

News Update

APRIL 2019

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



ICID•CIID

From Secretary General's Desk...

Dear Colleagues,

For quite some time, ICID stakeholders have been contemplating and debating the formation and establishment of an Independent Service



Unit (ISU) at the Central Office with an aim to support ICID's core mandate by expanding the reach of ICID through such a unit to various untapped capacity development opportunities from bilateral and multi-lateral agencies. ISU in its present conception would be a financially independent arm (of ICID) to provide consultancy and training programs in ICID's core strengths to various governments utilizing the professional resources available within the ICID Network.

The main idea is to make available the expertise of ICID Network to policy development and field projects through an efficient matching mechanism without

altering the ICID mandate. In this regard, ICID Central Office is organizing a group of virtual (WebEx) meetings with the NCs and Direct Members to introduce the concept of ISU and its activities for achieving ICID Vision 2030. All members are requested to actively participate in such virtual meetings for providing their valuable feedback on the Draft Project Report on ISU and are also requested to fill in the circulated Questionnaire in consultation with their local stakeholders and the institutions from wherein the national experts would be considered for ISU activities.

As you all know, the World Water Day (WWD) is celebrated every year on 22 March to focus attention on the importance of freshwater and advocate for the sustainable management of freshwater resources. The theme for WWD 2019 was "Water for All - Leaving no one behind." We are pleased to share that all the NCs actively participated in WWD celebrations by organizing special events. ICID Central Office joined the WWD celebrations organized by the Indian National Committee (INCSW) based in New Delhi, India.

To take stock of the arrangements for the upcoming 3rd World Irrigation Forum (WIF3) and 70th IEC Meeting to be held in September later this year in Bali, Indonesia, the 2nd preparatory meeting between ICID and INACID Officials was held on 15 March 2019 in Jakarta, Indonesia. INACID Management Team arranged a wonderful visit to the venue of WIF3 and I am glad to inform that all the arrangements have been excellently made for the delegates' participation with an array of cultural and outdoor activities for the accompanying persons. The online registration is now active and I request all the prospective delegates to reserve their spot today by availing Early Bird discount.

I look forward to seeing you all in Bali in a few months' time...!

Best Wishes,

Ashwin B. Pandya
Secretary General

Highlights of the Issue

- World Water Day 2019 promotes 'Water for All - Leaving no one behind'
- Upcoming Virtual Meetings with ICID National Committees and Direct Members for Establishment of Independent Service Unit | 17-18 April 2019
- 2nd Preparatory Meeting held between ICID and INACID in Jakarta, Indonesia | 15 March 2019
- IYPeF Third e-Discussion held on Soil conditions to ensure sustainable agriculture and coping with climate change | 15-31 March 2019
- 6th India Water Week 2019 on the theme 'Water Cooperation - Coping with 21st Century Challenges' | 24-28 September 2019
- Early Bird discounted registrations now open >> Landscape Irrigation Conference and Exhibition, Queensland Australia | 18-20 June 2019
- Nominations are Now Open >> 2019 ICID WatSave Awards and Recognition of World Heritage Irrigation Structures (WHIS) | Last date to apply 30 June 2019

ICID, INACID hold 2nd Preparatory Meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia

The 2nd preparatory meeting between ICID and INACID Officials was held on 15 March 2019 in Jakarta, Indonesia as a follow-up action plan for the upcoming 3rd World Irrigation Forum (WIF3) & 70th IEC Meeting to be held in Bali, Indonesia (1-7 September 2019). The meeting was attended by the members of the Indonesian National Committee (INACID) including Ir. Adang Saf Ahmad, President, INACID, Dr. Ir. Mochammad Amron, Dr. Mohamad Hasan, Ir. Iwan Nursyirwan, Ir. Muhamad Arsyadi, Ir. Mochamad Mazid, Mr. Syaiful Mahdi, Ir. Agung Djuhartono, Ir. Trisasongko Widiyanto, Ir. Eko Subekti, Ir. Muradi R, Mr. Dendy Triandi, Ms. Yanti Ermawati, Mr. Ivan M Sburian, Mr. Bayu Chozali, Mr. Sekar Adjena, Usman, Mr. Renony Aslan and Ir. (Ms) Nita Yuliaty. Secretary General Ashwin Pandya and Executive Director Harish Kumar Varma from ICID Central Office participated in the meeting.

At the outset, President Ahmad and SG Pandya welcomed all the participants followed by a brief introduction and then proceeded to discuss the agenda items in detail. The meeting gave a brief overview and further firmed up the action plan for improving the contents of WIF3 website, exhibition plan layout, streamlining 2019 ICID WatSave Awards and WID prize, organizing supporting events, preparation of Sub-theme wise background papers, providing update on International Workshops, Session Officers: Chairs, Vice-Chairs, Secretaries/Rapporteurs, HLAG (Ministerial/Senior Officers) and Farmers Roundtables and setting up of organizing committee for logistical support. The revised and updated program for WIF3 and 70th IEC meeting prepared and shared by INACID was further reviewed and discussed. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to all the members.

Safe water for all – Leaving no one behind

World Water Day 2019

For most of us, accessing water is as simple as turning the taps on in our kitchens and toilets. But for a large number of the world's population, access



to clean and safe water still remains a major challenge. Access to water is an internationally recognized human right, yet three out of ten people have no access to safe drinking water and even less to sanitation facilities. To make it worse, when water is not available at home, the burden of collecting, storing, and managing it usually falls on women and girls in most families around the world. In fact, globally women spend up to 200 million hours every day collecting water.

