

On the relationship between water demand management and integrated water resources management in China

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Abstract There is wide recognition that strategies for sustainable water use are needed due to great water scarcity stresses imposed by both uncertain climatic conditions, and continuous rapid economic growth. In China, water demand management (WDM) is thought to be a valid approach and is expected to play a large role in the management. Firstly this paper introduces the types of WDM methods, and points out that WDM methods should vary with different local situations, then it analyses the relationship between WDM and water supply management, water use management, and water quality management. By discussing the interactions of these parts, it emphasizes that WDM is part of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and IWRM will be a valid way to ease the conflict of water demand and water supply.

Key words water demand management; integrated water resources management; water-saving measures; sustainable water use