Dear colleagues,

Agricultural Water Management (AWM) is a process of resource management that provides a key input to agricultural production and includes irrigation and drainage, water management in rainfed agriculture, recycled water reuse, water and land conservation, and watershed management. It also includes use of irrigation water for aquaculture as well as horticulture. AWM is an interdisciplinary pursuit which involves institutions engaged in water resource management, agriculture, rural development, and the environment. For example, rural fresh water aquaculture plays an important role in supplementing rural incomes. The new vision of ICID “Water secure world free of poverty and hunger through sustainable rural development”, would require incorporating the complete definition of AWM into organizational action plan.

Sustainable development requires integrated approaches that require close collaboration among various organizations and disciplines. It requires special capacity development efforts. National Committees are continuously making efforts in this direction. This issue presents various such efforts such as training activities organized by SARIA. Institutional dialogue is being pursued to improve governance and International organizations such as IFAD and ICAB are supporting countries in these efforts.

ICID is providing the platforms such as World Irrigation Forum (WIF) for such interdisciplinary interactions among stakeholders. The progress on preparation has been in full swing. Thai Royal Irrigation Department and THAICID, the hosts of WIF2, have made excellent arrangements for an International Exhibition along with the Forum and inviting the industries to showcase the latest tools they have to offer. In addition, the exhibition also includes a side event which will provide opportunity to the countries to showcase the history of irrigation and drainage, where all the NCs would be sharing the platform to present the lessons from historical irrigation structures (HIS) in their respective countries. It may not be out of place to recall that nominations for the Heritage Irrigation Structure (HIS) are open all round the year. If you would like to nominate any historical irrigation structure from your country as HIS, please submit the nomination through the National Committee before 30 June 2016 to get the recognition by the 67th IEC in Chiang Mai, Thailand in November 2016.

Furthering this process of learning from our history, the World Water System Heritage (WSH) Program, being developed in collaboration with World Water Council (WWC), has moved a step forward with the WWC having approved establishment of a Centre for WSH within ICID Central Office.

To provide you the opportunity to contribute to the deliberation on the theme “Water Management in a Changing World: Role of Irrigation in Sustainable Food Production”, the last date for the submission of extended abstracts for the WIF2 has been extended to 31 March 2016. Grab the last opportunity, if you will.

A number of interesting side events are being arranged by our international partner institutions, providing opportunity for multi-disciplinary understanding and collaborative arrangements. At the same time the organizers have lined up a number of field trips in the Chiang Mai region which showcases the potential of irrigation in transforming rural livelihood. It is right time that you start planning and make use of the early bird registration which is being opened shortly. I once again seek your indulgence in encouraging all the stakeholders from your country and organization to participate in WIF2.

ENCID is now ready for welcoming the Young Professionals in Cairo for training on “On-Farm Water Management”. I am sure you would have already registered for the 4th African Regional Conference to be held from 26-28 April 2016 in the beautiful surroundings of Aswan Dam in Egypt. The LinkedIn group ICID Young Professional’s e-Forum (IYPeF) has been launched and you may like to encourage the young potential AWM professionals to join it and grab the opportunities.

Please keep on providing us the important feedback to let us know how Central Office can support you in your efforts to meet the targets of ICID’s new vision.

Best Regards,

Avinash C. Tyagi
Secretary General

President Dr. Saeed Nairizi visited ICID Central Office

President Dr. Saeed Nairizi visited ICID Central Office, New Delhi on 16 March 2016. He was accompanied by Mr. Alireza Salamat. Secretary General Avinash Tyagi received President at ICID Central Office.

Making right use of the 58th Board of Governors meeting of WWC at Jodhpur, 18-19 March 2016, Central Office organized a preparatory meeting of the Water Systems Heritage (WSH) Program. This meeting was attended by majority of the partners (full report available at page 5).

President Dr. Nairizi held meeting with Secretary General Avinash Tyagi and discussed emerging issues, particularly on ICID’s role in WSH. He also used this opportunity to discuss the issues related to 2nd World Irrigation Forum.
The last date for submission of Extended Abstracts for 2nd World Irrigation Forum (WIF2) is fast approaching. We solicit all stakeholders to submit papers and participate in this unique event. SPECIAL attention of Young Professionals is drawn to the fact that the Scholarships provided by ICID to attend the WIF2 will be given to only those professionals below 40 years whose papers would be accepted for inclusion in the Forum.

