ICID YOUNG PROFESSIONALS e-FORUM (IYPeF)1

https://www.linkedin.com/groups/6990321

Revised Concept Note (January 2020-2022)

1. Background

1.1 At the 65th International Executive Council (IEC) held at Gwangju in September 2014, the Council approved establishing an ICID-Young Professional’s e-Forum (IYPeF) with an open membership. The Council suggested to ICID Central Office (CO) to develop rules and assist in the organization of the Young Professionals Forum.

1.2 This note is prepared to lay down the updated concept and working rules for this Forum. It is expected that the establishment of this Forum may, in the course of its development require adjustment of some of the by-laws, which will be presented separately after the conceptual and administrative framework is agreed to.

2. The Context

2.1 Increasing food production through sustainable use of water will, among others, require large investments in infrastructures, research and development, that are compatible with the preservation of ecosystems and can adapt to climate change. The sector will need to increase its water use efficiency by reducing water losses and, most importantly, increase crop productivity with respect to water.

2.2 Many parts of the world have seen development of large irrigation infrastructure in the last fifty years which has helped in creating food security and fueled growth. However, these systems are beset with the low efficiencies. The old public irrigation department in these countries are saddled with old and outdated large irrigation systems and aging staff. The concurrent professionals need to be aligned with the rapid technological developments. Given the dynamic nature of development process, irrigation and drainage professionals need exposure to the social, environmental and other disciplines that influence the agriculture water management. There is need for greater sharing of experiences and tools particularly related to social, economic and environmental aspects.

2.3 Given the fast-changing development scenario and the exponential growth in technology, coping with a new work environment is a difficult proposition. In addition to learning from past experiences, what definitely is required under the increasing complexities of supply, demand and uncertainties, is a group of professionals that approach the irrigation and drainage issues with a more open mind and accepts the multi-dimensional aspects of the water sector and are willing to undertake their activities through an inter-disciplinary approach. However, the number of young professionals joining the water sector is dwindling by the year.

3. Objective of IYPeF

3.1 Despite the challenging development scenario, the sector is suffering from a lack of interest from the young professionals as they find the career in the sector uninteresting with little growth potential. The irrigation and drainage sectors are key factors of development in largely agrarian societies and in societies struggling for food security. Infusion and nurturing of young talents is necessary for the countries to meet their specific challenges in these areas. The e-Forum is an attempt on the part of ICID to generate and attract talented young professionals towards making contribution towards irrigation, drainage and water management sector. The upcoming generation has to be attracted to the sector by making the careers in irrigation and drainage sector more interesting and challenging. IYPeF will enable the professionals to tap a wide knowledgebase of the sector by leveraging modern ITES based technologies.

3.2 With these long-term objectives in view, ICID established the IYPeF that provides an international platform to young engineers/scientists/professionals for their career development and sharing of knowledge and experiences in the areas of irrigation, drainage, flood management and environment. IYPeF provides an opportunity to young professionals to engage, network and share their experiences and also learn from the experiences of senior professionals (Prospective Mentors) working in the sector. The main objectives of establishing the Forum are to:

(a) Encourage and promote a high standard of professional development amongst the young professionals in the field of irrigation, drainage, and flood management,

(b) Provide an international platform for young irrigation and drainage professionals,

(c) Expose young professionals to ICID’s purpose, objectives, role and activities,

1 Renamed as ICID-Young Professional’s e-Forum (IYPeF), as it is essentially an e-Forum
Facilitate the wider dissemination of knowledge and information amongst the young professionals,

Maintain and enhance links with national and international youth having interests in water related subjects or the activities, relevant to ICID objectives.

Strengthen National Committees (NCs) through participation of YPs in their national and regional irrigation and drainage networks.

Creating an international network where young professionals within the water sector can mutually learn from each other by sharing their experiences.

To address the regional needs, similar Groups can be formed in consultation with the Chairman of the African, Asian, European, and American Regional Working Groups. Such groups, as and when constituted, shall be managed by the respective regional working group in close consultation with the National Committees in the region. Central Office will provide necessary help in terms of coordination and planning, partially supporting and organising activities under the regional e-forums.

