

CAPACITY BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT OF WATER RESOURCES TOOLS IN SUPPORT OF ECONOMIC GROWTH IN IRAQ

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RESUMO

The U.S. Geological Survey has been working with Iraq Water Ministries to quantify and qualify surface and groundwater resources and accomplish two specific objectives: 1) promote socio-economic development in the agricultural, hydropower, and minerals sectors of Iraq, and 2) promote stability through a sound adaptive water resources management plan. The U.S. Department of Defense Task Force for Business and Stability Operations in Iraq funded the portion of the work that was completed in 2010. Some of the key accomplishments included: 1) assessing and compiling existing water resources information; 2) applying current technologies to provide training on the establishment of water monitoring networks; 3) using remotely sensed data to monitor transboundary flows from snowmelt; and 4) producing water databases, maps, and reports that are necessary for economic development. Some successes are already evident, and the U.S. government will continue to evaluate whether the approach was appropriate for Iraq.

Palavra-Chave: Iraq water resources; monitoring; capacity building; remote sensing