

News Update

September 2012

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE (ICID)

Managing Water for Sustainable Agriculture



Towards Sustainable Agricultural Water Management

From Secretary General's Desk

My apologies as this issue of News Update reaches you with a two week delay. This issue was held back for a purpose to bring to you outcomes of some of the very important ICID events in the second half of September.



The recent crisis due to price hikes has awakened the global community and brought the urgency of making food security a priority. Importance of environmentally sustainable agricultural water management for agricultural development and food production with particular reference to small-holders farmers has been recognized. ICID has been, over the years, supported such national efforts. For a few years these efforts have been further accelerated.

Following the active participation of ICID in SWWW 2012 in August and collaborating with FAO, IWMI and SIWI organizing a workshop on 'Best Use of Blue Water Resources for Food Security'; ICID organized two more workshops in the month of September. These Workshops addressed the drainage aspects, saving of water in agriculture and participatory irrigation management; three vital tools for environmentally sustainable irrigation management.

The first was an "International Advanced Workshop and Training on Irrigation and Drainage" in Beijing, China from 21-26

September 2012 organized by Chinese National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage and the Chinese Research and Training Centre. The "11th International Drainage Workshop", organized and hosted by the Egyptian National Committee (ENCID), in Cairo, Egypt from 22-24 September, 2012. You can read more about these Workshops in this issue.

Under the changing climate and impending more frequent extreme events, expansion of irrigation and integrated approaches to flood management have become more critical in all its forms and interactions, requiring inputs from all stakeholders. One of the pre-requisites of sustainable agricultural water management is the delivery and application of multi-disciplinary innovations at the farm level.

ICID is doubling up its efforts to bring on board all the stakeholders in a seamless manner to encourage a holistic approach towards agriculture water management for sustainable development. The Minutes of 63rd IEC meeting lay down the new strategic direction for ICID now in your hands. The process of opening of ICID direct membership to professionals, companies, institutions and civil society engaged in various aspects of agriculture water management has started. The logistics are being put in place to solicit potential direct members and soon we will be sending out an invitation to solicit direct membership.

The preparations for organizing the First World Irrigation Forum (WIF) scheduled to be held from 29 September – 4th October 2013 in the city of Mardin, Turkey are on. We have received an overwhelming enthusiastic

response from all International Organizations engaged in agriculture water management. We are actively working with FAO and IWMI on technical and thematic aspects of the Forum. IFPRI and GWP have also agreed to collaborate with ICID for the successful organization of the Forum.

During the recent international events, I had the occasion to meet a number of past and present office bearers of ICID. They expressed satisfaction at the strategic changes that the Commission has made recently. Like in any other organization, change management in ICID will be aimed at helping National Committees to accept and embrace these changes in a seamless manner without interrupting the normal functioning in any way. Effective communications that inform various stakeholders the details of the change is going to be crucial in this process. Central Office will be making all-out efforts in this endeavor, adopting different communication means. With this in view, I seek your feedback to be able to influence the change process. Lawrence Clark Powell has succinctly put it "Read to grow, write to be understood and speak to be heard."

Since Adelaide meetings, Zimbabwe National Committee has once again become active. We congratulate the new team at ZwCID and welcome them back to this thriving and kicking network of ICID

Best Regards

Avinash C. Tyagi
Secretary General

ICID Establishes Direct Membership (DM)

The International Executive Council (IEC) of ICID at its 63rd annual meeting held on 28th June 2012 at Adelaide, Australia took a historic decision to throw open its doors to private companies, institutions and individuals as Direct Members (DM). It is hoped that with the direct members on board, ICID will be able to propel itself better towards its objectives of enhancing

supply of food and fibre for all people by improving land and water management.

Direct members would be able to influence policy makers by being part of an international platform and benefit from worldwide exposure and stay informed on recent irrigation, drainage and flood management issues. This new opportunity has great potential to enhance the working of ICID and hopefully will result in greater global exchanges of experiences and

multi-inter-disciplinary innovation.

Benefits of Direct Membership, Terms of Direct Membership, and Fee Structure of Direct Membership together with application forms are available at <http://www.icid.org/dir_mem.html>. Alternately, you could contact Dr. S.A. Kulkarni, Executive Secretary, ICID at icid@icid.org for more information and clarifications, if any.

