



# NEWS UPDATE

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

MAY 2023

## From Secretary-General's Desk...

Dear Colleagues,

Greetings from ICID, New Delhi.



As you all are aware that the 25th International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage and the 74th International Executive Council meeting is being organised by Indian National Committee of ICID (INCID) on the theme "Tackling Water Scarcity in Agriculture" from 01st-08th November, 2023 at Radisson Blue Resort, Visakhapatnam (Vizag), Andhra Pradesh, India. The Call for Papers for submitting abstracts for the main theme of the event and two questions has already been issued along with the international workshops.

Additionally, the submissions of entries for the annual ICID awards including Watsave Awards, World Heritage Irrigation Structures (WHIS), Best Performing National Committee Award (BPNCA) and Best Performing Workbody Award (BPWA) are also open till **30 June 2023**. The revised WatSave award scheme has approved by Management Board and circulated to all the National Committees. From 2023 onwards the nominations will be considered and evaluated basis on the revised and approved WatSave Awards scheme.

I encourage the members of all National Committees, water and agriculture professionals, policy makers for their contribution of technical papers, nominations of officers and participate in the event in large numbers. We expect the participation of more than 1200 global water and agriculture policy makers, researchers & professionals, industry experts providing a great learning platform vis-a-vis the latest technologies, innovative practices and solutions, emerging issues and explore avenues for a collaborative global effort

to solve the problems. I am sure that all our national and international delegates are going to have a wonderful learning and networking opportunity during these events. I extend a cordial invitation to all the prospective delegates from different countries, exhibitors, volunteers, etc. being the part of this prestigious event and make it a grand success. I'm looking forward to welcoming the ICID family – old friends as well as new-comers in November 2023 at Vizag, Andhra Pradesh, India.

Empowering women in water management will provide the necessary basis for effective water management and achieving sustainable development goals besides equal job opportunities to participate in the policy and decisions making process in water management. Expanding women's role in this sector will contribute to growth and development and promote the development of career opportunities and skills training for women. The webinar on the topic Empowerment and Capacity Development of Women in Water Resources Management on 3 May 2023, was organized by ICID in association with International Research Program for Irrigation and Drainage-Iran Regional Node (IRPID-IRN), Iranian National Committee on Irrigation & Drainage (IRNCID), and ICID's Working Group on Capacity Development, Training and Education (WG-CDTE), focused on developing practical solutions for enhancing the socio-political visions and increasing the level of awareness of legislative bodies regarding policies for ensuring women's participation in water management, to optimize and increase their presence in decision making in water management and attain the objective of sustainable water management. More details are provided in the New Update.

ICID was represented by Vice President (Hon.) Dr. Marco Arcieri in the 2023 Water for Food Global Conference on the theme Cultivating Innovation: Solutions for a Changing World organised from May 8-11, 2023 at Lincoln, Nebraska, USA, focussed on the next generation

of research, smart technology, policy development and best practices that are achieving breakthroughs in the vitally important mission of water and food security besides innovative ways to improve water and food security by increasing farmers' resiliency to a changing landscape.

On the invitation of HE. Dr. Mahmoud Abu Zeid, President, Arab Water Council (AWC), and H.E. Dr. Hussein El-Atfy, Secretary General AWC, President ICID Prof. Dr. Ragab Ragab virtually participated in the International and Arab Water Day organized on 29 May 2023 in Cairo, Egypt on the theme "Accelerating Solutions to Solve the Problem of Water and Sanitation, Saving Water - Saving Lives". The event witnessed a large gathering of experts from different sectors including international organizations.

President Prof. Dr. Ragab delivered a keynote presentation on the topic "Water Saving in Irrigation Using New Technologies for Accurate Estimate of Crop Water Requirement and Efficient Irrigation Systems". Some of the important recommendations include are: we need to double food production to meet the food demand of 9.8 billion by 2050 and also need to save more water in the irrigation application. This can be done through, accurate estimation of irrigation requirements and by using more efficient irrigation systems and practices. More details are provided in the New Update.

Moving forward, several other major ICID events are lined up for the upcoming year. Details of all the upcoming events are also given in the New Update. I look forward to meeting you during the above events and thank you for your continued support.

