

Climate Action for Integrated Water Resource Management: from Sabo Structures to Water Conservation

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Abstract

Climate change has changed our understanding and planning for many developmental sectors, including water resource management. This lecture presents the policy shift in Malaysia on water sector; from catchment, water supply, sewerage facilities and demand management. At catchment level, the strategy has been shifted from the utmost upstream pristine purity water augmentation using high dam structures into downstream off-river storage, weirs and barrages. Thus discharges from point and non-point sources are to be identified and managed accordingly. Centralized sewage facilities (more than 1 million PE) have been constructed to replace the scattered-small-less-efficient sewage treatment plants. To improve surface water quality, sabo structures, detention ponds and in-stream water quality improvement have been included in all major catchments. In addition, demand management has been identified as critical to reduce consumption from 225 to 180 liter day percapita by 2020. Examples will be given to illustrate the progress since 2015 to respond to Sustainable Development Goals.

Key Words

climate, water, sewage, demand management, SDG