

6-11-2002

National Water Resources Management Planning in Palestine [abstract]

John R. Pasch

Follow this and additional works at: <http://scholar.law.colorado.edu/allocating-and-managing-water-for-sustainable-future>

 Part of the [State and Local Government Law Commons](#), [Sustainability Commons](#), [Water Law Commons](#), and the [Water Resource Management Commons](#)

Citation Information

Pasch, John R., "National Water Resources Management Planning in Palestine [abstract]" (2002). *Allocating and Managing Water for a Sustainable Future: Lessons from Around the World (Summer Conference, June 11-14)*.
<http://scholar.law.colorado.edu/allocating-and-managing-water-for-sustainable-future/41>



William A. Wise Law Library
COLORADO **LAW**
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**



Getches-Wilkinson Center Collection

John R. Pasch, *National Water Resources Management Planning in Palestine* [abstract], in *ALLOCATING AND MANAGING WATER FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE: LESSONS FROM AROUND THE WORLD* (Natural Res. Law Ctr., Univ. of Colo. Sch. of Law 2002).

Reproduced with permission of the Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment (formerly the Natural Resources Law Center) at the University of Colorado Law School.

National Water Resources Management Planning in Palestine

By: John R. Pasch, PE

John R. Pasch, PE
Senior Water Resources Engineer
CH2M Hill Inc.
Jerusalem, Israel
Email: jpasch@meg.palnet.com

John R. Pasch is a senior water resources engineer for CH2M Hill, Inc. He is currently based in Jerusalem, Israel where he is the task leader for the Integrated Water Resources Management Plan being developed under the USAID supported West Bank Water Resources Program, Phase III. Mr. Pasch has over nine years experience in water resources and environmental management in the United States, Europe, Africa and the Middle East. He is a graduate of Colorado State University (MS Civil Engineering, 1998) and is a registered professional engineer in the state of Colorado.

ABSTRACT

The management of limited water resources in the West Bank is complicated by a political situation in flux. Interim water rights established under the Oslo Accords have not yet been finalized by final status negotiations. In spite of the uncertain political situation, government agencies established under the Palestinian Authority have continued to develop. The Palestinian Water Authority (PWA) has prepared for the final water rights agreement and adapted to the political uncertainty by:

- 1) Establishing water sector goals and objectives early among all stakeholders
- 2) Developing a National Water Plan to meet these goals and objectives
- 3) Drafting a National Water Law which provides an integrated policy, regulatory and institutional framework
- 4) Establishing a decision-making body, the National Water Council, composed of agency representatives across the water sector
- 5) Developing an integrated water resources management plan which:
 - Takes a basin approach to resource management, and
 - Integrates both supply-side and demand-side management schemes

Together these elements will provide equitable access to sustainable water resources for Palestinians through participatory and transparent governance and management. This integrated and inclusive approach to water resources management planning developed under politically uncertain and resource limited conditions provides important lessons for water resources planners and policy-makers in the Western United States and throughout the world.