With warm regards,

**A.B. Pandya**  
Secretary General

## ICID organized a webinar on Empowerment and Capacity Development of Women in Water Resources Management held on 03 May 2023

On 03 May 2023, ICID, with its Iranian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage, IRNCID and ICID's Working Group on Capacity Development, Training, and Education (WG-CDTE), organised a webinar on 'Empowerment and Capacity Development of Women in Water Resources Management'. The session was attended and moderated by Dr. Mohamed Wahba, Vice President Hon., ICID; Ms. Hon. Karlene Maywald (Australia); Dr. Narges Zohrabi, Head IRPID-IRN (Iran); and Dr. Anthi Brouma. During the session the ICID was represented by President Prof. Dr. Ragab Ragab and Secretary General Eng. A.B. Pandya. The welcome note was delivered by Er. A. B. Pandya. He introduced all the panellists and moderator to the webinar participants and delivered his views about the empowerment and capacity development of women in water resources management. The objectives of the webinar are: (i) improve gender equity in water management; (ii) enhance women's participation in water resource decisions and policies; (iii) increase participation of women in water user associations; and (iv) involve women in water projects: What have we learned from the experiences? (v) Empowering women to improve their water-related skills, knowledge, and livelihoods; (vi) Water rights, gender, and poverty alleviation Inclusion and exclusion of female and male smallholders in public irrigation infrastructure development; (vii) determining what practical steps need to be taken to empower women in water management. The introductory message is delivered by Dr. Mohamed Wahba. He talks about empowering women in water management and providing an asset for the nation for effective water management and sustainable water management goals. He mentions that the expansion of the woman's role in water management will lead to a development in the water resources sector and minimise the core impact of the natural hazards, including drought, water scarcity due to climate change, contamination of the ground water, a lower ground water table, and the accessibility of clean water to the most vulnerable communities. He also talked about the importance of the Working Group on Capacity Development, Training, and Education (WG-CDTE), which supports capacity building, research. President Prof. Dr. Ragab Ragab also delivered a presentation on "Role of Women in Agriculture and



Society". In his presentation, he covered (i) the reasons for gender equality, (ii) ways to improve gender equality, (iii) women's vulnerability under climate change, and (iv) the quantification of gender inequality. Dr. Narges Zohrabi, Head of IRPID-IRN (Iran), also gave a presentation and covered the core issue of (i) why water resource management is one of the key dimensions of achieving sustainable development? (ii) Why is women's participation important to ensure good water resource management? She also highlighted the participation of the in comparison (a) individual based (b) society based (ii) average share of women in a utility (iii) female labour force participation (iv) current status of women's participation in management (v) reasons that lead to the success of women's presence (vi) international projects, including

- The innovation project for gender equality in water management is being carried out by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI).
- The Women in Water Management project in Central Asia and Afghanistan is conducted by SIWI since 2021.
- The Women's Water Diplomacy Network in the Nile is a project initiated by SIWI in 2017.

Ms. Hon. Karlene Maywald talks about why women's participation in a complex process of water resources management is important, which is surrounded by multilayer forces including multiple stakeholders, multiple government agencies involvement, community politics, and population explosion. Dr. Anthi Brouma also gave her views on the importance of women's participation in water resources management and conservation. The webinar focused

on developing practical solutions for enhancing the socio-political visions and increasing the level of awareness of legislative bodies regarding policies for ensuring women's participation in water management to optimize and increase their presence and attain the objective of sustainable water management. For full access of the webinar please click the link [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R\\_Mi4Ju65q8&t=5681s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R_Mi4Ju65q8&t=5681s)

### Background

It has been three decades since the world realized the vital role of women in water management. The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992 emphasized the crucial role of women in the provision, management, and protection of water resources. However, the lack of engaging discourse and a systematic, integrated approach has led to insufficient attention to the capacity and potential of women in water management. Although Women's role in water resource management is recognized, executing methods and strategies to get beyond gender-based obstacles to women's equal participation in water resource management-related schemes remains vague. As a result, women have a low level of involvement in water management, and the optimization of their partnerships has not been sufficiently supported. If the goal is to achieve sustainable development, all users and stakeholders should be involved in developing water management programs, including (and perhaps primarily) women. However, despite the high potential role of women, they have a minor role in water decisions. The lack of understanding of such differences by planners may contribute to the failure of general objectives. There is a global inclination towards increasing the presence of women in



the water sector as there are numerous accomplished young women capable of participating in the water sector with appropriate training and support. Thus, the improvement in the future socio-political atmosphere of various countries and the developing awareness of legislative bodies concerning guaranteeing women's

participation in the water sector are practical solutions for increasing the presence of women.

