



International Centre for Organisational Management

DIPLOMA IN WATER MANAGEMENT

The world faces a global water crisis. Water scarcity, water related conflicts and pollution are putting pressure on national and local governments. Critical decisions have to be taken to prevent wastage of fresh water and the spread of pollution and to change attitudes towards conserving and paying for this scarce resource.

Governments, especially those in the developing world, cannot solve these problems on their own. Investment in water can bring huge social, economic and public health benefits – but someone has to pay the bill. Increasingly, authorities are creating imaginative partnerships with private companies to help them provide the basic human rights of clean drinking water and effective sewerage systems.

Meeting these deceptively simple-sounding aspirations involves huge capital investments and world-class companies expert in the operation, finance, technology and engineering of water services. Also they have to be culturally and politically sensitive to the implications of these projects and to be prepared to commit to the long-term. They have to be able to plan, sponsor and develop projects of any size, complete them on time at low cost and run the resulting effects efficiently. They have to develop flexible solutions to meet local needs, from concessions where they take responsibility for improving existing assets, to Build, Operate, Transfer projects that create major new facilities.

A critical factor in creating successful partnerships is the importance placed on developing the people who will run and regulate the service. Investment in training and developing managers, engineers, technicians and support staff in both the private and the public sectors is vital.

ICOM faculty have run one programme in Water Management for the Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Authority (ADWEA), which was based on the design described above. This enabled them to develop the material which will be used to deliver Water Management programmes throughout the world.