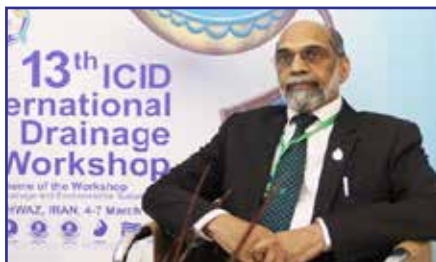




From Secretary General's Desk...



Dear Colleagues,

For the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID), its members and partners, World Water Day (WWD) serves the objective of pushing the agenda of sustainable agriculture water management further. Wastewater management – the WWD theme for 2017 – occupies a special significance. In the years to come, with greater acceleration in urbanization, wastewater will be required to be given even more attention.

This year the World Water Day presents an opportunity to interact with wastewater management professionals and the user stakeholders. National Committees may like to avail this opportunity and organize discussion on this important topic. The WWDR 2017, released on the day presents the background for irrigation and drainage professionals to be on the side of the solutions.

Earlier in the month, 13th International Drainage Workshop (13th IDW) held from 4-7 March 2017 in Ahwaz, Iran, presented a new approach to go “Beyond modern drainage” by addressing the three bottom lines: Productivity, Environment and Socio-economic. 13th IDW provided an excellent opportunity to address agricultural wastewater disposal. The 4-R strategy recommended in WWDR–2017 to be adopted for turning wastewater into a resource: reducing, removing, reusing, and recovering present an opportunity for Irrigation and Drainage managers to play a vital role in first two of the strategies. By reducing the agriculture drainage and reusing the partially

treated wastewater in irrigation, the irrigation and drainage management authorities can play a significant role in wastewater management. The sessions and round tables at 13th IDW have thrown up a number of issues that need to be addressed by the Working Group on Sustainable Drainage (WG-SDRG).

The World Bank Water Week 2017 held at Maryland USA from 13-16 March 2017, brought together partners in all the five Water global practices: Water supply and sanitation; Water, poverty, and economy; Water security and integrated resource management; Hydropower and dams; and Water in agriculture with the objective of Working together for a water secure world.

The various sessions related to GWP-Ag: Water Stewardship in Agriculture and Irrigation; Water Accounting – Assessing the net Basin Impact of Agriculture Water Management; Global approaches to Supporting Water Management with Law; Large Scale Irrigation Investment Design, Implementation and Management Reforms in Africa; Agriculture Water Productivity and Water Conservation; Improving Irrigation Performance under Changing Conditions; Principles of Irrigation Institutional Reform; and How to Generate Systematic Investments in Irrigation and Drainage Maintenance were of great relevance to ICID fraternity.

The Global Solution Group (GSG) for Water in Agriculture at the World Bank provides technical and operational support to task teams engaged in irrigation and drainage projects taken up by the World Bank. The GSG-Ag core team explored the possibility of working with the partners in tackling the challenges of “Less Water for More Food”. Mr. Steven N. Schonberger, the head of the GSG-Ag Core Team, who participated in the WIF2 in Chiang Mai offered to work closely with ICID in the proposed Water Agriculture Stewardship.

On behalf of the organizers of the 23rd ICID Congress in Mexico, in October 2017, I took the opportunity to invite World Bank GSG-Ag for participating in the Congress, particularly the Symposium on “Global Review of Institutional

Reforms in Irrigation Sector for Sustainable Agriculture Water Management”. National Committees are urged to submit their experiences in the Institutional Reforms within their countries by submitting the Country Paper on the topic based on Concept Note available at: http://www.icid.org/23cong_sym_cnote.pdf

The preparations for the 23rd ICID Congress is on schedule and the last day for submission of abstracts of papers has been extended to 1st April 2017. Already, we have received a good response and I urge patrons to submit their papers on the two questions before the Congress.

On 1 March 2017 earlier this month, President Dr Nairizi inaugurated the ICID Webinar Services. The first Webinar in the series on “Efficient Irrigation by Applying a Water Balance Approach” was delivered by Vice President Hon. Felix Reinders with Dr. Chris Perry (UK) joining as a Panelist. If you missed the live Webinar, its recording can now be seen on ICID website from http://www.icid.org/icid_webinar_1.html. The second Webinar in the series on “Water Accounting and Audit” is scheduled for 3 April 2017, which will be delivered by Prof. Wim Bastiaanssen (The Netherlands) a world renowned expert on the subject. I request all our members to actively participate in this important Webinar.

I take this opportunity to invite Chairs and Members of various Working Groups to take stock of the progress of their respective action plans and, if required, make use of the WebEx services to organize virtual meetings of their groups.

