

# News Update



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

International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage

FEBRUARY 2018

**From Secretary General's Desk...**



Dear Colleagues,

It gives me great pleasure in informing you that ICID is gearing up for the first major international event of 2018. The 8th edition of the World Water Forum (WWF8) which will take place from 18-23 March in Brasilia, Brazil. The Forum will hold more than 200 sessions and debates about themes related to water. ICID President, myself and several delegations of our member national committees will take part in this important event to highlight the issues related to irrigation and drainage.

One of the highlight of WWF8 is ICID and WWC will jointly recognize three World Water Systems of historical significance as World Water Systems Heritage (WSH). The systems have been selected by an international panel of judges from a total of eight nominations

received from various countries. Citation plaques and certificates will be presented in an exclusive session on World Water Systems. Water systems have a long and almost indefinite life, if they are maintained and managed well. Keeping in mind our limited working life spans, the well adopted management systems make impact across multiple generations of the beneficiaries. WSH celebrates this permanence of thoughts and concepts. I urge all National Committees (NCs) to send in nominations for this recognition of time-tested water governance systems as well as for WatSave Awards and Historical Irrigation Structures (HIS).

Being a member of the International Steering Committee of WASAG – The Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture – ICID will participate in an FAO-led session on water scarcity in agriculture and discuss ways to ensure future food security in an uncertain climate. WASAG serves as a collaborative platform for all in supporting countries and stakeholders in their commitments and plans related to the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

Water management forms the core of sustenance. Being a dynamic resource, the management is a continuous exercise. Simultaneously, being a temporally random resource, management policies have to evolve almost constantly. We need to keep on building our knowledge base in order

to leverage our past experiences into forming proactive policies for future sustainability. Therefore, ICID continues to play a key role through landmark events on water with the help of our NCs and Working Groups. We would like to expand our reach further and further.

ICID recognizes the centrality of the role of the Young Professionals in our activities as well as water sector, and accordingly ICID Young Professionals e-Forum (IYPeF) has kick started the year 2018 with a wide range of discussions on technical issues related to water management in agriculture. The outcomes of these deliberations will be made available through various ICID communication outlets.

We are also witnessing an improved cooperation among the various NCs which is a good sign. On the parting note, I am happy to report that Vietnam and Georgia have become the newest members of ICID family. More the merrier!

With Best Wishes,

**Ashwin B. Pandya**  
Secretary General

## Welcome Georgia: New member joins ICID family

ICID is proud to announce the joining of a new member national committee from Georgia to its expanding network. The Georgian National Committee (GEAMCID) nominated Mr. Archil Bukia as the President to actively engage in the activities of the committee and take forward ICID's vision. ICID fraternity is grateful to VP Dr. Irene Bondarik, RUCID for her vital role and efforts

to bring Georgia into ICID's fold. It is also thankful to Marine Egutia for her constant support during the course to facilitate Georgia's membership and further promote the mission of ICID.

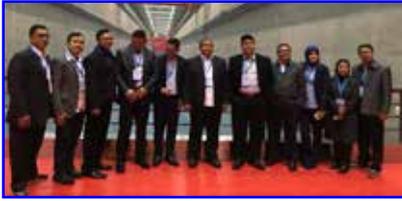
All NCs are requested to take note of the new contact details of GEAMCID:

**Mr. Archil Bukia**  
President

Georgian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage  
Georgian Amelioration Ltd.,  
Ministry of Agriculture,  
N6 Marshal Gelovani ave.,  
Tbilisi - 0159  
Tel: (+995 32) 2 00 10 00,  
Email: a.bukia@ag.ge, info@ag.ge



## CNCID holds bilateral exchange with Indonesia, Tajikistan



The Chinese National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (CNCID) received the visiting delegation from the Indonesia National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (INACID) headed by Perum Jasa Tirta II on 17 November 2017. During the visit both the national committees deliberated and exchanged latest developments on irrigation, drainage and flood control. In addition, CNCID arranged a visit for the Indonesian delegation to the Three Gorges Dam where they discussed

with the management their experiences related to flood control, power generation, navigation, environment protection and project operation. This is the third time CNCID and INACID organized an exchange activity under the framework of MoU for bilateral collaboration signed in 2013.

