



From Secretary General's Desk...

Dear Colleagues,

Fifth December was the World Soil Day 2017. Soil, like air and water, is critical to life on earth. Ninety-five per cent of food is produced from our soil, so healthy soils are critical for higher crop production and sustainable rural development. Moreover, soil plays a key role in the supply of clean water and resilience to floods and droughts. Soils are incredibly resilient, but they are also fragile and can easily be damaged or lost. The deteriorating soil quality along with the newly emerging and competing demands for water pose a challenge to the ICID Vision 2030 for a water secure world free of poverty and hunger. A prudent soil management complements judicious agriculture water management and seeks interdisciplinary approaches to irrigation and drainage management. Let's use the occasion to bring the soil management community into the National Committees (NCs).



The Minutes of the 68th International Executive Council (IEC) meeting held in Mexico City, Mexico from 08-14 October 2017 have been finalized and are now available on the ICID website. The management has started the follow up actions on a number of important decisions taken at the 68th IEC meeting in an effort to move ahead on the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030. The Management Board has reconstituted the Sub-Committee on Themes (SC-E-THEMES) to look into the suggestions made at the Council for revamping the way we organize our annual meetings, an important strategy to achieve the enshrined vision in the Road Map. The Working Groups will have to play a pivotal role in this process. Over the last five years, they have already made significant changes in organizing themselves. Perhaps more is expected to meet the future requirement.

As I address you for the last time through this editorial column, I would like to place on records my sincere appreciation for the guidance and support that I got from all of my patrons. It was my pleasure to serve this unique organization for two terms of 3 year each. I am particularly thankful to the two distinguished Presidents whose visionary ideas I have attempted to put into practice. The World Irrigation Forum (WIF), conceived by President Dr. Gao Zhanyi (2011-2014) bringing all the stakeholders of agriculture

water management on a common platform, was set in motion in 2013 at Mardin, Turkey. With the launch of WIF, ICID has instituted the prestigious World Irrigation and Drainage Prize (WID Prize) in recognizing the meritorious contributions made by the experts in the field of irrigation and drainage sector. The program for recognition of Heritage Irrigation Structures (HIS), learning lessons from the past, once again conceived by President Dr. Gao and implemented in 2014, has been appreciated by all and also provided an opportunity to the NCs to get in closer interactions with the local irrigation authorities. Under President Dr. Gao's stewardship, ICID took firm strides in getting the Young Professionals actively involved in ICID activities.

During my second term as SG, President Dr. Saeed Nairizi (2014-2017), in order to align with the increased expectations of ICID stakeholders, i.e. NCs, guided in the development of an ICID Vision 2030, which was eventually adopted at the 66th IEC meeting in Montpellier, October 2015, in sync with the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Dr. Nairizi has been a guiding force in rejuvenating the International Research Program on Irrigation and Drainage (IRPID) and encouraged in the setting up of the Technical Support Program (TSP) at ICID Central Office. His long association with the financial matters of the Commission, as Chairman of PFC, has provided considerable guidance in overcoming the financial crisis that has been plaguing the network for quite some time. Under President Dr. Nairizi's able stewardship, the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 was launched at the 68th IEC in Mexico City.

I would also like to express my sincere thanks to President Eng. Felix Reinders, PH Dr. Chandra Madramootoo, VPH Dr. Ragab Ragab, VPH Dr. Hüseyin Gündoğdu, VPH Laurie Tollefson, VPH Dr. Ding Kunlun, and VPH Bong Hoon Lee, who have served as members in the ICID Management Board and guided me during my term of Office as SG in executing the decisions of the Council during the last six years. I also express my gratitude to all other Office Bearers and Members for their encouragement in bringing out some of the changes in the functioning of ICID in order to serve its stakeholders in a better and effective manner.

With the collective efforts of the staff members at the Central Office, we have been able to provide a variety of new services to our patrons such as: the Integrated Library Management System for a joint knowledge platform where all members can share their



*Season's Greetings and
Best Wishes for a
Happy New Year 2018*

knowledge, Irrigation and Drainage Products and Services Directory, WebEx based virtual meetings platform, ICID Webinar Services etc. just to mention a few. These, and many other dissemination services would enable ICID to put its Knowledge Management Strategy in operation.