What is safe water?

When we talk about access to clean water, we often think only about the availability of water. Availability means how much water is physically available, how it is stored, managed and allocated to users. However, this is only the first

step: If water is available, it must be made accessible (delivered via e.g. water pipes or wells) and appropriately treated, i.e. cleaned and disinfected. In addition, there is a functioning sanitary system that meets the hygienic requirements.



On 22 March, hundreds of events across the globe celebrated the 27th annual World Water Day - a day about tackling the global water crisis in households, schools, workplaces and farms. This year's World Water Day on the theme 'Water for All- Leaving no one behind' focused on the reasons why so many people are being left behind. Sustainable Development Goal 6 says it clearly: water for all by 2030. But today, billions of people are still living without safe water, in particular marginalised groups – women, children, refugees, indigenous peoples, disabled people and many others. Gender, age, state of health or origin play an important role coupled with distortions in policies, planning and management structures denying millions access to safe water.

Download the World Water Day 2019

Factsheet available @ <https://www.worldwaterday.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/WWD2019_factsheet_EN_vs4_29Jan2019.pdf>

Water woes >> Did You Know?

- 2.1 billion people live without safe water at home.
- More than 700 children under five years of age die every day from diarrhoea linked to unsafe water and poor sanitation.
- Globally, 80% of the people who have to use unsafe and unprotected water sources live in rural areas.
- Around four billion people – that is, nearly two-thirds of the world's population – experience severe water scarcity during at least one month of the year.
- 700 million people worldwide could be displaced by intense water scarcity by 2030.
- For the 68.5 million people who have been forced to flee their homes, accessing safe water services is highly problematic.

Water Thought: The only alternative to Water is Water...

More information on WWD 2019 available @ <http://www.worldwaterday.org>



Water is the defining issue of our age

Secretary General A.B. Pandya, ICID

Water is the driving force of all nature, but it is a finite and random resource. The present-day world provides ample examples of social, political, economic, and environmental degradation that serve as a warning that water usage has its natural limits. Climate change and population growth are making the world's water woes more urgent. Agriculture places significant pressure on the world's fresh water, accounting for nearly 70% of all water withdrawals. And to top it, billions of people around the world do not enjoy the basic privilege of safe water at home, let alone sanitation.

Most of the world's water systems that keep the ecosystems thriving and feed a growing human population are under severe stress. Water scarcity (excess demand of water over the supply) is one of the greatest challenges of our time. Creating a water-secure world for

the planet's 7.5 billion people will be a herculean mission, aggravated by the trials of climate change. And, we simply can't grow the food we need, if we don't have enough water. The pertinent question still remains how to manage water resources to leave no one behind!

The corrective measures that we need to take are not only in the areas of storage, but also in efficiency in managing supply, demand and use. Groundwater is the world's largest source of liquid freshwater. But it is poorly understood and dramatically overexploited. Roughly 2 billion people rely on groundwater as a primary source of drinking water and nearly half the water used to irrigate crops comes from underground.

Despite this dependence, too little is known about the quality and quantity of groundwater that is available. That ignorance has led, in many cases, to overuse, and many aquifers in the

world's breadbasket countries are being depleted. The goal seems elusive unless a holistic policy of replacing groundwater dependence by surface water sources of an equal or better reliability with simultaneous promotion of micro-irrigation methods (drip and sprinkler) and rainwater harvesting are put in place. Traditional water management practices could also serve as potential solutions to current water woes. However, to make them relevant with the present times, so as to not make them disappear; a hybrid of modern and traditional systems is the way forward. Being a part of common pool resources, the entire society has to work together to achieve these goals and make them standard practices.

ICID embraces the importance of this year's theme – Leaving no one behind – which embodies the spirit of Sustainable Development Goal 6 of ensuring 'access to safe water and sanitation' for all. Towards contributing to our common

endeavour to achieve ICID Vision 2030 “A water secure world free of poverty and hunger” our mandate over the years has shapeshifted towards integrated water resources management as a lasting approach to shorten the path towards sustainable development. Integrated water management plan is required for health, environment and sustainable economic development.

Adaptation to a changing climate means investing in more resilient water infrastructure, from urban drainage to water storage. ICID as a multi-country professional group is committed to improving the status of agricultural water management (AWM) and water governance through its various Working

Groups and exploring avenues such as facilitating research and technology, raising awareness and water stewardship through knowledge exchange and dissemination. From time to time we are leveraging new knowledge to help develop and promote better policies and practices. Our eyes are constantly on improving the global food supply and enhancing food security at the global and national levels by encouraging public-private partnerships in water resource development and management.

To this end, ICID is organizing events and activities with the active participation of hydrology experts, irrigation managers, policy-makers, extension community, young professionals, farmers and other

relevant stakeholders to join in our efforts and inspire change.

These events focus on the sustainability of irrigation where international and national experts participate and discuss strategies to combat global water and food security issues. ICID believes this approach will serve as gateway of knowledge sharing, open dialogue of information, build capacities, resulting into cross learning on new developments in water sector and encourage better worldwide participation of water experts in the formulation of a transparent water governance system, echoing the urgent necessity to rapidly safeguard the ‘elixir of life’...WATER.



