

NEWS UPDATE

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

FEBRUARY 2023

From Secretary-General's Desk...

Dear Colleagues,

ICID is making preparations for its upcoming 25th Congress in November 2023. The Call for Paper for submitting abstracts for the main theme of the event 'Tackling Water Scarcity in Agriculture' has already been issued. Additionally, call for papers for the international workshop 'The Water-Energy-Food-Nexus: Implementation and Examples of Applications' has also been issued to request relevant paper submissions. I encourage you all to submit your papers and participate in the event to discuss and deliberate on the themes of the Questions highlighted and International Workshops of the Congress. The details are available in the newsletter. As informed in the previous newsletter, the Fourth World Irrigation Forum (WIF4), by the Ministry of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China, and the Chinese National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (CNCID), has been rescheduled. Subsequently, other events planned by ICID have also been rescheduled, more details are covered in the newsletter.

Several relevant dialogues were conducted during the month where



ICID participated to deliberate and contribute through its expertise. President Prof. Dr. Ragab Ragab participates in the 4th African Regional Conference on Geosynthetics in Cairo, Egypt to address the concerns of food security, water security, irrigation sustainability, malnutrition, and climate change crisis in the African continent. During the month of February, the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), in collaboration with CGIAR and ICAR, India, organized a global conference on 'Transformative Futures for Water Security' to outline the discourse for addressing concerns related to the global water security agenda. I am happy to inform you that the event witnessed participation of a large global participation, including several eminent water sector experts. More details are provided in the newsletter.

In February 2023, ICID and ICARDA organized a session on Dryland Agriculture at the 2nd WASAG Forum to conform to the theme of the event 'Making Agriculture Resilient to Climate Change: Water Scarcity, an Opportunity for Action and Collaboration'. This issue also contains information on the 5th African Young Water Professional Forum (Af-YWP) conducted in October 2022 on the theme 'Smart irrigation water management to mitigate climate change impacts'. During the month, ICID also participated in the webinar

organized by the International Network of Service Providers for Irrigation Excellence (INSPIRE) in collaboration with the IWMI, FAO, and Global Water Security and Sanitation Partnership, an autonomous wing of the World Bank (WB) on 'Performance Assessment Tools in Irrigation and Drainage.' Details of the deliberations and other meetings conducted by the ICID during the month are covered in the news update.

Moving forward, several other major ICID events are lined up for the upcoming year. The 25th Congress and the 74th IEC Meeting in Vizag city of Southern India in November 2023, hosted by the Indian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (INCID), Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoWR), Gol and Government of Andhra Pradesh. Visit <http://www.wif.icidevents.org> to learn more. Details of other upcoming events are also given in the newsletter.

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

Sincerely,

Ashwin B. Pandya
Secretary-General, ICID

President Prof. Dr. Ragab Ragab participates in the 4th African Regional Conference on Geosynthetics, Cairo, Egypt

Given the food security, water security, irrigation, malnutrition, and climate change crisis in the African Continent (which is the second-most populated continent in the world after Asia), the 4th African Regional Conference on Geosynthetics (4th GeoAfrica) was organized in collaboration with the International Geosynthetics Society from 20 – 23 February 2023 in Cairo, Egypt. The conference aimed to

engage regional and international experts in the field of development, manufacturing, and application of geosynthetics to raise awareness about technical advances, opportunities, and future prospects in the field with the rapid growth and mega-construction activities in Africa. The conference included keynote lectures, technical sessions, and panel discussions on diverse topics.



Prof. Dr. Ragab Ragab represented the ICID at the event and delivered a presentation on “Global Needs in the Irrigation Sector”. In his presentation, he covered the core areas of upcoming challenges in the world driven by climate change. He talked about how population growth by 2050 will subsequently impact food demand, water consumption, energy demand, and water supply. He also talked about freshwater availability per capita, overexploitation of groundwater, climate change’s impacts on water and food production, water harvesting scales and development, issues related to dams and reservoirs, and non-conventional water resources. He mentions the importance of

water savings in agriculture and irrigation by using various innovative techniques in the case studies of Brazil, Italy, and the provinces of India, including the Cauvery basin.

