

NEWS UPDATE

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

October 2023

From Secretary-General's Desk...

Dear Colleagues,

Greetings from ICID, New Delhi.



As you are aware, we are very close to the dates of the 25th International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage & the 74th International Executive Council meeting and you must have finalised your itinerary to reach Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh the south of India.

India has always been considered a culturally rich country with diverse food habits, traditions, beliefs, social customs, attire, language, festivals, etc. The event will also provide a gateway to India in general & Andhra Pradesh in particular to exhibit rich cultural legacy and tourism avenues. The coastal city of Visakhapatnam is popular as a beautiful, clean and green city. The location along the Bay of Bengal blesses the city with a pleasing climate during the month of November. I extend a cordial invitation to all the prospective delegates & authors from different countries including India, exhibitors, volunteers, etc. being the part of this prestigious event and make it a grand success. All arrangement has been done to make it a memorable event and to make the delegates stay more comfortable and enjoyable.

The 25th International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage and the 74th International Executive Council meeting is being organised on the theme 'Tackling Water Scarcity in Agriculture' from 01-08 November, 2023 at Radisson Blue Resort, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, India. The event is addressing two contemporary questions: Questions No. 64: What Alternative Water Resources could be Tapped for Irrigated Agriculture? and Questions No. 65: What On-Farm Techniques can increase Water Productivity?. 147 full-length papers have been received for six sub-questions under

Congress Questions No. 64 & 65, which will be deliberated during the three-day congress. Apart from the proceedings of the Congress, ICID's five technical working groups i.e. WG-WEF_N, WG-CLIMATE, WG-LDRG, WG-SDTA and WG-NCWRI will organise International Workshops concurrently to the 25th ICID Congress. Leading organisations in the world like FAO, IWMI, ICARDA, GIZ, MSSRF Norway, IGS, JIICA, WASAG, CNCID are organising the special events as a part of the Congress. It will be a truly enriching experience for water and irrigation professionals.

The ICID Central Office has prepared the 'Abstract Volume' of the 25th ICID Congress, in which 'Foreword' & 'Preface' (by President and Secretary General, ICID), description of Congress theme & two main questions of 64 & 65, two 'General Reports', abstract of papers received by authors congress sub-questions-wise, brief CVs and photographs of International Review Committee (General Reporters, Panel Experts/Co-Chairs) & name of the reviewers, included Author Index. The 'Abstract Volume' of the 25th ICID Congress will be shared in USB stick to all the participants as Congress kit during the event. More details on the proceedings of the event will be covered in the subsequent issues.

During the month of October, a group of members from the Indonesian National Committee of ICID (INACID) has visited the ICID central Office, New Delhi on 30 October 2023. Secretary General, Er. A. B Pandya welcomed all the delegates from the member country. The visit is followed by the number of discussions including the activities, workshop, webinars, upcoming programmes of the ICID and future perspective between the ICID and INACID. Similarly, on 31st October a Group of delegation from the Chinese Taipei has visited the ICID Central Office, New Delhi as a part of congress scheduled in November, Vishakhapatnam, India. The group of delegation is followed by the Prof. Dr. Ray Shyan Wu, President,

Chinese Taipei Committee (CTCID).

President, Prof. Dr Ragab Ragab participated in the meeting of Working Cluster 1 on Resilience and Climate Change on 05 October 2023 organised by ESCWA and ACSAD. A case study from Yemen on extreme weather and the role of early warning systems and another one on ESCWA's work on sand and dust storms in the region and the related environmental and water resources issues was presented during the meeting. Prof. Dr Ragab participated and delivered a Keynote Address during the International Workshop on Sustainability of Agricultural Water Management and Digitalizing dedicated to the 50th Anniversary of Dicle University was held from 02-06 October 2023 at Diyarbakir City, Turkey. Water scarcity is becoming an increasingly important issue and climate change is an increasing threat to agriculture. This workshop aims to share the experiences and new developments related to workshop topics.

President Prof. Dr. Ragab Ragab also participated as a Panelist in the NEXUS Gains seminar on Water is life, water is food. A nexus approach to water productivity that leaves no one behind, linked to World Food Day, on 18 October, 2023. The NEXUS Gains Talks discusses the role of water productivity in ensuring that water is used in ways that support food security and nutrition and leave no one behind.

Moving forward, several other major ICID events are lined up for the upcoming years. Details of all the upcoming events are also given in the newsletter.

