



# News Update

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

Established 1950

ICID Diamond Jubilee Year (1950 - 2009)

July 2009

*From Secretary General's Desk...*



Dear Friends,

I have great pleasure to inform you that on the eve of ICID turning 60 on the 24<sup>th</sup> June this year, the Central Office had simple commemorative celebrations presided by Dr. Gavin Wall of Delhi FAO office. The President was gracious in sending a special message for the occasion (seen in the adjoining column which was read out. Gavin's talk highlighted the linkage of water scarcity with poverty and the role of irrigated agriculture in countering the impacts arising out of climate change and the new stresses induced due to economic downturn. He quoted FAO Director General's statement on 1.02 billion people going hungry every day, a historic high in 2009. He was delighted to observe that ICID is 60 and its role in helping the food security as an independent global NGO was substantial. We had earlier highlighted the significant achievements of ICID globally during the last few decades; inter-alia the FAO - ICID cooperation in bringing out publications, and their working together during the World Water Forum 5 was highlighted to the audience. May I urge similar celebration of ICID foundation day during this year of diamond jubilee by every national committee in a suitable form that they consider appropriate?



Let me move on to an important announcement about the forthcoming events of the year. The Nigerian National Committee has informed that despite their best efforts and initial progress in the preparations to organize the 3<sup>rd</sup> African Regional Conference that was scheduled in October this year in Abuja, Nigeria, due to circumstances beyond their control they are obliged to call off the same. We do appreciate the difficulties of NINCID and consider ourselves not fortunate to be with NINCID in Abuja this time. The Nigerian National Committee has always been one of our active NCs in the region. We value their significant roles in our workbodies and IEC; we wish NINCID all the best and look forward to an African Regional Conference in their country when conditions are favourable for them to host. May I request you to kindly take note of the cancellation of the event? Kindly inform all concerned in your National Committee/Committee about this cancellation as some might have made plans or sent responses on the theme paper.

INCID Chairman Bajaj has sent round an update on India's preparedness for hosting the 60<sup>th</sup> IEC and 5<sup>th</sup> ARC in December this year. He has informed us by a circular that the Asian Regional Conference will be inaugurated by the distinguished Indian Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh. Besides, he has appraised that there has been an overwhelming response on the conference theme with nearly 200 papers already received. Please visit the conference website: [www.incid2009delhi.org](http://www.incid2009delhi.org) for online registration facility.

We look forward to your joining us in Delhi in December this year for fruitful deliberations.

Best regards,

M. Gopalakrishnan  
Secretary General

## ICID 60<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day Presidential Message

It gives me extreme pleasure to say a few words on this auspicious occasion of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of ICID.

As President of this esteemed organization, I am continually impressed and amazed by the strength, resilience, fortitude, and creativity of the ICID family over the past 60 years. ICID is an international institution which depends entirely on the support of its 107 member countries and the voluntary efforts of the experts in the national committees.



The global reach and impact of the institution is particularly commendable given its humble beginnings with 11 member countries in 1950. Few institutions can claim to have attained such a high level of maturity and international recognition. We owe this remarkable achievement to the vision, dynamism and generosity of our founding fathers, who created the organization with head office in New Delhi, and to the thousands of dedicated volunteers and experts, Central Office staff, Secretaries General, and office bearers who have blazed a trail of excellence and innovation over the past six decades.

The ability of ICID to meet the evolving technical, scientific and engineering challenges over the decades should never be underestimated. From the early work in design and construction of irrigation and drainage projects, to development of standards of practice, to improvement of system efficiency, to rehabilitation and modernization of the vast irrigation and drainage infrastructure, ICID has led the way. It has informed governments, multilateral and regional development agencies, and practitioners of best policies and practices. When the emphasis shifted to environment, people, farmers, institutions, poverty, finance, and climate change, ICID showed that was fully capable of adapting to these emerging and prevailing challenges. However, ICID is not only concerned with the present, but it has the vision to look ahead, and to start to grapple with the issues of food security, markets, trade, biofuels and energy. These matters will change our way of thinking and doing business, and I am proud to say that ICID has already shown that it is geared up to deal with this new agenda.