The other speaker included Mr. Daniele Cazzuffi; Mr. J. P. Giroud, Ecole Centrale De Paris; Professor Chungsik Yoo, Sungkyunkwan University (SKKU), Korea; Jorge G. Zornberg, The University of Texas at Austin, Mr. Richard J. Bathurst, Royal Military College of Canada; and Mr. Abdelmalek Bouazza, Monash University. The technical sessions covered in the events included: (i) Geosynthetics in Sustainable Infrastructures and

Mega Projects (ii) Reinforced Soil Walls and Slopes (iii) Drainage and Filtration (iv) Design and Numerical Modeling (v) Geosynthetic Barriers (vi) Hydraulic and Coastal Applications (vii) Innovation in Geosynthetic Products and Applications (viii) Durability and Long-Term Performance.

The proceedings of the conference are published online with open access. At the end of the conference, the organizers distributed the awards in the categories of best papers, best presentations, and best industrial projects.



Secretary General Er. A.B. Pandya Participates in the Conference on “Transformative Futures for Water Security”, Cape Town, South Africa and visits SANCID Offices

The International Water Management Institute (IWMI), in collaboration with the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR); Water Research Commission, Pretoria, South Africa, and the Indian Council of Agriculture and Research (ICAR) organized a conference on “Transformative Futures for Water Security,” in the Century City Conference Centre, Cape Town, South Africa, from February 15–17, 2023. The conference was attended by more than 200 delegates from highly recognized international bodies around the world. Secretary-General, Er. A. B. Pandya represented the ICID at the conference and coordinated with various professionals and experts in the fields of water management and agriculture. He served as a panellist and speaker during various technical sessions and talked about the importance of an international organization such as ICID in the application of water security, which covers more than 90% of the irrigated area in the world. He also discussed the activities of ICID, including training programs, workshops, courses, and webinars, which play an important role in combating desertification, floods, water crises, drought, etc by various avenues. He also invited the members of different countries to participate in the forthcoming 74th IEC meeting organized by the Indian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (INCID) in Vizag, India, in November 2023. The other high delegates who attended the global conference on water security included Ms. Chiara Christina Colombo, Policy Engagement and Research Consultant, IWMI; Dr. Mark Smith, DG, IWMI; Mr.

Sanoi Boyzoda, Member Core Group for the UN 2023 Water Conference, Tajikistan; Dr. Jennifer Molwantwa, CEO – Water Research Commission, South Africa; Ms. Deborah Mochotlhi, Deputy Director, Water Resource Management, South Africa; Mr. Henk Ovink, Special Envoy for International Water Affairs for the Kingdom of the Netherlands; Bareerah Fatima, Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources, Pakistan; Dr. Rachael McDonnell, Deputy Director-General, IWMI and Ms. Eugenia Lucero, Senior Analyst, International Affairs, Argentina.

The conference created a common platform for multi-stakeholder dialogues among the science, policy, business, and development communities to create mission-driven alliances to catalyze and deliver high-ambition, future-ready innovation, and inclusive, science-based action for water security. The conference included sessions to discuss: (i) the science base for the 21st century water security agenda (ii) regional priorities for water systems science, and (iii) landmark publications. The conference aimed to ensure that water science better serves global ambition to accelerate progress on SDG 6 and build water security that will be robust in the face of deepening water risks this century.

The initiative taken at the conference elevated the contribution of water science and innovation to accelerate the transition to a water-secure world. The initiative aimed to make water-related science and evidence less fragmented and more relevant, accurate, and accessible. It provided policymakers and stakeholders



across sectors with more water data and knowledge to better understand gender inequalities, social exclusion, and weak governance and institutions that hold back progress on water security. The conference discussed how water security is deeply intertwined with climate security. As the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change recently reported, water risks are intensifying around the world as climate change is tightening its grip and shocking the planet’s hydrological systems bringing about more droughts, floods, extreme rainfall, more variable and less reliable tropical monsoons, melting glaciers and sea-level rise.

