

News Update

May 2012

Also at <http://www.icid.org>

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE (ICID)

Managing Water for Sustainable Agriculture



Preparing for the future....

Dear Friends,

We are living in a world that is transforming fast in all its aspects: technological, political, economic, and environment. What seems to remain static is our continuous fight against hunger, although the dynamics of this fight is also changing. Food security remains one of the major concerns of the global community today. Efficient water management remains fundamental to achieving food security in its totality at various levels: global, regional, national as well as house-hold. And that is the theme of this year's World Water Day: Water for Food Security.



our new President Dr. Gao Zhany. Preceded by the meetings of Working Groups and the Permanent Committees, the Agenda at the IEC meeting is full. I would like to take this opportunity to draw your attention to a few of the important issues that you may like to discuss among your National Committee members before taking flight for Adelaide.

An important issue that automatically flows from our efforts to bring greater inclusiveness is the restructuring of ICID meetings by initiating World Irrigation Forum, proposed to be organized in the year preceding the Congress years. The idea initiated by our President has the potential to bring together all the stakeholders involved in the agriculture water management in general and irrigation in particular and will be discussed in the PCSO. The World Irrigation Forum (WIF) designed on the lines of World Water Forum, once approved by IEC, will aim at facilitating discussion on multi-disciplinary and multi-stakeholder solutions for better water management in agriculture.

What also flows from bringing greater inclusiveness in the functioning of ICID network is the need for better communication strategy. We are seeking your assessment and suggestions on the present communication means. In an effort to review the present and develop a new strategy, we are seeking your precious time of ten minutes for filling in an online survey.

Many National Committees have actively engaged with their stakeholders and celebrated this year's WWD – Nepal, Pakistan, Turkey and Ukraine, to name a few. The vision of ICID to enhance the world-wide supply of food and fibre for all people calls for collective efforts of a variety of stakeholders. Through the celebration of WWD the NCs have continued their efforts in this direction.

In a month's time when ICID community gathers for 63rd meeting of the International Executive Council in Adelaide, Australia, it will be furthering this agenda. We will be deliberating upon the recommendations of the Special Committee to review Constitution to give effect to our path-breaking decision in Tehran to make ICID more inclusive by inviting many more stakeholders- individual experts, institutions and private companies, as direct ICID members, particularly from the countries where these stakeholders are unable to join the ICID Community through their National Committees due the construct of these NCs.

Like all our annual meetings, this meeting will also provide us the opportunity to give shape to the activities that the network has been undertaking during the past year, figuratively speaking as 62nd IEC was held in last October. Being the after-Congress year, this will be the first meeting under the young and enthusiastic leadership of

Last week the leaders and various stakeholders gathered in Cairo, Egypt at Africa Water Week and deliberated on 'Water for growth in Africa'. Dr Hesham Kandil, Minister for Water Resources and Irrigation for Egypt was elected as the President of AMCOW for the next two years. Apart from this there have been a number of small but important developments in Africa, involving the NCs as well as through the regional groupings such as SARIA and ARID. Hopefully these steps would lead to bigger leaps in terms of involving many more countries from the region in the activities of ICID. The African Regional Working Group will be deliberating on the capacity development strategy for the region.

Various Working Groups will avail the opportunity of face to face meeting to further

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Adelaide 2012 HURRY, REGISTER NOW Early bird registration-25 May 2012



The organizing committee has extended the last date for early bird registration as 25 May 2012.

You are therefore advised to please hurry up and register yourself before 25 May 2012 to avail the lower registration fee of AU Dollar 990. However, this deadline should not act as a deterrent to all those registrants, who have genuine problems to register by this date. An extension of couple of weeks can be considered by Mr. Ian Atkinson the Co-Chair of the Conference, on a case to case basis. So please contact him at your earliest.

The organisers are also looking into the ways to facilitate payment onsite for those who have real issues with pre-payment. This facility will be extended to those who give in writing to Mr. Ian Atkinson <ian.atkinson@irrigation.org.au> expressing their difficulty in making payment online.

