Dear Colleagues,

As we approach the upcoming 9th International Micro-irrigation Conference (9MIC) from 16-18 January 2019 in Aurangabad, India, I have the pleasure of sharing my recent observations as part of ICID’s study visits to solar-operated irrigation projects in and around New Delhi, India. Our team visited Jain Irrigation’s project site in the northwest State of Punjab where they have installed several solar panel batteries to pump water from a canal network to irrigate the fields of nearby farmers. The project is a very good example of cooperation among local government officials, project staff and farmers. Assured supply of water has made a significant impact on the income level of farmers, who are able to cultivate horticultural and other cash crops such as mustard. The site also had storage tanks made of concrete to ensure continuous water supply even when there is no sunlight. As a result, the agriculture in this water-stressed area has revived and helped mitigate urban migration of villagers. As our freshwater availability for food production is stressed, we need to look out for newer sources of water for irrigation, improve irrigation efficiency by reducing transport losses, precision application and better management. We also observed similar systems in the Alwar region of the State of Rajasthan, however, there they have solar-assisted pumps to draw groundwater for irrigation of spring onion farms. The Delhi-based Water Technology Center (WTC) has been working in this area for last several decades and replicating the success in 35+ villages to benefit thousands of farmer families. This site had a very interesting business model as some progressive farmers have now become dealers of irrigation systems and other farm supplies. Prior to Rajasthan visit, we met WTC scientists and observed their commercial-scale research farms equipped with solar-powered drip irrigation technology.

These study visits are part of our preparation to host a high-level delegation from Egypt and Tunisia in January 2019, who are coming to India, to gain valuable experience of success stories of solar-powered irrigation. FAO has collaborated with ICID to facilitate the study tour of these senior level decision makers and we are eagerly waiting for them.

ICID has been part of many other events which have been covered in this issue of the News Update and I am sure you would find these recent visits interesting and inspiring.

Best Wishes,

Ashwin B. Pandya
Secretary General

1st Cairo Water Week: Water Conservation for Sustainable Development
Cairo, Al Qahirah, Egypt

The first Cairo Water Week (CWW1), organized by Egypt’s Ministry of Water Resources in partnership with the European Union (EU), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Global Water Partnership (GWP), and International Water Management Institute (IWMI), also including other international partners, was held from 14-18 October 2018 in Cairo, Egypt. CWW1 focused on the theme, ‘Water Conservation for Sustainable Development’ with an aim to promote water awareness, foster new thinking about the most pressing water-related challenges and take actions towards integrated water resources management (IWRM) and conservation for sustainable development.

The opening ceremony was presided by His Excellency Mustafa Madbouli, Prime Minister of Arab Republic of Egypt, Mr. Mohamed Abdel Aty, Egyptian Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation and the Deputy Secretary General of the UN along with some 20 Ministers and more than 40 international delegates. High-level meetings with the President and the Prime Minister of Arab Republic of Egypt, as well as several bilateral meetings were also organized during the event.

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Specific themes addressed during the event included water scarcity, health and sanitation challenges and opportunities; science, technology and innovation; climate change and the environment; transboundary water governance and benefit sharing; and water management for sustainable development.

The event provided a forum to discuss water issues in the Mediterranean with a special focus on equitable and sustainable development through systematic approach of integrated water management and to address water-related tensions and conflicts.

1st African Young Water Professionals Forum (AF-YWPF)

During the CWW1, the African Regional Working Group (AFRWG) of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID), currently chaired by VPH

Dr. Mohamed Abd-El-Moneim Wahba (Egypt), seized the occasion to establish the African Young Water Professionals Forum (Af-YWPF) and organized its first meeting to discuss forum’s objectives and mandate. The Af-YWPF was held from 14-16 October 2018. The three-day workshop included the declaration of the establishment of Af-YWP Forum, hands-on-training workshops, seminars and technical sessions to mainstream the youth towards abundant lucrative opportunities in irrigation and agriculture.