Your faith in my sincere efforts allowed me to expand the horizon of reforms further in order to support the NCs to fulfil their national mandates. Many other initiatives envisioned by the leadership of ICID, introduced during the period are in the process of implementation, which I am sure, my distinguished successor Er. Ashwin B. Pandya, with the support of small team of excellent staff presently employed at the Central Office, would be able to carry forward. Working in a professional and conducive environment, my staff has developed a faith in the adage "**Strive hard, sky is the limit**". Yes, sky is the limit for ICID to be able to support the cause of a water secure world free of poverty and hunger through prudent agriculture water management, and I am satisfied that I am leaving my position as 'Secretary General of ICID' in a good shape.

I have enjoyed my journey with the organization thoroughly, and I sincerely hope that I was able to meet your expectations to a reasonable degree.

I wish you all an intellectually rich and meaningful 2018, bringing health and happiness.

With best wishes,

Avinash C. Tyagi
Secretary General

VP Bondarik represents ICID at ICWC Conference

The Central Asian International Scientific and Practical Conference on "25 Years of Water Cooperation of the Central Asian Countries: Past Experience and Future Challenges" was held on 23-24 November 2017 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The conference was dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Interstate Coordination Water Commission (ICWC) of Central Asia, which was established with the initiative of the heads of the water management agencies and the support of the heads of the state of the region- Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

Vice President Dr. Irene Bondarik (Russia) represented ICID with her opening remarks and ICID's contribution in Aral Sea Basin Development. She gave a presentation on "Development of land

reclamation in the world: Development, international cooperation, investment policy, government support".

About 250 representatives of various national, regional and international organizations, from more than 15 countries, including embassy representatives attended the conference. During the plenary sessions, reports by the heads of ICWC executive bodies, honorary members and veterans, representatives of the diplomatic corps and international organizations discussed the role of ICWC as a regional institution for interstate cooperation on water issues in Central Asia.

The two-day conference gave the participants an opportunity to observe the outcomes of the Central Asian countries' activities in the field of water cooperation

and to outline the milestones for further strengthening and developing the close cooperation between the countries of Central Asia-Asian region. Within the framework of the conference, the 72nd ICWC meeting also took place.

Important topical issues were discussed including implementation of integrated water resources management as an instrument of "green" growth and adaptation to climate change, improvement of the legal basis for water cooperation, development of water diplomacy for strengthening good-neighbourly relations among the states of Central Asia, as well as rational use of water resources. A special session was dedicated to the young professionals from water sector on techniques for water management.



RUCID, IRNCID Sign Joint Technical Research Collaboration

The Secretariat of International Research Program for Irrigation and Drainage - IRAN Regional Node, (IRPID-RN-I) recently announced a joint research collaboration between Iran and Russia on Water and Agriculture. After several technical meetings among the various experts from water and agriculture industry, an action plan (Protocol I) was signed between the NCs of Iran (IRNCID) and Russia (RUCID) on 1 November 2017 in Ahvaz, Iran.

The areas for mutual research collaboration within the ambit of IRPID program are as under:

- (I) Agricultural Sustainable Development under Saline Environment
- (II) Drainage Water Treatment and Reuse
- (III) Real-time Operation of Multi-purpose Reservoir with References to Agricultural Demand: Case Study of Great Karun River Basin



The protocol for Iran-Russia cooperation was represented by Vice President Dr. Irene Bondarik, from Russia

and Dr. Narges Zohrabi, Executive Secretary of IRPID-IRAN RN from Iran.



4th WASAG ISC Meeting

Dr. Marco Arcieri, Secretary General (ITAL-ICID) and Dr. Sahdev Singh, Director Knowledge Management, ICID participated in the 4th WASAG Interim Steering Committee (ISC) meeting held on 24 November 2017. The meeting discussed the prospective role of ICID as a co-lead in a new WASAG Working Group (WG) 'Transitions to Sustainable Agriculture Water Use' led by International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). It was proposed to create a new WG to develop a communication strategy for WASAG to work in collaboration with the WASAG Support Team. It was suggested that ICID take a lead on this WG as it is currently working on knowledge management and communication strategy for the network. Dy. Director Dr. Olcay Unver, FAO briefed about the crucial role of WASAG, particularly in the High-Level Advisory Group (HLAG)

during the 23rd ICID Congress (8-14 Oct 2017) held in Mexico and for the upcoming 69th IEC Meeting in Canada. The ISC chair/ members expressed their appreciation for a well-organized ICID Congress in Mexico. Under the coordination of the lead partner IFPRI, the new WG will develop a logical framework building on its existing activities to define the work plan for the period 2018-19.