I wish all in the ICID family, the national committees, and Central Office staff my heartiest congratulations on this Diamond Jubilee anniversary. Last but not least, I express my deepest gratitude to the Government of India for graciously hosting the Central Office and for its pivotal support of ICID since the founding in 1950.

May ICID continue to grow from strength to strength, and have even more glorious future.

Chandra A. Madramootoo  
President

## Central Office celebrates 60<sup>th</sup> ICID Foundation Day

The ICID Central Office in New Delhi, India celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day on 24 June 2009 by organizing a keynote in a simple function. At the onset Secretary K.N.



Sharma welcomed the guests by presenting the bouquets to dignitaries on the dias. He then read the inspiring 'Presidential Message' from President Madramootoo (Canada) which was well received by the fifty odd attendees. Secretary General Gopalakrishnan then made a powerpoint presentation on '60 years of ICID', taking the audience back into history of ICID. It was revealing to note the various benchmarks as ICID evolved over the years.

ICID Chairman A.K. Bajaj expressed his happiness to be able to be a part of foundation day celebrations and honour ICID by hosting the 60<sup>th</sup> International Executive Council meetings together with 5<sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Conference during 6-11 December 2009 at New Delhi, India.

Mr. Bajaj informed of INCID contributions to ICID and invited all to join the main event of 'Diamond Jubilee' celebrations during 60<sup>th</sup> IEC in December 2009.

Mr. V.B. Patel, Former Chairman, Central Water Commission (CWC) delivered the guest talk on 'Role of PIM in Food Security'. After deliberating on various PIM related issues, he offered PIM as a 'Favoured Option' for food security as it increases crop yields while saving water.

Dr. Gavin Lindsay Wall, FAO Representative to India and Bhutan delivered the Keynote speech by looking at the impact of water scarcity on the poor and then moved on to discuss the experiences and views of FAO on Irrigation Water Management.

The simple function ended by thanks giving by Dr. S.A. Kulkarni, Executive Secretary, ICID

draws on leading experts from around the world and is focused on questions related to the effect the economic crisis has had on food supplies and prices and what can be done to alleviate nutrition problems that are particularly acute in the developing world, although not uncommon in the developed world.

"We know the economic downturn has punished the developing world in particular," said Chandra Madramootoo, President, ICID and Dean of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at McGill University's Macdonald Campus in Ste. Anne de Bellevue, and the driving force behind the conference. "While we in the West have seen some decreases in commodity prices, that hasn't resulted in lower food prices in other parts of the world. On top of that, there have been far-reaching effects on nutrition as people have lost jobs or had income reduced and can no longer afford a balanced diet."

"A dangerous mix of the global economic slowdown combined with stubbornly high food prices in many countries has pushed some 100 million more people than last year into chronic hunger and poverty," FAO Director-General Jacques Diouf said in announcing the organization's report. "The silent hunger crisis – affecting one-sixth of all of humanity – poses a serious risk for world peace and security. We urgently need to forge a broad consensus on the total and rapid eradication of hunger in the world and to take the necessary actions."

Topics on the preliminary conference program include: food security in a challenging economic environment, the effects of the global recession, access to farm credit, the investments needed for agricultural development and the response of international agencies to challenges of food security. As well, conference participants will examine the effects of climate change, markets and trade, and biofuels.

The conference, which is open to the public, takes place during 5-7 October 2009, at McGill's New Residence Hall, 3625 Avenue du Parc, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. For more information on the conference, please visit: <http://www.mcgill.ca/globalfoodsecurity/>

Contact: Douglas Sweet, Director, Media Relations, McGill University (E-mail : [Douglas.sweet@mcgill.ca](mailto:Douglas.sweet@mcgill.ca)).