### Membership

**4.1** Person desirous of becoming member of IYPeF will have to fulfill the following eligibility criteria:

- **a)** Any professional from water sector below the age of 40 years;
- **b)** Working or pursuing studies in the area of agricultural water management, rural development, environment, technology development and/or flood and drought management disciplines;
- **c)** A Young Professional’s membership in the Forum will have to be endorsed by their respective organization/academic institute where pursuing higher studies/an ICID National Committee/an International ICID Partner Institution/a direct institutional member of ICID;
- **d)** NCs are encouraged to nominate YPs from their countries using a diversity-based approach.

**4.2** The Forum will essentially be an e-Forum. Members would have the opportunity to interact with each other through a LinkedIn Group ([https://www.linkedin.com/groups/6990321](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/6990321)) moderated by experts. The network will be different from other such platforms as the active members of the Forum would have the opportunity to interact face to face with each other during ICID events and training programs.

**4.3** The activities of the Forum will be monitored and overseen by one coordinator and one joint coordinator for a period of one year. In a member country of ICID, NC should endorse the nomination of the YP to become a Coordinator/Joint Coordinator of IYPeF.

### Professional Advantages

**5.1** The members of the Forum will be able to:

- **a)** Interact with likeminded young professionals, researchers, and practitioners involved at international level and share resources;
- **b)** Develop relations for peer to peer learning from around the world and enhance self-potential;
- **c)** Bridge the knowledge gap between theory and practice by attending the global meetings of ICID and interacting with senior professionals;
- **d)** Stay informed on the latest knowledge in the area of irrigation and drainage through various ICID publications: ICID News, News Update and e-Bulletin, all available online;
- **e)** Benefit from the latest scientific knowledge available through ICID Journal on Irrigation and Drainage;
- **f)** Access the resources available in the Integrated Library Management System (ILMS);
- **g)** Keep up-to-date on best practices and trends in the field;
- **h)** Advance professional skills by way of participating in ICID training workshops;
- **i)** Better appreciate different viewpoints, approaches and cultures from around the world; and
- **j)** Enhance ability to plan career in the sector.
6. Benefits for Young Professionals

(a) Membership of two Working Groups of their choice subject to their active participation;
(b) Liberal concession in registration fee (about 50%) in World Irrigation Forum and ICID’s Congress, conferences and events;
(c) Eligible for WatSave Young Professional Award and its monetary reward: An exclusive category (out of four categories) of WatSave Awards, dedicated to Young Professionals (YPs);
(d) Free online subscription of the ICID Journal on Irrigation and Drainage to the active 50 YPs;
(e) Eligible for ICID scholarship for participation in ICID events provided a certain level of output is contributed in the form of e-Discussions, preparation of country papers, profiles, outcome summary report, contribution to Multilingual Technical Dictionary (MTD), Products & Services, and scientific publications;
(f) Participate in Sessions/Round Table discussions especially organized for young professionals;
(g) Eligible to participate in capacity development programs - webinars, training, e-learning, and conferences;
(h) YPs are required to develop country status papers, profiles and contribute to scientific documents and ICID publications (ICID Journal, ICID News Update and ICID News). These documents will be uploaded on ICID website after respective NC’s approval;
(i) YPs will get a chance to function as session ‘Rapporteurs’ in ICID’s Congresses, WIFs and other events;
(j) YPs will also be allowed to attend ICID Work Body meetings as observers.

7. Broad Rules and Regulation

7.1 General conditions/rules and regulations for ICID-YPF/IYPeF will be as follows:

(a) Professionals willing to join IYPeF can do so using LinkedIn Group URL https://www.linkedin.com/groups/6990321

(b) African Young Water Professionals e-Forum (Af-YWPeF) - https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12143964/

(c) National Committees/Committee can nominate young professionals in prescribed format to Central Office for sending invitation to join;
(d) ICID CO staff will review Group membership and approve the membership and will support the professionals in moderating the forum and its activities;
(e) IYPeF Coordinator/Joint Coordinator shall be eligible to get online certificate after completing their term of active participation or on attaining the age of 40.