REDUCING CARBON FOOTPRINTS



In an effort to contribute to the global efforts towards reduction in green house gases and to save trees, we seek your cooperation to reduce paper consumption at the IEC meetings. We request you to, please download the annotated Agenda for various meetings from <<http://www.icid.org/agenda.html>> and use the electronic copy of the Agenda during the meetings.

The reports of the Chairs of WGs and the Permanent Committees would also be made available electronically during the meeting. Please remind yourself to pack your Notebooks/iPads before boarding the flight to Adelaide.

the activities defined under their mandates, exchange experiences and resolve to produce tangible outputs: surveys, guidelines or technical notes. Time and again members, through various fora and privately, have expressed the need to improve upon the effectiveness of the Working Groups, which form an important mechanism to share the experiences and develop technical outputs for the broader community. PCTA will be deliberating upon concrete actions and propose for their formal implementation by IEC.

As we will be meeting under the shadow of Rio+20 that is likely to bring fresh commitments from the international community to work towards a more sustainable development model, we will also have to take the new commitments in our deliberations in Adelaide. After all, provision of irrigation to the largely rain-fed agriculture is the key to the greening of economy, poverty alleviation, and sustainable development

through equitable wealth generation and food security.

I, therefore, encourage you to register for the Adelaide 2012 at the earliest to avail the early bird registration price in order to take part in this important IEC where you will be influencing a multitude of decisions. The host city of Adelaide provides an opportunity to discover an abundance of local projects in the country's driest state of South Australia. Following the IEC meeting, join the technical tours and learn for yourself how the dry situation has been converted in to opportunity by making full use of technology and good governance. At the same time prepare yourselves to be spoilt by the world famous wine regions.

Best regards,



Avinash C. Tyagi
Secretary General

ICID Online Surveys

The success of any network depends largely on how different members, groups and members of committees communicate with each other and are kept informed of the activities to bring synergies in their actions. This NEWS UPDATE, the ICID News and the ICID Website are the major communication tools of ICID. We are assessing how these tools are performing and their effectiveness in order to improve them where necessary to serve you better. Through this online-survey we would like to know your views, suggestions and expectations as individuals on the effectiveness of these tools. We have also widely issued this 'Satisfaction Survey' to our National Committees, Chairs & Members of the ICID Workbodies, Present and Past Office-Bearers and partner International Organizations. Please spare your 10 minutes and complete this survey and be a partner in improving these tools further.

The survey is being carried out online through ICID website (<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/V5VPL2N>, <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BKCJPGN>). The feedback received will be analysed and presented at the C-PR&P/ PCSO meetings at Adelaide in June 2012.

SARIA Workshop

The Southern African Regional Irrigation Association (SARIA) with its annual workshop and steering committee meeting was successfully held on

14-16 March 2012 at Pretoria, South Africa. SARIA's vision is to enhance communication, research, training and development of appropriate science and technologies in irrigation and drainage for gender-balanced poverty eradication and economic development to improve the livelihoods of the inhabitants of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries.

Participants at this year's workshop included representatives from 11 SADC countries. The workshop began with a technical tour to the Agricultural Research Council-Vegetable and Ornamental Plants Institute (ARC-VOPI) at Roodeplaats, Pretoria on 14 March 2012. SARIA members visited the ARC-VOPI's gene bank, hydroponics unit, rain shelters, and field trials for indigenous crops. The focus of the 3 day event was the SARIA steering committee meeting, chaired by Dr Molete of Lesotho, which was held on 15 March 2012. During the meeting VP Backeberg proposed an action plan to speed-up the establishment of SARIA national committees which SARIA members discussed and agreed to. VPH



and Chairman of SANCID, Felix Reinders, gave an interesting presentation on: "Drip Irrigation: Principles and Practices". On the last day of the workshop, 16 March 2012, SARIA national committees (South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia) which are members of ICID together with countries (Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi) that are planning to join ICID soon gave presentations on their organizational structures and activities. The next SARIA steering committee meeting and workshop is planned for February/March 2013 in one of the SADC countries.