I look forward to meeting you during the events and would like to thank you for your continued support.

With warm regards

A.B. Pandya
Secretary General

Prof. Dr Ragab Ragab participated in the Meeting of Working Cluster 1 on Resilience and Climate Change Adaptation, 5 October 2023

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and Arab Center Organization for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dryland (ACSAD) organized a meeting on Working Cluster 1 on Resilience and Climate Change on Thursday, 05 October 2023, at 11:00 am (Cairo time, GMT+3). The ICID in the forum is represented by Prof. Dr Ragab Ragab. He talked about the role of the ICID as a catalyst to minimize the

loss of water in agricultural and irrigation section which cover the major share in water use index of the world. He also talked about importance of the applied tools of early warning system, satellite data, ground water table data etc in water management.

The event covered the presentation including case study from Yemen on extreme weather and the role of early

warning systems and another one on ESCWA's work on sand and dust storms in the region and the related environmental and water resources issues. The event created a window for an open discussion on updates, new ideas, propositions related to the work of the working cluster.

President Prof. Dr. Ragab Ragab participated and delivered a Keynote Address during the International Workshop on Sustainability of Agricultural Water Management and Digitalizing, 02-06 October 2023

An International Workshop on Sustainability of Agricultural Water Management and Digitalization dedicated to the 50th Anniversary of Dicle University was held from 02-06 October 2023 at Diyarbakir City, Turkey . The ICID is represented by Prof. Dr Ragab Ragab, where he delivered a Keynote Address. The other participants include Susan A. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Ph.D. USDA-ARS, USA; Prof. Dr. Ulrike GAYH University Heidelberg, GERMANY; Prof. Dr. Mumtaz CHEEMA Memorial University, CANADA; Prof. Dr. Khalid MAHMOOD, UPSIGN/Rothamsted Research, UK; Dr. Enrique PLAYÁN Spanish National Research Council SPAIN; Daravy A. KHIEV, Ph.D. COMBODIA; Prof. Dr. Mirza B. BAIG King Saud University, SAUDI ARABIA; Prof. Dr. M. Ismail KUMBHAR Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam PAKISTAN; Prof. Dr. Eyüp Selim KÖKSAL Samsun Ondokuz Mayıs University Samsun, TURKIYE; Offer ROZENSTEIN, Ph.D. Agricultural Research Organization - Volcani Institute, ISRAEL; Prof. Dr. Shawn C. KEFAUVER University of Barcelona, SPAIN; Prof. Dr. Ünal KIZIL Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, Çanakkale, TURKIYE; Prof. Dr. Öner ÇETIN Dicle University, Diyarbakir, TURKIYE..

The participants from academics, students, engineers, research institutions,

private sectors and environmental groups with focus on workshop topics were attended the scientific workshop.

Water scarcity is becoming an increasingly important issue and climate change is an increasing threat to agriculture. For our future generations, agriculture and food security are becoming more environmentally, economically and socially sustainable through the application of technology, digitalization and innovation. This workshop shared the experiences and new developments related to Agricultural Water Management, Irrigation and Sustainability, Digitalizing and Smart Irrigation on Agriculture, Fertigation, Innovation and Research on Irrigation, Integrated Water Management, Irrigation and Environment, Irrigation Water Productivity, Remote Sensing and GIS Applications in Agriculture and Water Management, Environmental and Agronomic Issues on Agricultural Water Management, Climate Change and, Drought

About Diyarbakir City

Diyarbakir is one of the largest cities in Southeastern of Turkiye and It is situated on the banks of the River Tigris. It is located in an area whose magnificent history, spanning some 5,000 years. Diyarbakir is famed for its culture,

folklore, and watermelons. Diyarbakir is surrounded by an almost intact, dramatic set of high walls of black basalt forming a 5.5 km circle around the old city. The Walls were built in antiquity, restored and extended by the Roman emperor Constantius in 349. Diyarbakir boasts numerous medieval mosques and madrassahs including: Great Mosque, The four-footed minaret, Hz. Suleyman Mosque, St. Giragos Armenian Church, Archaeological Museum. Located on a transitional zone between the mountainous Eastern Anatolia and the plains of Upper Mesopotamia, Diyarbakir was once on important trade routes and it is still at the center of the main highway network reaching such centers as Elazig, Sanliurfa, Mardin and Bitlis. Railway reached the center of the province. Diyarbakir also has an international airport with flights to all major centers in Turkiye.