We seek your inputs and feedback for the successful dissemination of information and knowledge for sustainable agriculture water management.

Best wishes,

Avinash C Tyagi
Secretary General

Webinar on Water Accounting and Audit

Date: Monday, 3 April 2017, Time: 14:00 – 15:00 hours (IST)



The Second Webinar being given under “ICID Webinar Services”, to introduce standardized water accounting procedure that quantifies the watershed processes, assesses a safe level of exploitable water volumes and fixes the maximum amount of water that could be withdrawn and consumed by the irrigation sector.

To introduce this important topic, ICID has requested Prof. Wim Bastiaanssen (The Netherlands) who is a world renowned expert on the subject to deliver the Webinar.

Prof. Wim is a senior remote sensing expert with a specialization in agricultural water



management. He has a background in agro-hydrology from Wageningen University.

For more information, please visit: http://www.icid.org/icid_webinar.html



Call for Papers – 23rd International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage

8-14 October 2017, Mexico City, Mexico



The 23rd International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage and 68th International Executive Council (IEC) Meetings will be organized by the host Mexican National Committee of ICID (MXCID) from 8-14 October 2017, Mexico City, Mexico. The main theme of the Congress is “Modernizing Irrigation and Drainage for a New Green Revolution”. During the Congress, papers are presented and discussed for two Questions (Q.60) and (Q.61).

Q.60: Water Productivity: Revisiting the concepts in light of water, energy and food nexus

Q.61: State of knowledge of irrigation techniques and practicalities within given socio-economic settings

Deadlines Extended for submission of abstracts /papers:

- Submission (Online) of comprehensive ‘Extended Abstracts’ (500-600 words): **01 April 2017**
- Acceptance (Online) of Extended Abstracts: **30 April 2017**
- Full Paper Submission (Online): **15 June 2017**
- Notification to Authors (oral/poster): **15 July 2017**

The ‘Extended Abstracts’ / papers must be submitted online after registering on the following URL <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=icid2017> Guidelines

for authors are available at <<http://www.icid2017.org/>>

Authors are requested to create a new account on the above EasyChair URL for submission of their Extended Abstracts by using “sign up for an account” link as shown on the ‘Screen Catch’ in case they are not already registered on EasyChair portal earlier. Existing EasyChair users can use their account identities to submit their Extend Abstracts. For more information on this please refer to News UPDATE February 2017.



Drainage and Environmental Sustainability

No matter how efficiently our crops are watered, sooner or later we need to have a well-functioning drainage system for complete in-field water management. Damaging impacts of drainage water disposal resulting in pollution of water sources have always been of great concern. ICID has been organizing International Drainage Workshops since 1983 when the main emphasis was on ‘Land Drainage’ design and construction. The emphasis moved on to ‘Modern Drainage’ where the concerns about disposal of the drainage water and the ways and means to reduce environmental adverse impacts were given a priority.

13th International Drainage Workshop (IDW-13) has moved the agenda ‘beyond modern land drainage’, which includes various approaches to assessment, prevention of waterlogging and salinity problems, considers the water-food-energy nexus approach and gives due attention to ecological considerations for more sustainable results. The holistic approach to drainage that includes steps to successful stakeholder involvement from beginning to end, from farm to fork and from minister to manager.

Modern Land Drainage implies making drainage environmentally sustainable which includes enhanced water balance



assessments at regional and field scale, prevent excess water except for leaching salts, support ecological water requirements, and then if any access water remains design a drainage system. It ensures that the less water is mobilised through our agricultural lands, the better the quality of water will remain.

The theme **Drainage and Environmental Sustainability** enable d issues related to environmental concerns of drainage, addressing its design, implementation and management duly factorizing these concerns. It requires management of not only the drainage water quality but also its volume. Hence, the workshop considered:

- Measures to improve drainage water quality;
- Measures to lower volume of drainage water.
- Adaption of new design criteria in favor of the environment;
- Application of alternative drainage methods.

In addition, papers were presented on Drainage Modelling, Drainage Material and Special Issues related to Drainage.

The IDW-13 was attended by some 700 delegates from 23 countries. In all 36 papers were presented with 27 poster presentation. The theme was supported by rich discussions during the round table on “Alternative Drainage Methods” moderated by Dr Willem Vlotman, ex-Chair WG on Drainage and attended by Dr Ragab Ragab, Dr Momen, Dr Mohammed Wahaba, Dr Parsinejad, Mr Mojtaba Akram, Dr Abdulmajid Liughat, and Dr Koupaie. Another roundtable on “Drainage Water Reuse” was moderated by Prof Reisberk, with participation from Dr Ali Madani, Dr Ritjema, Prof Bart Schultz, and Dr Kharsandi also supported the theme.

