

**MINUTES FOR THE 9<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE  
WORKING GROUP ON CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT,  
TRAINING AND EDUCATION (WG-CDTE)**

5 September 2024, 14:00-15:30 Hours (Session-I)  
5 September 2024, 16:00-17:30 Hours (Session-II)  
Sydney, Australia

**Strategy Theme: Sustainable Development**

**Presented by the Vice-Chairman**

**Year of Establishment: 2015**

**Extended completion of the Mandate: 2027**

**Mandate:** (i) Coordinate and guide the knowledge management activities of the Commission and the capacity development activities by various WGs: (a) *Compile the status of training and educational programmes offered in different regions; & (b) Compile the Educational Programs being offered in irrigation and drainage in different regions;* (ii) Identify the training and education requirements, and identify gaps in available training programs, explore the feasibility of developing e-learning program and prepare guidelines for their development to support education and training programmes; (iii) Explore the scope of use of IT in capacity development including distant learning, and implement where feasible; (iv) Make available various tools required for sustainable development; (v) Oversee the establishment and functioning of a Technical Support Unit for supporting NCs; and (vi) Facilitate the process of balancing education and training requirements, and provision of training services.

**Members Present:** (1) Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar (India), Vice-Chairman; (2) Dr. Rajendra S. Poddar (India), Secretary; (3) D. Shinji Fukuda (Japan) represented Mr. Takanavi NAEANO; (4) Ms Li Ruoxi (China); (5) Dr. Narges Zohrabi (Iran); and (6) Engr. Mukhlis Zainol Abidin (Malaysia).

**Observer:** Engr. Mukhlis Zainol Abidin (Malaysia).

**Website:** <https://icid-ciid.org/wbody/WG-CDTE>

**WG-CDTE Minutes Item 1: Action Taken Report by Chair**

1. In the absence of Chair Dr. Mohamed Wahba, Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar, Vice Chair conducted the meeting of the group. He welcomed the members and briefly presented the report on the actions taken on the decisions and proposals of the working group made at its last meeting held in 2023 at Vizag, India.

**WG-CDTE Minutes Item 2: Review the mandate and membership of the WG**

2. While the mandate of the WG is comprehensive, much remains to be achieved. Currently the mandate shows activities until 2024 and the updating was postponed in view of poor attendance. The WG expressed its displeasure when it observed that at least three members, who were physically present at Sydney, did not attend the WG meeting. During the meeting, it was informed that Dr. Akie Mukai (Japan) has withdrawn his provisional membership from the WG. The Central Office may write to the JNC-ICID for a replacement. As such ICID Central Office had not received any new nominations for the membership of the WG. Membership status is given in **Annex 3, page 27**.

**WG-CDTE Minutes Item 3: Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs)**

3. During the meeting, it was noted that the WG-CDTE/ICID signed MoUs with (i) National Research Institute for Rural Electrification (NRIRE) / Hangzhou Regional Center (Asia & Pacific) for Small Hydro Power (HRC), Ministry of Water Resources, People's Republic of China and (ii) the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research (IGSNRR), CAS, People's Republic of China. However, further discussion could not take place in view of absence of the Chairman.

**WG-CDTE Minutes Item 4: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 – Status of Activities**

4. It was noted that Action Plan (Road Map to ICID Vision 2030) of the WG needs to be updated for next three years. However, lack of attendance prohibited updating the same. Proposed activities could be: (i) e-learning program; (2) Webinars; (3) Young professional training & educational programs; (4) Workshops/Seminars/Conferences, e-Discussions etc; (5) Cooperation with TF-Women's Empowerment.

**WG-CDTE Minutes Item 5: Promoting capacity development, training, and education****WG-CDTE Minutes Item 5.1: Training Programs for YPs in September 2024 during Sydney Meetings**

5. During the meeting, it was informed that Training Program for YPs at Sydney could not materialize due to financial constraints.

**WG-CDTE Minutes Item 5.2: Task Force on Women's Empowerment in Water Resources Management – Updates**

6. The members noted the ToRs of the Women's TF. During the meeting, Dr. Narges Zohrabi, Chairperson of the TF, desired to cooperate with WG-CDTE on following possible lines:

- (a) Women's participation in governance;
- (b) Women's role in managing water resources;
- (c) Global experiences in women's empowerment in water etc.

7. Dr. Zohrabi (Iran) has been requested to share the concept notes on the subject. She informed about the '*Women Water Council*' in Tajikistan, an example to empower the women and to learn from it.

8. Dr. Rajendra Poddar (India) informed of strong involvement of women in water related initiatives at Water and Land Management Institute at Dharwad in India where he is the Director of the institute. He talked about 'Role of Women in PIM/WUA'. He is of the opinion that, to give an immediate start, Women related activities can be first taken up online followed by physical meetings, if and when possible. Dr. Poddar has also been requested to share a concept note on such initiatives.

**WG-CDTE Minutes Item 6: Dissemination of Knowledge – Website**

9. The members of the group were requested to facilitate exchange of information, knowledge and their experiences through ICID website.

**WG-CDTE Minutes Item 7: E-learning Programmes as a Capacity Development Tool**

10. ICID e-Learning platform is one of the initiatives to strengthen the capacity building activities. In order to achieve the objectives, the group encouraged professionals/experts from member NCs to join the e-learning programs organized by various partners and associates.

11. The ICID e-learning platform is available and Drs Poddar and Zohrabi expressed their willingness to strengthen the capacity building activities of the group through such platform.

**WG-CDTE Minutes Item 8: Webinar/Web-based seminar**

12. The members agreed on the importance of the Webinars on the topics, based on the mandate of the WG. Following suit, Dr Poddar offered to initiate webinars on topics such as 'Micro Irrigation' and 'Soil/Land Degradation'. He has been requested to share concept notes on the same to take up these webinars in 2024.

13. It was noted that the group organized webinars – (i) 'The empowerment and development of women's capacity in water resources management' and (ii) 'Towards the Utilization of Agricultural Drainage Benefits for Facing the Future Challenges and Achieving Sustainability' in 2023.

**WG-CDTE Minutes Item 9: Any other business**

**9.1 ICID Members' Profile Section:** Members were requested to update their information in the ICID Members' Profile Section.

**9.2 Register on World Irrigation and Drainage Schemes (WI&DS):** Members were requested to share this information with their National Committees to enrich the WI&DS.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

