



# News Update

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

Established 1950

June 2009

*From Secretary General's Desk...*

Dear Friends,

The 23<sup>rd</sup> European Regional Conference held last month was successful in bringing out the need for regional cooperation in tackling issues connected with effective river basin management. Congratulations are due to VP Peter Kovalenko and his Ukrainian National Committee for hosting the event impressively in the historic central European city Lviv, with a rich cultural heritage. Ukraine shares about 10% of irrigated agriculture in Europe; the drained area of 3.3 million ha. represents about 7% of European total. Remarkable examples of water productivity have been achieved in Ukraine as brought out in some of the papers in the sessions. The participants were conducted through the agrarian universities that are devoted for over 100 years to research in irrigated (and drained land) agriculture. The Congress, in conclusion, came out with a declaration that recommended new measures to promote an inter-state cooperation for flood management and resources management of the basins, taking advantage of scientific innovation and new tools. Several interesting contributions highlighted automatic water distribution, improved micro irrigation technologies and advanced techniques in the management of irrigation systems. The young professionals' enthusiasm in joining ICID events came to surface and their active participation during Lviv sessions, was remarkable. Our thanks are due to Prof. Joachim Quast for his effective coordination and chalking out future strategies for capacity building in young professionals by proposing future 'multi-country initiatives' involving Germany. Our thanks are due also to VP Eiko Lübke for his active role as the Chairman of the ERWG in organizing the 23<sup>rd</sup> Conference in association with VP Peter Kovalenko. Soon we may anticipate the final version of the Lviv Declaration from them, which will be published in the NU.

ICID turns 60 on 24 June this year. This year's function has therefore a special significance. The Central Office will be organizing a simple function to be presided over by the Water Resources Secretary of the Union of India and will include a brainstorming session. FAO India's representative has agreed to grace the occasion and several senior professionals



and other dignitaries are expected to join us. The ICID day in India will be celebrated associating INCID.

As far as INCID's planning for the 60<sup>th</sup> IEC this year scheduled alongside 5<sup>th</sup> ARC, you will be glad to note that Indian Ministry of Water Resources have constituted three committees involving the highest level of Government functionaries. Already, the call for papers for the Conference has received an impressive response (about 200 paper abstracts are being reviewed by the appointed INCID committees); the last date for submission of abstracts is till the end of June allowing some of you, if interested, to rush your abstracts.

India is one of the many developing countries which has embarked a sizeable program of modernization of the large scale irrigation systems focussing on all affecting attributes. Investment for revamping a good number of surface systems is being contemplated. The modernization of schemes contemplates not only remedial measures to upgrade systems to perform efficiently in a hydraulic sense (as envisaged in the planning stage where there are deficiencies) but also adapting to technological innovations, both hard and soft. The Asian Regional Conference with its theme focused on improving efficiency of existing schemes is timely.

May I urge you to block your dates for 60<sup>th</sup> IEC and 5<sup>th</sup> ARC in December 2009? Delhi has an acceptably cool normal weather during December and it would be a rewarding experience to go round and visit several attractions like the Taj Mahal in Agra. Or hop over to see Himalayas in the up-country.

With Best Regards,

M. Gopalakrishnan  
Secretary General

## News from ICID National Committees

### China (CNCID)

Mr. Gao Lihui (China) has assumed the Office of the Executive Secretary, Chinese National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (CNCID). The contact co-ordinates are as below.

Mr. Gao Lihui, Executive Secretary  
Chinese National Committee on  
Irrigation and Drainage (CNCID)  
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ICID extends a warm welcome to Mr. Gao Lihui. It also extends its gratefulness to Mrs. Jianxin Mu, who was the previous Executive Secretary of CNCID. Mrs. Mu is currently pursuing her doctoral studies in Australia. [Source : JNC-ICID]

### Morocco (ANAFIDE)

As a part of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, the Moroccan National Committee of ICID (ANAFIDE) will organize from 9 to 11 November 2009 in Marrakech, the 12<sup>th</sup> Inter Regional Conference on 'Enviour Water'. This event is under the patronage of the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Secretary of State for Water and Environment.

This Conference is organized in collaboration with the International Commission of Agricultural Engineering with the participation of the International Institute of Water and Environment of Ouagadougou.

Given the importance of the topics, ANAFIDE invites contributions from

various National Committees bringing out their experience and participation.

