Managing Water for Sustainable Agriculture

From Secretary General’s Desk...

Dear Friends,

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its 2013 meeting of the Parties (COP-19) that concluded on 23rd November, presented a glimmer of hope as it sets a pathway for governments to work on a draft text of a new universal climate agreement in order to reach a final agreement at COP-20 in Paris, 2014.

Hopefully, will see governments on a track towards a universal climate agreement in 2015. COP-19 invited developed countries, United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and other relevant organizations, to continue to enhance financial and technical support to the national adaptation plan process for the least developed countries and other developing country.

2014 is the year of 22nd ICID Congress (14-20 September 2014) Gwangju, Korea which would be closely followed by a climate summit in New York on 23 September 2014, which would be closely followed by a climate change negotiations. The United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and other relevant organizations, to continue to enhance financial and technical support to the national adaptation plan process for the least developed countries and other developing country.

2014 being the year of Congress, many of the Triennial events are scheduled during the 65th IEC meeting in Gwangju. Most important of them all is the election of the new President. Then there are triennial awards for Best Performing Workbody (BPWA) and the Best Performing National Committee (BPNC) which are adjudged based on the performances during the period between two Congresses - in this case between Tehran Congress (2011) and Gwangju Congress (2014). In addition of course there is the annual replacement of three of the nine vice presidents with three new ones, through an election at the IEC meeting. Nominations for these elections and awards have been called from all the National Committees with the last dates clearly defined in the inside updates.

2014 will also see the organization of the 12th International Drainage Workshop from 23-26 June in St Petersburg by Russian Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (RuCID).

2014 will also see a new ICID initiative providing more incentives to Young Professionals to participate in ICID events and activities. The UPDATE presents an announcement inviting for scholarship for young professionals to participate in ICID events.

As always, I seek your feedback on various activities. Particularly in the beginning of the year, I request you to please ensure that you have updated contact details of your National Committees, Office Bearers and Members.

With Best Regards

Avinash C. Tyagi
Secretary General

ICID Awards

Best Performing National Committee Award (2014)

Applications are invited from the eligible National Committees for BPNCA-5 based on the performance during the 3-year period between 21st and 22nd Congresses (covering calendar years 2011 - 2013) by submitting the duly filled in Entry Form to ICID Central Office latest by 31 March 2014. The fifth Best Performing National Committee Award (BPNCA-5) will be presented during the 22nd ICID Congress to be held at Gwangju Metropolitan City, Korea in September 2014. The BPNCA comprises of a Trophy and a Citation Plaque.

The nominations will be adjudged by an International Panel of Judges (PoJ). For more details on BPNCA, please visit the link http://www.icid.org/awards_nc.html

Best Performing Workbody Award (2014)

Nominations are invited from the Chairs of ICID Workbodies so as to reach the candidature of their workbodies, in ICID Central Office latest by 01 May 2014. The 4th Best Performing Workbody Award (BPWA-4) will be presented during the 22nd ICID Congress in September 2014. ICID presents the Best Performing Workbody Award (BPWA) triennially during ICID Congresses, based on the performance and various other facets demonstrated by its workbodies in between two Congresses. The Award comprises of a Citation / Certificate / Plaque to each member of the workbody, besides free publications of decided value that will be given to each member of the workbody.

The award will be adjudicated by a Panel of Judges (PoJ). For more details on BPWA, please visit http://www.icid.org/awards_wb.html
WatSave Awards 2014

Nominations are invited for the ‘WatSave awards 2014’ from individuals/team through National Committees/Committee by 30 May 2014. The entries are open to all professionals / teams from ICID member countries as well as non-member countries. In case of an entry from a ‘non-member’ country, the nomination has to be routed through and validated by an active National Committee of ICID, who should be in touch with the nominee and is aware of his / her work. The nominations sent directly to the Central Office, ICID cannot be entertained. The WatSave awards are given in four categories: (i) Technology; (ii) Innovative Water Management; (iii) Young Professionals; and (iv) Farmer.
ICID instituted ‘WatSave Awards’ in 1997 to recognize ‘outstanding, contribution to water saving / conservation in agriculture’ annually, across the world. The aim of Annual WatSave Awards is to recognize the outstanding contributions to water conservation or water saving for the benefit of all the water-users. Accordingly, the Awards are only made in respect of actual realized savings and not for promising research results, plans and/or good ideas/intentions to save water.

The selection of the winners from amongst the nominations received will be made by an International Panel of Judges. National Committees are urged to give wide publicity to these awards in their country among persons actively engaged in water savings/conservation practices, particularly farming communities.