WIF2, together with 67th International Executive Council (IEC) Meeting will be held during 6-12 November 2016 at the beautiful Chiang Mai, Thailand, hosted by Thai National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (THAICID). The main theme and sub-themes of WIF2 are as follows:

**Theme:** Water management in a changing World: Role of Irrigation in Sustainable Food Production

**Sub-theme 1.** Key issues of irrigation and drainage in balancing water, food, energy and ecology

**Sub-theme 2.** Management of climatic extremes with focus on floods and droughts

WIF2 participation registration optional.

### Schedule for submission of abstracts/full papers:

1. **i. Submission of extended abstracts (max. 500 words)** — **Extended to 31 March 2016**
2. **ii. Notification of acceptance** — **15 April 2016**
3. **iii. Submission of paper** — **15 June 2016**
4. **iv. Notification to author, as regards oral/poster presentation** — **15 August 2016**

### Schedule for submission for the Short Communications:

1. **i. Submission of the 4-page long short communication(s)** — **15 April 2016**
2. **ii. Notification of acceptance** — **15 June 2016**
3. **iii. Notification to author, as regards oral / poster presentation** — **15 August 2016**

### Guidelines for online paper submission

**Log in to EasyChair account created for WIF2**

EasyChair uses cookies for user authentication. To use EasyChair, you should allow your browser to save cookies from easychair.org

**Submission Instructions:**

- **Step 1:** Prepare ‘Extended Abstracts’
- **Step 2:** Log in to the EasyChair account (https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=fwif2016)
- **Step 3:** Select ‘Sign up for an Account’ in case you are not having an account.

**To use EasyChair, one should first create an account.**

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

**Step 4:** Fill the details as required by Easychair and click and ‘create’ account

### Available Floor Spaces:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Normal fee (after 31st July 2016)</th>
<th>Early Bird Fee (up to 31st July 2016)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zone 3A</td>
<td>2,400 USD/Booth</td>
<td>2,200 USD/Booth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zone 3B</td>
<td>2,200 USD/Booth</td>
<td>2,000 USD/Booth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zone 3C</td>
<td>2,000 USD/Booth</td>
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**Facilities include:**

- Zone 3A, Booth Dia 6 m.
  - Seats for two exhibitors; One table and 4 chairs;
  - Partition (2.4 m. height of arc wall covering 30% total circumference); One standard power outlet with breaker 220V; Unlimited Internet (Wifi)

- Zone 3B, Booth 4.5x4 m.
  - Seats for two exhibitors; One table and 2 chairs; Partition (3 sides with 2 m. height);
  - One standard power outlet with breaker 220V; Unlimited Internet (Wifi)

- Zone 3C, Booth 4x4 m.
  - Seats for two exhibitors; One table and 2 chairs; One counter (0.4x1.0x1.1 m.); One standard power outlet with breaker 220V; Unlimited Internet (Wifi)

WIF2 will also include an International Exhibition, specially designed to provide a platform to companies and organizations to showcase their products, services, and knowledge.

The Chiang Mai International Exhibition and Convention Centre (CMECC) is the venue, which is the largest convention and exhibition centres in Southeast Asia with a total space of 521,600 square meters.
There will be a separate section under the Exhibition dedicated to the History of Irrigation and Drainage around the world. The exhibition will feature posters of the Heritage Irrigation Structures included in the ICID Register of HIS from the year 2014. A total 25 structures are included in this Register, which can be accessed at: [http://www.icid.org/icid_his1.html](http://www.icid.org/icid_his1.html)

ICID established Register of Heritage Irrigation Structures (HIS) on the lines of World Heritage Sites (UNESCO) to recognize the heritage irrigation structures around the world. The qualifying structures are included in the Register and awarded a Citation Plaque.

A Side Event will feature the round table discussions among the owners of recognized HIS from China, Japan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Thailand to project the lessons learnt from HIS.

**Participants of SARIA workshop**

The Southern African Regional Irrigation Association (SARIA) successfully held its annual workshop and steering committee meeting from 16 to 18 February 2016 at Lilongwe, Malawi. The main theme of the workshop was “Rural fresh aquaculture”. Representatives from SARIA member countries, namely Malawi, Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Botswana, Madagascar, Swaziland, Congo, Zambia and South Africa (Water Research Commission, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries: Directorate: Water Use and Irrigation Development and Rhodes University) and the representative from Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) participated in the workshop.

