

Stakeholder participation in water resources problem: legislative and practice (case study Laghouat state Algeria).

Introduction:

In 2020, the United Nations is aiming to draw a roadmap towards a better and sustainable future through the sustainable development goals (SDG). The 6th goals concerned by "Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all" and the indicator 6.a.1 addressing the participation evaluation, a participation through the existence legislative. According to Halbe [7], most water policy reinforces the need of integrated and participatory solution to sustainable the water resources management. The real situations of water resources problem have backgrounds resulting from the current or previous applied policies, and all its positive or negative effects it has had on the stakeholders or the resources themselves. The efficiency of the applicable frameworks in developed countries is obvious, but the developing countries suffered from the difficulties of its implementation, despite the legislative and the practice efforts. While the Integrated water resources management (IWRM) with its new framework is promising on some case, the developing countries still faced difficulties trying its implementation. Between SDG, IWRM and local legislative, the participation in the most case of developing country swings between admiration of frameworks and its implementation.

The methodology:

1. Analysing of the Algeria water sector law (policy, plans and participatory approach)

2. Analysing a survey' result about water resources in Laghouat state

3. Definition of participation indicators and gradation of stakeholder participation

4. Determination of stakeholder participation degree

Algerian water resources legislations

The first water code [16] in Algeria was promulgated July 1983 in the official journal in. The code aim is the definition of national water policy which tends to: meet the users and the national economic needs with rational and planned manner; and prevent water losses, pollution, overexploitation and detrimental effects of water. This code was completed and modified in September 2005 [14] and aiming to define the applicable rules: to the use, and management and sustainable development of water resources as property of the national community. The aim of the use, management and sustainable development of water resources is: the water supply through the mobilisation and distribution in sufficient quantity and in required quality, to meet in priority the needs of the population and the livestock, agriculture, industry and other economic and social activities. The participation of stakeholders was mentioned as a principle on which the aim of the code is based. Since the decree of Creation of National agency of IWRM [13] in 2011, the newly promulgated legislations do not exceed the modification of financial dispositions or internal reorganisation of administrations and in the best case a complemented decree. The legislation cited above give legal underpinning to the Algerian water policy. According to Bouchedja [2], the principals of this water policy are:

- Uniqueness of the resource: The hydrographic basin agencies ensure unitary management at the hydrographic basin Scale;
- Consultation: the hydrographic basin committees are charged of the consultation
- Economy: it is accomplished by addressing leaks and over-use of water with objectives focused on systematic monitoring, and network restoration, and user awareness.
- Ecology: Water is a precious and common resource that must be shielded from all kinds of pollution.
- Universality: the water is the concern of all users.

Finally, the implementation of the actual or reformulated policy needs the concerted efforts of all stakeholders, as well as the state possessing the powers that enable it to apply.

Stakeholder participation:

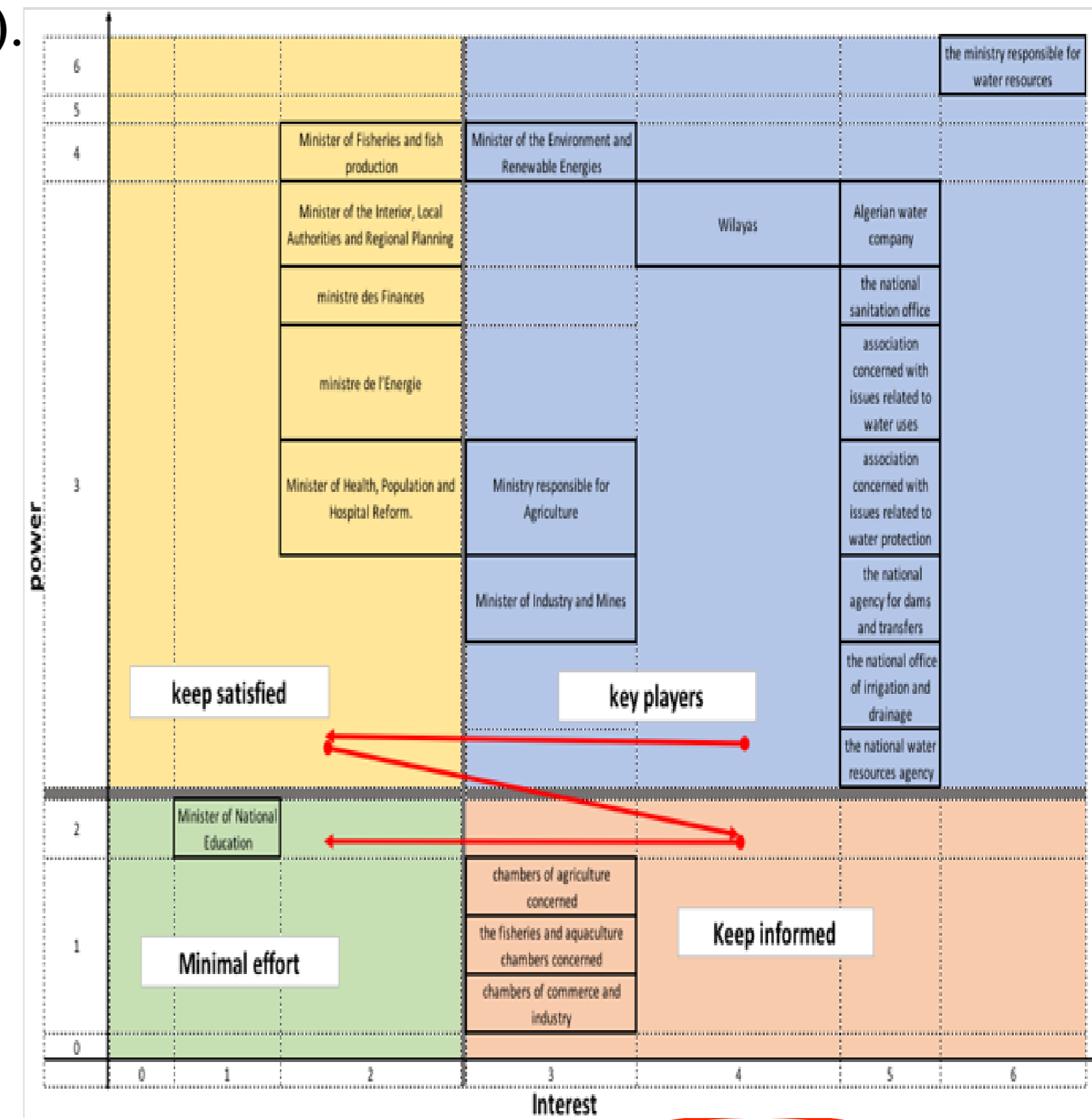
The stakeholder theory permits the recognition of the stakeholder opinion and open the door of consultation between the stakeholders, that what is argued by Halbe [7], he considers the participation as the manner how the Stakeholders share their opinions, read from other viewpoints and discuss the awareness of reality and subjective perceptions.

