Engaging with their stakeholders on issues such as Irrigation Policy, Right of the River, Water-Energy-Food nexus and Irrigation under the changing Environment. It more than vindicates IEC’s decision to open the membership of ICID. The Direct Membership Administering Committee, under the Chairmanship of VPH Dr S Nairzi, setup by IEC, has started working and hopefully, we will soon start welcoming direct members. Members of the Marketing Team are advising Central Office to develop a marketing strategy.

Follow up on many other decisions taken in Adelaide is also on course. The Expert Panel under the Chairmanship of PH Prof Chandra Madaramootoo, including experts from IWMI and FAO has been constituted to give concrete shape to our decision to initiate an Irrigation Achievement Award. And soon we will seek your support to widely publicize the award planned to be given during WF 1. The Task Team to further elaborate our concept of giving recognition to historical irrigation infrastructure, under the Chairmanship of VP Dr Ragab Ragab has also been established. Another Task Team under the Chairmanship of VP Dr G Backberg has started its deliberations on the issue of reorganization of ICID workbodies.

As I reported in this column in September issue of UPDATE, ICID is going through a change. Although change is a continuous process, most management gurus will vouch that the consolidation of change should be quick to obviate uncertainties. Considering this necessity, IEC had decided to quickly consolidate those changes in the form of revision of Constitution and By-laws. The Special Review Committee to consolidate various amendments to Constitution and By-Laws, under the Chairmanship of PH Dr Peter Lee has started its work in the right earnest. In today’s context, the evolutionary phrase “survival of the fittest” conveys that the species (read organizations) that have the best ‘fit’ with its environment will survive. And this exercise should be seen as an effort to survive and remain relevant.

Lastly, with a heavy heart, I inform you that we have lost one of the most active members of ICID fraternity in the death of Dr Maria Elena Venezian Scarscia, General Secretary of ITAL-ICID. I invite you to share the grief with our Italian colleagues and her family.

Best regards,

Avinash C. Tyagi
Secretary General
Panel Discussions were conducted with panelists from FAO, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Turkey, Uzbekistan and China. The Sub-forum highlighted the importance and experiences on irrigation development and water saving practices in Asia and Africa.

**Water-Energy-Food nexus in a changing climate**

An International Workshop on ‘Understanding Water-Energy-GHS nexus for future water and food security’ was held during 27-28 September 2012, jointly organized by Indian Society of Water Management (India) and The University of Melbourne (Australia) at New Delhi, India. Australia-India Institute was the sponsor of the workshop and Prof Hector Malano, representing the University of Melbourne discussed the Australian strategic alliances for pursuing collaborative research. On behalf of ICID, Dr. Vijay K Labhsetwar, Director, ICID presented a paper on “Actions for green economy through linkages between water, energy and food security”

**World Water Council 6th General Assembly, Marseille, 18-19 November 2012**

After a gap of six years, ICID is once again offering its services to serve the World Water Council as member of Board of Governors (2012-2015), under College 5: Professional associations and academic institutions, to further the global agenda on food security.

The 6th General Assembly of the World Water Council will be held during 18-19 November 2012. The General Assembly is a unique opportunity for all members of the World Water Council to directly influence the management and future orientation of their institution by discussing and voting on the internal policies and program. It is also on this occasion that the members of the Board of Governors are elected for a term of three years, the By-laws and the triennial budget is ratified, and the workplan for the next three years is adopted. Dr. Gao Zhanyi, President, ICID and Secretary General Er. Avinash C. Tyagi will attend the meeting.

For more information on sixth Gen assembly of WWCC, please click <http://www.worldwatercouncil.org/index.php?id=1469>

**Irrigation policy in a time of drought and high food prices**

ICID UK and the UEA Water Security Research Centre, with support from Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) will be organizing a Seminar on ‘Irrigation policy in a time of drought and high food prices’ on 9 November 2012 at ICE, One Great George Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 3AA. The main question that guides the seminar is ‘In a time of climate change and food scarcity, can better irrigation policies reduce food vulnerabilities?’ The seminar will examine global and local irrigation policies in the context of drought and high food prices. 2012 droughts in the UK, the US and Indo-Gangetic Plain together with current high food prices provide the background to this seminar. We eagerly look forward to the outcomes of the seminar.

Contact for registration and more information: Mr. Tim Fuller (Tim.Fuller@ice.org.uk)
Do you want ICID communications tools work better for you?

The success of any network depends largely on how different members, groups and members of committees communicate with each other and are kept informed of the activities to bring synergies in their actions. You have been reading ICID News, News Update and e-Bulletin and visiting our website on several occasions and you definitely want to get the most out of the time you invest in browsing them. You might as well have certain opinion on how certain additions or deletions or modifications to these communication tools may work better for you.

