

**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL 5TH MEETING OF THE
WORKING GROUP ON IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT (WG-IDM)**

16 November 2020, 13:30 hours (IST)

Strategy Theme: Schemes

Presented by the Chair

Year of Establishment: 2015

Completion of the Mandate: 2021

Scope: (a) assessment of consumptive use of water for irrigation and resulting water balance at system level; (b) water demand management according to available resource(s) and system capacity; (c) assessment of water loss in various components of irrigation systems, appraisal of water made available for another use downstream (non-consumptive); (d) ground water development and management for irrigation including conjunctive use of surface and groundwater in irrigation, artificial recharge of aquifers from canals "losses" and "excessive" irrigation; (e) water measuring methods and devices and relevant technology (flow rates and volumes); (f) drivers for and resistances at system level to improve irrigation management; (g) social issues to be considered along with technical and economical ones; (h) management of multi-use hydraulic systems, and interdependence between uses; (i) performance evaluation of irrigation schemes and benchmarking; (j) ways towards economic performance enhancement (cost reduction and efficiency improvement).

Members Present: (1) Ms. Mary Jean M. Gabriel, Chairperson (South Africa); (2) Mr. Ahmet Seren, Vice Chair (Turkey); (3) Dr. Amgad Elmahdi (Australia); (4) Mr. Waleed Abou El Hassan (Egypt); (5) Prof. L.B. Roy – Direct Member (India); (6) Dr. Katsuyuki Shimizu, Secretary (Japan); (7) Dr. Akie Mukai (Japan); (8) Engr. Ali Mohamed Ahmed Elhaj (Sudan); (9) Secretary General represented by Mr. Harish Kumar Varma, Executive Director, ICID (India).

Permanent Observers: (i) VPH Ian Makin (UK); (ii) VPH Dr. Hafied Gany (Indonesia).

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WG-IDM Minutes Item 1: Action taken report by Chair

1. Chair welcomed all the members and presented a brief report on the actions taken on the decisions and proposals of the working group at its last meeting held at Bali in September 2019.
2. Chair encouraged members to make full use of WebEx platform for virtual meeting so as to ensure regular contribution from the WG members as well as to discuss and initiate follow-up actions emerging from the minutes of the previous WG meeting and review the progress of the action points.
3. The working group reviewed the membership of the WG which includes two new nominations viz. Dr. Akie Mukai (Japan) and Engr. Ali Mohamed Ahmed Elhaj (Sudan). Since both the nominees were present at the virtual meeting, the group accepted them as members of the WG. Similarly, Mr. Ahmet Seren (Turkey) and Mr. Waleed Abou El Hassan (Egypt) were present during the virtual meeting and hence, the group agreed to continue their membership. VPH Francois Brelle (France) and Eng. Mohammed Omar Makram Afify – young professional (Egypt) were not contributed to the activities of the group during last two consecutive years so the group recommended to discontinue them and invite new nominations from these National Committees (NCs) as well as from other NCs. Membership status is given in **Annex 3 (Page 43)**.

WG-IDM Minutes Item 2: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 – Status of activities on irrigation development and management

4. During virtual meeting, the group reviewed and updated the activities as part of Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 (refer **Annex**). The group discussed the status of various activities and reported the progress to Permanent Committee for Technical Activities (PCTA). The group discussed the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 and provided latest updates to PCTA for inclusion as follows:
5. **A6 Strategy 6.7:** Identify drivers and social resistances within the systems to improve irrigation management - Mr. Ahmet Seren (Turkey) and Eng. Ali Mohamed Ahmed Elhaj will contribute and share experiences from their countries. Eng. Elhaj informed that he has already shared documents in respect of works done in Gezira Irrigation Scheme in Sudan. VPH Ian Makin volunteered to assist in this activity as well as in updating MTD.

6. **B1 Strategy 1.14:** Report on south-south cooperation for capacity development in the field of irrigation management - WG Chair Ms. Mary Jean Gabriel (South Africa) informed to coordinate this activity. It was recommended to look into the report on Capacity Development in Africa finalised by the African Regional Working Group (AFRWG).
7. **B3 Strategy 3.1:** Assess methods and develop guidelines on relevant water balance approach - Dr. Amgad Elmahdi agreed to coordinate this activity while VPH Ian Makin also volunteered to assist in this activity.
8. **D2 Strategy 2.3:** Investigating and documenting the social and economic impacts of irrigation systems - Dr. Akie Mukai (Japan) volunteered to coordinate this activity.
9. **C1 strategy 1.3:** Organize workshop, seminar and symposium on Water Balance Approach -It was agreed to hold the events after the relevant reports are brought out.