8. Election/selection of Coordinator and Joint Coordinator

(a) Person desirous of becoming Coordinator/Joint Coordinator shall be an active member of the Forum;
(b) The Forum members will choose one coordinator and one joint-coordinator to manage day-to-day affairs of IYPeF every year;
(c) In order to be nominated/selected as coordinator/joint-coordinator, nomination needs to be endorsed by the respective NC. Interested/active members will have to approach their NC for endorsement of their nomination for coordinator/Joint Coordinator.
(d) Out of the endorsed nominations received, Central Office will review the nominations based on the qualification, experience, and tasks carried out as defined under item 10;
(e) ICID CO will facilitate election of coordinator and Joint Coordinator every year. The term of coordinator and joint coordinators will be for one year. Coordinator can opt for re-election after a cooling off period of 3 years;
(f) Out-going coordinator/Joint Coordinator will join IYPeF virtual meetings as outgoing Coordinators/observers and provide guidance to the new team.

9. Sponsorship of YPs to ICID Events

(a) Depending upon the fund availability 10 YPs will be sponsored every year to ICID Annual events out of which
5 YPs will be from nominations received from NCs, Coordinator, Joint Coordinator and the remaining three from IYPeF / Regional Groups;

(b) ICID will cover expenses towards participation of these 10 YPs under YP scholarship to ICID annual events;

(c) Sponsored YPs will be eligible for next sponsorship only after a cooling off period of 3 years in case they continue to contribute to ICID activities especially in strengthening their country’s NC, where these exists.

10. Duties & Responsibilities

(a) A completion report needs to be prepared and submitted to Central Office by each YP coordinator to highlight how this program has benefitted them as well as their country’s NC and also share the report with their respective NC for considering his/her nomination for next term. In case of non-existence of NC in any country, the YP needs to highlight the individual work done to raise the profile of ICID and encourage or facilitate the formation of NC in his/her own country;

(b) To organize and manage e-Discussions; preparation of country papers, profiles, outcome summary report of event(s) participated, contribution to Multilingual Technical Dictionary (MTD), collecting data for enriching Products & Services directory; and scientific publications;

(c) The YP selected will have to connect with the NC of their respective country and liaise with ICID CO to strengthen NC/IYPeF with their active participation. In case of no NC existing, efforts should be made to establish NC or promote Direct Membership;

(d) YPs shall be allowed to join two ICID Working Groups of their choice as its YP members;

(e) Coordinator and Joint Coordinator will participate in the allotted workbody activities to brief about activities of IYPeF to the permanent committees;

(f) No information related to the Group, other than technical discussions and publications, will be shared with any individual or organization without prior approval of the ICID Central Office.
NOMINATION FORM FOR COORDINATOR / JOINT COORDINATOR 2023

1. Nominee Information

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<td>IYPeF Membership - Yes/ No</td>
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| Postal Address |  |
| Telephone |  |
| Mobile |  |
| E-mail |  |

2. Brief CV (150 words)

[Type your Brief CV]

3. Involvement in ICID/ National Committee activities in the past

[Please type brief activities]

4. Areas of interest *(Tick mark appropriate area(s) of interest)*

- [ ] Irrigation and Drainage Technologies
- [ ] Climate Change
- [ ] Flood and Drought Risk Management
- [ ] Early Warning Systems
- [ ] Water Energy Food and Ecosystem Nexus
- [ ] Water Diplomacy and Governance
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5. Proposed contribution to ICID activities (Tick mark the appropriate contribution)
   (a) Promoting National Committee activities
   (b) Technical contribution in preparation of reports/documents
   (c) Database building
   (d) Participation in Working Group activities/contribution
   (e) Organizing/promoting webinars/e-discussions
   (f) Participation in capacity development activities

6. Authentication

It is hereby certified that the YP cited in the nomination has provided the information to his best of knowledge and belief. National Committee/Committee endorses the nomination for the election of Coordinator/Joint Coordinator of the IYPeF for the year 2020.

(a) Name of the National Committee
(b) Name of the person
(c) Position
(d) Address
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Tel__________________ Fax_________________
E-mail___________________________________

(e) Signature (with Official seal)

Date _______________________ Place _______________

Only one nomination is accepted from National Committee for the present year.

National Committees/Committee should forward electronically the nomination form, complete in all respects to The Secretary General, International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID), 48, Nyaya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi, India; E-mail: icid@icid.org; Tel +91-11-26116837 / +91-11-26115679, http://www.icid.org.