Season’s Greetings!

As the year 2019 comes to its logical end, I believe, it’s time to take stock of ICID activities during the year and focus on next year’s planned activities.

This year started on a high note with the 9th International Micro-Irrigation Conference in January, attracting more than 1000 international and national professionals, policy makers, researchers, students and not to miss a big contingent of farmers. To continue its popular capacity development program for Young Professionals (YP), ICID facilitated and organized four training activities in sync with very active support from National Committees (NCs) of China, South Korea, Indonesia and African Young Professionals’ Forum. Considering the success of such trainings, more programs are planned for the next year to build the future leaders of the water sector.

The next big ICID event was the World Irrigation Forum (WIF3) held in September in Bali, Indonesia that breached all the previous records of participation of NCs, ICID’s international partners, and other stakeholders, numbering more than 1500 with technical workshops of various ICID Working Groups, Side Events by International Partners, YP training, cultural performances and study visits. Indonesian NC did a commendable job with excellent facilities, logistics support, cultural activities and delegate transportation throughout the forum.

This year ICID was also busy expanding its professional network with like-minded agencies and international partners such as The International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSS), Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), University of Naples Federico II and others, ICID participated in ICOMOS-promoted International Water Heritage Conference, National Water Heritage Workshop; HSS-supported International Himalaya Conference and IsDB-supported YP training, World Bank sponsored study tour of 20 Nigerian delegates nominated by Nigerian NC. Broad-basing of water sector organizations and institutions is now becoming a reality and it is visible in many of the events. Such collaborations are essential for a long-term future of our combined efforts to solve today’s pressing problems.

We are all now looking forward to next year’s 5th African Regional Conference on Irrigation and Drainage from 16th-19th March 2020 to be held in Marrakech, Morocco and subsequently the 24th ICID Congress and IEC Meetings in September 2020 in Sydney Australia. For this, the abstract submission process has already begun. Online nominations for WatSave Awards, World Heritage Irrigation Structures and Water Systems Heritage will soon be made available. In its efforts to streamline the technical activities and nomination submission processes, ICID is now moving forward with internet-based solutions for greater efficiency and faster delivery of knowledge services. A new user-friendly ICID website will be launched in January with built-in searchable databases of ICID outputs.

In closing, we are all Wishing YOU A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020!

With Best Wishes

Ashwin B. Pandya
Secretary General, ICID

International Himalaya Water Conference, Bangladesh

‘The HSS International Himalayan Water Conference: Transnational policies required for water governance in South Asia’ was jointly organized by Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS) and the Delhi-based Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSS) at the Spectra Convention Centre in Dhaka, Bangladesh from 8-11 November 2019. The objective was to discuss the transnational policies on water sharing with an eye on water resource management and conflict mitigation among the stakeholders of countries in the Hindu Kush Himalayan region.

The conference attracted over 60+ participants associated with water management, climate change, environment, policy making, research and academics from India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, China and other parts of the sub-continent. Transboundary water sharing issues such as river basin management, inter-grade water resource management, data generation, regional cooperation and environmental hazards have been major concerns for these countries. Secretary
General (ICID), Er Ashwin B. Pandya, was one of the keynote speakers invited to address the conference. Speaking at the conference, SG Pandya, underlined the importance of understanding highland-lowland interactions within the context of South Asia. The Hindu Kush Himalayan range is spread over 3,500 kms cutting through parts of eight countries viz., Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal and Pakistan.

Ten major river systems of Asia have their origin in the Hindu Kush Himalayan range. It exerts significant influence on the climate, water resources, ecosystems, agro-biodiversity, and livelihood of the population in this region. Therefore, there is a need to focus on the basin’s development rather than only concentrating on the river.

Given the current circumstances, it is important to develop ways of adapting to changing climatic conditions while managing transboundary water distribution. These are governed by various bilateral and multi-lateral treaties and agreements which go beyond the issues of water sharing and often involve issues like power generation, disaster management protocols etc.