Attaining such a goal depends on highlighting major and minor advantages of women's participation in delineating national and international objectives. A

global investigation into the relationship between the objectives of sustainable development and allocating funds for various activities and the empowerment of women and increasing their participation in water management is essential in the future.

## President Prof. Dr. Ragab Ragab participated in the International and Arab Water Day organized on 29 May 2023 in Cairo, Egypt



On the invitation of HE. Dr. Mahmoud AbuZeid, President, Arab Water Council (AWC), and HE. Dr. Hussein El-Atfy, Secretary General AWC, President ICID Prof. Dr. Ragab Ragab virtually participated in the International and Arab Water Day organized on 29 May 2023 in Cairo, Egypt on the theme "Accelerating Solutions to Solve the Problem of Water and Sanitation, Saving Water - Saving Lives". The event witnessed a large gathering of experts from different sectors including international organizations.

President Prof. Dr. Ragab delivered a keynote presentation on the topic "Water Saving in Irrigation Using New Technologies for Accurate Estimate of Crop Water Requirement and Efficient Irrigation Systems". The recommendations include:

- While the population is increasing, the water resources are not. We need to double food production to meet the food demand of 9.8 billion by 2050.
- Globally, irrigation consumes 70% of fresh water resources. Given the limited fresh water resources, we need to save more water in the

irrigation application. This can be done through, accurate estimation of irrigation requirements and by using more efficient irrigation systems and practices.

- Irrigation crop water requirements, is commonly determined by using either measurements or by using equations. Calculating the reference evapotranspiration,  $E_{To}$ , or the crop evapotranspiration,  $E_{Tc}$ , from meteorological data, produces potential evapotranspiration that would represent the atmospheric demand for water rather than the crop demand for water. These potential values are well above the actual values as reported by several researchers. Accurate crop water requirement (CWR) should be based on crop demand rather than on atmospheric demand for water.
- Direct measurement by Eddy Covariance, Scintillometers and COSMS rays proved to provide more accurate estimation of CWR and could save more than 50% of irrigation water when

compared with the CWR based on Equations such as Penman-Monteith modified equation of FAO-56 (Allen et al. 1998) which is based mainly on meteorological data.

More efficient Irrigation Systems and strategies need to be adopted to save water. Such new technologies and approaches include:

- Nano subsurface drip irrigation
- Ultra low drip Irrigation systems, ULDI
- Varying Irrigation Rate VRI for the centre pivot system application
- Reducing evaporation of irrigation channels network and reservoirs by a cover of solar panels.
- Changing the irrigation systems from flood irrigation to more efficient irrigation systems such as drip irrigation for rice, sugar cane, maize ...etc.

## Vice President (Hon) Mr. Marco Arcieri represented ICID in International Water for Food Conference, Nebraska held from 08 - 11 May 2023

The University of the Nebraska in a joint venture of FAO and WASAG organized the International Water for Food Conference held from 08 – 11 May. The conference is focused on innovative ways to improve water and food security by increasing farmers’ resiliency to a changing landscape. The challenges of climate change, soil degradation, water access and management, economic disparity and conflict bring about extreme competition for urban and rural water. In the conference the ICID is represented by Mr. Marco Arcieri, Secretary – General (ITAL). He talks about the role of ICID in water and food sector, which cover

the more than ninety percent irrigated area of the world. Throughout the conference, experts shared research results, case studies and perspectives on how we can achieve global food and water security. Solutions discussed will be sustainable, scalable and adaptable to local contexts, involving all stakeholders in the decision-making process. During the conference the five session tracks were identified as. (i) Climate change (ii) Technology to improve productivity



and protect agroecosystems (iii) Water policy and management (iv) Capacity development (v) People, animals and health

and protect agroecosystems (iii) Water policy and management (iv) Capacity development (v) People, animals and health