VP Arcieri participates in First WASAG International Forum on Water Scarcity in Agriculture

VP Dr. Marco Arcieri, Secretary General (ITAL-ICID) participated in the First International Forum on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG) organized under the



patronage of the Government of Cabo Verde, in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Ministry of Agricultural Food, Forestry and Tourism Policies of Italy (MIPAAFT) and the Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG) from 19-22 March 2019 in Praia, Cabo Verde, West Africa.

The Forum which coincided with the celebration of the World Water Day 2019 aimed at identifying concrete - practical, innovative and collaborative - solutions to address water scarcity in agriculture in a changing climate. With a focus on Cabo Verde, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and West African countries, the Forum illustrated how water scarcity in agriculture can be addressed and turned into an opportunity for sustainable development, ensuring food and nutrition security. During the forum six key focus areas were covered: water and migration, water and nutrition, saline agriculture, sustainable agricultural water use, drought preparedness and financial mechanisms.

The Forum with active participation from WASAG partners and stakeholders including ICID concluded with the

adoption of “The Praia Commitment” and is now available online <<http://www.fao.org/land-water/events/ws-forum/prai-commitment/en/>> with a set of 17 commitments that will guide the work of WASAG in the future. Further, the participants with a collective responsibility to deliver on the 17 Praia commitments called on countries and their stakeholders worldwide to urgently adapt their agricultural and food systems and to mitigate the impacts of water scarcity and climate change so as to improve global food and water security. A special celebration took place on the final day of the Forum with the launch of the 2019 World Water Development Report entitled “Leaving no one behind,” for which FAO has contributed an important chapter on rural poverty.



Water is a women’s topic: Monika Weber-Fahr, Executive Secretary, GWP

To mark International Women’s Day 2019, Global Water Partnership (GWP) joined the global campaign #BalanceforBetter, which is all about building a gender-balanced world, with the theme #BalanceforBetter in water management. From International Women’s Day (8 March) to World Water Day (22 March), GWP highlighted the need for inclusion in water management resonating with the UN-Water World Water Day theme of ‘Leaving no one behind.’



“Water is a women’s topic. And that’s not

only because millions of women spend many hours every day collecting water and bringing water home and using it for washing, cooking or using water when the health and education of their children is at stake, or when they need it for building their businesses,” GWP’s Executive Secretary Monika Weber-Fahr said.

“Women in many places and decision-making situations have often been known to take a better and a more holistic view of things; a view that integrates and brings different perspectives to the fore. In our work plan for the coming five years we will have targets for engaging women, specifically in the programmes that we do, making sure there is equal

access to decision-making and benefits. Equal access to the water sector is an important target for us and for our work and for the teams and partners that we work with,” Weber-Fahr added. Watch Video > <https://youtu.be/My6J82UUKQo>

International Women’s Day’s #BalanceforBetter campaign runs all year long and doesn’t end after 8 March – and everybody can join in and contribute to the global campaign; find out more on the dedicated website <<https://www.gwp.org/en/About/more/news/2019/balanceforbetter-in-water-management-gwp-joins-international-womens-day-campaign/>>



Women for Water

A side event of Water for Food Global Conference

+JOIN US | 1 May 2019; 8:30 am – 2:00 pm

All are cordially invited to join the inaugural gathering – ‘Women for Water’, a side event of the Water for Food Global Conference (29-30 April 2019). Join women from across Nebraska and the world to explore unique contributions to ensuring abundant, clean water for future generations. Hear from leaders in policy, culture, science and engineering and connect with other water leaders who are passionate about improving gender participation for water productivity and quality in Nebraska and around the world..!!

To register, please visit: <https://web.cvent.com/event/dd6ad123-a641-49ec-8b51-02f7d62924c9/summary?rt=SFsiS0KH0E2Wm8XTeRSgfw>

Water Editions

ICID Position Paper on Water Accounting as a Sustainable Agricultural Water Management Framework, 2019

Owing to fast-paced demographic and climate changes, water scarcity has become a critical issue that needs to be quantified in a systematic manner at various spatial and temporal levels. Most countries lack coordination between water governance, management and technological initiatives due to lack of appropriate water information systems resulting in inefficient agricultural water management. To remedy this,



based on the water balance approach, a framework for water accounting (WA) and auditing is proposed to systematically report the water resources and associated hydrological information comprehensively to facilitate the decision-making for sustainable agricultural water management (AWM).

Considering the potential utility of WA as an agricultural water management tool, ICID as part of the World Water Council (WWC) Members’ initiative on water accounting, facilitated by FAO, has developed this detailed position paper parallelly for decision-making in the agricultural sector, based on the ICID work on “water balance approach” over the last several years and its ongoing activities, for sharing with its national members as well as international partners including WWC and FAO. This paper provides coverage starting from how to define WA, how it should be implemented to who can benefit from it and how. Another important objective is to establish a common understanding of the basic terminology used by practitioners from different sectors working to avoid confusion during decision-making towards a common goal of efficient water management.

The WWC White Paper was launched during the 8th World Water Forum in March 2018. This initiative further contributes to the work plan of the Global Framework on Water Scarcity (currently named as Water Scarcity in Agriculture, WASAG) launched at the Marrakech climate conference in 2016. Recently the ICID position paper was disseminated amongst the participants during the International Training Workshop on Water Accounting (23-26 February 2019) organized by International Research Program for Irrigation and Drainage-Iran Regional Node (IRPID-IRN) in collaboration with FAO and ICID in Ahwaz, Iran.