Drainage on Wetland Agricultural Areas

The 12th International Drainage Workshop (IDW) will be hosted by the Russian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (RuCID) in Saint Petersburg (Pushkin), Russia from 23-26 June 2014.

The main theme of the Workshop is “Drainage on Wetland Agricultural Areas” and has seven sub-themes i.e. (a) advanced equipment and technologies for drainage construction on wetland land; (b) socio-economic aspects of drainage construction on wetland land; (c) drainage designs and analysis methods; (d) issues of training and skill development of designers, (e) builders and drainage system control/operation engineers; (f) integrated approach to drainage control issues and environmental protection; economic use of drained land; and (g) history of drainage systems.

Last date for submission of extended abstracts – 1 February 2014; submission of full papers – 1 April 2014; and acceptance of paper(s) – 1 June 2014.

Know your National Committees

The Iranian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IRNCID), with its General Secretariat situated at Tehran, Iran and is affiliated to Iran, Ministry of Energy and consists of the High Council, Executive Board, Technical Working Groups and Regional Committees, having 3000 members composed of experts, professors and students. IRNCID has been one of the most active National Committees of ICID since it joined as a member of ICID in the year 1955 in order to facilitate the promotion of knowledge on irrigation and drainage networks, flood control, land and water management as well as water and environment conservation to maintain a sustainable development in Iran. IRNCID has also won the third “Best Performing National Committee Award” (BPNCA) for its outstanding achievements and contributions to ICID activities for the period of 2005-2008.
IRNCID has large membership within the country which meets every month discussing, studying and reporting all issues related to irrigation, drainage and flood management. IRNCID has published about 100 newsletters, 258 books in the field of Irrigation and Drainage.

H.E. Rahim Maidani is the Deputy Minister of Energy as well as Chairman of Iranian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IRNCID) since 2013. H.E. Rahim Maidani (b.1959) and obtained B.Sc. in Civil Engineering from Technical College, Tabriz University and M.S. in Development, Soil and Foundation from Amir-Kabir Industrial University at Tehran, Iran. He has also achieved valuable experiences, such as Renovation and Engineering Deputy in Ardabil and East Azerbaijan Regional Water Authority (1991-1998); and Managing Director and Board of Directors Head in Ardabil and East Azerbaijan Regional Water Authority (1998-2008). He has been very actively involved with IRNCID and ICID as well.

IRNCID has given ICID four Vice Presidents in the past, namely, Mr. A. Kakhkchan (1972-1975), Prof. Javad Farhoudi (1996-1999), Dr. Saeed Nairizi (2001-2004) and Dr. Karim Shiatli (2006-2009). IRNCID has hosted many ICID events, such as 28th International Executive Council (IEC) meeting with a Special Session in 1977; 4th Asian Regional Conference on Participatory Irrigation Management in 2007; 21th International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage (21st Congress) together with the 62th IEC meeting and 8th International Micro-Irrigation Congress in 2011 at Tehran, Iran. ICID congratulates H.E. Rahim Maidani, Deputy Minister of Energy and Chairman, IRNCID for taking it to new heights of international cooperation and looks forward to his continued involvement and support in the activities of ICID towards fulfilling the mission.
IRNCID has taken a lead in regional cooperation by establishing “ICID – International Research Program for Irrigation and Drainage (ICID-IRPID)”, the Nodal Centre for Central Asia and Middle East, launched during the 21st ICID Congress in Tehran and signed MoUs with several NCs (like, Egypt, Indonesia, Tanzania, Mali, Ukraine, Uzbekistan) in order to create a new ‘Knowledge Base’ and exchange them by cooperative efforts.

H.E. Rahim Maidani, Deputy Minister of Energy and Chairman of Iranian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IRNCID)
As the theme of the ICID 22nd Congress is focussed on Water, Climate Change and Rural Development, Mr. Michel Jarraud, Secretary General of World Meteorological Organization has consented to deliver the N.D. Gulhati Memorial Lecture at the Plenary of 22nd ICID congress. The theme of the lecture would be “Climate Variability and Change: Impacts on Water Availability”. Mr. Jarraud, who is also the Chair of UN-Water, a multi-agency platform bring together various International Organizations working on water, will among others focus on the use of climate information and services for sustainable and efficient use of water to ensure water and productivity.

