Dear Colleagues,

The World Irrigation Forum, as Agriculture Water Management multi-stakeholders’ platform, has come of age with more than 1200 participants from 52 countries participating in its second edition in Chiang Mai. The Forum brought together the entire spectrum of stakeholders, starting with farmers, representatives of irrigation and drainage agencies, engineers, industry, bureaucrats, researchers, academicians, policy makers and the young professionals.

Unique feature of the event are three round-table meetings: Ministerial meeting, High Level Official meeting, Farmers meeting and a Young Professionals’ Panel. Those of you who were not able to attend the Forum in person can get on to our Facebook page, YouTube Channel and get a glimpse of some of the events. The event was made successful by the enthusiastic participation of all the ICID Office Bearers, representatives of international partners, authors of papers and many more. I sincerely thank all the participants for sharing their knowledge and experiences.

The young professionals, who participated in the ICID Young Professionals’ e-Forum (IYPeF) have shown us the way by organizing discussions on three chosen topics prior to coming to Chiang Mai, and thus were able to bring to WIF2, perspective from other members of the IYPeF, who could not physically join us in Chiang Mai.

With a view to support the member NCs in responding to the call given by the world leaders gathered at the UN Summit through Agenda 2030, a Draft Action Plan is under discussion. A strategy aimed at the new ICID Vision 2030 “Water secure world free of poverty and hunger through sustainable rural development”, and achieving the six organizational goals adopted in Montpellier, 2015 has been forwarded. The Consultative Group (CG) convened by VPH Dr. Hüseyin GUNDOGDU, which also developed the draft Action Plan document, discussed in detailed during the 67th IEC meeting that followed the WIF2. The Consultative Group will be happy to receive further inputs till 15 January 2017, to make the Action Plan inclusive. On behalf of CG, I would like to urge all our patrons to be part of this development process.

The 67th IEC meeting took a number of important decisions that are presented in this edition of the News UPDATE for those who were not able to make it to Chiang Mai. As a first in the history of ICID, a Young Professional Ms. Kathleen Heuval (Australia), has been elected as the Vice-Chair of PCSO.

Our efforts to recognize the Historical Irrigation Structures (HIS) has strengthened the NCs interaction with the national stakeholders as is evident from the great response from the Chinese and Japanese authorities managing such structures. You may also like to take advantage of connecting your own NC with the stakeholders at the project and regional level.

Once again, let me urge you to take advantage of various communication channels that we have developed for you, particularly the WebEx video conferencing facilities and connect with your WG members, partners and stakeholders to take your NCs vision and mission forward. Once again, on behalf of all the participants, ICID and on my own behalf, I would like to thank our host, THAICID for exceptional hospitality and outstanding management of such a large event in the midst of the National mourning.

Best Regards,

Avinash C. Tyagi
Secretary General
Highlights of 67th IEC Meeting, Chaing Mai, 2016