Six key note addresses on “Beyond Modern Land Drainage” by Dr Willem Vlotman; “Agriculture water management and food security in a sustainable environment” by Prof Bart Schultz; “Drainage management for crop production and water quality benefits” by Dr Ali Mardin; “Improving irrigation and drainage efficiency using eddy covariance, Scintillometry, and COSMOS technologies” by Ragab Ragab; “Transport of viruses and colloids in partially-saturated soil and groundwater” by Seyed Majid Hassanijadeh; and “Value Engineering for unbiased irrigation and drainage projects” by Kamran Imami added to the path towards environmentally sustainable drainage.

World Bank Water Week, 2017

The World Bank Water Week, 2017 on the theme **'Working together for a water secure world'** was organized from 13-16 March 2017, in Maryland University Alumni Centre, USA. Senior Director, Global Water Practice, Mr. Guangzhe Chen, welcomed the participants. The opening plenary saw reflections on the role of World Bank in addressing the water challenges; an update on the 'High Level Panel on Water'; and presentation by the Global Leads – Richards Damania (Water and Climate), Steven Schonberger (Agriculture Water), William Kingdom, William Rex and Claudia Sadoff. Plenary sessions on 'Water Scarcity and Climate Challenge' and 'Social Inclusion in Water' provided an overview and framework of the dynamics between development and climate change on one hand and helped the water practitioners to ponder on what social inclusion means for water sector.

In one of the parallel sessions on 'Water Stewardship in Agriculture and Irrigation' lead by Wilferd Hundertmark, a panel consisting of partner organizations, including Secretary General Avinash C. Tyagi, explored as to how standards and practices can be built into World Bank operations. The panel explored as to how the credibility of the World Bank, Water User Associations and water service entities could be increased through the social equity, environmental sustainability and economic benefits. It explored the means of collaboration of World Bank with partners representing NGOs and private sector under the Agriculture Water Stewardship with other actors in tackling the rising challenges of less water and more food.

The session on 'Principles of Irrigation Institutional Reforms' threw light on the intuition at the user level. Water users associations (WUAs) and variations thereof are among the oldest institutions established to maintain and manage irrigation schemes at the local levels. In most of the projects of rehabilitation and modernization of canal systems there is often a supplementary component that supports enhancing the role that decentralized user groups play. A discussion on common management, legislative, and regulatory features for making WUAs more effective and responsive to its members was undertaken. Secretary General informed that ICID would be organizing a Symposium on the topic during the 23rd ICID Congress scheduled to be held from 8-14 October 2017 in Mexico City and invited the World Bank to present the principles for WUA reforms and take a wider input from the practitioners.

WB Team of Global Solutions Group on Water in Agriculture organized the 'GSG Meeting -Water in Agriculture' with a view to tackle the challenges of 'Less water for more food' by working with our Partners in a larger Water Agriculture Stewardship community. Secretary General Avinash Tyagi introduced the activities of International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage and the possibility of using the National Committees in 70 plus member countries for reaching out to various water related sectors within the countries to achieve the required targets of producing more food with less water.

The session on 'Water Accounting' introduced the tool that helps better target investments in agricultural water management. The availability of remotely-sensed quality data from the public domain as well as much improved analytical and processing capability of leading research institutes have greatly improved the accuracy of spatially distributed land and water use information. High resolution maps of actual evapotranspiration (ET) from irrigated and non-irrigated land are now more accurate than few years ago. By organizing information into water accounts, agricultural water managers and basin planners can use such information. Application of such spatially distributed water accounts permit improved investment planning and targeting of agricultural water management programs and projects such including irrigation and drainage. The session focussed on the emphasis that needs to be given to practical applications in identification, planning, design and implementation taking a river basin perspective.



The session on 'Large scale irrigation investment design, implementation and management reforms in Africa' drew the experiences and lessons learned from the



case of SAED and the historical process of reform of this specific irrigation scheme. The practical experiences and insights from the above arrangements can help enrich the policy dialogue with our clients and inform the institutional design for the irrigation programs under IDA18.

The session on 'Agricultural Water Productivity and Water Conservation: Are They Two Sides of the Same Coin?' revisited the widely-held perception that an improvement in agricultural water productivity allows higher agricultural production with the same amount of water, or the same amount of agricultural production with less water—and thus, overall, contribute to water conservation. The session revisited different definitions and measurements of agricultural water productivity, drawing on the engineering, agronomic and economics disciplines. The session highlighted recent advances in the assessment of agricultural water productivity, and presented findings from a new IWMI-World Bank publication.

