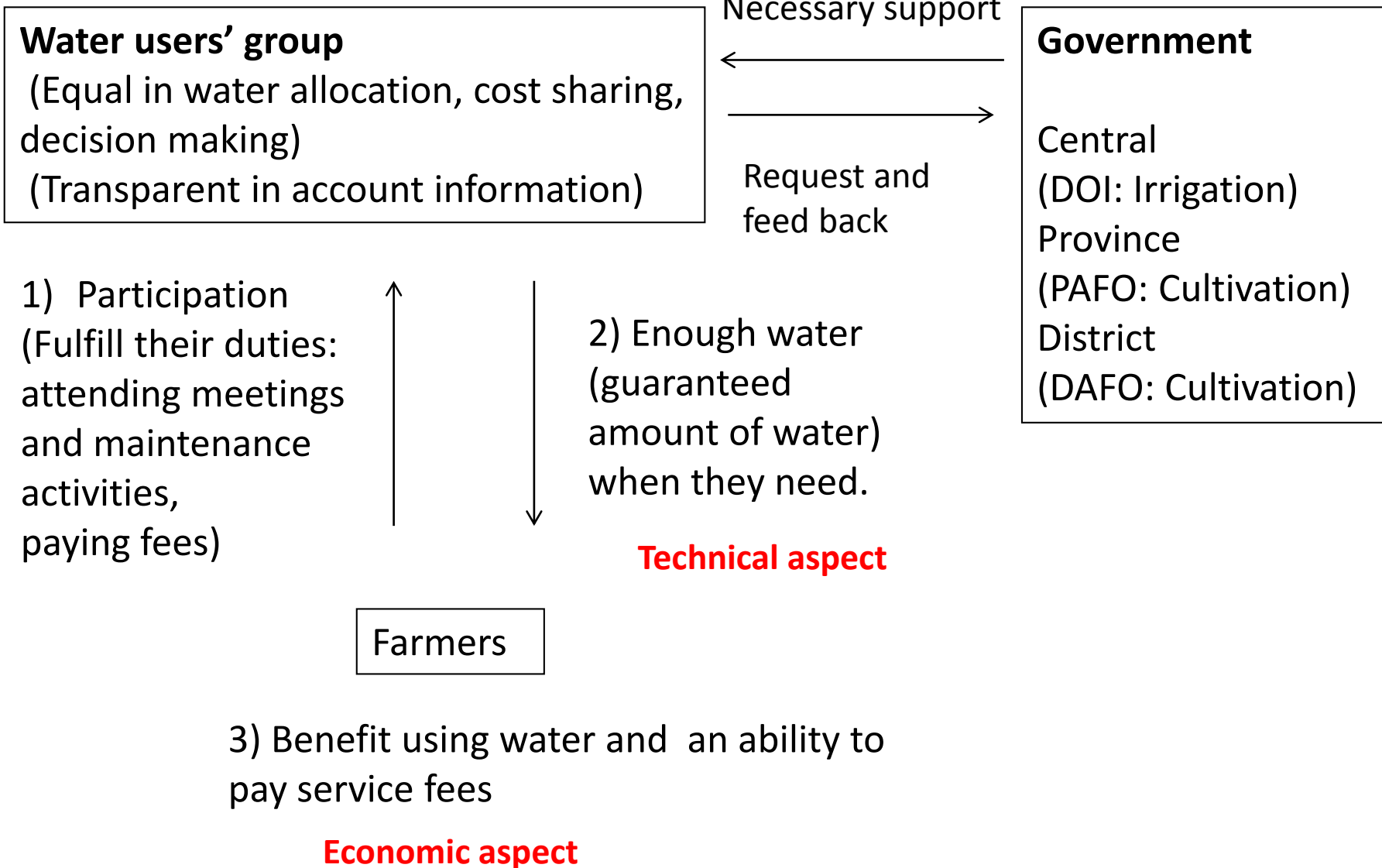
## RATIONAL

- 1) **Scale**: Mid- and large-scale groundwater irrigation system are shared/owned by multiple stakeholders;
- 2) **Effective participation**: Multi-stakeholder management and decision making process.
- 3) **Institutionalization**: Binding beneficiaries into rules, regulations and appropriate role sharing for coordinating implementation (planning, execution, monitoring and reporting, conflict resolutions etc) → **Essential for sustainability of the operations**

## BENEFITS (GW Users' management)

- 1) Reduction in operation and maintenance costs for each farmer
- 2) Distribute/share risks (e.g., crop failure due to drought) and higher returns (crop productivity, higher cropping intensity)
- 3) Share labor burden among farmers for operation and maintenance
- 4) Organize to produce and sell products on a large-scale (Market opportunities, higher bargaining power, access to credits, support from the government)

# Ideal situation of sustainable management by water users' group





# Meeting in May, 2015

DOI (Department of Irrigation ) explained the principles of participatory irrigation management.



1. Election of Head and Deputy head of Users' Group

2. Explain rules of Water Users' Group

Roles of head, deputy head and members

Payment of fee for water use

Meetings

Maintenance activities

Problem solving



Head and deputy head

## Meeting in December, 2015

Discussion on reducing farmers' risks (organized by DOI)

Our irrigation system goes well in the whole season?  
(If stop, farmers will suffer damage)

1. The project will cover fee for water use (in the 1<sup>st</sup> year)
2. The project prepares irrigation equipment for farmers who want to use.



Proceed with the project by discussion with farmers in cooperation with DOI, PAFO and DAFO.



Pre-meeting

# Evaluation of water users' group on sustainability comparing with ideal situation

## Equity

Water allocation: All farmers can irrigate their land when they need.

Cost sharing: Monitoring of water use in each plot (monitor fee for used water)

Decision- making: Consensus of all members  
(Now, 4 farmers participate.)

Transparent in account information: The project covers the expense  
(Evaluation in 2<sup>nd</sup> year)

## Farmers' participation (Fulfill their duties)

Payment: The project covers.

Operation: Members operate.

Attending meetings: Attended meetings (Before cultivation)

Maintenance activities: Not yet

(If farmers' group can not repair, they contact IWMI or DOI. Government helps issues which farmers cannot solve)

## Conclusion

Progress of the project

Involvement of farmers

(Discussion with farmers in cooperation with DOI, PAFO and DAFO)

Management by users' group

accordance with the principles.

(Except financial management: The project covers in the 1<sup>st</sup> year.)



Now: 4 farmers cultivate using groundwater. If they get benefits, the number of participated farmers will increase in the next year.

## Suggestion

In the 1<sup>st</sup> year, It is not sure that irrigation system goes well in the whole season.



Discussion with farmers to reduce their risks



## **Plan of follow-up**

1. Meeting with villagers (organized by DOI)
  1. Result of cultivation (Yield, water use etc.)
  2. Future plan (How about next year?)
  3. Others (Check the process etc.)
  
2. Dissemination of this trial
  1. Report on the process, lessons and suggestions (for government staff, donors)
  2. Observation by farmers from other villages (If possible)

**Thank you!**