Secretary General has visited Water Research Commission offices who are hosting SANCID. Meeting was held with Vice President Prof Sylvester Mpandeli and President Hon. Eng. Felix Britz Reinders and other officials of SANCID. The discussions centered around promoting research in the region through IRPID programme and hosting events in South African Region.



ICID and ICARDA at the 2nd WASAG Forum on Water Scarcity in Agriculture

The Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG), in collaboration with the Government of Cabo Verde and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), organized its 2nd International Forum on Water Scarcity in Agriculture on the theme, 'Making Agriculture Resilient to Climate Change: Water Scarcity, an Opportunity for Action and Collaboration.' The event was held from February 7–10 at Praia, Cabo Verde. The forum included technical sessions, special sessions, side events, exhibitions, and field visits. The event covered the case studies of some of the African countries, including Benin, Mozambique, and Niger, on water productivity, the yield gap, and nutrition in a climate crisis.

Hon. President and Chair, WASAG, Er. Felix Reinders and VPH ICID Dr. Marco Arcieri represented ICID at the event. Er. Reinders also chaired the session at the event. ICID partner ICARDA (International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas) also organized a session on "Dryland Agriculture". WASAG created a common opportunity for the ICID and its alliance partners, ICARDA, the FAO, Tottori University, and national research institutions from Burkina Faso, Italy, and Tunisia to mark their vision based on its mutually beneficial and strategic importance. The event covered supplemental irrigation; rainwater harvesting; diversified (inter) cropping systems; maximizing economic water productivity; solar irrigation using desalinated water; agroforestry, and integrated crop-livestock-forage systems; water and nutrition; saline agriculture, sustainable agricultural water use; drought preparedness; water and migration; financing mechanisms; nature-based solutions for water scarcity in agriculture; innovation, technology, data, and science for water scarcity in agriculture; capacity



building for smallholders on climate resilient practices; farmer-led irrigation development; dryland agriculture.

The event brought together examples of promising solutions in the fields of accurate estimation of crop water requirements using modern techniques, water-energy-food nexus, ultra-low energy drip irrigation, digital applications for informed decision-making, and those leading to improvements in physical and economic water productivity. The Forum provided the setting for developing collaborative actions as solutions to the increasing challenges posed by climate change and the resulting water scarcity and making agriculture more resilient.

The highlights of the forum

- Mobilizing political commitment to accelerated strategic actions, including policies and investments for addressing water scarcity in agriculture;
- Formulating the messages that will raise the profile of water scarcity in agriculture in the climate change dialogues at the forthcoming UN 2023 Water Conference and UNFCCC COP 28;

- Discussing ways of making the partnership more effective and impactful for the implementation of the new WASAG Strategy 2021-2024 and involving all partners;
- Sharing relevant knowledge and information on key issues to network and foster collaboration among partners; and
- Showcasing the latest technologies, practices, and products in agriculture.

The forum also carved a path to promote and position agriculture at the core of climate change discussions in view of the forthcoming events and beyond:

- UN-Water conference (New York, 22-24 March 2023) – Comprehensive mid-term review of the implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, 'Water for Sustainable Development', 2018-2028.
- UNFCCC COP 28 (United Arab Emirates, 6-17 November 2023) – Climate Change



About WASAG

WASAG is an FAO-hosted partnership, which aims to support governments and stakeholders in the achievement of the water-related targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with particular emphasis on SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) and SDG 2 (zero hunger). WASAG also contributes to SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 13 (climate action), SDG 15 (life on land), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

5th African Young Water Professional Forum (Af-YWP)

The 5th Af-YWP Forum was successfully organized during 17-18 October 2022 and in hybrid mode in 2 days of training workshops under the theme 'Smart irrigation water management to mitigate climate change impacts'. The forum was supported by the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation of Egypt (MWRI), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), the Arab Center for the Study of Arid and Drylands (ACSAD) of the League of Arab States, Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean (GWP-MED)/GWP Africa Coordination Unit,

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID). Eng. Mohammed Wahba VP (H), ICID, and currently Chairman of the African Regional Working Group (AFRWG) and Working Group of Capacity Development, Training, and Education (WG-CDTE) coordinate the sessions and make it a success in the growing challenges of African countries.

