

News Update



A Water Secure World Free of Poverty and Hunger through Sustainable Rural Development

DECEMBER 2018

From Secretary General's Desk...

Dear Colleagues,

It has been an exciting month for ICID with several events and activities wherein we participated and also had the privilege of prominent visitors coming to our ICID Central Office in India. Prof. Asit K. Biswas, one of the world's leading authorities on water and environment along with a group of water experts from various organisations were a part of an interactive discussion for a documentary for a Singapore-based TV News Channel. Prof. Biswas shared his wisdom, emphasizing the centrality of professional water governance and management to address the on-going water crisis around the world. In addition, climate change, prevailing cropping systems and over-exploitation of groundwater also formed a part of the documentary interview.



VP Dr. Marco Arcieri, Secretary General (ITAL-ICID) represented us at the PAWEES-INWEPF International Conference 2018 held in Nara city, Japan and gave a presentation on the Italian rice production scenario under the threat of climate change. I was also invited as a Chief Guest in the International Conference on Global Water Crisis organized by Aligarh Muslim University, India. In my keynote address, I emphasized the survival and sustenance paradigms based on water-food-energy nexus and the urgency to approach the same through adaptation strategies in the context of climate change.

And, last week President Felix Reinders came to India to deliver a keynote speech in the International Conference on Sustainable Water Management held in Chandigarh, India. He spoke on issues needing attention at global level for ensuring food security and hunger alleviation. I also voiced my views on the 'Need for a strategy for water

resources development in India.' The conference gave an excellent opportunity to network with several subject-matter experts including my predecessor SG Hon. Avinash Tyagi; Prof. Gajendra Singh, President Hon. of the Indian Society of Agricultural Engineers; Dr. Srinivas, Senior Researcher, Centre for Policy Research and an expert on trans-boundary water-sharing negotiations; and Mr. Geumjun Lee, water management expert seconded by KCID to ICID Central Office.

We all, including my colleagues Er. Harish Varma and Dr. Sahdev Singh visited the Bourlog Institute for South Asia and the Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute to observe the field research on surface and sub-surface drip irrigation and direct seeding of rice, wheat and maize production under no-till conditions; and crop demand-based automated real-time irrigation.

We also visited several farms and interacted with farmers who have adopted these technologies and are saving both money and environment by mulching of rice straw after harvest and using less water. Let me assure, I will be sharing more about our wonderful field visits to the heartland in detail through our ICID publications.

In virtual space for wider knowledge dissemination in real time through webinar services, ICID organized professional series webinars on "Water and Heritage" by ICOMOS Water Ambassador Dr. Henk van Schaik and on "Water Saving using Modified Hose Reel Sprinkler Irrigation" by Dr. Graziano from Ministry of Agriculture, Government of Italy.

As I continue to write and share my riveting experiences, I feel there is so much to share, but I guess I would leave some for the next issue.

Best Wishes,

Ashwin B. Pandya
Secretary General

Highlights of the Issue

- + Rendezvous with Prof. Asit K. Biswas, Distinguished Professor at Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Singapore at ICID Central Office, New Delhi, India | 19 November 2018
- + VP Marco Arcieri participates in PAWEES-INWEPF International Conference 2018 | 20-22 November in Nara city, Japan
- + SG Pandya invited as Chief Guest in International Conference on Global Water Crisis organized by Aligarh Muslim University, India | 1-3 December 2018
- + Welcome to Aurangabad...!! 9th International Micro Irrigation Conference in Maharashtra, India | 16-18 January 2019
- + Webinar Highlights: (i) Water as Heritage by Speaker Dr. Henk van Schaik | 14 November 2018 (ii) Smart technology to reduce energy consumption for water spreading and pipe production in hose reel sprinkler irrigation (WG-SON-FARM) by Speaker Dr. Graziano Ghinassi | 5 December 2018
- + Call for Papers: International Workshop on Participatory Irrigation/Drainage Management during 3rd World Irrigation Forum (WIF3) & 70th IEC Meeting in Bali, Indonesia | 1-7 September 2019



*Season's Greetings
and
Best Wishes for a
Happy New Year
2019*

Prof. Biswas interacts with water professionals on 'Water crisis in India'

Prof. Asit K. Biswas, one of the world's leading authorities on water and environment and Distinguished Professor at Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Singapore visited ICID Central Office on 19 November 2018 to share his views and experiences on 'Water crisis in India' as part of an interactive interview for a documentary on 'Asian water crisis' for Channel News Asia (CNA), Singapore.

The live interactive discussion organized by Secretary General Ashwin B. Pandya brought together more than 30 water experts from government and private agencies including Central Water Commission (CWC), Central Board on Irrigation and Power (CBIP), Centre for Policy Research, World Bank, International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) - Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) to name a few to share their expertise and experiences around the table and engage with Prof. Biswas in a stimulating and interactive discussion to facilitate a knowledge transfer environment, especially in the context of existing global challenges impacting water security and governance.