The Hon’ble Minister of the Department of Agriculture and Irrigation from Malawi welcomed the delegates and shared his perspective and vision about the Southern African Development Community (SADC) activity with the participants. He highlighted the willingness of the Malawian Government to support SARIA activities and shared a brief situation overview on the experiences and challenges faced by the irrigated sector in Malawi, like erratic rainfall patterns, prolonged dry spells which are affecting food production.

During the workshop, three sessions, namely (i) Training; (ii) Site visit to the Fish Farm and Lake in Malawi; and (iii) Steering Committee meeting were held. Number of presentations were made during the workshop which include presentations on ‘Overview of irrigation status in Malawi’; ‘Status of aquaculture in Malawi’; and ‘Eco health approaches to the prevention and control of vector borne diseases in aquaculture’.

The training session on Rural Freshwater Aquaculture conducted by Mr. Qurban Rouhani from Rhodes University, South Africa covered a number of issues such as different fish species including the Tillapia and Cat Fish, how the physiological characteristics of different species assisted them to adapt to their habitat etc. It was highlighted that the water used in aquaculture is not a consumptive use as water is borrowed for use for specific time and subsequently released for irrigated crops as enriched water due to presence of nitrogen and phosphate in the released water from aquaculture which acts as a good nutrition to terrestrial irrigated agriculture. It was further emphasized that is possible to align and integrate aquaculture with irrigated crops to ensure a balanced nutritious diet. It was reported that similar linkages between aquaculture and irrigated crops have already been established in Malawi and widely practiced at both smaller and larger scales. As an example, beneficial water recycling was shared by the facilitator during the training.

During site visit to Fish Farm on second day delegates observed the practicality of the fish/ irrigated crops integration process and witnessed whole process of fish hatchery, changing of oxygen, fish feeding, water circulation and its release into the crops field. The issues around water quality, marketing and sustainability of fish production were also discussed in detail.

During Steering Committee meeting on third day the member countries were requested to give feedback on all irrigation activities in their country, the challenges encountered, and solutions adopted by them to address these challenges. Members also discussed the issue of the sustainability of SARIA as most of the countries finding it difficult to sustain the payment of their membership and travel arrangements, as a result they...
have to depend on the sponsorship from
the Department of Agriculture, Forestry
and Fisheries (DAFF) of South Africa.
The members were informed that
the collaboration agreement between
Department of Agriculture, Forestry
and Fisheries (DAFF) and the Water
Research Commission (WRC) will end
of 30th March 2016 which will have a
negative impact in terms of financing
of most of the SARIA activities. Dr.
Sylvester Mpandeli, Chairperson of
SARIA emphasized his appreciation to
DAFF for their continuous support and
requested the Department of Agriculture,
Forestry and Fisheries to continue the
support in future also.

The Chairperson announced that SARIA
would host symposium in 2017 at South
Africa. The aim of the symposium would
be – (a) to review if the SARIA group
has achieved its objective set in the
SARIA strategy since 2012; and (b) to
identify new training themes from 2018
to 2021 as part of capacity building and
information dissemination.

ICID invites nominations for the 2nd
`World Irrigation and Drainage Prize 2016`
(WID Prize) instituted to recognize the
contributions made by an individual or an
institution promoting sustainable irrigation
and enhanced agriculture production
around the world.

The World Irrigation Drainage Prize, a
unique award instituted by ICID, is awarded
to recognize the work of dedicated
professionals and institutions who have
actively contributed to the development
of irrigation and drainage during the past
15 years. The award is conferred upon
an individual, a group of individuals or
an institution without any discrimination
whatsoever on the grounds of nationality,
religion, race, gender, age or political belief.
The Prize that includes a cash award of
US$10,000 and a ‘Citation Plaque’ will be
awarded during the 2nd World Irrigation
Forum (WIF2) scheduled from 6-8 November
2016 at Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Nominations are invited for the 2nd WID
Prize from National Committees of ICID;
Governments of ICID Member countries;
International organizations and Non-
governmental organizations / institution
maintaining formal relations with ICID,
especially those concerned with Irrigation
and Drainage. Nominations must be
submitted latest by 30 June 2016.
The candidates nominated for this prize
shall have made exceptionally significant
contribution through innovations in
the field of irrigation and drainage by
way of (a) research, (b) management,
(c) technical services, (d) advocacy, (e)
operationalization of innovations and
(f) sensitization of decision makers and
public; resulting in increased agriculture
production, at national, regional and/or
international level.