Despite a clear knowledge that it pays to properly maintain irrigation infrastructure, most governments fail to invest adequately in maintenance of irrigation and drainage (I&D) systems. Added to this, mostly for political reasons governments at times abolish irrigation service fees. The failure to adequately maintain irrigation systems that results in their declining performance usual results in the all too familiar build-neglect-rehabilitate-neglect cycle. The session 'Before they crumble: How to generate systematic investments in irrigation and drainage maintenance' made a case that the cost for maintenance are much smaller than the costs in terms of lost productivity of not adequately maintaining I&D systems. The session also focused on the issue of ISF and that it is actually in the interest of water users to pay required fees.



40th Session of IFAD's Governing Council : A Brief Report

On behalf of ICID, Dr. Marco Arcieri, Secretary General of Italian National Committee of ICID (ITAL-ICID) represented the 40th Session of the Governing Council of IFAD which was held from 14-15 February 2017 at Rome, Italy.

The Governing Council of IFAD appointed Eng. Gilbert Fossoun Hounbo (former Prime Minister of Togo) as President of International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) (https://www.ifad.org/en/newsroom/press_release/tags/p15/y2017/39823920). Newly appointed President Eng. Gilbert stated that he would consider the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), address the hope of eliminating hunger and poverty, but also highlighted the need to scale-up



investment and results in smallholder agricultural development.

At the Opening Address (https://www.ifad.org/newsroom/press_release/tags/p14/y2017/39687916) Dr. Kanayo F. Nwanze, former President of IFAD, described rural development as a “moral obligation”,

and appealed to Governments on behalf of poor rural people across the globe emphasizing the need for continued rural investment in order for countries to meet their commitment to ending poverty and hunger by 2030, as outlined in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Agenda 2030 - Sustainable Development Goals was discussed, in detail and included with a high-level keynote speakers, the Governors' Dialogue. The Governing Council preceded, as usual, by the third Global Meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum. For more information about the Session, please access <https://www.ifad.org/>



ICID Invites Nominations for 2017

Call for Country Papers -

Institutional and Organizational Aspects of Irrigation/Drainage System Management

ICID's technical Working Group on Institutional and Organizational Aspects of Irrigation/Drainage System Management (WG-IOA) will be organizing a Symposium on the theme 'Global Review of Institutional Reform in Irrigation Sector for Sustainable Agriculture Water Management, including WUA' on 8 October 2017 during the 23rd ICID Congress at Mexico City, Mexico. Three topics covered are (i) Legal Framework and organizational structure including WUA for Water Supply Services; (ii) Participatory Irrigation Management and Management Transfer - Approaches and condition for successful PIDM; and (iii) Public-Private-Partnership (PPPs) in Irrigation and drainage operation and maintenance toward sustainable Irrigated agricultural water management. The National Committees (NCs) are requested to submit the Country Paper on the above subject latest by **30 June 2017**.

Best Performing National Committee Award

Sixth 'Best Performing National Committee Award (BPNCA)' would be presented during the 23rd ICID Congress. Applications are invited from the eligible National Committees for BPNCA-6 based on the performance during the 3-year period covering calendar years 2014-2016, by submitting the duly filled in 'Entry Form' to ICID Central Office latest by **31 May 2017**. The nominations will be adjudged by the Panel of Judges (Po) constituted

for this purpose. The BPNCA-6 comprises of a Trophy and a Citation Plaque. For more details on BPNCA, please visit the link http://www.icid.org/awards_nc.html

Best Performing Workbody Award

ICID presents the Best Performing Workbody Award (BPWA) triennially at the time of every ICID Congress, based on the performance of its workbodies in between two Congresses. The fifth 'Best Performing Workbody Award (BPWA-5)' will be presented during the 23rd ICID Congress. Nominations are invited from the Chairs of the ICID Workbodies for the candidature of their workbodies so as to reach ICID Central Office latest by **31 May 2017**. The valuation by a Panel of Judges (Po) would be based on various activities undertaken by the participating workbodies in between the two Congresses, viz 22nd and 23rd Congresses. The works of the Award winning workbody are publicized through ICID media. The Award comprises of a Citation / Certificate / Plaque to active members of the workbody, who have contributed to the achievements, besides free publications of decided value that will be given to each member of the workbody. For more details on BPWA-5, please visit http://www.icid.org/awards_wb.html

WatSave Awards

The WatSave Awards are given annually to identify successful water saving technologies and management techniques in practice among the ICID family that contribute to water conservation / water saving for increasing the beneficial and/

or efficient use of water to develop and improve the sustainable use of the critical resource. Nominations are invited for the 'WatSave Awards 2017' for the innovations that have proven implementation, through respective National Committees/ Committee latest by **30 June 2017**. For more information, please visit <http://www.icid.org/ws.scheme.pdf> > The WatSave Awards are given in four categories: (i) Technology; (ii) Innovative Water Management; (iii) Young Professional; and (iv) Farmers.