President Prof. Dr. Ragab Ragab participated as a Panelist in the NEXUS Gains seminar on Water is life, water is food on 18 October 2023

To mark the World Food Day 2023 the Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers (CGIAR) organized a Nexus gain talk on “Water is life, water is food: A nexus approach to water productivity that leaves no one behind” on 18th October 2023. The includes the panellist (i) Prof Dr. Ragab Ragab (ii) Prof Sue Walker, Principal Researcher, Agricultural Research Council, South Africa and the Speakers with presentations (i) Bruce Lankford, University of East Anglia, UK: Governing irrigation efficiency to solve the four-body problem of lowering water consumption whilst not cutting food production, increasing CO2 emissions and reducing water equity (ii) Sanju Koirala, International Water Management Institute (IWMI) Nepal: Gender dynamics of irrigation: making way for women leaders in Western Terai, Nepal and (iii) Upali Amarasinghe, IWMI India, presenting NEXUS Gains’ work on the water productivity atlas for the Ganges. The talk discussed the role of water productivity in ensuring that water is used in ways that support food security and nutrition, and leave no one behind.

About the Seminar

Food and nutrition security can only be achieved with sufficient water of adequate quality, quantity, and reliability.

Lack of adequate water affects not only food production, but all components of food systems. Moreover, uncoordinated food and water security strategies limit progress on SDG2 on zero hunger and SDG6 on water and sanitation. Identifying and assessing solutions that jointly support water and food security, and monitoring progress on water–food systems linkages are critical as climate extremes and other stressors increasingly threaten access to water for all.

Aligned with 2023’s World Food Day theme of “Water is life, water is food. Leave no one behind,” this NEXUS Gains Talk discusses the role of water



productivity in ensuring that water is used in ways that support food security and nutrition, and leave no one behind.

ICID Webinar on Adapting Agriculture to Climate Change: Strategies for Resilience and Sustainability, 22 November 2023

As part of the Working Group on Climate Change and Agricultural Water Management (WG-CLIMATE) ICID is organizing a webinar on “Adapting Agriculture to Climate Change: Strategies for Resilience and Sustainability” scheduled on 22nd November 2023. The webinar includes the Speakers: Dr. Cheng-I Hsieh, National Taiwan University, and Dr. Yo-Jin Shiau, National Taiwan University; and Moderator: Prof. Ray Shyan Wu, President, Chinese Taipei Committee (CTCID).

Description

The eddy-covariance method was applied to understand the characteristics of sensible heat, water vapor, and CO2 fluxes above a subtropical monsoon rice paddy in north Taiwan. The mean air



temperature and annual precipitation is 24 oC and 2540 mm. The crop season is from February to June, and the fallow season is from July to December. During

crop season, about 25% of net radiation was used for latent heat flux, 10% for sensible heat flux, and the rest (65%) was absorbed by the water and soil in

the rice paddy. During crop season the maximum CO₂ uptake was about 22 mmol m⁻² s⁻¹. In fallow period, the maximum CO₂ emission rate from the soil-water surface was about 5 mmol m⁻² s⁻¹. Penman-Monteith equation was found to reproduce the evapotranspiration well with surface resistance close to 190 s m⁻¹. Under small Bowen ratio conditions, water vapor and CO₂ were transported more efficiently than heat, which is different from typical dry land

Greenhouse gas emissions and global warming have emerged as critical climate issues in the 21st century. The relentless increase in these emissions has contributed to a rapid rise in global temperatures, resulting in widespread environmental and societal consequences. In response to this pressing challenge, the target of achieving net-zero emissions by 2050 has gained

immense importance in the fight against climate change.

Agricultural activities play a pivotal role in this climate equation, being recognized as significant sources of greenhouse gases, particularly methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O). These emissions result from various farming practices, including enteric fermentation in livestock and the application of synthetic fertilizers. However, it's important to note that agriculture is not solely a contributor to the problem but also holds the potential to be part of the solution. Through the implementation of sustainable and regenerative farming techniques, the high primary production in agriculture can transform the system into a net carbon sink. Proper land management practice, rational fertilization, alternative wetting and drying and soil carbon sequestration initiatives within the agricultural sector

can all contribute to offsetting emissions, offering a pathway towards achieving the coveted net-zero emissions target.