The Forum physically brought together 20 Young Professionals from 12 African countries -Egypt, Sudan, South Sudan, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Malawi, Zambia, Madagascar, and one YP from Lebanon. About 135 YPs from 36 countries participated online. A full two days were utilized for the forum's different activities, including an opening



session, six training sessions, and a closing session. The training program was designed to facilitate more interaction between YPs and the experts.

About AF-YWP - The objective of the Af-YWP is to bring together Africa's future leaders from the private sector, research, and government institutions around the central theme of water conservation for sustainable development. The water professionals would get an opportunity to showcase their knowledge and contribution to sustainable water management in an international setting, discuss what they learned from their experiences, and broaden the mind and thinking of new and experienced water professionals.

The Af-YWP was established as a dedicated Group on the LinkedIn platform aimed at building the capacity of young professionals and creating

a new generation capable of facing future water challenges, mainstreaming youths towards the abundant lucrative opportunities in irrigation agriculture. This Forum is now an international platform for young irrigation and drainage professionals with more than 6000 members.

The scope of the activities includes (a) Encouraging and promoting a high standard of professional development amongst African young professionals in the field of irrigation, drainage, and flood management; (b) Providing an international platform for young irrigation and drainage professionals; (c) Expose young professionals to ICID's activities; (d) Facilitating the wider dissemination of knowledge and information amongst the young professionals; (e) Maintaining and enhancing links with national and international youth having interests in water-related subjects or the activities, relevant to ICID objectives; (f) Strengthening National Committees (NCs) through the participation of YPs in their national and regional irrigation and drainage networks; and (g) Creating an international network where young professionals within the water sector can mutually learn from each other by sharing their experiences.



ICID Participates in a webinar organized by the International Network of Service Providers for Irrigation Excellence (INSPIRE)

INSPIRE, in collaboration with the IWMI, FAO, and Global Water Security and Sanitation Partnership, an autonomous wing of the World Bank (WB), organized a webinar on 'Performance Assessment Tools in Irrigation and Drainage' on February 16, 2023. The ICID was represented by Secretary General Er. A. B. Pandya. He talked about the importance of remote sensing across the various applications under agriculture practices, like mapping soil properties, classification of crop species, detection of crop water stress, monitoring of weeds and crop diseases, monitoring irrigation, groundwater data, and mapping of crop yield. The other participants included Mr. IJsbrand H. de Jong, Senior Water

Resources Specialist (World Bank); Dr. David Ginting, Investment Operations Specialist – Water (Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, AIIB); Mr. Nizar Zaied, Islamic Development Bank (IsDB); Dr. Alok Sikka, IWMI (India); Mr. Maher Salman, Technical Adviser FAO); and Dr. Karthikeyan Matheswaran, Researcher – Water Productivity (IWMI).

In the webinar, three tools were discussed and presented to the audience, including (i) Mapping Systems and Services for Canal Operation Techniques (MASCOTTE), (ii) Systematic Asset Management Software (SAMS), and (iii) Irrigation Operator of the Future (IOF).

Mapping System and Services for Canal

Operation Techniques (MASSCOTE) is an FAO-developed tool for systematic evaluation and analysis of open-canal irrigation schemes, the results of which feed into modernization plans. Systematic Asset Management Software (SAMS) was developed by IWMI as a geographic information system (GIS) platform that facilitates the learning, planning, operation, and management of the assets of water storage-based irrigation systems. Lastly, the World Bank's newly developed IOF toolkit focuses on performance assessments and planning for the improvement of irrigation service delivery. The webinar closed with a question-and-answer session.