Download the ICID Position Paper on WA: <http://irpid-iran.org/articles/show/3b62d594-e5af-4430-a0e1-1559594a047d>

UN Report finds billions still lack access to water, sanitation

A new study — the United Nations World Water Development Report (WWDR 2019) — finds that investing in clean water and sanitation is an economic and social winner, but billions of the world's poorest people still lack access to these key services. Access to safe, affordable and reliable water and sanitation is considered a basic human right, and one of the 17 U.N. Sustainable Development Goals that the various governments have pledged to achieve by 2030.



The latest U.N. Report entitled ‘Leaving No One Behind’ finds myriad groups, including women and sometimes the elderly, can be excluded from what many of us consider basic services. Most have one thing in common: poverty. But for many of the world's poorest, those investments are elusive. The report zeros in on three broad population groups — the urban and rural poor, as well as refugees and internally displaced people. The 2019 edition seeks to inform policy and decision-makers, inside and outside the water community, how improvements in water resources management and access to water supply and sanitation services are essential to overcoming poverty and addressing various other social and economic inequities. The Report was launched at the Human Rights Council, at the Palais des Nations in Geneva (Switzerland) on 19 March 2019.

Download the UN WWDR 2019: <https://en.unesco.org/water-security/wwap/wwdr/2019#download>



New irrigation investment guidelines launched at annual FAO Land and Water Days

Feeding a growing global population amid a changing climate calls for more and better investment in water for agriculture. During a session at FAO’s Land and Water Days in Cairo, Egypt, the FAO Investment Centre unveiled its new ‘Guidelines on irrigation investment projects.’ These guidelines introduce innovative approaches, tools and resources to tackle irrigation development challenges, like water scarcity, competition over shared natural resources and the impact of climate change. They also offer the reader step-by-step guidance on how to



apply these approaches at each phase of the investment project cycle. The work, carried out by a multidisciplinary, inter-agency team, draws on lessons and experiences from irrigation investment

operations over the last two decades. And it complements FAO’s Guidelines for planning irrigation and drainage investment projects, first published in 1996. These guidelines are designed to help with sound irrigation investment planning that promotes more productive, equitable and sustainable water resource development and management.

Download the Guidelines on irrigation investment projects: <http://www.fao.org/3/CA2608EN/ca2608en.pdf>





Virtual Meeting with ICID National Committees and Direct Members for Establishment of Independent Service Unit

The 69th IEC Meeting held at Saskatoon, Canada in August 2018 decided to establish an Independent Service Unit (ISU). Based on this a Special Task Force to explore the feasibility of establishing an ISU was established. The Task Force, has developed a detailed project proposal for establishing ISU – financially independent from ICID and providing services and submitted a Draft Project

Report. Regarding this, ICID Central Office has circulated Questionnaire along with Draft Project Report to all NCs, Office Bearers and Direct Members (DM) for their feedback.

As a follow-up, for the first time virtual (WebEx) meeting(s) have been streamlined to discuss and interact with NCs and DMs. Members are requested to download the Draft Project Report

from the link (provided in the circular send on 29 March 2019 & 5 April 2019) and flag the issues concerning your NC and their activities for discussion during the WebEx meeting.

The virtual meetings are grouped under three time zones:



17 April 2019, Indian Standard Time (IST)
15:30-16:30 hours

National Committees/Committee: Croatia, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Hungary, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom (UK), Burkina Faso, Chad (Tchad), Egypt, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Uzbekistan, Zambia

Associate Member: Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Israel, Germany, Greece, Lithuania, Madagascar, Macedonia, Mozambique, Poland, Serbia, Republic, Slovak Republic, Spain, Switzerland, Syria, Tanzania, Zimbabwe



17 April 2019, Indian Standard Time (IST)
20:30-21:30 hours

National Committees/Committee: Canada, Mexico, USA

Associate Member: Brazil, Guyana, Uruguay



18 April 2019, Indian Standard Time (IST)
11:00-12:00 hours

National Committees/Committee: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Rep. of, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Vietnam, Chinese Taipei Committee

Direct Members: Asian Development Bank (ADB), Central Board of Irrigation and Power, Dayu Water-Saving Group Co. Ltd., Electrosteel Castings Limited, India Water Foundation, Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd., WAPCOS Limited

Associate Member: Kyrgystan

In case you have missed the invitation link sent to your official email ID to join the virtual meeting, please contact Mr. Madhu Mohanan, Communication

Officer <madhu@icid.org> and/or ICID <icid@icid.org> to generate a new link to join the meeting. Additionally, to the Voice over Internet Protocol

(VoIP) members can also join via telephone/mobile numbers with the Global Call-in feature provided in the invitation to join.



Visitors to ICID Central Office

Meeting with Japanese delegation

Mr. Naoki Hayashida, Vice President, ICID accompanied with Mr. Mitsuo Ishijima, Secretary General, and Mr. Yasunori Saiki, Secretariat from Japanese National Committee (JNCID) made a courtesy visit to ICID Central Office on 12 March 2019. At the outset, Secretary General A.B Pandya welcomed all and introduced the ICID officials to the delegation which was followed by a presentation on the ongoing ICID activities. The meeting aimed to strengthen possible areas of cooperation between ICID and JNCID and discussed activities related to various working groups and latest initiatives undertaken by ICID.

