International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage

Call for Papers

International Workshop on “The Water-Energy-Food-Nexus: Implementation and Examples of Application”
December 2020 (TBC)
Marrakech, Morocco

I. Background

The world’s population is expected to grow from 6 billion today to at least 9 billion by the year 2050. The population growth, urbanization and industrialization are imposing rapidly growing demands and pressures on the water and energy resources and causing in many cases imbalance between supply and demand. This growing imbalance has led to shortages, competition, and other environmental pressures. Achieving food, water and energy security as well as improving the quality of life, while preserving the environment, will continue to pose major challenges to Scientists, Decision makers and Technicians in the next few decades. Irrigation globally consumes around 70% of freshwater resources. This water is becoming increasingly scarce. Therefore, improving water and energy use efficiency and productivity in agriculture practices will be significant and valuable.

The interdependence of the water, food and energy is well known since early civilization. Farmers had to lift water using waterwheels run by cattle to bring water to the surface and irrigate fields. The present challenge is how to produce more crop per drop per kwatt energy per unit area of land. This is the essence of new focus on the nexus.

II. Objectives

This Workshop will bring together experts from all over the world to share information, experience, and views on how to implement the water-food-energy nexus in agriculture. The focus will be on the practical application of the nexus. Only papers deal with the three elements of the nexus: Water-Food and Energy will be considered for oral presentations.

III. Theme/Sub-themes

The main theme of the International Workshop of WG-WATER & CROP is “The Water-Energy-Food-Nexus: Implementation and Examples of Application”.

Sub-topics/ Sub-themes: (i) Water-Food– Energy nexus at field, regional and country scales. Examples of applications; (ii) How the Environment and ecosystem services benefit from the Nexus; (iii) Economic analysis of food production within the nexus; (iv) Management practices that promote the Nexus; and (v) Institutional and Governance issues in implementing the Nexus.
Abstracts / papers are invited and encouraged from professionals, researchers, experts, practitioners, managers, and policy-makers on the State, Province or Local levels based on the mandate of the WG.

IV. Schedule for Submission of Abstracts / Full Papers

i. Submission of abstracts (max. 300 words) 31 July 2020
ii. Notification of acceptance 17 August 2020
iii. Submission of full papers (max. 10 pages) 30 September 2020
iv. Notification of acceptance of full papers 15 October 2020

The Workshop is being organized by ICID’s Working Group on Water and Crops (WG-WATER & CROP) during the 71st International Executive Council (IEC) Meeting and 5th African Regional Conference (5 ARC) in December 2020 (tbc) at Marrakech, Morocco.

Contact:

Workshop Chairman: VPH Dr. Ragab, Chair, WG-WATER & CROP (E-mail: rag@ceh.ac.uk)
Workshop Coordinator: Er. B.A. Chivate, Director (Tech.), ICID New Delhi (E-mail: icid@icid.org)

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