Water and Food Security at Stockholm

This year, 'Water for Food Security' has been the major focus of many international events including the 21st Stockholm World Water Week (SWWW) during 26-31 August 2012. It is a matter of great pride for ICID fraternity spread across the globe to observe the presence of 'ICID' at Stockholm World Water Week. More than 2400 participants gathered at the 21st Stockholm World Water Week and expressed their grave concerns at the rude fact that a large portion of the food produced by the farmers is lost/ wasted in the supply chain from 'Farm to Fork'. Besides this, a large portion of the food grain is also diverted to be used as either animal feed or for biofuel production while nearly billion people still suffer from hunger and malnutrition. The nexus between water and food was elaborated through numerous workshops, seminars and special sessions during the week.

ICID co-convened the workshop on 'Best Use of Blue Water Resources for Food Security' with other partners on 28 August 2012. President Hon. Chandra Madaramootoo delivered a keynote address on "Renewed Emphasis on Water Storage for Food Production" while Dr. Toru Watanabe (Japan) participated in the Panel discussions. Secretary General Avinash C. Tyagi chaired the session with Dr. Peter McCornick, Dy. Director General,

IWMI. A number of other lively presentations kept the audience interested in the workshop and discussions. The following emerged from the workshop –

- There are many options for harnessing, storing and using blue water to increase agricultural systems' output.
- Large collective irrigation schemes need to modernize and respond to the changing needs of rapidly transforming agricultural production systems.
- Water savings are possible by increasing irrigation efficiency but policy makers need to give clear guidance on how to use the water saved.
- Trade/retail consumer interests; innovation and new technology are important in nexus between water and food to promote resource stewardship.

President Dr. Gao Zhanyi participated in a number of events: panel discussion on "Governance for Water and Food Security" and Seminar on "Eye on Asia-Food and Water Security", to name a few. Secretary General represented ICID at the GWP Consulting Partners' meeting and expressed ICID's interest in participating



in the Integrated Drought Management Program (IDMP) being coordinated by WMO jointly with GWP. ICID has earlier participated in the early phases of inception of the IDMP. President Dr. Zhanyi, PH Madramootoo and Secretary General Tyagi, together with Vice President Francois Molle participated in various side meetings with a number of partners and solicited their participation in First World Irrigation Forum scheduled to be hosted by Turkish National Committee of ICID in Mardin from 29 September to 5 October 2013, along with the 64th IEC meeting.

Prior to SWWW, President and Secretary General participated in the 22nd UN-Water meeting held in Stockholm from 23-25 August 2012. While introducing the food security issues among the members, the President invited all the UN-Water members and partners to join the First World Irrigation Forum in Turkey. A number of possible collaborative activities jointly with other UN-Water members were explored.

Water Saving Irrigation Technology and Participatory Irrigation Management

It is recognized that our inability to use water wisely in agriculture will endanger water security and has the potential to lead to political stability and peace. Evapotranspiration by the crops and evaporation from the field is the actual water loss within irrigation process, which is not hydrologically recoverable. Attempts to minimize such water losses through micro-and drip irrigation technologies through improved design and spreading micro-irrigation systems efficiency by incorporating latest research findings need to be accelerated. One of the most significant changes in institutional arrangements in recent years has been the participatory irrigation management movement and the development of water user associations.

These topics were addressed at the "International Advanced Workshop and Training on Irrigation and Drainage" in Beijing, China from 21-26 September 2012 organized by Chinese National Committee

on Irrigation and Drainage, the Chinese Research and Training Centre. The workshop was also supported by Ministry of Water Resources, Chinese Irrigation and Drainage Development Centre and China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research (IWHR).

The workshop was attended by about 20 participants from Bangladesh, Cambodia, Nepal, Mali, Turkey, Uzbekistan and China. The participants shared various water saving techniques being adopted in their countries. They also shared the participatory irrigation management practices. Secretary General Avinash Tyagi, Vice Presidents Adama Sangare and Hüseyin GÜNDOĞDU also attended the workshop. The participants had the opportunity to visit the Daxing Irrigation



Experimental Station, Shunyi Water Saving Irrigation Trial Field and Dujiangyan Irrigation System, one of the most ancient irrigation systems and the UNESCO World Heritage Site has sustained over more than 2300 years. The participants also attended the 6th Yellow River Forum where ICID had organized an Irrigation Sub-forum on 26th September.

Readers may recall, ICID initiated the concept of IPTRID Nodal Center in 2010 at Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Consequently, the first such center namely, 'China Research and Training Center' was established at

China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research (IWHR) in Beijing, China in July 2011. The second such center was established in October 2011 at Tehran, Iran. It is the 'China Research and Training Center' at Beijing, who is expanding its activities and organising this workshop to promote water saving technologies across the globe. The first such workshop was organised at Beijing in July 2011.