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Purpose

The research is addressing the gap between legislative and practice of stakeholder participation in water resources problem. The real situations of water resources problem have backgrounds resulting from the current or previous applied policies, and all its positive or negative effects it has had on the stakeholders or the resources themselves. The efficiency of the applicable frameworks in developed countries is obvious, but the developing countries suffered from the difficulties of its implementation, despite the legislative and the practice efforts. For that the most case of developing country swing between admiration of frameworks and procedures and their implementation reality.



Stakeholder classification
 The literature of stakeholder theory contains many proposed models to analyse and classify the stakeholders in different fields and according to several criteria. The famous Mendelow's matrix [4], based on the power and influence to group the stakeholders.

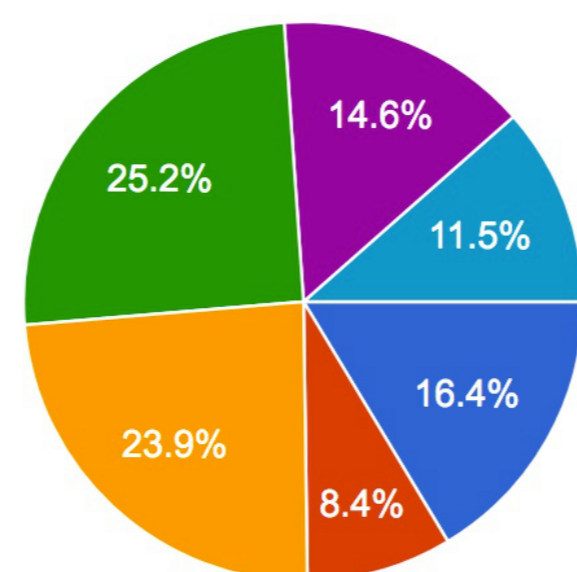
Survey

The survey sample size is 241 from the 674 690 hab which correspond to a Confidence Level of 95% and Margin of Error equal to 6.3%

The questions

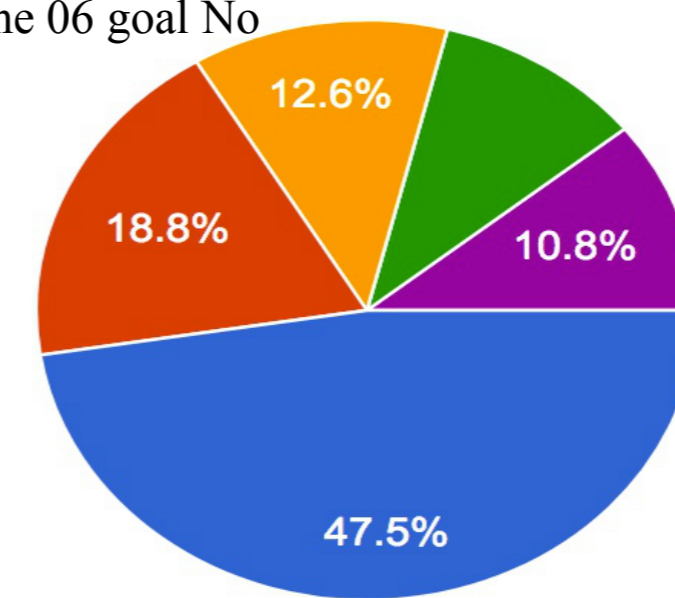
In your state, have you ever read or receive a brochure or anything else about water resources?