ICID participates in a preparatory meeting for the upcoming 8th India water week held

A preparatory meeting for the 8th India Water Week was held under the chairmanship of the Secretary (DoWR, RD & GR) on February 16, 2023, in the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi. The chairman welcomed all the participants. Er. H.K Varma, Executive Director, ICID, represented the ICID at the meeting. Other participants from different organizations included INCID and CWC Chairman Mr. Kushvinder Vohra; Mr. S. M. Dixit, Advisor (Tech), National Water Mission; Mr. A.K. Agarwal, Member, Central Ground Water Board; Mr. Anupam Mishra, Director (Comm. & HRD), WAPCOS Limited; Dr. L. N. Thakural, National Institute of Hydrology; Ms. Shweta Tyagi, India Water Foundation; Ms. Anupama Madhok Sud, Director & Editor, Advance Water Digest Pvt. Ltd.; and members of the National Water Development Agencies. After detailed deliberations on agenda items, the following decisions were taken: -

Tentative Dates for 8th India Water Week (IWW-2024) - It was unanimously agreed to organize the next IWW-2024,

i.e., 8th IWW in September 2024, tentatively from 17 to 21 September 2024.

Duration of the event – The duration of the event shall be of 4 days consisting conference and exhibition with one day's site visit towards the end.

Venue - Pragati Maidan, New Delhi having state of art facilities was agreed upon by all participants.

Revamping of the IWW website - NWDA will hire NWIC or another government agency for revamping the IWW website.

Distributed and well-defined responsibilities of various organizations under the Ministry of Jal Shakti, MoJS

IWW Partners - It was agreed to associate various partners like State Governments, various international organizations/agencies, and foreign countries associated with the field of water, media partners, and knowledge partner(s) right from the beginning of the event with defined roles and responsibilities.

Structure of the Event - Stakeholders program (academic institutions, industry, civil society, students, etc.) was discussed and decided that the Technical Committee of IWW should review and suggest the structure of the 8th IWW for approval of the Organizing Committee.

Institution of India International Water Award(s) - It was decided that the institution of India International Water Award(s) will be decided separately.

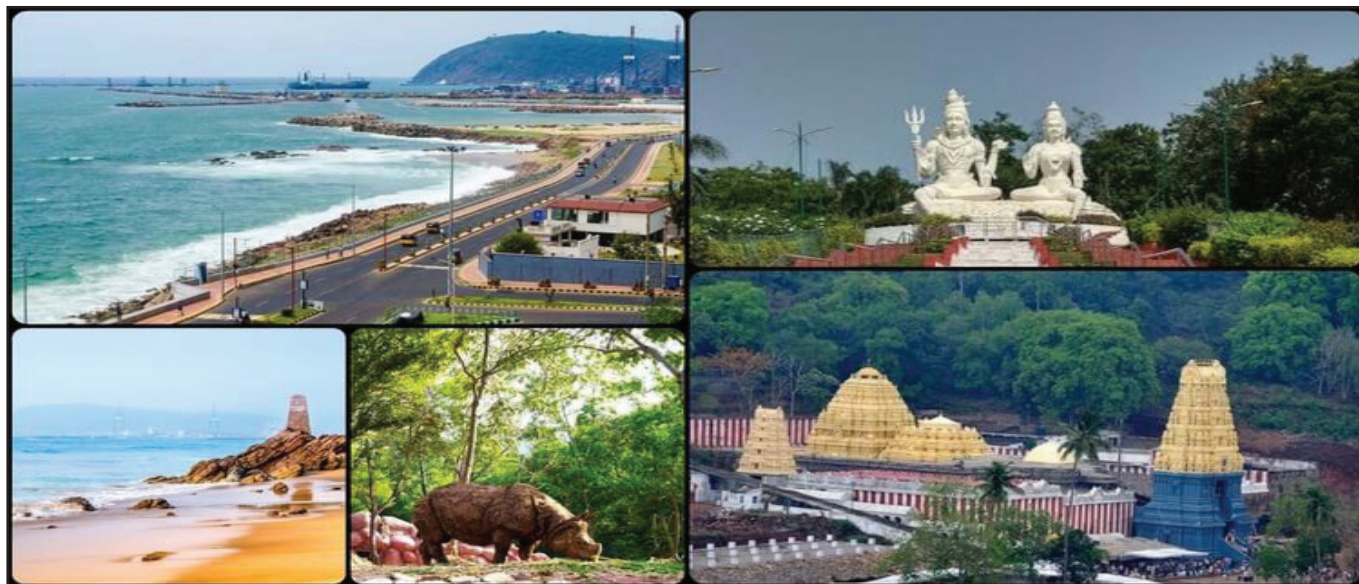
Organizing Committee - The Organizing Committee of the 8th IWW shall be constituted under the chairmanship of the Secretary (WR, RD&GR) with representations from various Ministries, knowledge partners, stakeholders, industries, and States from all zones of the country.

