News Update

ICID•CIID

A Water Secure World Free of Poverty and Hunger through Sustainable Rural

JANUARY 2022

From Secretary-General's Desk

Dear Colleagues,

Recently I had the opportunity to deliver a presentation on "Water Use Efficiency" in a virtual event organized jointly by ThinkAg, an NGO working in agriculture sector, and Rivulis Irrigation India Ltd. Water use efficiency is often confused with the water productivity in agriculture. I believe clarification is needed to clarify this misunderstanding and put this issue in proper perspective. Water use efficiency is related to irrigation input and consumptive water use for crop growth. While water productivity, a standard measure of crop water performance, is essentially a function of the technology used in water application. The cropping system and soil type, water management practices, and precipitation levels also influence water productivity. Flood irrigation has been a traditional water application method in most situations globally, even in water-scarce conditions, and it has both its pluses and minuses. However, as the water demand grows in the other sectors of the economy, agricultural water use attracts the first attention of policymakers and water resources managers for potential savings. The general expectation or prescription is that agricultural water use needs drastic improvements to share water more justly among the various demands.

Irrigation and water resources engineers have been tackling this issue ever since the more significant freshwater diversion began growing to other sectors such as industry, tourism, and domestic supplies. Disregarding the ecological and environmental benefits of flood irrigation, the current thinking in the agriculture sector tilts towards improving crop water productivity, meaning more production with less water application as a way forward. Precision irrigation technologies that match the crop water requirement with the available supply are an area that has received significant research interest. As a result, many innovations are now becoming commercially viable. The principle behind precision irrigation is quite simply that the crop water requirement needs to be measured as accurately as possible using state-of-the-art technology. This requirement should be met as exactly as physically possible in any given spatial-temporal setting. In this context, it is generally assumed that some other agency or mechanism will take care of the environmental flows of water in the absence of any holistic ecology-based natural resources policy system.

There are constant technological developments in the fields of satellite or sensor-based water measurements, efficient water transport and delivery systems, and scientific management regimes that make precision irrigation possible. Unfortunately, such expensive options are mostly confined to the developed world. In the developing world, no doubt such technologies are becoming available, but they still are beyond the reach of most smallholders. All stakeholders, including government, private sector and farming communities, need to play a bigger role to alleviate the situation. We also need a continuously evolving innovation ecosystem, and that is what ICID Watsave Awards precisely endeavour to promote.

In closing, I would urge all national committees of ICID to submit nominations for the WatSave Awards and World Heritage Irrigation Structures. ICID has also instituted a World Register of Irrigation Schemes as a repository of projects that serve more than 5000 ha each in different parts of the world for knowledge and experience sharing.

Wishing you all a Very Happy New Year 2022!

Ashwin B. Pandya
Secretary-General, ICID

Secretary–General takes part in a webinar "Water Use Efficiency Series Part 1"

The Webinar "Water Use Efficiency Series" was organized by ThinkAg and Rivulis Irrigation India on 20 January 2022. The webinar included expertise and professionals of water related sector. The webinar mainly covered the core issue of water distress, water management, water security, water demand, aquarecharge, contaminations of water, and new innovation to reuse, and fulfill the water requirement of growing population in cities.

The webinar also discussed the major water requirement in agriculture. As we know, agriculture uses more than 80 percent of high quality freshwater for irrigation. Therefore,we need very high skills, innovation, planning, awareness, investment, and cost-efficient devices for the efficient use of water in agriculture.

The Rivulis has a rich history in the irrigation industry with more than 50 years of expertise developing, manufacturing and deploying micro irrigation products and solutions. Starting in 1966 as Plastro on Kibbutz Gvat in Israel, Rivulis has grown over the years to become a global irrigation leader, expanding our drip irrigation and micro irrigation capabilities, market coverage and operational scale through the merger of four leading players: Plastro, T-Systems, Roberts Irrigation and Eurodrip. Rivulis is owned by Temasek.

The introductory remarks were given by Kaushal Jaiswal, Managing Director, Rivulis Irrigation India, Special Presentation by Shrikant Goenka, President, Irrigation Association of India. The Panel discussion included the Moderator Dr. Sangita Ladha, Business Director, Rivulis Irrigation India; Panel Members Er. Ashwin Pandya, Secretary-General, International Commission on Irrigation & Drainage; Dr. Lior Asaf, Water Attache (MASHAV), Embassy of Israel-New Delhi; Ajith Radhakrishnan, Country Coordinator- 2030 Water Resources Group, World Bank; Rajendra Singh Khichar, Dy. Director-Horticulture & State Nodal Officer for PDMC-PMKSY-MI, Govt. of Rajasthan and Roshan Lal Tamak, ED & CEO- Sugar Business, DCM Shriram.