- Approved Somalian membership to join ICID
- The Council elected Dr. (Mrs.) Irena G. Bondarik (Russia), Mr. Waseem Nazir (Pakistan), and Er. Madhav Belbase (Nepal) as Vice Presidents for the period 2016-2019.
- New Chairs of the workbodies:
  - PCSO: VP Bong Hoon Lee (Korea)
  - PCTA: VP Dr. Ding Kunlun (China)
  - WG-ENV: VP Prof. Charlotte de Fraiture (The Netherlands)
  - AFRWG: VP Dr. Mohamed Abd-El-Moneim Wahba (Egypt)
  - WG-IDM: Ms. Mary Jean M. Gabriel (South Africa)
- Approved hosting of World Water System Heritage (WSH) Program Secretariat at ICID Central Office and participate in the program
- The Best Paper Award for 2016, selected out of the papers published in the ICID Journal (Volume 64, Issue 1, February 2015 issue) during the year 2015, was presented to Ludivine Pradeleix, Philippe Roux, Sami Bouarfia, Boche Jaouani, Zohra Lili-Chabaane and Veronique Bellon-Maurel for their paper titled “Environmental impacts of contrasted groundwater pumping systems assessed by life cycle assessment methodology: Contribution to the water-energy nexus”.
- The WatSave Award were presented for:
  - Technology: “Innovation and Extension of Sprinkler and Micro Irrigation Technologies in China” by Prof. Li Jiusheng (China)
  - Innovative Water Management: “Innovation, Implementation and Extension of the Water Saving Integrated Smart Farming – AWDI Technique in Thailand” by Mr. Va-Son Boonkird and Dr. Watchara Suiadee (Thailand)
- Young Professional: “Save Irrigation Water Using the Innovative Machine of Soil and Water Management for Rice Crop Cultivation (SWMR)” by Dr. Mohamed El-Hagarey (Egypt)
- Farmers: “Sanguna Rice Technique – Zero Till, Conservation Agriculture” by Mr. Chandra Shekhar H. Bhadsavle, Mr. Changdev K. Nirguda and Mr. Anil D. Nivalkar (India)
- Total twenty five irrigation structures were included in the ICID Register of Heritage Irrigation Structures (12 Approved from 2016 + 13 cleared Provisional in 2015).
- China
  1. Chatan Weir Irrigation System
  2. Lougang Irrigation and Drainage System of Taihu Lake Basin
  3. Zhendingguo Canal Irrigation System; and
- Clearing Provisional from 2015
  4. Quebei Pond
  5. Tuoshan Weir
  6. Zhuji Shadoof Irrigation System
- Korea
  1. Byeokgol-je
  2. Chukmanje Dam
- Japan
  1. Teruizeki Irrigation Canal
  2. Asakasosui Irrigation System
  3. Naganoike Irrigation Canal
  4. Asuwagawa Irrigation Canal
  5. Meiji-yousui Irrigation Canal
  6. Kounomizo-Hyakutaroumizo Irrigation System
  7. Mannou-ike Reservoir; and
- Clearing Provisional from 2015
  8. Uchikawa Irrigation System
  9. Murayama-rokkamurasegi-sosui Irrigation Canal
- Egypt
  1. Aswan Dam
  2. Delta Barrages
- Russia
  1. Drainage System in Novgorod Region
- Clearing Provisional from 2015
  1. Chatan Weir Irrigation System
  2. Lougang Irrigation and Drainage System of Taihu Lake Basin
  3. Zhendingguo Canal Irrigation System; and
- Approval to organize:
  1. 8th Asian Regional Conference, March 2018, Kathmandu, Nepal
  2. 69th IEC & 5th American Regional Conference, Saskatoon, Canada, 23 - 28 September 2018, Saskatoon, Canada
  3. 9th International Micro Irrigation Conference, January 2019, Aurangabad, India
  4. 70th IEC and 3rd World Irrigation Forum (WIF3), 2019, Indonesia
  5. 71st IEC and 24th ICID Congress, 12 May to 18 May 2020, Sydney, Australia
- Approved the direct membership of:
  1. Asian Development Bank (Institution)
  2. Central Board of Irrigation and Power (Institution)
  3. Dr. Ashish Pandey, India (Life Membership - Individual)
  4. Prof. Umesh C. Chaube, India (Life Membership – Individual Retiree)
  5. Dr. R. Mahesh, India (Individual – Young Professional)
Dr. (Mrs.) Irena G. Bondarik (Russia)

Dr. Irena Bondarik (born 1960), obtained her Doctorate in Geology-mineralogy in the year 1988. She has more than 35 years of professional experience and participated actively in various ICID events since 1997 and contributed. Dr. Bondarik was the force behind organizing many successful events in Russia. She has immensely contributed in various capacities to ICID Working Groups.