Technical Committee - The Technical Committee of the 8th IWW shall be constituted under the chairmanship of the Chairman, CWC with representations from various Ministries, knowledge partners, stakeholders, industries, and Director (TC), CWC as member-secretary.

Working Group Meetings in February 2023

Sl. No.	Working Group	Date
1	Working Group on Water Saving in Irrigated Areas (WG-WATS) Chairman: Eng. Rafat Nael AbdulGhani Al-Intaki	16 February 2023
2	Working Group on Managing Water Scarcity Under Conflicting Demands (WG-MWSCD) Chairman: Mr. Franklin E. Dimick	24 February 2023
3	Virtual Meeting of Task Team on Task Force on Aral Sea Basin (TF-ASB) President Prof. Dr. Ragab Ragab and Secretary General Engr. A.B. Pandya	9 February 2023

Call for Papers, 25th International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage 1–8 November 2023, Vizag (Visakhapatnam), Andhra Pradesh, India



The 25th International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage and the 74th International Executive Council meetings are being organised by the Indian National Committee of ICID (INCID) on the theme 'Tackling Water Scarcity in Agriculture' from 01-08 November 2023 in Vishakhapatnam (Vizag), Andhra Pradesh, India. ICID triennial Congresses focus on the upcoming issues that need to be addressed in irrigation, drainage, and flood management. The Congresses also provide a platform for reviewing a number of contentious issues concerning the future of irrigation water vis-à-vis increased demands for competitive uses. The Congress aims to provide a platform for irrigation and drainage professionals and a 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.

During the Congress, the papers will be presented and discussed, answering Questions 64 & 65. In addition, Special Sessions, Symposiums, Training, Workshops, and a large number of side events will also be held as part of this mega event. International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) strives for a water-secure world free of poverty and hunger through its mission to facilitate prudent agriculture

water management. 'Enabling Higher Crop Productivity with Less Water Energy' is the most cherished goal of ICID Vision 2030. Through its tri-annual Congresses, ICID provides a forum to exchange knowledge, information and technology solutions for alternative water resources and increasing water productivity through on-farm interventions to tackle agricultural water scarcity.

Question 64: What Alternative Water Resources could be Tapped for Irrigated Agriculture?

The spatial and temporal variabilities in precipitation and water availability call for harnessing the blue water component for different uses. Water use and management in agriculture cross many scales: crops, fields, farms, delivery systems, basins, and nations.

Sub-Questions:

- Q.64.1** *Developing and Reinforcing Conventional Sources of Irrigation Water*
- Q.64.2** *Tapping Non-Conventional Sources of Water*
- Q.64.3** *Empowerment of Farmers*

Question 65: What On-Farm Techniques can Increase Water Productivity?

There are several different approaches

by which farmers can improve water productivity. Options include those related to plant physiology, which focuses on making transpiration more efficient or productive, agronomic practices, which aim at reducing evaporation, and on-farm agricultural-engineering approaches, which aim at making water application more precise and more effective.

Sub-Questions:

- Q.65.1** *Improving Management of Existing Facilities*
- Q.65.2** *Improved Agronomic Practices and Research / Innovation*
- Q.65.3** *Efficient Application of Irrigation Water*

Schedule of Submission of Abstracts / Full Papers

The abstracts/ papers are invited from the policymakers, professionals, academicians, researchers, experts, and scientists from private and government sectors as per the following deadlines.

- Submission of 'Extended Abstracts' (500-600 words): **31 March 2023**
- Notification of Acceptance of Extended Abstracts: **15 April 2023**
- Submission of Full papers: **15 May 2023**

- Notification to Authors (oral/poster/presentation): **31 May 2023**

Online Paper Submission

- Online 'Extended Abstract' submission is now open. New Users are expected to create their own accounts. The procedure for creating a new account is available at https://congress.icidevents.org/%20Register_Modify.aspx
- Please note that only the 'Extended Abstracts' of the papers are required in the first stage of submission to enable peer review by an International Review Committee. PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT THE

FULL PAPERS AT THIS STAGE as they would not be reviewed now.

