

**WORKING GROUP ON MODERNIZATION AND REVITALIZATION OF  
IRRIGATION SCHEMES (WG-M&R)**

**Preparation of “Guidelines on Modernization of I&D services”**

**MINUTES OF THE ONLINE MEETING**

**6 April 2023 - 14:30 – 15:30 IST**

**Members present:** (1) VPH Ian Makin, Chair (UK); (2) Dr. Dong Bin, Vice Chair (China); (3) Dr. Li Yalong (China); (4) Dr. Shi Yuan-Young Professional (China); (5) Dr. Hwa-Lung Yu (Chinese Taipei Committee); (6) Prof. Dr. Tarek Ahmed El-Samman (Egypt); (7) Dr. Sanjay Belsare (India); (8) Mr. M. Ramdani (Indonesia); (9) Dr. Mohsen Barahimi (Iran); (10) Dr. Toshihiko Kuno (Japan); (11) Dr. Shinji Fukuda (Japan); (12) Engr. Reyne B. Ugay (Philippines); (13) Dr. Macdex Mutema (South Africa); (14) Mr. Jan Potgieter (South Africa);

**Permanent Observer:** Dr. Alok Sikka – IWMI (India)

**1. Welcome (5 minutes)**

Chair Ian Makin welcomed all participants (refer to **Annex 1**) and thanked them all for making time to participate in the meeting, noting that a number of participants had joined during important religious and other significant events. Mohsen Barahimi wished every a happy Iranian New Year.

**2. Review of progress (40 Minutes)**

Ian Makin proposed to work through the annotated contents list to review progress on each section by lead authors.

**Chapter 1: Introduction** – Ian Makin reported some progress as some material in early drafts of other sections form a useful basis for the overall introductory sections. The sections are available in the DropBox for comments and contributions.

**Chapter 2: Modernization of irrigation and drainage services**

2.1. Definition of modernization and revitalization, Ian Makin – some additions to the definition in response to comments from Tarek in earlier meetings.

2.2. Definition of applicability of different M&R strategies – Ian Makin will work with Chapter authors to develop this section. Still to be prepared.

2.3 Institutions and Governance --- we still need a lead author – still no lead authors but may be able to use some previous work to provide an initial guide.

2.4 Performance Measures – Dr. Toshihoko Kuno and Dr. Shinji Fukuda – draft provided by Dr. Kuni and Dr. Fukuda. Some additional material could be included from the background document being prepared, by Colin Steley, for the proposed eDiscussion on crop water productivity (scheduled for May 2023) that will be useful.

2.5 Diagnostic approaches – Dr. Mona delos Reyes – Mona had contacted Ian Makin to apologize for not being able to join the meeting due to fieldwork. A draft of the section has been submitted (in DropBox) for review and comments. Reyne B. Ugay confirmed he is in touch with Mona and will support further revisions if required.

2.6 Economic Analysis - Prof. Dr. Tarek Ahmed El-Samman has submitted a draft section on the economic analysis of irrigation investments. However, the draft focuses more on the analysis of on-farm and in-field decisions, rather than the analysis of significant investments in the modernization of system-scale interventions. Tarek suggested that the section is perhaps too detailed for the Guidelines and may be dropped. Ian Makin suggested to keep some focus on the economic and financial implications for farmers of decisions about systems modernization.

### **Chapter 3. Irrigation and drainage services. Sani Bala & Sanjay Belsare –**

Sani was not able to join the meeting and Sanjay confirmed they had not been able to set up a video meeting to discuss the next steps. After the 6 April meeting, Sani confirmed he has now retired from Govt. service in Nigeria. On 17 April Sani, Sanjay, Ian, and Paul Maycher (A consultant working on the TRIMING project in Nigeria) met to discuss the proposed chapter. Paul agreed to work with Sani and Sanjay to draft the chapter. Ian reminded Sanjay that Jan Potgieter has provided the material from South Africa on the processes etc. used in South Africa to engage with stakeholders. The material is available in the References section of the DropBox.

### **Chapter 4. Modernizing irrigation and drainage systems for service delivery**

4.1. Services (Dr. Shinji Fukuda) Dr. Toshihoko Kuno and Dr. Shinji Fukuda – draft provided in February. Ian to send comments for the authors consideration.

4.2. Infrastructure – (Brian Wahlin tbc) – Ian Makin has not been able to contact Brian to request input. Alan Clark has provided a section on modernization using pipelines. The draft is available in the DropBox for comments and review.