The **Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG) has launched a new website** for its prospective partners, colleagues and various stakeholders. Visit the website for access to latest WASAG communication materials, forthcoming events, meetings, published reports and multimedia videos.

For more info, kindly visit: <http://www.fao.org/land-water/overview/wasag/en/>

HURRY!!

WASAG Logo Competition now open

The Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG) invites entries for logo design contest. Participants should be influenced to create a strong, imaginative professional logo for WASAG that should highlight the following themes- sustainable water use, global connectivity, climate change and, most importantly, water scarcity. All entries received should reflect the mandate and challenges facing the Global Partnership.

Send your entries to **Water-Scarcity@fao.org** latest by **31 December 2017**.

For more info visit: <http://www.fao.org/land-water/Overview/WASAG/news/logo/en/>

River Basin: Management, Planning and Governance

The Vivekananda International Foundation (VIF) in collaboration with the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) organized a two-day conclave on 'River Basin Management' for sustainable and economical use of water on 29-30 November 2017 in New Delhi. Honourable Chief Minister of Uttarakhand state Mr. Trivendra Singh Rawat as the Chief Guest inaugurated the conclave.

More than 50 experts from various sectors attended the event including representatives from Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Power, and a number of experts including former Secretaries of MoWR, former Chairman of Central Water Commission (CWC), former Chairman Brahmaputra Board, Chairman of Krishna River Management Board, representatives of ADB, Government of Uttarakhand, Maharashtra and Telangana, IARI, ICRISAT, TERI, CEEW, CBIP and ICID, among others.

Uttarakhand CM Mr. Rawat in his inaugural speech emphasized the need for taking strong actions to conserve each drop of water in view of diminishing per capita water availability, burgeoning population and urbanization. In order to meet the challenge, there is an urgent need for creation of storage projects, recycle and reuse of wastewater, recharge of groundwater, rejuvenation of rivers and making water conservation a mass movement.

In the context of effective River Basin Management as one of the key imperatives before the nation, various dignitaries shared their views and experiences primarily focusing on five broad themes: (i) River Basin Management (ii) Legal framework (iii) Hydropower development (iv) Food security; and (v) Wastewater Management.



Mr. Clive Lyle (Australia), Chief Technical Adviser, AC-IWRM, Karnataka shared a presentation on Murray-Darling Basin as a model for best practices in management of river basins. An integrated model has been adopted in Australia which aims to improve water security for all Basin users. It is inclusive of water quality, environment, involvement of state and communities, independent monitoring and review to achieve a balance between environmental, economic and social considerations.

To deliberate further on the topic, panel discussions were held wherein the importance of building a reform momentum through visionary basin planning was emphasized. Er. A.B Pandya, Ex-Chairman, CWC moderated a discussion on 'River Basin Management: A tool to enhance social and economic parity among stakeholders'. It highlighted that water resources development in the country needs to be guided by a long-term vision of future development scenarios and emerging technologies. While the basic framework of constitution for water management exists, the necessary legal instruments

needed to put them in operation are less than adequate.

During the second session, Secretary General Avinash C. Tyagi moderated a discussion on 'Climate Smart Agriculture for sustainable river basin management'. It highlighted that India does not lack innovative technologies for smart water use in agriculture. Drip and sprinkler irrigation have large potential in terms of using water more efficiently while creating climate benefits. But this needs to be expanded on a large scale. Similarly, there is a need for greater farm level interventions for improving surface irrigation efficiency through less energy consuming interventions based on simple technologies.

The conclave concluded with the presentation of recommendations and way forward wherein all the participants exchanged their views, ideas and approaches to jointly seek for commonalities and innovative solutions for an inclusive and sustainable river basin management with effective water governance and participatory management.



International Decade for Action 2018-2028 "Water for Sustainable Development"

The United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed the decade 2018-2028 as the International Decade for Action 'Water for Sustainable Development' which will begin on World Water Day 22 March 2018.