IFPRI launches Global Food Policy Report

The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) has launched its inaugural Global Food Policy Report. The report provides a comprehensive overview of major policy changes at the global, regional, national, and local levels, as well as their significance for food and nutrition security.

The report makes the case for keeping food policy issues high on the global agenda and could serve as a reference to policymakers and stakeholders as they undertake discussions on global development.

The release said that the emerging economies like Brazil, China, and India, as well as the private sector and philanthropic organizations have also increased their voice in the global food system through global platforms such as the G20 meeting and the World Economic Forum.

"For most of 2011, global food prices and food price volatility remained high. Droughts, floods, and earthquakes threat food security for the poor, and increased hunger and malnutrition in the areas hit by these natural disasters. Yet 2011 saw significant gains in support of agriculture, food and nutrition security, and global poverty reduction. Agriculture moved to the forefront of the international development agenda, and investments in the sector rose," the release explained.

It said looming large for 2012 will be continued high and volatile food prices, increased oil prices, the threat of extreme weather events exacerbated by climate change such as drought in the Sahel, and financial crises in the US and Europe. All of these have and will continue to affect the food and nutrition security of the poor and hungry. Please access : <http://www.ghanabusinessnews.com/2012/04/24/>

ifpri-launches-global-food-policy-report/ for more information on the subject.

Irrigation efficiency and productivity: scales, systems and science

A Special Issue on Irrigation Productivity and Efficiency is available from the Journal 'Agricultural Water Management' at <http://www.journals.elsevier.com/agricultural-water-management/> and we can search 108 volumes at <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03783774/108>. The papers available through above links are outcome of a meeting held in London in November 2008 by ICID.UK, entitled "Towards a political ecology of irrigation and water use efficiency and productivity". The papers in this issue broadly fit that initial inspiration to explore the science, discourses and political framings of irrigation efficiency and productivity – but authors were given a free hand to pursue their own particular ideas and interpretations. <http://www.uea.ac.uk/dev/People/staffresearch/blankfordresearch/iciddevtalk08>

Asian Irrigation Forum

Asian Development Bank (ADB) organized the Asian Irrigation Forum at ADB Headquarters in Manila 11-13 April 2012. ICID President Gao Zhanyi gave a key note presentation on irrigation responses to the challenges of volatility, vulnerability, and changes in agriculture. Professor Gao reiterated the critical roles of government, management agents, water user associations making irrigation more productive and responsive to users' needs. ADB committed to continue support for irrigation investments. Download papers and presentations at: <http://www.scribd.com/collections/3566991/2012-Asian-irrigation-Forum>. Contact: Ir. Ian W Makin (E-mail : imakin@adb.org) for more details.

Young Professional's Forum

Aspirations for ICID's great future need to be groomed. In certain regions, the Young Professional Fora were successfully organized, for example, during the 24th and 25th ERCs in March and May 2011 at France and The Netherlands, respectively. However, progress on the development of the Directory of YPs and initiating of YPF News Letter has been far from encouraging. It was a matter of great concern that no nominations were received for young professionals WatSave Awards in 2011.

The Young Professional activities should be highlighted by all NCs in order to promote and encourage more members to participate in ICID events. Financial support from each National Committee is very important in order to make the YPFs active and successful. Talented young people should be given an opportunity to show and develop their creativity. Some of the activities where YP can help the NC are:

- Preparation and publication of newsletter of the NCs,
- Preparing an archive of all past events,
- Arranging seminars,
- Arranging scientific/technical contest for young professionals in the water sector,
- Translation of relevant books/documents into national language,
- Providing support in organizing the congress and other conferences,
- Organizing side events for Young Professionals during congress, conferences,
- Conducting opinion poll to find out the effectiveness of NC activities, and
- Updating website of the NCs,

We are looking forward to the progress from other NCs in establishing the YPF.

