

**AGENDA FOR THE FIRST MEETING OF THE
WORKING GROUP ON ROLE OF IRRIGATION IN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND
LIVELIHOODS (WG-POVERTY)
New Delhi, India
06 December 2009: 09.30-13.15 hours**

Year of Establishment: 2008

Preamble: The idea of establishing the ICID Task Force on the “Role of Irrigation in Poverty Alleviation and Livelihoods” (TF-POVERTY) was emanated during the International Workshop on the “Role of Irrigation in Poverty Alleviation and Livelihoods” held on the sidelines of the 58th IEC meeting at Sacramento, USA in October 2007. The purpose of the TF was to prepare an ICID position towards participating in the consortium preparing WWF5’s topic on “Water and agriculture for ending poverty and hunger”. The duration of the TF was for two years and was to be concluded its activities at the 60th IEC by drawing lessons from the process of knowledge sharing and from WWF5 itself.

At the 1st meeting of the TF held at Lahore in October 2008, the TF mooted a proposal for conversion of the Task Force into a regular Workbody (in view of the ICID’s key role to contribute to the poverty alleviation and improvement of livelihoods in developing countries) which was supported by PCTA and approved by the 59th IEC. Accordingly, a notification informing conversion of the Task Force (TF-POVERTY) into Working Group (WG-POVERTY) was circulated by the Central Office ICID among members and all National Committees. National Committees were also informed that the maiden meeting of the Working Group will be held at the time of 60th IEC meeting at New Delhi.

Item 1 : Membership of the Working Group

The membership and permanent observers/ network members of the erstwhile TF-POVERTY were as follows:

Members: (1) Vice President Hon. Alain Vidal Chairman (France, 2007); (2) Dr. Dennis Wichelns (USA, 2008); (3) President Hon. Peter S. Lee (UK, 2008); (4) Mr. Audrey Nepveu (France, 2008); (5) Prof. Linden Vincent (The Netherlands, 2008); and (6) Secretary General, ICID.

Permanent Observers/ Net Work Members: (i) Dr. Wouter Linklaen Arriens (ASDB); (ii) Dr. Ian Makin (ASDB); (iii) VPH Henri Tardieu (AFEID); (iv) Mr. Christelle Pezon (Agro-Paris Tech); (v) Mr. Simon Cook (CPWF-BFP); (vi) Mr. Annette Huber-Lee (CPWF); (vii) Ms Nancy Johnson (CPWF); (viii) Mr. Jonatan Woolley (CPWF); (ix) Mr. Jean-Marc Faures (FAO); (x) Mr. Rudolph Cleveringa (IFAD); (xi) Mr. Intizar Hussain (INPIM); (xii) Mr. Paul Polak (IDE); (xiii) Mr. Bob Yoder (IDE); (xiv) Mr. Monqieu Mikhail (IDE); (xv) Prof. Barbara van Koppen (IWMI); (xvi) Dr. Andrew Keller (Keller-Bliesner Engineering); (xvii) Mr. Steve Vosti (UC David); (xviii) Dr. Salah Darghouth (World Bank); (xix) Dr. Julienne Roux (World Bank); and (xx) Mr. Mary Renwick (Winrock).

VPH Dr. Alain Vidal has informed the Central Office that he has taken over as the Project Director of the CGIAR Challenge Program on Water and Food (CPWF) located in Sri Lanka and will no longer be able to represent AFEID (France) but will try to (i) achieve on-going tasks, especially with WG-POVERTY and (ii) link with the ICID community and events as an permanent observer.

Following the decision of the 59th IEC, the Central Office (in March 2009) circulated a notification informing conversion of the Task Force (TF-POVERTY) into Working Group (WG-POVERTY) among all National Committees.

The Central Office had requested the National Committees of France, Netherlands, South Africa, UK, USA who had their members on the erstwhile TF, to confirm the continuation of their membership on the new Working Group. In response, the National Committees of The Netherlands (NETHCID) and USA (USCID) have confirmed the nominations of Prof. Linden Vincent, and Dr. Dennis Wichelns, respectively.

The Central Office had also invited new nominations for the WG- POVERTY from other National Committees. In response, following nominations have been received:

- Mr. Enayat Farahani Iran (IRNCID)
- Dr. Yohei Sato Japan (JNC-ICID)
- Mr. Hassan Javaid Afridi Pakistan (PANCID)

CVs of the above nominees will be tabled for consideration at the meeting.

Item 2 : Objectives and tenure of the Working Group

The main purpose of the erstwhile TF-POVERTY was to prepare an ICID position paper by participating in the consortium preparing WWF5's Topic 2.3 on "Water and Food for Ending Poverty and Hunger". The duration of the TF was for two years. It was to conclude its activities at the 60th IEC by drawing lessons from the process of knowledge sharing and from WWF5 itself.

The specific objectives of the TF were:

- Synthesize specific knowledge and experience from the irrigation sector, to design pro-poor actions in a wider understanding of irrigation, i.e. supplementary irrigation to full irrigation along the whole rainfed-irrigated continuum (aka agriculture water management),
- Look for technical solutions that work within a clearly defined socio-economic context, so that it can be mobilized on a case specific approach, and
- Emphasize multiple-use irrigation systems (MUS) as a specific approach to alleviate poverty in the context.

At the Lahore meeting of the TF, a representative of PANCID suggested adding the issue of geo-hydrologic context besides the socio-economic in the second objective to make it more comprehensive. The suggestion was accepted in principle.

The Group may like to (re)formulate its objectives/ mandate keeping in view the objectives of the erstwhile TF and suggestions received from the members at the meeting.

Item 3 : Selection/ nomination of Chair/ Vice Chairpersons and Secretary of the WG

The Central Office had requested VPH Alain Vidal to handle the first meeting of WG-POVERTY at New Delhi but the indications are that he may be unavailable on the day of the meeting and will join later.

The WG will therefore elect or nominate the Chairman/ Vice Chairman/ Secretary at the meeting.

Item 4 : Work plan of the Group

The Group will evolve a work plan considering the new mandate, emerging issues and also in the light of the erstwhile TF-POVERTY's achievements collaborating international agencies working on poverty alleviation and livelihood issues.

Item 5 : Webpage of the group

Dr. Alain Vidal, Chair of the erstwhile TF had established a webpage <http://afeid.montpellier.cemagref.fr/poverty/TF-POVERTY.htm>. The webpage is hosted by CEMAGREF and a lot of valuable information, bibliography, and links were posted.

The Group may like to develop its webpage by using the knowledge base of the TF.

Item 6 : Any other business