The objectives of the Decade¹ is to lend greater focus on the sustainable development and integrated management of water resources for the achievement of social, economic and environmental objectives and on the implementation and promotion of related programmes and projects, as well as on the furtherance of cooperation and partnership at all levels in order to help achieve internationally agreed water-related goals and targets, including

those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The decade will highlight the importance of promoting efficient water usage at all levels, taking into account the water, food, energy, environment nexus, including in the implementation of national development programmes.

The objectives of the Decade are expected to be pursued, by improving knowledge generation and dissemination, facilitating access to knowledge and exchange of good practices, generating new information relevant to the water-related Sustainable Development Goals, pursuing advocacy,

networking and promoting partnership and action by different actors to implement the water-related Goals.

UN encourages Member States, relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as other relevant partners, including the private sector, to contribute to the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018-2028, in order to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



¹ <http://undocs.org/A/C.2/71/L.12/Rev.1>

Virtual Meetings

6th Management Board Meeting

The Sixth Virtual Meeting (6/2017) of the Management Board was held on 22 November 2017. President Er. Felix B. Reinders chaired the meeting which was attended by members- Dr. Saeed Nairizi, President Hon., ICID; VPH Laurie Tollefson, Chair, PFC; VPH Dr. Ding Kunlun, Chair, PCTA; VPH Bong Hoon Lee, Chair, PCSO and Secretary General Avinash C. Tyagi as Member Secretary. Vice Presidents Dr. K.Reddy, Mr. Ian Makin and Dr. Brian Wahlin also participated as invitees. President Reinders welcomed the

participants and appreciated their valuable inputs and guidance on matters pertaining to ICID Vision 2030; HLAG; Financial matters; Awards and; Workshops/seminars proposed by ICID Workbodies during the 69th IEC Meeting in Canada.

2nd IYPeF Meeting

The 2nd Young Professional's e-Forum (IYPeF) Virtual Meeting was held on 30 November 2017. Ms. Kathleen Heuvel, IYPeF Coordinator steered the meeting which was attended by Ms. Eman Ragab, Mr. Rafat Nael, Mr. Mika Turunen, Ms. Adey

Mersha and Mr. Shoaib Saboory as joint coordinators. The meeting aimed to discuss and finalize the list of e-discussion and webinar topics for 2018 with specific focus on the theme Innovative and Sustainable Agri-water Management: Adapting to a Variable and Changing Climate for the upcoming 69th IEC Meeting in Canada. The meeting concluded with the YPs pitching their ideas to further strengthen their presence on the social media platform and elevate the profile of ICID IYPeF network.



Water Security and Governance in India

The International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) participated in the Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung (HSS) India conference on 'Water Security and Governance in India' held on 23 November, 2017 in New Delhi. The conference gave a succinct account of the present water scenario in India and the future it holds for its people at both national and international levels.

Eminent scholars, leading water experts, researchers and government officials from India and Germany shared their views on India's current stance on water management with specific focus on - (i) Water, India and its neighbourhood; (ii) Water Resources in India: An overview (iii) Water secure India: Vision, Policies, Institutions and Initiatives (iv) Sectoral analysis of water use in India: Domestic, agricultural, industrial and energy production; and (v) Experiences from Germany on water management and water security.

Mr. U.P Singh, Director General, National Mission for Clean Ganga, Ministry of Water Resources in his keynote speech emphasized that the concept of water

efficiency exists, but imprecise statistics are making India a 'water stressed nation.' The idea is not to reduce the area under irrigation but to increase water efficiency using drip and micro irrigation, as everywhere there is a possibility.

Er. A.B Pandya, Ex-Chairman, CWC gave a presentation on 'Water Secure India' that was in tandem with ICID's mandate and activities related to agricultural water management (AWM). Er. Pandya advocated that there exists a scant amount of water to manage and therefore economic sense needs to be ingrained to utilize water economically. He projected the water requirement in various sectors with an urgent need to formulate better water policies through revamped governance to envision a self-reliant water future. The need of the hour is to increase irrigation potential in India through engagement of irrigation systems via multi-pronged approach by finding new resources and deploying them on the ground. Thus, the role of effective irrigation management for equitable use



of river basin water at both micro and macro level is crucial.