Issues related to transboundary water resources with neighbors have to be addressed country-wise. For instance, Pakistan’s main worry is water shortage; Bangladesh is more concerned about dealing with floods; Nepal’s focus is on economics of water flow; and, so on and so forth.

Nepal can meet India’s requirement by building reservoirs on some of its rivers such as Kosi and Karnali. to store excess water and charge retention fee for holding the water. The water that is retained can be used for generating hydel power, implementing flood control measures and irrigation purposes. India has offered Nepal an opportunity to benefit from these possibilities and share the investment for the same. This will not only result in generation of hydel power but also make it possible to retain water in the bank. India offers heavy rebates on petroleum products to Nepal as a motivating factor.

Bhutan has agreed to India’s terms for water retention and the project is being financed by India on 30% grant and 70% loan basis. Efforts are on to reap additional benefits from transborder water sharing. Inland waterways are being licensed by Bangladesh to reap economic benefits from India. Delegates witnessed flood based land erosion at the Ganga planes which cause habitat and population displacement. A pragmatic approach towards efficient management of transnational water resources coupled with conciliatory national policies and political will to implement such policies followed by diplomacy at all levels seems to be the best bet to mitigate the dangers posed by impending effects of climate change that is dangling over south Asia like the proverbial Damocles’ sword.

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**IrriSAT Application**

The IrriSAT application won ICID’s Annual WatSave Award under the Technology category. This application was developed by John Hornbuckle, Jamie Vleeshouwer and Dr. Janelle Montgomery from Australia. The ICID instituted WatSave Award for Best Technology in 2017 and has been recognizing emerging technology for saving water in irrigation, every year.

IrriSAT was featured in the Vol.XIII, Issue III of Water Digest (India’s premier Water magazine) under the title ‘Using Satellites For Better Irrigation: IrriSAT.’ The Editor-in-Chief of this publication, Er. A.B. Pandya, ICID’s SG, says, ‘For us, who are living in the 21st century, technology unquestionably shapes our day-to-day lives. And, technology has been making remarkable progress in the water sector. These days dozens of solutions are available in the market which are apt solutions for problems like safe drinking water, treatment, recycling etc. Some young and creative minds are trying their best to create latest solutions for winning this fight against water scarcity.

The technological aspect has the capacity to bring in a change and improve the picture of water resources in the country. We have broken barriers by reaching the heights and exploring subjects which were unimaginable.

Additionally, this free application helps in weather-based scheduling of crops. It automatically processes data received from Landsat National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) satellite and the Sentinel European Space Agency (ESA) satellite by using Google Earth Engine. It provides daily as well as weekly water use forecasts. It can also map daily, seasonal or annual changes by selecting the desired area with the click of a mouse button. It can forecast a 7-day crop water requirement and guide the next irrigation period on the basis of irrigation data. IrriSAT users have found the application useful for modifying irrigation timing to match crop water demands and modify irrigation schedules in the event of extreme climatic conditions. It helps in identifying poorer performing areas and using limited water resources for better irrigation of fields. It is also useful in assessing performance levels and investigating impact of management practices on water use and yield.

This application was made available in October 2014 and popularized through presentations, workshops, conferences and social media and has found thousands of users in Australia and the United States of America. For more information you can visit, [https://www.thewaterdigest.com/Emagazine-July-August-2019/](https://www.thewaterdigest.com/Emagazine-July-August-2019/)

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At the behest of Federal Ministry of Water Resources (Nigeria), the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) organized a study tour for the Steering Committee members of the World Bank funded ‘Transforming Irrigation Management in Nigeria (TRIMING) project to India from 27th November to 8th December 2019 through the Nigerian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (NINCID). Delegation members represented River Basin Development Authorities, State Governments across Nigeria, Ministries of Agriculture, Power, Environment, Finance and Water Resources of Nigeria.

The study tour was intended to familiarize the delegates with the Indian experience in the areas of transfer of management of public irrigation systems from government control to farmer organizations. The study tour focused on the following areas: (a) Procedures and lessons learnt from rehabilitation and modernization of irrigation schemes; (b) Lessons learnt from the Indian experience in Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM) including Water Users Associations (WUA); (c) Post-Transfer challenges in operation and maintenance of large irrigation systems; (d) Irrigation canal development and automation; (e) Making irrigated agriculture profitable; (g) Dam safety operations and improvement etc.