SG Pandya discussed the viability of Independent Service Unit (ISU) and the role of Special Task Force that has developed a detailed project proposal for establishing ISU – financially independent from ICID for providing services that can be leveraged for capacity development activities essential for meeting ICID's organizational goals and fulfill the mission adopted in the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030.

The important role of Vice Presidents in the Third World Irrigation Forum (WIF3), organized by the host Indonesian National Committee (INACID) in Bali, Indonesia in September 2019, was highlighted. It was informed that an International Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) has been established under the Chairmanship of PH Dr. Gao Zhanyi to technically guide WIF3. ITAC has advised to assign the overall responsibility of each sub-theme to the VPs of ICID. The delegation was apprised that this year the Co-Theme Leaders of Strategy Theme – Basin will make the presentation during the main session of 70th IEC meeting. VP Er. Hayashida and VP Dr. Kamran Emami, Co-Theme Leaders for ST-B have been requested to make the presentation.

JNCID on their part made a special contribution of USD 5000 for supporting the YP training program in Bali and other activities conducted by ICID as part of Technical Support Programme (TSP). SG Pandya conveyed his sincere appreciation to JNCID for their financial support and active participation in ICID activities over the years and also mentioned that the maximum number of entries (35) in ICID Register of World Heritage Irrigation Structures (WHIS) has been so far from Japan.



Delegates were further informed about the ICID 70th year celebration and activities which have been streamlined as part of celebration including a coffee table book, video film, organizing special events, social media participation (#ICID70); and Special Publications. A promotional video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WzmTrpSJ5Ps#video_1> featuring SG Pandya has been circulated requesting National Committees, Office Bearers, Partner organizations, Direct Members to actively participate in ICID's 70th anniversary celebrations commencing from 24 June 2019 and culminating during the 24th ICID Congress and 71st IEC meetings in September 2020 in Sydney, Australia.

Dr. Jeffrey Witsoe discuss implementation challenges of Bisalpur Water Project in rural Rajasthan, India

Dr. Jeffrey Witsoe, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Union College, Schenectady, New York visited ICID Central Office with his six students on 15 March 2019 to share his findings from a field survey on the implementation challenges of the Bisalpur Water Project in rural Rajasthan, India. The discussion was attended by Mr. Srinivas Chokkakula, Research Professor and Mr. Partha Mukhopadhyay, Senior Fellow from Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi, India. Dr. Sahdev Singh, Director (Knowledge Management) and Er. B.A Chivate, Director (Technical) from ICID joined the discussion.

Dr. Jeffrey Witsoe, who is the author of Democracy against Development: Lower Caste Politics and Political Modernity in Postcolonial India (University of Chicago Press, 2013), has written several articles and chapters on politics in India, primarily focusing his research on the

critical rethinking of democracy and the postcolonial state. Dr. Witsoe shared his insights on Bisalpur Water Project that provides clean drinking water from Bisalpur Dam to urban and rural Rajasthan in response to an increasingly contaminated groundwater supply.

The presentations, made by students, highlighted that water lines have been disconnected for months in over 100 villages due to lack of water fee payment, despite all villagers within the study area expressing the vital importance of clean water. The research team examined the various factors related to policy design and implementation that resulted in denial of water to thousands of people. Piped connections showed that water supply was erratic in the area resulting in disparity with households preferring tanker transportation of water. One of the major issues identified in the survey was the arbitrariness in water fee collection from households for domestic supply. The major challenge in any fee-based water service (both for irrigation or domestic use) is the legal status of fee collection agents.

The findings stated that access to water is usually linked to distortions in policies, planning and management structures. The project assumes significance as it addresses water shortage faced by people who have now become dependent on groundwater, which contains high level of fluoride which affects the growth of bones and dental health, particularly in small children. Fluoride contaminated groundwater for a long period has been a very serious issue in this project area. The presentation was followed by an open discussion which deliberated on the key findings and recognized the critical



need for supplying safe drinking water to the people, especially in a vastly water scarce state as Rajasthan.



Virtual Meetings

Third meeting of TF-GPP

The third virtual meeting (3/2019) of the Task Force to Guide the Partnership Process (TF-GPP) was held on 29 March 2019 to brief the status of WIF3



and the modalities for the conduct of Ministerial/ HLAG meeting as decided in the 2nd meeting of TF-GPP at Saskatoon, Canada in August 2018. President Felix Reinders chaired the meeting which was

attended by PH Dr. Saeed Nairizi, Dr. Olcay Ünver, Er. Ijsbrand De Jong, VPH Dr. Ding Kunlun, VP Dr. Brian

Wahlin, Dr. Marco Arcieri, Er. Adang Saf Ahmad, Er. Mohammad Zainal Fatah, Er. Mochamad Amron. Secretary General Ashwin Pandya and Executive Director Harish Varma from ICID Central Office attended the meeting.

At the outset, President Reinders welcomed all the members and special invitees to discuss and guide in the preparations for meeting of High-Level Advisory Group (HLAG) consisting of Ministers and Senior Officers from various member and non-member countries. President Reinders informed that as per decision during second meeting of TF-GPP at Saskatoon, Canada ICID will use formal lines of communication to send initial letter of invitation directly to the Ministers of specific countries. President further indicated to strengthen the communication/partnership with senior

officials through Institutional Mechanism, who in turn can provide advice to the Ministers.