The nominations are routed through the National Committee (NC) in order to ensure the originality and authentication of the work and only one nomination per category per country based on merit is received. ICID member country can also support one nomination from a non-member country.

In order for the Jury to adjudicate the awards, which are highly dependent on the actual application of the technology in the field, the nominating National Committee/ Committee has to play a crucial role since members of the Jury will often not have detailed first-hand knowledge of the situation in a particular country, and thus would not be in a position to judge the realism of individual submissions. NCs should undertake initial screening of the nominations, through a broad based National Screening Committee for WatSave Awards against the criterion laid down in this Scheme, and in the process recommending them, authenticating the research, the application cited in the nominated work and ensure that the nomination is for the original work carried out by the authors.



Flood and Drought Impact to Farming and Ecosystem in Paddy Fields in the Context of Climate Change

The 13th International Network for Water and Environment in the Paddy Field (INWEPF) Symposium and Steering Meeting was held from 6-7 December 2016 at Phnom Penh, Cambodia and organised by Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology (MOWRAM). The main theme of the Symposium “Flood and Drought Impact to Farming and Eco-system in the Context of Climate Change”. More than 200 participants from Cambodia, member countries of INWEPF and international organizations were attended the Symposium and the Steering Committee Meeting.

The objective of the Symposium was to provide an opportunity for professionals in the field of water resources and agriculture sector to share their knowledge and experiences in order to improve the soil and water productivities and protect and ecosystem.



H.E. Mr. Lim Kean Hor, Minister of Water Resources and Meteorology from Cambodia The Opening delivered the opening speech while Dr. Nobumasa Hacho (Japan), Mr. Te Navuth (Cambodia), and Mr. Florencio F. Padernal (Philippines) delivered the keynote speeches.

In addition, technical sessions on technology and policy were also held. While 13 Speakers from the member countries, including Dr. Kyung-Sook Choi (Korea) and international organizations

made presentations on technologies and policy related to paddy farming and irrigation etc.

The Fourth Phase Strategy and the Annual Action Plan 2016-2017 was approved by the member countries. Besides, the participants of the three Working Groups on ‘Multiple roles of paddy fields’, ‘Sharing of policies, technologies and information on modernization of irrigation system for agricultural water management efficiency in paddy fields’; and ‘International cooperation and collaboration for sustainable paddy farming’ were discussed and reported the output of each working group to the Steering Meeting.

The INWEPF will continuously cooperate with ICID in order to address the above three challenges and disseminate technology and practices for better paddy farming and ecosystem preservation to the world.

International Research Program for Irrigation and Drainage (IRPID) Scheme

The revised International Research Program for Irrigation and Drainage (IRPID) Scheme was approved by the 67th International Executive Council (IEC) meeting (vide Resolution No. IEC-3/167), available at http://www.icid.org/irpid_scheme.pdf

IRPID is conceptualized as a program for developing and implementing research agenda in the irrigation and drainage sector to meet the challenges of water security and food security. The Vision of the program is to “Intensify Irrigation and Drainage Research to Achieve Global Food Security” and the Mission is to enhance research activities in irrigation and drainage science, technology, and management aspects in order to develop capabilities of member countries in order to achieve water security, food security and poverty alleviation while preserving the environment. The objectives of the program are to: (a) Foster a conducive policy environment for intensifying research and development activities, facilitate technology transfer and meet networking needs of members, (b) Identify and promote opportunities for NCs to gain relevance, efficiency and effectiveness within their countries, (c) Enhance research and innovations impacts in member countries by fostering increased coherence and convergence among various players, and (d) Help NCs raise financial resources required to undertake these research activities.



The organizational structure of IRPID consists of an Advisory Committee (AC) established by ICID as a Permanent Committee (PC) to guide the program implemented through a network of Regional Nodes (RN). The Advisory Committee is responsible for developing a Framework Action Plan for the program, and develop the Strategy duly describing the strategic objectives and a Framework Action Plan for the program; review and monitor the implementation of the program to ensure the quality of outputs and their effectiveness; and mobilize and allocate extra-budgetary resources through joint activities.

