

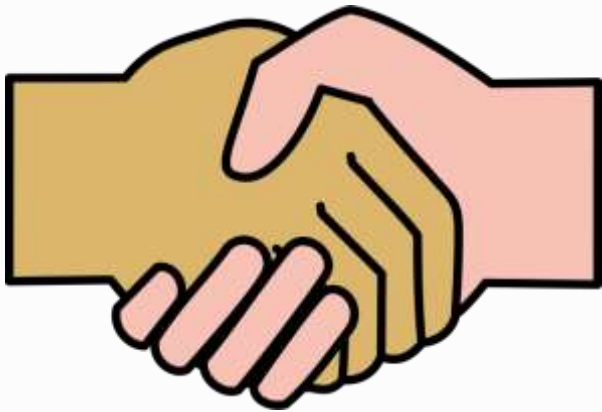
# The Spate Irrigation Network and Its Partners Past Challenges and Achievements, and the Journey Ahead

Leadership Course in Flood-Based Farming  
29 February to 11 March, 2016  
Nairobi, Kenya

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# The Spate Irrigation Network (SpN)

- Born in 2002 with a hand full of interested members



Familiarize policy makers, implementing agencies, research and educational institutions, donors with development scope, experiences & practical approaches to spate irrigation development

# Phase I: 2002 to 2006

## The Challenge

Spate Irrigation dismissed as unreliable systems merely supporting subsistence farming

## The Approach

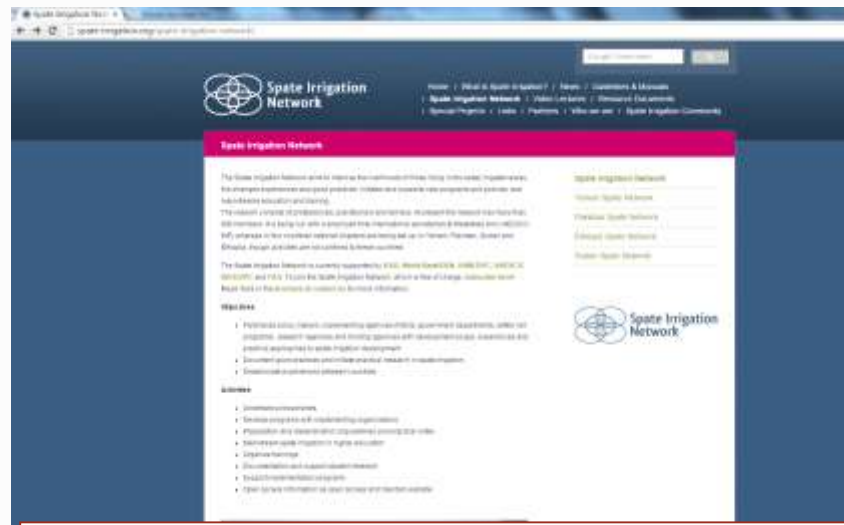
Build knowledge-base (document successful practices) and create platform for knowledge and experience sharing

## The Approach

Working in partnership with varied stakeholders  
“Agents of Change”

# The start: Make SpN Visible

1. Build website – link to major websites
2. Establish country bases
3. Don't wait for invitations, show-up at major events **with powerful messages!!**



# Phase 2: 2007 to 2011

## The Challenge

Where is the technical know-how to develop FBFS

Where are the credible technical references

## The Approach

Solutions oriented scientific research

Creating platform for knowledge-sharing

## The Approach

Working in partnership with varied stakeholders  
“Agents of Change”



# Some milestones: 2011



2010



2009

*IFAD Large Grant:  
Spate Irrigation for Rural Economic Growth and Poverty Alleviation: Ethiopia, Sudan, Yemen and Pakistan*

2011

# Phase 3: 2011 to 2015

## The Challenge

Embedding Spate irrigation in national policy  
Integrate Spate Irrigation into national curricula  
Strengthen outreach to farmers

## The Approach

Invest into local champions  
Strengthened country knowledge centers  
Easy to read knowledge products

## The Approach

Working in partnership with varied stakeholders  
“Agents of Change”

**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

**IWMI**  
International Water Management Institute







# Knowledge sharing: Experts, farmers and policy makers

December 2013, Sudan



December 2013, Sudan



# Knowledge products: Videos and brief notes in local languages

**The Water CHANNEL**

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### Water Rights in Spate Irrigation

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"Floods are not always a hazard. They may also sustain aquatic life and marine biodiversity, recharge aquifers, enrich soils and in some of the world's poorest areas they are the main source of irrigation." – Global Water Partnership (2000) "Toward water security: a framework for action."

Spate irrigation is the art and science of managing floods for irrigation. It is unique to arid and semi-arid environments, found in the Middle East, North Africa, West Asia, East Africa and parts of Latin America.

Unpredictability is inherent to spate irrigation, yet water distribution rules regulate the distribution of the unpredictable water supplies. They impose a pattern and reduce uncertainty and potential conflict by regulating the relations between the landowners that have access to flood water. Particularly where flood water users depend on one another in maintaining flood channels and reconstructing diversion structures, agreement on how water is distributed is a precondition for cooperation between different parties in this respect.