YPF - Malaysia

The Young Professional Forum (YPF) of the Malaysian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (MANCID) successfully organized the YPF-AGM Programme on 3rd September 2012 at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The main feature programme was a Mentoring Session with President Hon. Dato'lr.Hj Shahrizaila bin Abdullah. PH Shahrizaila presented a talk on "Food Security and Agricultural Water Management" and which gave a very good insight into the critical issues related to the world food crisis and agriculture water management. The action plans were recommended on the strategic directions to be taken for consideration by MANCID in future.

The second session was devoted to 'Technology Transfer in Malaysia'. Mr Lee Choon Hsiang represented the Tropical Resources Aquaculture station. He presented on the "Reticulating Aquaculture System" which was related to one of the successful National Hatchery Marine Finfish in Rompin Pahang under the Ministry of Agriculture and Agro Based Industry, Malaysia.

Lithuanian Delegates visit ICID Central Office

Prof. dr. Antanas Maziliauskas, President of Lithuanian National Committee of ICID (LTCID) and Assoc. prof. dr. Raimundas Rukuiza visited the ICID Central Office on 6 September 2012 and held discussions on various topics of mutual interest. Secretary General Er. Avinash C. Tyagi explained the new ICID initiative on "Direct Membership" to individuals and companies beyond National Committees and the first World Irrigation Forum to be held in September - October 2013 at Mardin in Turkey. Dr. S.A. Kulkarni, Executive Secretary encouraged LTCID to nominate more members on ICID Workbodies. Prof Maziliauskas informed that LTCID is more interested in drainage, as compared to irrigation, given high annual rainfall in that country. Lithuania joined ICID way back in 1994 and has since been actively involved in the European Regional Working Group. Prof Maziliauskas can be contacted at E-mail: Antanas.Maziliauskas@asu.lt.

11th ICID Irrigation Drainage Workshop



Of the worlds irrigated area of 300 mha, about 11% are affected by water logging while about 25% area is affected by water logging/salinity.

Agricultural drainage is one of the core activity areas of ICID. ICID has long been concerned with these issues and has established various working groups addressing the environmental impacts such as drainage of irrigated lands, the use of poor quality water including saline and wastewater in irrigation and management of lowlands and wetlands.

The 11th International Drainage Workshop, organized and hosted by the Egyptian National Committee (ENCID), the National Water Research Center (NWRC) and the Egyptian Public Authority on Drainage Projects (EPADP) in Cairo, Egypt from September 22-24, 2012. The workshop was opened by the Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation Eng. Mohamed Bahaa El Dine Saad. Secretary General Avinash Tyagi also attended the workshop and brought greetings of President Gao Zhanyi during the opening ceremony. Other ICID dignitaries attending the workshop included Vice Presidents Honoraire Mahmoud Abu Zeid, Hussein El Atfy, Safwat Abdel Dayem, Ragab Ragab, and Dr. Shaden Abdel Gawad. President Hon Professor Dr Chandra Madramootoo delivered a keynote address at the workshop entitled: Evolution of Drainage in a Changing Environmental Context.

The Working Group on Drainage (WG-DRG) has been working on this area since three decades. Under the overall guidance of WG-DRG a series of International Drainage Workshops (IDWs) have been organised since 1978. The 11th workshop in the series being hosted by the Egyptian National Committee (ENCID) is on the theme "Agricultural Drainage Needs and Future Priorities".

Professor Dr Chandra Madramootoo pays courtesy call on Egyptain Prime Minister



President Hon Madramootoo paid a courtesy call on His Excellency Prime Minister Dr Hesham Khandil and an eminent drainage engineer who worked for several years on the Canadian financed National Water Quality and Availability Management Project (NAWQAM) in Egypt.

Minutes of the Adelaide Meetings - Online

The Minutes of 63rd International Executive Council and Workbody meetings held from 24-28 June 2012 at Adelaide, Australia have been posted on the ICID website and can be accessed at <<http://www.icid.org/minutes.html>>.

The printed copies of the 'Minutes' will be sent to all the National Committees, Office Bearers, Chairs of Workbodies in due course of time.

First World Irrigation Forum in Turkey, 2013

The inaugural World Irrigation Forum (WIF) together with ICID's 64th International Executive Council (IEC) meeting will be organized by Turkish National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (TUCID) during 29 September - 5 October 2013 at Mardin, Turkey.