Each Regional Network shall have minimum of 3 member countries of

ICID with RN established in one of the countries. Funds for the activities of the Regional Node and its members are to be provided by the member countries themselves. Representative of the RN country constitute a Management Board coordinates and acts as its Head.

In order to promote research in irrigation and drainage to achieve ICID’s Vision of ‘Water secure world free of poverty and hunger through sustainable rural development’, the Advisory Committee encourages the NCs to establish Regional Nodes within the framework of the revised IRPID Scheme.



Nominations Invited for Heritage Irrigation Structure (HIS)

Twenty-five Heritage Irrigation Structures were approved for inclusion in the ICID Register of Heritage Irrigation Structures during the 67th International Executive Council (IEC) meeting was held at Chiang Mai, Thailand in November 2016, respectively, which is now projected on ICID website http://www.icid.org/icid_his1.php

Nominations are invited from ICID National Committees for selection of "Heritage Irrigation

Structures" (HIS) older than 100 years. National Committee can nominate more than one structure, using separate nomination form for each. Associated Members and non-member countries can nominate their structures through the neighboring active national committees or by submitting directly to Central Office.

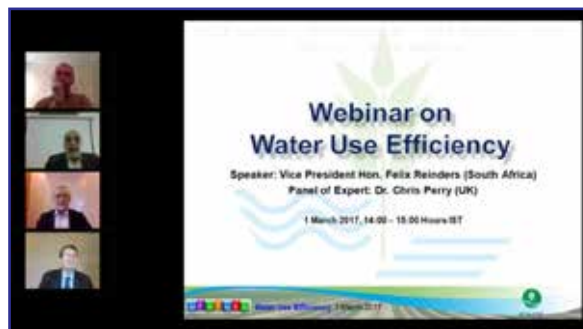
The last date for receipt of nomination of the ICID Central Office is 30 June 2017.

Third batch of the Heritage Irrigation Structures will be included in the ICID Register of Heritage Structures and awarded a "Plaque" during the 68th IEC meeting to be held at Mexico City, Mexico in October 2017. For more information about criterion for selection procedure download details from http://www.icid.org/his_appendix_n_annexure.pdf

Webinar on Water Use Efficiency: A Report

ICID added a new dimension to its knowledge dissemination program by launching Webinars Services to its members and wider professionals from agriculture water management community. The objective of the inaugural Webinar on Water Use Efficiency was to bring a common understanding on the term "Water Use Efficiency" among the water policy makers, irrigation managers and wider water research community. The Webinar was organized on 1st March 2017 with a record number of participation.

President Dr. Nairizi inaugurated the new service and welcomed the participants to the new platform and thanked all to be part of the historic day. Secretary General Avinash Tyagi welcomed the speakers.



Dr. Chris Perry (UK) introduced the topic and highlighted the need of terminology that is clear for all stakeholders in the water sector, so that the analysis of an intervention in one location in the sector

is useful and informative to another users at another location. Secretary General Avinash Tyagi introduced and invited Vice President Hon. Felix B. Reinders (South Africa) for his presentation on topic "Efficient Irrigation by Applying a Water Balance" More than 80 participants enjoyed the presentation of VPH Reinders and actively participated in question and answer session. Brief discussions took place with a number of participants.

For more information and live recording of the past Webinars, please visit http://www.icid.org/icid_webinar.html



Water Management and Climate Change towards Asia's Water-Energy-Food-Nexus

A three-day THA 2017 International Conference on 'Water Management and Climate Change towards Asia's Water-Energy-Food Nexus' was held from 25-27 January 2017 at Bangkok, Thailand. The objective of the conference was to provide a platform for researchers, scientists, practitioners, and policy-makers to share and present new advances, research findings, perspectives, and experiences in Disaster, Irrigation and Water Management towards Water Energy Food Nexus.

During the Opening Ceremony, three keynote presentations i.e. (a) The water-food-energy nexus: future challenges and opportunities in Asia; (b) Water Planning Strategies under SDG and WEF Nexus; and (c) Water management under



climate change and WEF approach were made. During the Plenary Session of the conference, eight Guest speakers from Malaysia, Vietnam, Korea, Japan, Denmark and USA were made their presentations.

During the conference, the special attention was given to developing certain skills

or competence, or general upgrading of performance ability for climate change adaptation, participatory water management disaster and environmental management, and sustainable development in irrigation and drainage in the monsoon Asia.

Several activities like oral/poster presentations, technical workshops, technical meetings and Roundtable discussions in ASEAN session were a part of the conference. Besides, ASEAN Forum on Water Management and Climate Change towards Asia's Water-Energy-Food Nexus were organized as a session in the Conference. For more information, please visit <http://www.tha2017.org>.



