

**AGENDA FOR THE 20TH MEETING OF THE
WORKING GROUP ON HISTORY OF IRRIGATION, DRAINAGE AND FLOOD CONTROL (WG-HIST)**

12 October 2017, 13.30-15.00 hours (Session I)

12 October 2017, 15.30-17.00 hours (Session II)

Mexico City, Mexico

Strategy Theme: Knowledge

Presented by the Chairman

Year of Establishment: 1998

Extended the completion of the Mandate: 2017

Mandate: To motivate ICID National Committees in various countries to set up their National Working Groups and provide them guidance to compile, publish, update and/or translate documents on history of irrigation, drainage, flood management, and river engineering, incorporating relevant agricultural, political, socio-economic, climatologically and geographical aspects for proper understanding of the technological developments in the subject, if possible chronologically. Furthermore, to organize seminars at ICID Congresses, in order to show the importance of historical studies and as to how they help when planning for the new projects.

Website: <http://wg-hist.icidonline.org/>

WG-HIST Agenda Item 1: Action taken report by Chair

1. The Chair will present report on the actions taken on the decisions and proposals of the working group at its last meeting held at Chiang Mai in November 2016. During the year, the Chair has shared the various chapters of the proposed publication of the WG for reviewing and updating. The Scoping Document as finalised by the WG in 2016 was circulated among the National Committees for their comments/suggestions.

2. The Korean National Committee (KCID) has nominated Mr. Jong Myong, Kim in place of Prof. Jaekyoung Noh; Mexican National Committee (MXCID) has nominated Dr. José Luis Martínez Ruiz; Sri Lanka National Committee (SLNICID) has nominated Eng. S.P.C. Sugeeshwara; and Egyptian National Committee (ENCID) has nominated Eng. Ahmed Awad Hag Abd-Elnabi – as Young Professional for the membership of the group. The existing membership of the WG is given at **Annex 1** (*refer electronic version for latest list*). New nominations, if any, for the membership received will be dealt suitably after the meeting.

WG-HIST Agenda Item 2: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 - Activities on history of irrigation, drainage and flood control

3. At Chiang Mai meeting (2016), the group discussed and finalized the draft Action Plan 2030. Based on the inputs from the workbodies at the 67th IEC and fresh inputs received upto March 2017, the Consultative Group (CG) on Action Plan 2030 finalised Action Plan for ICID as presented in their report “A Water Secure World Free of Poverty & Hunger : A Road Map to ICID Vision 2030”. Action Plan for WG-HIST as presented in CG report is given at **Annex 2**.

WG-HIST Agenda Item 3: Publication on “Historical Water Sustainability”

4. During Chiang Mai meeting (2016), the Chair Dr. Kamran Emami briefly described the process of publishing the WG publication titled ‘*Historical Water Sustainability*’. During the discussion, it was proposed to edit the final version with the assistance of PH Peter Lee and Mr. Charles Abernethy (UK). In February 2017, Chair Dr. Kamran Emami circulated the draft chapters (13) to the members of the WG for peer reviewing. The final version would be made available at the meeting. The group may like to discuss and decide the possibility of publishing the book in hard copy or soft version, so that it can be proposed to C-PR&P for its recommendation to PCTA/ IEC. The Chair may apprise the WG.

WG-HIST Agenda Item 4: Exchange of information, knowledge & networking - Website

5. As decided during the Chiang Mai meeting (2016), the website of the working group <http://wg-hist.icidonline.org/> has been updated with the new membership, CVs, agenda, minutes, publications, presentations etc. Members are requested to provide interesting articles/ papers/ presentations/ documents/ links related to the activities of the group for uploading on the ICID website. Members may like to discuss and evolve methodology for sharing of information and updation of WG website.

WG-HIST Agenda Item 5: Review of Historical Irrigation Structures (HIS) and WSH Program

6. During the 67th IEC meeting (2016), twenty-five Heritage Irrigation Structures were approved for inclusion in the ICID Register of Heritage Irrigation Structures which have been projected on ICID website http://www.icid.org/icid_his1.php. In 2017, 13 Nominations from 5 National Committees viz. Australia (2), China (3), Japan (4), Republic of Korea (2), and Mexico (2) have been received and are being evaluated by the Panel of Judges for adjudication with the objective to provide recognition of Heritage Irrigation Structures.