Dr. Olcay Ünver suggested to consider inviting Ministers from G-20 countries as they are also looking into water issues in their deliberation. He further informed that first Forum of WASAG (Water Scarcity in Agriculture) was organised in Cape Verde in March 2019 and they may be invited to share messages from the forum's deliberation and Praia Commitment issued as an outcome of the forum. PH Dr. Nairizi stressed that since irrigation and drainage is a multi-disciplinary subject therefore HLAG may be suggested to consider setting up of a multi-disciplinary committee of relevant department. President Felix requested members to provide their suggestions on the theme. After deliberation, it was agreed to adopt theme of HLAG as "Policies of Agriculture Water Management to End Rural Poverty" which is also in line with ICID Vision 2030.



Third Meeting of ITAC

To proceed and firm up the action plan, the third WebEx meeting (3/2019) of the International Technical Advisory



Committee (ITAC) was held on 1 April 2019. PH Dr. Gao Zhanyi chaired the

meeting and was joined in by VPH Dr. Ding Kunlun, VP Dr. Brian T. Wahlin, VP Dr. K. Yella Reddy, Mr. Momir Vranes, Er. Maher Salman, Mr. Jelle Beekma, Mr. Mawira Chitima, Mr. Dale Jacobson, Dr. Peter Carberry, Ms. Julienne Roux, Mr. Ian Makin, Mr. Syaiful Mahdi, Mr. Muhammad Amron, Mr. Tunggul Imam Panudju, Mr. Eko Subekti, Mr. Abdul Malik Sadat Idris, Mr. Muradi and SG Ashwin B. Pandya from ICID Central Office.

PH Dr. Zhanyi welcomed all the participants and proceeded with the agenda. The meeting deliberated on the brief follow-up of the 2nd ITAC Meeting held at Saskatoon, Canada emanating from the minutes. The ITAC

which oversees the technical and organizational aspects of WIF3 and International Steering Committee (ISC) further discussed the Theme, Sub-themes and Topics, Structure of the Forum, Supporting Events and International Workshops, Call for papers, Invited Institutions and Partners, Exhibition plan, participation of the young professionals and High-Level Advisory Group (HLAG) meeting consisting of Ministers and Senior Officers from various member and non-member countries and Farmers' Roundtables. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to all the members of ITAC.



First meeting of TT-TWM-AWM

The first virtual meeting (1/2019) of the Task Team on Transboundary Water



Management and Effect on Agriculture Water Management (TT-TWM-AWM) was held on 5 April 2019. The meeting

was attended by task team members including PH Chandra Madramootoo, Vice President Dr. Marco Arcieri, Dr. Srinivas Chokkakula, Secretary General Ashwin B. Pandya (as the Member Secretary), Executive Director Harish K. Varma and Ms. Prachi Sharma, Knowledge Officer. The meeting aimed to establish TT-TWM-AWM by providing a brief background and broad scope of activities to achieve its mandate. The Task team members discussed various approaches and activities to be adopted as part of action plan to achieve the TT mandate and outputs during its first three year existence.

With a view to promote transboundary river water cooperation to address water

security the TT deliberated on strategies and resources for effective transboundary river water governance to address the challenges of water-food-energy security nexus towards strengthening sustainable livelihoods and further discussed the process of creating a knowledge hub to facilitate best practices of transboundary cooperation and support other core activities of ICID. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to all the members and all unanimously agreed to have regular meetings from time-to-time to discuss important emerging issues.



6th India Water Week 2019 to focus on Water Cooperation – Coping with 21st Century Challenges

Water is taking centre stage due to the increasing social and environmental needs, industrialisation, pollution and over extraction of groundwater. The climate change impact is likely to exacerbate the situation. Burgeoning competition for water between domestic needs, agriculture, industry and environmental needs calls for a cooperation amongst the stakeholders for sustainable development of this precious natural resource.

Towards this endeavour, the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India is organizing the 6th India Water Week 2019 with the theme “Water Cooperation – Coping with 21st Century Challenges” from 24-28 September 2019 in New Delhi, India focusing on the need and importance of water use across all sectors to bring upon new ideas for mutual cooperation for sustainable water management in the context of changing basin dynamics across administrative boundaries.

The India Water Week (IWW) 2019 will be organized in co-ordination with nodal Ministries of Agriculture; Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Rural Development; Urban Development; Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation; Power; New and Renewable Energy; Niti Aayog (formerly Indian Planning Commission) along with their associated expert organizations and Public Sector

Units, key International Bodies and Private and Public business houses.

Conference Sub-themes & Topics

- A. *Future Challenges*
- B. *Cooperation for Management of Water Resources to Optimize Benefits to the People*
- C. *Capacity Building – Need of the Century*
- D. *International and Regional Cooperation in Water Sector*

As a precursor to the conference, the first meeting of the Technical Committee for organizing the 6th IWW was held with the organizers and partners on 14 March 2019 to discuss and deliberate the proposed event plan including the inaugural session, identifying key speakers, technical sessions, side events and round table conferences. ICID was invited to be a part of the technical committee. During the meeting various themes and topics were identified wherein ICID proposed to act as lead agency for two sub-themes/topics viz. Preparing the young water professionals for future challenges in water sector and Learning from global best practices in water management. Each sub-theme/topic will be steered by a particular partner. As such sessions would be owned by ICAR, WTC, CPR, NIH, CWC, IWA, and

NWM among others. ICID expressed interest to organize a one-day side event including variety of technical activities and presentations by global experts.