Take advantage of Irrigation and Drainage Online

The ICID Journal Irrigation and Drainage is available online FREE via Wiley Online library for all ICID Office-Bearers, Workbody Chairs, Members and National Committees.

The latest issue available on the website is Volume 66, Issue 1, Pages 1-143. Click on <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ird.v66.1/issuetoc> for direct access to the page with the papers in this issue of Irrigation and Drainage.



ICID members can now avail a special 35% discount of all the Wiley printed publications under the Society Discount Program introduced recently. Members are encouraged to take advantage of this special discount.



News from ICID National Committees

INCSW (India)

New Chairman

Er. Narendra Kumar has taken over as Chairman of the Indian National Committee on Surface Water (INCSW) and Central Water Commission (CWC). The contact coordinates are:

Er. Narendra Kumar, Chairman, Indian National Committee on Surface Water (INCSW) and Central Water Commission (CWC), Ministry of Water Resources, Govt. of India, Sewa Bhavan, Room No.315(S), R.K. Puram, Sector-1, New Delhi – 110066, India,

Email: chairman-cwc@nic.in, incsw-cwc@nic.in and Tel: 91-11-26715351/ Fax: +91-11-26108614

ICID fraternity extends its warm welcome to Er. Narendra Kumar and expresses its thanks to Er. G.S. Jha, former Chairman of INCSW/CWC for his valuable contributions to ICID.

JAL MANTHAN-3

A one-day Conference JAL MANTHAN-3 was organized by the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD & GR) on 13th January 2017 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, India. The Conference was inaugurated by Sushri Uma Bharati, Hon'ble Union Minister of Ministry of Water Resources, in the presence of Prof. Vijay Goel, Union Minister for State of Ministry of Water Resources, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan, and Union Minister for Water Resources.



More than 700 participants, comprising Union Ministers of related Ministries/ Departments, Chief Ministers of some States/Union Territories, Irrigation/Water Resources Ministers of States/Union Territories, and eminent experts in water sector, representatives of NGOs and senior officers of the Central and State Governments attended the event.

The six sessions covered the following themes & sub-themes i.e. (i) Session-IA – Theme: Implementation of PMKSY &

Improvement of Water Use Efficiency; (ii) Session 1B – Theme: Ecology Improvement; (iii) Session 2A - Theme: Participatory Irrigation Management; Session 2B – Theme: River Management; Session 3A – Theme: River Rejuvenation; and Session 3B - Theme: Flood Management. A large number of presentations (related to above sessions) were made by experts/ professionals and are available at <http://wrmin.nic.in/forms/list.aspx?lid=505&ld=4>

The recommendations on JAL MANTHAN-3, can be accessed at [http://wrmin.nic.in/writereaddata/Recommendations-Jal%20Manthan-3\(1\).pdf](http://wrmin.nic.in/writereaddata/Recommendations-Jal%20Manthan-3(1).pdf)

ICRID (Ireland)

New contact details of Irish National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (ICRID) are:

Dr. Oliver Nicholson, Secretary Irish Branches of UNESCO IHP and ICID, Hydrology & Coastal Section, The Office of Public Works, Jonathan Swift Street, Trim, Co. Meath, Ireland, E-mail: oliver.nicholson@opw.ie and Telephone No.: + 046 9426737

SONCID (Somalia)

Press Conference on Situation of Shabelle River

The Ministry of Agriculture and Somali National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (SONCID) organised a press conference on the current situation of the Shabelle River Basin which is the main bread baskets of Somalia and important resource bases and known as the rice bowl of the country. The traditional socio-economic activities in Southern Somalia have strongly based on the availability of water in the Juba and Shabelle Rivers. Water resources in the two rivers have linked to the survival of the Somali national economy as well as its social and environmental well-being in the riverine areas. However, the Shabelle River has as transboundary river basin shared by Somalia and Ethiopia dried up since December 2016 which had resulted and contributed in the current severe drought in southern Somalia. No irrigation system occurred due to the current situation of the river.

A Roundtable Meeting on Somalia Drought Crisis

A Roundtable Meeting on Somalia Drought Crisis was held on 28 February 2017 in



the capital of Somali, convened by His Excellency Federal President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed "Farmaajo". He highlighted in his address about the severe drought afflicting over six million people and agreed on the necessary steps to avert another devastating famine in the country.

At the conclusion of the meeting, a communique issued identified the drought crisis occurred in Somalia and noted its harsh impact on women, children and disabled persons. President Farmajo, welcomed the discussions of the participants and emphasized on declaration of a national disaster and warned of the risks posed by the drought in undermining the significant progress, achieved in the country over the past five years.

