

# News Update

Managing water for sustainable agriculture

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE (ICID)



## From Secretary General's desk...

Dear Friends,

It is with pleasure that I join you all in welcoming our new set of Office Bearers led by distinguished Dr. Gao Zhanyi (China) as President, and newly elected VPs, Prof. Kim Tai-Cheol (Korea), Dr. Adama Sangare (Mali), and Dr. Gerhard Backeberg (South Africa); their excellent achievements and past contributions to ICID are reflected in their CVs, seen elsewhere in this News Update.

Those of us who were in Tehran acknowledge wholeheartedly the excellent arrangements of our hosts for the Congress and IEC, when an unparalleled number of delegates, nearly 1100, joined us to transact on various themes of the Congress and side events. That the importance of ICID Congresses grows overwhelmingly each time is a welcome sign in the light of the challenges humanity faces in addressing Global Food Security and the role of irrigation and drainage in it.

President Hon. Madramootoo's earnest efforts in his tenure just concluded with the Congress, had succeeded in several fronts and the IEC could take note of the progress in the accomplishment of certain commitments. Inter-alia, these cover (i) a new visage for technology research by encouraging ICID NCs to spearhead and IEC mentor them and (ii) broad-basing the membership at global level. We have now a new vigor in promoting technology research and uptake. Following China and Iran, more countries have assured their interest and cooperation, bilateral as well as multi-lateral. The launching of IRPID in Tehran, Iran was followed by MoUs in quick succession during IEC; several NCs (like, Egypt, Indonesia, Tanzania, Mali, Ukraine, Uzbekistan – to mention a few) demonstrated their spirit positively giving the desired kick-off momentum.

For the forthcoming 3<sup>rd</sup> African Regional Conference, arrangements are in full swing. Special efforts to focus on Africa are likely to generate inputs to WWF6 from participant nations; a few countries' participation is being facilitated by CNCID, thanks to President Gao's initiative. One would also find some special sessions, like the one which FAO will bring out with IWMI on new contributions. Leading funding institutions like World Bank, African Development Bank are also taking part in the conference, an encouraging sign. Both AMCOW and AgWA are also anticipated to join ICID's African Regional Conference. Overall, the response to 3<sup>rd</sup> African Regional Conference has been quite rich, as per communications from Mali both during IEC meetings and subsequently. President Gao Zhanyi himself will take part in the main as well as special events and introduce ICID's approach to provide the inputs for the Forum 6.



This monthly message from my side will be my penultimate one. It was my great pleasure to interact with you month after month, through this portal for nearly 8 years (since 1/2004). I am happy to indicate that SG Designate A.C. Tyagi spent some time in Central Office during the month also to get acquainted with SG's roles; his scheduled joining date is 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012. SG Designate Tyagi had already interacted with as many of our ICID NC Chairs and other Workbody Chairs and members and endeared himself!

Best Regards,

M. Gopalakrishnan  
Secretary General

## Newly Elected Office Bearers

President

### Dr. Gao Zhanyi (China)

Dr. Gao Zhanyi (b.1962) obtained Ph.D in Hydrology and Water Resources Management from Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research (IWHR), China in 2005. Presently, he is the Director, National Centre for Efficient Irrigation Technology Research, China. He has served in various capacities in several international and national projects of global nature. Dr. Zhanyi has been contributing immensely to the activities of ICID as member and Chairman of Permanent Committees and several workbodies. He was also the Vice President of ICID for the period 2005-2008. He participated in numerous ICID events and was a key force behind the successful organization of 19th Congress and 56th IEC held at Beijing in 2005.



Dr. Zhanyi was also the recipient of various awards like ICID WatSave Award in 1999; Greet Yu Science and Technology Achievement Award from Ministry of Water Resources, China successively from 2006 to 2009; and Science and Technology Achievement Award from Ministry of Water Resources, State Council, Ningxia Autonomous Region, Hebei Province and Beijing Municipality in 1998, 2003, 2004, and 2008. He may be contacted at e-mail <gaozhy@iwhr.com>.

## Vice Presidents

### Prof. Tai Cheol, Kim (Korea)

Prof. Tai Cheol, Kim obtained his Ph.D. in Irrigation and Drainage from Seoul National University in 1984. Prof. Kim is the Professor in Irrigation, Drainage and Rural Engineering in Chungnam National University, Korea. Over the past 22 years, he has been actively contributing to the ICID activities through various workbodies and participated in several ICID events. He has membership of several professional associations like President of PAWEES (International Society of Paddy Water Environment Engineering) and has to his credit many awards including the ICID WatSave Technology Award (2001). Contact: <dawast@cnu.ac.kr>.