The ICID News, News Update, e-Bulletin and the website are the major communication tools in ICID. We wish to assess as to how these tools are performing and their effectiveness in order to improve the communication where necessary to serve you better.

Through the ongoing online survey we would like to know your expectations, views, and suggestions as individuals on the performance and effectiveness of these tools. Please spare your precious minutes and complete this survey and be a partner in improving these tools further.

The survey is being carried out online through ICID website (http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5VPL2N) and ICID News Update/ ICID News: (http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BKCJPNGN)

Sustainable Irrigation 2012 – Call for Papers

The 4th International Conference on “Sustainable Irrigation and Drainage: Management, Technologies and Policies” will be held on 11-13 December 2012 at Adelaide, Australia. The objective of the conference is to generate debate and ideas about how to make irrigation more environmentally, socially and economically sustainable. The 2012 Sustainable Irrigation Conference provides a unique forum for multidisciplinary discussion.

The conference theme acknowledges that sustainability is not a fixed and clearly defined objective, rather it is a goal that is always changing as knowledge and biophysical realities alter. In that sense, moving towards sustainability is a journey with an ever evolving destination. Irrigation, as the biggest water user in most regions of the world, is facing significant challenges in balancing social, economic and environmental needs of water.

For more information, please visit at <http://www.wessex.ac.uk/12-conferences/sustainable-irrigation-2012.html>

Rainwater Harvesting for Agriculture in the Dry Areas

The publication on ‘Rainwater Harvesting for Agriculture in the Dry Areas’ authored by Dr. Theib Y. Oweis (Syria), Prof Dieter Prinz (Germany); Ahmed Y. Hachum (Iraq) has been just released.

Dry areas suffer not only from limited rainfall but also ‘natural leakage’ - 90% of rainwater is lost directly or indirectly, and is unavailable for agriculture or domestic use. Water harvesting is a low-cost, easy-to-use, environmentally-friendly way to recover a large part of this lost water.

How does water harvesting work? Which sites or areas are best suited and how can these areas be identified? How to design, build and maintain a water harvesting system tailored to local needs? How can water harvesting contribute to combating land degradation, enhancing food security and adapting to climate change? This book provides all the answers. Well, most of them. For more information, please visit at <http://www.crcpress.com/product/isbn/9780415621144>

Climate Change and Africa

Climate change will have serious and adverse consequences for many development sectors in Africa, and threatens the economies and livelihoods of many African countries. Future World Bank operations in West, East, and Southern Africa are likely to increase their focus to help and share her knowledge will greatly be missed.

Graduate from the Agricultural Science at the University of Perugia (1947), she was Director of the Agronomy Section of the Istituto Sperimentale Agronomico in Bari from 1974 to 1990. Her research enriched our knowledge on the soil-crop-atmosphere system with over 100 publications.

Dr. Scarascia has laid emphasis on international collaboration and in 1988 she started her activity within the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage ICID. In 1995 she represented ICID at FAO meetings and contributed to the organization and implementation of several training events and research projects. She was member of the Permanent Committee for Technical Activities from year 1997 to 2000 and was the Secretary General of the National Committee-ITAL-ICID from 2000. From 2003 to 2005, she represented the ITAL-ICID in the International Executive Councils.

In 2007 she organized the ICID European Regional Conference held in Pavia-Italy. Her network of European collaborations led to the involvement of ITAL-ICID in the project GEWAMED, with the goal of mainstreaming gender dimensions into Integrated Water Resources Management to which all countries of the region are striving.

Her achievements and sustained efforts have been recognized with two prestigious awards: in December 1991 she has been awarded by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers the title of: “Commander of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic” while in 1998 the University of Perugia granted her the title of “Scientist at the research centers of MIPAF and representative of Italy at international fora”.

May her soul rest in peace!
on assessing long-term water supply and reliability. Analytical work - focused on analyzing adaptation options through local institutions, and conducting vulnerability assessments with particular attention to migration, youth issues, and indigenous peoples - is already underway in some parts of West and East Africa. African countries should focus on investing in research and advisory services to develop and disseminate adaptation options, and scaling-up investments that build resiliency. Because of pervasive and widespread use, solid biomass (wood fuel, charcoal, and crop residue) will continue to be an important source of energy in Africa over the next 30 years, while biofuels will see some moderate increase.

While promoting low carbon growth in middle income countries (e.g., South Africa and Botswana), the World Bank’s focus in other countries will be on expanding generation capacity and regional trade (through the East, West, and Southern Africa Power Pools), investing in geothermal (in East Africa), promoting gas flaring reduction (in West Africa), and supporting off-grid renewable energy in several other countries.