The meeting convened in line with the Mogadishu Declaration of 22 February 2017. The representatives of the Federal Government of Somalia, Somalia Federal States, International Partners, the African Union, the United Nations, as well as representatives of Civil Society and the private sectors actively attended the meeting. Further, President Farmajo called on International Aid agencies and the people of Somalia to extend life-saving humanitarian assistance to those hit by the severe drought in the country. In this regard, Secretary General Engr. Abdullahi Hassan Hussein among the National Technical Drought Committee, were also engaged in many meetings on studying the current drought issues.

USCID (USA)

The U.S. National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (USCID) will be organising its 10th International Conference on Irrigation and Drainage on the theme "Finding the Balance – Improving Infrastructure, Water Management, and the Environment in a World with Limited Funding and Ample Regulations" from 24-27 October 2017 at Sacramento, California, USA.

Detailed information related to the Conference is available at <http://www.uscid.org/17caconf.html>



World Water Day 2017 Celebrations

Forthcoming Events



Irrigation Australia CEO Bryan Ward addressing the Regional Committee Members

Irrigation Australia

The Queensland Regional Committee of Irrigation Australia met on World Water Day and the 35 attendees were given a brief introduction on what the day means and how we can all support the initiative.

Irrigation Australia CEO Mr. Bryan Ward addressed the Regional Committee and gave a brief background of the World

Water Day established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1993. The event was hosted in cooperation with KSB pump manufacturer which provided a great opportunity to network with fellow industry professionals, stay informed on the Irrigation Australia's industry news, training opportunities and learn about the products and services available at KSB.



Indian National Committee on Surface Water

The Indian National Committee (INCSW) in association with the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation; and Central Water Commission (CWC) hosted a conference on Wastewater - Monitoring and Management on the occasion of World Water Day (22nd March 2017) at CWC Auditorium, New Delhi, India. The event was graced

by the presence of the Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources Sushri Uma Bharti, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Water Resources Mr. Vijay Goyal, and Dr. Amarjit Singh, Secretary, MoWR.

The event was attended by more than 200 professionals from water resources sector. Secretary General Avinash Tyagi made a presentation on UN World Water Development Report 2017.

ICID Events

23rd ICID Congress and 68th IEC, 8-14 October 2017, Mexico City, Mexico on the theme 'Modernizing Irrigation and Drainage for a new Green Revolution'. Contact: Lic. Roberto Ramirez de la Parra, President, MXCID, E-mail: info@icid2017.org; info@mxcid.org; Website: www.icid2017.org

8th Asian Regional Conference, March 2018, Kathmandu, Nepal. Contact: Mr. Bashu Dev Lohane, Secretary, Nepal National Committee, ICID (NENCID), Deputy Director General, Department of Irrigation, Email: lohanibasud@yahoo.com, irrigation@wlink.com.np

69th International Executive Council Meeting and International Conference on Innovative and Sustainable Agri-water Management: Adapting to a Variable and Changing Climate, 12-17 August 2018, Saskatoon, Canada. For more details, visit <http://www.icid2018.org>. Brochure available for download at http://www.icid.org/brochure_69iec.pdf

9th International Micro Irrigation Conference, January 2019, Aurangabad, India. Contact: Mr. Anuj Kanwal, Member Secretary, Indian National Committee on Surface Water (INCSW), Email: icid-cwc@nic.in, Website: <http://www.cwc.gov.in/main/INCID/welcome.html>

70th IEC Meeting and 3rd World Irrigation Forum (WIF3), 2019, Indonesia. Contact: Ir. Mohamad Hasan, President, Indonesian National Committee of ICID (INACID), Director General of Research and Development, Email: inacid_indonesia@yahoo.co.id, mohasan53@yahoo.co.id

71st IEC Meeting and 24th ICID Congress, 12 May to 18 May 2020, Sydney, Australia. Contact: Mr. Bryan Ward, Chief Executive Officer, Irrigation's Australia Limited (IAL) (Incorporating IACID), Email: Bryan.ward@irrigation.org.au, Website: <http://www.irrigation.org.au>

XVIth World Water Congress "Bridging Science and Policy", 29 May - 02 June 2017 at Cancun, France. For details, visit www.worldwatercongress.com

GeoAfrica 2017 - 3rd African Regional Conference on Geosynthetics', 8-11 October 2017 at Marrakech, Morocco. For details, visit <http://geoafrica2017.com>



International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)

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>; Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/icidat>

Editor: Madhu Mohanan, Communication Officer; Layout: Keshav Dev Tanwar, IT Assistant