

**MINUTES OF THE 8TH MEETING OF THE
WORKING GROUP ON WATER SAVING IN IRRIGATED AREAS (WG-WATS)**

06 November 2023, 09:30-11:00 hours (Session I) and 11:30-13:00 hours (Session II)
Visakhapatnam (Vizag), Andhra Pradesh State, India

Strategy Theme: Schemes

Presented by the Chair

Year of Establishment: 2015

Completion of the Mandate: 2023

Scope: (a) water accounting and irrigation auditing (and other ancillary uses); (b) irrigation water measuring devices; (c) assessment of water loss in various components of irrigation systems; (d) various methods and techniques used for water saving in irrigation; (e) policies and strategies for irrigation water saving; (f) charging for Irrigation Services; (g) success stories and best management practices in water saving; (h) tools and processes applied in irrigation water saving; (i) outreach of water saving technologies; and (j) WatSave Awards.

Members present: (1) Vice President Engr. Rafat Nael Abdulghani Al-Intaki, Chair (Iraq); (2) Dr. Ray Shyan Wu (Chinese Taipei Committee).

Members Honorary: Vice President Dr. Tsugihiko Watanabe (Japan)

Observers: (1) Prof. Zeinab Behairy (Egypt); (2) Prof. Ming-Che Hu (Chinese Taipei Committee); (3) Ms. Janga Niharika (India); (4) Mr. Sravan Kumar (India); (5) Eng. Nisreen Sami Tarkhan (Iraq); (6) Eng. Ayyed Kadhim (Iraq); (7) Dr. Carlo De Michele (Italy); (8) Prof. Guido D'Urso (Italy); (9) Dr. Toru Okua (Japan); (10) Dr. Akie Mukai (Japan); (11) Engr. Ogili Ijeoma (Nigeria); (12) Eng. MAGAJI Mohammed Galadima (Nigeria); (13) Mr. ILALLAH Hallai Garba (Nigeria); (14) Eng. Bezzel Chitsungo (Zimbabwe)

Webpage: http://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/108

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

1. The Chair presented the report on the actions taken on the decisions and proposals of the working group at its last meeting held in October 2022 in Adelaide, Australia. The group reviewed the nominations of Dr. Shao-Yiu Hsu (Chinese Taipei Committee), Dr. (Ms.) Derya Coşkun (Turkey), and Mr. Egemen Gürsoy (Turkey) received for the membership of the group. The group accepted Dr. Shao-Yiu Hsu (Chinese Taipei Committee) and Mr. Egemen Gürsoy (Turkey) as Members as they attended the virtual meeting while Dr. (Ms.) Derya Coşkun (Turkey) was accepted as Provisional Member due to her non-attendance. Membership status is given in **Annex 3, page 31**.

WG-WATS Minutes Item 2: Brief of the virtual meeting organized in 2023

2. The chair informed the members that the group organized the virtual meetings on 16 February and 25 July 2023 wherein various activities were discussed including the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030, WG publications, workshops, etc. Minutes of the virtual meetings of all work bodies have been uploaded on a dedicated webpage - https://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/152.

WG-WATS Minutes Item 3: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 - Status of activities on water saving in irrigated areas

3. The group reviewed the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 and shared the latest updates to PCTA (refer to **Annex**). The chair informed WG that one of the items of the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 is to give a webinar and organize training courses with the scope of the working group so he encouraged WG members to do so in coordination with the ICID Central Office.

WG-WATS Minutes Item 4: Preparation of Internal workshop in November 2023 at Vizag, India

4. During the past virtual meetings, the group discussed the preparation for holding an internal workshop. The following four presentations were made during the internal workshop:

- (a) The pilot project for irrigation with non-pressurized pipes in Karbala Governorate (Ayyed Kadhim, Rafat Nael, Nisreen Sami)
- (b) Save Irrigation Water and Nutrients Using the Innovative Machine of Soil and Water Management for Rice Crop Cultivation (SWMR) (Dr. MOHAMED ELHAGAREY)

- (c) Uses of remote sensing techniques and satellite images in ET measurements (Rafat Nael)
- (d) Evaluating the performance of sprinkler irrigation systems (Rafat Nael, Nisreen Sami)

WG-WATS Minutes Item 5: The Survey on Water Charging Policies

5. The chair prepared a presentation on the results of the survey and received filled-in survey from the National Committees of China, France, Somalia, the United States, and Iraq (reviewing the reality of Water Charging Policies).

WG-WATS Minutes Item 6: Presentation by the WatSave Award winner(s)

6. The Chair provided a brief of the WatSave Awards and invited WatSave Technology Award Winner 2023 for a presentation. Mr. CARLO DE MICHELE and Mr. Guido D'URSO made an interesting presentation on "IRRISAT – A Satellite-based Irrigation Advisory Service".