During the inaugural lecture, Secretary General A. B Pandya urged the African young professionals (YPs) to get connected with the ICID network in their respective country and familiarized them with the knowledge portal of ICID. Since last few years, ICID has been playing a proactive role in strengthening the ICID Young Professional e-Forum (IYPD) to develop a breed of young water professionals adept in facing the future water challenges. This year too, ICID gave active support to Af-YWPF by sponsoring five YPs from the African region. For more info, please visit: https://www.cairowaterweek.eg/about-us/

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australia and ICID have recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for furthering scientific cooperation to encourage joint research and development activities in the development of Basin Futures (BF), a web-based capacity development and planning tool (developed by CSIRO) that helps create various development scenarios in a river basin, particularly in scarce data situations. As part of the MoU, ICID in consultation with CSIRO is exploring ways to jointly promote BF through case studies in ICID member countries and had identified Somalia (Africa) where BF can be applied as a case study to promote its use.

Mr. Amit Parashar, Principal Research Consultant, CSIRO Land and Water (Australia) and his team gave a live demo presentation on BF on 6 November 2018. The meeting was attended by Secretary General Pandya, Executive Director Harish Varma, Dr. Sahdev Singh (Dir-KM) from ICID Central Office and Mr. Abdullahi Hassan Hussein from Somalia. The CSIRO project team was represented by Mr. Parashar, Mr. Carmel Pollino, Mr. Peter Taylor and Mr. Tony Slatyer.

The live demo began with introductory remarks by Mr. Parashar introducing his team virtually followed by a backgrounder about the BF model, which is aimed at supporting developing and emerging economies. Mr. Taylor projected BF as a basin pedia (encyclopaedia of basins) which can be used to search basins all over the world with different parameters and generate content for rainfall, potential evapotranspiration, climate and environment. It aims to answer three questions: (i) How much water do we have? (ii) What are we doing with it and what is the value from that water? (iii) Is there opportunity for future development of water resources?

Mr. Parashar explained that BF (a multi-lingual platform) is not aimed at modelling regulated systems nor supporting water trading or water sharing. The key goal is to enable a cohort of users requiring initial stage understanding of water resources to support planning outcomes in sustainable and climate resilient manner. For demonstration the CSIRO team used the Somalia country data and described various modules for water resource assessment.

Further different development scenarios were presented to answer questions about demographic, economic and infrastructure changes. The inter-basin sharing of water was also discussed taking into account the climate change impacts. CSIRO team also responded to the questions of Mr. Hussein (Somalia) regarding the application of BF and highlighted its user-friendly features as a cloud-based tool (requiring minimum computing resources from the client side) that brings together high-performance computing and large-scale global data sets to make data analysis accessible and efficient. This can be used to study various development scenarios to help in decision making process.

At the end of the demonstration, SG Pandya thanked everyone for their time for organizing a live demonstration and interesting discussion and proposed to promote BF tool to other National Committees of ICID after the successful completion of Somalia case study.
The fourth (04/18) Virtual Meeting of the Management Board (MB) chaired by President Reinders was held on 1 November 2018 and mainly discussed the Resolutions adopted during the 69th IEC meetings in Saskatoon, Canada in August 2018 and its proceedings which is available at <http://www.icid.org/minutes.html>.

VPH Dr. Ding Kunlun, VPH Laurie C. Tollefson, VP Dr. Brian Wahlin and SG Pandya (Member Secretary) attended the meeting. At the outset, President Reinders welcomed the members including VP Dr. Wahlin, who joined the MB as the Chair of the Permanent Committee on Strategy and Organization (PCSO). The meeting apprised the members of the decisions pertaining to (i) Reviewing the status of 70th ICID Foundation Day Celebrations; (ii) Constitution of Task Team for Financial Aspects of Special Contribution to ICID Budget from ICID Events; and (iii) Constitution of Task Team on Transboundary Water Management and Effect on Agriculture Water Management (TT-TWM-AWM).

The virtual meeting also discussed matters pertaining to ICID Office Bearers’ Election for the term 2018-2021, Allocation of NCs and Strategy Themes among the newly elected VPs, NCs presentation during the Plenary Session of the 70th IEC Meeting in Bali, Indonesia to be held in September 2019. The NCs of Myanmar, Slovenia and Nigeria have been proposed.

The fourth (04/18) Virtual Meeting of Management Board

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4th Virtual Meeting of Management Board

Dr. Nabarro facilitates workshop on ‘Food Systems Dialogues’

Dr. David Nabarro, Special Adviser to the UN Secretary General and recipient “2018 World Food Prize” facilitated and supported a two-day workshop on “Food Systems Dialogues”, organized by Bharat Krishak Samaj on 25-26 October 2018 in New Delhi, India. ICID represented by Dr. Singh, Dir-KM participated in the workshop that aimed to initiate dialogues to support different actors within food systems to work together effectively, as well as to align and, where possible, combine their efforts to work towards a world of Zero Hunger.