The prize winner(s) would be encouraged
to give an acceptance speech/lecture on
the subject relevant to the work for which
the Prize is awarded. More information,
including the detailed procedure for
nomination and other conditions and
criterion for awarding the Prize can be
accessed at http://www.icid.org/wid_sel_
proc_n_criteria.pdf

Inclusive Investment – Rural people, state and business in the Post 2015 Agenda

As mobilization toward Agenda 2030
gets underway, the 39th Session of the
Governing Council of IFAD held from
17-18 February 2016 at Rome, Italy
considered precisely how investment
could be mobilized for poverty to be
eradicated and the potential of rural
people realized. On behalf of ICID, Dr.
Marco Arcieri (Italy), Secretary General
of Italian National Committee of ICID
(ITAL-ICID) attended the 39th Session of
the Governing Council of IFAD meeting.
The theme of the Session was “Inclusive
Investment - Rural people, state and
business in the post-2015 agenda”.

With the vision to end poverty and
hunger by 2030, the Session emphasized
the target initiated during its last meeting
in 2015. The vision underpins the
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),
the Financing for Development Agenda
and the Paris Agreement on climate
change together with a new road map for
improved well-being and prosperity for
all. It is fully recognized that achieving
these ambitious development goals
hinges on translating the new road map
into actual outcomes; mobilizing all
partners to scale up action to achieve
the vision. In the rural areas more
than 70% of poor people living and
working, lie at the heart of this agenda.
That is why rural people, such as
small-scale food producers, particularly
family farmers, women, indigenous
peoples, pastoralists and shepherds
have explicitly referenced within the
SDGs. Therefore the development efforts
must be made more inclusive, reaching
further to improve the lives of poor and
marginalized groups living in neglected
rural areas. It was emphasized that the
Government, the private sector and the
development community will have to
combine their efforts and partner with
rural people themselves to make inclusive
sustainable development happen on the
ground.

IFAD has been working together with
the International Centre for Biosaline
Agriculture (ICBA) on innovations in
agriculture to help small farmers adapt
to climate change in the Middle East
and North Africa Region. Dr. Elouafi in
collaboration with IFAD’s Programme
Management Department (PMD) worked
together to find out the innovative ways
of addressing soil salinity and irrigation
challenges in world’s most water insecure
environments. PMD worked with the
farmers to get them to reuse waters, treat
waste water, drainage water, etc. Reusing
non-traditional water resources and not
letting any water go to waste is important
for sustainability. They researched the
issue of salinity and water scarcity in the
region and proposed solution options to
decision-makers.

In the past, the world has overlooked
marginalized environments, which
focused on intensive agriculture through
green revolution which increased the
yield of wheat, maize and rice
tremendously in the last century that
required very high input for agriculture
including the arable land. This is why
they need innovation and to step into
the marginalized environments to have
enough agriculture production.
WatSave Awards 2016 – Call for Nominations

Nominations are invited for the ‘WatSave Awards 2016’ from individuals/team through National Committees/Committee latest by 30 June 2016. The WatSave Awards are given in four categories: (i) Technology; (ii) Innovative Water Management; (iii) Young Professional; and (iv) Farmers.

The award(s) is/are presented to an individual or a team for an innovation that contributes to water conservation/water saving for increasing the beneficial and/or efficient use of water to develop and improve the sustainable use of the critical resource.

The nominations are routed through the National Committee (NC) in order to receive only one nomination per category per country after an initial scanning of the nominations for a sequential ordering based on merit and recommending only one. ICID member country can also support one nomination from a non-member country.

NC can nominate newly developed works of previous WatSave Award winners provided it is for a different innovation. The nomination could come on behalf of an individual or a team of named individuals, but not from an organization itself. An entry or innovation once rejected for the WatSave award by ICID should not be re-nominated, even under a different category.

In order for the jury to adjudicate the awards, which are highly dependent on the actual application of the technology in the field, the nominating National Committee/Committee has to play a crucial role since members of the jury will often not have detailed first-hand knowledge of the situation in a particular country, and thus would not be in a position to judge the realism of individual submissions.

