KENYA

MWEA IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Client
National Irrigation Board NIB, Kenya

Financing
IDA

Duration of Services
01/2010 - 07/2012

Value of Services
91 130 Euro

Scope of Services

The CES services include consultancy for detailed design and preparation of tender documents:

- Review the 2008 Final Feasibility Study Report
- Carry out hydrological study for firming up information and data needed at detailed design-level,
- Take inventory of existing infrastructure and establish improvement requirements of the network
- Hydraulic design of irrigation infrastructure
- Review the effectiveness of the on-farm water storage facilities to improve water management
- Prepare detailed design for all infrastructure to be constructed or improved,
- Prepare tender documents, complete with detailed specifications, engineer’s estimates, pre-qualification documents and draft agreement for construction works
The Mwea Irrigation Scheme is situated in the Kirinyaga District, in the Central Province of Kenya. The scheme started in 1956, the gazetted area is 12,300 hectares of which approx. 50% serves for paddy production.

The scheme is served by the Nyamindi and Thiba rivers. From these irrigation water is abstracted by fixed intake weirs and conveyed and distributed by gravity via unlined open channels. A link canal joins the two rivers, it transfers water from Nyamindi to Thiba River serving about 80% of the scheme.

Since inception till 1998 the scheme was run by various government agencies. In 1998 the management was taken over by a Mwea Rice Farmer’s Cooperative Society. Since then the scheme expanded in an unplanned manner, both, in terms of water supply and in term of infrastructure.

Hence, the original infrastructure and facilities fell in poor state. Furthermore the new expansion area suffers under the lack of infrastructure especially roads, drains and water control gates. The present project is set up to overcome the infrastructure related problems.