### Mr. Adama Sangare (Mali)

Mr. Adama Sangare obtained his Masters in Water Management for Agriculture in 1991 from School Inter-States of Engineers of the Rural Equipment (Burkina Fasso) and Federal Polytechnic School of Lausanne. He is the Président of the Association Malienne des Irrigations et du Drainage (AMID) and Co-Directeur de BETICO. Over the past 26 years he has served in various capacities in his country in World Bank projects as well as other projects funded by other agencies. Mr. Sangare is also the Chairman of African Regional Working Group since 2009 and is the force behind organizing 3rd African Regional Conference. He has been actively participating in several ICID events. Contact: <a.sangare@betico.net>; <betico@betico.net>.



### Dr. Gerhard Robert Backeberg (South Africa)

Dr. Gerhard Backeberg obtained Ph.D. from University of Pretoria (1994) and presently is the Director of Water Utilization in Agriculture at Water Research Commission. He has more

than 30 years of experience in various capacities, of which Department of Agriculture (1977-1995) and Water Research Commission (1995 to Present).



Dr. Backeberg has actively participated in many ICID activities since 1999 and presently he is the Chairman of Task Force on Financing Water for Agriculture (TF-FIN). He is associated with many professional societies and has won many awards like ICID Journal Best Paper Award (2007). He has authored/co-authored more than 30 papers and articles published in proceedings and journals. Contact: <gerhardb@wrc.org.za>.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Best Performing National Committee Award 2011



South African National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (SANCID) has won the 4<sup>th</sup> Best Performing National Committee (4<sup>th</sup> BPNC) Award for its outstanding achievements and contributions to ICID activities. SANCID joined ICID the year 1993 and has been very actively contributing to various activities of ICID since then. SANCID is fairly broad-based and has organized several scientific and technical events. The National Committee has also brought out a number of publications in the field of irrigation and drainage.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Best Performing Workbody Award 2011

The 3<sup>rd</sup> BPWA was presented to the ICID Working Group on Sustainable

## New Secretary General (Designate) - Mr. Avinash C. Tyagi

The 62<sup>nd</sup> IEC ratified the selection and appointment of Mr. Avinash C. Tyagi as Secretary General with effect from 1 January 2012.



Development of Tidal Areas (WG-SDTA). Dr. Park Sang Hyun (Korea), Chairman, WG-SDTA received the award.

Established in 2001, the WG-SDTA is one of the active ICID workbodies. The WG has brought out a new book "Towards Sustainable Development of Tidal Areas: Some Principles and Experiences" to improve the planning, design and management of irrigation and drainage projects in tidal areas.

## Winners of WatSave Awards 2011

### Innovative Water Management Award

#### Prof. Dr. Subhash Taley (India)

Prof. Dr. Subhash M. Taley's work on "Participatory Rainwater Conservation of Rainfed Agriculture of Vidarbha Region (Maharashtra), India" has won



the WatSave Innovative Water Management Award 2011. His work demonstrates as how the crop productivity can be increased in rainfed areas by the package of measures like across-slope cultivation and furrows, which are designed to enhance soil moisture in-situ and also capture runoff

in farm ponds for “life saving” irrigations during dry spells.

The achievements include an estimated 227 Mm<sup>3</sup> of water conserved on 21,000 ha in 2009-10, besides 50,000 m<sup>3</sup> made available for protective irrigation by the construction of 15,000 farm ponds, leading to a significant increase in crop yields.

### Technology Award

**Messrs. Pieter S van Heerden and Charles T Crosby (South Africa)**

Messrs Pieter S van Heerden and Charles T Crosby's work on “SAPWAT 3: Irrigation Water Planning Tool” has won them the WatSave Technology Award 2011.



The software can be used for several purposes, but the saving of water could be achieved by way of reducing the irrigation depth from 500 mm (needed to fill the soil profile to field capacity) to 320 mm in order to provide the capacity to make better use of rainfall. The consequent saving of 180 mm, if applicable to the 1.5 Mha of irrigation in South Africa, could save 2,700 Mm<sup>3</sup>.

