Governance framework in the Spanish basin Agencies
ORGANIZATION

INSTITUTIONAL ADMINISTRATION

River Basin Agencies

CORPORATIVE ADMINISTRATION

Irrigators Communities
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- MILLENNIALS CORPORATIONS DATED BACK TO ROMAN AND ARABIC LAW.

- WATER DISTRIBUTION BASED ON CUSTOMARY LAW FEEDED BY HABITS AND PRACTICES VERBALLY PASSED GENERATION TO GENERATION.

- ROOTED IN POPULAR CONSCIOUSNESS DUE TO PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT MORE THAN ANY HUMAN PHENOMENA (DRAUGHT, WATER AS A LIMITED RESOURCE, OROGRAPHY, CLIMATE, SCARCITY OF RESOURCES, ETC.).

- WATER LAW OF JUNE 1879: FIRST IRRIGATIONS COMMUNITIES INCORPORATION TO SPANISH LAW.
IRRIGATORS COMMUNITIES DEFINITION

ASSOCIATION OF LANDOWNERS OF IRRIGATION AREAS WHICH BENEFIT FROM A SURFACE OR UNDERGROUND WATER CONCESSION DEFINED BY GOVERNMENT, WHO UNITE FOR THE AUTONOMOUS AND COMMON ADMINISTRATION OF THE PUBLIC WATERS

• As the Spanish water law rules:

“THE USERS OF THE WATER AND OTHER PUBLIC WATER GOODS OF A SAME OUTLET OR CONCESSION SHOULD GATHER IN A USERS COMMUNITY”
FEATURES

- **Mixed Public and Private Associations.**
- **Adscribed to the River Basin Authority.**
- Holders of an administrative concession that determines the amount of water and a specific area for irrigation and that allows all members to share water collectively.
- **Autonomous or Self-Administration** of common or public waters.
- Water can **not be used out** of the irrigator community area.
- Farmers **keep the land** ownership.
- Water **attached to land** and not to the landowners. Therefore, when that land is sold the right to the water is also sold.
- ** Governed by Statutes or Ordinances** they give to themselves and must be submitted for administrative approval to the River Basin Authority.
PUBLIC CAPABILITIES

-POLICE: Setting turns, keeping irrigate security and preserving common works and ditches.
-SANCTIONING by imposing fines to the users that break statutes or law or even cut the water or energy supply.
-PROMOTION of new works, flow meters, needed technology for the better and efficient use of water and energy, asking for public grants, authorising water user improvement works, etc.
-TAXES AND PRIVATE COSTS COLLECTION even into an executive way.
INTERNAL PARTICIPATION IN IRRIGATORS COMMUNITIES BOARDS

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
EXTERNAL PARTICIPATION IN RIVER BASIN BOARDS

- Population supply (P)
- Energy (E)
- Irrigate (I)
- Other Uses (O)

**EXPLOTAION BOARD** Coordinate water uses in a given area

**USERS ASSEMBLY**
- Coordinates the *exploitation of hydraulic works and water resources* in the whole basin
- In this assembly are elected the users representatives in the other boards

**GOVERNORS BOARD**
- Decisions on the budgets of Agency and *in drought situation*, adopts agreements on irrigation standards

**PEIO**

**FARMERS AND ECOLOGICAL ORGANIZATIONS**

**WATER COUNCIL**
- Hydrological *planning*

**RESERVOIRS COMMITTEE**
- Emptying and filling of reservoirs and aquifers
THANKS