Mr. Rajendra Singh Khichar nodal officer PDMC-PMKSY-MI, Govt. of Rajasthan, talked about the Govt of India policy on the efficient management of water and how it support the farmers of every segments for the improvement of their livelihood & ensure food security. He also mentioned the national stats about the National Water Usage, Micro-Irrigation area, Water Stressed of blocks and graphs of how reduction in input consumption in Irrigation, fertilizer & energy leads to increase in crop productivity in the subclasses of vegetables, Fruits, pulses, maize & wheat.

Dr. Lior Asaf, Water Attache (MASHAV), Embassy of Israel- New Delhi, informed about the India – Israel partnership in the implementation of policy regarding the water management or conservation of water in agriculture, domestic use, drinking and sanitation, recycle or treatment of water and how Israel technology play important role in securing India water demand.

The ICID, represented by Secretary-General Eng. A.B. Pandya, presented about the ICID and its role in achieving water secure world by 2030. He talked about the ICID 2030 vision and how it plays as a catalyst in the water-related issues in agriculture and food security. In irrigation he mentioned about the importance of ICID which covers more the 95 percent of irrigated area of the world. In the end he appreciated the Kaushal Jaiswal, Managing Director, Rivulis Irrigation India & Dr. Sangita Ladha, Business Director, Rivulis Irrigation India to organizing the fruit full event in the water sector and thanked all the participants for sharing their valuable experiences to achieve SDG's deadline of 2030.

The session moderator Dr. Sangita Ladha, Business Director, Rivulis Irrigation India, thanked all the panellists and participants for making the event successful.

Webinar on "Mapping & Monitoring Irrigation Performance" organize by ICID with their other partner on 27 January 2022

A webinar on mapping and monitoring irrigation performance in the irrigation and drainage (I&D) sector organized by the International Network of Service Providers for Irrigation Excellence (INSPIRE) in collaboration with World Bank, ICID, IWMI, FAO, GWSP. This webinar focussed on using advanced innovative technologies for conducting performance assessments in the I&D sector and will present examples of a systematic way of measuring key performance indicators.

The webinar discussed the centralized elements that make up good irrigation service provision are adequate, reliable, flexible, and equitable water deliveries, and, in the case of drainage, the removal thereof. By conducting assessments, root causes of low levels of performance can be identified and addressed through the development of appropriate measures and action plans. Also, traditional methods of performance assessment are facing growing challenges. The level of effort is often very significant, the costs are high, and the results often lack accuracy. More innovative methods for performance assessment have become available that can be leveraged to improve accuracy while reducing costs and effort.

INSPIRE serves as a technical working body with a worldwide reach, supported by multiple development organizations. By serving to inform the practices of I&D agencies and managers, the platform prov1des opportunities for knowledge exchange on hands-on experiences, innovations, and best practices for improving quality of service provision.

The panellist included the Abdul Malik Sadat Idris, Director for Water Resources & Irrigation, Ministry of National Development Planning, Indonesia; IJsbrand de Jong, Lead Water Resources, Management Specialist, World Bank; Mr. Ashwin Pandya, Secretary General, Mr. Nizar Zaied, Global Lead tor Water, Islamic Development Bank's (IsDB) & speakers Mr. Mutlu Ozdogan Associate Professor university of Wisconsin – Madison; Paavan Kumar Reddy Gollapalli Program Executive, NRM Social Investments Division, ITC Limited & Mr. Poolad Karimi, Senior Irrigation Specialist, World Bank.

Speakers

Mr. Abdul Malik Sadat Idris is currently the Director for Water Resources and Irrigation of the Ministry of National

Development Planning, Indonesia, where he supports the agency in developing national policies and plans for water resources development in Indonesia. He holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Bandung Institute of Technology as well as a Master's degree in Civil Engineering, majoring in coastal engineering from the University of Tokyo. With over 15 years of experience working in water resources management, Mr. Idris seeks innovative approaches in managing Indonesia's water sector, especially on how to spur the involvement of the private sector in the management of multipurpose dams, water supply, and flood risk management.

Eng. Ashwin Pandya currently serves as the Secretary-General of the ICID.

He was Chairman of the Central Water Commission. He is also a former Ex-Officio Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation.