### Farmer Award

**Mr. Jerry Erstrom (USA)**

Mr. Jerry Erstrom's work on “The Willow Creek Piping Project” has won the WatSave Farmer Award 2011. He is the Chairman of a local Watershed Council and a Working Group of



local growers concerned with the conversion of irrigation laterals to pipes, in order to save a high level of losses. The saving of water is considerable especially in the first month of irrigation in this dry high-desert region, and there are other benefits including the part-conversion of the area to a gravity-pressurized system. Upon completion, it is estimated that the project will save

14.8 Mm<sup>3</sup> of water on 4,856 ha, of which about half has already been converted to pipe-distribution and 14% converted to sprinkler.

## Best Paper Award 2011

The Best Paper Award 2011 was awarded to Messrs Yanbo Huang, Guy Fipps, Stephan J. Maas, and Reginald S. Fletcher (USA) to the paper titled “Airborne Remote Sensing for Detection of Irrigation Canal Leakage” published in Volume 59, No. 5 (December, 2010).

Heartiest congratulations to all!

## N.D. Gulhati Memorial Lecture 2011



The N.D. Gulhati Memorial Lecture for International Cooperation in Irrigation and Drainage was instituted in 1981 in the loving memory of late President Hon.

N.D. Gulhati (India). The 8<sup>th</sup> N.D. Gulhati Memorial Lecture was delivered by Dr. Charles Michael Burt (USA) on 19 October 2011 following the Opening Ceremony of Tehran Congress. The presentation of Dr. Burt on “The Irrigation Sector Shift from Construction to Modernization: What is Required for Success?” can be accessed at <[http://www.icid.org/nd\\_gulhati\\_2011.pdf](http://www.icid.org/nd_gulhati_2011.pdf)>

## ICID Invites Nominations for the WatSave Awards 2012

ICID instituted ‘WatSave Awards’ in 1997 to recognize ‘outstanding, contribution to water saving / conservation in agriculture’ annually, across the world. Entries for the nominations for the 2012 awards are now open. The WatSave awards are given in four categories viz. (i) Technology; (ii) Innovative Water Management; and (iii) Young Professionals; and (iv) Farmer. The awards will be presented at the 63<sup>rd</sup> IEC meeting scheduled to be held during 24-30 June 2012 at Adelaide, Australia. The Awards are only made in respect of

actual realized savings and not for promising research results, plans and/or good ideas/ intentions to save water.

Nominations are invited for the ‘WatSave awards 2012’ from individuals/team through National Committees/Committee. The ‘Nomination Form’, ‘Conditions and Criteria’, and ‘Check list’ of the documents to be submitted are available at <[www.icid.org/awards.html](http://www.icid.org/awards.html)>. The deadline for receipt of the entries from the National Committees to the ICID Central Office, New Delhi is 30 March 2012.

For further information, please contact Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar, Director, <[icid@icid.org](mailto:icid@icid.org)>

## Highlights of the 62<sup>nd</sup> IEC, 21<sup>st</sup> ICID Congress and 8<sup>th</sup> IMIC Meeting at Tehran, Iran

The 62<sup>nd</sup> International Executive Council (IEC) meeting of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID), 21<sup>st</sup> International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage, and 8<sup>th</sup> International Micro Irrigation Congress (IMIC) were held at Tehran, Iran from 15-23 October 2011. The theme of the Congress was “Water Productivity Towards Food Security”. More than 1100 delegates from over 55 countries and several international organizations participated in various events. More than 200 papers were presented during Tehran events. Besides the Congress, meetings of 30 ICID Workbodies, Workshops and exhibitions were held.

The Questions to the theme of the Congress were: Question 56 on “Water and Land Productivity Challenges” and Question 57 on “Water Management in Rainfed Agriculture”. The theme of the IMIC was “Innovation in Technology and Management of Micro Irrigation for Enhanced Crop and Water Productivity”.

The Central Office has published Congress proceedings (printed volume) with ‘Abstracts’ and a ‘CD-ROM’ containing all full length papers. The Congress was hosted and organized by Iranian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IRNCID) and supported by several Ministries and National Organizations (Private and Government)

from Iran. Highlights of the Congress and IEC are enumerated below:

#### • **New Chairs**

Vice President Dr. Ragab Ragab (UK) - PCSO; Vice President Hon. Dr. (Mrs.) Samia El-Guindy (Egypt) - WG-PQW; Dr. Andrew Sanewe (South Africa) - AFRWG; Dr. Sylvain-Roger Perret (France) - WG-ENV; and Prof. Ruey-Chy Kao (Chinese Taipei) - WG-SDTA.

#### • **New Vice Chairs**

Vice President Dr. Willem F. Vlotman (Australia) - PCTA; Dr. James E. Ayars (USA) - PFC; Engr. Aliou BAMBA (Mali) - AFRWG; Prof. Dr. N. Hatcho (Japan) - WG-ENV; and Dr. K. Yamaoka (Japan) - TF-FIN.