Water and Food Security - National Committees celebrate World Water Day

NENCID (Nepal)

Under the leadership of Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS, member of NENCID), NENCID organized Nepal National Water Week 2012 from 17-23 March 2012 to celebrate the World Water Day 2012 with the theme "Water and Food Security". The weeklong programs included:

- Identification of water related issues focusing on food security and sustainable management of water resources in Nepal,
- Awareness of all stakeholders, from policy makers to general public, on the importance of sustainable management of water resources for ensuring food security,
- Enhancement of understanding of general public and school/college students on water quality, water

conservation and related issues, and

- Co-ordination among the organizations and institutions working in water and environment sectors.

During the week, NENCID member representatives from offices like Department of Irrigation, WECS, Department of Agriculture, Nepal Engineers Association, and other members of NENCID actively participated in the program.

PANCID (Pakistan)

The inaugural session of World Water Day 2012 was chaired by Engr. Syed Raghob Abbas Shah, Member (Water), WAPDA. In his Welcome address, Engr. R. K. Anver, Vice-President of the Congress focused on population explosion, water scenario in the country and food insecurity. Engr. Syed Raghob Abbas Shah, dispelled the impression that the Federal and Provincial Governments are not taking seriously the issue of water shortage. The day-long session ended with following recommendations:

- The business as usual will not help,
- Manage to reverse the critical situation of water scarcity and food shortages to make the Country a self-sufficient,
- Integrated water resources management / conservation at all levels through high efficiency irrigation techniques, land management through better cultural practices,
- Construction of mega, medium and small reservoirs is the need of the hour to compensate reservoir capacity reduction through sedimentation and to meet additional water and flood control requirement through better regulation,
- Encourage cropping zones comparable with available water supplies,
- To create awareness about water quality and depletion of groundwater, avoid secondary salinization and aquifer pollution,
- To enhance groundwater recharge along with groundwater regulation,
- Treatment of saline effluent for its use in agriculture. A national programme for continuous monitoring of drain water quality should be started. A number of drains have useable and marginal water quality which can be used for saline agro-forestry.

Adelaide 2012 - The largest Irrigation event ever held in Australia

62nd IEC and 7th ARC of ICID at Adelaide, Australia - Updates

The Australian National Committee of ICID (IACID) will be organizing the 62nd International Executive Council (IEC) meeting and 7th Asian Regional Conference (ARC) during 24-29 June 2012 at Adelaide, Australia. The theme of the Conference is 'Regional Cooperation for Water and Food Security'.

Four International Workshops/Seminar of the ICID Workbodies i.e. (1) 'Adaptive Flood Management'; (2) 'Country Policies and Developments of Water for Bio-Energy and Food'; (3) 'Irrigation, Water Quality and Environmental Flows'; and (4) 'Historical Water Sustainability: Lessons to Learn' will be held. The 'Preliminary Programme at a Glance' is now available at Conference website: www.irrigation.org.au/2012

Registrations are now open for the largest irrigation event ever to be held in Australia. The event, hosted by Irrigation Australia

Limited will be held from 24th to 29th June, at the Adelaide Convention Centre. The 2012 Conference will see the gathering of the International Executive Council for the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) (24th to 28th), alongside Irrigation Australia's own annual Conference and Trade Show over three days (26th to 28th), in conjunction with the 7th ICID Asian Regional Conference. Running over four days, the IAL Conference will offer seminars on essential irrigation topics with key speakers from government, agriculture, and horticulture, as well as environmental and landscape industries. The future trends in water supply and irrigation will also be demonstrated at this internationally recognized Conference. The Conference program has been developed with an outlook on issues that will affect businesses and the industry over the next 12 months as well as the challenges faced by a still developing industry.