Dr. Nabarro in his inaugural speech welcomed all and set the tone by sharing his experience of working in India and the privileged opportunity to reconnect with its people and culture. He shared his vision for a food system that delivers for all, leaving no one behind. Dr. Nabarro, who
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International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage

NOVEMBER 2018

Dr. Ashok Gulati, Infosys Chair Professor for Agriculture, ICRIER, congratulated Dr. Nabarro for bringing the issue of nutrition in food dialogue and stressed the need for connecting farmers to value chains.

Mr. T. Nanda Kumar, Former Secretary Food & Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India expressed his views to tackle the sustainability challenge in agriculture owing to erratic rainfall and water scarcity and the dilemma to opt for better science and technology or fall back on time tested practices.

Dr. H.P Singh, Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd. gave his views on the topic “Water, micro irrigation potential and public investment gap” highlighting that much has happened in agriculture as farmer’s income has increased and per unit area has increased with diversification in crop productivity. In addition, to think strongly for sustainable food system and honing the skills of farmers it is recommended to increase investment in micro-irrigation to boost the agricultural production.

More than 50 people attended the workshop wherein eminent scholars, academicians, leading experts and practitioners exchanged their views, ideas and approaches related to food systems and jointly pursued for commonalities in the dialogues, designed to be interdisciplinary, cutting across sectors, including local and national governments, consumers, farmers, businesspeople, civil society groups and international organisations.

The workshop concluded on an optimistic note, acknowledging stakeholder diversity and inclusion of women farmer voices as the way forward to tackle global hunger.

FAO-RNE collaborates with ICID for study tour on Solar Powered Irrigation Systems in India

In recent years, solar irrigation has become increasingly viable for countries as a reliable, clean-energy solution for agricultural water management, especially in areas with high-incident solar radiation. As investment costs for solar-powered irrigation systems (SPIS) are decreasing, SPIS technologies are becoming a viable option for many farmers.

Recognising the specific context in each country, the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Office for the Near East and North Africa (FAO-RNE), Cairo, Egypt seeks to explore how the promise of SPIS can be realised, whilst openly addressing the risks and challenges that come with the technology with focus on how this technology can be used to regulate groundwater use, to provide energy access to rural areas, and to promote innovative investment models and organisational structures.

Towards this endeavour, FAO-RNE has collaborated with ICID to organize a study tour to India for a high-level delegation from Tunisia and Egypt to be held from 6-12 January 2019. The study tour seeks to strengthen institutional capacities for the focal countries (Tunisia and Egypt) with the objective to highlight good practices, provide insights into how the potential of SPIS is realised and how risks are addressed.

The main outcomes of the study tour will aim to achieve the following: (1) learning from existing experiences in India to understand how to promote and regulate the use of SPIS; and (2) providing field knowledge from Indian experiences for visiting technical experts to act as multipliers of knowledge.

As part of the agreement, ICID is going to prepare a comprehensive report on technical, financial and operational aspects of SPIS using case studies from several Indian states. Dr. T.B S Rajput, Emeritus Scientist, Water Technology Centre (WTC), IARI, New Delhi has agreed to prepare the report on ‘Risks and Benefits for the Solar Powered Irrigation Systems’ based on his three decades of professional experience in the domain of micro irrigation and SPIS. The report will serve as the primary reference for the delegation sponsored by FAO to visit India to observe the current status of SPIS in selected Indian projects and demonstrating their applicability in other parts of the world.

A meeting was held on 12 October in ICID Central Office, wherein Dr. Rajput further discussed the details of the report with SG Pandya, ED Varma and Dr. Singh, Dir-KM. During the discussion, it emerged that ICID should form a more formal Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with WTC to project their existing research on the micro irrigation systems.

As part of reconnaissance, SG Pandya and Dr. Singh visited WTC, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI)- (Indian Council of Agricultural Research) ICAR on 9 October 2018 and were briefed by Dr. Rajput and Dr. Neelam Patel, Incharge, Principal Scientist, Soil & Water Conservation Engineering about various projects by WTC with SPIS being the most successful, as they reduce the need for electricity to operate pressurised irrigation systems and can be easily
installed in remote areas with erratic electricity supply. The technology has been tested both on the research farms of WTC as well as farmers’ fields in various states of India.