Prof. Martin Grambow, Director General, Water and Soil, Bavarian Ministry of Environment & Consumer Protection shared his experiences on water sector in Bavaria wherein the finite depleting resource is seen as an investment.

The way forward is to overhaul the water sector by investing in a comprehensive water infrastructure leading to job creation and business opportunities. Reducing the water footprint incrementally in various sectors would lead India towards a water secure future.



ICID to jointly organize session on Water for Food Security

The 2nd Meeting of the Task Force to guide ICID inputs to 8th World Water Forum (TF-WWF8) held on 12 October 2017 discussed the potential role of ICID to jointly organize a session with FAO and IWMI on the topic "Water for Food Security" under the theme 'Development-Water for Sustainable Development'.

The meeting chaired by PH Dr. Chandra Madramootoo (Canada) and attended by VP Dr. Ding Kunlun (China); Mr. Ali Reza Salamat (Iran); VPH Shinsuke Ota (Japan);

Gustavo Hinjosa – MXCID representative (Mexico) and; PH Dr. Bart Schultz (The Netherlands) proposed to organize a three-hour session on the above topic during WWF8 to be held in March 2018 in Brazil in the following three areas:

- (a) Soil and water conservation practices in watersheds for food production;
- (b) Building resilience in agricultural system to cope with climate extremes (flood and drought); and

- (c) Water productivity and water saving technologies.

It also discussed that ICID may invite potential speakers on each of the above three topics and suggested for a panel type discussion as this would lead to an interactive exchange of ideas within the panel members.



9th International Micro Irrigation Conference 2019, Aurangabad, Maharashtra, India

Water is a 'finite' depleting resource that is being consumed everyday with tremendous demand. The onus to utilize water more efficiently mainly lies on the Irrigation sector making it imperative to promote new technologies to herald a Second Green Revolution.

To further promote the use of micro irrigation on large-scale, the Indian National Committee of ICID (INCSW) will host the 9th International Micro irrigation Conference (IMIC) from 16-18 January 2019 in Aurangabad, Maharashtra. The three-day event will focus on the main theme 'Micro Irrigation in Modern Agriculture' covering wide range of topics under four sub-themes, namely (i) Micro Irrigation for Smallholder Farmers; (ii) Micro Irrigation and Micro Finance for Farmers; (iii) Micro Irrigation Design, Innovations and New Techniques; and (iv) O&M Services and Capacity Development for the Micro Irrigation Systems.

Key focus areas of the 9th IMIC are:

- To share experiences in the use of new technologies and best management practices in drip, micro-sprinkler, and other localized irrigation systems.
- To review the status of use of micro irrigation for smallholders.
- To understand socio-economic and technological factors impeding expansion of drip and micro-sprinkler irrigation area.

Slated for January 2019, the conference will aim to discuss and deliberate strategies with eminent stakeholders through seminars,

exhibitions and sessions on the latest development in micro irrigation technologies to increase crop production. A host of special side events by international organizations including World Bank, Global Water Partnership and other professional societies/bodies will also be organized.

Exhibition

A three-day exhibition will be held for private sector participation from across the world. Around 400+ exhibitors are targeted with specific focus on manufacturers, trade organizations, engineering companies; government departments, trade associations and other public organizations.

Major Side Attractions:

Side Events: Focus on Women Participation, Rural Development and Farmers Participation, Crop/Technology/ Country Specific events

Cultural Tour(s): Full-day tour to experience the rich cultural heritage of India in the area; Date- 19/20 Jan 2019

Study Tour(s): Full-day tour to one of the oldest and largest irrigation system of India located in that area and visit to factory; Date- 19 Jan 2019

Accompanying Persons: Full three-day engagement in Handicrafts, Shops and cultural affairs

Social Networking: Other ICID National Committee's Program, Spouse Club, Water Dance/ Film Show

INCSW is honoured to give the first announcement to all the prospective delegates and invites everyone to be a part of India's first of its kind major international event on irrigation.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The 9th IMIC invites entries for papers on the topics specified within the sub-themes for the conference. The entire process of submission of a synopsis/paper and approvals for the same is online.