- Upon receiving an acceptance letter from ICID Central Office, authors are required to provide/upload an electronic version of the full-length papers in Microsoft Word format (file size limited to 10 MB) by strictly following the guidelines available at <https://congress.icidevents.org/PaperSubmissionProcess.aspx>

Contact Organizer:

- Mr. R. Girdhar**, Director, Indian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (INCID), C/o Remote Sensing Directorate, Central Water

Commission, Department of Water Resources (RD and GR), Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India, 425(N), Sewa Bhawan, R.K. Puram, New Delhi 110066

- VPH Dr. Yella Reddy**, Expert, Andhra Pradesh Government. E-mail: yellark@gmail.com
- ICID Central Office: Er. Balasaheb Anantrao Chivate**, Director (Technical), ICID

Email: icid.25congress@gmail.com, icid@icid.org

Website: www.icid25congress.in, <https://icid-ciid.org/event/detail/25>



Call For Papers: International Workshop on “The Water-Energy-Food-Nexus: Implementation and Examples of Applications”, Vizag, India, November 2023

This Workshop is being organized under the auspices of the International Commission for Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) Work Group on the 'Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus'. The workshop will be held in conjunction with ICID's 25th ICID Congress and the 74th International Executive Council Meetings.

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 practical application of nexus. The papers should show examples of application and address the three elements of the Nexus: Water, Food,

and Energy. <https://icid-ciid.org/event/detail/25>

Workshop Themes

- Methods to calculate the WEF Nexus Index.
- WEF Nexus at field, regional, and country scales. Examples of applications.
- The spatial distribution of the WEF Nexus and the trade-offs to improve the WEF Nexus at different scales.
- Institutional and Governance issues in implementing the WEF Nexus.
- WEF Nexus application and benefit at transboundary scale.

Workshop Committee:

- Dr Ragab Ragab, President ICID and Chairman of the Working Group on 'Water-Energy-Food Nexus', ICID. Fellow at UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, UKCEH, UK
- Dr K Yella Reddy, Vice-Chairman of the WG on "Water-Energy-Food Nexus" and Officer on Special Duty, Government of Andhra Pradesh, India
- Er. Balasaheb Anantrao Chivate, Technical Director, International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage, ICID. India



First Virtual Meeting of Task Team on Task Force on Aral Sea Basin

The Task Force Team on the Aral Sea is the newly established ICID Task Team on Trans-Boundary Waters. The key vision of this newly constituted team is to cover the hotspots of transboundary water issues in the Aral Sea Basin. The first virtual meeting of the task force was conducted on 9 February 2023. The members present during the meeting included President Dr. Ragab Ragab, Chairperson (UK), PH Prof. Dr. Chandra Madramootoo (Canada), Dr. Vadim Sokolov (Uzbekistan), Dr.

Oytur Anarbekov (Uzbekistan), Dr. Batyr Mammedov (Uzbekistan) and several members from the Ministry of Water Resources, IARC (Uzbekistan).

During the meeting, President Dr. Ragab Ragab, PH Prof. Dr. Chandra Madramootoo, Dr. Vadim Sokolov and SG Er. A. B. Pandya shared their experiences on the Aral Sea Region, the major concerns and the possible pathways to dealing with the current problems. The members also discussed the initiatives

of the previously constituted ICID's Task Force on the Aral Sea (1994-2009) and how previous members PH Prof. Dr. Chandra, PH Mr. Peter Lee, and VPH Dr. Laurie Tollefson can bring their knowledge and wisdom to the future discourse of the present task force. Dr. Oytur Anarbekov shared his experience of the Central Asian region and also provided insights on the IWMI's work in the region. The other initiative discussed in the meeting are:-



Working Group on Modernization and Revitalization of Irrigation Schemes (WG- M&R)