- No
- You don't accept it, because everything is right, and it is only unfounded fears.
- You don't accept it, because you are uninterested
- Only one time
- More than one time
- Always



Do you have an idea about SDG (sustainable development Goals), and its sixth goal?

- No
- Little, but I am not sure
- Somewhat, but the 06 goal No
- Somewhat
- Yes

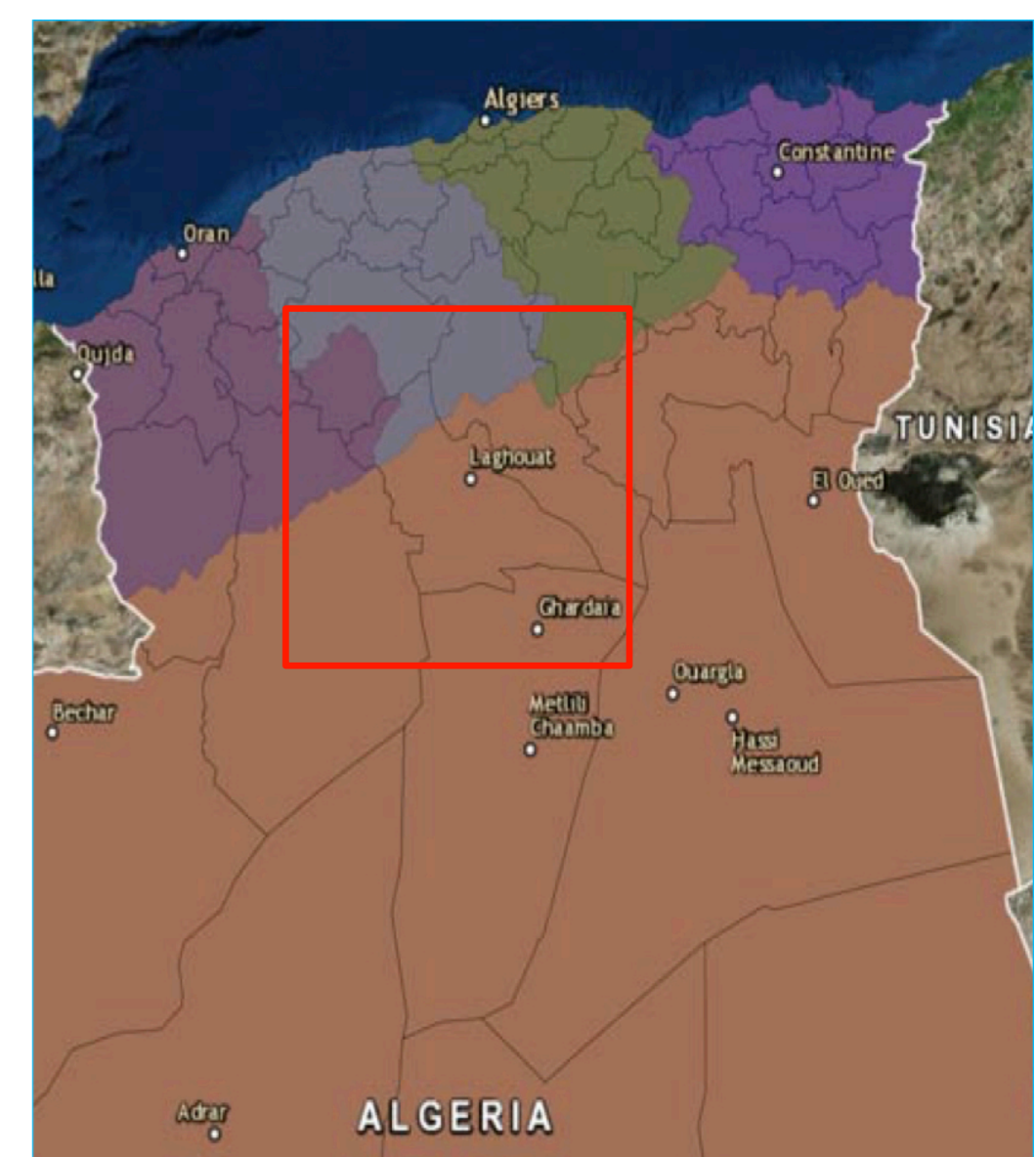


The implementation of the new water resources management framework needs the participation of all the stockholders, do you feel able to participate?

- Don't care
- Not at all able
- Slightly able
- Somewhat able
- Moderately able
- Extremely able.

Conclusion

Groundwater in some developing countries is the only water resource for all human activities, but it is treated as an available resource. The stakeholder participation is the key to ensure its preservation, but it still ranged in the implementation stage due to several obstacles, including the fact that in these countries, the water problem is politicised and highly complex, and these frameworks are created in developed countries in terms that differ from what they are in developing countries.



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