

News Update

January 2012

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE (ICID)

Managing Water for Sustainable Agriculture



From Secretary General's Desk...

Dear Colleagues,

First of all let me wish you all a very happy and prosperous New Year 2012.

As three billion more middle-class consumers join the global economy over the next two decades, the resource landscape will change profoundly: demand for many commodities will soar. The increasing demographic pressures on the natural resources, the imperative to maintain their sustainability, combined with the impending climate change poses new challenges that make the development processes more complex. These factors together with the potential environmental deterioration, itself driven by growing consumption of resources, could constrain growth and impact availability of some resources – water and food being the most obvious area of vulnerability.

Over the past 62 years, ICID has played a pivotal role in the untiring global efforts to eradicate hunger and poverty. It is a moot point of discussion whether the Malthusian specter would finally catch up or it would remain a hoax as proven time and again by the human ingenuity, developments in science and technology, and the resulting Green Revolution. ICID community has strongly contributed to the Green Revolution by successfully championing the cause of Irrigation, one of its three pillars, the others being the use of chemicals and developments in biotechnology. If Malthusian specter has to be kept at bay, another Green Revolution through technological and better socio-environmental interventions is called for. The second Green Revolution will have to be aimed at bridging the productivity gap, using water more efficiently and making



the green revolution more inclusive by covering all those countries that missed on the first Green Revolution, particularly from Africa. ICID will have to assume a leadership role in the process.

Inability of the irrigation sector to adequately deal with adverse environmental impacts and the limited success in furthering participatory irrigation management have made "irrigation" a seemingly unpopular word with in the development and environment circles. Irrigation is no more on the radar screen of the political agenda as apparent from the slow pace of investment in the sector during the past three decades. Flood management, although within the mandate of ICID and its NCs, has drawn less than adequate attention in the recent past.

During the last quarter of 2011, at the 21st Congress in Tehran in October and subsequently during the 2nd Arab Water Forum in Cairo in November, I had the privilege of interacting with the ICID community more closely. I listened carefully to the concerns and apprehensions of members. They range from frustration at the pace of reforms through which ICID is undergoing; to weak linkages with NCs that are the most vulnerable and need support; to the effectiveness of this wonderful network called ICID; and the lack of participation of many of the National Committees in the activities of the Commission. Exiguity of infusion of the young blood in the working of the organization is also a matter of grave concern, which in turn has also affected our capabilities to fully exploit the advances in information technology.

At the same time ICID is facing its own internal challenges: financial uncertainty has the most telling effect on its working. These

new and not so new challenges call for a change in the way we, the ICID fraternity, operate.

ICID needs to work closely with its partners on issues such as food and water security, water use efficiency, climate change adaptation, drought and flood management, agricultural and urban drainage, to name a few, where ICID and its National Committees have a crucial role to play. ICID has to take advantage of the presence of the National Committees at the country level, that helps implement new initiatives at the grass-root level. ICID will work together with its partners to walk the last mile and help them in meeting the shared objectives of poverty reduction through sustainable and green growth.

Let me assure you that the Central Office is geared to facilitate the efficient functioning of the network, to feel the pulse of the members and be the nucleus for change. As Theodore Roosevelt, 26th President of the United States once said: "In a moment of decision the best thing you can do is the right thing. The worst thing you can do is nothing." Accordingly, I will be coming to you often with new seeds of thought for your deliberations and decisions. Let me assure you that I will do my utmost to facilitate and accelerate this process of change further. With leaner Central Office a more informal but efficient and effective approach making use of the information technology is in the offing.

Avinash C. Tyagi
Secretary General



Secretary General M. Gopalakrishnan retires

The Central Office staff bid farewell to Mr. M. Gopalakrishnan on 30 December 2011 in a small simple in-house function after 8 years of his dedicated service to the ICID community. On behalf of the ICID family we wish him fruitful and active years ahead.