In another bilateral meeting, the delegation from Tajikistan National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (TAJCID) visited China from 17-23 December 2017. During the visit, discussions were held on agricultural water management, Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM), and water pricing reform activities. Both sides expressed interest in establishing a mechanism for future bilateral collaboration. The delegation visited the



manufacturing unit of M/s Dayu Water-Saving Group (a direct member of ICID), pilot facility of an agricultural project of China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research, and the Yellow River Irrigation System of Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region that is included in the ICID Register of Heritage Irrigation Structures 2017.



## VP Wahlin represents ICID at Water for Food International Forum



Vice President Dr. Brian Wahlin (USCID) represented ICID at the "Water for Food International Forum: Farmer-led Irrigated Agriculture, Seeds of opportunity" held on 29-30 January 2018 at the World Bank Conference Center in Washington, D.C. The conference was convened jointly by the Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute at the University of Nebraska in collaboration with the World Bank, USDA, and USAID.

The forum focused on improving water and food security and livelihoods for smallholders in developing countries by increasing and expanding sustainable

irrigated agriculture. It also highlighted opportunities and challenges in farmer-led Irrigation with an emphasis on Africa while including relevant global experiences.

The event convened national and international government organizations, academic institutions, NGOs, and private sector partners to strengthen existing initiatives and catalyze new partnerships and projects to advance the development of inclusive and sustainable farming systems in the developing world. Presenters, panelists, and participants, through case studies and success stories, explored technologies, financing mechanisms and policies needed to develop and support an enabling environment for enhanced irrigated agricultural systems.

In addition, high-level speakers shared their vision and commitment on working in cohesion with private and public

sectors and to expand access to irrigation through a farmer-led and private sector-driven approach. The Innovation Fair "Innovate to Irrigate" showcased some of the best practices being deployed in the field by top private firms, entrepreneurs, NGOs, and research institutions such as remote sensing solutions, mobile applications, geospatial technologies and agribusiness supply chain innovators, all under one roof.

The conference participants released a declaration of support for working collaboratively to ensure sustainable and inclusive water management for food security and livelihoods through improved farmer-driven systems. Additionally, the outputs will include a summary report and contribution to the High-Level Panel on "Water for Food" during the 8th World Water Forum in Brasilia, Brazil to be held in March 2018.



## World Water Systems Heritage (WSH) Program

ICID and the World Water Council (WWC) approved the World Water System Heritage (WSH) Program that aims at identifying and preserving the people-centred water management systems, organizations, regimes and rules

as intangible water heritage considered to be of outstanding value to humanity and giving them recognition.

ICID put forth the idea of recognizing WSH at the 50th Board of Governors

(BoG) meeting of World Water Council (WWC) in Budapest, Hungary in October 2013. The proposal was developed by a Task Force set up by President WWC and chaired by President ICID, wherein a number of members of

WWC participated. During the 58th BoG meeting of WWC held in India on 17-18 March 2016, the program was approved in principle and was launched in November 2016 at Marseilles, during the 20th Anniversary Celebrations of WWC.

The International Committee (IC), based on the recommendations of an International Panel of six judges has approved to confer recognition to

the following three (out of a total of 8 nominations) as the World Water System Heritage:

- A Partnered Management and Restoration System of the Genbegawa Irrigation Canal (Japan)
- Sekikawa Suikei Land Improvement District and the Levy Reduction/Exemption System Applied to Kyakusui Area (Japan)
- Sheikh Bahaei Water Share Scroll (Iran)

The three recognized water systems will be presented citation plaques and certificates in a dedicated event on 19th March 2018 at WWC Pavilion during the opening day of the 8th World Water Forum 2018 in Brazil.

For more info, kindly visit: [http://www.icid.org/wsh\\_icid.html](http://www.icid.org/wsh_icid.html)



## India hosts International Dam Safety Conference 2018



The International Dam Safety Conference 2018 was held on 23-24 January in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. The two-day conference was organized by the Central Water Commission (CWC) in association with the Kerala Water Resources Department (KWRD), Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB), National Institute of Technology, Calicut (NITC), and College of Engineering, Trivandrum (CET).

The conference, held as an annual event since 2015, was fourth in the series and organized under the aegis of the ongoing Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) funded by the World Bank. It brought together dam professionals and experts in various inter-related disciplines, academicians, scientists, as well as industries within India and around the world to discuss, reflect and share technology in addressing dam safety issues and

strategies to address them.