The delegates visited the Central Office of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) at Chanakyapuri, New Delhi on 28th November 2019 and attended lectures on the Status of irrigation development and management, dam safety operations, Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM), Rehabilitation and Modernization, by luminaries of water management fraternity in India. After a brief introduction to ICID’s activities, Secretary General Er. Ashwin B. Pandya delivered a lecture on the ‘Status of water management in India.’ The session concluded with a lecture on ‘Approach to modernization and rehabilitation of irrigation projects’ by Er. Harish Varma, Executive Director (ED) of ICID.

The delegation met the Nigerian High Commissioner at the Nigerian High Commission in New Delhi on 29th November 2019. Er. Harish Varma (ED) and Er B.A. Chivate (Director – Technical) accompanied the delegation throughout the study tour as resource persons.

The delegates had in-depth discussions with farmers, Water Users’ Association (WUA), WUA Federation in Waghad and officials from Water Resources Department (WRD), Government of Maharashtra. They also visited Sahyadri Farmer Producer Company, Mohadi, Nashik which is the largest farmer producer organization in India and is owned and operated entirely by farmers.

On 2nd December 2019, the delegates visited the Kadakvasla Dam to see various installations there. They studied the Real Time Data Acquisition System for Krishna and Bhima river basins in Maharashtra. The delegates also visited the National Water Academy and Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS), Pune. At CWPRS, the delegates were shown the working models coastal and river water management. These included the Bombay port model, desilting chamber model, spillway model and the Yamuna model. The delegation studied the canal automation of Narayanpur irrigation project canal system and the Almatti Dam. They had discussions with authorities, officials and beneficiaries of Ramthal Irrigation Project. It is a community based, fully automatic drip irrigation project where water is delivered directly to the crop root zone.

Besides these, the delegates engaged in discussions with senior officials from the Ministry of Water Resources and Central Water Commission (CWC) of Government of India, officials of Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (MWRRA) and Water Resources Department, Maharashtra and Karnataka in the course of their study tour.
Dr. Sahdev Singh, Director (Knowledge Management), presented selected case studies on Solar-powered Micro Irrigation Systems (SPIS) at the Training Course on ‘Micro Irrigation for Improving Water Use Efficiency’ at Hotel Grand Mehfil, Camp Road, Amravati, Maharashtra on 28th November 2019. The training course was organized by the Central Board of Irrigation and Power (CBIP) for the Water Resources Department.

Solar energy has been emerging as a clean, environment-friendly alternative to fossil fuels in recent years. Agricultural water management is witnessing increasing use of solar energy for irrigation purposes particularly in the micro irrigation segment.

SPIS is fast replacing electric and diesel-powered pumps as a source of clean energy thereby reducing pollution levels. SPIS offers farmers a reliable source of energy that is likely to reduce their operating costs considerably in the long run though it calls for significant investment at the time of installation. It works as an insurance against increasing power tariffs and skyrocketing fuel prices. Also, it offers more control to small farmers who depend on erratic power supply from government grids for pumping water to irrigate their farms. Therefore, SPIS is emerging as a reliable source of energy for micro irrigation at affordable prices.

Subsidy from the government for procurement of SPIS, seeds and fertilizers can be of great help to the farmers. However, for evolving a successful business model, it is important for private sector to work in consonance with the government as well as the community to develop technical capacity at the farm level.

Aligning SPIS with micro-irrigation system for growing vegetables and crops can result in high yield. Capacity building exercises need to ensure complete support from private players for pilot projects at the farmer level in consonance with government agencies. Support to such projects need to be an ongoing process and should be able to adapt itself to address contingencies during the implementation process. The stakeholders need to be aware of the impact of climate change on human life and natural resources—mainly water. Use of solar energy for micro irrigation at farm level are showing encouraging results not only in India but also in other parts of the world.