On 26 October 2018, SG Pandya, ED Varma and Dr. Singh had an interaction with Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd., a global emerging leader in micro irrigation systems and a direct member of ICID - for arranging a study visit to their irrigation projects on SPIS in various parts of India including community level project in Talwara district in Punjab state. The ICID officials also visited the Talwara project and interacted with the project implementation team, the local government officials and farmers who are benefitting from the project.

**International Conference on Sustainable Water Management**

10-12 December 2018, Chandigarh, India

An International Conference on "Sustainable Water Management" will be held from 10-12 December 2018 at Chandigarh, India as part of the World Bank funded National Hydrology project being implemented by the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India, Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) and Central Board of Irrigation and Power (CBIP) in technical collaboration with Central Water Commission (CWC) and ICID.

The international conference would see convergence of renowned water resources experts in academia, industry, utilities and research institutions including other related disciplines from within India and around the world to discuss and deliberate on various aspects of sustainable water management, i.e., meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the demands of the future generation to sustain their water needs.

Around 500 delegates representing policy and decision makers from Central and State Governments, Officers of Irrigation and Water Resources Departments, Agriculture, donor agencies, academicians, consultants as well as NGOs are likely to participate in the event.

Moreover, the conference would provide an interactive platform for eclectic brainstorming and sharing path breaking ideas and case studies in respect of flood and drought management, hydrology, e-flows, inter-basin water transfer, climate change, intelligent decision support systems, storage projects, etc. to address pressing issues regarding sustainable management of water resources.


**Meeting with ICOLD delegation**

Mr. Michael F. Rogers, President, International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD), U.S.A with his delegation visited ICID Central Office on 22 October 2018 for a brief interaction with SG Pandya and other ICID officials including Executive Director Harish Varma, Dr. Sahdev Singh, Dir-KM and Dr. Vijay Labhsetwar and Mr. Madhu Mohanan, Communication Officer and to collaborate and widen the scope of mutually beneficial activities. At the outset, SG Pandya welcomed the delegation and introduced the Central Office team. ED Varma gave a brief presentation about ICID and its activities and further highlighted the organization’s evolving role over the years in the global irrigation and drainage community.

The ICOLD officials were apprised about ICID network comprising of 78 member countries and its active engagement in various activities in the form of Working Groups, ICID awards, ICID Young Professional e-Forum (IYPeF), triennial ICID Congresses, triennial World Irrigation Forums. SG Pandya informed the delegation about the upcoming major ICID events including the 9th International Micro Irrigation Conference (9MIC) in Aurangabad, India (16-18 January 2019) and the Third World Irrigation Forum (WIF3) and 70th IEC Meeting in Bali Indonesia (1-7 September 2019).

SG Pandya proposed Mr. Rogers to organize a ‘Supporting Event’ during WIF3 related to the theme/sub-theme that would provide them an excellent opportunity to engage with other stakeholders and to showcase how they could contribute towards the thematic objectives of the Forum. ICOLD delegation reciprocated to give full support and assured active participation during the Forum.

**VP Belbase meets ICID officials**

Vice President Madhav Belbase, NENCID visited Central Office on 31 October 2018 and had a brief interaction with SG Pandya, Executive Director Varma and Dr. Singh, Dir-KM. During the meeting VP Belbase presented copies of the ‘Proceedings of the 8th Asian Regional Conference (ARC) in Support of Evergreen Revolution’ to SG Pandya and other ICID officials. SG Pandya further deliberated the participation of NENCID in the upcoming ICID events including the 9MIC in Aurangabad, India and the WIF3 and 70th IEC Meeting in Bali Indonesia. VP Belbase with keen interest assured active representation from NENCID in the upcoming events.
The Indian National Committee of ICID (INCSW) is pleased to welcome you all to be a part of India's major international event- the 9th International Micro Irrigation Conference (9IMIC) to be held from 16-18 January 2019 in Aurangabad, Maharashtra, India.

The three-day event will focus on the main theme 'Micro Irrigation in Modern Agriculture' covering wide range of topics under four sub-themes, namely (i) Micro Irrigation Design, Innovations and New Techniques for increased Crop Productivity; (ii) Micro Irrigation fund and Government support through Micro Irrigation; (iii) Micro Irrigation for Cluster Level Farming and small farm holders; and (iv) Operation & Maintenance Services and Capacity Development for the Micro Irrigation Systems.