During the discussion, Prof. Biswas deliberated on the impending loom of 'water crisis in India' with specific focus on importance of water governance, transboundary water sharing, groundwater depletion and climate change impacts on water resources. He dived into these arenas related to water and humanity's relationship with this life-sustaining liquid.

Water supply in India is expected to fall 50% below demand by 2030. With a growing population and rising needs of a fast-developing nation, availability of water is coming under severe strain. The situation is grim and the chips are down; such a situation calls for quick action, said Prof. Biswas.

He pointed that over the last few years, water crisis has snowballed into a national calamity due to increased infrastructure, industrialization and non-treatment of effluents released in water bodies resulting in dry, arid desert-like situations in many parts of the country. He stressed that poor water resource management weakens the nation's strength to fight against drought. The policies for dealing with drought is to "wait till it rains". Luckily,



geographical shape of India fetches good rain every year, but we are unable to store rain water.

To make it worse, groundwater, a community resource, is still perceived as an individual property and is exploited inequitably without any consideration to its sustainability leading to its over-exploitation in several areas. Prof. Biswas expressed this needs to be tackled by introducing improved technologies of water use, incentivizing efficient water use and encouraging community-based management of aquifers. In addition, where necessary, artificial recharging projects should be undertaken so that extraction is less than the recharge. This would allow the aquifers to provide base flows to the surface system and maintain ecology.

Prof. Biswas emphasized that a holistic and inter-disciplinary approach for water related problems is missing. Most of the water disputes are due to its unequal distribution and lack of a unified perspective in planning, management



and use of water resources. The need of the hour is proper water management that involves judicious use of water along with its conservation. The motto of water management is to make the water availability perpetual one.

During the discussion, SG Pandya stated that in India, the traditional techniques of flood irrigation are followed which involve flooding of field with water. Such techniques involve ample waste of water. Modern irrigation techniques like drip and sprinkler are found to be more efficient one where wastage of water is minimum thereby increasing the productivity of land.

He further added that to meet the need of the skilled manpower in the water sector, regular training and academic courses in water management should be promoted. These training and academic institutions should be regularly updated by developing infrastructure and promoting applied research, which would help to improve the current procedures of analysis and informed decision making.

At the end of the discussion, all water professionals unanimously agreed that a general awareness about water management is needed to be created and the community must proactively involve itself in the conservation of most vital resource of earth for its sustainable development.

Prof. Biswas, as a token of appreciation, gifted his recently published books to ICID technical library and expressed great pleasure to meet and interact with his long associated colleagues from water sector in India.

VP Arcieri participates in PAWEES-INWEPF International Conference, Nara 2018

The International Society of Paddy and Water Environment Engineering (PAWEES) in collaboration with International Network for Water and Ecosystem in Paddy Fields (INWEPF) organized the “PAWEES-INWEPF International Conference 2018” from 20-22 November 2018 in Nara city, Japan. During the conference, all 552 participants, including researchers, policy makers, engineers and private sectors from 21 countries and regions including 4 international organizations deliberated on issues related to paddy farming highlighting water use, water management and water environment under the joint theme “Promoting sustainable paddy farming to achieve the SDGs”.

PAWEES organized the main technical session entitled “Smart Management of Land, Water and Environment”, divided into three themes namely, (i) Water and Soil Management (ii) Disaster Management and Adaptation; and (iii) Regional Resource Management and Rural Planning.



VP Dr. Marco Arcieri, Secretary General (ITAL-ICID) was invited as a speaker and gave a presentation on “Rice cultivation in Italy under the threat of climate change.” In his presentation, VP Dr. Marco highlighted the important issues, such as recent research innovations, main constraints and opportunities of rice cultivation in Italy with suggestions on technology and to fulfill future gaps. The topic and the information offered to the audience through the presentation was considered very informative and interesting, especially the history of rice cultivation in Europe and Italy; and as to

what concerns the figures and data on the subject of economic and agronomical importance of rice crop in Italy.

During the conference, INWEPF organized a special workshop on the theme “Enhancing Resilience to Natural Disasters and Climate Change and Promoting the Modernization of Irrigation Facilities to Realize Sustainable Paddy Farming.” A joint meeting was also held to deliberate the mutual cooperation among PAWEES – INWEPF, ICID, as well as other international organizations such as FAO. The outcome of the meeting recognized ICID and FAO as effective partners for future work, thus so greatly contributing to stronger collaboration in the field of paddy field exploitation, especially under the threat of climate change and emphasized to gain more interesting results in order to achieve better outcomes in terms of yield and sustainability of the cultivation.



SG Pandya invited as Chief Guest in International Conference on Global Water Crisis at Aligarh Muslim University



A three-day International Conference on “Global Water Crisis: Agriculture and Food Security in the Era of Climate Change” was organized by the Department of Geography, Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) in Uttar Pradesh, India from 1-3 December 2018.

During the inaugural session, Vice Chancellor Prof. Tariq Mansoor addressed that water is a unique gift of nature to our living planet and that climate change is a major predicament being faced by the world today that adversely affects water availability.