Dr. Bondarik has contributed more than 150 scientific papers, articles and technical reports on land reclamation; reclaimed agrolandscapes etc. in Russian language and more than 15 in English. She has been conferred with many national level awards. Presently, Dr. Bondarik is a Leading Researcher of the Department on Ecosystem Water Management and Economy of the All-Russian Scientific Institute for Hydraulic Engineering and Land Reclamation and Secretary General of the National Committee of the Russian Federation on Irrigation and Drainage (RUCID) (since 1998). <rusicid@mail.ru, ruispтриd@mail.ru>

Mr. Waseem Nazir (Pakistan)

Mr. Waseem Nazir (born in 1955), did his M.Sc. (Irrigation Engineering) from University of Southampton, United Kingdom. He has more than 35 years corporate experience with Government and Multinational Companies. Mr. Nazir played a vital role in water resources conservation and their utilization, up-lift / modernization of irrigation system etc. He had contributed and participated in ICID events in various capacities and also played a lead role in organizing the 59th IEC and 20th Congress of ICID in Lahore, 2008. He also contributed as member of ASRWG, TFs and various Committees. Mr. Nazir was recipient of the Mott MacDonald Chairman’s Award.

Presently, Mr. Nazir is the Country Manager (Pakistan) and Regional Director (South Asia) of the Mott MacDonald Group Mr. Nazir is also the Managing Director, MM Pakistan (Pvt.) Ltd. <waseem160@hotmail.com; corporate@mmpakistan.com>

Er. Madhav Belbase (Nepal)

Mr. Madhav Belbase (born 1963), obtained his M. Engg. (Water Resources Management) from Luevenburg University, Germany in the year 1996. He has represented his country in several bilateral meetings on water resources with India. He has over 28 years of working experience in various levels in the Government of Nepal. Mr. Belbase has been conferred with DAAD Prize for his outstanding performance in the thesis submitted as the partial fulfilment of the M.Engg in 1996.

Mr. Belbase has contributed many articles in irrigation journals of Nepal. He is a member of the Working Group on Institutional and Organizational Aspects of Irrigation / Drainage System Management (WG-IOA). Presently, Mr. Belbase is the Joint Secretary in Water and Energy Commission Secretariat, Nepal and President, Nepal National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (NENCID). <belbasem@gmail.com>

High Level Advisory Group on Partnership for Agriculture Water Management

Irrigation and Drainage is key to enhancing water security and achieving food security in a world confronted by limited natural resources. It is clear that there is need for enhanced investment, means of sharing experiences, exchange of best practices and transfer of technologies with focussed attention on more effective and sustainable management of agricultural water. There is growing realization that there is need improving agricultural water productivity, especially in irrigated areas where the competition for water is intensifying and/or water supplies are becoming less reliable.

International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) shares mutual goals of poverty alleviation through food and water security with Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Asian Development Bank (ADB) and World Bank (WB), and has a mutual interest and commitment to work together for better management of agriculture water and mitigation of water-related disasters caused by floods, droughts, etc., using the latest tools and technologies.

In order to deal with such disasters which are increasing in frequency and intensity the Paris Climate Conference (COP21) in the Paris Agreement has called upon countries to strengthen their cooperation on enhancing action on adaptation, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change.

The UN General Assembly has adopted Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development which recognizes Partnership as a means of implementing the agenda and encourages the establishment of voluntary partnerships for the achievement of these Goals.

Ministers from Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Ethipoia, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal, participating in the Second World Irrigation Forum, hosted by the Kingdom of Thailand, under the chairmanship of Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand, Gen Chatchai Sarikulya in the presence of President Saeed Nairizi President of ICID, based on their deliberations on 6th November 2016, agreed to establish a High Level Advisory Group on “Partnerships for Agriculture Water Management” as an action-oriented multi-stakeholder partnership.

The objective is to support member countries in achieving the SDG and share experiences in implementation of targets related to agriculture water management which is key to both water and food security. It will also support the UN System efforts in monitoring the progress on related SDGs. The partnership will advocate strong policy support for higher investments in Agriculture Water Management (AWM) to ensure food and water security.
**Strategy and Action Plan**

**Vision**

Water secure world free of poverty and hunger through sustainable rural development.

**Mission**

Working together towards sustainable agriculture water management through inter-disciplinary approaches to economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound irrigation, drainage and flood management.