2012 IAL Conference and Exhibition - Call for Abstracts

The Irrigation Australia 2012 Conference and 7th Asian Regional Conference (ARC) of ICID will be held during 24-29 June 2012 at Adelaide, Australia. The Program Committee of the Irrigation Australia's Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IACID) invites abstract submission for various events held during Adelaide meetings:

- The themes outlined for the Conference are:
 - Integrated water management at basin and district level
 - Horticulture (including fruit, vegetables and urban or landscape irrigation)
 - Agriculture (including grains, pasture and fibre production)
 - Drainage and flood management
 - Water for the environment
 - Regional cooperation
- Cross cutting themes include:
 - Civil engineering advances to support water management
 - Climate change
 - Economics informing water management
 - Modelling to better manage resource distribution
 - Reuse of treated waste water and other 'new' water sources
 - Roles of social & cultural issues in developing water policy
 - Water pricing
 - Water trade

The last date for receipt of abstracts of paper(s) at the Conference secretariat is 14 February 2012. Please access the conference website (below) for more details on registration, accommodation and other events.

Contact: Mr. Ian Atkinson, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Irrigation Australia Limited (IAL), E-mail: ian.atkinson@irrigation.org.au or ial2012@saneevent.com.au; Tel: +61 2 9553 4820; Conference website: <http://www.irrigation.org.au/2012>.

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 aim of Annual Watsave Awards is to recognize the outstanding contributions to water conservation or water saving for the benefit of all the water-users. Accordingly, the Awards are only made in respect of actual realised savings and not for promising research results, plans and/or good ideas/intentions to save water.

The WatSave awards are given in four categories: (i) Technology; (ii) Innovative Water Management; (iii) Young Professionals; and (iv) Farmer.

The awards will be presented at the 63rd IEC meeting scheduled to be held during 24-30 June 2012 at Adelaide, Australia. The deadline for receipt of the entries from the National Committees along with a completed 'Nomination Form' etc. to the ICID Central Office, New Delhi is **30 March 2012**. The nominations sent directly to the Central Office, ICID can not be entertained.

Nominations are invited for the 'WatSave awards 2012' from individuals/team through National Committees/Committee. The entries are open to all professionals / teams from ICID member countries as well as non-member countries. In case of an entry from a 'non-member' country, the nomination has to be routed through and validated by an active National Committee of ICID, who should be in touch with the nominee and is aware of his / her work. The contact coordinates of the ICID 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.

The selection of the winners from amongst the nominations received will be made by an International Panel of Judges. National Committees are urged to give wide publicity to these awards in their country among actual farming communities and persons actively engaged in water savings/conservation practices. For further information, please contact Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar, Director, ICID at Email: icid@icid.org.

International Workshop on 'Irrigation, Water Quality and Environmental Flows'

An International Workshop on 'Irrigation, Water Quality and Environmental Flows' is scheduled to be organized by ICID's

Working Groups on Environment (WG-ENV) and Working Group on Use of Poor Quality Water for Irrigation (WG-PQW) during 63rd International Executive Council (IEC) and 7th Asian Regional Conference (ARC) of ICID to be held during 24-30 June 2012 at Adelaide, Australia. The following subtopics will be dealt with under two main sub-themes:

Sub Topic Themes (Water Quality)

- Irrigation with poor quality water as a means to reduce environmental impacts (reduced salinity and plant nutrients)
- Health aspects associated with irrigation with poor quality water
- Environmental impacts associated with using poor quality water for irrigation
- Management practices that promote sustainable use of poor quality water for irrigation
- Institutional issues arising from poor water quality irrigation impacts on the environment
- Management of poor quality water to reduce salinization of water resources
- Management of poor quality water to reduce salinization of water resources.
- Management of poor quality water to reduce eutrophication (enrichment with plant nutrients) of water resources

Sub Topic Themes (Environmental Flows)

- Irrigation Return Flow: positive or negative externality? Experiences, case studies; quantitative and qualitative aspects, contribution to EFR
- Water quality of irrigation return flow: standards, regulations, monitoring systems
- Assessment of EFR: methodologies, experiences, case studies
- Impacts of implementing EFR on irrigation water use; techno-economic analyses
- Implementing EFR in context of offstream / in-stream multiple uses
- Case studies on EFR policy and implementation
- Ecosystem Services provided by irrigation drainage: case studies and experiences, policy mechanisms.

The deadline for acceptance of abstracts (600 words) in word file is 15 February 2012.

Contacts: Dr. Ragab Ragab, Chair, WG-PQW (E-mail: rag@ceh.ac.uk) or Dr. Sylvain-Roger Perret, Chair, WG-ENV (E-mail: sylvain.perret@cirad.fr) for more details. The conference website is <http://online.saneevent.com.au/ial2012/>.