Prof. Mansoor hoped the conference will provide an insight into understanding the problems and consequences of climate change and deliberating remedial measures to tackle water crisis. Acknowledging the foreign participants, he added the young scholars and global partners participating in the conference will provide a forum to share knowledge, ideas and innovative approaches.

In his welcome address Prof. Ateeque Ahamad, Chairperson and Convener said the proposed theme is aimed towards addressing one of the burning issues of the 21st century and the collective responsibility to find out plausible measures to mitigate and adapt in accordance with climate change and to orient the resilient path towards sustainable development.

Secretary General Ashwin B. Pandya, as Chief Guest expressed that water is the harbinger of life and society and its political, socio-structures are critically dependent upon it. He stated that the

survival and sustenance paradigms based on water-food-energy nexus will perish if the adaptation strategies are not timely placed.

Praising, AMU and the organizers, SG Pandya exuberated confidence that the planners and researchers participating in the session will come out with solutions to tackle climate change impact. He added that ICID has adopted the Vision 2030 “A water-secure world free of poverty and hunger” and is working towards this endeavour with a missionary zeal in 78 member countries.

Special Guest on the occasion Prof. Yukio Himlyama, President, International Geographical Union (IGU), expressed his pleasure to be a part of the occasion. He reiterated that water crisis and its adverse consequences on the natural equilibrium of our environment is the biggest threat that our planet is facing. He expressed such forums provide the participants to deliberate on the crisis and develop a better understanding of the subject.

Mr. S. Masood Husain, Chairman, Central Water Commission (CWC) and Chairman, INCSW indicated that it is the need of the hour to ensure adequate supply of water for drinking, agriculture, energy production, industries for sustaining growth which is feasible through better management of water resources.

Dr. K.J. Ramesh, Director General, India Meteorological Department (IMD) informed that IMD and Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) have taken major steps in improving the weather, climate and hazards warning services capabilities in the country and other institutes of MoES are working strenuously in providing better weather and climate services to

all users by further augmenting modeling and observation network.

During the conference, five books authored and edited by the Faculty of Geography were released. A large number of delegates including 18 foreign delegates representing 8 countries participated in the proceedings.

The Indian National Committee of ICID (INCSW) is pleased to welcome you all to be a part of the 9th International Micro Irrigation Conference (9IMIC) in Aurangabad, Maharashtra, India from 16-18 January 2019.

The main theme of the conference is 'Micro Irrigation in Modern Agriculture' covering wide range of topics under four sub-themes, namely (i) Micro Irrigation Design, Innovations and New Techniques for increased Crop Productivity; (ii) Micro Irrigation fund and Government support through Micro Irrigation; (iii) Micro Irrigation for Cluster Level Farming and small farm holders; and (iv) Operation & Maintenance Services and Capacity Development for the Micro Irrigation Systems.

The three-day conference aims to provide a platform to promote Micro-Irrigation as one of the improved water-efficient irrigation technologies and invite researchers, entrepreneurs, policymakers and other stakeholders in the water sector to share their views and experiences of new technologies and best management practices in drip, micro-sprinkler and other localized irrigation systems. The conference would also be attractive to the private sector considering the higher investments in micro-irrigation to boost the agricultural production and subsequently the farmers' income.

Register Now!!!

Delegates attending the conference as

well as exhibitors can both register for the conference and exhibition online at <https://imic2019.ivyleaguesystems.com>. The details for registration fee slabs payable by the delegates including author of papers for the conference can be accessed @ <http://micro-irrigation2019.com/registration/>

Event Highlights

The conference aims and plans to provide a global platform for professionals and exhibitors by showcasing knowledge and technologies from the world over and providing business opportunities to the water resources communities. The following high-level concurrent events will be a part of the event: (i) Irrigation Minister's Roundtable; (ii) Farmer's Pavilion & NGO session; (iii) Sponsors Workshops on Specific Crops; (iv) Workshop on specific Agro Climatic Zone; and (v) Micro Irrigation Awards to Farmer, practitioner, Company, Government

The event will showcase various programmes that include: (i) Conference: 3 days of action-packed exchange of ideas on Policy for the Development of the Micro Irrigation in Modern Agriculture for Sustainable Water, Food & Agriculture; (ii) Exhibition: Core focus – 3 days industry-sponsored technology-based exhibition of products depicting the latest technology for use of micro-irrigation; (iii) Supporting Events: Focus on Women Participation, Rural Development and Farmers

Participation, Crop/Technology/ Country Specific events; (iv) Cultural Tour(s): Full-day Cultural Tour after 3 days to focus on the rich cultural heritage of India located in that area; (v) Study Tour(s): Full-day Study Tour after the conference to focus on one of the largest micro Irrigation systems of India located in that area and visit to a factory. For detailed information, please visit: <http://micro-irrigation2019.com/travel-information/>; (vi) Accompanying Person: Full 3 days engagement in local shopping cum visit to cultural sites etc.; and (vii) Social Networking: Other ICID National Committee's Program/ Dinner, Spouse Club, Cultural show/ Film Show.