7. During Chiang Mai meeting (2016), the Chair restated the development of World Water System Heritage (WSH) Program and decided to closely follow the activities of WSH. Eight nominations have been received under the WSH Program (2016 and 2017) at ICID. The submission are being evaluated by the Panel of Judges. An update will be provided by the Secretary General.

WG-HIST Agenda Item 6: Closure report and Scoping Document (mandate) of the Working Group

8. The closure report and Scoping Document (SD) of the working group was presented and discussed during Chiang Mai meeting (2016). However, as per procedure approved by the IEC for setting up of the new WGs, the SD has to be circulated among NCs. Accordingly, in May 2017, the updated Scoping Document for the establishment of the new WG has been circulated to all National Committees inviting their comments/ suggestions together with new nominations for the group. The updated Scoping Document is available at **Annex 3**.

9. Members may deliberate and finalize the SD and new Mandate of the WG at the meeting. After discussion, Chair will provide the final mandate of the group to PCTA/ IEC for recommendation and approval by the Council.

WG-HIST Agenda Item 7: Any other business



NOTES FOR CHAIRPERSON:

1. Draft minutes of this meeting to be submitted to ICID Secretariat at Mexico City (Mexico) after the meeting.
2. Chair to participate and present the WG report to PCTA meeting on 13 October 2017.

A. Members and their attendance at 2015 and 2016 Meetings

Sl. No.	Members	Member from	2015		2016		Remarks
			Self	Contributed by mail	Self	Contributed by mail	
1.	Dr. Kamran Emami, Chairman (Iran)	2009	•		•	•	
2.	Prof. Dr. N. Hatcho (Japan)	1996	•		•	•	
3.	Mrs. Xuming Tan (China)	1997	•		•	•	
4.	VPH Dr. Laszlo Hayde (Hungary)	2001	•		•	•	
5.	VPH Dr. A. Hafied A. Gany (Indonesia)	2005	•		•	•	
6.	Mr. Charles L. Abernethy (UK)	2005	•			•	
7.	Prof. Jaekyoung Noh (Republic of Korea)	2014					KCID nominated Mr. Jong Myong, Kim in place of Prof. Noh
8.	VPH Chaiwat Prechawit (Thailand)	2014	•		•	•	
9.	Engr. Sirika Ahmad Abubakar (Nigeria)	2014	•				
10.	Mr. Antonio Linoli (Italy)	2014			# ¹		
11.	VPH Gerhard Backeberg (South Africa)	2015	•	•	•	•	
12.	Prof. Dr. Abdul Sattar Shakir (Pakistan)	2015		•		•	
13.	Secretary General, ICID						
Permanent observers							
(i)	Dr. (Mrs.) B. Dolfing (The Netherlands)						
(ii)	Dr. Ir. M. Ertsen (IWHA)						
(iii)	Dr. Ing. Klaus Rottcher, 2015 (Germany)	2006					

B. New nominations received from the National Committee

Sl. No.	Name	Country	Remarks
1	Mr. Jong Myong, Kim	Korea, Rep. of	Recommended by Chair subject to his presence or else Provisional Member
2	Dr. José Luis Martínez Ruiz	Mexico	Recommended by Chair subject to his presence or else Provisional Member
3	Eng. S.P.C. Sugeeshwara	Sri Lanka	Recommended by Chair subject to his presence or else Provisional Member
4	Eng. Ahmed Awad Hag Abd-Elnabi	Egypt	Recommended by Chair subject to his presence or else Provisional Member