## 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 organized by the Indian National Committee of ICID (INCID) on the theme ‘Tackling Water Scarcity in Agriculture’ from 01-08 November 2023 in Vizag (Vishakhapatnam), 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, 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 triennial 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 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**

### 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. Contact at [icid.25congress@gmail.com](mailto:icid.25congress@gmail.com); Website: [www.icid25congress.in](http://www.icid25congress.in)

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



## CALL FOR PAPERS INVITED FOR International Workshops scheduled during the

### A Call for Papers: International Workshop on “The Water-Energy-Food-Nexus: Implementation and Examples of Applications”

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/icid\\_data\\_web/Call\\_for\\_Papers\\_Intl\\_WS\\_WG-WEF\\_N\\_2023.pdf](https://icid-ciid.org/icid_data_web/Call_for_Papers_Intl_WS_WG-WEF_N_2023.pdf)

### B Call for Papers: International Workshop on Innovated Agricultural Water Management under Climate Change

Objective: Based on the Sixth Assessment Report, the workshop aims to reduce the adverse impacts of extreme events of climate change by finding smarter water management and adaptation development.

#### Scope of the Workshop

The scope of the workshop is to explore and analyze the implications of climate change and climate variability for agricultural water management including irrigation, drainage, and flood control. This workshop would promote archiving useful information and case studies on climate change for practical use in improved impact assessment and adaptation development. Through the case studies, the participants will be able

to learn practical experiences, such as smart water management and innovative techniques from various countries. The workshop will help enhance discussion on climate change and water management at national and regional scales among the stakeholders including academicians, practitioners, decision-makers, media as well as farmers and water users in a region. This workshop could be a platform for integrating real-time practice and exchanging experiences. The Workshop is being organized by ICID's Working Group on Climate Change and Agricultural Water Management (WG-CLIMATE) during the 25th ICID International Congress and 74th International Executive Council (IEC) meeting scheduled to be held from 1-8 November 2023 in Vizag, India.

#### Sub-topics of the workshop:

- Impacts of climate change on agricultural water management
- Adaptation to changing climate in agricultural water management
- Smart water management against climate change
- Case Studies

Abstracts/papers are invited from professionals, researchers, experts, farmers, system operators, managers, and policy-makers responsible for the provision of irrigation and drainage services at different scales, including individual farm-level operators through irrigation schemes to provincial, national and inter-state level water resource systems.

Kindly submit your abstract(s) to Prof. Dr. Ray Shyan Wu, Chairman, WG-CLIMATE ([ctcid@triwra.org.tw](mailto:ctcid@triwra.org.tw)) and Er. B.A. Chivate, Director (Technical), ICID Central Office & Workshop Coordinator of the WG ([icid@icid.org](mailto:icid@icid.org)). [https://icid-ciid.org/icid\\_data\\_web/callpapers\\_wgclimate2023.pdf](https://icid-ciid.org/icid_data_web/callpapers_wgclimate2023.pdf)

#### Contact Coordinates:

**Workshop Chairman:** Prof. Dr. Ray Shyan Wu, Chairman, WG-CLIMATE ([ctcid@triwra.org.tw](mailto:ctcid@triwra.org.tw))

**Coordinator:** Er. B.A. Chivate, Director (Technical), ICID Central Office ([icid@icid.org](mailto:icid@icid.org))

### C Call for Papers for the International Workshop on the State of Drainage Worldwide

#### Objective

The ICID has two water-related elements in its name, Irrigation and Drainage. However, looking at the 74th IEC and related meetings/ conferences and workshops there is not a single mention of drainage in the program. The objective of this workshop is to put drainage back on the agenda of the yearly ICID meetings.

