

**MINUTES OF THE 5TH MEETING OF THE
WORKING GROUP ON USE OF NON-CONVENTIONAL WATER RESOURCES
FOR IRRIGATION (WG-NCWRI)**

05 November 2023, 09:30-11:00 Hours
Visakhapatnam (Vizag), Andhra Pradesh State, India

Strategy Theme: On-Farm

Presented by the Chair

Year of Establishment: 2018

Completion of the Mandate: 2024

Mandate: To share knowledge, experience, and data as well as networking with peers on the topic in order to be up-to-date with new research, developments, methods, and approaches; and to prepare comprehensive reviews with respect to different aspects of NCWR. It also includes the production of technical manuals, guidelines, or standards with respect to all NCWR including wastewater, drainage water, and saline/brackish water; holding international workshops, seminars, and meetings on the NCWR topic, documentation of successful case studies from different member countries; and enlarging the membership of the WG by encouraging more member countries where non-conventional water is a common irrigation practice.

Members present: (1) Dr. Wenyong Wu, Chair (China); (2) Dr. Tapas Kumar Biswas, Vice Chair (Australia); (3) Dr. Sheng-Wei Wang (Chinese Taipei Committee); (4) Dr. Ashish Pandey (India); (5) Dr. Tasuku Kato represented by Dr. Mikiko Sugiura (Japan); (6) President Dr. R. Ragab (UK).

Observer: Dr. Feng-Wen Chen (Chinese Taipei Committee)

Website: http://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/123

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

1. The Chair presented the report on the decisions and proposals of the working group at its meeting held in October 2022. The group reviewed the nominations of Dr. Bilge OMAR and Ms. Senem Yildirim submitted by the Turkey National Committee (TUCID) and accepted them as Provisional Members due to their non-attendance at the India meeting.

2. VPH Dr. Samia El-Guindy (Egypt), Dr. Hussein Abdel Halim El Gammal (Egypt), Dr. Seung Heon Lee (South Korea), and Prof. Leon van Rensburg (South Africa) had neither participated nor contributed to the activity of the WG for the last two years so the group decided to discontinue their memberships as per ICID By-law 3.5 and requested the NC for new nominations. Membership status is given in **Annex 3, page 31**.

WG-NCWRI Minutes Item 2: Brief of the virtual meetings

3. The chair informed that four virtual Zoom meetings of WG-NCWRI were organized in 2023 and discussed the organization of workshops on NCWR, Capacity Building/Training, etc., which have been launched as part of the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030. The minutes of the virtual meetings of all work bodies have been uploaded on a dedicated webpage at: https://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/152

WG-NCWRI Minutes Item 3: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 – Activities on non-conventional water resources for irrigation

4. The group reviewed the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 and shared the latest updates to PCTA (refer to **Annex**). Case study document “The use of non-conventional waters in different countries” - the Chair discussed with Dr. Tasuku Kato in the Adelaide meeting about promoting the document. Dr. Tasuku Kato would prepare the case studies with the help of Dr. Qi. Dr Tapas Biswas also provided an Australian case study to Dr Kato.

5. The draft document of reclaimed water irrigation guidelines - Dr. Wu Wenyong was responsible. The draft version has been finished and is under review.

6. International Workshop on “Nonconventional Irrigation in High-Value Agriculture – Application of Modern Technology”, the topic was slightly modified to “Nonconventional Water for Irrigated Agriculture - benefits of advanced technologies”. Dr. Tapas Biswas, Vice Chair prepared the flyer, invited speakers, chaired and delivered another successful workshop like the one held last year in Adelaide.

7. Capacity building training on "Digital application in the use of non-conventional water resources" - Dr. Tapas Biswas (Australia), Dr. Ashish Pandey (India), Dr. Qi Xuebing (China), and Dr. Tasuku Kato (Japan) volunteered to deliver. The group proposed to discuss the training in detail in the upcoming online WG meetings.

WG-NCWRI Minutes Item 4: Discuss and develop a work plan based on new mandate

WG-NCWRI Minutes Item 4.1: Prepare a state-of-the-art document on the use of NCWR

8. Dr. Qi reported the outline of the case study document and reported edition progress based on the files proposed by some members. Dr. Qi proposed to invite more members to participate in the case study document or provide cases. Dr. Tasuku Kato and other members were invited to suggest how to promote this document quickly.

