

**MINUTES OF THE SECOND VIRTUAL MEETING OF
WORKING GROUP ON WATER SAVING IN IRRIGATED AREAS (WG-WATS)
25 July 2023, 14:30 hours (IST)**

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.

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

Members present: (1) VP Engr. Rafat Nael Al-Intaki, Chair (Iraq); (2) Dr. Mohamed ElHagarey, Secretary (Egypt); (3) Prof. Qi Xuebin (China); (4) Dr. Shao-Yiu Hsu (Chinese Taipei Committee); (5) Dr. Deepak Khare (India); (6) Dr. Tasuku Kato (Japan); (7) Mr. Egemen Gürsoy (Turkey)

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

1. The Chair welcomed the members present at the second virtual meeting and explained the mechanism of restructuring the current ICID Working Groups, the working group on water saving in irrigated areas is completing the mandate in November 2023 and will be under the new theme "Irrigation and Drainage Water Management".

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

2. The Chair gave a brief of the virtual meeting:

- Nomination for new Secretary of Working Group.
- Invited WG member to prepare the scientific papers/ experiences for internal workshop
- Encouraged to participate in WatSave Award and explained about that WatSave Award
- Highlighted on a Position Paper from Iranian National Committee "Overview of the Concepts of Irrigation Efficiency".
- Current status about Survey on Water Charging Policies.
- Requested members to share documents, information, papers, and presentation.

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

3. One of the pillars of the Roadmap to ICID Vision 2030, which is also considered one of the activities of the work Group members is giving online webinar or lectures. The chair encouraged working group members to give a webinar and for organizing training courses with the scope of working group in coordination with the ICID Central Office in New Delhi.

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

4. The Chair and Dr. Mohamed El-Hagarey made a presentation on two topics for the internal workshop, the first one on 'evaluation of the sprinkler irrigation systems' and the second one on 'save irrigation water and nutrients using the innovative machine and water management for rice crop cultivation (SWMR). Coordination will be made later with the central office regarding the administrative matters of the workshop.

WG-WATS Agenda Item 5: The survey on Water Charging Policies

5. As part of the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030, the chair prepared a presentation on the results of the survey, the number of national committees that filled out this survey is five countries viz. China, France, Somalia, United States, Iraq (reviewing its reality of Water Charging Policies), Dr. Mohamed El-Hagarey presented the presentation to the audience.

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

6. The Chair gave a brief of WatSave Award winners for the year 2022:

- **Technology Award** to Mr. Sumith Choy, Mr. Varun Ravi, Mr. N. Srinivas Reddy and Mr. Satya N. Jaddu (Australia) for their work on "Leveraging Canal Automation Technology to Improve Karnataka's Precious Water Resources";
- **Innovative Water Management Award** to Mr. Li Gendong and Mr. Su Xiaofei (China) for their work on "Water Rights Trading of Hetao Irrigation Scheme";
- **Young Professional Award** to Mr. Ramtin Nabipour Shiri (Iran) for his work on "Drip Tape Irrigation of Transplanted Rice in Puddled Paddy Soil"
- **Farmer Award** to Mr. Nader Zarei (Iran) for his work on building a "Cultivation Model Compatible with Arid and Semi-arid Climate of Iran in order to Increase Water's Economic Productivity".

7. Coordination will be made with the ICID Central Office for this year 2023 to invite the upcoming winners to make a presentation of their work in November 2023 at Vizag, India.

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

8. The WG website (https://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/119) has been updated with the membership list, agenda, minutes, paper presentations, publications etc. Members are requested for their active participation in the activities of the WG and facilitate exchange of information, knowledge and experience, as well as networking on the topic in order to keep themselves up-to-date with new developments in the various aspect of water saving.

9. Members are also requested to provide information, papers, presentation made on topics related to scope of work of the WG to the ICID Central Office for uploading on the website of the WG. Members may like to discuss and evolve methodology for sharing of information and updating of WG website.

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

10. 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/updates of terms from the ICID website. The MTD enriches the process of sharing and exchange of experiences and has proven to be highly useful for engineers, researchers, students, professionals, planners, designers, academics and all others related to the field of irrigation and drainage. It is more helpful for professionals outside the water sector, in simplifying the technical jargon and to understand the sectoral nuances easily.

11. WG Members are requested to review the MTD terms related to the mandate of the group and provide their views/suggestions (<https://icid-ciid.org/mtd/display.php?lang=en>)

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

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

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

13. ICID has taken an initiative to document the development of irrigation projects in the world by establishing an online Register on “World Irrigation Projects (WIP)”. WIP will fulfil the need for a much-awaited global repository of information in systematic irrigation and agricultural water management. Irrigation projects having 5000 Hectares and above of Gross Command Area can submit their information for inclusion in the register. The irrigation projects approved by National Committee/ ICID Central Office for inclusion are entitled to Certification. Members are also requested to encourage all irrigation project owners, managers, and researchers across the world and especially in our member countries for contributing to the register. This facility is also extended to non-member countries if the information is received from an authorized agency. The review process and other details are outlined on the portal <<https://wip.icidevents.org/>> in detail.

WG-WATS Agenda Item 11: Any other business

14. Chair thanked all the members and recommended them to interact with the activities mentioned above.

