

# **Participatory Irrigation Management**

**Comparing Theory with practice :  
Beni Amir irrigation system in Morocco**

Gerrit van Vuren / Celine Papin / Nawal El-Haouari

# Central Planning concept 1930-1970

- Government design
- Fixed and prescribed cropping pattern
- Fixed planting dates
- Inputs via government organisation
- Central planned water delivery schedule

World wide practice / no participation required



Neo liberal era: less state – more market

Participatory Irrigation Management PIM

Irrigation Management Transfer IMT

Definition PIM (World Bank 1996):

The *involvement* of irrigation users in *all aspects* and *all level* of irrigation management

# Reasons for introducing PIM

1. Internal reasons
  - Improves system performance/productivity
  - improves (water) service provision
  - efficient use of scarce water
  - reduces O&M costs
  - no bureaucratic procedures
  - sustainable irrigation systems

# Reasons for introducing PIM

## 2. External reasons

- reduces government expenditures
- responds to democratisation programs
- responds to privatisation programs
- responds to pressure of funding agents  
(IMF – World Bank – WTO – donors)

# PIM in Morocco

- Efforts started in 1990
  - Promote participation
  - Give effective responsibilities to farmers
  - Promote dialogue ORMVA – farmers
  - Promote good management

Principles: progressive/selective/adapted/contractual en negotiated/ incentives

# ROYAUME DU MAROC



# **Le Périmètre des Béni Amir (28 000 Ha) en rive droite, irrigué à partir du barrage Dcher El Oued**



**Dotation allouée en eau d'irrigation :**

**408 Mm<sup>3</sup> selon le plan directeur**

# Longueur du réseau Hydraulique

Longueur canaux : 2630 Km

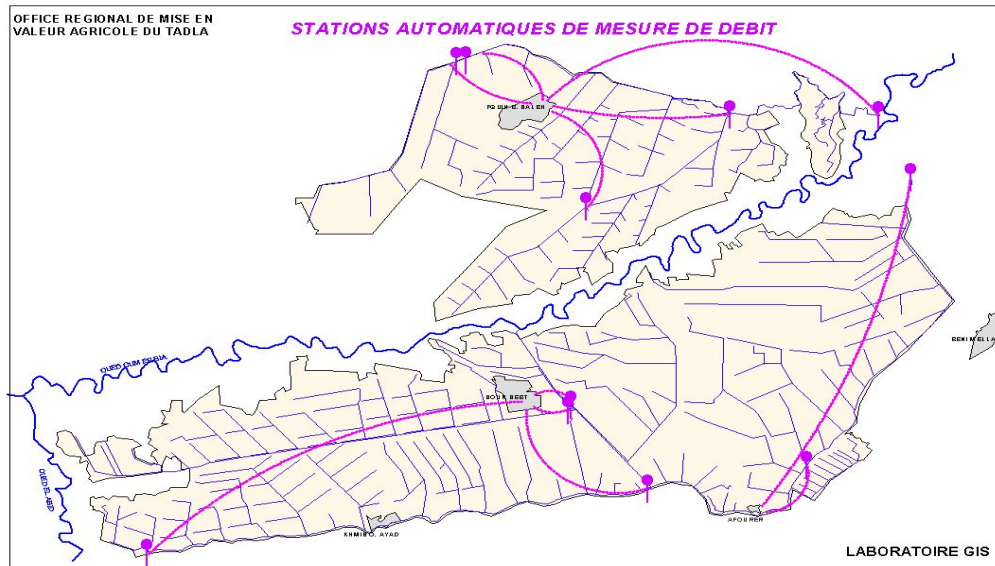
Canaux principaux 200 Km

Canaux primaires  
et secondaires 630 Km

Canaux tertiaires 1.800 Km

# AMELIORATION DE LA GESTION DU SYSTEME D'IRRIGATION

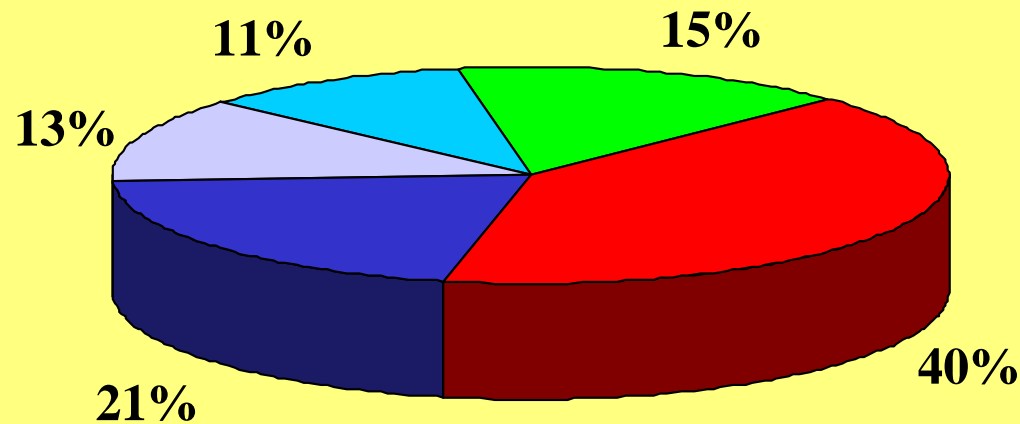
## RESEAU AUTOMATIQUE DE SUIVI DES DEBITS



**ACQUISITION DES DONNEES SUR LA  
SITUATION EN TEMPS REEL DES DEBITS**

# STRUCTURE FONCIERE

## *Superficies en Irrigué*



■ 0 - 5 Ha

■ 5 - 10 Ha

■ 10 - 20 Ha

■ 20 - 50 Ha

■ > 50 Ha

# Response from farmers:

- Water is scarce: no reason to be involved
- WUA board election: manipulated
- WUA leaders: mis use of power
- We cannot do a better job

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# Check on PIM literature

- Existence of water scarcity

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- Sufficient cash money
- Strong leaders – litterate farmers

# Conclusion

- World literature on PIM / IMT is not providing the answers on dealing with these concepts in Morocco
- Morocco should find its own way (as is valid for most other countries)