4.3. Management (Mr. Yazid Bin Abdullah) – Yazid was not able to join the meeting so Ian Makin will contact Yazid, after Eid and Easter holidays are over.

4.4. Capacity development for modernization (Melvyn Kay) – Melvyn submitted a draft on capacity development which is available in the DropBox for review and comment.

4.5. Change management (SG Ashwin Pandya) – Ashwin submitted an early draft in 2022 – Ian Makin is working with Central Office to update and expand the section.

4.6 Government policy and subsidies – Dr. Neelam Patel proposed this section – a draft is awaited.

### **5. Sustaining revitalized I&D services**

5.1. Asset management (Dr. Martin Burton) – Ian Makin contacted Dr. Burton. A draft section has been provided and is available in DropBox for review and comment. A second draft is in preparation.

5.2. Financing sustainable service delivery – Ian Makin – No action has been taken on this section yet.

5.3. Responding to changing needs – Dr. Kuno and Fukuda have provided a draft on changing needs in Japan. Ian and Mona are still to discuss how to expand or generalize the section in consultation with Dr. Kuno and Fukuda, particularly the changing role from during the modernization and then during the subsequent operations.

5.4. Stakeholders roles and responsibilities (Jan Potgieter and Dr. Shinji Fukuda) – Jan Potgieter has provided a draft section on Roles and Responsibilities from the experiences in South Africa. Jan commented on the potential clashes of objectives when deciding on investment decisions – for example, should the focus be on food security or job creation? Shinji noted the quality of the material from South Africa on the links between different stakeholders. Jan noted the need to ensure the Guidelines provide for the many different institutional arrangements for the supervision of irrigation and agriculture in different countries. Ian noted that in many countries, responsibility for water resources is being separated from irrigation and agriculture to ensure effective regulation across multiple users of the resources.

5.5. Capacity development for sustainability (Melvyn Kay) – Melvyn has suggested this section would be a little different from Section 4.4, in that, if the modernization is designed and implemented correctly with appropriate capacity development integrated with the modernization, then the system should be sustainable. This section will be reduced to a short section, noting the need for ongoing capacity development as the system evolves and new demands arise. Dong Bin agreed to draft a short section on capacity building and institutions in collaboration with Dr. Li Yalong.

**Chapter 6 Recommendations** – will draft this once a full document is available, building on the suggestions from Dr. Jan Potgieter.

### 3. Agreement on next steps and update of development plan (10 minutes)

Mohsen offered to review sections, specifically sections 2.5 and Chapter 3. He also agreed to draft examples of how different aspects of modernization have been addressed in Iran. He also offered to work with others to draft section 2.2, seeking clarification of the focus of the guidelines – is it intended as (i) simple examples of what has been done in different locations or (ii) guidance for how modernization should be implemented? Ian Makin explained that the objective is to provide guidelines for modernization, recognizing that what works in one country may not work elsewhere. The guidelines are intended to provide guidance on what processes and elements should be included in decisions, designs, and investments for irrigation modernization as distinct from “rehabilitation” projects. It is not intended as a “cookbook” to be followed, but rather a guide to aspects to be thought about when making modernization investments.

Agreement on the next steps – how to finish off the guidelines. Dong Bin proposed a deadline for a complete draft by early May 2023. Ian Makin will try to assemble a complete draft for review by the end of 1<sup>st</sup> week of May 2023. Comments are requested by the end of May, at which point we may have to drop sections that are not sufficiently advanced to put ICID’s name. Participants are requested to be forthright in their review comments to enable the preparation of a final draft for the Central Office by the end of June 2023.

### 4. Any other Business (5 minutes)

Ian Makin reminded participants of the eDiscussion on Crop Water Productivity to be held through LinkedIn during May 2023 and which Colin Steley and Ian Makin think is relevant to the Modernization of Irrigation Services.

## Annex 1

### PARTICIPANTS OF THE ZOOM MEETING OF WG-M&R, 6 APRIL 2023

The screenshot displays a Zoom meeting window with 14 participants. The main grid shows video feeds for Ian Makin, ICID CID, Alok Sikka, Dr Sanjay Belsare, Mohsen Barahimi, Tarek El Samman, Shinji Fukuda, Jan Potgieter, Hwa-Lung Yu, toshihiko kuno, MutemaM, and WHU-Bin Dong. The right-hand panel lists all participants with their names and initials. The bottom status bar indicates a temperature of 32°C, weather as Haze, and the date 06-04-2023.