Important dates and deadlines:

- **31 December 2018** — Notification of acceptance of papers
- **15 January 2019** — Pre-conference National Micro-Irrigation Workshop
- **16-18 January 2019** — Conference dates
- **19-20 January 2019** — Post conference study and cultural tours

For abstract and paper submission; authors must sign up and create an account through the link: <https://imic2019.ivyleaguesystems.com> or send directly by e-mail to 9imic@wapcos.co.in

More information about the conference is available @ <http://micro-irrigation2019.com>

Call for Papers

International Workshop on Participatory Irrigation/Drainage Management WIF3, Bali 2019

The Third World Irrigation Forum (WIF3) and 70th International Executive Council Meetings organized by the Indonesian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (INACID) in co-operation with ICID will be held from 1-7 September 2019 in Bali, Indonesia. The main theme of the Forum is 'Development of water, food and nutrition security in a competitive environment'. For more information, please access the link <<https://icid2019.com/>>

During WIF3, ICID Working Group on Institutional and Organizational Aspects of Irrigation/ Drainage Systems Management (WG-IOA) is organizing an International Workshop on "Participatory Irrigation/ Drainage Management-Transfer, Approaches and condition for successful PIDM" on 2 September 2019.

1. Objective: To follow-up the IOA workshop on "Institutional and Organizational Setup of Irrigation and Drainage Management System" held on 12 August 2018 in Saskatoon, Canada to provide a wider platform for consultation with irrigation and drainage professionals to fulfill the scope of activities for the mandate of WG-IOA.

2. Scope: The workshop will focus on institutional and organizational aspects of irrigation drainage management (IDM) schemes for possible updation with the

new IOA developments, methodologies and approaches. It would include managers of irrigation and drainage schemes in the countries or regions that have Organizational Setup with special focus on I&O aspects and having practical experiences on PIDM, IDMT both on conventional irrigation as well as on micro irrigation technology.

3 Theme /Sub-Themes: Abstracts/papers are invited from professionals, researchers, experts and scientists from private and government sectors on following theme and sub-themes:

Theme: Participatory Irrigation/ Drainage Management - Transfer, Approaches and condition for successful PIDM

Sub-theme 1: Approaches and conditions for successful Participatory Irrigation/ Drainage Management (PIDM); including legislation and institutional requirements for integrated working relationship amongst land ownership of irrigation and drainage systems and water users' associations

Sub-them 2: Legislation and institutional requirements for transfer of responsibilities and/or ownership of irrigation and drainage systems to water users' associations for successful irrigation/ drainage management transfers (IDMT)

Sub-theme 3: Institutional and Organizational Aspects of Participatory Irrigation/ Drainage Management (PIDM) for Micro Irrigation systems.

4. Schedule for Submission of Abstracts / Full Papers

- Submission of abstracts (max. 300 words): **31 March 2019**
- Notification of acceptance: **15 April 2019**
- Submission of full paper: **31 May 2019**
- Notification of acceptance of full papers: **15 June 2019**

Contact Coordinates

Chair: Dr. Hafied A. Gany (Indonesia)
E-mail: hafiedgany@gmail.com;
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Coordinator: Er. Harish Kumar Varma, Executive Director, ICID,
E-mail: icid@icid.org

The "Call for papers" for the workshop is available at http://www.icid.org/callforpap_pidm_bali.pdf for your information. The last date for receipt of abstract(s) is **31 March 2019**.

International Young Professionals Training Program in Korea

At the 69th International Executive Council (IEC) meeting held in Saskatoon, Canada in August 2018, the Korean National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (KCID) agreed to host the International Young Professionals Training Program (YP-TP) in 2019 in collaboration with the Chinese National Committee (CNCID) and ICID.

The training program and study tour (22-25 April 2019) will be followed by an international expert consultation workshop (26 April 2019) to provide an opportunity to the young professionals (YPs) to have a broader and in-depth exposure to emerging irrigation technologies and management scenarios considering the

urgent need for a sustainable climate change-resilient agriculture sector. Additionally, the technical sessions by international experts will provide an excellent opportunity to the YPs to expand their knowledge and understanding of modern tools, technologies and decision-support systems for improving water productivity and water use efficiency.

All National Committees (NCs) are invited to nominate suitable YPs (below 40 yrs -) from institutions engaged in agricultural water management from their respective country. ICID will provide scholarship to 20 YPs based on the nominations received from the NCs taking into consideration YPs' qualification,

professional experience and contribution through their country irrigation and drainage status paper.

More details about the training program/workshop (including the Nomination Form) can be downloaded from http://attachment.benchmarkemail.com/c386762/Concept_Note-YP-TP.docx. Last date for receiving the nominations in the prescribed format, duly recommended by Member National Committee(s) to ICID Central Office (icid@icid.org) is **31 December 2018**.