This webinar serves as a compelling entry point into the urgent global discourse on climate change and its profound implications for agriculture. It offers a platform to explore the intricate relationship between farming practices and the environment. The presentation sets the stage by underscoring the pivotal role of agriculture, which is both a contributor to and a mitigator of climate-related challenges. By delving into innovative strategies, sustainable approaches, and the latest research findings, this webinar empowers its audience to actively engage with the complexities of climate change adaptation.



INACID delegation visit to ICID Central Office on 30 October 2023



A group of members from the Indonesian National Committee of ICID (INACID) has visited the ICID Central Office, New Delhi on 30 October 2023. Secretary General, Er. A. B Pandya welcomed all the delegates from the member country. The visit is following the number of discussions including the activities, workshop, webinars, upcoming programmes of the ICID and future perspective b/w the ICID and INACID.

Working group meeting in October, 2023

Sl. No.	Working Group	Date
1	Working Group on Sustainable Development of Tidal Areas (WG-SDTA) Chair: Dr. Ruey Chy Kao	5 October 2023
2	Working Group on Managing Water Scarcity under Conflict Demands (WG-MWSCD) Chair: Mr. Franklin E. Dimick	6 October 2023
3	Asian Regional Working Group Chair: Prof. Dr. Tsugihiko WATANABE	9 October 2023
4	Task Force to Guide ICID Inputs to 10th World Water Forum (TF-WWF10) Chair: Dr. Saeed Nairizi	12 October 2023

Chinese Taipei delegation visit to ICID Central Office on 31 October 2023



On 31 October, 2023 a group of delegation from the Chinese Taipei has visited the ICID Central Office, New Delhi as a part of congress scheduled in November, Vishakhapatnam, India. The group of delegation is followed by the Prof. Dr. Ray Shyan Wu, President, Chinese Taipei Committee (CTCID). The Group of delegation from Chinese Taipei took a brief look at the inscription on the wall of ICID Central Office.

ICID Forthcoming Events

1. 1st Middle East Regional Conference, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 26-28 February 2024

The 1st Middle East Regional Conference will be held at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia from 26-28 February 2024 on the theme of "Irrigation Development and Sustainability". The Saudi Irrigation Organization has also created a website <http://sacid2024.sio.gov.sa/> for the event giving details of submission of abstract and other logistics arrangements.

2. 4th International Drainage Workshop on the Theme: MODERNIZATION OF IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE SYSTEMS TO ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT; May 30 - June 1, 2024 at Dushanbe, Tajikistan

First Announcement & Call for Papers:

The 14th International Drainage Workshop of ICID is scheduled to take place from May 30 to June 1, 2024, at Dushanbe. This event is organized under the

auspices of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) and is being hosted by the Secretariat of the Tajikistan National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (NCID), which operates under the Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, in collaboration with various development partners. To ensure the successful execution of the 14th International Drainage Workshop, the Secretariat of Tajikistan NCID has established Steering and Scientific Committees and has engaged the expertise of both international and national consultants.

Opening Session

The opening session will include speeches by representatives of international financial institutions/ development partners, ICID and other international organizations that support the development of agriculture and water management, adaptation to climate change, including disaster risk reduction, capacity building, better understanding of the "water-energy-food" interaction, and gender issues in agriculture and water management

at the national and regional levels and empowering young professionals.

Thematic Sessions

TS-1.: Modernization of irrigation and drainage systems to adapt to climate change: current state of management, science, technology, and successful international, regional, and national practices.

TS-2.: Harmonizing Sustainability: Empowering Young Professionals and Gender Inclusivity in Integrated Water Resources Management".

TS-3.: Nexus Approach: Strengthening the "water-energy-food" interactions.