Kerala state Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated the event and was presided over by Union Minister of State for Water Resources Arjun Ram Meghwal. Mr. Meghwal stressed that the country needs larger dams to increase water storage capacity to meet demands of burgeoning population, economic growth and sustainable development. He emphasized there is also an urgent need to safeguard each and every dam.

The themes for various sessions included Sustainable Dam Safety Initiatives; Uncertainties and Risk Management in Dams; Operation, Maintenance, Rehabilitation, and Upgrading of existing dams; Dam Safety Management Practices; and Integrated Flood Management for existing dams.

ICID Secretary General A.B Pandya during the plenary session expressed his views on the 'Challenges in Dam Safety Management in India' and ways to address them as that is needed to safeguard lives and property and to continue the benefits derived from them for national development. He emphasized on bringing greater awareness on dam safety issues and

implementing novel solutions to address them by pooling the best technologies, knowledge and experience from around the world.

As many as 550 delegates from over 20 countries, including the US, Switzerland, Spain and Australia, took part in the conference. Over 140 technical papers were presented on several aspects of dam safety including case studies.

Seven dam manuals developed under DRIP were released for implementation during the conference. A software programme - Dam Health and Rehabilitation Monitoring Application (DHARMA) – to document authentic asset and health information pertaining to the large dams in the country was also launched. DHARMA is a web tool that will help dam owners to digitise all dam-related data effectively, store, monitor and take appropriate actions to ensure need-based rehabilitation. During the exhibition about 30 national and international organisations showcased contemporary developments in technology, materials, instrumentation and their application in addressing dam safety issues.



### Workshop on Value Engineering in Iran

Dr. Kamran Emami will organize a training workshop on Value Engineering (VE) for a team of young professionals (YPs) from the Institute for Technology and Resources Management in the Tropics and Subtropics, Cologne University of Applied sciences. The VE workshop organized by Dr. Emami during the 23rd ICID Congress in Mexico City exposed to young minds the importance of VE in today's world and further familiarized them

with the history, concept, and applications of VE in irrigation, drainage and flood projects and techniques to increase benefits, reduce cost and ensure sustainable irrigated agriculture. The YPs will be a part of ten-day excursion visit to Iran from 7-16 March 2018 and plan to see some of the traditional water systems and also simultaneously learn from the ongoing projects as Iran carves out a new path towards efficient management of its limited water resources.

During their study visit, YPs expect to learn the stepwise implementation of water projects

in Iran and assimilate knowledge related to the systematic and structured approach that VE uses through problem-solving activities focusing on improving the value of the functions that are required to accomplish the goals and objectives of water resources management.

Moreover, it will help them understand the importance of VE in water resources projects and the different applications of Value Methodology i.e., Value Engineering, Value Analysis, Value Planning, Value Management and Value Engineering Change Proposal.

## 5th WASAG ISC Meeting

Dr. Marco Arcieri, Secretary General (ITAL-ICID) and Dr. Sahdev Singh, Director (Knowledge Management), ICID participated in the 5th WASAG Interim Steering Committee (ISC) virtual meeting on 5 February 2018.

The ISC was further apprised that ICID President Felix B. Reinders, Secretary General A.B. Pandya, Dr. Arcieri (ITAL-ICID), and representatives from several national committees will be participating in the forthcoming 8th World Water

Forum 2018 in Brazil including its side events. WASAG informed that it will be organizing a special session on Water Scarcity during WWF8 including a High-Level Panel Meeting on (a) Water for Food, (b) Water and Migration; and (c) Source to Sea.

ICID which is leading the WASAG Working Group (WG) on communication strategy in collaboration with IWMI, GWP and WASAG Support Team informed about the under-preparation

ICID Working Paper on Communication for Agricultural Water Management. The ISC members gave an update on the working plan of the various WASAG WGs (Drought Preparedness, Financial Mechanisms, Water and Migration, Water and Nutrition; and Sustainable Agriculture Water Use) and discussed the next course of action. Additionally, the result of the WASAG Logo Competition was announced along with the selection of the logo design.



## Virtual Meetings

### SC-E-THEMES Meeting

The Virtual Meeting (1/2018) of the Sub-Committee on Themes, Topics and Work Plans of future ICID Events (SC-E-THEMES) was held on 29 January 2018. PH Dr. Gao Zhanyi chaired the meeting which was attended by VP Dr. Ding Kunlun, Mr. Ali Reza Salamat, Mr. Franklin E. Dimick, VP Ian W. Makin, VP Bong Hoon Lee, VP Waseem Nazir and Secretary General A.B. Pandya.