The Centre for Historic Houses of OP Jindal Global University organized the ‘Water and Heritage Workshop’ at the Jindal Arts Centre of their Delhi Campus located in the Qutab Institutional Area, New Delhi on 25th November 2019.

The objective of the workshop was to assimilate, share and exchange knowledge related to architectural history, environmental science and low energy architecture for mutual benefits. Comparative studies between Asia and Europe also formed part of the agenda.

The workshop dwelt on how study of historic water architecture can help to address contemporary issues; the challenges of conserving historic water architecture; borrowing from past strategies to preserve water; and, use of water for cooling purposes in low energy architecture. The workshop also featured a panel to find ways of interaction among experts for future interdisciplinary research and facilitate cooperation between heritage water experts in India and abroad.

Dr. Sahdev Singh, Director (Knowledge Management) presented on ‘World Heritage Irrigation Structures and Their Relevance Today’ on behalf of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID).

ICID recognizes important irrigation structures of antiquity that have stood the test of time as ‘World Heritage Irrigation Structures’ (WHIS) and maintains a register of recognized structures. As of now, about 100 such structures are listed in the register. This recognition puts a stamp on the water heritage and traditional knowledge that could be useful for future planning.

Traditional knowledge and ancient wisdom of our ancestors in managing water resources may help in understanding and addressing these challenges. Recognition of the antiquity and historical importance of heritage irrigation structures can help in furtherance of our knowledge of agricultural practices during different periods of history in different parts of the world and underlying philosophy and principles accounting for the sustenance of these structures over centuries. These structures mark important innovations and milestones in evolution of knowledge, design and construction of irrigation structures and hydraulic engineering. These are largely responsible for improving economic condition of farmers and food security.

The Livelihoods India Summit 2019 organized by ACCESS was held at Hotel Le Meridian in New Delhi on 12th -13th December 2019.Ms. Prachi Sharma, Knowledge Officer and Ms. Shreshtha Sharma Consultant (Knowledge Management) attended the summit on behalf of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)

The summit traced India’s journey from a food deficit country towards food security and discussed the concurrent threats from the impact of climate change. Ensuring food security by increasing agricultural productivity through effective food production systems and ensuring sustainable income to farmers is one of
Interactions with Professors from University of Naples Federico II, Italy

Following the Italian Masters’ student’s internship in October, Prof. (Dr.) Pasquale De Toro, Department of Architecture, University of Naples Federico II, Italy and (Dr.) Mrs. Maria Correta, Associate Professor of Economics and Environmental Assessment, DARC Department of Architecture University of Naples Federico II, Italy visited ICID’s central office. They were part of an international delegation from Italy visiting India to carry out scientific research work on ‘Assessing Urban Transformations: Urban-Rural Boundaries in Planning’ focusing on social and economic development.

The Italian delegation visited educational institutions, international organizations, Member of Parliament, authorities and officials of the Government of India and several state governments related to urban and rural development to discuss possibilities of carrying out research and training programs in India.

Prof. Toro and Mrs. Correta discussed the role of ICID in rural and agricultural, socio-economic, and environmental development in India and around the world. They also explored the possibilities of collaborating on International Student Exchange Program, International Delegation Visit to ICID, development of young professionals and joint publications.

Training Program on Micro Irrigation Systems to Mitigate Climate Change Impacts

Concerned with the deteriorating food security levels in the African continent as a result of land degradation and water scarcity and the impact of climate change, the International Commission on Irrigation and Damage (ICID), African Regional Working Group (AFRWG) and Moroccan National Committee of ICID (ANAFIDE) has decided to do something about it. In this direction, a training program for participants from the African region on ‘Micro Irrigation Systems to Mitigate Climate Change Impacts’ is being organized at Zephyr Hotel, Marrakech, Morocco during 11th-15th March 2020 as a capacity building exercise preceding the 5th African Regional Conference (ARC) during 16th-19th March 2020.