Mr. Mutfu Ozdogan is an Associate Professor at the University of Wisconsin - Madison. teaching courses on global agriculture, water resources, irrigation sustainability, environmental change, and geospatial technologies. He holds over 15 years of experience applying observational & modeling tools to better understand the relationship between the environment, water resources and farming, ranging from the tropics to the arid lances. He holds a geological engineering degree from Istanbul University, Masters degrees from North Carolina State University & Boston University, and a Ph.D. from Boston University.

Mr. Paavan Kumar is currently working with ITC Limited in the Social Investments Division on planning, reviewing, and monitoring natural resource management. He focuses on Water Stewardship in Uttarakhand, Springshed Management in Himachal Pradesh, and on Conservation Agriculture, particularly crop residue management in the rice-wheat cropping system In Punjab.

Mr. Nizar Zaied is the Islamic Development Bank's (IsDB's) Global Lead for Water within the Economic and Social Infrastructure Global Practice, where he is responsible for overall policy direction, operational innovation, and quality control for the water portfolio. Prior to this, he served as Lead Urban Development Specialist in the Infrastructure Department and led business generation. portfolio management, policy dialogue, and donor coordination. Nizar's professional experience in water and infrastructure projects spans over more than 25 years covering countries in Africa, Asia and the Middle East. He joined IsDB in 1997 as part of the Young Professionals Program. He holds a Ph.D. in Water Engineering from the National Laboratory for Public Works in Nantes, France and a Master's degree in Water Treatment from INSA, Toulouse. France.

ICID Forthcoming Events

73rd IEC Meeting and 24th ICID Congress 3-10 October 2022, Adelaide, Australia Theme: Innovation and research in agriculture water management to achieve sustainable development goals Website: https://www.icid2022. eom.au/

Geosynthetics Events: Held at ICID Congress & Irrigation Australia Conference

The Geosynthetics Event at the ICID Congress and Irrigation Australia Conference – Adelaide October 2022 - Enhancing the performance of Canals, Reservoirs and Dams with Geosynthetics. The International Geosynthetics Society (IGS) in collaboration with Irrigation Australia (IAL) and the International Commission on Irrigation & Drainage (ICID) have agreed to host a one-day workshop at the ICID 24th Irrigation Congress and Irrigation Australia Conference and Exhibition at the Adelaide Convention Centre on 4 October 2022 on enhancing the performance of canals, reservoirs and dams using geosynthetics.

74th IEC Meeting and 4th World Irrigation Forum 16-22 April 2023, Beijing, China. Theme: Modernization of Irrigation Schemes MIS)- Water saving & Green development (Tentative), NC Contact : Mr. Gao Lihui, Executive Secretary, Chinese National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (CNCID), 1, Yuyuantan South Road Beijing 100038, Email : gaolh@iwhr.com, cncid_office@sina.com, lihui.gao@qq.com. Location - Guoce International Convention & Exhibition Center, Beijing, China,

75th IEC Meeting and 25th ICID Congress 6-13 November 2023,Vizag, Andhra Pradesh, India. Theme: Tackling Water Scarcity in Agriculture Contact: rishi1964@yahoo.com, yellark@gmail.com

10th International Micro Irrigation Conference 25-27 January 2023,Agadir - Dakhla, Morocco. Theme: Micro Irrigation in the Era of Technology, Innovation and Digital Transformation, Website: http://10imic.ma/

76th IEC Meeting and 9th Asian Regional Conference 1-7 September 2024, Sydney, Australia. Website: http://www.irrigationaustralia.com.au/

77th IEC Meeting and 5th World Irrigation Forum May 2025, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Theme: Challenges and future needs in modernization of irrigation for food security and sustainability.

Contact NC - Mr Ismayatim Hamdan, Secretary Malaysian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (MANCID), No 28, Persiaran Perdan, Wisma Tani, Level 4, Block 4G1, Pusat Pentadbiran Kerajaan, 62624 Putrajaya.

Contact: Malaysian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (MANCID), 404 Indah Apartment Taman Setapak Indah, 53300 Kuala Lumpur.

ICID INVITES NOMINATIONS FOR 2022

Nomination for 2022 ICID Awards

ICID is pleased to announce the "Call for Nominations for 2022 WatSave Awards and Recognition of World Heritage Irrigation Structures (WHIS) for the 73rd IEC Meeting and 24th ICID International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage 2022, South Adelaide, Australia.