NCs should undertake initial screening of the nominations, through a broadbased National Screening Committee for WatSave Awards against the criterion laid down in this Scheme, and in the process recommending them, authenticating the research, the application cited in the nominated work and ensure that the nomination is for the original work carried out by the authors.

The awards will be presented at the 67th International Executive Council (IEC) meeting scheduled to be held during November 2016 at Chiang Mai, Thailand. The last date for receipt of the entries from NCs along with a completed ‘Nomination Form’ etc. to the ICID Central Office, New Delhi is 30 June 2016. For more information, please visit http://www.icid.org/ws_scheme.pdf.

Water Systems Heritage Program

Presenting the value of heritage and historical experience for water and sustainable development which includes evolving insights and concepts about water and about heritage; open the horizon of solutions towards better management; conservation; conveyance, and use of water resources.

ICID has been working on the history of irrigation and drainage for the last 30 years through its Working Group on History and has associated experts on the subject from around the world through its National Committees and has also initiated program for recognition of Historical Irrigation Structures (HIS) throughout the world. Recognizing that wisdom of humanity is worth protecting and preserving as heritage that has ability to lead us towards better water management; with a view to conserve and manage these heritages to the benefit of present and future generations, a World Water Heritage System (WSH) program is being developed in collaboration with WWC.

The Board of Governors of WWC in its 58th Meeting held in Jodhpur from 18-19 March 2016 approved establishment of a Centre for WSH as the Secretariat of WSH program and accepted the offer of ICID to undertake the responsibility as Secretariat of WSH and hosting the Centre for WSH. The Centre for WSH would maintain and publish the Register of WSH and, in collaboration with WWC, Secreatriat provide various services and support to the registered systems and national and local governments by mobilizing resources, disseminating the lessons learnt, hold special sessions at World Water Fora, organize technical consultations, and participate in political process.

Taking advantage of the BoG meeting in Jodhpur, India, a preparatory meeting was organized at ICID Headquarters in New Delhi on 16 March 2016. The preparatory meeting for finalizing the program was organized with potential members form the International Committee and the Technical Advisory Committee attending the meeting to fine tune the proposal before presenting to the Board of Governors of WWC. The potential members of the International Committee and the Technical Advisory Committees were invited and Mr. Dale Jacobson, Member, BoG WWC; Mr. Henk van Schaijk, ICOMOS; Mr. Kazumi Yamaoka, Commissioner, JNCID, MAFF, Japan; Mr. Alireza Salamat, Deputy Director, UNESCO Regional Centre on Urban Water Management-Tehran; Mr Emmanuel Grenier, Representative of International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD) attended the meeting. Dr. Saeed Nairizi, President, ICID, Chaired the meeting.
Chairman G.S. Jha visits ICID Central Office

Er. G.S. Jha, Chairman of Indian National Committee on Surface Water (INCSW), having long association with use of water at farm level in his illustrious career of 33 years with Command Area Development activities visited ICID Central Office on 1st March 2016. He was updated on the role, functioning and various activities of ICID. He was also briefed about the recent initiatives taken by ICID in development of ICID Vision 2030; setting up of Technical Support Unit (TSU), Heritage Irrigation Structures (HIS), capacity development and training etc. Er. Jha has shown keen interest in the activities of ICID and assured of continued support of INCSW.

He also briefed about increased focus of the Government of India in improving income of farmer’s through enhancement of irrigated agriculture which is in line with the vision of ICID.

During the meeting discussions were held on various issues including organization of the 9th International Micro Irrigation Conference in 2019/2020 by INCSW at Aurangabad, India; 2nd World Irrigation Forum (WIF2) at Chiang Mai, Thailand in November 2016 including exploring possibility of participation of Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources (MoWR) in the ministerial roundtable meeting; increased participation of Indian experts in ICID workbodies/TFs etc. It was agreed that both ICID and INCSW will have half yearly meeting for better cooperation and collaboration.

Water Security and Safety Planning

A two-day Training Course on ‘Water Security and Safety Planning’ was held from 8-9 December 2015 in the Function Hall of Akademi Sains Malaysia. It was organized by Malaysian Capacity Development Network for Sustainable Water Management (MyCDNet) with the support of Cap-Net UNDP, in collaboration with Akademi Sains Malaysia (ASM), Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID) and Malaysian Water Association (MWA).