11th ICID International Drainage Workshop – Second Announcement

ICID's 11th International Drainage Workshop (IDW) will be hosted by the Egyptian National Committee of ICID (ENCID) in Cairo, Egypt from 23-27 September 2012.

The main theme of the Workshop is "Agricultural Drainage Needs and Future Priorities". The workshop has five main topics with 26 subtopics for paper submission. The main topics are - (i) Planning and Design of Drainage Systems; (ii) Improvement of Drainage Technology and Techniques; (iii) Drainage Management; (iv) Environmental Aspects and Climatic Change; and (v) Research Development and Capacity Building. The announcements & call for papers of the 11th IDW have been issued and widely circulated amongst ICID National Committees and International Organizations for further dissemination amongst potential participants. The workshop website <<http://www.encid.org/eg/idw11>> provides more details.

Deadlines: Extended abstracts of paper(s) submission - **28 February 2012** and submission of full length papers - 30 June 2012.

Contacts: Prof. Dr. Mohamed Hassan Amer, ENCID Chairman Coastal Protection Building, Fum Ismailiya Canal, Shoubra El-Kheima 13411, P.O. Box 40, Cairo/Egypt. Tel. No.: (+2 02) 44464505 / 010-16419861; Fax No.: (+2 02) 44464504, E-mail: <encid@link.com.eg>

News from ICID National Committee

FIJICID (Fiji)

The Fiji National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (FIJICID) has informed the new e-mail address of Mr. Lakshman Mudaliar as <laksham007@hotmail.com>

Secretary General Visits CWC and CBIP

Secretary General Mr. Tyagi paid courtesy visit to Mr. R.C. Jha, Chairman, INCID and Central Water Commission (CWC) on 3 January 2012 and held fruitful discussion. Mr. Jha reiterated INCID's interest to setup a sub-centre for research, development and training in Irrigation Water Management. Mr. S.P.

Minutes of 62nd IEC Meeting and Workbody Meetings at Tehran - Online

The Minutes of 62nd International Executive Council and Workbody meetings held from 15-23 October 2011 in Tehran, Iran have been posted on the ICID website <<http://icid.org/minutes.html>> for information. The printed copies of the 'Minutes' will be sent to all the Office Bearers, Chairs of National Committees, and Chairs of Workbodies shortly. Comments, if any, may please be sent to the Central Office for further necessary action and coordination with Chairs.

Kakran, member (RM), CWC and Mr. Yogesh Paithankar, Member Secretary, INCID were also present.

The Central Board of Irrigation and Power (CBIP) welcomed Mr. Tyagi and felicitated him on 5 January 2012. CBIP is an Indian institution, where the seeds of ICID were grown. CBIP was the key agency who organized ICID's annual meetings in New Delhi in 2009. Discussions were later held with Mr. Kanjlia, Secretary of CBIP on strengthening the bonds between CBIP and ICID and other related issues.

Arab Water Forum

Second Arab Water Forum was organized by Arab Water Council in Cairo from 20-23 November 2011. A number of office bearers of ICID, including VP Dr Ragab Ragab; VPH Prof. Mohamed Hassan Amer, Chairman of the Egyptian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (ENCID); VPH Prof. Abu-Zeid, VPH Prof. Safwat Abdel-Dayem and VPH Dr. Hussein El-Atfy VPH and Secretary General (D) Mr. Avinash Tyagi, attended the Forum.



Out of 22 countries in the Arab region, 18 countries already suffer from water scarcity which is likely to be further deteriorated by 2050, due to population pressure and climate change. Agriculture sector that constitutes roughly 6.8% of GDP (although it reaches more than

30% in some countries) in the region continues to be a major component of the regional economy, providing jobs and food security. Arab countries continue to see agriculture as a sector with the potential for job creation.

The participants at the Forum called for greater investment in agriculture and make agriculture a strategic public policy priority by integrating the land and water strategies.

The participants gathered at the Forum called for policies that should reallocate subsidies to water saving crops and support water saving practices. The region also sees climate change with the consequent increased climate variability as a new and major challenge in its effort to ensure food and water security to its people. It sees the adverse consequences of climate change in the form of more frequent droughts.