WatSave Awards 2022

ICID instituted the 'WatSave Awards' in 1997, presented every year, to recognize outstanding contributions to water conservation or water saving in agriculture across the world. Accordingly, the award given to individuals or a team of individuals are made in respect of actual realized savings and not for promising research results, plans and/ or good ideas/intentions to save water. The awards aregiven in four categories: **(i) Technology (ii) Innovative Water Management (iii) Young Professionals; and (iv) Farmer.**

Nominations are invited from individuals/ team through National Committees/ Committee. The entries are open to all professionals/teams from ICID member countries as well as non-member countries. In case of an entry from a non-member' country, the nomination has to be routed through and validated by an active National Committee of ICID, who should be in touch with the nominee and must be aware of his/her work. For more information please click the link: **http://icid-ciid.org/award/watsave/43**

World Heritage Irrigation Structures (WHIS) 2022

A Task Team is set up every year to select historical drainage/drainage structures as received from various National Committees (NCs) to give them recognition on the lines of World Heritage Sites (as recognized by UNESCO). Nominations are invited from ICID National Committees for selection of "World Heritage Irrigation Structures" (WHIS) that includes both old operational irrigation structures as well as those having an archival value.

A National Committee can nominate more than one structure, using separate nomination form for each. Associated Members and non-member countries can nominate their structures through neighbouring active NCs or by submitting directly to ICID Central Office.

The deadline for receipt of the entries for WatSave Awards and WHIS from the National Committees along with the completed 'Nomination Form' and related details to the ICID Central Office, New Delhi is **30th June 2022**

More information including the detailed procedure for nomination and criterion for the awards can be accessed at **http://icid-ciid.org/award/his/44**

For any queries, please contact Dr. Sahdev Singh, Director (Knowledge Management) at icid@icid.org.

Important Announcements

(A) Call for Papers: 24th ICID International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage 03-10 October Adelaide, South Australia The Congress Theme: Innovation and Research in Agricultural Water Management to Achieve Sustainable Development Goals The Congress aims to provide a platform for irrigation and drainage professionals and the broad range of other stakeholders to share their knowledge and experience in sustainable agriculture water management, focusing on irrigation management and its related/integrated aspects. To find out further information and to submit an abstract, please visit Irrigation Australia's conference website https://www.icid2022.com.au/call-for-papers/how-to-submit-papers/

For all the information on submitting an extract - you can also download the ICID Call for Papers Flyer on the following link: **https://mcusercontent.com/ad3d7801a3707d168c030e520/files/2a975c86-852a-f3bc-5cf7-a2a4ef6483c7/24cong_callforpapers.pdf**

(B) Call for Papers: International Workshop on Modernizing Irrigation and Drainage Services, Adelaide, 2022

The main theme of the International Workshop is Modernizing Irrigation and Drainage with a focus on the arrangements for provision of irrigation services. Arrangements for upgrading irrigation and drainage services go beyond rehabilitation of infrastructure to include the institutional and management arrangements required to enable irrigation supplies responsive to farmer's requirements. The objective of the workshop is to bring together irrigators, system operators and researchers to present and discuss the current state of knowledge and experiences in creating irrigation and drainage services that are responsive to the changing needs of farmers and the environments in which irrigation and/or drainage takes place. **https://icid-ciid.org/icid_data_web/call-papers_M&R_2022.pdf**

(C) Launch of Dam and Network Safety Assurance (DNSA) Course - 3rd Batch

Inviting registrations/ nominations for online certification in dam and network safety assurance- Batch-III - ICID invites you to join the first-ever LMS-based certificate course on dam and network safety assurance. The course covers the entire gamut of establishing a dam and network safety regime and all the techniques involved in assuring the dam and network safety. You can register online here https://damsafety.co/register and for more information click **https://damsafety.co/**

(D) 11th International Drainage Symposium; August 30 - September 2; Des Moines, Iowa

Solutions to agricultural drainage challenges and opportunities will be the focus of the 11th International Drainage Symposium, held August 30-September 2, 2022 at the Marriott Des Moines Downtown in Des Moines, Iowa, USA. Two days of sessions will highlight challenge of increasing

agricultural production on the world's poorly drained soils in a changing climate, with ever-increasing water quality and quantity concerns, will require technical, economic, policy, and social perspectives. The third day of the symposium will feature field tours highlighting some of the innovative drainage work happening in the local area. The symposium will provide an opportunity for the research, agency, industry, and practitioner communities to interact, share experiences, and address emerging issues related to agricultural drainage. For more information please click the link: https://www.swcs.org/events/conferences/22ids/

(E) International Workshop on "Public-Private-Partnership (PPPs) in Irrigation and Drainage Operation and Maintenance toward sustainable Irrigated Agricultural water management" 04 October 2022, 14:00-18:15 hours (TBC) Adelaide, Australia.