#### • **New Secretaries**

Engr. Raphael L. Daluti (Tanzania) - AFRWG; Mr. Olli-Matti Verta (Finland) - ERWG; and Prof. Kazuaki Hiramatsu (Japan) - SDTA.

- **ICID publications released:** (a) Towards Sustainable development of Tidal Areas: Some Principles and Experiences (WG-SDTA Handbook); (b) Half a Century with IRNCID; and (c) History of Water in ancient Iran.

- Working Group on Millennium Development Goals (WG-MDGs) has been established.

- Working Group on Intensification - Technology Research on Irrigation and Drainage (WG-TRID) has been created.

- A new Work Team on "ICID Engagement with the Rio+20 Process" has been created.

- Working Group on Comprehensive Approaches to Flood Management (WG-CAFM) proposed a new Task Force on "Value Engineering".

- The tenure of the Working Group on Technology and Research Uptake

and Exchange (WG-TRUE) was extended by one-year.

- Egyptian National Committee of ICID (ENCID) to host 11<sup>th</sup> International Drainage Workshop (IDW) in Cairo, Egypt during 23-25 September 2012.
- The Turkish National Committee (TUCID) will organize the 8<sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Conference in 2013 at Mardin, Turkey.

### Launching of ICID-IRPID in Tehran

In compliance of the MoU that was signed with ICID in December 2009, IRNCID launched "ICID – International Research Program for Irrigation and Drainage (ICID-IRPID)", the Nodal Centre for Central Asia and Middle East, in Tehran on Sunday, 16 October 2011 in the hands of ICID Secretary General M. Gopalakrishnan. The ceremony was graced by the presence of Hon'ble Ministers, His Excellency M. R. Atterzadeh, Deputy Minister of Energy, His Excellency Dr. S.R. Sajadi, Deputy Minister of Jihadet Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, ICID Office Bearers PH Peter Lee, VPH Dr. S. Nairizi, VPH Gao Zhanyi, VP Samia El Guindy, and several Chairs of Working Groups and a galaxy of experts in Research and Technology, besides many Chairmen of ICID National Committees. The role of IRNCID Secretary General, Mr. S. A. Assadollahi in organizing the special launch ceremony is praiseworthy.

The strength of the new Programme lies in the MoUs signed in quick succession during IEC with several NCs (*like, Egypt, Indonesia, Tanzania, Mali, Ukraine, Uzbekistan*) that would create a new 'Knowledge Base' and exchange them by cooperative efforts. Dr. Mohammad Javad Monem is the first Programme Manager of the new ICID-IRPID Centre in Tehran.

- The National Committee of the Russian Federation on Irrigation and Drainage (RuCID) to host the 12<sup>th</sup> International Drainage Workshop (IDW) in June 2014 at St. Petersburg.

## News from National Committees

### ICID, Australia

The Irrigation Australia's Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IACID) has informed the new contact details as follows:

Mr. Ian Atkinson, Chief Executive Officer, Irrigation Australia Limited (IAL), (Incorporating IACID), P.O. Box 863, Mascot, NSW 1460, Australia. Tel: +61 08 8272 0782; Tel: +61-(0)2-8335 4000; Fax: +61-(0)2-8335 4099; Mobile: +61 0439 009 338; E-mail: [ian.atkinson@irrigation.org.au](mailto:ian.atkinson@irrigation.org.au); [IACID@irrigation.org.au](mailto:IACID@irrigation.org.au); Website: <http://www.irrigation.org.au>

Dr. Willem F. Vlotman, Vice President, ICID, 2/21 Gordon Withnall Crescent, Dunlop, ACT 2615, Australia. Tel: +61-(0)2-6259 2424 (H), +61-(0)2-6279 0175 (W); Mob: 0407 682 450; E-mail: [willem.vlotman@irrigation.org.au](mailto:willem.vlotman@irrigation.org.au)

### TANCID, Tanzania

Tanzania National Committee of ICID (Tanzania) has rejoined the ICID family. The contact details are as below:

Eng. Raphael L. Daluti, Director, Irrigation and Technical Services Division, Tanzania National Committee for Irrigation and Drainage (TANCID), Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives, P.O. Box 9192, Dar es Salaam, The United Republic of Tanzania, Tel: +255 22 286 3226, +255 22 286 5426; E-mail: [dalutirl@yahoo.com](mailto:dalutirl@yahoo.com)

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