¹ #Through representation

ROAD MAP TO ICID VISION 2030 – ACTIVITIES OF WORKBODIES

Goals/ Strategies	Activities	Outcomes/ Outputs	Milestone for Year 2017	Milestone for Year 2018	Milestone for Year 2019	Milestone for Year 2020	Milestone for Year 2021
Goal C: Facilitate exchange of information, knowledge and technology							
C1. Strategy: Providing Knowledge-sharing Platform for AWM Professionals	1.2 International conference/ workshop/ seminar on History	Workshop Proceedings	Workshop/ seminar on Historical Water Sustainability		Workshop/ seminar		
C3. Strategy: Promoting Regional Cooperation	3.10 International conference/ workshop/ seminar	Workshop Proceedings					
C4. Strategy: Compile, Collate and Share Knowledge and Experiences	4.5 Publication on Historical Water Sustainability	Publication	Finalize the publication on Historical Water Sustainability	Compile lessons learned from HIS/ WSH		Compile lessons learned from HIS/ WSH	
	4.6 Historical Irrigation Structures (HIS)	Register of HIS	Nomination/ evaluation / update register	Nomination/ evaluation /update register	Nomination/ evaluation / update register; Exhibition at WIF3	Nomination/ evaluation /update register	
	4.7 World Water System Heritage (WSH) Program	Register of WSH	Nomination/ evaluation / update register	Nomination/ evaluation / update register	Nomination/ evaluation / update register, Exhibition at WIF3	Nomination/ evaluation / update register	
C5. Strategy: Dissemination of Data, Information, Tools, Knowledge and Know How	5.10 Producing documentary on "Historical Water Wisdom".	Documentary	Tentative gathering of the related documentaries from the member countries	Encouraging the member counties to produce documentaries on water history by presenting the prize on the best documentaries			
	5.11 Updating the WG-HIST website	Online					
	5.12 Producing documentary on "Historical Water Wisdom".						
Goal E: Encourage research and support development of tools to extend innovation into field practices							
E4. Strategy: Research on History of Irrigation and Lessons Learned from the past							
E6. Strategy: Dissemination of Useful Research Outputs	6.1 Prepare a paper on combination of old methods and new technologies		Presenting the first paper in the WG workshop and other seminars	Presenting the second paper in the WG workshop and other seminars			

(Source: Consultative Group (CG) Report: A Water Secure World Free of Poverty & Hunger: A Road Map to ICID Vision 2030)



WORKING GROUP ON HISTORY OF IRRIGATION, DRAINAGE AND FLOOD CONTROL (WG-HIST)
UPDATED SCOPING DOCUMENT

1. Introduction

- 1.1 As we entered the 21st century, humanity was confronted with three fundamental problems that were interrelated in a complex system: water crisis, sustainability and flood mitigation. Coping with the water-related challenges in the 21st century requires major technical jumps and innovations in all related fields.
- 1.2 In knowledge management sphere, it is often pointed out that it is important to distinguish between data, information, knowledge and wisdom. The generally accepted view is to see data as simple facts that become information as it is combined with meaningful structures, which subsequently become knowledge as meaningful information is used to make predictions. This view looks at data as a prerequisite for information, information as a prerequisite for knowledge and knowledge as a prerequisite for wisdom. When facts are put into a context, and combined within a structure, information emerges. When information is given a meaning by interpreting it, information becomes knowledge. At this point, facts exist within a mental structure that consciousness can process, for example, to predict future consequences, or to make inferences. As the human mind uses this knowledge to choose between alternatives, behavior becomes intelligent. Finally, when values and commitment guide intelligent behavior, behavior may be said to be based on wisdom.
- 1.3 In the era of super computers today, the process of a typical data to become wisdom may take a day or a week or a month in some industrial cases. But in the context of water engineering, the time span may be a year or a decade or a century. Consequently, the water wisdom of the past which was achieved in a period of hundreds of years can be regarded as a unique and irreplaceable gift from our ancestors to contemporary water engineers. Hopefully, the water wisdom of our ancestors would play a key role in our adaptation with the water related challenges in the 21st century. It is, therefore, necessary that we look back at the ancient creation of the fertile human brains that used the synergy of science and art at that moment of time to provide us with abundant food for thought. It should be remembered that foundation of the future rests on the achievements of the past.
- 1.4 The water engineering is a vital part of the story of civilization. Reservoirs for water supply were undoubtedly, among the earliest structures, devised by mankind. The role that water management structures have played over the ages is documented in many records of historical lands. These structures have been linked closely to the rise and fall of civilizations, especially to those cultures highly dependent upon water/ irrigation.
- 1.5 The mission of ICID is to stimulate and promote the development and application of the arts, sciences and techniques of engineering, agriculture, economics, ecological and social sciences in managing water and land resources for irrigation, drainage and flood management for achieving sustainable agriculture water management and water history can be used for achieving this mission.

