IWRM Zayandeh Rud - Implementation Phase

As the most important river in central Iran, the Zayandeh Rud supplies water to around 4.5 million people. At the same time, it is the most important water supplier for industry, agriculture and fragile ecosystems in the region, such as the Gavkhuni Salt Lake. In recent years, climate change and over-exploitation of resources have repeatedly led to the complete drying up of the river. Since 2010, the approaches to a sustainable and more efficient use of water resources have been developed in the project for all sectors together with the Iranian partners, so that technologies and know-how from Germany could not only be transferred, but adapted locally. Only through the creation of local ownership can a lasting implementation of the project results be ensured.

Phase III: Implementing jointly developed solutions
The "IWRM Zayandeh Rud" project is now entering the decisive implementation phase. This phase has three main objectives: Firstly, to complete the operationalisation of the developed instruments and bring them into actual permanent use; secondly, to establish the German-Iranian Training Centre for Water and Wastewater Management (GITC) on the Iranian education market and to consolidate cross-sector capacity development; and thirdly, to further promote the dissemination of the IWRM concept and the results in and beyond the catchment area. As in the first two project phases, inter 3 is responsible for management, coordination and, in addition to public relations work, for content in various work packages.

German-Iranian cooperation: working together towards one goal
Under the leadership of inter 3, the project partners with scientific institutions, authorities and companies in Iran will implement measures in five different modules by 2022. Module (A) "River basin organisation" will support the development of a management plan for the Zayandeh Rud catchment area and the establishment of appropriate expert groups. In module (B) "Capacity Development", the German-Iranian Training Centre for the Water Sector will be further developed and expanded and supplementary training modules will be developed. Digital technologies will also be tested for permanent communication between German and Iranian trainers and for course management.

The work in module (C) "Decision Support System" concentrates on the completion of the water management model and its transfer into the daily work of the responsible decision-makers. In the fourth module (D) "Industry", the results of the previous phase on water conservation and reuse derived from modelling are put into practice in a large industry and appropriate training is organised. The last module (E) "Public Relations" deals with the effective public dissemination of the project results.