

Task Force to guide ICID inputs to World Water Forum 6 (TF-WWF6)

Minutes of the meeting in Orleans, Monday March 14th, besides the 24th ICID Regional Conference

1. The Participants and their contribution to prepare the Forum :
 - The Chairman of TF-WWF6, Dr Bart SCHULTZ, co-leader of priority 2.2 (contribute to food security by optimal use of water) couldn't attend, but
 - The meeting is chaired by Prof. CHANDRA MADRAMOOTOO, President ICID, who attends the Regional Conference, and proposes to co-lead with ICOLD the Target 6 of Priority 2.2
 - F. BRELLE is Vice Chair of TF-WWF6, and is co-leader for priority 2.1
 - FAO has taken the lead for priority 2.2 ; Pasquale STEDUTO couldn't come to Orleans, but is represented by Jacob BURKE.
 - G. BENOIT is the leader of the French working group on Water for food security
 - J.PLANTEY, AFEID member, former vice chairman, was mandated to represent AFEID in the French working group on this priority
 - A group of AFEID members willing to contribute to Target and Solution Groups attends the meeting :
 - Alain VILLOCEL, AFEID vice-chairman, general manager of CACG, who has nominated for priority 2.1 Solène LALOUX on target 3, Jean-Luc TROUVAT on target 7, and for priority .2 Nicolas DAURENSAN on target 3, and Daniel BOUBEE on target 6
 - Jean VERDIER, AFEID Vice Chairman, leader of an inter-associations working group on prospective, is involved in priority 3.3
 - Dominique ROLLIN, General Secretary of AFEID,
 - Patrick HURAND from Ministry of Agriculture(priority 2.2/ target 9),
 - Denis BAUDEQUIN, from Ministry of Agriculture (priority 2.2/ target 6, priority 2.1/ target 8
2. Report on the on-going tasks
 - Following the second Stakeholder meeting of the WWF6 (January, 17-18), the “nuclear core groups” were asked to finalise the definitions and the possible leaders of the key priorities and of the target & solution groups, and propose them to the Thematic Process Commission (TPC) of the International Committee of the Forum (ICF) by March 11th :
 - François Brelle reports about the proposals effectively made March 11th for priority 2.1. He forwards these documents by mail to the attendance at the end of the meeting,
 - Jacques Plantey and Jacob Burke report the information provided by Pasquale Steduto just before the meeting : Pasquale received the last comments from G. Benoît last Friday ; the TPC agreed to postpone the dead line, in order to include the results of the survey dispatched 2 weeks ago, with answers expected before March 21th. After having taken them in account, Pasquale will disseminate the revised documents for last comments before sending them to the TPC by April 1st.
 - Guillaume Benoît reports the main recommendations formulated by the French working group : rural development is dealt in only one target (5), there is a need to better integrate the issues of small agriculture and capacity building in an additional target, or, if impossible, in the other targets, as well as in Priority CS 3

(enabling environments). Target 8 has been focused on the concern of losses of quality cropland due to urban sprawling. Target 9 and 10 would be merged.

3. Discussion about the tasks to come

- Dr Chandra Madramootoo highlights the importance, for ICID, of the following issues :
 - small farmer agriculture raises a huge socio-economic concern : how is it possible to develop a system for rural development, including transformation, trade, distributions, which could really involve the small farmers in the strategy for development ?
 - how to secure access to water and to every inputs ?
 - how to take the climate change in account ?
 - how to value the role of women ?
 - how to manage the competing uses of water and land, without putting every time agriculture as the “tail ender”
- Jacques Plantey remarks that up to now, ICID and the French working group have focussed their attention on both priorities 2.1 and 2.2, which involve them directly ; and that in the other priorities, the issues are essentially considered with an urban point of view, even on topics (for instance : water and energy) where agricultural water has a significant importance Isn't there a need to consider, as soon as the targets of the other priorities are known, those for which agricultural water stakeholders should express recommendations and who thinks that contributions ?
- Every participant contributed then to the discussion : they all think it is dangerous to let “non-urban” water be marginalized ; Jean Verdier points out that agriculture may be considered as “adjustment variable” at local scale, but it is quite impossible, at global level ! He notes also that agriculture is the water use which has been the most looked after by prospective works
- The question is to know how to be the most efficient in order to be heard on this subject, considering the very large range of the targets, and the limited means available, even if we involve, as ICID does, all the National Committees. It will certainly be one of the key tasks of the Core Group of the Priority, to formulate and make the main messages understood and shared
- Guillaume Benoît reminds the need to get the means to measure and collect basic data which are still missing (ex : patterns of losses of quality cropland) ; Jacob Burke underlines the interest of making reference to precise and measured indicators for every target

Dr Chandra Madramootoo concludes the meeting, having in mind the idea of calling every ICID National Committee to contribute to these questions.