The Sub-Committee has been reconstituted with a revised mandate in accordance with the decisions at the 68th IEC meeting in Mexico City and the subsequent 6th virtual meeting of the Management Board (MB 6/17). The meeting aimed (i) To work out the structure of meetings related to IEC, particularly the WGs at the ICID Annual Events, to make them more effective; and (ii) To draw guidelines to make the WG meetings/sessions technically richer and beneficial to the stakeholders and industries by exploring ways to combine the meeting of workbodies with areas of common interest or holding webinars, etc. and to come up with suitable recommendations for the upcoming 69th IEC meeting in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada from 12-17 August 2018.

### 1st WG-SDTA Meeting

The First Virtual Meeting (1/2018) of the Working Group on Sustainable Development of Tidal Areas (WG-SDTA) was held on 29 January 2018. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Ruey-Chy Kao and attended by Henk P. Ritzema,



Budi Santoso Wignyosukarto, Zhang Zhanyu, Hj Nor Hisham bin Mohd Ghazali and Paavan Kumar Reddy as young professional member. Dr. Kao welcomed the participants and made a presentation on the role of WG-SDTA to meet the objectives of ICID Vision 2030. The meeting aimed to proceed and evolve the activity plan for 2018 and discussed matters pertaining to new mandate of the WG (2017-2022), steps to execute the activities on SDTA as per the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030, latest updates on the special issue of ICID Journal on SDTA and updating the Multilingual Technical Dictionary (MTD). The meeting further discussed the dissemination activities of the WG through web-based seminars/e-discussions with possible topics and contents based on the mandate of the WG. It was decided that members from Korea, Japan, China and Chinese Taipei will lead the activities.



## Training of Young Professionals in China

ICID in association with the Chinese National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (CNCID) and support from the Korean National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (KCID) is organizing a five-day YP training programme to hone the skills of the budding young professionals on the theme **“Performance Assessment of Irrigation Systems”** from **9-13 April 2018** at China Hall of Science and Technology in Beijing, China.

The main focus of the training program will be on physical, institutional, organizational and participatory management aspects of the irrigation systems including a one-day field visit (13 April 2018). In addition, CNCID is also organizing a 2-day workshop entitled **“Innovations of Irrigation Technology”** from 14-15 April 2018.

The NCs were requested to nominate Young Professionals (YPs) from institutions involved in agriculture water management (AWM) from Asian region to attend the program. ICID on its part will be sponsoring ten YPs to attend the training program.

In addition, the training program will provide an opportunity to YPs with broad understanding on various topics by international speakers, who will share their experience on the subject such as the need for a framework, performance indicators, techniques and tools for performance assessment, modernization, and management of irrigation systems etc.

ICID as part of its capacity development program and to attract young minds to AWM sector has been organizing training programs for YPs regionally. The previous training program for YPs was organized in Egypt, Africa in April 2016.

### Basin Futures Technical Advisory Board Meeting



ICID and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Organization (CSIRO), Australia recently signed an LoA on collaboration for the web-based capacity development and planning online tool 'Basin Futures' (developed by CSIRO) that helps create various development scenarios in a river basin, particularly with scarce data availability.

The first virtual meeting of the Technical Advisory Board of Basin Futures was held on 18 January 2018. The attendees included board members- Secretary General A.B Pandya and Executive Director Harish Varma (ICID); Ian Prosser; Peter Wallbrink; Neil Byron and Tony Weber. The project team was represented by Amit Parashar, Carmel Pollino, and Peter Taylor. Mr. Wallbrink began the meeting with introductory remarks followed by agreement on the terms of reference by the Board. Mr. Parashar gave an update about the project to the team members and outlined its priorities to further promote the scientific cooperation.

ICID which is on the technical advisory board of the project discussed

opportunities for presenting Basin Futures during the 8th Asian Regional Conference in Nepal from 16-18 May 2018 with a potential for training around 25 young water sector professionals from Asia. It also proposed for a capacity development programme for the upcoming young professionals training in Beijing, China from 9-13 April 2018. The technical advisory board charter is to support the development team until Version 1 of the software is released. The Beta is scheduled to be released in February 2018 and if the beta trail goes well, the aim is to release Version 1 in August 2018.