**Organizational goals to realise vision**

**Goal 1**: Enable higher crop productivity with less water and energy

ICID to advocate with the national governments and funding agencies to make strategic choices that favour increased profitability and productivity in energy efficient manner through sustainable agricultural water management. Following strategies are approved to meet this goal:

- **Strategy 1.1**: Modernization of irrigation systems
- **Strategy 1.2**: Improving O&M of Irrigation Systems
- **Strategy 1.3**: Implementing water saving techniques
- **Strategy 1.4**: Improving Institutional Reforms
- **Strategy 1.5**: Enhancing water productivity
- **Strategy 1.6**: Improving performance of irrigation systems
- **Strategy 1.7**: Using wastewater or poor quality water for irrigation

**Goal 2**: Be a catalyst for change in policies and practices

ICID to provide guidance to water policy analysts on experiences with the modelling principals and latest tools for simulating development scenarios to generate knowledge which can serve as catalyst for policy changes. In order to achieve this goal following strategies would be adopted:

- **Strategy 2.1**: Support appropriate policies
- **Strategy 2.2**: Promote risk management approaches
- **Strategy 2.3**: Integrated irrigation and drainage management
- **Strategy 2.4**: Encouraging development of drought management policies
- **Strategy 2.5**: Helping develop climate change adaptation strategy

**Goal 3**: Facilitate exchange of information, knowledge and technology

ICID to work towards exchange of information, knowledge and new technologies, duly recognizing the local wisdom, in order to facilitate analysis of trade-offs to maintain the economic efficiency of agricultural production and minimising the adverse environmental impacts. Strategies to meet this goal are as follows:

- **Strategy 3.1**: Providing platform for AWM professionals
- **Strategy 3.2**: Promote Regional Cooperation
- **Strategy 3.3**: Compile, collate and share knowledge and experiences
- **Strategy 3.4**: Dissemination of knowledge

**Goal 4**: Enable cross disciplinary and inter-sectoral engagement

ICID network would make available the required information in respect of irrigation, drainage and flood management to all the relevant stakeholders in the language suitable for their appreciation. Where required, platform for inter-disciplinary networking would be facilitated for dialogues between various groups. Following strategies would be adopted:

- **Strategy 4.1**: Provide a platform for various stakeholders of AWM
- **Strategy 4.2**: Develop technical documents in non-technical language
- **Strategy 4.3**: Facilitate developing inter-sectoral platforms involving NCs

**Goal 5**: Encourage research and support development of tools to extend innovation into field practices

ICID network would encourage research and provide technical support on the latest innovations available in the agriculture water domain to the government and non-governmental entities to help in the outreach into rural communities.

- **Strategy 5.1**: Improve research atmosphere in the countries
- **Strategy 5.2**: Strengthening extension services with water information
- **Strategy 5.3**: Developing tools for sustainable development
- **Strategy 5.4**: Research into the history of irrigation and learning from the past

**Goal 6**: Facilitate capacity development

ICID would work towards training and fostering young professionals, continuous training of professionals, promoting irrigation and drainage as relevant academic topics in education and training within the context of integrated land and water management and will foster closer connections with various stakeholders including farmers through national committees.

- **Strategy 6.1**: Enhancing capacity development capabilities in member countries
- **Strategy 6.2**: Support capacity development activities of member countries
- **Strategy 6.3**: Trainings Young Professionals
- **Strategy 6.4**: Creating AWM knowledge base
- **Strategy 6.5**: Provide Technical support to NCs

The Draft Action Plan was discussed in various WG meetings, Regional WG meetings, and at the meetings of Office Bearers with the NCs representatives, PCSO and PCTA. It is expected that WGs will populate Annex III with the Activities they propose to take up and their outcomes and timeline during the WG meetings in Chiang Mai.

During 67th IEC, the Consultative Group was directed to further accept the inputs from WGs and the NCs upto 15th January 2017. Based on these inputs and duly taking into account the inputs from the TF on Revitalization of National Committees, CG would revise the Draft Action Plan within 15 March 2017, when it will be presented to Management Board. The Second Draft of the Action Plan would then be circulated once again to all the NCs and WGs and comments accepted within a fixed period of 45 days. Based on these inputs the Strategy and Action Plan would be approved by Management Board.