More information on the conference can be found at the conference website <[www.12thenvirowaterconference.com](http://www.12thenvirowaterconference.com)> Contact : Pr. El Houssine Bartali, Anafide Vice President (E-mail: [anafid@menara.ma](mailto:anafid@menara.ma)) [Source : ANAFIDE]

### Pakistan (PANCID)

Water Management Research Centre (WMRC), a strategic research and training Centre established at University of Agriculture, Faisalabad celebrated the World Water Day 2009 on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2009. At this occasion Syed Sumsan Ali Shah Bukhari, Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, Government of Pakistan, Islamabad was Chief Guest.

In his welcome address, Prof. Dr. Iqar Ahmad Khan, Vice Chancellor, told the gathering that human civilization and rapid urbanization affect the environment as well as quality. Commissioner for Indus Water, Syed Jamait Ali Shah, highlighted the different aspects of Indus Water Treaty 1960. He told the audience that commissions of both countries i.e. India and Pakistan, paid 110 special tours in each country and managed 102 meetings to settle the mutual water issues under Indus Water Treaty.

Minister of State for Information & Broadcasting, Syed Sumsan Ali Shah Bukhari said in his concluding address that the upper riparian should keep in mind the necessities of lower riparian and added that every individual should remain careful in using the water not only for irrigation but also in domestic use. [Source : PANCID]

### Spain (CERYD)

The 27<sup>th</sup> National Congress on Irrigation, which is being jointly organized by the ICID Spanish National Committee (CERYD) and the Spanish Association on Irrigation and Drainage (AERYD), will be held during 16-18 June, 2009 at Murcia, Spain. The other supporters of the Congress are Department of Agriculture and Water of the Autonomous Region of Murcia, the Minister of Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs (Central Government) and other public

and private institutions of national and regional importance.

The main Theme of the Congress is "Irrigation : development driving force and source of food". Some 80 papers have been accepted for the Congress dealing with topics related with irrigation such as crop water requirements, irrigation engineering, water quality and reuse of treated waste water for irrigation, drainage and soils conditions, crop response to deficit irrigation etc.

A Round Table will be organized alongside for the manufacturers and distributors to enable them to showcase their latest irrigation materials, equipments and management softwares. A Technical Tour to the main factory of world famous Irrigation System Azud, the Irrigators Community of Campo de Cartagena, and an important Experimental Farm of Murcia Region (Autonomous Government) and other installations will be facilitated for the Congress participants.

Please contact Dr. José Antonio Ortiz Fdz.-Urrutia, Executive Secretary, CERYD (E-mail: [aeryd@serina.es](mailto:aeryd@serina.es)) for more information.

### Dr. S. Nairizi's visit to ICID Central Office

Dr. S. Nairizi (Iran), Vice President Hon. ICID visited ICID Central Office on 28 and 29 May 2009 and held meetings. A comprehensive presentation on Central Office management and a review of the financial status of ICID was PFC Chair's mission. Issues concerning WG-DROUGHT and 21<sup>st</sup> Congress Tehran (2011) were also discussed.

Dr. Nairizi suggested followup actions on recommendations of PFC report (2007).



He suggested that ICID should explore providing a platform for private companies to play direct roles. ICID publications through workbodies should also be encouraged.

VPH Dr. Nairizi also interacted with Chairman, Indian National Committee of ICID (INCID). He delivered a talk on 'Water Resources Management in Critical Arid Basins of Iran' in Central Water Commission, New Delhi. The presentation was attended by a large number of senior officers of the Central Water Commission, Central Board of Irrigation and Power, Ministry of Water Resources and ICID.

### ICID Contributions to 5<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum

*(A brief on ICID contributions to 5<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum was published in April and May 2009 issue of News Update. The one below, is the third in the series with more to follow).*

#### Session 2.3.2: How can food market measures boost rural development and poverty alleviation?

##### Key Issues

- How can poor farmers benefit from market opportunities and how to improve the marketing chain?
- How can local markets be strengthened through for instance capacity building and farmer empowerment (including micro-financing) consistent with trade?
- How can new agricultural market opportunities help in financing improved water productivity and services?
- What is the optimal mix between short-term and long-term strategies to address vulnerability of small-holder farmers to market volatility, climate variability?

