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# CPSP News Update

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON  
IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE (ICID)

New Delhi, India

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Country Policy Support Programme

## CPSP Events at Moscow

### *IWMI/ICID Scenario Development Orientation Workshop for India and China 3-4 September 2004, Moscow, Russia*

As a part of IWMI/IFPRI component of CPSP study, an "IWMI/ICID Scenario Development Orientation Workshop for India and China" was held on 3-4 September 2004 at Moscow, preceding to the 55<sup>th</sup> annual IEC meetings. The overall purpose of the workshop was to bring policymakers and researchers of India and China to provide information and generate future scenarios of water supply and demand for the two countries. The workshop was attended by 24 professionals comprising wide array of relevant disciplines like engineers, economists, environmentalists, sociologists, policy makers/ planners, agronomists from China and India besides experts from ICID, IWMI, IUCN and WWF.

The workshop sessions were jointly handled by Er. M. Gopalakrishnan, Secretary General, ICID and Dr. David Molden, Leader, Comprehensive Assessment Program, and Dr. Ian Makin of IWMI. The Secretary General emphasized the value of the workshop for exchanging ideas between researchers and policy makers in various disciplines in assessing future water needs of different

sectors and their inputs to the CPSP study. Delivering key note address Ir. Keizrul bin Abdullah, President, ICID apprised the genesis of the CPSP and the workshop and said that there was a need for more scientific basis to decide future water demands for irrigated agriculture and food production. He hoped that the new model viz. Basin wide Holistic Integrated Water Assessment (BHIWA) evolved by ICID under CPSP study would be a valuable contribution for scenario development.

Messrs. A.D. Mohile and L.N. Gupta, CPSP India Study team Leaders presented the findings of two river basin studies selected under CPSP in India. The findings of the basin studies in China were presented by Dr. Gao Zhanyi, Mrs. Mu Jianxin, and Mrs. Wang Shaoli of Chinese National Committee (CNCID). Dr. Upali Amarasinghe (IWMI) presented a PODIUMSim developed for India and China. Group discussions/ presentations regarding scenario development both for India and China were organized on the second day of the workshop. The general consensus of the workshop was



*A view of IWMI/ICID Workshop*

that water is a crucial factor for food security, livelihood, and poverty alleviation especially of rural people and also for a healthy environment. The methodology of environmental water needs assessment including minimum river flow requirements needs be further development for objective inclusion in river basin water use assessment. Click here to view detailed proceedings of the workshop.

## Conclusions

The general consensus of the workshop was that water is a crucial factor for food security, livelihood, and poverty alleviation especially of rural people and also for a healthy environment.

The methodology of environmental water needs assessment including minimum river flow requirements needs be further development for objective inclusion in river basin water use assessment. The priority or first charge is a question which will be specific to a particular case depending on the settings in which a basin is placed besides other affecting socio-economic factors, development level and requirements based on population stress. Other options for assessing water for environment (ecological flows using eco-systems approach) are in developing stage.

ICID's efforts in development of the BHIWA methodology was well acknowledged. The model may need further up-gradation to consider the interactions between land, water, production, environment and technology.

As there are wide variations of water supply and demand in large basins, the extrapolation of the findings from the selected river basins (which are relatively of smaller size) to large basin may have to be cautiously handled.



In basins likely to be closed or even in basins where all the available low flows are already allocated for in stream uses like navigation or ecology, there is no "wastage" of water. Thus, basin efficiency concept is more relevant in hydrological terms, than efficiencies of individual system. System efficiencies would continue to be important, if not for water saving, for saving investments or improving productivity elsewhere. However, the concept of 'closed basin' is itself a matter requiring reconsideration as 'import' can modify the situation.

The PODIUMSIM needs to be modified to include the scenarios developed by the countries concerned as its default scenario. These would help the policy makers and researchers of the respective countries to assess the sensitivity of different drivers on their assessments and projections. It was suggested that water assessment need to be projected up to a time by which population is likely to stabilise. Similarly, while developing scenarios only such scenario which have some possibility of acceptability and achievability should be developed. Local area requirements may be given importance and local solutions may be preferred. PODIUMSIM is however useful in stimulating the discussion among the various groups.

Relative merits of different types of water resources investments are difficult to gauge. The potential for groundwater development, water harvesting, upgrading rainfed agriculture systems and their effects on basin hydrology needs careful consideration and development plans should factor them given their importance to achieving equity & spread.

The group ended with a positive note as to some convergence of opinion is feasible by such intervention and the process should be encouraged. The CPSP phase I addressed, in a limited time and manner, a few basins in India & China and facilitated an overview of policies in Egypt, Mexico and Pakistan, given the future pressure for food security and environmental needs. More works are to be undertaken and meaningful dialogue should be encouraged. Such a programme can be extended to cover the unexplored aspects and extensive coverage of more basins, not only in India & China but also in other countries.

*Participants interacting during the workshop session.*

## Special Session on CPSP

5 September 2004, Moscow

On 5 September 2004, a Special Session on CPSP was held. The purpose of the Special Session was to apprise ICID professionals about the work carried out in CPSP since Montpellier meeting. Ir. Keizrul bin

together individuals and groups of diverse views to discuss future water policies. Detailed presentations on BHIWA model and major findings of the selected river basin assessments were made by CPSP India



Participants of the Special Session

Abdullah, President, ICID in his opening address said that through CPSP it was possible to bring



Dr. Gao Zhanyi, Secretary General, CNCID presenting CPSP China study

and China teams. Dr. M.H. Amer, Chairman, Egyptian National Committee (ENCID) presented the outcome of the CPSP Cairo Workshop held on 3 August 2004 and briefly outlined the possible use of CPSP approach in the Nile basin area. Dr. Molden provided feedback on the outcome of the IWMI-ICID workshop. President Hon. Prof. Bart Schultz said that there was a need to shift the focus to other three participating countries viz. Egypt, Mexico and Pakistan and also on developing broad based scenario through a consultative process at the national level involving all stakeholders. The session was attended by Office Bearers of ICID, professionals from national committees of CPSP participating countries, and ICID and IWMI professionals.

## Meeting of CPSP Participating National Committees

6 September 2004, Moscow

On 6 September 2004, an exclusive meeting with the representatives of CPSP participating National Committees was held. Dr. Luis Rendón Pimental, Chairman (MXCID), Mexico chaired the meeting. Other participants of the meeting were Er. M. Gopalakrishnan, Secretary General, Dr.S.A.Kulkarni from Central Office, ICID; Dr. Gao Zhanyi, Secretary General (CNCID), China; Mr. Illahi B. Shaikh, Chairman, (PANCID), Pakistan; and Dr. M.H. Amer, Chairman (ENCID), Egypt besides CPSP India study team leaders. The purpose of the meeting was to plan schedule of CPSP activities of Phase I in Egypt, Mexico and Pakistan with a view to complete those by December 2004 and also to initiate preliminary discussion on CPSP phase II proposal.



Sitting (LtoR) Dr. Luis Rendón Pimentel, A.D. Mohile, M. Gopalakrishnan, Illahi B. Shaikh. Standing (LtoR) Dr M.H. Amer, Dr. Gao Zhanyi, L.N. Gupta and Syed Raghib Abban Shah