2. Objectives

The objectives/ relevance of the WG can be specified as follows:

- (a) Water History aims to foster historical understanding of the relationship between water and humankind. Lessons learned from water history can be used to enhance our strategies for sustainable irrigated agriculture.
- (b) The WG is expected to contribute to effective implementation of the Strategy Theme Schemes and to other strategy themes;
- (c) The water engineers will be facing greater challenges in the coming decades. Water history can be used to inspire them and promote the stakeholders participation, creativity and innovations.

3. State of knowledge on the topic

3.1 International Organizations that are working on the subject

There are very few other International Organizations that have programs and activities on this topic. This especially concerns with the:

- (a) **International Water History Association (IWHA):** The International Water History Association (IWHA) aims to encourage, promote, and foster historical understanding of, and research in, the relationship between water and humankind. IWHA fosters a stronger relationship between those engaged in water history and water administrators, engineers, scientists, planners and other practitioners. Creating public awareness of the role of water in world history and to promote public participation in resolving water resource issues is the main activity.
- (b) **World Water Council (WWC):** ICID brought forward the idea of recognizing World Water System Heritage (WSH) at the 50th Board of Governors (BoG) meeting of World Water Council (WWC) in Budapest, Hungary in October 2013. During the 58th BoG meeting of WWC held in March 2016 in Jodhpur, India, the program was approved in principle. The World Water System Heritage (WSH) Program, a member-driven initiative by ICID in collaboration with various water-related international organizations and WWC, aims to identify and preserve the people-centered water management

systems, organizations, regimes and rules as intangible water heritage considered to be of outstanding value to humanity that created coexistent social systems for humanity and sound environment and giving them recognition. ICID Central Office currently functions as Secretariat for the WSH Program.

- (c) **International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID):** At the 63rd meeting of International Executive Council (IEC) held at Adelaide, Australia on 28 June 2012, President Gao Zhanyi suggested that a process for recognition of the historical irrigation structures on the lines of World Heritage Sites as recognized by UNESCO shall be initiated. A historical irrigation and drainage structure fulfilling the criterion, and based on the recommendation of the Jury and approved by the International Executive Council will be included in the "ICID Register of Heritage Irrigation Structures" and presenting a "Heritage Irrigation Structure (HIS)" Plaque citing the salient features of the HIS. The ICID Register of HIS would be publicized through ICID media channels and can be accessed at http://www.icid.org/his_award.html.

3.2 **Mandate of the Working Group**

Mandate of the Working Group is based on the specific niche that this WG can fill in this area and can be formulated as follows:

- (a) To motivate ICID National Committees in various countries to set up their National Working Groups on History;
- (b) To provide guidance to compile, publish, update and/or translate documents on history of irrigation, drainage, and flood management;
- (c) To promote inter—disciplinary exchange of information, knowledge and experience, as well as networking on the topic (agricultural, political, socio-economic, climatologically and geographical, aspects) for proper understanding of the technological developments on the subject;
- (d) To organize seminars at ICID Congresses to enhance awareness of Water history;
- (e) To prepare a paper on "Historical Water Sustainability" for publication in *Irrigation and Drainage (IRD) Journal*;
- (f) To finalize a book on "Historical Water Sustainability".
- (g) To encourage member countries to produce documentaries on Water History.

3.3 **How is the Working Group expected to collaborate with the other International Organizations?**

WG-HIST would promote synergy with all International Organizations active in water history. Perhaps, collaboration through Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for mutual knowledge sharing and co-hosting events could promote lessons learned from water history.

4. **Work Plan**

4.1 **Scope**

The WG is expected to investigate, analyse, and disseminate information on different aspects of water history and to formulate recommendations with respect to:

- (a) Ensuring sustainability of irrigation and flood projects;
- (b) Combining old methods and modern technologies for enhanced creativity and innovation;
- (c) Recognition of the historical structures.

4.2 **Target audience**

The target audience for this working group will be managers of irrigation schemes, researchers, consultants, manufacturers, government officials, farmer's representatives and staff of International Organizations working on the topic and anybody interested in "A water secure world, free of poverty and hunger through sustainable rural development".

4.3 **Outputs**

The following outputs can be expected from this WG:

- (a) Proceeding of the seminars and workshops;
- (b) A book on "Historical Water Sustainability";
- (c) WG website – dissemination of knowledge;
- (d) Overview paper on "Historical Water Sustainability" for publication in *Irrigation and Drainage (IRD)*.

4.4 **Timelines**

A six-year tenure is requested for this phase of WG activities.