PAPER SUBMISSION PROCESS

At least one author of the paper should register for the event online on the official website of INCSW. Click on 'Register Now' button and fill out the required information. A User Id and Password will be generated upon successful registration. This can be used to log in for all future communication and information.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Last date for Synopsis/ Abstract Submission – **15 April 2018**
- Communication on approved Synopsis/ Abstract – **15 June 2018**
- Submission of Full-length paper – **16 August 2018**
- Acceptance of Full-length paper – **15 September 2018**

For more info, kindly visit: cwc.gov.in/incsw



Caring for the Planet starts from the Ground

World Soil Day is held annually on 5 December as a means to focus attention on the importance of healthy soil and advocating for the sustainable management of soil resources. Soil is an essential resource and a vital part of the natural environment from which most of the global food is produced. On a human time-scale, it is non-renewable. However, there is a worldwide increase in degradation of soil resources due to inappropriate management practices, population pressure driving unsustainable intensification and inadequate governance to use them sustainably.

The **Global Soil Partnership (GSP)** is dedicating World Soil Day 2017 to the theme "Caring for the Planet starts from the Ground". GSP was established in December 2012 as a mechanism to develop a strong interactive partnership and enhanced collaboration between all stakeholders in the fight for healthy soils. It aims to communicate messages on the importance of soil quality for food security, healthy ecosystems and human well-being.

Since its creation, GSP has become an important partnership where global soil issues are discussed and addressed by multiple stakeholders.

One of the key objectives of the GSP is to improve the governance and promote sustainable management of soils. Approximately 33% of our global soils are degraded and policy makers around the world are exploring opportunities to fill the existing gap for the promotion of sustainable soil management.

Do You Know?

- 95% of our food comes from the soil
- Soil holds three times as much carbon as the atmosphere and can help us meet the challenges of a changing climate
- 815 million people are food insecure, 2 billion people are nutritionally insecure, but we can mitigate this through soil

Mr. Geumjun Lee joins ICID CO as TSU expert



Mr. Geumjun Lee, Deputy Director, Korea Rural Community Corporation (KRC) has been deputed as Technical Support Unit (TSU) expert to the ICID Central Office, New Delhi for a period of six months. Mr. Lee as a long-term expert will coordinate and execute capacity development programs of ICID under the overall guidance of WG-CDTE and administrative directions of the Core Group.

During the 68th IEC meeting in Mexico City, the National Committees expressed the need for professional guidance and support from ICID in initiating certain studies and activities. As a part of the implementation mechanism, a Core Group headed by the President, ICID and Chair PCTA, PCSO, AFRWG, ASRWG, WG-CDTE as Members and Secretary General, ICID as Convener was set up to guide activities under Technical Support Program. In this respect, ICID CO developed and shared nomination forms for long-term experts/professional with the NCs. In response, Korean National Committee (KCICD) nominated Mr. Lee as a long-term professional for capacity development and to further strengthen the activities of TSU. All the NCs are requested to take full benefit of the TSU and further volunteer and nominate experts/professionals (long & short-term) to support the activities of TSU.

At a Glance: Upcoming ICID Events – Important Dates & Deadlines

8th Asian Regional Conference 2018, Kathmandu, Nepal

The Nepal National Committee (NENCID) in consultation with the Asian Regional Working Group (ASRWG) will organize the 8th Asian Regional Conference (ARC) to be held from 2-4 May 2018 in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Theme: Irrigation in Support of an Evergreen Revolution

Sub-themes: (a) Enabling smallholders' capacity to obviate farmers' distress; (b) Coping with recurring droughts and floods in the context of climate change; (c) Modernizing irrigation systems for better services (d) Enabling Water Users Institutions (WUIs) for sustainability of irrigation systems and; (e) Irrigation, ecosystem services, and aquatic biodiversity.

Schedule for submission of extended abstracts/full papers/posters:

1. Submission of abstract: **15 November 2017**
2. Notification of acceptance: **30 November 2017**
3. Submission of full papers: **1 February 2018**
4. Notification acceptance (oral/paper) for presentation: 1 March 2018

For further info, kindly visit- <http://nencid.org.np/>

69th International Executive Council Meeting & Conference 2018, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

The Canadian Water Resources Association (CWRA) in collaboration with the Canadian Committee for Irrigation and Drainage (CANCID) will host the 69th Annual ICID Executive Council Meeting and International Conference from **12–17 August 2018** in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.

