

**AGENDA FOR THE SECOND MEETING OF THE  
WORKING GROUP ON TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH UPTAKE AND EXCHANGE (WG-TRUE)  
New Delhi, India  
06 December 2009: 14.15-18.00 hours  
Strategy Theme: Knowledge**

**Year of Establishment: 2007**

**Completion of the Mandate: 2011**

**Members:** (1) Prof. L. Vincent, Chairperson, 2007 (The Netherlands, 1995); (2) Dr. (Mrs.) Shaden Abdel-Gawad, Vice Chairperson, 2007 (Egypt, 2001); (3) Dr. John A. Replogle, Secretary, 2007 (USA, 1999); (4) VP Prof. L. Ubertini (Italy, 1989); (5) Dr. H. Fahmy (Egypt, 1995); (6) Mr. A. Delacourt (France, 1995); (7) Mr. J. Lelkes (Hungary, 1998); (8) Mr. Sietan Chieng (Canada, 2001); (9) Dr. (Mrs.) Irene Bondarik (Russia, 2001); (10) Prof. Jiasheng Huang (China, 2003); (11) Prof. J.G. Annandale (South Africa, 2003); (12) Prof. Yuanhua Li (China, 2003); (13) Mr. S.K. Chaudhuri (India, 2003); (14) Mr. Geoff Pearce (UK, 2003); (15) Mr. Ezzatollah Farhadi (Iran, 2005); (16) Dr. K. Palanisami (India, 2005); (17) Dr. Mohammad Che Husain (Malaysia, 2005); (18) Mr. Stephen Mills (Australia, 2005); (19) Dr. Yohei Sato (Japan, 2005); (20) Mr. Ian William Makin (UK, 2006); (21) Dr. Enrique Playan (Spain, 2006); (22) Mexican representative (MXCID); (23) Nigerian representative (NINCID); (24) Indonesian representative (INACID) and (25) Secretary General, ICID.

**Permanent Observers:** (1) IPTRID; (2) FAO Representative; (3) World Bank Representative; (4) IWMI Representative; (5) PH Peter Lee (UK); (6) Mr. Campoare Moussa Laurent (ARID-Burkina Faso) and (7) VPH Dr. Hussein El-Atfy (Egypt).

**Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 1st meeting held on 15 October 2008 in Lahore, Pakistan**

The minutes of the 1st meeting of the group held at Lahore in October 2008 will be confirmed.

**Item 2 : Review of membership, including new nominations**

- 2.1 In August 2009, the Japanese National Committee (JNC-ICID) has nominated Dr. Kazumi Yamaoka (Japan) in place of Dr. Yohei Sato for the membership of WG. The WG may like to consider the nomination at the New Delhi meeting. CV of Dr. Yamaoka will be tabled during the meeting.
- 2.2 At Lahore, the nomination of Mr. H.K. Varma (India) in place of Mr. S.K. Chaudhuri was not accepted as the nominee was not able to attend the meeting. The nomination is once again put up for consideration of the group.
- 2.3 At the 1st meeting of the WG-TRUE held at Lahore, it was decided to take necessary follow-up action regarding the double memberships resulting from the merger of the two erstwhile Working Groups. Accordingly, the Central Office has requested CNCID (China), INCID (India), and ICID.UK (UK) in July 2009 to advise one nomination for membership of the merged workbody - WG-TRUE. Response from these NCs is awaited.
- 2.4 Members who were neither present at the meeting nor could contribute through correspondence for the last two consecutive years are:
  - Mr. J. Lelkes (Hungary)
  - Mr. Sietan Chieng (Canada)
  - Mr. Alain Delacourt (France)
  - Prof. L. Ubertini (Italy)

The Central Office has contacted the concerned NCs in February and July 2009 with a request to ensure their participation in the 2nd meeting of WG-TRUE or nominate a new member who could contribute to the activities of the group. Response is awaited.

Attendance sheet of the members at the meetings of the WG-TRUE held in 2007 and 2008 will be tabled at the New Delhi meeting. It may be noted that representation of a member of the working group by any other representative of the concerned national committee is not deemed to be a contribution by a member. Refer to Annex 1 of PCSPOA of Agenda (page A-9) and ICID By-law 3.1.7 which stipulates that members not contributing to the activities by attendance or correspondence for two consecutive years shall be replaced in consultation with their National Committees.

