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Water as an Economic Good and Demand Management *Paradigms with Pitfalls*

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Abstract

In certain circles, demand management is seen as one and the same thing as economic pricing. This thinking is stimulated by the Dublin principle that water should be considered an economic good. But is this reasoning correct? Is economic pricing an

adequate response to the increasing demand for water? This paper discusses the Dublin principle and its implications. In this paper, the Dublin principle is discussed in the context of financial sustainability and the need for water pricing. The Dublin principle states that water should be considered an economic good and that water pricing should be used to manage demand. However, the Dublin principle is not a simple solution. It requires a number of conditions to be met, including the availability of financial resources, the willingness of the public to pay for water, and the ability of the government to enforce the principle. The paper argues that the Dublin principle is a necessary but not a sufficient condition for sustainable water management. It also discusses the challenges of implementing the Dublin principle in developing countries, where the government often lacks the resources and the ability to enforce the principle. The paper concludes that the Dublin principle is a necessary but not a sufficient condition for sustainable water management. It also discusses the challenges of implementing the Dublin principle in developing countries, where the government often lacks the resources and the ability to enforce the principle.

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added value (such as urban water use). However, the value of alternative uses of irrigation water is often grossly over-estimated. Adequate and effective regulations may suffice in order to achieve the optimal allocation of water resources.

Keywords: Water pricing Dublin Principle demand management financial sustainability cost recovery

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