The Implementation of the Action Plan will be subject to the availability of resources in terms of voluntary inputs from national experts spread across many countries and disciplines. The financial viability of some of the activities will have to be analysed and prioritized by the CG.

The ICID Action Plan 2030 will be subsequently endorsed and approved at the 68th IEC meeting in Mexico City, Mexico in October 2017.
Hearty welcome to Somalia

ICID takes great pleasure in welcoming Somalia National Committee of ICID (SONCID) to its network of member countries. They were admitted during the 67th IEC meeting held on 12 November 2016 at Chaing Mai, Thailand. Our warmest felicitations and hearty congratulations to members of Somalia for their faith in ICID and willingness to contribute towards the mission of ICID. The contact coordinates of Somalia National Committees are:

Prof. Mohamud Mohamed Mohamud
Chairman, Somalia National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (SONCID)
Director General, Ministry of Agriculture, Federal Republic of Somalia, P.O. Box 124, Afgoye-Mogadishu Road, Near km 4, Hodan District, Mogadishu, Somalia

Tel: +252615506514
E-mail: voice781@gmail.com

Mr. Abdullahi Hassan Hussein, Secretary-General, SONCID also participated in WIF2 activities and participated in 67th IEC Meeting as an Observer.

13th International Drainage Workshop: Drainage and Environmental Sustainability

The 13th International Drainage Workshop (IDW13) will be organized by Iranian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IRNCID) under the patronage of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) and the auspices of the Ministry of Energy (MoE) and its subsidiary Khuzestan Water and Power Authority (KWPA), Islamic Republic of Iran, from 4-7 March 2017 at Ahwaz, Iran.

The main theme of the workshop is “Drainage and Environmental Sustainability” and four sub-themes are: (i) Measures to improve drainage water quality; (ii) Measures to lower volume of drainage water; (iii) Adaptation of new design criteria in favour of the environment; and (iv) Application of alternative drainage methods.

The aim of the workshop is to introduce the challenges, needs and solutions facing the drainage community worldwide and to share experience on the national, regional and international scales in the field of agricultural drainage in relation to the environment.

The announcement and Call for Papers of the 13th IDW (http://attachment.benchmarkemail.com/c386762/Call_for_papers_13IDW_2017.pdf) have already been issued and widely circulated amongst National Committees and International Organizations. Please access IDW13 website for more information. Please submit your full length paper(s) latest by 1 December 2016. Notification of paper acceptance will be by 1 January 2017.

Contact: The Secretariat, 13th International Drainage Workshop (IDW13), Khuzestan Water and Power Authority (KWPA), Golestan Ave, Ahwaz, Iran. Email: 13idw2017@gmail.com, Website: http://www.idw13.org/English.

Awards

World Irrigation and Drainage Prize, 2016

During the Opening Ceremony of WIF2, H.E. General Chatchai Sarikulya, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand; H.E. Tian Xuebin, Vice Minister of Ministry of Water Resources, China; and President Dr. Saeed Nairizi presented the World Irrigation and Drainage Prize, 2016 to Prof. Bart Schultz (The Netherlands) for his sustained, long standing and highly committed work to irrigation and drainage sector worldwide through education, research, planning and international project implementation. The WID prize comprised of a cash award of US$ 10,000, citation and a trophy. The award winning journey of Prof. Bart Schultz can be accessed at http://www.icid.org/wid_prize.html

WatSave Awards

The WatSave Awards are presented to promote and encourage the best technological applications or projects which have been successful in saving water. The International Panel of Judges of WatSave Awards 2016 headed by PH Dr. Gao Zhany has adjudged winners as:

- **Technology:** “Innovation and Extension of Sprinkler and Micro Irrigation Technologies in China” by Prof. Li Jiusheng (China)
- **Innovative Water Management:** “Innovation, Implementation and Extension of the Water Saving Integrated Smart Farming – AWDI Technique in Thailand” by Prof. Samiha Ouda and Prof. Abd-El-Hafeez-Zohry” by Mr. Va-Son Boonkird and Dr. Watchara Suiadee (Thailand)
- **Young Professional:** “Save Irrigation Water Using the Innovative Machine of Soil and Water Management for Rice Crop Cultivation (SWMR)” by Dr. Mohamed El-Hagarey (Egypt)
- **Farmers:** “Sanguna Rice Technique – Zero Till, Conservation Agriculture” by Mr. Chandra Shekhar H. Bhadsavle, Mr. Changdev K. Nirguda and Mr. Anil D. Nivalkar (India)

Heartiest congratulations to the award winners!