Webinar Highlights

12th Webinar: Water and Heritage

Water is vital for life, and its incessant availability has been a concern for mankind since ages. But, rarely do we give a thought to the value of water management as heritage. Interestingly, water professionals do not value water-related heritage in their daily practices. To discuss the same in-depth, Dr. Henk van Schaik, Ambassador, Water and Heritage, ICOMOS, The Netherlands delivered an ICID webinar on the topic 'Water as Heritage' on 14 November 2018 to share his experiences in the contemporary world wherein the functional and heritage dimensions of water are treated distinctly.



Dr. Schaik was joined in by Mr. Tino Mager from The Delft / Centre for Global Heritage and Development, who highlighted the relevance of heritage for the present and the future and referred to associations and individuals dedicated to the historical aspects of water-related heritage sites.

Executive Director Harish Varma opened the webinar with his welcome remarks followed by a brief introduction of the speakers. He was joined in by Dr. Sahdev Singh, Dir-KM and Mr. Madhu Mohanan, Communication Officer from ICID Central Office.

The webinar primarily focused on the phrase 'water-as-heritage' that serves as a reminder that water is a 'living heritage' of the planet as water bodies typically have functional, historical, spiritual and aesthetic dimensions embedded to it. Dr. Schaik explained water-related heritage can be found all over the world and in all layers of time. He provided an insight into how technical professionals are concerned with supplying/treating water and governments with regulating water supply and use. The local communities use water for recreational purposes and ritual ceremonies while heritage experts are interested in studying and conserving past water icons.

Dr. Schaik stressed the need for an approach that adds historical knowledge to modern engineering solutions that could help solve acute problems more sustainably and optimally than approaches that ignore the historical and intangible aspects of water. He stated that by integrating them into contemporary construction tasks, we could draw on a great deal of experience, find unconventional solutions and make better decisions.

The webinar further deliberated at better connecting heritage and wider water sector organizations in its ambit, including ICID and its World Water System Heritage (WSH) program as well as Recognition of World Heritage Irrigation Structures (WHIS). It concluded with a Q&A session, wherein participants raised their queries to the speaker concerning various facets of water from heritage viewpoint.

This is the 12th webinar presented under "ICID Professional Series" for its exclusive online audience to share and discuss information in real-time. For those who missed the webinar may visit ICID website to access the live recording <http://www.icid.org/icid_webinar_12.html> supported with presentations and collated resources.

13th Webinar: Smart technology to reduce energy consumption for water spreading and pipe production in hose reel sprinkler irrigation (WG-SON-FARM)

Dr. Graziano Ghinassi, Researcher, Dept. of Agriculture, University of Florence (Italy) and an active member of ICID Working Group on Sustainable On-Farm Irrigation System Development (WG-SON-



FARM) delivered an ICID webinar on the topic 'Smart technology to reduce energy consumption for water spreading and pipe production in hose reel sprinkler irrigation' on 5 December 2018. Mr. Sergio Sacchini (Expert Assistant) joined as a panelist during the webinar.

The webinar primarily focused on the use and performance of a new device which allows the positioning of an anti-friction plastic tape below the pipe of hose reel machines when sliding over the field surface. SG Pandya opened the webinar with his welcome remarks followed by a brief introduction of the speaker. ED Varma, Dr. Singh, Dir-KM and Mr. Mohanan, Communication Officer from ICID Central Office also participated in the webinar.

During the webinar, Dr. Ghinassi explained that modern hose reel irrigation machines are equipped with increasingly longer and larger pipes in order to improve their irrigation potential. Compared to other field operations, energy used for water lifting during system economical lifetime (i.e., 15 years) is by far the greatest source of monetary cost and GHG emissions.

As a case study, Dr. Ghinassi described the irrigation scenario of North Italy. With 2,100 m³/ha of supplied water per season, the potential of the device in reducing both energy use (fuel consumption and GHG emissions) and operation cost resulted to be about 25%, with the same system performance and under the assumption that economic lifetime of pipe and machine was the same. As a result, both environment and farm economy will benefit from this effective and simple technology.

This is the 13th webinar presented under "ICID Professional Series." For those who missed the webinar may visit ICID website to access the live recording <http://www.icid.org/icid_webinar_13.html> supported with presentations and collated resources.

4th IYPEF Virtual Meeting

The fourth virtual meeting (04/2018) of the Young Professional's e-Forum (IYPEF) was held on 28 November 2018 to discuss and summarize the action points emerging from the 3rd IYPEF meeting held in Saskatoon, Canada in August 2018. The meeting was attended by SG Pandya, Dr. Singh, Dir-KM, Mr. Mohanan, Communication Officer, Mrs. Dipika Srivastava, Assistant Knowledge Officer (IT) from ICID Central Office and virtual attendance by Mrs. Kathleen Murray, Ms. Eman Ragab, Mr. Shoaib Saboory, Ms. Sahar Norouzi and Mr. Amali Abraham Amali. SG Pandya commenced the meeting with his welcome remarks and expressed that YPs are the future of ICID. He informed the YPs about the various new initiatives taken by ICID Central Office including 'ICID Knowledge Portal' to make IYPEF more effective and

productive. YPs were encouraged to take maximum advantage of the new portal upon its launch and to make it rich and informative through their contributions.