The objective of this workshop is to follow-up the IOA Workshop in Denpasar, Bali Indonesia that was conducted on 2nd September 2019 on the theme "Participatory Irrigation/ Drainage Management – PIDM and Management Transfer, Approaches and condition for successful PIDM" to provide subsequently for a wider platform for irrigation and drainage professionals in the scope of activities related to the comprehensive mandate of WG-IOA, particularly in this proposal related with Mandate 3, which is "Public-Private Partnership (PPPs) in irrigation and drainage operation as well as Mechanism for Cost Recovery", covering among others: possibilities of and requirements for successful Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in irrigation/ drainage operation and management; methods and mechanisms for charging of irrigation/ drainage services; and determination of the level of cost recovery. The workshop materials will therefore be based on review experiences and approach with IOA in the countries or regions that are having practical experiences on PPPs under the PIDM or IDMT programs both on conventional irrigation as well as on micro-irrigation technology practices toward sustainable agriculture water management.

For more information contact coordinates:

Workshop Chairperson: Dr. Hafied A. Gany, P.Eng. Chairman, WG-IOA (hafiedgany@yahoo.com; hafiedgany@gmail.com)

Workshop Coordinator: Er. Harish Kumar Varma, Executive Director, ICID Central Office (icid@icid.org)

Or click the link: **file:///C:/Users/admin/Downloads/Call_for_Papers_for__WG-IOA_2022%20(3).pdf**

(F) Call for Papers International Workshop on "Managing on the Regional, State or Local Level, Water Scarcity Resulting from Conflicting Demands".

Water scarcity is both a natural and a human-made phenomenon. At the current consumption rate, it is projected that by 2025, two-thirds of the world's population may face water shortages. Water shortages may be caused by climate change, increased population, increased recognition of environmental needs for water and increased human demand. Water scarcity can be in the form of physical water scarcity and economic water scarcity. Physical water scarcity refers to a situation where natural water resources are unable to meet a region's demand and economic water scarcity is a result of poor water resources management.

The main theme of the International Workshop of WG-MWSCD is "Managing, on the Regional, State and Local Levels, Water Scarcity Resulting from Conflicting Demands". The Workshop is being organized by ICID's Working Group on Managing Water Scarcity under Conflicting Demands (WG-MWSCD) during 24th ICID Congress & 73rd International Executive Council (IEC) meeting from 3-10 October 2022 at Adelaide, Australia.

SCHEDULE FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS / FULL PAPERS

i. Submission of abstracts (max. 300 words) : **30 May 2022**

ii. Notification of acceptance : **15 June 2022**

iii. Submission of full papers (max. 10 pages) : **30 July 2022**

iv. Notification of acceptance of full papers : **12 August 2022**

For more information contact coordinates: Workshop Chairman: VPH Franklin E. Dimick, Chair WG-MWSCD (E-mail: frankdimick@gmail.com)

Workshop Coordinator: Er. Harish Kumar Varma, Executive Director, ICID Central Office (icid@icid.org)

(G) Call for Papers International Workshop on "The Water-Energy-Food-Nexus: Implementation and Examples of Applications"

Objectives: This Workshop will bring together experts from all over the world to share information, experience, and views on how to implement the water-energy-food nexus in agriculture. The focus will be on the practicle application and address the three elements of the Nexus: Water, Food and Energy.

The main theme of the International Workshop of Working Group is "The Water-Energy-Food-Nexus: Implementation and Examples of Applications".

SCHEDULE FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS / FULL PAPERS

- Submission of abstracts (max. 600 words) : **30 May 2022**
- Notification of acceptance : **15 June 2022**
- Submission of full papers (max. 10 pages of A-4 size) : **30 July 2022**
- Notification of acceptance of full papers : **01 August 2022**

For more information contact coordinates:

Workshop Chairman: Dr Ragab Ragab, President of ICID, Chairman of the Working Group on "Water-Energy-Food Nexus" and Fellow at UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, UKCEH, UK email: ragab@icid.org

Dr. K Yella Reddy, Vice President Hon. ICID; Dean, AMGR Agricultural University; Secretary, WG on "Water-Energy-Food Nexus" (E-mail: yellark@gmail.com); and Former Director (A&R), WALAMTARI, Hyderabad, India

Workshop Coordinator: Er. Balasaheb Anantrao Chivate, Director (Technical), International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) (E-mail: icid@icid.org), New Delhi. India

