

WATER MANAGEMENT IN CEARÁ STATE: FROM THE CONSTRUCTION OF WATER STOCKS TO THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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ABSTRACT

The Ceará State, located at northern of Brazil, is characterized by a climate with concentrated rainfall, crystalline substrate and high evaporation. All the rivers are intermittent with a dry season ranging from six to nine months. This reality has modeled the relationship between society and water in cultural, technical and political fashions. As water is need al the year, to store water is a real need. The water management history in Ceará is divided in three parts: building water reservoirs; managing the waters stocks; and, finally, managing the waters including the users in the decision. The water management in Ceará State has passed by the two initial steps and is now organizing the new paradigms model. This paper presents an historical perspective on Ceará Water Management model with emphasis in the methodology recently applied in the construction of four water management river basins plans.

PALAVRA-CHAVE: WATER RESOURCES PLANS, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, WATER MANAGEMENT