The ICID office bearers present at the Forum strongly feel that ICID fraternity can play an active role by supporting the region in its efforts to develop resilience in the agriculture system against droughts through proactive actions. They call upon the ICID National Committees in the region to respond to the clarion call coming out of the Forum and draw up a regional response, closely working with the other partners from the region such as FAO and IFAD.

New Additions to ICID's Text Delivery Service (TDS) Database (December 2011)

In order to facilitate inter/exchange of information on irrigation and drainage related literature amongst all professionals and ICID member TDS. The TDS provides literature, which also includes extensive ICID Library publications catalogue in electronic format for online searching through keywords, author, ISBN, ISSN, publisher, UDC number, accession number, and place of publication etc. Full texts of papers presented at recent ICID Congresses and Conferences, as well as available grey literature have been uploaded under 'ARTICLES'. Complete documents where available, can be viewed / downloaded through RESOURCES AVAILABLE link put at the end of the search results. The additions during the months to the TDS Database are:

Article Section – 43 additions (Articles / Papers)

- (i) Irrigation and Drainage – The Journal of the ICID, December 2011, Vol. 60, No. 5 (13 articles)

- (ii) Irrigation and Drainage – The Journal of the ICID, December 2011, Vol. 60, Supplement 1 – Deltas in Europe: Integrated Water Management for Multiple Land Use in Flat Coastal Areas (16 articles)
- (iii) Natural Resources Journal, 2011, Vol. 51, No. 1 (2 articles)
- (iv) Water & Energy International, August 2011, Vol. 68, No. 8 (2 articles)
- (v) Hydropower & Dams, 2011, Vol. 18, No. 6 (6 articles)
- (vi) California Agriculture, October-December 2011, Vol. 65, No. 4 (4 articles)

Book Section – 11 additions; till date 31907 additions have been made to TDS database.

The Text Delivery Service (TDS) database can be accessed by visiting ICID website: www.icid.org.

Forthcoming Events

ICID Events

The 63rd IEC Meeting and 7th Asian Regional Conference, 24-30 June 2012, Adelaide, Australia. Contact : Mr. Ian Atkinson, Chief Executive Officer, Irrigation Australia Limited (IAL), (Incorporating ANCID, the Australian National Committee on Irrigation & Drainage), E-mail: IACID@irrigation.org.au, ian.atkinson@irrigation.org.au or E-mail: IAL2012@saneevent.com.au, Website: www.irrigation.org.au/2012.

11th International Drainage Workshop (IDW), 23-27 September 2012, Cairo, Egypt. Contact: Prof. Dr. Mohamed Hassan Amer, Vice President Hon. ICID and Chair, Egyptian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (ENCID), E-mail: encid@link.com.eg, ENCID website: www.encid.org.eg, IDW website: www.encid.org.eg/idw11

12th International Drainage Workshop (IDW), June 2014, St. Petersburg, Russia. Contact: Ms. Irena G. Bondarik, Secretary General, National Committee of the Russian Federation on Irrigation and Drainage (RuCID), E-mail: ibond@online.ru, rusiptrid@mail.ru

Other Event

Fourth International Conference on Water Resources and Renewable Energy Development in Asia, 26-27 March 2012, Shangri-La Hotel, Chiang Mai, Thailand. Contact : Mrs. Margaret Bourke, Conference Project Manager, Aqua-Media International, E-mail : mb@hydropower-dams.com

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The ICID journal, Irrigation and Drainage is available online FREE via Wiley online library for all ICID office bearers, work body members and subscribers.

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For 2012 Wiley has provided each ICID office bearer, work body member and subscriber a membership registration number. Your e-mail address is your user name and you can choose your own password.

Now available on the website **Volume 60 S1, December 2011. Special Issue on Deltas** in Europe. Integrated water management for multiple land use in flat coastal areas. Click on [http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/\(ISSN\)1531-0361](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/(ISSN)1531-0361) for direct access to the page with the papers of this issue of Irrigation and Drainage at the Wiley site

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

48 Nyaya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110021, India, Tel: 91-11-2611 5679, 91-11-2611 6837, 91-11-2467 9532
Fax: 91-11-2611 5962; E-Mail: icid@icid.org; Website: <http://www.icid.org>
Editor: Dr. V.K. Labhsetwar, Director; DTP: Keshav Dev Tanwar, Central Office