The WG-M&R is organizing an e-discussion on "Crop Water Productivity Performance Outcome of Irrigation System Modernization" from 1 - 31 May 2023. It provides background information for an ICID e-Discussion and Summary Report preparation on crop water productivity concepts in irrigation modernization. This discussion aims to provide relevant insights into the 25th International Congress on Irrigation and

Drainage theme: tackling water scarcity in agriculture and its ICID Question 65: which (main irrigation system and) on-farm techniques can increase water productivity? The e-discussion is scheduled in four parts:

- (i) **01-07 May** (Basic CWP Definition)
- (ii) **08-14 May** (Empirical CWP Evidence)

iii. **15-21 May** (Irrigation System Modernization e-Discussion Participant Feedback)

iv. **22-31 May** (Draft Summary Report)

For more information please visit the link: https://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/117



ICID Forthcoming Events

9th Asian Regional Conference and 75th International Executive Council Meeting, 1-7, September 2024 in Sydney, Australia.

4th World Irrigation Forum (WIF4) and 76th International Executive Council Meeting, 7-13, September 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

26th International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage and 77th International Executive Council Meeting, 12 - 18 October 2026 in Marseille, France.

Other Events

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 sub-topics will be discussed in plenary and technical sessions organized by reputed international and regional organizations. The 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://icid-ciid.org/event/detail/17>

XVIII World Water Congress is being organized on the theme "Water for All: Harmony between Humans and Nature", hosted by the International Water Resources Association (IWRA) and the Ministry of the Water Resources of the People's Republic of China, in Beijing, China from 11 to 15 September

2023. The objective of the Congress is to provide a meeting place to share experiences, promote discussion, and present new knowledge, research results, and new developments in the field of water sciences around the world. For almost five decades, the World Water Congresses have been excellent events for the identification of major global themes concerning the water agenda, and the bringing together of a large cross-section of stakeholders for the development and implementation of decisions in the field of water. <https://www.worldwatercongress.com/>

7th World Water Summit 2023 - The 7th World Water Summit 2023, sponsored by Jain Irrigation, Ministry of Water Resources, India, NABARD with other Private partnerships is being organized on 24 – 25 August 2023 at Convention Centre, New Delhi, India. The summit will focus on synergies between water security and economic prosperity, finance, and technology to deliver water solutions. The event support Call for Papers, Technical Session, Exhibitions, and Field Visit. For more information and registration please visit the link <http://worldwatersummit.in/index.html>

40th International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research (IAHR) will be organized in Vienna Austria from 21 to 25 August 2023. The event has traditionally provided researchers and decision-makers with the opportunity to share recent advances and experiences, identify emerging technology trends, and engage in lively debates that have positively impacted our world. This conference will put a particular focus on rivers being lifelines connecting mountains and coasts. Rivers are strongly affected by climate and land use change, and we require rivers to provide safe drinking water, energy, transportation, and navigation, as well as ecosystem services. At the upcoming Congress, IAHR will unleash its new strategic

plan and present exciting knowledge platforms and prominent speakers on global water environment issues including climate-induced changes to water resources, adaptive management, artificial intelligence (AI) and smart water management, eco hydraulics, and policy forums. <https://rivers.boku.ac.at/iahr/>

7th IWA Water and Development Congress & Exhibition

The International Water Association has announced that the next edition of the Water and Development Congress & Exhibition will take place on 10-14 December 2023 in Kigali, Rwanda.

The forum will showcase new science, technology, and practical solutions across the entire water cycle that can work at scale in low- and middle-income countries. With an overarching theme of Water, sanitation, and climate resilience – keys to a water-wise future, the 2023 edition will present solutions spanning water and sanitation services, the role of water in urban areas, the links between cities and basins, and the opportunities to achieve climate resilience. <https://iwa-network.org/events/water-development-congress-exhibition-2023/>

Key Dates

- **16 February 2023** – Online submission opens
- **30 April 2023** – Close of online submission
- **3 July 2023** – Registration opens
- **7 August 2023** – Presenters notified of acceptance/rejection
- **24 September 2023** – Deadline for accepted presenters to register/supply full papers.

