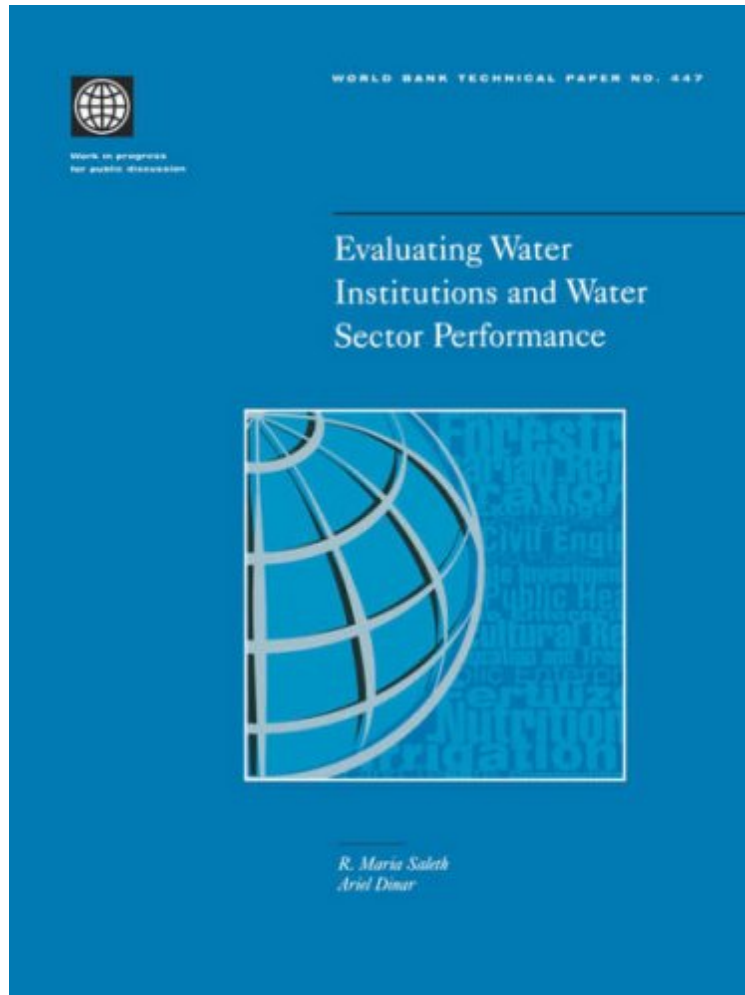


# Evaluating Water Institutions and Water Sector Performance (World Bank Technical Papers)

*R. Maria Saleth*

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**R. Maria Saleth : Evaluating Water Institutions and Water Sector Performance (World Bank Technical Papers)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Evaluating Water Institutions and Water Sector Performance (World Bank Technical Papers):

Physical limits to fresh water expansionan emerging reality in many parts of the worldmake absolute water scarcity inevitable. The inability of the already developed water supply to meet an ever-growing demand for fresh water also makes the emergence of relative water scarcity unavoidable. Water scarcityboth in its absolute and relative formsgets accentuated further by an increasing premium attached to water quality and ecological sustainability.The water sector

has undergone remarkable changes in recent years. While past achievements were associated mainly with investment in new physical structures, recent developments in the water sector are associated to a greater extent with improved management and institutional changes. Although both the nature and direction of these institutional changes vary by country-specific economic, political, cultural and resource realities, there are clearly identifiable trends and patterns. This report suggests a new methodology to shed light on the process of institution-performance interaction. It demonstrates the use of the methodology by applying it to an extensive cross-country data set, and by deriving policy guidance based on the results. The authors aim to stimulate thought and debate about methodologies and strategies to be used in order to evaluate institutional change and institution-performance interactions in the water sector.