The course was intended to create awareness among professionals of multidisciplinary background; to safeguard sustainable access to adequate quantities of quality water for sustaining livelihoods and socio-economic development; to ensure protection against water-borne pollution and water-related disasters; and to preserve the ecosystems in a climate of peace and political stability. More than 40 participants, including consultants, students and professionals from various governmental and non-governmental organizations attended the course.

The training Course started with a definition of water security and an overview of the global water scenario. It went on to a more in-depth look at Malaysia’s water security issues, the nation’s water resource management and strategies for the future; a look at the importance of water in the private sector’s various industries; and the definition, objectives and guidelines of water safety planning. This course ended with a half-day technical site visit to Sungai Batu Water Treatment Plant in Selangor on the second day, which reinforced the subject matter presented. It provided a relevant, hands-on, memorable finale to the course.

Irrigation and Drainage Products & Service Directory (Online)

ICID, as a knowledge management institution in the field of Irrigation and Drainage, has taken up many new initiatives to provide the global pool of resources to meet the various needs of NCs.

ICID has recently launched a new web service on ICID website in the name of "Irrigation and Drainage - Products & Services" (Yellow Pages) http://www.icid.org/ypsearch.php to help various stakeholders in locating required services, products and business information through a few clicks. This online directory provides a platform to enlist all the services and products being provided by consultants, manufacturing companies, dealers, and other professional institutions dealing in irrigation and drainage sector.

This online directory service is totally FREE, and can be availed of by any service provider by entering the required information online http://www.icid.org/ypaddform2.php on ICID website. At present, the information is listed in the following categories and sub-categories:

A. Consultancy Services (1. Individuals/ Experts/ Freelancer; 2 Organizations);
B. Companies / Manufacturers / Dealers (1. Company/ Implementing Agency; 2 Dealer/ Distributor / Contractor; 3 Manufacturer; 4 Publisher; 5 Software developers/ vendors);
C. Institutions (1 Academic Institutions; 2 Farmer’s Associations; 3 Funding Agencies; 4 Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO)/ Not for Profit Organizations; 5 Research Institutions; 6. Training Institutions); and D. Others

National Committees are requested to spread this information in their respective countries and encourage companies/institutions/experts to join the new online service to enhance their visibility to the international irrigation, drainage and flood management community.

ICID News Update – March 2016
Integrated Approach for Sustainable Water Management

A two-day Conference JAL MANTHAN-2, an approach to demolish the beurocratic hurdles that mar the progress in the implementation of the projects financially supported by the Central Government on the theme “Integrated Approach for Sustainable Water Management” was organized by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD & GR) from 22-23 February 2016 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, India.

The Conference was inaugurated by Sushri Uma Bharati, Hon’ble Union Minister of Ministry of Water Resources, and attended by Prof. Sanwar Lal Jat, Union Minister of State of Ministry of Water Resources, Mr. S.N. Poudyal, Minister for Irrigation and Flood Control, Sikkim; Mr T. Harish Rao, Irrigation Minister, Telengana; Mr. Brijmohan Agrawal, Resources Minister of Chhattisgarh and Mr. Surendra Singh Patel, Minister of State for Irrigation, Uttar Pradesh were also present along with the high level officials from various state governments. Other participants included eminent experts/ professionals in the water sector, representatives of NGOs etc. Er. Avinash C. Tyagi, Secretary General of International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) was invited to share his views regarding water resources development and management at basin level.

During the conference, Union Minister emphasized the need for identification of issues resulting in delay in implementation of the projects and to finalize strategies for addressing the same and the outcome from pending projects. The State Ministers expressed the need for faster clearance of proposals by MoWR and streamlining of guidelines for Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PM Irrigated Agriculture Scheme). The eight sessions covered the following topics i.e. (i) Session-1 : PMKSY Priority Projects – Implementation Issues, (ii) Session-II : Inter Linking of rivers – Progress and Challenges, (iii) Session-III :River Basin Approach – Present Status and Future Indication, (iv) Session-IV: Ground Water and National Hydrology Project, (v) Session-V: Principles of Allocation of Water, (vi) Session-VI: Water Management, (vii) Session-VII: Use of innovative Technologies and; (viii) Session VIII: Water Conservation .

Jal Manthan is slated to become annual feature underlining the need for large-scale people’s participation and co-operation of NGOs in various important schemes proposed by the government. Whole-hearted cooperation for water conservation and improving water use efficiency was called for. The need for giving more stress on micro irrigation projects in the country considering limited availability of land for constructing new canals was also emphasized.