Call for Papers

The 14th International Drainage Workshop extends an earnest call for scholarly contributions that encompass the spectrum of modernization in irrigation and drainage, with a specific focus on new technologies and strategies for climate change adaptation, and including pumping stations, canal and gravity pipe systems, control technologies and management. All accepted papers will be published in the

event's proceedings, giving recognition to the authors. This helps others learn from their work and experience and builds a helpful network of shared knowledge. Authors of selected papers of particular merit/interest/ relevance will be invited to present their papers during the workshop. Authors are required to adhere to the guidelines mentioned in <https://tajncid.tj/news/call-for-papers/>

Schedule for submission of abstract / full papers

- Submission of abstracts (max. 300 words): by **30 Jan 2024**
- Notification of acceptance: by **28 Feb 2024**
- Submission of full papers (max. 10 pages): by **30 March 2024**

Notification of acceptance of full papers for (i) publication, and/ or (ii) presentation during the workshop: by 30 April 2024

NC Contact: Dr. Bahrom Gaforzoda, Secretary, Tajikistan National Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (TajNCID), Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, 5/1 Shamsi str., Dushanbe, 734064

Website : <https://tajncid.tj/>

3. 75th IEC Meeting & 9th Asian Regional Conference: 1-7 September 2024 at Sydney, Australia

Contact : Irrigation Australia's Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IACID), 11/58 Metroplex Ave., Murarrie, QLD 4172, PO Box 13, Cannon Hill, 4170; Email : naomi.carragher@irrigation.org.au; dave.cameron@irrigation.org.au; Fax : (07) 3517 4010

Website : <https://irrigationconference2024.com.au/>

Call for Abstract - <https://irrigationconference2024.com.au/call-for-abstracts/>

Conference Sub Themes

- Governance – identifying and addressing structural and policy impediments to the adoption of better irrigation practices.
- Investment – fit-for-purpose and cost-effective technologies which support end users to implement sustainable irrigation practices (Environmental, Social, Governance and Triple Bottom Line).

- Capacity development – ensuring that end users can access and adapt knowledge and systems to support sustainable irrigation practices.

Beyond the conference sessions, delegates will have the chance to explore the vibrant city of Sydney, with its breathtaking natural beauty and world-famous attractions. From the iconic Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge to the stunning coastal landscapes and renowned culinary delights, Sydney promises an unforgettable experience for attendees.

4. 6th African Regional Conference, Abuja, Nigeria, 14-18 April 2025

5. 76th IEC Meeting & 4th World Irrigation Forum, 7-13 September 2025 at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

NC Contact : Mr. Mohamad Radzi Bin Abdul Talib, Chairman, Malaysian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (MANCID); Director of Division of Irrigation and Agriculture Drainage, C/o Drainage and Irrigation Division, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry Malaysia, 2nd Floor, Galeria PJH No. 29 Precint 4, 62570 Putrajaya; Email: mancidmalaysia@gmail.com; mancid.org@gmail.com

6 11th International Micro Irrigation Conference, 2025 at Baghdad, Iraq

7. 77th IEC & 26th ICID International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage, 12-18 October 2026 at Marseille, France

NC Contact : Dr. Sami Bouarfa, General Secretary, Association Française pour l'Eau, l'Irrigation et le Drainage (AFEID), 361 rue Jean-Fran'ois Breton, BP 5095, F - 34196 -- MONTPELLIER CEDEX 5

8. 78th IEC & 5th World Irrigation Forum (WIF5), 2027 at Guoce International Conference and Exhibition Center, Beijing, China, 2027

Other Events

10th World Water Forum. 18th - 24th May 2024 - The World Water Forum is the largest international gathering in the water sector involving various stakeholders, which has been co-hosted by the World Water Council and a host city. The Forum is held every three years

and has been taking place since 1997. The World Water Forum includes a three-year preparation phase (preparatory phase), a one-week event (event phase), and a presentation of the results (synthesis phase) with ongoing support for collective action.

The Forum brings together participants from all levels and areas, including politics, multilateral institutions, academia, civil society and the private sector, among others. Over the years, the number of people participating in the Forum has grown from a few hundred to tens of thousands, from both the international community and host countries.

On 18th to 24th of May 2024, the heads of state, the heads of international organizations, high level government officials, experts, scholars, entrepreneurs and economists from all over the world will share their knowledges, experiences, and practices regarding a wide range of topics related to water. ICID is actively participating in the forthcoming 10th World Water Forum in Bali, Indonesia. Three sub-theme topics namely, Water security and prosperity, Disaster risk reduction and management and Governance cooperation and hydro diplomacy have been proposed for the event and the active participation in the thematic groups has been taken up. <https://worldwaterforum.org/>