9. Dr. Tasuku Kato will provide the Japanese case in English version. Dr Tapas Biswas also provided an Australian case study to Dr Kato. More case studies are expected to be proposed by members.

WG-NCWRI Minutes Item 4.2: Developing manuals/ standards on the use of NCWR

10. Chair Dr. Wu shared the progress of the draft of the reclaimed water irrigation guidelines. This guideline has more information on risk evaluation and risk prevention. The draft will be sent to all members for final comments.

11. Dr. Wu expects all members to review the document and provide suggestions. Anyone who contributes to the guideline will be acknowledged accordingly.

WG-NCWRI Minutes Item 4.3: Organization of International workshop on nonconventional water use

12. The International Workshop "Nonconventional Water Resource Irrigation in High-Value Agriculture – Application of Modern Technology" was held successfully at the Adelaide meeting. This year another International Workshop titled "Nonconventional Water for Irrigated Agriculture - benefits of advanced technologies" was held on 3 November 2023 in Vizag. Vice-chair Dr. Tapas Biswas provided a brief summary of the workshop including engaging with the most relevant organizations and regional players such as FAO, Morocco, China, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the Middle East, India, and Japan.

13. Chair Dr. Wu appreciated Dr. Tapas Biswas for his excellent efforts in not only planning but also delivering an excellent workshop.

WG-NCWRI Minutes Item 4.4: Capacity building training and workshop

14. During the second virtual meeting on 04 April 2022, the group members discussed the training course on "Digital application in the use of non-conventional water resources". Dr. Tapas Biswas (Australia), Dr. Ashish Pandey (India), and Dr. Tasuku Kato (Japan) volunteered as members for the training.

15. Dr. Tapas Biswas proposed a training course on "Digital application in the use of non-conventional water resources" and Dr. Qi proposed "Safe use of reclaimed water irrigation".

16. Chair Dr. Wu contacted the ICID Central Office and agreed to share the name of the trainer(s) - session wise along with their photo with a brief CV and tentative date of the webinar (at least 1.5 months in advance for publicity)". Dr. Tapas suggested assembling a few presenters (max 5) delivering the context and simple to semi-complex simulation models as a DSS. The whole training is for a day (max 4-5 hours) with a break in between.

17. Chair Dr. Wu requested Dr. Tapas Biswas, Dr. Tasuku Kato, and Dr. Qi to provide their photos with brief CVs by the end of January. Relevant cv and photos from all these members have been received by Dr Wu. The group proposed that a training course will be organized in March 2024.

WG-NCWRI Minutes Item 5: Any other business

18. Members attending the NCWRI-WG on 5th Nov at Vizag, India meeting pointed out that the WG organizes another workshop emphasizing the quality and risk of NCWR use to the environment and human health. A report on the restructuring of the working groups is given in **IEC Annex 4, page 44**.

19. Few members raised concern that there is almost no presence of students in the WG and suggested putting more effort into bringing students and encouraging them to contribute and attend to the WG meetings.



Annex [Appendix XXIV, Item 3]

ROAD MAP TO ICID VISION 2030 – ACTIVITIES OF WORK BODIES

Goals/ Strategies	Activities	Outcomes/ Outputs	Milestone for Year 2019	Milestone for Year 2020	Milestone for Year 2021	Milestone for Year 2022	Milestone for Year 2023	Milestone for Year 2024
A7. Strategy: Using Wastewater or Poor-Quality Water for Irrigation	7.1 Compile best practices for sustainably managing and using non-conventional water resources	Case studies				State-of-the-art document on use of NCWR		
	7.2 Contribute to the establishment of national policy for re-use of treated wastewater in irrigation	Position Paper		Publishing a Paper of Reclaimed water irrigation in China				
	7.3 Capacity building training on nonconventional water resources use for irrigation					Digital application in the use of nonconventional water resources	Monitoring soil salt with remote sensing technology	
	7.4 Workshop on use of nonconventional water for food production					Workshop on use of nonconventional water for food production for high value production	International Workshop on Smart Use of Non-conventional Waters for global food security under changing climates, November 2023, Vizag, India	
	7.5 Participate in research on the development of sewage	Guidelines				Reclaimed water irrigation guideline		
	7.6 Guideline document of brackish water irrigation							Brackish water irrigation guideline

(Source: Consultative Group (CG) Report: A Water Secure World Free of Poverty & Hunger: A Road Map to ICID Vision 2030)