## News from ICID National Committee

### Israel (ISCID)

Mr. Kiriati (Israel) is the new representative of Israeli National Committee of ICID (ISCID), replacing the former representative Ms. Ronit Golovaty. The new contact co-ordinates are as below:

Mr. Kiriati  
Israeli National Committee, ICID (ISCID), Executive Agrotechnology, The Israel Export & International Cooperation Institute, 29 Hamered Street, Tel-Aviv 68125, Israel

Tel : +972 03 5142907  
Fax : +972 03 5142985  
E-mail : [kiriati@export.gov.il](mailto:kiriati@export.gov.il)

ICID extends a warm welcome to Mr. Kiriati. It also extends its gratitudes to Ms. Golovaty, who was closely associated with activities of ICID. [Source : ISCID]

## Visitor to ICID Central Office

On 3 July 2009, Mr. Waseem Nazir (Pakistan) visited the ICID Central Office, New Delhi and held discussions. Mr. Nazir represents Mott MacDonald in Pakistan



and is a member of Asian Regional Work Group (ASRWG). The M M Pakistan was one of the sponsors of the ICID's 20<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage in Lahore, Pakistan in October 2008.

## McGill conference examines impact of economic crisis on the hungry

The second annual McGill Conference on Global Food Security to be held during 5-7 October 2009 at Montreal, Canada

## *WG-SDTA Workshop on* **“Monitoring Systems for Sustainable Development of Tidal Areas”** 8 December 2009, New Delhi, India

This International Workshop is being organized by ICID's Working Group on Sustainable Development of Tidal Areas (WG-SDTA) during its 60<sup>th</sup> International Executive Council Meeting and 5<sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Conference from 6-11 December 2009 at New Delhi, India.

Under the theme “Monitoring Systems for Sustainable Development of Tidal Areas”, the ICID Working Group will focus on valuable information for the plan, design and management of natural resources and environmental factors in Tidal areas. More scientific results from monitoring systems are required to calibrate the accuracy and adoptability of the tools vis-à-vis more advanced technology. The reliable results from scientifically monitored systems will help derive mutual understanding among various stakeholders for wise use and conservation of Tidal

areas. For the efficient management of Monitoring systems in tidal areas, integrated cooperation network will have to be established among related organizations. In view of the tidal water level fluctuations with increase in water temperature, national and international partnerships would be required strongly in the era of global warming. In this way, the Workshop has been designed to share valuable experiences/ technologies from the participating countries.

The authors are requested to contribute on following four sub-topics :

- Monitoring system of Tide, Wave and sedimentation characteristics
- Monitoring of Water temperature and water level rise in tidal areas.
- Monitoring of Ecological system and water quality in tidal wetland

- Water management and Agricultural Productivity in tidal areas

**Deadlines:** Submission of Abstracts (500-600 words) by **01 October 2009**; Intimation of acceptance of abstracts by **15 October 2009**; Receipt of full text of accepted papers by **01 November 2009**.

The authors must follow the prescribed guidelines while preparing their manuscripts. Please access Conference website at <http://www.incid2009delhi.org/> for registration form and guidelines for authors and more information on other events.

Contact co-ordinates: **Workshop Chair:** Dr. Park Sang Hyun (Rep. of Korea), E-mail: pash3142@empal.com, pshpark@karico.co.kr), **Workshop Co-ordinator:** Prof. Ruey-Chy Kao (Chinese Taipei) E-mail: SDTA-THL@thl.ncku.edu.tw

## *AMRWG Workshop on* **“Food vs Fuel: Implications for water resources and food security”** 7 December 2009, New Delhi, India

This International Workshop is being organized by ICID's American Regional Working Group (AMRWG) during its 60<sup>th</sup> International Executive Council (IEC) Meeting and 5<sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Conference (ARC) from 6-11 December 2009 at New Delhi, India.