### **Item 3 : Mandate of the Working Group**

The mandate proposed for the WG-TRUE is "To support research and development of technology and innovation processes for improvement of irrigation and drainage". Due to thin attendance of members at the Lahore meeting, the Group decided that the matter concerning modification, if any, to the mandate be considered further at the New Delhi meeting in December 2009. It was also suggested that the Chairperson, WG-TRUE may request Mr. Stephen Mills (Australia) to suggest modifications in the mandate, as agreed at the Sacramento meeting of the WG.

Accordingly, the Central Office requested Prof. Vincent in March 2009 to get in touch with Mr. Mills and finalise the mandate. It is understood that Mr. Mills has since retired from the activities of the Australian National Committee.

Prof. Vincent will apprise the Group about the status of modifications to the mandate of the WG.

### **Item 4 : Tenure of the Working Group**

At the Lahore meeting, the WG reviewed the activities suggested by the two erstwhile Groups viz. WG-R&D and AC-IPTRID and decided to keep a four-year tenure for accomplishing its mandated work plan.

### **Item 5 : Activities of the WG-TRUE**

#### **5.1 Documenting Technology Innovations and Research Processes (activities with AC-IPTRID)**

At the Lahore meeting, the WG noted AC-IPTRID's suggestion to provide a two-way flow of information and discussion on research needs and technology innovations, and develop a programme for WG-TRUE based on:

- Documentation of research uptake process for at least two countries of Africa and Asia.
- Documentation of I&D technological innovations and adaptation for two countries of Asia and Africa.
- Joint IPTRID-ICID publication on value of technology and research uptake in developing countries.
- Joint policy briefs based on R&D results in selected countries.

#### **5.2 Studies on R&D processes (from WG-R&D and beyond)**

The WG observed that the items carried forward from the erstwhile workbody can include the following:

1. The value of R&D in irrigation and drainage practice, and benefit to research
  2. Cooperation between key organizations supporting and undertaking research and innovation
  3. Outreach, communication and research uptake
  4. Improved understanding of research and innovation processes, in particular of:
    - Understanding and transforming timeframes from research to innovation
    - Identification and working with stakeholders' needs and interests, and complex problems
    - Leadership, structure and networking in research, especially linking national and local action, and
    - Capacity building for research
  5. How research models and data can be better used in capacity building, and system design and water management practices – how to move between theory and practice, and
  6. Financing of research and innovation, especially to reach certain stakeholders and problem contexts.
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During the Lahore meeting, it was emphasized that the development of water management infrastructure is very expensive but it is possible to link the research activities/benefits to the infrastructural developments. The WG also noted that there was a tremendous scope for reducing the associated costs. Such types of experiences from Iran, India, and Pakistan were highlighted during the Lahore meeting respectively by the observers, viz. Dr. K. Yella Reddy (India), Dr. Wouter Wolters (The Netherlands) and Mr. Ezzatollah Farhadi (Iran).

It was mentioned that it would be appropriate to look into matters such as:

1. How research could help to improve management experience for developing operation of irrigation systems;
2. Actual amount of water requirement of crops and how water can be applied to the crops efficiently; and
3. Advantages of carrying out drainage activities in the field.

### **5.3 Follow-up from the World Water Forum**

The ICID TF for Inputs to WWF-5 coordinated the contributions of ICID National Committees and Workbodies as well as its own as input to various topics and sessions of 5th World Water Forum held in Istanbul, Turkey from 16-22 March 2009. ICID was the coordinator for topic 2.3 'Water and Food for Ending Poverty' which was held in four sessions (2.3.1, 2.3.2, 2.3.3 and 2.3.4) under Theme 2 "Advancing Human Development and the Millennium Development Goals" of the WWF-5. Besides, ICID also contributed to Sessions 1.1.3, 1.2.3, 1.3.3, 2.2.1, 2.4.2, 3.2.3, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 4.2.4, 5.1.4, 6.3.2, Topic 5.2, and Sessions on Drought, Water Management 2020, Mega disasters, and Irrigation. The report of all four sessions under Topic 2.3 and the summary of recommendations of the first three sessions that was presented in the 4th session (2.3.4) of Topic 2.3 by President Chandra Madramootoo, are given on page A-131.

A preliminary synthesis on Topic 2.3 is given in the **Annex**.