Cairo Water Week 2023 - The sixth edition of the CWW series of conferences, Cairo Water Week 2023, will take place from 29 October to 2 November 2023 in Cairo Egypt, addressing the main theme "Action on Water Adaptation for Sustainability." This year's event will discuss and emphasize the adaptation actions in the water sector and ensure its vitality to achieving sustainability. Furthermore, as part of the event, several related sub-themes and subtopics will be discussed in plenary and technical sessions organized by reputed international and regional organizations. President Prof. Dr. Ragab Ragab has been invited as a Member of the Scientific Committee, Cairo Water Week 2023 (CWW2023) where he will be representing ICID in the event. For more detail, please click here: <https://www.cairowaterweek.org/>

Achieving Food Security Using Smart Farming Solutions - Study Visit, 8 - 16 April, 2024, Israel

Worldwide agriculture is currently undergoing rapid technological and economic changes- Israel, the High-

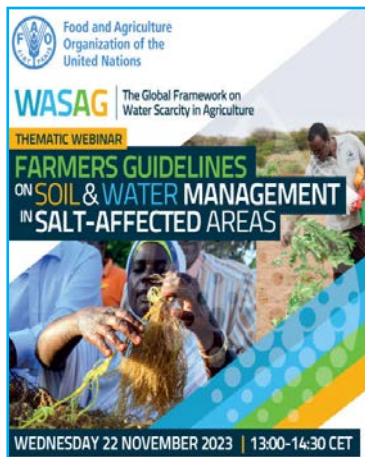
Tech Nation, is at the forefront of those efforts. In addition to the latest Agricultural sustainable solutions, Israel is also bringing innovative and unique irrigation solutions, especially in Arid zones. This study tour will provide you with first-hand exposure and connection to the latest developments in Smart Farming Techniques and Sustainable Agriculture solution.

https://www.galilcol.ac.il/Courses/8674/Achieving_Food_Security_Using_Smart_Farming_Solutions_-_Study_Visit

REGISTER WASAG Webinar “Farmer’s Guidelines on soil and water management in salt-affected areas”, 22 November 2023, 13:00-14:30 CET

The threats posed by salt-affected soils to global food security are increasing with climate change. According to the recent global salt-affected soils map, over 424 million hectares of topsoil (0-30 cm) and 833 million hectares of subsoil (30-100 cm) are currently salt-affected. The Saline Agriculture Working Group of the Global Framework on Water Scarcity in

Agriculture (WASAG) developed practical guidelines for farmers implementing agriculture in salt-affected areas to assist them in their decision-making processes in dealing with salinity and sodicity issues in their lands. The guidelines are split into two thematic volumes. The thematic 1 focuses on “Soil and water management in salt-affected areas” and thematic 2 on “Saline farming in salt-affected areas”.



The webinar will launch the thematic 1

of the farmers’ guidelines and showcase the relevance and importance of saline agriculture in the context of climate change. Experts from the Netherlands, Morocco and China will share case studies on water and soil management in salt-affected areas. The working group will also discuss how the farmers’ guidelines could be better implemented. The webinar will contribute to preparing the technical session that will be held at the WASAG Plenary Assembly of 29-30 April 2024 where the opportunities offered by saline agriculture to several Member Nations will be showcased, along with the Saline Agriculture Working Group outputs and future prospects. For more information, please click the following link https://fao.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2ireSpnbQPaOSnqxnNX7rw#/

Irrigation and Drainage Journal

Irrigation and Drainage is the official journal of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID). The objectives of the ICID are to advance the science and art of irrigation, drainage and flood management. Published five times a year, the Journal is a prestigious peer-reviewed publication and enables ICID to accomplish its objectives of publishing original papers on scientific, engineering, environmental and socio-economic issues

associated with irrigation, drainage and flood management in a clear, concise and uniform style that is easily understood by an international audience. ICID has for sixty years, been the main forum for the global dissemination of experience and new ideas in the quest for the sustainable use and protection of water and land to meet the World’s increasing demand for food and fibre.

The Journal covers a wide range of subjects, advancement in which, through high quality papers in the Journal, will make a significant contribution to the enormous task of satisfying the needs of the world’s ever-increasing population. The Journal also publishes book reviews. <https://icid-ciid.org/publication/info/12>

Partner Organizations

LENTIL COMMERCIALIZATION IN ETHIOPIA THROUGH THE LENS OF GENDER EQUITY

The commercialization of cash crops has long been hailed as a pathway to economic development and improved livelihoods in low- and middle-income countries but is known not to benefit women and men equally. A new study funded by CGIAR’s Sustainable Intensification of Mixed Farming Initiative examines why understanding gender norms, relations, and equity dynamics is critical to ensure that crop commercialization helps to close, not widen, the gender gap.