In addition, there will be Special Sessions involving dignitaries, delegates, politicians, experts from the fields related to the event. Expert professional bodies and think tanks are invited to put up Side Events addressing specific issues under the theme. There will also be an exhibition running in parallel supporting the theme and showcasing the technologies, latest developments and available solutions.

Slated for September 2019, the multi-disciplinary conference is expected to be attended by more than 1000 national and international delegates. A large group of International and National experts are being invited for sharing their experiences in the field of Water Cooperation viz., Joint planning, development, management and optimal use of fresh water resources at local, regional, national and international levels among various players and sectors. The event website is now fully functional and the abstract submission process has already started.

Visit website for more details: <http://www.indiawaterweek.in/> or email: connect@indiawaterweek.in



IYPeF Third e-Discussion

Soil conditions to ensure sustainable agriculture and coping with climate change

Healthy soil is the key to food security and nutrition for all as 95% of our food comes from our soil. To lose soil is to lose food and life as sustainable soil management is an essential part of the zero-hunger equation. Soil health depends on soil biodiversity (with a robust soil biota), and it can be improved through deliberate soil conditioning.

To discuss how soil health can influence sustainable agriculture and help mitigate climate change impacts, the third IYPeF e-Discussion on ‘Soil conditions to ensure sustainable agriculture and coping with climate change’ was held from 15-31 March 2019. The online discussion with active participation from young professionals explored the available opportunities to improve soil health for sustainable agriculture to adapt to a fast-changing climate.

Mr. Shoaib Saboory (Afghanistan) and Mrs. Kathleen Murray (Australia) acted

as lead IYPeF coordinators, while Dr. Abdul Walid Salek, Professor at Kabul University, Afghanistan steered the e-Discussion as mentor. The discussion aimed to achieve the following objectives: (i) Discuss how soil conditions impact sustainable agriculture; (ii) Discuss how a healthy soil environment can be used to cope with climate change; (iii) Share documented, regionally specific examples of the opportunities for improvements in both sustainability and climate resilience through soil health; (iv) Define the main challenges faced in achieving these goals; and (v) Highlight varying views of YPs on the opportunities they see for soil health and management to ensure sustainable agriculture and climate resilience.

All YPs actively participated in the e-Discussion and shared their experiences, case studies and initiatives for good management practices to improve soil health, increase productivity

and profitability immediately and in the future. As a way forward YPs were encouraged to play an active role in sharing the knowledge, informing policy and identifying suitable economic approaches that can be leveraged into action to preserve the quality and quantity of global soil resources. The detailed e-Discussion can be accessed at <<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6512251174392029184/>>

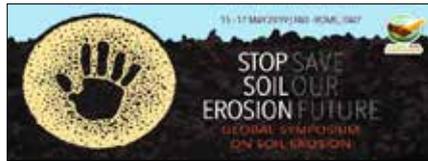
The next e-Discussion on “Flood management in agriculture” will be held from 15-30 April 2019 with Ms. Sahar Norouzi (Iran) as lead IYPeF coordinator. All YPs are encouraged to actively participate and contribute to these e-Discussions. The detailed list of e-Discussions for 2019 is available on IYPeF Group page <<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/6990321>>



Stop soil erosion, Save our future

The Global Symposium on Soil Erosion (GSER19), 'Stop soil erosion, Save our future' will be held from 15-17 May 2019 at the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Rome, Italy. Soil erosion is one of the ten major soil threats identified in the 2015 Status of the World's Soil Resources report. To lose soil is to lose food and life as it poses a major threat to global food security and to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The objective of GSER19 is to establish a common platform to discuss the latest information on the status of interventions and innovations in the field of soil erosion and related land management. GSER19 aims to translate scientific and policy



evidence into decisions and actions to minimize soil erosion for increased food security, ecosystem services and promote the restoration of eroded sites. The symposium will focus on three themes: (i) Use of data and assessment tools in soil erosion control; (ii) Policy in action; (iii) The economics of soil erosion.

The above science-policy meeting is co-organized by FAO and its Global Soil Partnership (GSP), the Intergovernmental

Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS), together with the Science-Policy Interface (SPI) of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Joint FAO/IAEA Programme of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture.

Registration to the symposium is free and will close on 8 May 2019: <https://bit.ly/2DJDh6A>

+Download the brochure >> <http://www.fao.org/3/ca3668en/ca3668en.pdf>

More details about the Symposium is available @ <http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/soil-erosion-symposium/en/>



Early Bird discounted registrations now open! Landscape Irrigation Conference and Exhibition

Irrigation Australia extends a warm welcome to its members and delegates from allied industry associations, who have keen interest in the efficient use of water in urban irrigation to be a part of Landscape Irrigation Conference & Exhibition from 18-20 June 2019 at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre. The unique event with specific focus on landscape irrigation will bring together the entire urban irrigation sector to provide a peer learning experience and offer delegates with the opportunity to see the latest water efficient products on display and hear from leading industry experts on their best practice techniques.