#### Scope of the Workshop

This information-gathering workshop intends to find out who is addressing drainage in the world (contractors, government departments, universities, etc.) and present the status of drainage activities in each of the ICID member countries as well as update country information on existing drainage systems. The papers expected are information

papers, which may eventually be upgraded to full-fledged scientific articles for the I&D Journal of ICID. They may also be first drafts of the paper that will eventually be submitted at the 14th International Drainage Workshop, to be held in Tajikistan in 2024. The information papers are expected to cover where drainage is currently installed, and possibly where in the past, describe the type of drainage; surface or sub-surface, vertical or horizontal, which machines are used for installation, which pipe material was used (PVC, PE, Concrete, etc.), and describe the performance of current systems. Other enquiries can also look into what information is available on electronic platforms, You-Tube, Facebook, LinkedIn, TikTok, etc.? Please provide a brief description and the appropriate links. Please also provide the latest on quality control of materials and construction of drainage systems; i.e. search the web for standards on drainage such as ASAE, ASTM, British Standard (BS), CEN/TC, CEN Technical Committee is a technical decision making body within the European Committee for Standardization (CEN), Deutsche Industry Norm (DIN), ISO, NEN, etc.

The Workshop is being organized by ICID's Working Group on Land Drainage (WG-LDRG) during the 25th ICID International Congress and 74th International Executive Council (IEC) meeting scheduled to be held from 1-7 November 2023 in Vizag, India.

**Sub-Themes**

- Country information papers
- Drainage standards and guidelines
- Reports on drainage information on web-based platforms; You-Tube, LinkedIn, etc.

Abstracts/papers are invited from professionals, researchers, experts, farmers, system operators, managers, and policy-makers responsible for the provision of irrigation and drainage services at different scales, including individual farm-level operators through

irrigation schemes to provincial, national and inter-state level water resource systems.

**Schedule for Submission of Abstracts/ Full Papers**

- Submission of abstracts (max. 300 words): **01 July 2023**
- Notification of acceptance: **15 July 2023**
- Submission of full papers (max. 10 pages): **01 September 2023**
- Notification of acceptance of full papers: **30 September 2023**

Kindly submit your abstract (s) to Dr. Willem F. Vlotman, Chairman, WG-LDRG (vlotmanwf@gmail.com), and Er. Harish Kumar Varma, Executive Director, ICID Central Office & Workshop Coordinator of the WG (icid@icid.org).

**Contact Coordinates:**

- **Workshop Chairman:** Dr. Willem F. Vlotman, Chairman, WG-LDRG (vlotmanwf@gmail.com)
- **Coordinator:** Er. Harish Kumar Varma, Executive Director, ICID Central Office (icid@icid.org)
- Registration and travel information are available at (<https://icid25congress.in/index.html>)
- [https://icid-ciid.org/icid\\_data\\_web/callpapers\\_wglldrg2023.pdf](https://icid-ciid.org/icid_data_web/callpapers_wglldrg2023.pdf)

**D Call for Papers International Workshop on “Global Challenges of Land Subsidence in Tidal Areas and the Integrated Solutions”**

**Objectives**

The tidal areas are coastal areas where the tidal processes are capable of affecting human activity or being influenced by human. Due to its dynamic processes and human activities in the past, there are many challenges in tidal areas, such as land subsidence, flood and storm surge risks, ecosystem degradation, coastal erosion, tidal intrusion into groundwater,

among many others. The challenges are even more critical due to global climate change and sea level rise. The tidal areas provide critical resources and therefore, integrated solutions to address various challenges are urgently needed.

The objective of this workshop is to bring together practitioners, researchers and scientists, managers, and decision makers and obtain input from member countries of exploring practical problems, discussing the current state of knowledge and experiences, and exchanging solving strategies, to respond to such urgent need. To better disseminate the efforts in addressing the challenges and learn from each other, papers presented at the workshop will be considered for publication in a special issue of ICID's International Journal Irrigation and Drainage.. < [https://icid-ciid.org/icid\\_data\\_web/Call\\_for\\_paper\\_of\\_WG-SDTA\\_2023.pdf](https://icid-ciid.org/icid_data_web/Call_for_paper_of_WG-SDTA_2023.pdf) >

**Schedule for Submission of Abstracts/ Full Papers**

- Submission of full papers (max. 10 pages of A-4 size): **30 July 2023**
- Notification of acceptance of full papers: **01 August 2023**

**Contact Coordinates:**

**Workshop Chairman:** Dr. Ruey-Chy Kao, Chairman of the Working Group on Sustainable Development of Tidal Areas (WG-SDTA) (Email: [sdta-thl@thl.ncku.edu.tw](mailto:sdta-thl@thl.ncku.edu.tw); [rckao@thl.ncku.edu.tw](mailto:rckao@thl.ncku.edu.tw)).