##### Recommendations

- Context-specific solutions are needed for different challenges and crises including land and water governance and tenure security arrangements especially considering rural migration and in fragile states;
- Short-term action plans to reduce smallholder vulnerability need to be linked to their involvement in long-

term structural rural poverty alleviation reforms;

- Food price volatility especially for poor small-holder net buyers of food would have to address climate change proofing of agricultural water related goods and services, for example, drought and flood resistant crops and livestock, innovative rural finance insurances, dual purpose roads transport and travel, multiple use and spate irrigation, local level storage facilities, field to fork reduction of losses, weather and price information and knowledge;
- Water alone can not help to produce the required output to eradicate poverty: proper market arrangement that suits poor rural farmers, agricultural inputs, credit, post-harvesting technologies have to be considered as integral assets of the production systems;
- Subsistence food production and business oriented approaches are necessary and need to be employed simultaneously so as to ensure that farmers meet their basic food demands while at the same time have the opportunity to escape the poverty trap;
- Market opportunities for smallholder farmers need to include all livelihood assets and be two-way including field-to-fork consumer relations for enhanced sustainability;
- Development of local market is key to move farmers from survival mode to market oriented farming. Expand local market infrastructure, improve market chain, recognizing farmers as entrepreneurs;
- Small-holder poverty eradication initiatives must be demand driven, multipurpose and profitable;
- Rainfed agriculture remains key livelihood option for most smallholder farmers: its potentials merit to be further capitalized;
- In capacity building and technology development, dual approach: bottom-up and top-down would have to be employed, with emphasis on bottom up to reach poor farmers;
- Knowledge and capacity development in water management and impacts of climate change is needed for all, at all

levels, for both men and women to be empowered;

- Cost is not the only criteria in choice of required water control and market infrastructure development interventions; they have to be done in a rural development context and local socio-cultural values would have to be respected.

#### Commitments

- Involve small-holder farmers in all business oriented livelihood improvement decision making in the capacity of entrepreneurs;
- Allocate budget as part of the global, regional and national development investment package for market development (price, information, infrastructure);
- Provide targeted subsidies and adapted financial packages, including crop insurances;
- Put in place proper auditing mechanism for all financial investments as well for trade-off among the uses of water by the agricultural, environment, industrial and domestic sectors;
- Secure equal access for small and large scale farmers to markets and information on prices;
- Provide complementary physical infrastructure and allow local ownership to ensure sustainability;
- Prevent land degradation and restore fertility; secure access to land and water;
- Invest in human capital: access to knowledge, training, gender considerations
- Ensure enabling governance and policies;

#### Initiatives

- Recognise small-holder farmers, poor and emerging, women and men, old and young as rural entrepreneurs and as such as part of the solution, not source of the crises;
- Organize small-holder farmers into socially cohesive bodies to operate as one big entrepreneur;
- Respect small-holder farmers (80% are women) as crucial for food production in many parts of the world;

- Couple informed decision-making by small-holders, especially in times of crises, to inclusive empowerment and institution strengthening;
- Develop cheap alternative farming, smaller multiple-use infrastructure, and processing and energy technologies; use success stories for up-scaling;
- Improve crop varieties not only based on dollar per drop or tonnage per drop but also kcal, proteins and taste and cooking times;
- Promote organic agriculture and carbon credit schemes as possible alternatives to reduce migration, enhance labour availability, improve livelihood in both rural and urban areas as well as protect watershed and the environment;
- There is no such thing as migration induced idle lands; identify return schemes that could offer alleviation;
- Rural sanitation and safe water re-use to be coupled to agriculture and water investments agendas for better bankability and allowing for the recycling of nutrients under food safe conditions.

### 'Understanding Desertification and Land Degradation Trends'

The Committee on Science and Technology (CST) of the UNCCD has called for a Scientific Conference on "Understanding Desertification and Land Degradation Trends" to be held during 22-24 September 2009 at Buenos Aires, Argentina. A brief on UNCCD-CST First Scientific Conference has been already circulated to all National Committees.

In preparation for the above conference, UNCCD has requested a review of the first draft of scientific analysis papers contributing to the world's fight against desertification and land degradation. To begin the review, please access website <[www.drylandscience.org](http://www.drylandscience.org)> and click 'Online Consultation'. One can download and read the papers in PDF format. [Source : UNCCD]

We encourage you to provide a feedback to the ICID Central Office in New Delhi, in case of your online participation to offer comments.

## ANAFIDE's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary : A brief

The Moroccan National Committee of ICID (ANAFIDE) held an official ceremony on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2009 to celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary by organizing a special session on "the Future of Irrigation". The ceremony was held at the conference Room of IAVG Hassan II Engineering School in Rabat, Morocco.

President Chandra Madramootoo graced the function and delivered a talk. The other dignitaries present were Mr. Abdallah Bekkali, President of ANAFIDE, Mr. Moha Marghi, General Secretary of Agriculture Department, Dr. Fouad Guessouss, IAV Hassan II Director, Dr. W. Bastiaanssen, Waterwatch Director,

Netherlands, Mr. Aboubakr Seddik Gueddari, Director of Agricultural Engineering Administration and Dr. Mohamed Ait Kadi, ANAFIDE Vice-President.