### **5.4 Responses to circulated questionnaire**

During the first meeting held at Lahore, members/observers expressed that there were good experiences available on advantages of incorporating research, drainage and water saving techniques adopted in irrigation sectors especially from the countries such as Egypt, India, Pakistan, Australia etc. It would be beneficial to collect experiences by inviting National Committees'/Members'/Observers' view points through a questionnaire/survey. The experiences on Research in Irrigation and Drainage available from those countries are focused on large-scale implementation of "Water Infrastructure" and highlight that there are huge benefits, either in saved costs, improved yields, or better operation. The experiences as received from the survey can then be utilized for generating generalized guidelines or a publication(s) with specific topic(s) such as "Outreach Communication and Research Uptake", as suggested in the Sacramento meeting.

Accordingly, the Central Office prepared a questionnaire and circulated it amongst all National Committees/ Workbody Chairs/ Members of WG-TRUE in March 2009 with a request to provide as much information as available. In response, the Central Office has received two filled-in questionnaires, from Prof. Yuanhua Li (China) and Dr. Enrique Playán (Spain), a member of WG-TRUE. The Chair will consult Dr. Playan if he could give a presentation at the forthcoming meeting/session in New Delhi.

In July 2009, the Central Office once again circulated the questionnaire among all National Committees/ Workbody Chairs/ Members of WG-TRUE for their experiences. In response, filled-in questionnaires were received from Dr. John A. Replogle, Secretary, WG-TRUE (USA); Renato S. Gamboa (Philippines); Dr. José A. Ortiz Fdz.-Urrutia (Spain) along with some comments; and PANCID/ IWASRI. All the filled-in questionnaires and comments were forwarded to the Chairperson, for information.

Dr. Ortiz also noted as follows:

"It is beyond any doubt that research outcomes shall be incorporated to irrigation infrastructures to get the expected benefits achieved from research programme. Probably with no exceptions, research programmes in irrigation are always aimed to get findings that are applicable either to a better design of new infrastructures or to existing ones in the process of their improvement and modernization, with independence of who carries out

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the research, either the public sector through Research Institutes or the private sector by means of Research Departments set up by manufacturers to improve their own products.

My personal experience is that in all irrigation systems I know, both in the field of infrastructures engineering or in that of institutional/ organizational management of irrigation and water resources by Irrigators Communities or any other Entities, improvements are always based on outcomes and findings of research programmes of any kind.

From this point of view, we absolutely think that it is not only possible but necessary to link, as much as possible, research activities/benefits to the irrigation infrastructure development, to any activity related with irrigation and water resources management.”

The Chair will apprise the WG about the status of compilation of the questionnaires at the New Delhi meeting.

### **5.5 Revamping IPTRID**

The Central Office vide its e-mail of 23 June 2009 had informed Dr. Pasquale Steduto, Chief, Water Service & Chair, UN-Water (FAO) that a slot had been reserved for the meeting of Consultative Group of IPTRID (CG-IPTRID) on 6 December 2009 from 09.30 to 13.15 hours at New Delhi, India.

In response vide his e-mail of 8 July 2009, Dr. Steduto has said that they were in a negotiation phase with the donors to fund the new proposed strategy and work-plan of IPTRID. However in case they did not have concrete outcome in due time, the Consultative Group meeting may not be held this year. The outcome of negotiations with the donors to fund the new work plan of IPTIRD is awaited.

Dr. Steduto/ FAO representative will apprise the WG at the meeting.

#### **Item 6 : Website of WG-TRUE (combined)**

During the Lahore meeting, the Group noted the need for developing website of WG-TRUE and suggested to request the Chairperson(s)/ Secretary to take needful action for accomplishing the task.

Prof. Vincent/ Dr. Replogle will apprise the WG about the progress on the development of the website at the meeting.

#### **Item 7 : Presentations by WG members**

Prof. Vincent (The Netherlands) vide her e-mail of 11 July 2009 to Central Office has proposed that she would invite selected members of the WG to make a presentation in the session, for example by Dr. Playan on 'Research and action developments between local irrigation and the basin'.

Prof. Vincent will apprise the Group about the status of the presentations at the meeting.

#### **Item 8 : Any other business**

At the Lahore meeting, the availability of the Report on "Agricultural Water Management: A Critical Factor in the Reduction of Poverty and Hunger – Principles and Recommendations for Action to Guide Policy in Eastern and Southern Africa" from Dr. Henry Mahoo was brought to the attention of the WG members. While considering and appreciating the efforts taken by Dr. Enrique Playan (Spain) in forwarding the comments on the report, the chair requested all other members also to either submit their views or mention that they had nothing to comment upon.

