

MANAGEMENT OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IN EKITI STATE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

Access to safe water supply has a great influence on health, economic productivity, and quality of life. Challenges of water demand still persist irrespective of millions of naira spent in water supply but yet the supply is far below the demand. This paper assessed the problems and prospects of water infrastructural decay in Ekiti State with a view to proffering planning principles and techniques to prevent water infrastructural decay in the state. Secondary data from literature, journals, government policy gazette were used. A reconnaissance survey, personal observation, interviews, and photographs were used to collect data. The capacity of water supply in Ekiti state was examined through under study of nine (9) dams /water projects vis-à-vis their category, design capacity, total volume per quarter, average volume per day, and capacity utilization. Data obtained were analyzed using the descriptive contents method. The finding showed that these dams can supply seventy percent of water needed in the state if adequately harnessed and managed. The research revealed that the population of the state grows faster than the water supplied from the public- owned facilities. Policy measures were recommended that abandoned dams should be resuscitated through proper funding and maintenance under public- private partnerships for economic sustainability.

Keywords: Water infrastructure, Demand, Supply, Management, Sustainability