Mr. Paavan Reddy (India) was invited as an observer to present his views and also expressed his interest to present a webinar under YP series on the topic "Open Source Geo-Spatial Tools and Mobile Device for Canal Network Digitization" on 14 December 2018.

The agenda of the meeting further focused on the finalization of topics for e-Discussion and webinar for the year 2018-19 and to receive comments/feedback on the revised IYPEF scheme, approved during the 4th Management Board (MB) meeting held on 1 November 2018. All YPs shared their views/suggestions on the scheme during

the meeting which were duly taken into consideration. In the meeting, Dr. Singh proposed that a series of five e-Discussions and four webinars will be organized in tandem with the 3rd World Irrigation Forum (WIF3) theme/sub-themes during the period January – June 2019. The topics for the webinars/e-Discussions were identified, finalized and scheduled and the updated list will be circulated by the end of December 2018.

The YP coordinators were also encouraged to submit abstracts for the upcoming 9th International Micro Irrigation Conference (16-18 January 2019) to be held in Aurangabad, India. The meeting ended with vote of thanks to all the participants.



Call for nominations invited for:

ICID WatSave Awards 2019

3rd World Irrigation and Drainage Prize

The triennial World Irrigation and Drainage (WID) Prize instituted by ICID is awarded to dedicated professionals and institutions who have actively contributed to the development of Irrigation and Drainage during the past 15 years supporting increased agricultural production at national, regional and international levels.

The 3rd World Irrigation and Drainage Prize will be presented during the 3rd World Irrigation Forum (WIF3) to be held in Bali, Indonesia from 1-7 September 2019. The Prize carries an honorarium of US \$10,000 along with a 'Citation Plaque'.

More information, including the detailed procedure for nomination and other conditions and criterion for WID Prize along with the nomination form, can be accessed at http://www.icid.org/wid_prize.html.

We request your National Committee to circulate the 'Call for Nominations' widely amongst professionals/teams/institutions within your country and submit the nomination(s) to ICID Central Office latest by **31 March 2019**.

ICID is pleased to announce the "Call for Nominations for 2019 WatSave Awards and Recognition of World Heritage Irrigation Structures (WHIS) to be presented during the 70th International Executive Council (IEC) Meeting in Bali, Indonesia from 1-7 September 2019.

WatSave Awards 2019: ICID instituted the 'WatSave Awards' in 1997, presented each year, to recognize outstanding contributions to water conservation or water saving in agriculture across the world. Accordingly, the award given to individuals or a team of individuals are made in respect of actual realized savings and not for promising research results, plans and/or good ideas/intentions to save water. The awards are given in four categories: **(i) Technology (ii) Innovative Water Management (iii) Young Professionals; and (iv) Farmer.**

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

World Heritage Irrigation Structures (WHIS) 2019

A Task Team is set up every year to select historical drainage/drainage structures as received from various National Committees (NCs) to give them recognition on the lines of World Heritage Sites (as recognized by UNESCO). Nominations are invited from ICID National Committees for selection of "World Heritage Irrigation Structures" (WHIS) that includes both old operational irrigation structures as well as those having an archival value.

A 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 neighbouring active NCs or by submitting directly to ICID Central Office. The fifth batch of WHIS will be included in the ICID Register of WHIS available at http://www.icid.org/icid_his1.php.

The deadline for receipt of the entries for WatSave awards and WHIS from the National Committees along with the completed 'Nomination Form' and related details to the ICID Central Office, New Delhi is **30 June 2019**.

More information including the detailed procedure for nomination and criterion for the awards can be accessed at http://www.icid.org/awards_icid.html.

For any queries, please contact Dr. Sahdev Singh, Director (Knowledge Management) at icid@icid.org.

CWC, WAPCOS officials visit ICID Central Office

A joint review meeting of officials from Central Water Commission (CWC), WAPCOS and ICID was held on 3 December 2018 at ICID Central Office to take stock of the activities for the upcoming 9th International Micro Irrigation Conference (9IMIC) to be held in Aurangabad, Maharashtra, India from 16-18 January 2019. The meeting was attended by Mr. Amrendra K. Singh, Chief Engineer, TBO and Mr. Anuj Kanwal, Director & Member Secretary, INCSW from CWC and Dr. Aman Sharma, Chief Executive Director, WAPCOS Limited with

his associate. SG Pandya, ED Varma and Dr. Singh, Dir-KM were present during the meeting. It was informed that preparations for 9IMIC are in full swing with international keynote speakers being invited.

Additionally, invitations have been sent to senior ministers and Ministry officers. Mr. Kanwal apprised that session plan for the conference has been finalized and a good number of abstracts have been received so far. He further elaborated on the logistics planning and that delegates have been requested to register at the

earliest to beat the time due to peak tourist season. Various exhibitors have confirmed their participation to showcase latest technologies in micro irrigation systems and planning for the same is at an advanced stage. During the meeting it was discussed that along with high-level concurrent events, a Farmers' Bazaar will also be a major attraction during the conference. The meeting further focused on finalizing the layout plan for various sessions and technical publications to be released during the conference.