The national committees in Africa are invited to browse their website for more information: <http://go.worldbank.org/PLCPCNBSW0>

Irrigation in a Changing Environment

The South African National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (SANCID) will be organizing the SANCID 2012 Symposium during 20-23 November 2012 at Alpine Heath Resort, Drakensberg, South Africa. The theme of the Symposium is 'Irrigation in a Changing Environment'. The Symposium has the following four sub-themes, besides a special session "Coping with change: Farmers’ perspectives":

(i) Humans at the forefront of watershed management; (ii) Climate change and irrigation: Adaptation and resilience; (iii) Impact of irrigation on natural resources and ecology and impact of the natural environment on irrigation; and (iv) Design and management responses to economic challenges

For more information regarding the Symposium programme, please contact Michael van der Laan, Chairman of the Organizing Committee, E-mail: michael.vanderlaan@sugar.org.za; Tel: 076 793 3597 and for additional information regarding Symposium registration and accommodation, please contact Lalique Smit, E-mail: congress@internext.co.za, Tel: (051) 436 8145.

Hearty welcome to Zimbabwe Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (ZwCID)

We take great pleasure in once again welcoming Zimbabwe Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (ZwCID) as an esteemed active member of ICID family. With Zimbabwe in ICID’s fold, the number of active country members now stands at 58. Our warmest felicitations and hearty congratulations to members of the Zimbabwe Committee on Irrigation and Drainage for reviving the membership. We appreciate the hard efforts of Mr. Thube, who was instrumental in reactivating the ZwCID. We invite the ZwCID to broaden the Committee and nominate experts on various ICID Workbodies. The contact coordinates of Zimbabwe Committee on Irrigation and Drainage are:

Eng. Thubelihle A. Thebe, Secretary, Zimbabwe Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (ZwCID), Department of Irrigation, 10th Floor, Kagugvi Building, 4th St/Central Ave., Harare, Zimbabwe, E-mail: tasthebe@gmail.com

Forthcoming Events

ICID Events

ICID’s 1st World Irrigation Forum (WIF) and 64th IEC meeting, 29 September - 5 October 2013, Mardin, Turkey. Contact: Mrs. Serpil KOYLU, Turkish National Committee, ICID (TUCID), Delvet Mahallesı İnönü Bulvarı No. 16, 06100 Çankaya, Ankara, Turkey, Tel/Fax: +90 312 425 4614, E-mail: tucid@dsi.gov.tr, serpil.koylu@dsi.gov.tr, Website: http://www.icid2013.org

12th International Drainage Workshop (IDW), June 2014, St. Petersburg, Russia. Contact: Ms. Irena G. Bondarik, Secretary General, National Committee of the Russian Federation on Irrigation and Drainage (RuCID), E-mail: ibond@online.ru, rusiprid@mail.ru

22nd ICID Congress and 65th IEC, 14-20 September, 2014, at Gwangju Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea. Contact: Mr. Hun Sun Lee, Korean National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (KCID), E-mail: kcidkr@gmail.com, kcid@ekr.or.kr, Website: http://www.icid2014.org

Invitation for ‘Direct Membership’ of ICID

The International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) opened its doors to private companies, institutions and individuals as Direct Members. Presently, professionals engaged in Irrigation and Drainage participate in ICID solely through the National Committees of their countries. Opening membership to such companies, institutions and individual, the ‘Direct Membership’ will widen the repertoire of knowledge and experiences within ICID and benefit all its stakeholders.

The Direct Membership of ICID has tremendous advantages to all stakeholders. By joining ICID, individuals, companies and institutions working or dealing with irrigation, drainage and flood-related issues would be part of an international platform which offers opportunities to exchange knowledge and experience with others and to establish partnerships; stay informed on recent irrigation, drainage and flood management news and events through Commission’s publications; make their voice heard and contribute to improved understanding between stakeholders, while enabling new ideas on water policy; benefit from worldwide exposure of their organization’s activities by using the Commission’s communication tools and by participating in the Commission’s activities; and influence policy makers to develop sound irrigation-related policies and give it higher priority in the political agenda. They would be able to:

• Receive electronic copy of the ICID Journal on Irrigation and Drainage, Annual Report, ICID News, and News Update free of cost;
• Receive copies of the ICID Journal on Irrigation and Drainage at concessional price based on the type of company or institution;
• Receive special discount on all ICID publications;
• Receive special advertisement rates in ICID publications and on website, etc.; and
• Receive special exhibition rates and registration fees during ICID events.

Terms of Direct Membership, Fee Structure and Entitlement of Direct Membership together with application forms are available at <http://www.icid.org/dir_mem.html>. Alternately, you could contact Dr. S.A. Kulkarni, Executive Secretary, ICID at icid@icid.org for more information and clarifications, if any.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

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