Mr. Michel Jarraud has been the Secretary General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) since 2004. He was re-appointed by the Fifteenth World Meteorological Congress for a second four-year term starting 1 January 2008, and by the Sixteenth World Meteorological Congress for a third and final four-year term, which commenced on 1 January 2012. In 2012 he also assumed the Chair of UN-Water, the inter-agency mechanism that coordinates and strengthens the work of United Nations organizations and programs on all issues relating to fresh water.
Online Paper Submission for 22nd ICID Congress

‘Extended Abstracts’ / papers must be submitted online after registering on the fEasyChair URL for submission of their pages by using “sign up for an account” link as shown on the ‘screen catch’ in case they are not already registered on EasyChair portal. Existing EasyChair users can use their account identities to submit their papers. The screen catch of the log in page is shown below:

Submission Instructions
Step 1: Prepare ‘Extended Abstracts’
Step 2: Log in to the EasyChair account (https://www.easychair.org/conferences/?conf=icid2014)

Step 3: Select ‘Sign up for an Account’ in case you are not having an account.
Step 4: Fill the details as required by Easychair and click on ‘create’ account.
Step 5: Account created, screen appears with a link to ‘ICID 2014’.
The procedure for obtaining an account is as below:
1. You should type the words as shown on the screen and click on “Continue”.
2. Fill the form details with name and e-mail address and click on “Continue”.
3. On submission you will receive an e-mail with a link to EasyChair account.

Visit of New VP to ICID Central Office

Newly elected Vice President Dr. Ir. Basuki Hardimoejo, Director General, Spatial Planning and Development, Ministry of Public Works, Indonesia, accompanied by Indonesian National Committee of ICID (INACID) delegation consisting of Ir. Iwan Nursyirwan, Vice President Hon., INACID and Mr. Syaiful Mahdi, Member, Board of Advisory, INACID, visited the Central Office on 02 January 2014. The delegation was welcomed by Secretary General Avinash C. Tyagi. Dr. Vijay K. Labhssetwar, Director; and Madhu Mohanan, Program Officer. Secretary General briefed the delegates on the ongoing ICID activities. He also apprised delegates about the recent initiatives taken up by ICID like World Irrigation Forum, knowledge management, e-Learning, WebEx, use of social media, and about the forthcoming events of ICID. Secretary General also informed the follow up actions taken by the Management Board. SG also invited INACID for cooperation in establishing e-Learning courses with the Indonesian technical contribution in preparing course contents.

Dr. Vijay K. Labhssetwar, Director appraised the delegates on the upcoming 22nd ICID Congress and 65th IEC meetings, scheduled to be held during 14-20 September 2014 at Gwangju Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea. He invited them to join the ICID’s mega events. During the discussion they agreed provide: (1) a copy of MTD in BHASA in electronic format; (2) list of INACID members for getting electronic publications viz. e-Bulletin, News Update, ICID News etc; (3) agreed to share with the Central Office technical manuals related to irrigation and drainage.

Scholarship for Young Professionals

Irrigation and Drainage sector has been experiencing a decline in infus of Young Professionals in most of the countries around the world for a variety of reasons. This does not bode well for the future of the sector as well as water security and food security, which largely depend on the efficient agriculture water management. ICID has been alive to the need to address this opportunity to the Young Professionals in participating various activities within the countries as well as at the international level. The Young Professionals Forum (YPF), established in 1993 provides an opportunity for young professionals to engage, network and share experiences.

Young Professionals of ICID are encouraged by providing various concessions in attending ICID meetings/ annual events/ conferences with the objective of intensifying the involvement of young professionals in ICID’s activities and subsequently in the decision making processes. The Young Professionals have been provided following concessions for quite some time:

- Providing Liberal concession to all Young Professionals in registration fee of 50% in all ICID events;
- National Committees nominating one young professional, in addition to one senior member to each of the technical working groups of ICID;
- Exclusively creating one category of award under WatSave Awards, reserved exclusively for Young Professionals;
- Providing free on-line ICID Journal on Irrigation and Drainage to two Young Professionals’ from each of the National Committee.

64th International Executive Council (IEC) has further enhanced these incentives by deciding to sponsor ten young professionals every year to participate in the ICID events viz. World Irrigation Forum/ Congress/ IEC commencing from the Korea Congress in 2014.

Young Professionals (below the age of 40 years), working in the irrigation sector can apply for the above benefits through their respective NCs. In case of no active NC, please send your nominations to the Secretary General through ICID partner International Organizations <icid@icid.org>. Young Professionals whose papers will be accepted for presentation by the Technical Committee of the event will be given preference in awarding the scholarships.

Brainstorming Session on Drought Early Warning Systems

A Brainstorming Session on ‘Drought Early Warning Systems’ held on 19 December 2013 at the Conference Room of ICID Central Office, New Delhi. Er. Avinash C. Tyagi, Secretary General of ICID has invited experts for attending the Session. He informed that the activities related to Drought Early Warning Systems were taken place under different institutions in India. The main purpose of the Session was to evolve ways in order to bring such activities under a common platform so there could be better coordination, wider dissemination and effective implementation of the outcome of these activities in the country. The objective of the session was to (i) Map various activities/ initiatives were undertaken; (ii) Identify the week links/ gaps in the delivery chain from desktop to the farm; (iii) Explore the needs for collaboration to fill the identified gaps and make best use of these initiatives; and (iv) Draw up the next steps in terms of establishing larger and more inclusive platform on drought issues if the gaps and need to fulfill them is established.

