



HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY

Title	The Reality of Public Participation in Water Management: Case Study of Jordan and Singapore [an abstract of dissertation and a summary of dissertation review]
Author(s)	AL-Najar, Faten Othman
Degree Grantor	北海道大学
Degree Name	博士(工学)
Dissertation Number	甲第11462号
Issue Date	2014-03-25
Doc URL	https://hdl.handle.net/2115/55595
Rights(URL)	https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.1/jp/
Type	doctoral thesis
File Information	FATEN_OTHMAN_abstract.pdf, 論文内容の要旨



学 位 論 文 内 容 の 要 旨

博士の専攻分野の名称 博士（工学） 氏名 FATEN OTHMAN (AL-HAJ MAH'D)
AL-NAJAR

学 位 論 文 題 名

The Reality of Public Participation in Water Management: Case Study of Jordan and Singapore
(水管理における住民参加に関する研究 –ヨルダンとシンガポールを例にして–)

This study aims to explore the presence of applying public participation practices in water management context in two case studies; Jordan and Singapore. It uses grounded theory methodology to understand how the concept of public participation is perceived by different stakeholders and how it is affecting the currently applied participation practices in both case studies. The data used in this study was collected through conducting several face-to-face interviews with several key water experts and specialists working in the water sector in both cases including experts working for governmental and nongovernmental institutions, as well as interviewing experts working in two water projects that applies public participation the Water Users Association in the Jordan Valley and the Highland Water Forum for the case of Jordan. The findings of the first case showed that there is a distinct difference in the perception of public participation between two groups; the “officials” and “non-officials” which in turn has influenced other aspects of participation mainly the objectives and preferred type of participation, justification for implementing the participation and the characterization of currently applied participation practices. The results also showed that the two groups have contrasting opinions in their perception of the actual implementation of public participation compared with their desired definition of public participation. It was also found that Jordan has a unique water management structure in which international funding agencies play a major role and the interaction between officials and funding agencies influences the way water is managed and consequently influences the implementation of public participation in water projects. When it comes to the two projects that apply public participation in Jordan we found that the “officials” and “non-officials” have expressed different opinions regarding the place of public participation in water projects which was influenced by their understanding of “meaning of public participation”. The difference was also observed in the findings of the interview on actual projects regarding the involvement of the stakeholders in both projects especially in the planning stage. On the contrary, the results from the case of Singapore showed that interviewees have agreed on or shared almost similar view points on most of the key categories with two categories having most of the influence over the rest of the categories namely the meaning of public participation and the management structure. Most of the interviewees’ have expressed a more indirect view on participation approach by which they believe that public participation is more related to the issues of saving and protecting water. The interviewees have also distinguished between the participation of the community which would be more related to the public involvement in education and awareness programs as well as arranging visits to different educational centres. The second participation is related to the industry involvement in terms of participation in DBO projects and technology development. The

lessons that could be learned from both case studies is first of all the importance of having the support of the official authorities in order to ensure the success of any public participation initiatives as it has been demonstrated in both case studies as well as the necessity to have a legal recognition for any public participation within a clear legal framework to organize the participation. Another important point is having a more holistic water management structure, as in the case of Singapore, which allowed the government to carry out their responsibilities toward water management efficiently especially in terms of preventing any overlapping in tasks that could be caused by miscommunication that might occur among different departments. The case of Singapore also showed that the success of their water management structure allowed the government to succeed in building trust and establish its reliability among the people of Singapore which made securing the public acceptance for water related projects easier.