More than 120 abstracts have been reviewed by a panel of experts received under "Call for Papers for 9IMIC.” Based on the review, the abstracts have been further classified into two different categories (i) oral presentation; and (ii) poster presentation.

Important dates and deadlines:

- **30 November 2018** Notification of acceptance of abstracts
- **15 December 2018** Last date for submission of full-length paper
- **31 December 2018** Notification of acceptance of papers

15 January 2019 Pre-conference National Micro-Irrigation Workshop
19-20 January 2019 Post conference study and cultural tours

** For abstract and paper submission; authors must sign up and create an account thorough the link: https://imic2019.ivyleaguesystems.com

**REGISTRER NOW..!!!**

Delegates attending the conference as well as exhibitors can both register for the conference and exhibition online at https://imic2019.ivyleaguesystems.com. The details for registration fee slabs payable by the delegates including author of papers for the conference can be accessed @ http://micro-irrigation2019.com/registration/

**EVENT HIGHLIGHTS**

The conference aims and plans to provide a global platform for professionals and exhibitors by showcasing knowledge and technologies from the world over and providing business opportunities to the water resources communities. A host of special side events by international organizations including World Bank, Global Water Partnership and other professional societies/ bodies will also be organized. The following high-level concurrent events will be part of the event:

- Irrigation Minister’s Roundtable
- Farmer’s Pavilion & NGO session
- Sponsors Workshops on Specific Crops
- Workshop on specific Agro Climatic Zone
- Micro Irrigation Awards to Farmer, practitioner, Company, Government

The event will have various programmes that include:

i. Conference: 3 days of action packed exchange of ideas on Policy for the Development of the Micro Irrigation in Modern Agriculture for Sustainable Water, Food & Agriculture.

ii. Exhibition: Core focus – 3 days industry sponsored technology-based exhibition of products depicting latest technology for use of micro irrigation.


iv. Cultural Tour(s): Full-day Cultural Tour after 3 days to focus on rich cultural heritage of India located in that area.

v. Study Tour(s): Full-day Study Tour after the conference to focus on one of the largest micro Irrigation system of India located in that area and visit to a factory. To view in detail, please visit: http://micro-irrigation2019.com/travel-information/

vi. Accompanying Person: Full 3 days engagement in local shopping cum visit to cultural sites etc.

vii. Social Networking: Other ICID National Committee’s Program/ Dinner, Spouse Club, Cultural show/ Film Show.

More information about the conference is available @ http://micro-irrigation2019.com
Nominations for 2019
for the prize can be accessed at http://...
The Indonesian National Committee of ICID (INACID) will host the 3rd World Irrigation Forum (WIF3) and the 70th IEC Meeting of ICID from 1-7 September 2019 at the Bali Nusa Dua Convention Centre, Indonesia.

WIF3 aims to formulate a new perspective and strategy for the future of irrigation system and would provide a forum to scientists, researchers, experts and professionals from private and government sectors to network and share experiences and give an excellent opportunity for solutions to be disseminated and recognized by public at large.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The 'Call for papers' for WIF3 is now available at http://www.icid.org/WIF3_Call_for_Papers.pdf for information and abstract submission. The Forum website has been launched and you may access https://icid2019.com/ for other details of the event. This is for your information and wide dissemination among the members of your National Committee/Organization and others.

Theme: Development for water, food and nutrition security in a competitive environment

Papers are invited under the following Sub-themes.

A. Sub-Themes

1. Enabling Policy Environment for Water, Food and Energy Security
2. Role of Civil Society and non-state actors with Focus on farmers and Extension Facilities
3. Improving Agricultural Water Productivity with Focus on Rural Transformation

B. Innovative Products and Services

Short papers (4 pages of A4 size) on innovative products and services are also invited on the above sub-themes and topics. Please write 'Innovative Products and Services' next to the title of your submission.

C. Schedule for submission of abstracts/full papers

i. Submission of extended abstracts (max. 500 words): 01 February 2019
ii. Notification of Acceptance: 15 March 2019
iii. Submission of full paper (10 pages of A4 size): 15 May 2019
iv. Notification to author regarding oral/poster presentation: 31 July 2019

D. Online paper submission

The process for online Extended Abstract submission is now open. New Users may create an account at <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=wif3>. If you already have an EasyChair account from past submissions, you may use the same user ID and password to access online submission for WIF3. Please note that only the 'Extended Abstracts' of the papers are required in first stage of submission to enable peer review by an international review team.