2019 Water for Food Global Conference

The Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute at the University of Nebraska (DWFI) will host the 2019 Water for Food Global Conference at Nebraska Innovation Campus in Lincoln, Nebraska, USA from 29-30 April 2019.

The conference will convene leading international experts and organizations to discuss "Water for a Hungry World: Innovation in Water and Food Security," focusing on the next generation of research, smart technology, policy development and best practices that are achieving a breakthrough in this vitally important mission.

The conference will spur conversations on topics: (i) Technology; (ii) Determining the value of water in agriculture and other sectors and; (iii) Farmers, Women and Youth—to bring together a spectrum of stakeholders who understand that feeding growing world population requires new approaches to overcome a host of interconnected challenges, such as climate change, water scarcity and



pollution, economic disparity, shifting food preferences, food waste, soil degradation, ecosystem threats and competing demands for resources.

The global conference promises a week of water and food security-related presentations, side events, networking opportunities and tours. More details

about the conference and registration will be available in January 2019. To read more, please visit: <https://waterforfood.nebraska.edu/news-and-events/events/2018/08/2019-water-for-food-global-conference>



International Dam Safety Conference 2019 13-14 February 2019 | Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India

The Central Water Commission (CWC) in collaboration with Odisha Water Resources Department and the World Bank is organizing the International Dam Safety Conference (IDSC) 2019 on 13-14 February 2019 in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India.

IDSC is part of the series of Dam Safety Conferences being organized under the aegis of the Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP), envisaged to provide exchange of knowledge between academia, civil society, government, industry, policy institutes and think-tanks.

The conference will have one Plenary Session (Emerging Challenges in Dam Safety Management), seven Technical Sessions and one Industry Session (Contemporary Developments in Technology, Construction Materials, Products, Instrumentation, and Services).

There will be enlightening presentations during the Plenary Session by eminent dam safety professionals in addition to oral presentations covering various facets of dam safety.

Several international organizations of repute including ICOLD as well as various National Committees on Large Dams are the organizing partners for the Conference. Exhibition will also be a

part of the conference program wherein organizations from around the world will showcase their products and services reflecting the contemporary developments in technology.

Besides technical interactions, the participants and accompanying persons will be able to enjoy the Odisha state hospitality and participate in several sightseeing tours to prominent world

heritage sites including Sun Temple in Konark, Jagannath temple in Puri and Chilika Lake.

Registration

To participate in the conference interested participants are invited to register online by visiting <https://damsafety.in/idsc2019/>.



Be the Solution to Soil Pollution

World Soil Day, observed every year on 5 December, highlights the importance of soil as a critical component of the natural system and as a vital contributor to human well-being. However, despite the essential role that soil plays in human livelihoods, there is a worldwide increase in degradation of soil resources due to inappropriate management practices, population pressure driving unsustainable intensification and inadequate governance over this essential resource. "Be the Solution to Soil Pollution" was the theme for World Soil Day 2018.

Top soil connects all life

About 93 percent of land animal species and 92 percent of all plant life are connected to the pedosphere or topsoil. Simply said, without the topsoil, their chances of survival is slim. As more topsoil are lost, their extinction becomes more possible. Soil scientists say it takes 150 years for nature to form just 1 inch of topsoil. This means when soil erosion occurs, it can take much longer for an ecosystem to recover than if the soil wasn't so severely disturbed.

The loss of topsoil often results in the death of many native plants. In some cases, the eroded soil is so disturbed that the landscape becomes completely barren, which ultimately leads to a major decrease in ecosystem biodiversity for many organisms that can no longer live there.

Earth fast losing its soil cover

A global environmental crisis is unfolding in nightmarish proportion—the rapid loss of the Earth's pedosphere, the soil cover (blanket) of the Earth. As the global population grows, farmers around the world are under tremendous pressure to produce more food and, in turn, leaves little time for croplands to replenish their lost nutrients.



The effects of the rapid deterioration of the planet's pedosphere can be gleaned through the following:

- Farmers are obliged to build agricultural terraces up the mountain slopes negligent of the technological knowhow their forefathers once applied. These hastily built terraces often give way to landslides exacting a heavy toll in human lives. This is true in the mountain regions of Nepal, Philippines, China, Pakistan and the Andes.
- Over 1 billion tons of soil flow freely from Ethiopia's highlands each year worsening the famine situation that has become a fact of life.
- The former Soviet countries lose some 2.3 billion tons of soil annually threatening the world's largest cropland area.
- In US, erosion has been spurred by the shift to large heavy farm equipment and the enlargement of the fields, which eliminated many natural boundary constraints on erosion of soil by both wind and water. Read more: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/earth-fast-losing-its-soil-cover/>
- Unsustainable agricultural practices lead to the release of pollutants into soils and the environment.
- Soil acts as a filter for contaminants, but its buffering capacity is finite. If the latter is exceeded, contaminants can seep into the environment and enter the food chain.
- Soil pollution affects food security by reducing crop yields and quality. Without healthy soils we wouldn't be able to produce our food and achieve #ZeroHunger.
- Using manure from antibiotic-treated livestock more responsibly helps prevent antimicrobial resistance.
- Composting and recycling at home can reduce the amount of waste that enters landfills and can improve soil health, reducing the negative effects of improper waste disposal.
- 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 and 2 billion people are nutritionally insecure, but we can mitigate this through soil.