The aim of the WIF is to share making irrigation, a tool of the 'Green Economy' development process and help the world move closer to its efforts to eradicate hunger, thereby ensuring peace in the world. To provide a push to inter-disciplinary activities in the irrigation and drainage sector, ICID envisions facilitating this multi-disciplinary platform with a view to attract various stakeholders engaged in the sectors. FAO and IWMI will be the core partners in the organization of technical themes. Other International Organizations such as IFPRI and GWP will also collaborate with ICID on the organization of the Forum.



News from ICID National Committees

CTCID (Chinese Taipei)

The new e-mail address of Prof. Chang-Chi Cheng (Member of the Working Group on Water Management in Water Stressed Regions (WG-DROUGHT)) is <faber@uch.edu.tw>

HUCID (Hungary)

The new e-mail and postal address of Vice President Hon. Prof. Dr. Ferenc Ligetvári is Thoman utca 14/VI., Budapest, H-1124, Hungary, E-mail : <ferenc.ligetvari@gmail.com>

Lithuania (LTCID)

New postal address of Lithuanian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (LTCID) is:

Prof. dr. Antanas Maziliauskas, President of Lithuanian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (LTCID), Rector, Aleksandrastulginskis University, Studentu g. 11, LT-543361 Akademija, Kauno r., Lithuania; Mobile: +370 699 29 989; Tel: + 370 37 75 22 05; E-mail: Antanas.Maziliauskas@asu.lt and asu@asu.lt; Website: www.asu.lt

PANCID (Pakistan)

New postal address of Engr. Husnain Ahmad, Vice President, ICID is:

Immediate Past President, Pakistan Engineering Congress / Member (Administration), Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), Revenue Division, Constitution Avenue, G-5, Islamabad, Pakistan. Cell No:+92-300-8461330, Tel: +92-51-9201353; E-mail: husnainahmad@hotmail.com, info@pecongress.org.pk

However, the mailing address of VP Ahmad will be:

House No. 16, Street # 44, F-7/1, Islamabad, Pakistan

THAICID (Thailand)

The new contact details of the Thai National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (THAICID) are Tel: + 662 243 7783; Fax: + 662 243 7783 and E-mail: <thaicid@hotmail.com>

New SIWI Executive Director

The Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) has appointed Mr. Torgny Holmgren as its new Executive Director. Mr. Holmgren will lead the institute from 15 September 2012.



Mr. Holmgren is currently Ambassador and Head of the Department for Development Policy at the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, where he is responsible for Swedish policy on global development and has recently served at the United Nations Secretary General's High-level Panel on Global Sustainability. An economist by training, Mr. Holmgren has also previously served at the Swedish Ministry of Finance, the World Bank, and the Swedish Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya. We congratulate Mr. Torgny Holmgren who succeeds Mr. Anders Berntell. For more information, please visit their website at <http://www.siwi.org/sa/node.asp?node=1528&dm_i=GLX,WTU8,65XU3V,2Q683,1>

USCID Conferences

The U.S. National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (USCID) will be organizing two Irrigation Conferences as below:

- Irrigation Conference on 'MANAGING IRRIGATION SYSTEMS IN TODAY'S ENVIRONMENT' to be held during 13-16 November 2012 at in Reno, Nevada, USA
- Seventh International Conference on 'Using 21st Century Technology to Better Manage Irrigation Water Supplies' during 16-19 April, 2013 at Phoenix, Arizona, USA.

The detailed information on the above Conferences is available at <http://www.uscid.org> Contact: Mr. Larry D. Stephens, Vice President Hon. ICID and Executive Vice President of USCID, E-mail: stephens@uscid.org

Welcome - New GWP Chair

The Global Water Partnership (GWP) has appointed Dr. Ursula Schaefer-Preuss as its new Chair, with effect from 1st January, 2013. Dr. Schaefer-Preuss' latest assignment was as Vice President of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in Manila for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development. She was responsible for ADB's Regional and Sustainable Development Department and Economics and Research Department (Office of the Chief Economist).

Dr. Schaefer-Preuss is an economist who has been engaged in the field of development policy for more than 35 years. Prior to joining ADB, Dr. Schaefer-Preuss was Director General of Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). She was responsible for policies and principles of German development cooperation and German development policies for Asia and Latin America. She also engaged in bilateral cooperation with countries in Asia, Latin America, and Europe. For more information, please visit their website at <http://www.gwp.org/gwp-in-action/News-and-Activities/New-GWP-Chair-Schaefer-Preuss-Appointed/>

We heartily congratulate Dr. Schaefer-Preuss.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

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