Please select one sub-topic only under sub-theme that closely relates with your abstract/paper during submission. Do not select multiple sub-topics.

***PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT FULL PAPERS AT THIS STAGE as they would not be reviewed***

For more information, please contact:
Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar, PhD
ICID, 48 Nyaya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi – 110 021, India, E-mail: icid@icid.org, Tel.: +91 11 2611 6837; +91 11 2611 5679, +91 11 2467 9532, Fax: +91 11 2611 5962, Website: http://www.icid.org

Bali - The Land of the Gods

News Buzz: ICID National Committees

IAL-IACID (Australia)

Irrigation Australia’s Annual general meeting was held on 25 October 2018. During the meeting Chairman Andrew Ogden thanked the members who took part in the voting process to elect five directors to the Irrigation Australia Board and showing keen interest in the association’s activities and events over the past year and the upcoming opportunities and plans for the year 2018-19. In the meeting the special resolution relating to the amendments to the constitution was passed and the new constitution has now been uploaded to the member’s area of the website <https://www.irrigationaustralia.com.au/>.

Congratulations poured in for three re-nominated directors who successfully returned for a further two-year term - Peter Durand, Business Development Manager for Netafim Australia Pty Ltd, Les Olivieri, General Manager of HR Products and John Pivac, General Manager Sales at Vinidex Pty Ltd. In addition, two new incoming directors, Colin Bendall and Carl Waters were also congratulated and welcomed.

Outgoing director Peter Hayes, who served on the board for six consecutive
years, was acknowledged for his extraordinary service to the board and for providing salient advice and sound corporate governance on the various committees he has been involved in during his tenure. Mr. Hayes also offered to continue with the Australia National Committee for the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (IACID). Retiring Director - Ian Penno was also recognised for his contribution two-year period tenure on the board.

Change in Address:
Irrigation Australia Limited (IAL) is closing their Sydney office and relocating to Brisbane from 9 November 2018. In addition, they have also moved from their Mascot head office location to Murarrie, Brisbane. All the National Committees are requested to correspond as per the new physical address below.

New Address
Irrigation Australia Limited
Unit 11 - 58 Metroplex Avenue
Murarrie, QLD 4172
(PO Box 13, Cannon Hill, QLD 4170)
Ph: (07) 3517 4000; Fax: (07) 3517 4010

Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute invites applications for Programmes 2018-19

Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute (SICI) is pleased to announce following programmes for the year 2018-19 administered by its offices in India and Canada to engage with the academic fraternity of your institution and assist in establishing greater ties between your partner institution in India and Canada. The programmes seeking applications in the current round are:

1. Shastri Institutional Collaborative Research Grant (SICRG)
2. Shastri Mobility Programme (SMP)
3. Shastri Research Student Fellowship (SRSF)
4. Shastri Programme Development Grant (SPDG)
5. Shastri Publication Grant (SPG)
6. Shastri Membership Development Grant (SMDG)
7. Faculty Development Programme for Vocational Education (FDPVE)
8. Global Initiative for Academic Network (GIAN)/Faculty-In-Residence Programme (FIR) (Open for Non-members also)
9. Shastri Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant (SSTSG)
10. Shastri Student Internship Project (SSIP)
11. SICI Membership Development Fund (SMDF)

Applications from all domains of studies like Social Sciences and Humanities, Arts, Commerce & Management and STEM subjects are accepted. However, applications are encouraged in the focus areas of SICI and priority areas of Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Govt. of India.

The details of the programmes are available at https://www.shastriinstitute.org or can be accessed directly by visiting the link https://www.shastriinstitute.org/grants-awards-and-opportunities-for-indian-canadian-scholars.

Australia partnering with Nepal to improve water resources management

The Nepal-Australia Joint Advisory Committee has agreed to continue their bilateral partnership focused on river basin planning, ecosystem management and exchange about water management policy options.

Joint Secretary of the Water and Energy Commission Secretariat, VP Madhav Belbase highlighted the partnership as a good example of cooperation among Nepal and Australian scientists and government officials. He stated that Nepal and Australia are very different countries with contrasting water challenges; however, they are very pleased with the progress in their water partnership as Australia is internationally recognised as a world leader in water resources management.