Please access http://wrmin.nic.in/forms/list.aspx?id=1303 for more for information of the conference.

News from ICID National Committees

IACID (Australia)

Irrigation - For prosperity and wellbeing

A three-day Irrigation 2016 Irrigation Australia International Conference and Exhibition will be held from 24-26 May 2016 at the Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre, Victoria, Australia.

The main theme of the Conference is “Irrigation - For prosperity and wellbeing” and six sub-themes are: (i) Urban, (ii) Irrigation Scheme; (iii) Fishways; (iv) New Technology; (v) Supply Channels; and (vi) Water Sources are covered in the conference. The Conference will address the latest issues in irrigation and water management including, Agricultural irrigation, green walls, sports turfs and ovals/golf, intensive Horticulture, turf farms, irrigation technology, soil management, climate issues etc. The ‘Early Bird’ registration is now open for the 2016 Irrigation Australia International Conference and Exhibition. The last date of Early Bird registration is 1st April 2016. Please access http://www.iup.com.au/irrigation-australia/ for more about the registration. In addition, please also access http://irrigationaustralia.com.au/ for conference programme, free exhibition registration etc.

USCID (USA)

The U.S. National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (USCID) will be organizing the Water Management Conference titled “Water Shortages and Drought: From Challenges to Solutions” from 17-20 May 2016 at the San Diego, California, USA.

Detailed information related to the Conference is available at http://www.uscid.org/16caconf.html

ANAFIDE (Morocco)

The Moroccan National Committee of ICID (ANAFIDE) has informed that Mr. Aziz Fertahi and Mr. Mohamed Bouaam have taken over as new President and Secretary General of ANAFIDE. Their contact coordinates are:

New President

Mr. Aziz FERTAHI; President de l’ANAFIDE; Association Nationale des Ameliorations Foncieres de l’Irrigation, du Drainage et de l’Environnement; 2, Rue Haroun Errachid; Agdal, Rabat, Morocco; Tel : +212-5-37670320, +212 37 67 03 20, +212 37 670 320 Email : med.bouaam96@gmail.com

ICID fraternity extends its warm welcome to the new team and expressed it’s thanks to the former President Dr. Abdelhafid Debbah for his valuable contributions to ICID.

THAICID (Thailand)

New email ID of VPH Chaiwat Prechawit (Member. ICID’s Permanent Committee for Technical Activities [PCTA] and Working Group on History of Irrigation, Drainage and Flood Control [WG-HIST] is c.prechawit@hotmail.com>

anafide.ma@gmail.com, laboroute. btp@gmail.com

New Secretary General

Mr. Mohamed Bouaam; Secrétaire Général de l’ANAFIDE Association Nationale des Ameliorations Foncieres; de l’Irrigation, du Drainage et de l’Environnement; 2, Rue Haroun Errachid; Agdal, Rabat, Morocco; Tel : +212-5-37670320, +212 37 67 03 20, +212 37 670 320 Email : med.bouaam96@gmail.com
OBITUARY

It is with deep remorse that we inform you the sad demise of Padma Shri Awardee Bhanvari Hiralal Jain, Founder Chairman, Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd. (JISL), who pioneered micro-irrigation system in India, on 25 February 2016.

Late Jain, 79, was a staunch follower of Mahatma Gandhi who preferred simple living. “Jain was a man of small ideas which created big revolutions,” the company said in a statement. “He practiced what he preached and he built his entire business on a foundation of inclusiveness and sustainability over the last five decades. “Jain believed small farmers are entrepreneurs and they must get dignity as well as higher income,” the company said. He built Jain Irrigation into a $1 billion multinational company with 28 manufacturing plants in North and South America, Europe, Asia and Australia.

The company is best known as the world’s second-largest maker of drip irrigation equipment, manufacturing plastic tubing and components for micro-irrigation systems during 4-7 April 2016 at Cape Town, South Africa. The Conference will be organized by Water Footprint Network, the University of the Free State (UFS) and the Water Research Commission (WRC).