#StopSoilPollution:

- Human activities are the main source of soil pollution. It is in our hands to adopt sustainable soil management practices.

Act Now!! Promote sustainable agricultural practices and ask governments to develop policies to prevent and control soil pollution. Preventing soil pollution and maintaining soil health are crucial in achieving most of the SDGs.

News Buzz: ICID National Committees

PNCID (Portugal)

Mr. Gonçalo de Freitas Leal, General Director of DGADR has assumed charge as the new President of the Portuguese National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (PNCID). PNCID has been an active member of ICID since 1954 and has always been supportive of ICID's vision and mission. ICID looks forward to President Leal's active nodal role, cooperation and support towards participation of PNCID and its members in the activities of ICID. All NCs are requested to take note of the new contact details:

Eng. Gonçalo de Freitas Leal
General Director, DGADR
President
Portuguese National Committee on
Irrigation and Drainage (PNCID)
Av Afonso Costa, No. 3
1949-002 Lisboa, 600082440

Tel : +351 218 442 200
Fax : +351 218 442 202
Email : geral@dgadr.pt
Website : <http://www.dgadr.pt>

Special thanks and sincere appreciation to outgoing President Mr. Pedro Teixeira for his untiring support, guidance and

cooperation to PNCID and ICID activities during his tenure.

IRPID-IRN

Dr. Narges Zohrabi, Head, International Research Program for Irrigation and Drainage-Iran Regional Node (IRPID-IRN) has notified change in their email address. The new email ID is irpid.iran@icid.org. All NCs are requested to communicate as per the new email ID for future correspondences.

Events Corner

ICID Events

9th International Micro Irrigation Conference (9IMIC) on the theme 'Micro Irrigation in Modern Agriculture', 16-18 January 2019, Aurangabad, Maharashtra, India. For more info contact: Mr. Anuj Kanwal, Member Secretary, Indian National Committee on Surface Water (INCSW); Email: incsw-cwc@nic.in; 9imic@wapcos.co.in; Website: <http://micro-irrigation2019.com/>



70th IEC Meeting & 3rd World Irrigation Forum (WIF3) on the theme 'Development for water, food and nutrition security in a competitive environment', 1-7 September 2019, Bali, Indonesia. For more info contact: Ir. Adang Saf Ahmad, CES, President, INACID; Email: inacid.indonesia@gmail.com; adangsafa@yahoo.com; Website: <https://icid2019.com/>



5th African Regional Conference on Irrigation and Drainage (ARCID), 16-19 March 2020, Rabat, Morocco on the theme: Sustainable Management

of Irrigation for Improved Resilience of Agriculture in Africa. E-mail: bartali.h@gmail.com, anafide.ma@gmail.com; Website: <http://www.anafide.net/>



71st IEC Meeting & 24th ICID Congress, 22-24 September 2020, Sydney, Australia. For more info contact: Mr. Bryan Ward, Chief Executive Officer, Irrigation's Australia Limited (IAL) (Incorporating IACID); Email: Bryan.ward@irrigation.org.au; info@irrigation.org.au; Website: <http://www.icid2020.com.au>

Other Events

International Dam Safety Conference (IDSC) 2019, 13-14 February 2019, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India. For more details, please visit: <https://damsafety.in/idsc2019/>; Email: idsc-cwc@gov.in

4th Water Sensitive Cities Conference 2019: Delivering the transition to water sensitive cities: approaches, activities and achievements, 26-28 March 2019, Brisbane. For more details, please visit: <https://watersensitivecities.org.au/content/wsc-conference-2019/>

Water for Food Global Conference 2019 by Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute (DWFI), 29-30 April 2019, in Lincoln, Nebraska, USA on the theme: Water for a Hungry World: Innovation in Water and Food Security. For more details, please visit: <https://waterforfood.nebraska.edu/news-and-events>.

2019 Floodplain Management Australia National Conference: A National Call to Action: Making Australia Flood Safe, 14-17 May 2019, Canberra, Australia. For more details, please visit: <https://floodplainconference.com/>

ISMAR 10: International Symposium on Managed Aquifer Recharge, 20-24 May 2019, Madrid, Spain. For more details, please visit: <http://ismar10.net>; Email - info@ismar10.net

MinWat 2020: 3rd International Multidisciplinary Conference on Mineral Waters: Genesis, Exploitation, Protection, and Valorisation, 31 March-3 April 2020, Caserta, Italy. For more details, please visit: <http://www.iahitaly.it>; Email: segratario@iahitaly.it



ICID·CIID

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