### IYPeF First E-discussion: Use of Groundwater for Sustainable Agriculture

To encourage and intensify the active participation of Young Professionals in ICID activities in the domain of irrigation, drainage and flood management, the ICID Young Professional's e-Forum (IYPeF) has finalized five e-discussions for 2018 (mentioned below) with a specific focus on the theme "Innovative

and Sustainable Agri-water Management: Adapting to a Variable and Changing Climate" for the forthcoming 69th IEC Meeting in Canada 2018.

The first e-discussion on 'Use of Groundwater for Sustainable Agriculture' was launched on IYPeF from 15-31 January 2018. Ms. Eman Ragab

contributed as the IYPeF lead coordinator during the discussion. Prof. Dr. Ahmed R. Khater participated as mentor and steered the discussion with his valuable inputs pertaining to the subject matter to make it more informative, insightful and enriching.

IYPeF E-discussions Schedule — January to May 2018			
No	Topic	IYPeF Coordinator	Schedule
1	The use of Groundwater for Sustainable Agriculture	Ms. Eman Ragab	15 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
2	On-farm efficiency for small scale farming	Mr. Rafat Nael	15 <sup>th</sup> February 2018
3	Policy Options for Enhancing Food Security	Ms. Adey Mersha	15 <sup>th</sup> March 2018
4	Climate Change Impacts on Irrigation & Drainage	Mr. M. Shoaib Saboory	15 <sup>th</sup> April 2018
5	Farmer led Innovation for water efficiency, shared global success stories	Ms. Kathleen Heuvel	15 <sup>th</sup> May 2018
<b>For more details, kindly visit: <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/groups/6990321">https://www.linkedin.com/groups/6990321</a></b>			

The objective of the discussion was to (a) Get an insight into the growing importance and challenges of using groundwater in irrigated agriculture; (b) Discuss the need for putting in place policies, schemes and measures that would help in promoting sustainable agriculture and avoid over exploitation of groundwater; and (c) Highlight the

views of young professionals with regard to groundwater, its sustainable use and potential solutions for avoiding irreversible damage to groundwater.

The YPs actively participated in the discussion and expressed their views on various aspects of the topic. The detailed discussion can be accessed at <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/6990321>.

The next e-discussion on "On-farm efficiency for small scale farming" is scheduled from 15-28 February 2018 and will be led by Mr. Rafat Nael as discussion coordinator. YPs are requested to actively participate in these discussions.



## Visitors to ICID Central Office

### Meeting with DPRK Embassy officials

Mr. Pang Si On, Counsellor and Mr. Jong Yong Ryong, Third Secretary from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) Embassy in India visited



ICID Central office on 25 January 2018 and met Secretary General A.B. Pandya to have a discussion regarding cooperation and support from ICID for capacity development of irrigation and agriculture staff of DPRK through training programmes, country visits, participation in international events, etc. ICID, being a non-political international organization, explored the possibility to provide necessary support in arranging training of DPRK professionals in different areas related to agriculture and irrigation by deputing Indian and International experts for short duration to provide training, sharing information on ICID and other

international events and also facilitate participation of DPRK experts in such events.

It was agreed that DPRK Embassy will share a proposal regarding the cooperation and support needed from ICID for capacity development program. Besides, DPRK will also consider to become member of ICID for which ICID will explore possibility for initial financial support.

### SG's meeting with GWSC Organizing Committee Chair and Member

Prof. Indrajeet Chaubey (GWSC organizing committee Chair); Prof. Gajendra Singh (local focal point for GWSC); Dr. Indramani, (ICAR Representative) and Dr. Manoj Khanna, FHLOSU-IARI-ICAR visited ICID Central Office on 17 January 2018 and met Secretary General A.B. Pandya and other ICID officials. During the meeting, they apprised ICID with the ongoing preparations for the forthcoming 'Global Water Security for Agriculture and Natural Resources' (GWSC) conference slated for October 2018 in Hyderabad, India. They also informed about their on-going discussions with VP Dr. Yella



Reddy, who is based at Hyderabad. GWSC organizing committee will approach ICID officially through an invitation letter and thereafter ICID would inform the working groups and NCs. The "Call for Papers" has been announced on the official website of the conference ([www.asabewater.org](http://www.asabewater.org)) and interested professionals are requested to submit abstracts of technical and research papers for presentation in the event before 15 March 2018. As a technical partner, ICID would also give suggestions for potential structure and content for various technical sessions and also organize a special session in which relevant papers will be presented pertaining to agricultural water management. For larger dissemination and publicity, ICID, on its part, would continue to publicize the conference through its electronic publications.