WG-WATS Minutes Item 7: Dissemination of activities of WG – Website of the group

7. Chair requested members to share information, papers, and presentations on the topics related to the scope of work of the WG to the ICID Central Office for uploading on the website of the WG.

WG-WATS Minutes Item 8: Updating Multilingual Technical Dictionary (MTD)

8. The Chair informed that the Multilingual Technical Dictionary (MTD) is an e-dictionary of all technical terms related to irrigation, drainage, flood management, environment, river training, and allied disciplines of the water sector. Any term/ definition can be printed/ copied with the option to download/ update terms from the ICID website.

WG-WATS Minutes Item 9: ICID Members' Profile Section

9. The chair informed the WG members that as a new initiative, ICID has launched a new website (<https://icid-ciid.org>) as part of ICID's 70th Anniversary Celebration to meet new web technologies. One of the newly added web features provides WG members access to their profile section <<https://icid.bmeurl.co/C7D4D2E>> using their dedicated account. ICID CO vide email dated 9 July 2021 informed all members on how to access their accounts and change their passwords to maintain accuracy.

WG-WATS Minutes Item 10: World Irrigation and Drainage Schemes (WI&DS)

10. The chair informed the group that ICID has taken the initiative to document the development of irrigation and drainage schemes in the world by establishing an online Register on "World Irrigation and Drainage Schemes (WI&DS)". WI&DS will fulfil the need for a much-awaited global repository of information in systematic irrigation and agricultural water management. More details regarding the process required and other details, in case of any doubt, are outlined on the portal <<https://wip.icidevents.org/>> in detail.

WG-WATS Minutes Item 11: Any other business

11. **Restructuring of the Working Group:** The Chair informed the group that during the 73rd International Executive Council (IEC) meeting in Adelaide, it was decided by the IEC to look into the possibility of integrating WGs of similar/ close mandates. With consultation of PCTA, PCSO, the Secretary General of ICID, and the ICID Central office, a tentative new structure was developed. Among the existing 18 groups, nine of them will complete their mandate in November 2023. The remaining working groups proposed to be structured into 11 new working groups under four themes: (1) Irrigation and Drainage; (2) Natural Resources; (3) Climate Change and impacts; and (4) Sustainable Development. The chair informed the members that the proposed restructuring and new structure of the WGs will be deliberated during PCTA and IEC meetings of the 74th IEC meetings. Under these four themes, the WG-WATS has been included in theme 1 (Irrigation and Drainage) and integrated with WG-SON-FARM. A report on the restructuring of the working groups is given in **IEC Annex 4, page 44**.



Annex [Appendix XXVIII, Item 3]

ROAD MAP TO ICID VISION 2030 – ACTIVITIES OF WORKBODIES

Goals/ Strategies	Activities	Outcomes/ Outputs	Milestone for Year 2018	Milestone for Year 2019	Milestone for Year 2020	Milestone for Year 2021	Milestone for Year 2022	Milestone for Year 2023
GOAL A: ENABLE HIGHER CROP PRODUCTIVITY WITH LESS WATER AND ENERGY								
A3. Strategy: Improving water saving techniques and technologies	3.1 Support Watsave award winner selection	Awards	Presenting Annual Watsave Awards	Presenting Annual Watsave Awards	Presenting Annual Watsave Awards	Presenting Annual Watsave Awards	Presenting Annual Watsave Awards	Presenting Annual Watsave Awards
	3.2 Best Practices and Successful Story on Water Saving	Documents	Announcing annually for Watsave awards and selecting successful stories	Announcing annually for Watsave awards and selecting successful stories	Announcing annually for Watsave awards and selecting successful stories	Setting up 10 years respective work as the documents and release by CO (2010 - 2020)		
GOAL B: BE A CATALYST FOR CHANGE IN POLICIES AND PRACTICES								
B1. Strategies: Supporting development of appropriate policies	1.3 Disseminate the water saving award technologies	Workshop proceedings						
	1.4 Policy and legal approaches to Water Saving	Policies/ Document	-Workshop -Designing and preparing questionnaire to collect data	Collecting and reviewing relevant laws and regulations from NC	Providing first draft	Finalize the book on policies and strategies drives on water saving		
	1.5 Water Charging policies	Position paper	Designing Standard questionnaire	Reviewing Water Charging procedure on NC	Providing first paper	Final Paper		
	1.11 State of the art on water saving	Journal Paper	Preparation of the draft of first paper	Submission of first paper for IRD	Preparation of the draft of second paper	Submission of second paper for IRD		
GOAL C: FACILITATE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGY								
C1. Strategies: Providing knowledge sharing platform for AWM professionals	1.1 Organize Workshop, Seminar and Symposium	Compilation of proceedings	Workshop			Workshop		
C4. Strategy: Compile, collate and share knowledge and experiences	4.8 Condensed overview of existing key books, manuals, guidelines and other relevant publications on water saving	Technical report	Release the first report		Release the second report	Release of third report		

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