Irrigation Australia will be introducing case study presentations by leading experts on issues that often confront the industry, detailing how these matters were successfully resolved and improved the efficient water use. Visit the Case Study page on the Landscape Irrigation Conference website <<https://www.landscaperrigation.com.au/>> to see the great range of case studies already



submitted - with more still to come. These interesting case studies appeal to councils, nurseries, landscapers, groundsman or anyone working in the landscape irrigation sector that has an interest in the efficient use of water.

If you have a case study that would be of interest to the landscape sector, then you can submit these online <https://www.landscaperrigation.com.au/call_for_case_studies/guidelines/> or email at info@irrigation.org.au.

Early Bird discounted registrations are now open! Register before **30 April 2019**

To register: <https://eecw.eventsair.com/landscape-irrigation-conference-and-exhibition-2019/eoi/Site/Register>

The registration fee will include entry to a series of workshops on the following topics:

- Introduction to Irrigation Efficiency
- Rainwater Harvesting
- Irrigation Australia's Waterwise Program
- Irrigation Training
- Irrigation Certification
- Dial before you Dig - "Know what's below"

+Download Registration Booklet> <https://www.landscaperrigation.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/LC-Registration-Brochure.pdf>

For more details, please visit: <https://www.landscaperrigation.com.au/>



News Buzz: ICID National Committees

UzNCID (Uzbekistan)

To highlight the importance of freshwater and advocate sustainable management of freshwater resources, a one-day conference to celebrate the World Water Day was held on 19 March 2019 at the Tashkent State Institute of Irrigation. The conference embraced the theme: "Leaving no one behind" and "Water is

life." R. Mamutov, Deputy Minister of Water Management of the Republic of Uzbekistan delivered the opening address and highlighted the on-going activities for the efficient and economical use of water resources. The conference was well-attended by UN representatives and international organizations including the Asian Development Bank, Swiss

Waters Agency, World Bank, scientists, teachers and media; collectively engaging and discussing the importance of water for future development. Conference attendees gave in a lot of valuable suggestions relating to the economical use of water resources and conservation of water bodies with the underlying aim to increase water efficiency, reduce

water pollution and treat polluted waters with the need for setting limitations on water usage for crop irrigation, industry and energy.

SONCID (Somalia)

The celebration of World Water Day (22 March) organized by the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources in collaboration with national stakeholders was held in Mogadishu, Somalia.



Ministers and dignitaries present during the event stressed the importance of water resources management, emphasizing the theme for the year-- "Water for All - Leaving no one behind."

In his address Acting Minister of Energy and Water Resources stated that the Ministry jointly with other national stakeholders has taken the initiative to corroborate and develop the best way to manage water resources in a sustainable manner. He stated that the Ministry had drilled boreholes in some parts of rural areas and is currently planning the urban water development of the key towns based in southern Somalia. The Minister of Youth Affairs mentioned that over 70% of Somalia's population is under the age of 30 and therefore it is imperative for the youth to understand the importance of availability of water in different sectors. All the regional states and UN agencies based in Somalia including FAO also celebrated the importance of this day.

ENCID (Egypt)

Prof. Dr. Hesham Mostafa, Deputy Chairman of NWRC – MWRI, Egypt has assumed charge as the new Chairman of Egyptian National Committee (ENCID) w.e.f 1 April 2019. Dr. Hesham Mostafa obtained his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering,

Irrigation and Drainage from Colorado State University, USA and is well-known to the ICID fraternity. He served as the former deputy chairman of ENCID and played a significant role in its activities during the last 10 years. ENCID, since 1950 has been an active member of ICID, supporting its mission and vision by way of participation. ICID looks forward to active nodal role of Dr. Mostafa collaborative support towards participation of ENCID and its members under his stewardship.

Special thanks to outgoing Chairman Dr. Mohamed Abd-El-Moneim Wahba for his continuous guidance, cooperation and support to ICID activities during his tenure. ICID fraternity looks forward to his mentorship and continued association in his present role as the Chair of African Regional Working Group (AFRWG) to further activate and strengthen the cooperation among all African NCs, especially African Young Water Professionals Forum (AF-YWPF).



Events Corner

ICID Events

3rd World Irrigation Forum (WIF3) & 70th IEC Meeting 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, Marrakech, 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://5arcid.ma/>

24th ICID International Congress & 71st IEC Meeting, 22-28 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

Water for Food Global Conference 2019 by Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute (DWFI), 29-30 April 2019, 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>.

River Basin Management 2019: 10th International Conference on River Basin Management Including all Aspects of Hydrology, Ecology, Environmental Management, Flood Plains and Wetlands, 8 – 10 May 2019, Alicante, Spain. For more details, please visit: <https://www.wessex.ac.uk/conferences/2019/river-basin-management-2019>

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

Water and Society 2019: 5th International Conference on Water and Society, 2 - 4 October 2019, Valencia, Spain. For more details, please visit: <https://www.wessex.ac.uk/conferences/2019/water-and-society-2019>; Email: wit@wessex.ac.uk

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: <https://iah.org/events/minwat-2020>; Email: segratario@iahitaly.it

Water Pollution 2020: 15th International Conference on Monitoring, Modelling and Management of Water Pollution, 13 - 15 May 2020, Valencia, Spain. For more details, please visit: <https://www.wessex.ac.uk/conferences/2020-conferences/water-pollution-2020>; Email: wit@wessex.ac.uk

