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Regional training scheme for drinking water programmes at the Wad-el-Maghboul
Institute, Sudan**

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UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
Programme Committee
1981 session

**RECOMMENDATION TO EXECUTIVE BOARD
FOR PROGRAMME CO-OPERATION, 1981-1983**

Regional training scheme for drinking water programmes
at the Mou-ei-nghoul Institute, Suva

Proposed commitment: \$US 600,000

Estimated government expenditure: \$US 500,000

Contribution from

the Arava Fund for Economic and Social Development: \$US 1,250,000

Proposed yearly co-operation

	Total	1981	1982	1983
	(thousands of US dollars)			
Proposed 1981 Board commitment	600	265	275	60

Structure of proposed programme
(thousands of US dollars)

<u>Field of aid</u>	<u>Commitment</u>	<u>Type of aid</u>	<u>Commitment</u>
water supply and sanitation	600	supplies, including freight	600

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Support for the provision of safe and adequate water in rural areas has been a major area of UNICEF co-operation in the Eastern Mediterranean region in recent years. Among the countries with which UNICEF has been co-operating are Democratic Yemen, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, the Sudan, Somalia, Yemen and Morocco. Expanded UNICEF co-operation in water supply and sanitation schemes is planned and proposed within the context of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (1981-1990), in particular, the provision of safe drinking water and adequate sanitation for all by 1990. One major problem faced by most countries is the lack of trained and skilled staff to carry out water supply schemes.

Taking into account the goals of the Decade, UNICEF and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) have been negotiating a programme of co-operation for the provision of safe drinking water to the deprived communities in the countries served by AFESD. One of the priority areas of co-operation is the training of high-level and middle-level water technicians in the Arab countries with which both UNICEF and AFESD co-operate.

With a view to promoting technical co-operation among developing countries, a proposal has been prepared by the Government of Sudan, AFESD and UNICEF for co-operation in the development and expansion of the Wad-el-Nayroul Institute, located near Khartoum, to offer regional training for water technicians. Since its establishment in 1962, the Wad-el-Nayroul Institute has been engaged in the training of high-level and middle-level water technicians for the national water supply programme in the Sudan. In the past UNICEF has supported the activities of the Institute through the provision of books, workshop and training equipment, laboratory and water resources equipment, transport and salary contributions.

In 1979, in accordance with a plan outlined by AFESD and with technical support from WHO, the French Caisse centrale de coopération économique conducted a feasibility study of the Institute with a view to the development and expansion of its training programme from the national to the regional level. The study, on the basis of which the plan of action for the proposed co-operation was drawn up, noted that the Wad-el-Nayroul Institute had acquired training experience of exceptional importance and that it had benefited from a technologically rich environment inasmuch as the Sudan was the country that was the most advanced in surface and groundwater development in the region.

The goal of the proposed programme of co-operation is to increase the enrolment at the Institute from its current 100 trainees to 400 by 1984. During the first year of the proposed three-year period of co-operation, the premises will be expanded and the training capacities of the Institute will be reviewed and upgraded. Initially, the Institute will train water technicians from Somalia, Democratic Yemen and Yemen which, according to the United Nations classification, are least developed countries and most seriously affected by inflation. Following the first year of training, an evaluation will be carried out on the basis of which appropriate adjustments will be made in the training programme and the necessary steps will be taken for the admission of trainees from all Arab countries.

The training programme envisaged will consist of two main courses:

(a) A three-year diploma course, scheduled to begin during the first quarter of 1981, which will benefit a total of 26 non-Sudanese trainees in 1981. In 1982 and 1983 respectively, 36 and 84 non-Sudanese trainees will be admitted. The course will include groundwater, drilling, installation of community water supply systems and surface water use;

(b) An on-the-job training course, comprising 6 months of theory at the Institute and 6 months of practical field training in which the countries of origin of the trainees will be involved. A total of 20 non-Sudanese trainees will benefit every year from the course, which will deal with installation, drilling, mechanics, surface water, treatment and sewerage.

It is also foreseen that workshops and study tours on specific water problems will be conducted. Efforts will be made to include sanitation and health education components in the training activities.

The operational responsibility for the proposed activities will be entrusted to the administration of the Institute, monitored by an advisory board composed of the members of the beneficiary countries and supervised by AFESD.

The Government of the Sudan will cover the operation and maintenance costs of the Institute. AFESD will provide \$1,240,000 for the proposed training activities. UNICEF will provide the required teaching supplies and equipment, as well as transport for field activities. The Caisse centrale de coopération économique is expected to extend 10 man/months of technical assistance for the training of trainers, the preparation of equipment specifications and construction activities.

Proposed co-operation

The Executive Director recommends a commitment of \$600,000 from general resources in support of these activities during the period 1981-1983.