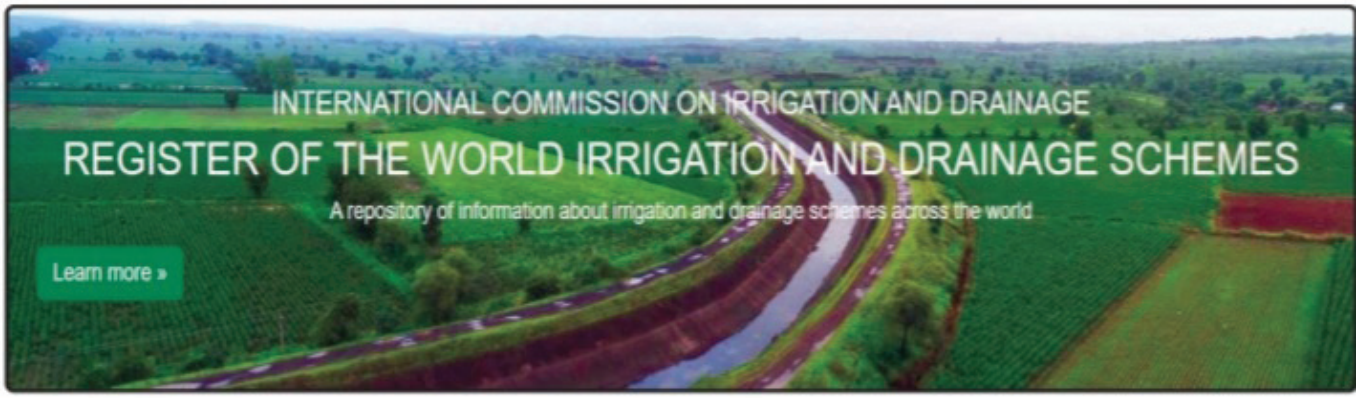
Or, Click the link **https://icid-ciid.org/icid_data_web/wsp2022_wfe-n.pdf**

(H) 2nd International and 15th National Congress on Agricultural Structures and Irrigation, 12-15 May 2022, Diyarbakir, Turkey

The "International Congress and Workshop on Agricultural Structures and Irrigation" (www.icasi2021.org) to be held in Diyarbakir, Turkiye, on 12-15 May 2022. The Congress and Workshop covers

especially agricultural irrigation, water management, drought, climate change, irrigation-environment relationship, waste water use, remote sensing in agricultural irrigation and smart systems including all other related issues. This international event can be attended with or without presentation. The abstract submission deadline is 11 February 2022 for those who want to participate with a paper. In addition, considerable advantages and some facilities will be provided to the students and young colleagues. All details and explanations are on the congress website. Some distinguished national and international scientists in the their fields will participate. For registration, the application form must be filled and sent to the congress email (congressicasi2022@gmail.com). Covid-19 vaccine and detailed up-to-date information on this issue are available on the countries' website (https://web.shgm.gov.tr/en). Congress details and all other information are available on the website **www.icasi2021.org**

ICID Initiative for a Global Inventory of Irrigation and Drainage Schemes



Need a Global View

Irrigated agriculture forms the kingpin of the food and water security of the country and the region. Systematic irrigation is practised through irrigation projects of various sizes, which provide the assured source for a sustainable and timely water supply. Thus, an irrigation project forms the atomic unit of irrigation and water resources development. Across the world, irrigation is practised under varying agro-climatic conditions and topography and area appropriate solutions for the same determine the features of individual irrigation projects.

A global view of the irrigation and drainage projects provide great insights into various development approaches followed across the world, their success and their performance. It is observed that the topographic, hydrologic, agronomic and social conditions form a unique combination in which an irrigation project gets planned and implemented. Hence, there is a need to have a global view of the developments which show us the measures adopted and their contexts under a multi-dimensional environment. Attempts are made by various researchers and practitioners to examine specific issues but examination of a project as a whole in a global context requires a repository of information through which the individual projects of interest can be visualized and approached for lessons.

ICID is the only major international scientific and technical organization that, through its membership network, spans across more than 90% of the irrigated areas of the world. The necessity for having a global view of projects devoted to irrigation and drainage is greatly felt by the member countries and also across the world by various agencies. ICID has, therefore, taken initiative to collect and provide a community knowledge base of irrigation and drainage projects which can work as a common pool resource for understanding the status of development and approaches used for the development and management project under varying conditions.

Setting up a Register of World Irrigation Schemes

Various registers exist in the field of engineering structures and other entities, the most notable from the water resources angle being the World Register of Dams being maintained by the International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD). ICID is also maintaining a World Register of Heritage Irrigation Structures and awards recognition to the structures meeting the eligibility criteria.