Executive Secretary Dr. S.A. Kulkarni retires

ICID Central Office staff bid farewell to Dr. S.A. Kulkarni on 31st December 2013 in a small and simple in-house function after 16 years of his dedicated service to the ICID community. Dr. Kulkarni took two months early retirement for taking over charge as the Secretary of the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (MWTRA) of the Government of Maharashtra State, located in Mumbai, India. On behalf of ICID family we wish him fruitful and active years ahead.
**ICID Events**

12th International Drainage Workshop (IDW), 23-26 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, rusiptrid@mail.ru

22nd ICID Congress and 65th IEC, 14-20 September, 2014, at Gwangju Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea. Contact: Ir. Hun Sun Lee, Korean National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (KCID), 1031-7 Sa-dong, Sangnok-gu, Ansan-Si, Gyeonggi-do 425-170, Republic of Korea. Tel: +82 31 400 1755/1758, +82 31 406 7278, E-mail: kcidkr@gmail.com, kcid@ekr.or.kr, Website: http://www.icid2014.org

66th IEC and 26th European Regional Conference, 11-16 October 2015, Montpellier, France. Contact: Secrétaire Général, Association Française pour l’Etude des Irrigations et du Drainage (AFEID), 361 rue Jean-François Breton, BP 5095, F - 34196 – MONTPELLIER CEDEX 5, France. Tel: +33.4.67.04.63.16, Fax: +33.4.67.16.64.40, E-mail: afeid@cemagref.fr, Website: http://afeid.montpellier.cemagref.fr

Other Events

A USCID Water Management Conference on Groundwater Issues and Water Management - Strategies Addressing the Challenges of Sustainability, 4-7 March 2014 at Sacramento, California. All information is available at <http://www.uscid.org/14caconf.html>


International Conference on Sustainability in the Water-Energy-Food Nexus, 19-20 May, 2014 at Bonn, Germany. All information is available at <http://wef-conference.gwsp.org/>


4th International Conference on Flood Recovery, Innovation and Response, 18-20 June 2014 at Poznan, Poland. All information is available at <http://www.wessex.ac.uk/14-conferences/friar-2014.html>

5th International Conference on Sustainable Irrigation and Drainage: Management, Technologies and Policies, 17-19 June 2014 at Poznan, Poland. All information is available at <http://www.wessex.ac.uk/14-conferences/sustainable-irrigation-2014.html>

**Take advantage of Irrigation and Drainage Online**

The ICID Journal Irrigation and Drainage is available online FREE via Wiley Online library for all ICID office bearers, work body chairs, members and National Committees.

Now available on the website is **Volume 62.5 (Pages 545–709), December 2013.** Click on <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ird.v62.5/issue> for direct access to the page with the papers in this issue of irrigation and drainage.

wessex.ac.uk/14-conferences/friar-2014.html

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**Adapting Irrigation for Green Economic Growth**

On 27 February 2014, the Alterra Team on ‘Climate Change and Adaptive Land and Water Management’ will organize an Interactive Workshop titled ‘Adapting Irrigation for Green Economic Growth’ on the occasion of the retirement of Ir. Koen Roest, regular scientist at Alterra Wageningen UR. For more details visit: http://icid.project-platforms.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=11

**Water and the Green Economy**

The Irrigation and Water Forum (IWF/ICID.UK) (formerly known as ICID.UK) and University of East Anglia (UEA) will be hosting a half-day seminar on “The daunting challenge of canal irrigation reform for water productivity and food security” on 21 February 2014 at Institution of Civil Engineers, (ICE) London.

Improvement of irrigation performance, underpinned by designs that offers better services and manageability, is a vital part of the anticipation that water and land productivity will have to raise over the next few decades to meet future food demands. Prof. Hervé Plusquellec will be a Keynote Speaker of the seminar. This seminar will be of interest to those engineers working on food and agriculture policy. The recent 2013 publication “Solutions for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems” prepared by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network failed to refer to the challenges and rewards of canal irrigation instead highlighting the popular but nonetheless risky of micro-scale irrigation technologies. Please contact: Mr. Tim Fuller, Secretary, The Irrigation & Water Forum, UK (E-mail: Tim.Fuller@cie.org.uk) or click at www. uea.ac.uk/watersecurity and http://iwaterforum.org.uk/