Mr Abdallah BEKKALI, ANAFIDE President, touched upon increasing pressure on water resources, transfer of irrigation water to other uses, water quality and ecosystems needs.

Mr Moha Marghi, General Secretary of Agriculture and fisheries Ministry, highlighted that Morocco has made real progress in the field of irrigation development and promotion of rural infrastructure. He also reminded the privileged place occupied by water in the "Green Morocco Plan" that the country has just initiated to modernize its agriculture.

In his presentation, Dr. Madramootoo focused on the fact that several countries make use of new irrigation technologies in order to increase agricultural production and improve crop yields. Dr. W. Bastiaanssen, examined technological progress and management of irrigation. Mr. Gueddari, pointed out that according to recent estimations, climate change would cause an additional reduction from 10 to 15% of the surface water in Morocco in the coming years. He explained that during the period 1970-2000, rain deficit reached 35% compared to the period 1945-1970. Morocco went over the past twenty years through a significant decrease in its surface waters. Irrigated agriculture is the most affected sector by the scarcity.

Explaining the "Green Morocco plan", an outline of the main aspects of the Kingdom's new policy in the development and modernization of irrigation was provided. The four pillars of this new policy are: water irrigation saving and valorisation (land spreading), large irrigation institutional reforms, program of elimination of the gap between dams and hydro-agricultural planning, as well as valorisation of small and medium hydraulics. [Source : ANAFIDE]

## World Water Week 16-22 August 2009

**2009 World Water Week in Stockholm is now open for registration!**

The theme for 2009 is: "Responding to Global Changes – Accessing Water for the Common Good" with a special focus on Transboundary Waters. To view the programme and to register, please visit <[www.worldwaterweek.org](http://www.worldwaterweek.org)>

## ICID WatSave Awards 2009

Nominations are invited for the 'WatSave Awards 2009' from individuals/ team through National Committees/ Committee. Awards are given in three categories viz. (i) Technology, (ii) Innovative Water Management, and (iii) Young Professionals. Each award carries prize money of US\$ 2000 and a Citation. The ICID WatSave Awards for the year 2009 are sponsored by Indian National Committee (INCID) and will be presented at the 60<sup>th</sup> meeting of the IEC.

The deadline for receipt of the entries from the National Committees to the Central Office ICID, New Delhi is **31 August 2009**. The entries should be submitted electronically to respective National Committees well in advance of the deadline. The nominations sent directly to the Central Office, ICID will not be entertained. Please visit <[www.icid.org/awards.html](http://www.icid.org/awards.html)> for further details.

## Events

**Summer School on "Sustainable Use of Water in Agriculture"** during 5-9 October 2009 at Isola di San Servolo – Venice International University, Venezia, Italy Deadline for applications : 30 April 2009. Contact: R. Andreas Kraemer, Director, Ecologic Institute, E-mail: [rak-news@ecologic.de](mailto:rak-news@ecologic.de); Website: <http://eswg.watercivilizations.org>

**"HYDRO 2009 International Conference and Exhibition"** during 26-28 October 2009, Lyon, France; Contact: Mrs. Margaret Bourke, Conference Project Manager, UK; E-mail: [mb@hydropower-dams.com](mailto:mb@hydropower-dams.com)

## New Additions to ICID's TDS Database (May 2009)

The additions during the months to the TDS Database are:

### Article Section – 64 additions (Articles / Papers)

- (i) Water Policy, 2008, Vol. 10, No. 3 (7 articles); Vol. 10, No. 4 (6 articles); Vol. 10, No. 5 (7 articles); Vol. 10, No. 6 (6 articles); and 2009, Vol. 11, No. 1 (8 articles)
- (ii) Indian Journal of Power and River Valley Development, March-April 2009, Vol. 59, Nos. 3 & 4 (3 articles)
- (iii) World Water and Environmental Engineering, January/February 2009, Vol. 32, No. 1 (5 articles)
- (iv) Paddy and Water Environment, March 2009, Vol. 7, No. 1 (8 articles)
- (v) Hydropower & Dams, 2009, Vol. 16, No. 3 (14 articles)

**Book Section – 19 additions;** till date 31308 additions have been made to TDS database. The Text Delivery Service (TDS) has received fifteen requests during the period from India, Taiwan and Japan.

The Text Delivery Service (TDS) database can be accessed by visiting ICID website: [www.icid.org](http://www.icid.org).

## INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

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