In Ethiopia's Amhara and Oromia regions, lentils are on a clear trajectory for being more of a cash crop than a subsistence crop, local farmers perceive that as a pathway to economic development and improved livelihoods. While this has increased demand and prices for lentils, a new study reveals that some women have become marginalized from its development despite traditionally being considered a "women's crop."

Can crops that are commercialized truly be gender inclusive?

The gendered categorization of crops has long shaped agricultural norms and relations in many resource-poor rural economies. Men farmers in these communities tasked with generating income focus on "men's crops" – cash crops that bring high yields and have market qualities and, as a result, have priority access to the best seeds, soil, inputs, labor, and machinery on the farm. "Women's crops," on the other hand, are often considered subsistence crops, cultivated mainly for home and considered secondary. This results in women cultivating them in marginal soils with little or no access to inputs and being tasked with the intensive labor needed to ensure their healthy growth, such as weeding. Whilst the reality is more complex – for example, women may contribute to the labor of "men's crops," especially as prices rise – what is critical is that these gendered differences are addressed when a "women's crop" undergoes extensive commercialization, so women do not miss out.

The study emphasizes how gender norms are woven like invisible threads into the fabric of resource allocations. Household and farm labor roles, dictated by societal expectations of women as nurturing caregivers and homemakers, serve as barriers to their full participation in agriculture, constraining their involvement in collective activities and hindering their access to the credit, information, and technologies essential for successful commercialization.

Change and Continuity in Lentil Commercialization

A mix of 24 focus groups and 214 interviews reveals differences in how farmers perceive the benefits of lentil commercialization. Some farmers, including men and women, called the increase in demand and prices a "lifeline," while others commented that the price

rise means household consumption has dropped. As one male respondent commented, "Household consumption depends on ... economic class, rich- and middle-class people consume more lentils, the poor lentil farmers sell it." A married woman farmer made a similar point.

Social status also affects access to benefits from crop commercialization. Unmarried women and farmers of low socio-economic status, including some men, may lose out to married women who can access their husband's resources, including inputs, labor, and access to markets.

CRIC21: STEERING THE COURSE TO GLOBAL LAND RESTORATION

CRIC21: Steering the course to global land restoration

27 OCTOBER 2023

As the UNCCD high-level meeting in Central Asia draws near, we welcome you to this discussion on why global and regional gatherings are an essential part of the UNCCD process. The twenty-first session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC 21) in Samarkand is set to serve as a vital marker in the Convention's ongoing efforts to accelerate progress on land restoration and drought resilience.

By bringing together experts, leaders and delegates from 196 nations and the European Union, the meeting sets a major arena for the exchange of cutting-edge insights. This pooling of global expertise not only fosters productive solutions but also facilitates joint decision-making, ensuring a coordinated approach to pressing environmental challenges.

CRIC21 will focus on strategic objectives ranging from sustainable land management and drought resilience to secure and equal land rights for women. The event will also provide a platform to discuss emergent crises exacerbated by climate change, such as sand and dust storms and wildfires.

Taking place at the halfway point between the biannual Conferences of the Parties (COP) to UNCCD, the insights coming out of CRIC21 will aid in defining the next steps for all stakeholders, providing a clear and focused roadmap to UNCCD COP16, scheduled to take place in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in 2024.

<https://www.unccd.int/news-stories/multimedia/cric21-steering-course-global-land-restoration>

Revised WatSave Award Scheme

Following changes were approved by the MB in the existing WatSave Award Scheme and the same has been adapted and implemented to get the nominations for the WatSave Awards 2023 :

1. In any particular category, a minimum of three nominations may be considered for evaluation purpose. In case of lesser entries, the nominations may be considered for the following year and updated information would be requested from the nominees in next year.
2. It may be under the PoJs purview not to award any nominations despite receiving multiple nominations in a specific category, if the nominations do not confirm to the innovation complying with the ICID Evaluation Criterion or are not up to the mark.
3. It is now stipulated that "The work carried out by young professional should have been carried out individually or as a group".

From 2023 onwards the nominations were considered and evaluated basis on the revised and approved WatSave Awards scheme.

The revised WatSave Awards scheme can be accessed through <https://www.icid-ciid.org/award/watsave/43>.