In March 2009 the Central Office requested all members of WG-TRUE accordingly. Their response is however, awaited.

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**WORKING GROUP ON TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH UPTAKE AND EXCHANGE (WG-TRUE)****Topic 2.3: Water and Food for Ending Poverty and Hunger – A Synthesis**

The Topic 2.3: Water and Food for Ending Poverty and Hunger was coordinated by the International Commission of Irrigation and Drainage (ICID). The collective efforts of the Topic Coordinators, Session Conveners, Co-conveners, Panelists, Reporters, support staff from the host country, Turkey, and a wider audience during the sessions ensured a smooth conduct of all the four sessions. The following is a synthesized outcome of the Topic 2.3.

The key questions posed through Topic 2.3 were:

- How to reconcile agricultural and water policies to avoid both global and local food crises?
- How can institutional and technical water management improvements and investments contribute to increase food production?
- How can scientific findings more effectively be transferred to practical technologies, especially supporting the poor farmers?
- How can poor farmers benefit from new market opportunities?
- How can local community and regional developments benefit from bioenergy?

The questions raised were well discussed and the outcome is categorized as follows:

**(A) Political, economic, and social considerations**

- Better integration between food production and natural resources management (land-water and climate) is needed
- Enhancement of public and private investments in infrastructure to reemphasize decentralization and governance systems, and public-private partnerships for the financing of research, and project implementation are needed
- Rural sanitation and wastewater re-use need to be coupled to agriculture and water investment agendas
- Increasing agricultural productivity and access to food, and reducing hunger will hinge on conducive policies, adequate institutions, improved market infrastructure and social safety nets. What is important is peace and stability for all these measures to be sustainable in the long term. An enabling condition that determines the roles of all the stakeholders and promotes synergies in their interaction is needed.

**(B) Technological, environmental, and legal considerations**

- Capacity building is required for better policies and more timely implementation, and to train decision makers
- to make the right decisions at the right time and to create the conditions for promoting successful technological breakthroughs
- Better linkages between research and education and better communication of research findings are necessary
- Food price volatility especially for poor small-holders need to address climate change proofing of agricultural water related goods and services, e.g. drought and flood resistant crops, innovative rural finance and insurance schemes, dual purpose transport networks, local level food storage facilities, field to fork reduction of food losses, weather and price information and knowledge
- Protect rights of the poor to use water for production of basic food demands
- Ensure enabling governance and policies.

**(C) Key messages**

- Food production improvement by sustainable increase in crop production and equitable distribution is achievable
- Smallholder agriculture, irrigation and the rural water agenda have been neglected for decades. The current crises offer double dividend opportunities for diversified livelihoods – for smallholder farmers, in developing and emerging country economies, women and men, young and old. One needs to recognize small farmers as rural entrepreneurs and as such are part of the solution to economic development, not the source of the crises
- Higher/right food prices will ensure that there is better water management.

**(D) Recommendations**

- Create grassroots water resources management institutions (financing, land, water, micro- credit), Mainstream water in national and international strategic development planning
- Consider diverse options for agricultural water management: rainfed, irrigated, water harvesting. Integrate these options in an optimum manner
- Water, energy and agriculture are intimately related. Deal with them as an integrated entity; dealing with agriculture in this context will have the added value of enabling the sector to attract better attention from development organizations and the donor community
- Move from water management to integrated resource management (land degradation, water, infrastructure, institutions, markets, etc.)
- Water and resource management have both external and internal dimensions, which are to be given equal attention.

**(E) Commitments**

- While fixing water resource management problems, time has come to involve people from multiple sectors and stakeholders in resolving them, jointly
- International partnerships to promote the goal are the call of the hour. Concerted efforts by ICID, FAO, IFAD and other organizations independently and jointly in formulating integrated programmes (water-energy-local, cultural) and dialogue with donor communities to mobilize advanced technologies should be a priority follow up action
- Extending the state of art technologies and making them accessible to smallholders will help achieve the ultimate objective of poverty eradication.

ICID intends to float a draft synthesis report. This will also include presentations, comments made during the sessions, recommendations and initiatives. These will be mailed to all Consortium and Consultation Partners and put on the VMS and ICID website. Several Consortium Partners are also working on proposals that will elaborate on the issues presented and discussed in the Topic Report and sessions.

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