The event will bring together experts,

colleagues, and associations from many geographic locations to share knowledge and develop irrigation initiatives. Occupying more than 5000 square metres, the Trade Show will feature companies such as irrigation equipment suppliers, importers, distributors and retailers all showcasing their products and services to the irrigation industry. Mr. Ian Atkinson, CEO of Irrigation Australia, explained the broad appeal of the event: "For international and domestic Conference delegates, as well as Trade Show visitors, the event is an excellent opportunity to see all the best irrigation equipment available. With presentation papers on the latest developments in technology and management as well the biggest Trade Show in the southern hemisphere you can't afford not to be at this year's event in Adelaide."

For more information about Irrigation Australia's 2012 Conference and Trade Show visit: www.irrigation.org.au/2012

TUCID (Turkey)

"Water and Food Security" meeting was held at DSI General Directorate Conference Hall. General Director Mr. Akif Özkaldı, Deputy General Directors, Heads of Departments participated in the ceremony. Further, Regional Directors and DSI staff also participated via video conferencing.

Mr. Akif Özkaldı, General Director of DSI, in his opening speech underlined the importance of water by stating that "Water" is main resource for food production. He emphasized on investments in dams to create more storages which are main resources of irrigation in the country. He informed that the General Directorate is responsible for developing land and water resources since 1954 in Turkey and has constructed 741 dams and reservoirs which irrigated 3.32 million hectare of agricultural land. GAP (Southeastern Anatolian Project) which includes dams, hydro-electricity power projects, irrigation investments is handled by General Directorate. This project is regarded as one of the biggest projects in the country having capacity to feed the whole Europe when it is completed, he said.

News from ICID National Committees

JNC-ICID (Japan)

Mr. Nobuyoshi Fujiwara will be the new Secretary General of the Japanese National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (JNC-ICID) in place of Mr. Kunihiko Naitou. ICID fraternity extends its warm welcome to Mr. Nobuyoshi Fujiwara and expresses its thanks to Mr. Kunihiko Naitou for his contributions to ICID. Mr. Fujiwara's contact details are:

Mr. Nobuyoshi Fujiwara, Secretary General, Japanese National Committee, ICID (JNC-ICID), Project Planning Division, Rural Development Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, 1-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-Ku, Tokyo 100-8950, Japan, Tel: +81-3-3595-6339; Fax: +81-3-3592-1481
E-mail: jncid@nm.maff.go.jp

Forthcoming Events

ICID Events

The 63rd IEC Meeting and 7th Asian Regional Conference, 24-29 June 2012, Adelaide, Australia. Mr. Ian Atkinson (Australia), Chief Executive Officer, Irrigation Australia Limited (IAL), E-mail: IACID@irrigation.org.au, ian.atkinson@irrigation.org.au or SANE Events

for Irrigation Australia Limited (IAL), E-mail: IAL2012@saneevent.com.au, Conference Website : www.irrigation.org.au/2012.

11th International Drainage Workshop (IDW), 23-27 September 2012, Cairo, Egypt. Contact: Prof. Dr. Mohamed Hassan Amer, ENCID Chairman (Egypt), E-mail: encid@link.com.eg, ENCID website: and IDW website : <http://www.encid.org.eg/idw11>

64th IEC Meeting and 8th Asian Regional Conference, 29 September - 5 October 2013, Mardin, Turkey. Contact : Mrs. Serpil KOYLU, Turkish National Committee, ICID (TUCID), Delvet Mahallesi İnönü Bulvarı No. 16, 06100 Cankaya, Ankara, Turkey, Tel/Fax: +90 312 425 4614, E-mail : tucid@dsi.gov.tr, serpil.koylu@dsi.gov.tr, Website: <http://www.icid2013.org>

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

22nd ICID Congress and 65th IEC, 14-20 September, 2014, at Gwangju Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea. Contact: Ir. Hun Sun Lee, Korean National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (KCID), E-mail: kcidkr@gmail.com, kcid@ekr.or.kr, Website : <http://www.icid2014.org>

Other Events

14th International Peat Congress titled "Peatlands in Balance", 3-8 June 2012, Stockholm, Sweden. All information is available at <http://www.ipc2012.se>

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

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