The ICID Vision 2030 envisages “Water Secured World Free of Poverty and Hunger through Sustainable Rural Development” and its mission and six organizational goals to achieve this vision. One of the goals is to facilitate capacity development through following strategies: (i) Enhancing capacity development capabilities in member countries, (ii) Support capacity development activities of member countries, (iii) Trainings Young Professionals, and (iv) Creating AWM knowledge base.

Though ICID’s African Regional Working Group (AFRWG) has been keen on sustainable development for Africa to ensure food security and poverty alleviation by strengthening the National Committees (NCs) of the African continent, the working group found young professionals wanting in capacity. Realizing the seriousness of the issue, they developed a Capacity Building Strategy (CBS) for Africa in 2015.

Accordingly, ICID organized a training program on ‘On-farm Water Use and Management’ for young professionals from African countries in April 2016 in collaboration with the Egyptian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (ENCID) and the Regional Centre for Training and Water Studies (RTCWS). This was a capacity building program for engineers and practitioners associated with water resources management, irrigation and drainage.

Projections claim that the food production would have to be doubled by 2050 in order to meet the increase in demand due to the increase in population. Add to these, the adverse effects of climate change resulting in floods and droughts. Depletion and degradation of agricultural land coupled with water scarcity and negative impact of climate change are some issues that the African population will have to reckon with in the years to come. With a view to reduce dependence on rain-fed agriculture; increasing the yield; and ensuring food security by mitigating the impact of climate change, ICID is organizing the next Young Professionals Training Programme in Morocco.

The training program is expected to help the African Young Professionals (AF-YPs) gain in-depth knowledge of water accounting, emerging irrigation and several of the United Nations. The two-day summit comprised of the inaugural session, 4 plenary sessions, 4 technical sessions, 3 networking breaks, 3 fireside chats, and a capacity building program for young professionals. The session also dwelt on harnessing information technology and technical knowhow to enhance agricultural productivity; new products, agricultural credit, market risks; and, the need for encouraging policies to promote growth and increase financial inclusion among small famers.
technologies and learn from the Moroccan experiences with regard to irrigation and water management for development of a sustainable climate change-resilient agricultural sector in Africa.

The training program consists of four days of intensive training on Climate change and irrigation techniques, Design of drip irrigation systems, Operating and maintenance of drip irrigation systems, and Irrigation monitoring and field visits to sources of irrigation water (collective network, well, tube well, etc.); pumping station; solar-powered ultra-low energy drip irrigation systems; basin for water irrigation storage; head unit; manifold and submain; and, laterals.

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**WatSave Awards 2020**

Improving water efficiency is the imminent challenge faced in agriculture today. There is a need to innovate and change existing water policies, management practices, and water-saving techniques. A holistic approach involving all the stakeholders like farmers, corporates, government, and civil society organizations are required to improve water productivity.

Recognizing this need, ICID constituted WatSave Annual Award(s) in 1997 to identify and promote exceptional water conservation/saving practices in agriculture. They are presented every year to individuals or a team of individuals after evaluating actual realized savings; and not promising research results, plans or good ideas/intentions to save water. These nominations are received from ICID's National Committees through invites sent at the beginning of every calendar year. The award consists of an honorarium of US$ 2000 and a citation plaque.

WatSave Award has been categorised in four categories: (i) Technology, (ii) Young Professionals, (iii) Innovative Water Management, and (iv) Farmer. Nominations are invited from individuals/team through National Committees/Committee. The entries are open to all professionals/teams from ICID member countries as well as non-member countries. In case of entries from ‘non-member’ countries, the nominations have to be routed through and validated by an active National Committee of ICID. Such National Committee should be in touch with the nominee and must be aware of his/her work to endorse the nomination. For details, visit: [https://www.icid.org/watsave_annual_2020.html](https://www.icid.org/watsave_annual_2020.html)

**World Heritage Irrigation Structures (WHIS) 2020**

Starting from 2014, the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) recognizes the World Heritage Irrigation Structures (WHIS) to consider, identify and select important historical irrigation/drainage structures from around the world. These include operational irrigation structures of antiquity as well as structures with an archival value that are at least 100+ years old. Nominations are invited from all the ICID National Committees (NCs) for selection of the heritage irrigation structures (WHIS). Associated Members of ICID and non-member countries can nominate their structures through NCs active in neighboring countries or by submitting directly to ICID Central Office. To recognize and formally enter these nominations in the WHIS register of ICID, a task team of international experts is set up every year which grants recognition to these structures along the lines of World Heritage Sites recognized by the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