During the meeting they were briefed on recent river basin planning efforts in the Kamala Basin which is being assisted by Australia’s premier research organisation, CSIRO. In addition, Australia’s International Centre of Excellence in Water Resources Management (ICE WaRM) will continue to provide policy support to Nepal officials in preparing the National Water Resources Policy and associated legislation. Mr. Pete Budd, Australian Ambassador to Nepal, as joint Chair of the Committee, indicated that Australia was open to expand their partnership to new areas.

The Committee will meet again in next six months to monitor the progress in the bilateral water partnership.
70th ICID Foundation Day Celebration

ICID will be completing its 70 years of operation in 2019 and to commemorate its pioneering journey and achievements over the last seven decades elaborated activities have been planned. The 69th International Executive Council (IEC) meeting held in Saskatoon on 17 August 2018 agreed to the proposal to celebrate the 70th ICID Foundation Day on 24 June 2019 to its conclusion with the

24th ICID Congress in Sydney, Australia in September 2020, as proposed during the first meeting of the Management Board (MB-1/18) held on 3 May 2018 at Kathmandu, Nepal.

As part of the year-long celebrations, the Central Office has already streamlined the activities presented during the Council meeting in a time bound manner including preparation work for the release of the second edition of the special publication on “Water Saving in Agriculture”, a coffee table book (with photos and major accomplishments of each National Committee, historical background and establishment of ICID including its early years) and a short video film highlighting the history and journey of ICID, since its inception in 1950.

Besides, all the NCs are also encouraged to organize special events involving past and present Office Bearers and other stakeholders to promote ICID and its activities. Various Working Groups (WGs) of ICID are requested to pen their historical journey and proud achievements with young professionals giving in their contribution in the form of audio-visual materials and testimonials.

The celebrations which will conclude in Sydney in September 2020 and would provide an excellent opportunity to reconnect with the past and new members of ICID as well as various water sector stakeholders.

ICID Events

9th International Micro Irrigation Conference (9IMIC) on the theme 'Micro Irrigation in Modern Agriculture', 16-18 January 2019, Aurangabad, Maharashtra, India. For more info contact: Mr. Anuj Kanwal, Member Secretary, Indian National Committee on Surface Water (INCSW); Email: incsw-cwc@nic.in; 9imic@wapcos.co.in; Website: http://micro-irrigation2019.com

70th IEC Meeting & 3rd World Irrigation Forum (WIF3) on the theme 'Development for water, food and nutrition security in a competitive environment', 1-7 September 2019, Bali, Indonesia. For more info contact: Ir. Adang S. Ahmad, CES, President, INACID; Email: inacid.indonesia@gmail.com; adangssafa@yahoo.com; Website: https://icid2019.com

5th African Regional Conference on Irrigation and Drainage (ARCID), 16-19 March 2020, Rabat, Morocco on the theme: Sustainable Management of Irrigation for Improved Resilience of Agriculture in Africa. E-mail: bartali.h@gmail.com, anafide.ma@gmail.com; Website: http://www.anafide.net/

71st IEC Meeting & 24th ICID Congress, 22-24 September 2020, Sydney, Australia. For more info contact: Mr. Bryan Ward, Chief Executive Officer, Irrigation's Australia Limited (IAL) (Incorporating IACID), Email: Bryan.ward@irrigation.org.au; info@irrigation.org.au; Website: http://www.icid2020.com.au

Other Events


International Dam Safety Conference (IDSC) 2019, 13-14 February 2019, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India. For more details, please visit: https://damsafety.in/idsc2019/; Email: idsc-cwc@gov.in


2019 Floodplain Management Australia National Conference: A National Call to Action: Making Australia Flood Safe, 14-17 May 2019, Canberra, Australia. For more details, please visit: https://floodplainconference.com

ISMAR 10: International Symposium on Managed Aquifer Recharge, 20-24 May 2019, Madrid, Spain. For more details, please visit: http://ismar10.net; Email - info@ismar10.net

MinWat 2020: 3rd International Multidisciplinary Conference on Mineral Waters: Genesis, Exploitation, Protection, and Valorisation, 31 March-3 April 2020, Caserta, Italy. For more details, please visit: http://www.iahitaly.it; Email: segratario@iahitaly.it