During the Conference, six sub-themes will be covered i.e. (1) Water Footprint Assessment; (2) Water management at a catchment scale; (3) Irrigation efficiency, water productivity and modelling water use; (4) Water footprint and sustainable growth; (5) Role of green water in food security; and (6) Ground water for food production. For more information about the WFRA Conference, please access http://www.waterfootprint.org

October 2017, Mexico City, Mexico, with the theme “Modernizing Irrigation and Drainage for a new Green Revolution”. Contact: Dr. Luis Rendón Pimentel, (MXCID), E-mail:info@icid2017.org; E-mail:mxcid.org; Website: www.icid2017.org

Other Events


India Water Week (IWW), 4-8 April 2016 on the theme “Water for all: Striving together” at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, India. For details, visit http://www.indiawaterweek.in/

Asia Water 2016, 6-8 April 2016, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. For details, visit www.asiawater.org

19th International River Symposium: Green Rivers of the World: Management for Shared Benefits, 12-14 September 2016 at New Delhi, India. For details, visit http://riversymposium.com

Forthcoming Events

ICID Events

4th African Regional Conference, 26 to 28 April 2016 at Cairo, Aswan City, Egypt, with the main theme as “Agricultural Land and Water Management for Sustainability under Climate Variability”. Refer www.encid.org for more information.

2nd World Irrigation Forum (WF2) and 67th IEC, 6-12 November 2016, Chiang Mai, Thailand, with theme “Water management in a changing world: Role of Irrigation for sustainable food production”. E-mail: thaiicid@hotmail.com; Website: http://www.worldirrigationforum.net

13th International Drainage Workshop (IDW), 4-7 March 2017, Ahwaz City, Iran, with theme “Drainage and Environmental Sustainability”. Contact: Dr. S.A. Assadiollahi, Secretary General, E-mail: irmicid@gmail.com, Website: http://www.irmicid.org

23rd ICID Congress and 68th IEC, 8-14 October 2017, Mexico City, Mexico, with the theme “Modernizing Irrigation and Drainage for a new Green Revolution”. Contact: Dr. Luis Rendón Pimentel, (MXCID), E-mail:info@icid2017.org; E-mail:mxcid.org; Website: www.icid2017.org

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ICID members can now avail a special 35% discount of all the Wiley printed publications under the Society Discount Programme introduced recently. Members are encouraged to take advantage of this special discount.

Water footprint and sustainable water use in food production

A four-day Conference of the Water Footprint Research Alliance on the theme “Water Footprint and sustainable water use in food production” will be held to help save water and boost crop yields, under its slogan of “More Crop Per Drop.” JISL also has units manufacturing plastic pipe and sheet, and in food processing, energy and biotechnology.

Bhau was frequently seen in the lush green fields around the JISL’s headquarters outside the city of Jalgaon, working with agronomists and scientists experimenting with diverse crops from mango to rice. Bhau started in business in 1963 with $1,470, selling kerosene out of a hand-drawn cart. In the 1980s the company started PVC pipe manufacturing. He discovered micro irrigation while visiting a U.S. trade show in 1983.

Today the company has around 10,000 employees. For drip irrigation equipment, it has a 60 percent market share in India and 15 percent worldwide. It has factories in North and South America, Europe, Asia and Australia.

Its drip irrigation products have been used by 5 million of India’s 100 million farmers: “We have lot of ground to cover, we have merely tapped the tip of the iceberg,” Jain once said. Jain had received India’s fourth highest civilian award, the Padma Shri, and the prestigious Crawford Reid Award for promoting irrigation.

JISL has also set-up a large agricultural research institute at Jain Hills near its headquarters, supported schools for educating children from poor families and funded the Gandhi Research Foundation to promote the values of Mahatma Gandhi. Late Jain wanted to promote “good education and sound values. Values that have stood the test of time but are slowly and surely being eroded by the influence of Western culture on our youth.”

Bhau was a strong supporter of the objectives of ICID. Recently, ICID team consisted of Secretary General Avinash C. Tyagi, Executive Director Harish K. Varma, and Dr. Suresh Kulkarni, former Executive Secretary met Late Jain at Jalgaon and briefed him on ICID activities and proposed new initiatives such as capacity development, particularly for Africa region; Technical Support Unit (TSU), etc. He also assured JISL’s full cooperation in organization of the 9th Micro Irrigation Conference in India, and development of e-learning modules on micro irrigation systems. As a follow-up JISL decided to join ICID as a Direct Corporate Member.

ICID family offers its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and JISL staff on his passing away.

May his soul rest in eternal peace!