The seventh batch of WHIS will be included in the ICID Register of WHIS. For details, visit: [https://www.icid.org/icid_his1.php](https://www.icid.org/icid_his1.php)

**Deadline**

The deadline for receipt of the entries for WatSave awards and WHIS from the National Committees along with the completed ‘Nomination Form’ and related details to the ICID Central Office, New Delhi (India) is 30th June 2020.

Detailed procedures for nomination and criterion for the awards can be available at [http://www.icid.org/awards_whis.html](http://www.icid.org/awards_whis.html).

From this year onwards, ONLY ONLINE NOMINATION FORM SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED for WatSave Awards. World Heritage Irrigation Structures and Water Systems Heritage which will soon be made available.

For further queries, please contact Dr. Sahdev Singh, Director (Knowledge Management) at icid@icid.org.

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**Book Release**

**Adaptive Strategies for Water Heritage**

The book titled ‘Adaptive Strategies for Water Heritage—Past, Present and Future’ is an anthology of scholarly writings on water heritage by various authors, compiled and edited by Carola Hein. The foreword is jointly written by Jhr. Ir. Diederik Six, President of International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), Netherlands and Ir. Henk van Schaik, Ambassador (Water and Heritage), ICOMOS, Netherlands. The book was released by its publisher—Springer Open.

After an introductory chapter on ‘Connecting Water and Heritage for the future,’ the contributions from the writers have been placed under five broad themes: (i) Drinking Water; (ii) Agricultural Water; (iii) Land Reclamation and Defense; (iv) River and Coastal Planning; and (v) Port Cities and Waterfronts. The book guides the readers towards interesting facts that are generally ignored. For instance, “historic waterworks, including aqueducts and sewers, are civil engineering achievements with unique heritage management challenges. Often designed to be silent and unseen, the subgrade and inaudible infrastructure that delivers water and removes waste is frequently ignored by the public unless it stops working.” This book is a work of many international experts from ICID’s partner networks.
The 24th International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage and the 71st International Executive Council (IEC) Meetings of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) will be organized by Irrigation Australia’s Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IACID) in co-operation with ICID during 22-28 September 2020 at the International Convention Centre (ICC) in Sydney, Australia. The main theme of the Congress is: ‘Innovation and Research in Agricultural Water Management to Achieve Sustainable Development Goals.’

**Deliberations on Main Theme**

With regard to its main theme, the 24th Congress will deliberate on various aspects related to the following topics: (i) Current status of national irrigation sectors; (ii) Future investment in irrigation infrastructure modernization and management; (iii) National factors affecting irrigation management, including water policy, institutions, and capacities; (iv) Prospective areas for future management: resource management, supply and demand management, infrastructure management, on-farm water management, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, institutional and policy reforms, data management, technological interventions, capacity development, gender issues, among others specific to local-contexts.

**Congress Questions**

The discussion during the 24th International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage will mainly cover two questions:

The theme of the first question is: What role can information and communication technology play in travelling the last mile (i.e. the greater adoption of research outputs)? The sub-themes to this question include: Technology aspects; Social side - socio-economic infrastructure context: appropriate technology for appropriate resources (for diverse groupings of people) including using social media; and, water trading.

The theme of the second question is: What role is played by multi-disciplinary dialogue to achieve sustainable development goals? The supplementary questions include: (i) Social, consumer, supply chain QA; (ii) Reputation and regulatory dialogue, technical level dialogue vs other “levels”; and, (iii) What parties should be addressing SDG:12 responsible for consumption and production.