Under the theme “Food Vs Fuel : Implications for water resources and food security”, the ICID American Regional Working Group (AMRWG) will focus on valuable information for the Biofuel production. Biofuel production has had a profound impact on agricultural production in recent years. As millions of tons of corn/maize are used to produce biofuel, a key question is frequently asked – What are the implications for water resources and food security?

A common objection to biofuel production is that it diverts agricultural production away from food crops. In a food-insecure

world, this diversion of resources can reduce the total food supply, increase food prices, and cause localized food shortages that limit the ability of poor residents in developing countries to maintain access to food. In some areas, higher food prices might benefit agricultural producers, but the net impacts on residents of developing countries is not yet clear. Given these important issues, we wish to discuss the following topics in this International Workshop:

- (a) Current trends and patterns of biofuel production, by country; (b) The impacts of biofuel crop production on land, water, and the environment; (c) The impacts of biofuel crop production on food prices in rural and urban areas; (d) Opportunities that increased biofuel production might provide for the rural poor; (e) The potential impacts of biofuel production on water demands and food supplies; (f)

Perspectives regarding whether we should discuss ‘food versus fuel’ or ‘food and fuel’ when considering national policies and strategies; (g) Policy options to prevent negative impacts of biofuel crop production on natural resources and the livelihoods of the poor, in both rural and urban areas; (h) Outlook regarding next-generation biofuel crops that require less water and less prime agricultural land

**Deadlines:** Submission of Abstracts (500-600 words) by **1 September 2009**; Receipt of full length papers by **1 October 2009**.

Please access our websites: <http://www.icid.org> and/ or <http://www.incid2009delhi.org/> for more information.

Contact coordinates: **Workshop Chairman:** Dr. Dennis Wichelns (USA), E-mail: dwichelns@csufresno.edu, **Workshop Coordinator:** Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar, (India), E-mail : [icid@icid.org](mailto:icid@icid.org)

### 3<sup>rd</sup> African Regional Conference

The Nigerian National Committee of ICID (NINCID) regrets to inform that

the 3<sup>rd</sup> African Regional Conference (ARC) will not be held during 11-14

October 2009 at Abuja due to unavoidable circumstances.

## World Water Forum 2012

On 19 June 2009, the World Water Council selected Marseille, France as the city and country to host the 2012 World Water Forum. In an effort to benefit from the excellent quality of the two final candidatures, France and South Africa, the Governors of the World Water Council suggested that the countries work hand in hand. As such, when Marseille was selected, it extended an invitation to Durban, South Africa to be a full partner in the years running up to the Forum.

Despite growing attention, water resources continue to dwindle and billions still lack access to proper water supply and sanitation. The Council's Governors reviewed this situation and discussed the strategic directions for the World Water Council. They expressed a clear need to deepen the dialogue on vital issues such as sanitation and the linkages between water, energy and agricultural production. Furthermore, they indicated the need to mobilize further political will, for example to realize the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) or to adapt to climate change and pro-actively prepare for disasters.

For more information please contact Daniella Bostrom, WWC (e-mail: [d.bostrom@worldwatercouncil.org](mailto:d.bostrom@worldwatercouncil.org)). [Source: WWC]

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

The additions during the months to the TDS Database are: **Article Section – 45 additions (Articles / Papers)**

(i) WMO Bulletin, April 2009, Vol. 58, No. 2 (5 articles); (ii) Hydropower & Dams, 2009, Vol. 16, No. 1 (7 articles); and Vol. 16, No. 2 (9 articles); (iii) Journal of Indian Water Resources Society, April 2009, Vol. 29, No. 2 (7 articles); (iv) Lakes & Reservoirs – Research and Management, March 2009, Vol. 14, No. 1 (7 articles); (v) Rural 21 – The International Journal for Rural Development, 2008, Vol. 42, No. 3 (8 articles); (vi) Trans. of the Japanese Society of Irrigation, Drainage and Rural Engineering, October 2008, Vol. 76, No. 5 (2 nos.)

