

Economic Evaluation of Some Egyptian Agricultural Irrigation Systems

Agriculture is considered the main first consumer of water. The irrigation water requirements nearly about 95% of Egypt yearly Nile water share and about 80% of Egyptian water source. Government of Egypt has performed many programs, and special projects for horizontal and vertical expansion to rise agricultural production, and productivity and relies the economical developments. The essence of problem which limit performing this programs and projects in agriculture sector that the Egyptian waters resources is relatively rear. Above all, the excessive use of water by farmers in old lands that represent about 85% of total irrigation practice. Irrigation improvement project (TIP) is one of those projects that the ministry of public work & water resources in cooperates with ministry of agriculture have performed to improve that practices. Improved systems done by substitute the under ground pipeline (P.V.C.) or raised concrete mesqa (I.Sec.) for ordinary one. This study aimed to economically evaluate the improved irrigation systems in Egypt, and specially test the theoretical hypothesis that water use efficiency under traditional surface irrigation system with ordinary mesqa deviate from economical use. All above, achieve study goals that: 1-Detecting the main irrigation systems in Egypt, and explain features of irrigation management systems project (I.M.S.), Egypt water use & management project (E.W.V.P.), and rotation system improvement project in Egypt, that engender the (IIP) national project. 2- Perform the comparative economical analyses between improved irrigation systems and traditional one according to mesqa type and farm location at it. 3-Estimate some economical measures which reported about preferable of irrigation systems. 4-Launching the feasibility study for improved discounted measures to estimate their profit as person point of view. That means using the financial (not economical) evaluation technique. Also, study used some methods for evaluation procedures as, economical efficiency measures, analyses of variant method, economical analyses of production function and financial evaluation technique. Study depended mainly on raw data that collected from stratified represented sample of farmers under both improved and traditional irrigation systems and came out four parts, dealing with theoretical and statistical issues related to research. Part one, detect the main irrigation systems in Egypt like sprinkler, DROP, and surface irrigation systems with a brief explanation of their concepts, and focus the main issues, strategies and scale of irrigation improvement project which could be summarized as: 1- Improve main irrigation system by replacing water continues flow in main canal instead of rotational system. 2- Improve on farm irrigation system by using the raised concrete mesqa (J.Sec.) or the under ground pipeline (p.V.C.) and all has one point lifting pump at upper point of it. 3- setting up the irrigation advisory services (I.A.S.) to be one of the ministry agencies. 4- forming the water use association (W.U.A.) to realize farmers cooperation in operate and maintain mesqa, and also in water distribution along users. 5- Improve peoples efficiency and skills especially ministry staff. Review of literature in Part two explain that some few of previous study related to the research was concerned about improved irrigation systems economics. It is obviously that there is no study perform the economical efficiency concepts, analysis of variance method, or launch financial evaluation technique. So, this study perform analytical methods above trying to economically evaluate improved irrigation systems, and it could be a new entry for evaluate such project. Part three concerned about sample and its character. Survey of farmers served by El-Saidia canal, Sharkia governate reveals substantial deviation of actual applied water quantity comparing with rationed

limit. Value of water deviation under (P.V.C.) mesqa was bigger than under (ISec.) mesqa type. Above all, water deviation value was the biggest under ordinary mesqa, and it estimated to be about half of actual applied water quantity in vain. Part four introduces procedure of irrigation system evaluation using four different methods every one in a chapter. Chapter one discusses the efficiency concepts and focus efficiency of using irrigation water. Result of data calculation shows that the raised concrete mesqa (ISec.) has a great efficiency of water use and high cost of lifting water unit. The pipeline (P.V.C.) system proves its efficiency of using irrigation water, declines water unit lifting cost and raises gross and net return of water unit too. Chapter two launches the analyses of variance between irrigation systems, and farm location along mesqa in three sections upper, middle, and end tail. Data analyses manifest significant differences between improved systems (ISec. & P.V.C.) and traditional one in average irrigation cost, net return, and productivity of area unit, also in water unit net return and actual applied water quantity. Chapter three introduces production functions and analyses of its parameters. Data formed into two-function type using multi regression and stepwise technique. One function represents unit area production under different irrigation system and makes a comparison using elasticity and marginality concepts. Chapter four illustrates financial evaluation using discounted measures also current prices. Finally, sensitivity analyses of improved irrigation systems to make sure of project capability if market condition had been changed to be worse. Result shows that both improved systems are visible to be applied but (ISec.) could be preferable than (P.V.C.) irrigation system. Accounting all above, study could recommend that: 1-Acceleration in applying irrigation improvement national project step by step with allowing continuous water flow in the main canal. 2-filling up the ordinary mesqa as an integral step for improving. 3-Government must develop a program to get back systems installation costs.