### Online Course on

## Sustainable Energy for Small Island Developing States

The Centre of Excellence (COE), a UNDP initiative based in Aruba, in collaboration with Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, and the Hamburg Open Online University is offering a unique free online course on "Sustainable Energy for SIDS" with an aim to reach out to policy-makers in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) all over the world.

The five-week interdisciplinary course (5 Feb-11 Mar 2018) aims to address energy access, security and efficiency in SIDS. It is designed for everyone including young professionals having masters in related disciplines (e.g., policy or development economics) but specifically targeted at SIDS energy policy-makers on strategic

and operational levels, seeking to grasp the interdisciplinary nature of the topic.

Over the period the online course will draw concrete experiences from the Caribbean, the Pacific and the Indian Ocean region and through practical examples will illustrate how policy making can improve energy access, energy security, and energy efficiency in small island states. This will enable the learners to think carefully and critically about SIDS' current energy regimes and related energy policies. At the same time, a number of qualified facilitators and tutors will accompany the learners along the way, to clarify any open issues and provide guidance.

The online course material is Open Educational Resources (OER), and may be re-used, distributed, and amended by learners and instructors alike, allowing further creative development and maximum utilization in other universities and teaching institutions all over the world. Besides, all are encouraged to interact and collaborate with fellow learners to form a truly global SIDS learning community.

The learners can explore more on the topic in the interactive learning platform "Digital Learning for Sustainable Development" accessible at <http://www.SE4SIDS.ORG>.



## International Water Law training in Africa



The Global Water Partnership (GWP) in collaboration with Makerere University (Uganda), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), African Network for Basin Organizations (ANBO), WaterNet and the Geneva

Water Hub is organizing a training on “Water Governance and International Water Law (IWL)” from 25-27 June 2018 in Kampala, Uganda. The regional training is aimed at strengthening the capacities of institutions and basin organizations in Africa to improve transboundary water resources management through knowledge and skills necessary for promoting cooperation among countries.

The training is aimed at mid- to-high-level practitioners and professionals from river basin organizations and governments who have a role in negotiating, drafting or reforming treaties

and legislations, planning, and making decisions affecting transboundary waters.

Applicants having background in Hydrology, Environmental Science, Earth Sciences, Law, Agriculture, International Relations, or a related field are eligible to apply. The training has been designed to accommodate up to 40 people with funding available for 20 Africa-based participants. Application deadline is 2 March 2018.

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



### Call for Papers for Forthcoming ICID Events!!

#### 8th Asian Regional Conference, Kathmandu, Nepal, 2-4 May 2018

##### 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:

Notification acceptance (oral/paper) for presentation: **1 March 2018**

For more info, kindly visit- <http://nencid.org.np/> and <http://nencid.org.np/8th-annual-regional-conference/>

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

**12–17 August 2018**

**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.

**Call for Abstracts Open:** Abstracts are invited on the topics specified within the sub-themes for the International Conference 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.

- Deadline for extended abstract submission: **24 April 2018**
- Abstract decision and revisions/instructions sent to authors: **24 May 2018**
- Deadline for final extended abstracts submission: **24 June 2018**

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

#### 9th International Micro Irrigation Conference, Aurangabad, Maharashtra, India, 16-18 January 2019

**THEME:** 'Micro Irrigation in Modern Agriculture'

**SUB-THEMES:** (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.

##### Call for Papers

Entries invited for papers on the topics specified within the sub-themes for the conference. The entire process of submission of a synopsis/paper and approval for the same is online.

##### Important Dates

- Last date for Synopsis/ Abstract Submission – **30 June 2018**
- Communication on approved Synopsis/ Abstract – **31 July 2018**
- Submission of Full-length paper – **30 September 2018**
- Acceptance of Full-length paper – **31 October 2018**

For more info download brochure available at: [http://www.icid.org/9imic\\_aurangabad.pdf](http://www.icid.org/9imic_aurangabad.pdf)

## News Buzz: ICID National Committees

### Iran (IRNCID)

The Iranian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IRNCID) organized a specialized meeting on "Investigating factors affecting the amount of penetration of irrigation water and groundwater aquifers recharge" on 25