THEME: Innovative and Sustainable Agri-water Management: Adapting to a Variable and Changing Climate

SUB-THEMES: (a) Competing Water Demands; (b) Resilient Agriculture - Adapting Agriculture to Climate Change; (c) Irrigation and Drainage in Perspective.

REGISTER NOW: Avail Early Bird Benefit!!! Registration closes on **15 May 2018**. Online registration for the International Conference and 69th International Executive Council Meeting of the ICID is now open! **To register, please visit-** <https://icid2018.org/index.php/registration>

PROGRAMME: Full conference program is now available on the CANCID official website. **For detailed info, kindly visit-** <https://icid2018.org/index.php/program>

SPECIAL SESSIONS: The conference organizers dedicated special sessions for young professionals, farmers, and workshops and symposia for specialized topics. If you have questions about these sessions, please contact the scientific committee at: program@icid2018.org.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS OPEN: Abstracts are invited on the topics specified within the sub-themes for the 69th IEC Meeting in Canada. For students who are wishing to be considered for a student award to be presented at the ICID 2018 Conference, please note that you will need to check off the **'Student'** box in addition to selecting a theme for presentation when filling out the submission form.

- (i) Deadline of extended abstract submission: **24 April 2018**
- (ii) Abstract decision and revisions/instructions sent to authors: **24 May 2018**
- (iii) Deadline of final extended abstracts submission: **24 June 2018**

For more info, kindly visit: <http://www.icid2018.org/>



News Buzz: News from ICID National Committees

BANCID (Bangladesh)

Er. A. K. M. Momtaz Uddin has taken over as the new Chairman of Bangladesh National Committee (BANCID) w.e.f 26 Nov, 2017. BANCID has been a very active member of ICID and has always been supportive towards its mission by actively participating in its various activities and events.

Contact Details: Er. A. K. M. Momtaz Uddin, Director General, Bangladesh Water Development Board and Chairman, BANCID, Tel: +88029552194; +880295646 65, Fax: +88029564763, Website: www.bwdb.gov.bd

PNC-ICID (Philippines)

The Philippine National Committee (PNC-ICID) of ICID has updated its contact information for future correspondences. All the NCs of ICID are requested to communicate as per the details below:

Contact Details: Ms. Pilipina P. Bermudez, EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City, 1100

Philippines, E-mail: pnc-icid@nia.gov.ph, Tel: +63 29213741

INCSW (India)

The Indian National Committee (INCSW) of ICID has updated its contact details for future correspondences. All the NCs of ICID are requested to communicate as per the details below:

Contact Details: First Floor, Wing - 4, West Block - 1, R.K. Puram, Sector-1, New Delhi - 110066, Tel : 91-11-29543435, Email : incsw-cwc@gov.in, Website : cwc.gov.in/incsw

NINCID (Nigeria)

Er. Dr. E.A. Aderibigbe has taken over as the new Chairman of Nigerian National Committee (NINCID).

Contact Details: Er. Dr. E.A. Aderibigbe, Chairman, Director of Irrigation and Drainage Department, Federal Ministry of Water Resources, Area 1, Old Secretariat, PMB 159, Garki, Abuja, Email: pojelads@yahoo.com

ENCID publishes book on Water Saving Practices

Water Saving in Irrigated Agriculture in Egypt: Case Studies and Lessons Learned, a new publication by the Egyptian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (ENCID) provides a comprehensive overview of ingenious water saving ideas and practices at the farm level. The publication provides an overview of various water saving challenges and issues pertaining to low irrigation efficiencies, use of poor quality water for irrigation, use of traditional/conventional irrigation methods, uncertainty of climate change impacts on the water resources in River Nile, environmental sustainability and public apathy towards water saving. It is therefore imperative to develop and promote water saving practices in agriculture on a large scale to cope with water scarcity.

The cornerstone of the publication is the concise account of innovative water saving approaches and case studies explored with respect to different crops such as rice, maize, wheat and fruit crops. In addition, various techniques pertaining to water saving from On-farm irrigation and drainage development and cropping pattern changes under water scarcity are also mentioned. The case studies and lessons render the publication as a rich source of knowledge and reference for researchers, practitioners, development agencies, managers and decision-makers engaged in optimum utilization of water saving techniques for achieving "more crop per drop."

For more info, kindly write to- Encid@link.net



International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)

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