Most registers examined are about structures and individual components of a system and none recording the features of irrigation and/or drainage project on a worldwide scale. It is, therefore, felt that such a register should be established for irrigation projects and ICID being a key player in the fields of irrigation and drainage is the most suitable agency for the establishment of a Register on “World Irrigation Projects”. The authenticity of the projects in the register will be obtained through ICID National Committees

The facility is presently located at www.icidevents.org/WorldIrrPrjs/ Default.aspx and is in the development phase. At the appropriate time, once a critical mass of data is available, the same will be migrated to a dedicated domain duly registered.

New and Unique Data on How Much Water Crops Use

ICARDA and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) recently organized a two-day workshop to document and share the outcomes of a project that uniquely establishes the amount of water used by key crops in regional settings, providing vital data for farming approaches and government policies.

Evapotranspiration (ET) is how soil and plant surfaces lose water to the atmosphere (evaporation) combined with how water leaves small openings of the plants’ leaves (transpiration). The process of evapotranspiration means the water is no longer stored in the soil or the plant. To manage water resources effectively and determine water requirements for

Welcome Message from Irrigation Australia

On behalf of Irrigation Australia and the ICID Australian National Committee (IACID) it is our great pleasure to invite you to the 73rd IEC Meeting & 24th ICID Congress combined with the Irrigation Australia National Conference & Exhibition to be held in Adelaide, Australia from 03 October to 10 October 2022. The uncertainty about the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in our decision to postpone two previous dates. The date and location may have changed but the enthusiasm, commitment and warm hospitality extended by the organising committee has not. From February 21 2022 the Australian Government has opened our international borders for fully vaccinated travellers and on this basis we see no current reason for the event not to proceed and for delegates to attend and safely enjoy the event.

The Australian irrigation industry is delighted to have the opportunity to host this event and showcase our irrigated agricultural industry to the world. To add value to your participation in the International Congress, we have combined it with our biennial Irrigation Australia Conference and Exhibition, the biggest irrigation event in the southern hemisphere. ICID delegates will be able to attend the local conference sessions and our large international exhibition in addition to the comprehensive ICID program.

The theme for the 24th ICID Congress is 'Innovation and research in agricultural water management to achieve sustainable development goals'. Australia is the driest continent on earth and the efficient use of water is at the forefront of our objectives and strategies to expand our domestic production of food production and to maintain our reputation as an exporter of high-quality foods to a growing world population.

The event will be hosted in Adelaide, which is Australia's 5th largest city and home to a vibrant culture of arts, culture and great food. It is renowned for its fantastic places to visit and close proximity to some of the leading agricultural production in Australia. The famous wine producing region of the Barossa Valley is easily accessible on a day trip from the city and here you can experience some of the finest wines and cellar doors in Australia, and in fact the world.

The organising committee will be arranging a selection of interesting and informative study tours and further details on these are on the conference website. International and Australian abstracts have been received and we are excited to bring you some of the most forward looking and informative speakers and presentations to enhance your experience.

Registrations are now open and you can take advantage of an early bird period to keep you informed and updated with what will be an exciting and important event on the international irrigation calendar.

It is a great privilege to be awarded the opportunity to host the ICID International Congress, which is being held in southern hemisphere for the first time since its inception in 1951. We hope that you plan well ahead to attend this event and take this long-awaited opportunity to catch up with old acquaintances, make new friendships and enjoy some 'true blue' Australian hospitality.

If you have any questions or require assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us via email at icid2022@irrigation.org.au.

We look forward to seeing you in 2022 in Adelaide.

ANDREW OGDEN
Chairman, Irrigation Australia

MOMIR VRANES
Chair, IACID National Committee

BRYAN WARD
CEO, Irrigation Australia

fundamental crops, scientists and farmers seek to measure ET accurately.

Currently, many remote sensing (RS) evapotranspiration estimates are available for use in regional planning and policy development. Still, they suffer from uncertainties as they are not rigorously validated, especially in the Near East and North Africa (NENA) Region.

ICARDA, in collaboration with FAO's Regional Office for Near East and North Africa (RNE), has established the first regional network for field measurement of evapotranspiration in five countries - Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, and Lebanon, where different ET measurement options are used through National Agricultural Research Institutes. The network builds common understanding and methodology on ET measurements in the field and through remote sensing to deliver accurate data assessments and how to use them for agriculture-related applications such as water accounting, water productivity, and water management.

ICARDA's role is to develop standardized protocols and methods for evapotranspiration field measurements. With this technical support from ICARDA, the first measurement project was launched by country partners on cereals in the winter of 2019 using different instruments. Though COVID19 and its imposed travel restrictions have since affected how ICARDA works with country partners, ICARDA developed virtual exchange tools to overcome this obstacle and continues to exchange knowledge smoothly and provide fast troubleshooting services.