More info: <http://www.spate-irrigation.org/library/spate-notes>  
Produced by: TheWaterChannel

### Related

- Spate Irrigation: Traditional Engineering in Hadramawt 4273 Views
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## Drinking Water From Spate Irrigation



## الثروة الحيوانية في مناطق الري السيلي في اليمن

### ورقة عامة تطبيقية في الري بمياه السيول



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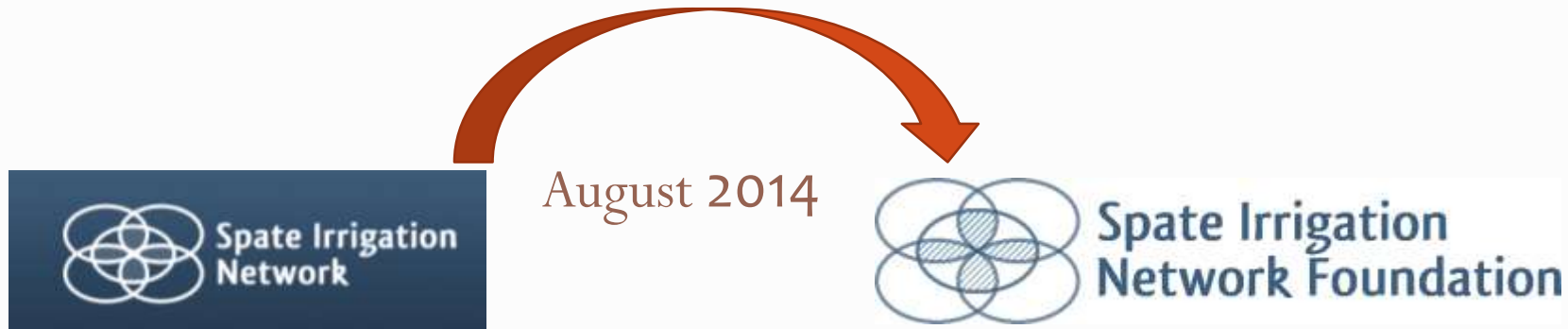
Command Area Improvement and Soil Moisture Conservation in Spate Irrigation



ورقة عامة تطبيقية في الري بمياه السيول

Practical Note

# Major milestones in 2014 and 2015



- **2015 - SPNF succeeds acquiring its first project as the lead partner**
  - WLE CGIAR Harnessing Floods for Enhanced Livelihoods and Ecosystem Services
  - Operational in Sudan and Ethiopia
- **2015 – SPNF official partner in the IFAD and EC project:**
  - From Africa to Asia and Back Again: Testing Adaptation in Food-based Farming Systems
  - Operational in 8 countries: Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya, Malawi, Myanmar, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Yemen



# Phase 4: 2015 to 2020



- From scheme to basin/landscape level - the wider ecosystem services
- Specific focus on investments and gender



- Consolidate our base in the four pioneer countries
- From 4 to 8 countries
- From spate irrigation to all FBFS: *3 to 30 million ha; 15 to 150 million beneficiaries*



- Transforming SPNF into a network of Farmers
- Nurturing young talent – future leaders
- Up-scaling the spate irrigation course into a leadership course on FBFS and Water Harvesting

Logos of Four New countries



## Phase 4: 2015 to 2020 : CGIAR Harnessing floods

### Un answered questions

How do FBFS affect and are impacted by basin-wide developments?

Who are the basin wide winners and losers of investment programmes

What are the specific priorities, needs and challenges of women FBFS beneficiaries

### The approach

Solutions oriented research

Ecosystem (micro climate approach) and gender fous

INVEST and RIOS

Formulating development/investm ent scenarios by different category of stakeholders

# IFAD & EC FBFS programme

Target Groups	Benefits
50 Policy shapers	Informed policy statements and understanding of practical opportunities of developing FBFS
400 practitioners and professionals	Enhanced skills and attitudes and access to best practices in Africa and Asia; special attention to young professionals & female professionals
1600 Male and female farmers, fishermen and livestock herders (TOT; Training of Trainers)	Increased knowledge on water security and productive and sustainable use of FBFS
8 National governments	Guided investments – covering entire range of activities from agricultural/pastoral improvement to governance
8 (Inter)national partner organization	increased outreach and leverage – in shape of educational programs or thematic investment programs
6 IFAD and EC development/investment programmes related to the themes/ located in the project area	Leadership in the development of FBFS and enhancement and support of investment portfolio

# IFAD & EC FBFS programme

- Needs driven solutions oriented research - farmers and young professionals will be actively involved
- Establish farmer learning centres or strengthen existing ones
- Internship programme to nurture young talent
- Leadership course on FBFS
- Cross-country theme relevant knowledge products – practical notes, videos, etc..
- Develop investment proposals and influence their implantation
- Establishing four new FBFS country networks