**Symposium**

For the symposium on ‘Integrated Approaches to Irrigation Management in Future,’ the national / country papers are invited from ICID National Committee and regional/ International Organizations on the following sub-topics: (i) Current status of national irrigation sectors; (ii) Future investment in irrigation infrastructure modernization and management; (iii) National factors affecting irrigation management, including water policy, institutions, and capacities; (iv) Prospective areas for future management: resource management, supply and demand management, infrastructure management, on-farm water management, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, institutional and policy reforms, data management, technological interventions, capacity development, gender issues, among others specific to local contexts.

**Special Session**

The special session on ‘Developing the future tools for managing uncertainty in irrigation water supply’ will deal with climate change and climate variability, variability in rainfall, runoff etc. This “Special Session” presents an opportunity to broadly evolve a future approach to the very fundamental challenges at the base of all water and irrigation-dependent systems.

Experts/professionals are invited to submit their abstracts/papers on the following sub-topics: (i) Institutional arrangements: both standard, precautionary and emergency arrangements for allocation and pricing for water. These may include policy and regulatory arrangements for a range of water availability/security situations and emerging scenarios involving predicted or projected weather patterns, anticipated runoff, reservoir status and groundwater reserves etc.; (ii) System modelling, scenario planning, prediction, contingency planning for interrupted and variable supply and delivery: Presentations of such modelling should demonstrate the realistic scoping of a range of prospective scenarios (ranging from extreme wet to extreme dry), stress-test alternative management strategies to mitigate risk and manage adverse impacts to sustainability of systems.
and their dependent communities or businesses, and rank priority responses which can be costed in fiscal, social and environmental terms; and, (iii) Crop agronomic and social adaptation, crop choice as per irrigation, “Supplementary” vs “full” irrigation, economic analysis of perennial orchards and plantations as per informed decisions, and marketing, financing, staffing implications: Adaptation shall inevitably entail engagement with stakeholders across multiple fronts as catchment communities contemplate the prospects of refurbishing, replacing, relocating or even the retiring/exitng from systems and businesses. Papers are invited which demonstrate models, tools and case studies of regional and broader community consultations and engagement on irrigation water access, allocation and sustainable returns.

Student Awards for paper/poster presentation

The Irrigation Australia’s Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IACID) has announced ‘Student Awards’ for paper/poster presentation. The competing students must tick mark their online submission at the time of registration for abstract/paper submission. The purpose, the criteria and the process of ‘Student Awards’ is available at https://www.icid2020.com.au/student-awards/

Schedule of submission of abstracts/full papers

The abstracts/papers are invited from the policy makers, professionals, academics, researchers, experts, and scientists from private and government sectors as per following deadlines.

- Submission of ‘Extended Abstracts’ (500-600 words):
  - 31 January 2020
- Notification of Acceptance of Extended Abstracts:
  - 29 February 2020
- Submission of Full papers:
  - 15 April 2020
- Notification to Authors (oral/poster/presentation):
  - 15 June 2020

Online paper submission

Online ‘Extended Abstract’ submission is now open. New Users are expected to create their own account. 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 Committee. PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT THE FULL PAPERS AT THIS STAGE as they would not be reviewed now. The procedure for creating a new account is available at https://www.icid2020.com.au/how-to-submit-papers/

Upon receiving acceptance letter from ICID Central Office, authors are required to provide/upload an electronic version of the full length papers in Microsoft Word format by strictly following the guidelines available at http://congress.icidevents.org/24cong_guidelines.pdf

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Other Events

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: https://iah.org/events/minwat-2020; Email: segratario@iahitaly.it

Water Pollution 2020: 15th International Conference on Monitoring, Modelling and Management of Water Pollution, 13-15 May 2020, Valencia, Spain. For more details, please visit: https://www.wessex.ac.uk/conferences/water-pollution-2020; Email: wit@wessex.ac.uk

13th International Conference on Irrigation and Drainage, 27-30 October, 2020, Sacramento, California, USA. Contact: Mr. Larry D. Stephens, Executive Vice President, U.S. National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (USCID). Email: stephens@uscid.org, Website: http://www.uscid.org

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

24th ICID International Congress & 71st IEC Meeting, 22-28 September 2020, Sydney, Australia

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://5arcid.ma/