Through the ET network, members become fully familiar with the ET-Network measurement protocols using different methods and they can properly and accurately collect, analyze and disseminate the obtained data to relevant stakeholders for better regional water planning. ET-Network members also communicate with each other to exchange generated data and knowledge despite COVID-19 imposed challenges. A more accurate regional dataset on ET mapping is also being developed to better inform decision-makers and policymakers in the region

International Symposium on Smart Farming held in connection with IAE 2021

The Regional Office of AARDO for Far East (FERO), in collaboration with Korea FAO Association (KFA), hosted virtual International Symposium on Smart Farming on 22 October 2021. The symposium was organized as a part of International Agriculture Exhibition (IAE), held from 21-31 October 2021.

The symposium, live-streamed via Youtube, aimed to explore the future of smart agriculture as it has gained international attention due to its potential to significantly boost the agricultural production both in productivity and sustainability.

The Symposium opened with the remarks by Dr. Park, Hong Jae, Director of Jeonnam Agricultural Research & Extension Services, followed by the keynote speech delivered by Mr Kim, Jong Jin, FAO Assistant-Director General and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific. Smart farm experts from the public and private sectors of the Republic of Korea, the Netherlands, Israel were invited to present on national smart farm development policies and share information on technologies and experiences during the presentation and discussion sessions.

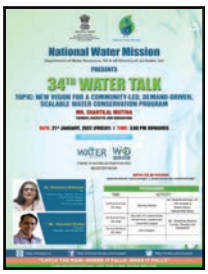
The full version of the Symposium is available on YouTube at **https://youtu.be/S9MaE_2mAME**

WHO Publication: Global Analysis of Health Care Waste in the Context of COVID-19; Status, Impacts and Recommendations

On 1 February, WHO will launch a new publication which quantifies the additional healthcare waste generated as a result of COVID-19, describes current healthcare waste management systems and their deficiencies, and summarizes emerging best practices and solutions to reduce the impact of waste on human and environmental health.

The book will present the findings from the report, highlight implications for countries and partners, and share examples of innovative and environmentally sustainable solutions. WHO will be joined by speakers from the Global Fund, Health Care Without Harm, IFC, R4H, and UNDP.

Thirty-Fourth (34th) Water Talk held on 21st January 2022



National Water Mission (NWM) has been organizing a seminar series- 'Water Talk' -to promote dialogue and information sharing among participants on a variety of water-related topics. The 'Water Talk' is intended to create awareness, build capacities of stakeholders and encourage people to become active participants in the conservation and saving of water. NWM has so far organized 33 'Water-Talks' on a range of topics dominating the water sector.

Thirty-Fourth (34th) Water Talk in this series was held on 21st January 2022 on a virtual platform organized by NWM with the support of Water Digest, the official media partner for the webinar. The talk was delivered by Mr. Shantilal Muttha, Founder, Bhartiya Jain Sanghatana. The topic of the e-talk byMr. Shantilal Muttha was "New Vision for a community-led, demand-driven, scalable water conservation program".

The programme also acts as an intellectual platform to transfer knowledge, solve problems, brainstorm and promote teamwork among the participants of the talk. Since it is intended to serve as a gateway of knowledge, best practices and experiences leading to cross learning of new developments, the speakers invited are scientists, academicians, engineers, scientists and activists or dedicated practitioners in the field of water. The 'Water Talk' provides a space to these water experts to share their views and critically analyse the prevalent water-related issues in practice and highlight the importance of water conservation in the contemporary Indian situation. All speakers have been from different walks of life and have presented a variety of perspectives and practical knowledge in their area of expertise. This has given an opportunity to learn and replicate the best water conservation and management practices in the country.

Sh. Shantilal Muttha is a distinguished social entrepreneur and strategic philanthropist. Rising from humble origins, he established a flourishing enterprise with the noble intent of becoming self-sufficient for pursuing his dream of contributing to social welfare.

Ms. Debashree Mukherjee, Additional Secretary, and Mission Director, NWM, and officials of NWM attended the webinar along with other participants. The talk was also live-streamed through Facebook and other social media platforms of various organizations under the Ministry of Water. She started the talk by wishing all the participants a very happy new water year. She further emphasized on the lack of water consciousness in the cities in current times. She enumerated the benefits that one can attain by listening to "Water Talks' and incorporating those learning in our daily lives.

The talk was followed by a session of questions and answers wherein members from the audience were invited to discuss their queries with the speaker. The webinar saw some interesting and unique questions from people across the country.

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