**Workshop Secretary:** Mr. Paavan Kumar Reddy, Secretary of the Working Group on Sustainable Development of Tidal Areas (WG-SDTA) (E-mail: [paavankrg@gmail.com](mailto:paavankrg@gmail.com))

**Workshop Coordinator:** Er. B.A. Chivate, Director (Technical), International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) (E-mail: [icid@icid.org](mailto:icid@icid.org)), New Delhi, India.



**Working Group Meetings in May 2023**

SI. No.	Working Group	Date
1	Working Group on Value Engineering (WG-VE) Chairman: Dr. Kamran Emami	9 May2023
2	Working Group on Land Drainage (WG-LDRG) Chairman: Dr. Willem F. Vlotman	17 May 2023

## Announcements for the WHIS and WatSave 2023

ICID is pleased to announce the “Call for Nominations for 2023 WatSave Awards and Recognition of World Heritage Irrigation Structures (WHIS) for the 74th IEC Meeting and 25th ICID International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage 2023, from 01 – 08, November, Vizag, India.

### WatSave Award 2023

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 is made in respect of actual realized savings and not for promising research results, plans and/ or good ideas/

intentions to save water. The awards are given in four categories: (i) Technology (ii) Innovative Water Management (iii) Young Professionals; and (iv) Farmers.

Nominations are invited from individuals/ teams through National Committees/ Committees. 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, which should be in touch with the nominee and must be aware of his/her work. For more information, please click the link: <https://icid-ciid.org/award/watsave/43>

### REVISED WATSAVE AWARD SCHEME

In the existing WatSave Award Scheme following changes were approved by the Managing Board to ensure larger participation and a fair competition among candidates:

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 nomination does not confirm to the innovation complying with the ICID Evaluation Criterion or are not up to the mark.

3. After deliberations, MB suggested to delete the words in Annexure I under point a. (iii) WatSave Young Professional Award “or part of the project”. The young professionals award is given for water-saving/ conservation work by young professionals (less than 40

years). The work carried out by the Young Professional should have been carried out individually or as a group.

From 2023 onwards the nominations can be considered and evaluated basis on the revised and approved WatSave Awards scheme. The revised WatSave Awards scheme can be accessed through [www.icid-ciid.org/award/watsave/43](http://www.icid-ciid.org/award/watsave/43). Looking forward to receive the nomination based on the revised WatSave Awards scheme before closing of the deadline i.e. **30 June, 2023**.

### World Heritage Irrigation Structures (WHIS) 2023

A Task Team is set up every year to select historical structures as received from various National Committees (NCs) to give them recognition along the lines of World Heritage Sites (as recognized by UNESCO) in the field of irrigation and drainage. Nominations are invited from ICID National Committees for the selection of “World Heritage Irrigation Structures” (WHIS) that include old operational irrigation structures as well as structures of archival value.

A National Committee (NC) can nominate more than one structure (maximum four), using a separate nomination form for each. Associated Members and non-member countries can nominate their structures through neighboring 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 2023. More information including the detailed procedure for nomination and the criterion for the awards can be accessed at <https://icid-ciid.org/award/his/44> For any queries, please contact [icid@icid.org](mailto:icid@icid.org).

### ICID Forthcoming Events

**14th International Drainage Workshop, Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 23-25 May 2024.**  
Contact: [Gbahrom\\_75@mal.ru](mailto:Gbahrom_75@mal.ru)

**1st Middle East Regional Conference, 26-28 February 2024, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.** Contact: Saudi Arabian National Committee of ICID, Email: [a.almajed@sio.gov.sa](mailto:a.almajed@sio.gov.sa), [ma.alomair@sio.gov.sa](mailto:ma.alomair@sio.gov.sa)

**75th International Executive Council Meeting and 9th Asian Regional Conference, 1 – 7 September 2024, Sydney, Australia** - <http://www.irrigationaustralia.com.au/>