**Book Section – 21 additions;** till date 31308 additions have been made to TDS database. The Text Delivery Service (TDS) has received one request during the period from India.

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



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- Sign up for FREE Wiley InterScience Alerts – receive the table of contents via email as soon as an issue is published online: <http://www.interscience.wiley.com/journal/ird>

Now available on the web site Special Issue on Irrigation Management in North Africa, published in July. Guest editors: Marcel Kuper and Sami Bouarfa. Right click on <http://www.interscience.wiley.com/journal/ird> for direct access to the home page of Irrigation and Drainage at the Wiley site, or at the Abstract or the PDF of the concerned paper for a direct link to respectively the abstract or the full paper.

#### Volume 58 Issue S3 (July 2009)

##### Supplement: Irrigation Management in North Africa – Research Articles

**M. Kuper, S. Bouarfa, M. Errahj, N. Faysse, A. Hammani, T. Hartani, S. Marlet, A. Zairi, A. Bahri, A. Debbbarh, P. Garin, J.-Y. Jamin, B. Vincent**

A crop needs more than a drop: Towards a new praxis in irrigation management in North Africa. Abstract.

**Ali Hammani, Tarik Hartani, Marcel Kuper, Amar Imache**

Paving the way for groundwater management: Transforming information for crafting management rules. Abstract.

**Younes Bekkar, Marcel Kuper, Mostafa Errahj, Nicolas Faysse, Mohamed Gafsi**

On the difficulty of managing an invisible resource: Farmers' strategies and perceptions of groundwater use, field evidence from Morocco. Abstract.

## Take advantage of Irrigation and Drainage Online

**A. Imache, S. Bouarfa, M. Kuper, T. Hartani, M. Dionnet**

Integrating "invisible" farmers in a regional debate on water productivity: The case of informal water and land markets in the Algerian Mitidja plain. Abstract.

**S. Bouarfa, S. Marlet, A. Douaoui, T. Hartani, I. Mekki, W. Ghazouani, I. Ben Aissa, B. Vincent, F. Hassani, M. Kuper**  
Salinity patterns in irrigation systems, a threat to be demystified, a constraint to be managed: Field evidence from Algeria and Tunisia. Abstract.

**W. Ghazouani, S. Marlet, I. Mekki, A. Vidal**  
Farmers' perceptions and engineering approach in the modernization of a community-managed irrigation scheme. A case study from an oasis of the Nefzawa (South of Tunisia). Abstract.

**A. Taky, S. Bouarfa, J.C. Mailhol, A. Hammani, A. Bouaziz, P. Ruelle, A. Debbbarh**  
Irrigation furrow system: A technique to improve drainage and water productivity in the Gharb plain, Morocco. Abstract.

**Ph. Le Grusse, J.C. Mailhol, A. Bouaziz, A. Zairi, M. Raki, M. Chabaca, M. Djebbara, P. Ruelle**

Indicators and framework for analysing the technical and economic performance of irrigation systems at farm level. Abstract.

**P.-Y. Le Gal, M. Kuper, C.-H. Moulin, M. T. Sraïri, A. Rhouma**

Linking water saving and productivity to agro-food supply chains: A synthesis from two North African cases. Abstract.

**Mohamed Taher Sraïri, Marouane Rjafallah, Marcel Kuper, Pierre-Yves Le Gal**

Water productivity through dual purpose (milk and meat) herds in the Tadla irrigation scheme, Morocco. Abstract.

**Zakaria Kadiri, Marcel Kuper, Nicolas Faysse, Mostafa Errahj**

Local transformation of a state-initiated institutional innovation: The example of water users' associations in an irrigation scheme in Morocco. Abstract.

**M. Errahj, M. Kuper, N. Faysse, M. Djebbara**

Finding a way to legality, local coordination modes and public policies in large-scale irrigation schemes in Algeria and Morocco. Abstract.

## INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

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