ICID Young Professions’ e-Forum

Young Professionals are being 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.

Accordingly, 28 young professionals from around the countries participated in the WIF2, with 18 of them provided with
International Research Program for Irrigation and Drainage (IRPID) Scheme

The International Research Program for Irrigation and Drainage (IRPID) is conceptualized as a program for developing and implementing research agenda in the irrigation and drainage sector to meet the challenges of water security and food security. The Vision of the program is to “Intensify Irrigation and Drainage Research to Achieve Global Food Security”. And the Mission is to enhance research activities in irrigation and drainage science, technology, and management aspects in order to develop capabilities of member countries in order to achieve water security, food security and poverty alleviation while preserving the environment. The objectives of the program are to:

(a) Foster a conducive policy environment for intensifying research and development activities, facilitate technology transfer and meet networking needs of members, and
(b) Identify and promote opportunities for NCs to gain relevance, efficiency and effectiveness within their countries,

(c) Enhance research and innovations impacts in member countries by fostering increased coherence and convergence among various players, and
(d) Help NCs raise financial resources required to undertake these research activities.

The organizational structure of IRPID consists of an Advisory Committee (AC) established by ICID as a Permanent Committee (PC) to guide the program implemented through a network of Regional Nodes (RN). The Advisory Committee for IRPID consists of:

(a) Chair: Chairperson of PCTA,
(b) Members: Head of regional nodes,
(c) Thematic Chairs of various themes,
(d) FAO, IWMI and World Bank Representative,
(e) ICID Secretary General

The Advisory Committee is responsible for developing a Framework Action Plan for the program, and develop the Strategy duly describing the strategic objectives and a Framework Action Plan for the program; review and monitor the implementation of the program to ensure the quality of outputs and their effectiveness; and mobilize and allocate extra-budgetary resources through joint activities.

Each Regional network shall have minimum of 3 member countries of ICID with the Regional Node established in one of the countries. Funds for the activities of the Regional Node and its members are to be provided by the member countries themselves. Representative of the RN country constitute a Management Board coordinates and acts as its Head.

IEC decided that a data base of research institutions engaged in Agriculture Water Management within the member NCs would be established which would be further expanded to include the various research activities being carried out by them. This will help the RN members to collaborate on research of common interest. The RNs will also undertake capacity development activities.

Africa Food Prize

Dr. Kanayo F. Nwanze, President of IFAD, was awarded the inaugural Africa Food Prize at the African Green Revolution Forum in Nairobi, Kenya, September 2016. In receiving the award, Nwanze said he was dedicating it to “the millions of African women who silently toil to feed their families.” The Africa Food Prize Committee, selected Nwanze for his outstanding leadership and passionate advocacy in putting Africa’s smallholder farmers at the center of the global agricultural agenda.

The professional journey that led Nwanze to become a distinguished development leader started 40 years ago in agricultural research. He worked as an entomologist in two CGIAR agricultural research centers, eventually becoming the director general of a third—one—the Africa Rice Center. His research background has shaped his leadership of IFAD, where he sharpened its focus on a more rigorous evidence-based approach to project design, implementation and impact evaluation.
World Sustainable Development Summit 2016

The World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) 2016, held from October 5-8, 2016 at New Delhi, India on the theme ‘Beyond 2015: People, Planet & Progress’, was organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI).

Hon’ble President of India Mr. Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated WSDS 2016 in presence of large national and international gathering. It is among the first international platforms to discuss the new development agenda post the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the signing of the Paris Agreement at the 21st Annual Conference of Parties (COP21). In his address he congratulated TERI for initiating a conclave of great relevance.