WG-IDM Minutes Item 2.1: Publication of the WG

10. The group noted that a paper under Goal C4 - Strategy 4.17 titled “Overview paper on the Irrigation Development for publication in Irrigation and Drainage (IRD)” by Dr. Ming-Young Jan (Chinese Taipei) is under preparation. However, as he was unable to attend the virtual meeting, the group agreed to contact him by email on the matter.
11. Chair invited all members of WG to provide their inputs to other two documents entitled “Norms and standards of irrigation development” and “Condensed overview of existing documents and practical examples on water balance approach”. The group requested ICID Central Office to recirculate the papers for inviting suggestions and inputs of the members.
12. The group noted the interesting books brought out by the Iranian National Committee of ICID viz. (i) Irrigation Management Strategies in Arid Regions - by M. Parsinejad, M. Sarai Tabrizi (Page: 224, Year: 2018) and, (ii) Water Accounting and Auditing - A Sourcebook, Charles Batchelor and Jeppe Hoogeveen, Jean-Marcc Faures and Livia Peiser - translated by Irrigation Systems Development and Management Working Group (Page: 271, Year: 2019).
13. The group requested ICID Central Office to recirculate the reports sent by Mr. Ali Mohamed A. Elhaj (Sudan) viz. (i) Gezira Canal Regulation Handbook – published by the Ministry of Irrigation and Hydropower, Republic of Sudan; (ii) Report of the Gezira Scheme Consultative Workshop held at the Hydraulic Research Centre (HRC) in 2016; and (iii) Article titled “Impacts of Legal and Institutional Changes on Irrigation Management Performance: A Case of the Gezira Irrigation Scheme, Sudan” published in the Journal ‘Water’ in 2018.
14. In October 2020, Dr. Shimizu shared the first draft report titled “Investigating and providing information on the positive amenities, services and goods provided by irrigation systems” to all members for their comments/ feedback. During the virtual meeting, he briefly explained the first draft of the report. After discussions, it was agreed to also include descriptions about irrigation systems in arid and semi-arid regions. Members agreed to provide information with comments to the draft.
15. The group noted the PDF version of the book titled “Irrigation Strategy for South Africa” brought out in 2015 by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Republic of South Africa which was shared by Chair Ms. Mary Jean Gabriel.

WG-IDM Minutes Item 3: Presentation by the working members

16. Chair encouraged all members of WG to make presentations related to mandate of the WG at the next meeting.

WG-IDM Minutes Item 4: Updating Multilingual Technical Dictionary (MTD)

17. The group noted that ICID Central Office had requested Dr. Amgad Elmahdi (Australia) to consider contribution in Arabic and encouraged WG member to contribute to update the MTD. Due to time constraint, finalizing the compiled version of MTD was not specifically discussed.

WG-IDM Minutes Item 5: Any other business

18. The group agreed that the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted everyone and after the outbreak of the situation, many meetings have been postponed until the situation comes under control. Activities of the WG were also hampered. Accordingly, WG proposed extension of term of the WG till 2023 which was approved by IEC vide resolution no. IEC-2/71 based on the recommendation of PCTA.

19. Dr. Amgad Elmahdi offered to organize Webinar on Irrigation Scheduling Using Technology and ICID Central Office suggested to organize it in March / April 2021.



Annex [Item 2]

ROAD MAP TO ICID VISION 2030 – ALLOCATION OF TASKS

Goal/ Strategies	Activities	Outcomes/ Outputs	Responsible person
Goal A: Enable higher crop productivity with less water and energy			
A1. Strategy: Modernizing irrigation systems	1.1 Develop a program for introducing standards for irrigation systems	Standards for Irrigation and Drainage	Dr Ming-Young Jan / Ms M J Gabriel
	1.2 Report or case studies on recent development in Irrigation Drainage Management	Case studies Presented in WG meetings	Dr Narges Zohrabi
A6. Strategy: Improving performance of irrigation systems	6.1 Investigating and providing information on the positive amenities, services and goods provided by irrigation systems (in consultation with WG-ENV)	Technical Report	Dr K Shimizu
	6.7 Identify drivers and social resistances within the systems to improve Irrigation management	Report	Mr. Ahmet Seren Ali Mohamed Ahmed Elhaj – to share experiences in the work done in Gezira Irrigation Scheme in Sudan Mr Ian Makin (to assist)
Goal B: Be a catalyst for change in policies and practices			
B1. Strategy: Support development of appropriate policies	1.14 Report on South-South cooperation for capacity development in the field of irrigation management	Report	Ms MJ Gabriel
B3. Strategy: Integrated Irrigation and Drainage Management	3.1 Assess methods and develop guidelines on relevant water balance approach	Guidelines	Dr. Amgad Elmahdi Mr Ian Makin (to assist)
Goal C: Facilitate exchange of information, knowledge and technology			
C1. Strategy: Providing knowledge sharing platform for AWM professionals	1.3 Organize Workshop, Seminar and Symposium on Water Balance Approach	Proceedings	TBD
C4. Strategy: Compile, Collate and Share Knowledge and Experiences	4.9 Condensed overview of existing documents and practical examples on water balance approach	Technical Report	Ms MJ Gabriel
	4.17 Overview paper on the Irrigation Development for publication in Irrigation and Drainage (IRD)	Technical Paper	Dr. Ming-Young Jan
Goal D: Enable Cross Disciplinary and Inter-Sectoral Engagement			
D2. Strategy: Developing Technical Documents in Non-technical Language	2.3 Investigating and documenting the social and economic impacts of irrigation systems	Technical report	Dr. A Mukai