October 2017 which was attended by more than 60 university professors, representatives of public and private sectors and other experts in the field. During the opening session Mr. Ehsani, Secretary General, IRNCID commented on the technical and management perspectives of FAO and ICID on the implications of irrigation losses and irrigation efficiency, which caused widespread changes in the policy of water management. Dr. Hamed Ebrahimiyan explained the basic concepts of irrigation water deep penetrating and groundwater recharging, estimation methods and domestic and international experience on the effects of irrigation on groundwater recharge. Mr. Lotfollah Ziaei demonstrated his research experience in Zayandeh Rud basin regarding the correct calculation of water return in irrigation and increasing effect on the basin level. Dr. Hossein Dehghani urged the audience to answer six fundamental questions related to the subject. Thereafter, participants in the meeting expressed their technical point of view from different perspectives.

A workshop on "Operating instructions regarding the design and better implementation of irrigation and drainage" was organized on 12 December 2017 and attended by irrigation and drainage network operation and management experts. During the workshop irrigation canals and hydraulic structures operation deficiencies in water scarcity conditions were discussed and

debated. In addition, operation limitations and improvement solutions on existing issues were compiled. Further, it deliberated on operational experiences and ways to regulate and distribute water during scarcity.

### Bangladesh (BANCID)

Md. Mahfuzur Rahman has assumed charge as Director General of Bangladesh Water Development Board as well as Chairman of BANCID w.e.f 11 January 2018. BANCID has been an active member of ICID since 1973. ICID looks forward to their active nodal role and participation in its activities. All NCs are requested to take note of the new contact details:



Mr. Md. Mahfuzur Rahman, Director General, Bangladesh Water Development Board and Chairman, BANCID, Tel: +88029552194 +880295646 65, Fax: +88029564763, Website: www.bwdb.gov.bd

### Thailand (THAICID)

Thai National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (THAICID) is pleased to inform that Dr. Thongplew Kongjun has been appointed as the Director General of the Royal Irrigation Department and President of THAICID. All NCs are requested to take note of the new contact details:

Dr. Thongplew Kongjun, President of THAICID, Director General of Royal Irrigation Department, THAICID Secretariat, Thai National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (THAICID), 811 Samsen Road, Thanon-NakornchaiSri, Dusit Bangkok 10300, Mob: +66 81 936 7381, Tel: +66 2241 0065, Fax: +662 241 3026, Email: tkongjun3535@gmail.com, Website: http://www.rid.go.th/Thaicid

Special thanks to outgoing President Dr. Somkiat Prajamwong for his valuable contribution and guidance to the national committee during his tenure.

## Opportunity at Indian Institute of Technology (Roorkee), India

The Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee (IIT-R) invites applications from Indian Nationals (foreign nationals can be appointed on contract of five years) with outstanding track record for faculty positions at the level of Assistant Professor. IIT-R ranks among the best technological institutions in the world and has contributed to all sectors of technological development. It has also been considered a trend-setter in the area of education and research in the field of science, technology, and engineering. Interested candidates may apply through online application submission system on <https://www.iitr.ac.in/administration/pages/Openings+Faculty.html>

## Events Corner

### ICID Events

**8th Asian Regional Conference on the theme 'Irrigation in Support of an Evergreen Revolution', 2-4 May 2018, Kathmandu, Nepal.** Contact: Mr. Bashu Dev Lohane, Secretary, Nepal National Committee, ICID (NENCID), Deputy Director General, Department of Irrigation; For details <http://nencid.org.np/>

**69th International Executive Council Meeting & International Conference, 12-17 August 2018, Saskatoon, Canada.** For more details visit: <http://www.icid2018.org>

**9th International Micro Irrigation Conference (IMIC), 16-18 January 2019, Aurangabad, Maharashtra, India.** For details visit: <http://www.cwc.gov.in/incsw/>

**70th IEC Meeting & 3rd World Irrigation Forum (WIF3), 1-7 September 2019, Bali, Indonesia.** For details visit: <http://www.icid2019.org/>

### Other Events

**Irrigation Australia International Conference and Exhibition, 13-15 June 2018 in Sydney, Australia.** For details visit: <http://iaice.com.au/conference>

**Global Water Security for Agriculture and Natural Resources (GWSAN): An ASABE Global Initiative Conference, 3-6 October 2018, Hyderabad, India.** For details visit: <http://www.asabewater.org/>



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