On this occasion, the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Sikkim, Mr. Pawan Kumar Chamling, was felicitated with the prestigious Sustainable Development Leadership Award 2016, for his contributions towards making Sikkim the first fully organic state in India.

For more information, please access http://wsds.terii.in/

5th Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum

The Fifth Asia Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum was held on 17-19 October 2016 in Colombo, Sri Lanka, organized by UN Environment Asia Pacific Adaptation Network and hosted by the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. More than 700 participants consisting of adaptation experts, policymakers, development partners, non-government and civil society organization, financial institutions, individuals, youth, media, and private sector representatives from over 50 countries from Asia-Pacific attended the Forum.

H.E. Mr. Maithripala Sirisena, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka delivered the opening address in which he emphasized climate change resilience at local, national and regional levels to achieve sustainable development.

Rural Development Report 2016 Released

On 14 September 2016, the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) launched its flagship publication Rural Development Report 2016: Fostering Inclusive Rural Transformation. The new global report analyses rural development in over 60 countries and recommends policy changes to eradicate poverty.

The report looks at how to bring rural people into the economic mainstream and how to transform rural areas so that development is not only inclusive but also socially, economically and environmentally sustainable. The report highlights:

- The world is changing rapidly, across urban and rural areas. Growing demand for food – driven by population increase and rising incomes – is creating opportunities and challenges for people working in rural areas, including in smallholder agriculture and in the non-farm economy.
- Rising agricultural productivity, more jobs off the farm and migration to cities are reshaping rural life – but so too are adverse factors such as climate change, environmental degradation and other risks.
- Small farms continue to provide livelihoods for up to 2.5 billion people and account for up to 80 per cent of food produced in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. In a fast-changing world, rural areas must transform - and rapidly - in order to be sustainably included in growing economies and to contribute to overall prosperity.

The report can be downloaded from: https://irrigation.org.au

Forthcoming ICID Events

13th International Drainage Workshop (IDW), 4-7 March 2017, Ahwaz City, Iran on the theme ‘Drainage and Environmental Sustainability’. Contact: Dr. S.A. Assadollahi, Secretary General, Iranian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (INRCID), Email: 13idw2017@gmail.com, Website: http://www.idw13.org/English/

23rd ICID Congress and 68th IEC, 8-14 October 2017, Mexico City, Mexico on the theme ‘Modernizing Irrigation and Drainage for a new Green Revolution’.

Contact: Lic. Roberto Ramirez de la Parra, President, MXCID, E-mail:info@iclass2017.org; info@mxcid.org; Website: www.icid2017.org

8th Asian Regional Conference, March 2018, Kathmandu, Nepal. Contact: Mr. Bashu Dev Lohanee, Secretary, Nepal National Committee, ICID (NENCID), Deputy Director General, Department of Irrigation, Email: lohanibusu@yahoo.com, irrigation@wlink.com

69th IEC & 5th American Regional Conference, Saskatoon, Canada, 23 - 28 September 2018, Saskatoon, Canada.

Contact: Mr. Laurie C. Tollefson, Secretary - Treasurer, Canadian National Committee, CANCID, Email: laurie.tollefson@agr.gc.ca, Website : http://www.cwra.org/en/affiliates/cancid

9th International Micro Irrigation Conference, January 2019, Aurangabad, India. Contact: Mr. Anuj Kanwal, Member Secretary, Indian National Committee on Surface Water (INCSW), Email: incid-cwc@nic.in, Website: Website : http://www.cwc.gov.in/main/INCID/welcome.html

70th IEC Meeting and 3rd World Irrigation Forum (WIF3), 2019, Indonesia.

Contact: Ir. Mohamad Hasan, President, Indonesian National Committee of ICID (INACID), Director General of Research and Development, Email: inacid.indonesia@yahoo.co.id, mohan53@yahoo.co.id

71st IEC Meeting and 24th ICID Congress, 12 May to 18 May 2020, Sydney, Australia.

Contact: Mr. Bryan Ward, Chief Executive Officer, Irrigation’s Australia Limited (IAL) (Incorporating IACID), Email: Bryan.ward@irrigation.org.au, Website: http://www.irrigation.org.au