**76th International Executive Council Meeting and 4th World Irrigation Forum (WIF4), 7-13 September 2025, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia** - Contact: [mancidmalaysia@gmail.com](mailto:mancidmalaysia@gmail.com)

### 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 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/>

#### International Agriculture Innovation Conference 2023 (IAIC 2023)

International Agriculture Innovation Conference (IAIC) is an annual conference that has been running since 2016 organized by the International Association for Agricultural Sustainability (IAAS). The 8th IAIC 2023 will take place on 1-2 August, 2023. The conference will be held under the theme of "Agro-industrialization and Sustainability" and especially address key themes on "Vertical Farming", "Forest-Industrialization" and "Regenerative Agriculture". We look forward to exchange of ideas and facilitation of partnerships in IAIC 2023. <https://iaic.iaas.org.sg/>

**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 unveil 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/>

#### International Conference on "Water Storage and Hydropower Development for Africa" - 10 - 12, July, Uganda

The objective of the regional conferences for AFRICA, co-hosted by Aqua~Media International and ICOLD, in collaboration with the governments of Uganda, is to bring together a group of experts from all parts of the world to focus on issues of specific interest for Africa, in the field of water storage and hydropower development.

### Task Force for Updating and Maintenance of Multilingual Technical Dictionary (TF-MTD)

The task force for updating and maintaining of Multilingual Technical Dictionary (TF-MTD) was reorganized by the ICID. The task force is enriched by the active members of the ICID National Committee. The objective of the new Task Force is to redefine the scope of terms to be covered in the Multilingual Irrigation and Drainage Dictionary, update them, and make the revised version available in languages other than the official languages of ICID (English and French), make it universally accessible and establish a mechanism to regularly update it.

The MTD consists of all technical terms related to irrigation, drainage, flood management, environment, river training and allied disciplines and is a flagship publication of ICID widely consulted by the agriculture water management community. The first volume of MTD was published in English and French languages in 1967. In 1996, MTD was thoroughly revised and a new hardcopy version of this second edition was published. With the change of time and technology, the 3rd edition of MTD (English-French) was brought out on CDROM in the year 2000, which was slightly modified and brought out as the 4th edition in 2002.

Soon after the release of the first edition in 1967, NCs felt the need to translate this useful dictionary into their local languages also for the benefit of their national professionals working in that language. This was primarily the objective of naming the dictionary as 'multilingual'. Thus, with the commendable efforts of the NCs, MTD has been translated so far into 14 languages in the past, besides English and French. These national versions of the MTD were initially translated based on the first edition published in 1967. Some of the National Committees later also brought out their next translated editions in local languages based on the revisions.

For the latest 5th edition, efforts were made in 2010 to make the dictionary multilingual and NCs were requested to send their available translations in local languages in digital format. The 5th edition consists of 9370 technical terms and 25 chapters. In this edition, in addition to English-French, the technical terms related to ICID activities made available by respective NCs in three more languages i.e., Chinese, Japanese and Russian were also included. ICID invites its stakeholders and all professionals to provide state-of-the-art terms along with their meanings to further enrich the multi-lingual technical dictionary and support the community in their endeavours.

Cross-border collaboration for transboundary schemes, challenging sites and climate resilience, as well as capacity building and training, are topics that always feature high on the agenda.

The World Bank, African Development Bank, and the African Union, have all contributed much to the programme. Uganda is an enthusiastic local partner for AFRICA 2023. International delegates and accompanying persons will meet in beautiful surroundings, for three days of sessions, preceded by workshops and training seminars, and followed by tours to hydro schemes. There will be plenty of additional networking opportunities, and cultural excursions. <https://www.hydropower-dams.com/africa-2023/>

**Galilee International Management Institute, Israel - Achieving Food Security**

#### Using Smart Farming Solutions - Study Visit

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 solutions.

[https://www.galilcol.ac.il/Courses/8674/Achieving\\_Food\\_Security\\_Using\\_Smart\\_Farming\\_Solutions\\_-\\_Study\\_Visit](https://www.galilcol.ac.il/Courses/8674/Achieving_Food_Security_Using_Smart_Farming_Solutions_-_Study_Visit)

