AGENDA FOR VIRTUAL 26TH MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (ERWG)  
20 October, 2020; 14:30 hours (IST) 

Presented by the Chairman

Year of Establishment: 1995

Mandate: The mission of ERWG is to promote awareness about critical ICID relevant water issues at all levels in Europe and to pay special attention to the environmentally sustainable water management in Europe.

Website: http://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/106

ERWG Agenda Item 1: Action Taken Report by Chair

1. The Chair of the WG will present report on the actions taken on the decisions and proposals of the European Regional Working Group at its 25th meeting held at Bali, Indonesia in 2019.

2. The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted one and all and the irrigation sector is no different. Given the emerging situation of COVID-19, many meetings have been postponed until the situation comes under control. With this difficult situation, members were requested to make full use of web-ex platform for virtual meeting so as to ensure regular contribution from the WG members as well as to discuss and initiate follow-up actions emerging from the minutes of the previous WG meeting and review the progress of the action points. Accordingly, in order to organize the WebEx Meetings, Webinars and e-Discussions, ICID Central Office requested Chairs of the workbodies to initiate the processes.

3. Chairman in consultation with Vice Chair, Secretary of the WG and the Central Office has updated the membership of the WG as given at Annex 1 (refer electronic version for latest list). New nominations, if any, for the membership received will be dealt suitably after the meeting.

ERWG Agenda Item 1.1: Strengthening the membership in Europe

4. At Bali meeting, the WG agreed that concerted efforts are required to demonstrate the value of membership of ICID for the European member countries and NCs in Europe for strengthening the membership in European countries. As a follow-up, ICID CO requested the concerned authorities in the Ministries / Local Heads of ‘Associate Members’ (Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Lithuania, Macedonia, Poland, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Spain and Switzerland) to reactivate their membership in the ICID and ‘New countries’ in Europe to become member of ICID. In response, Ing. Inmaculada Bravo Dominguez informed that the Spanish National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (CERYD) will rejoin as fresh member with effect from 1st January 2021. In this regard, ICID CO shared calculation of annual subscription fee for 2021 based on the irrigated and drained area with Ing. Inmaculada Bravo Dominguez. Further, Vice President Dr. Marco Arcieri and Vice President Hon. Dr. Irena G. Bondark will also provide further updates of their efforts in reactivation of associate members and bringing new members to ICID.

5. With regard to the reactivation of German National Committee of ICID (GECID), H.E. Julia Klochner, Minister of Food and Agriculture in the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Bundesministerin, Germany vide his e-mail dated 24 June 2020 informed ….”The Federal Republic of Germany is follows international activities on improving water and soil management very closely. For some years, the increasing aridity in some areas of Germany as well has become a serious problem for the agricultural and forestry holdings working there. Harvest losses, lower quality and higher costs endanger the profitability of many holdings”. Since the Federal Republic of Germany is involved in large number of international organisations, so it has been informed that they do not consider it necessary to reactivates the membership of GECID in ICID at present. As a follow-up, ICID CO requested Vice President Dr. Marco Arcieri (Italy) to pursue this matter with GECID and/or concerned authorities of Germany for reactivation of membership of German National Committee. VP Dr. Marco will provide further updates at the meeting.

6. Vice President Hon. Prof. Dr. Charlotte de Fraiture (The Netherlands), Chairperson of Netherlands National Committee of ICID (NETHCID) vide her e-mail dated 05 June 2020 informed that NETHCID can no longer count on the institutional support it was receiving from the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure & Water and the Wageningen University who hosted its secretariat. Accordingly, the NETHCID would like for suspension of annual membership subscription fee for the year 2020 by NETHCID. Office bearers of NETHCID also suggested ICID in collaboration

1 This will also include details of membership of WG as Annex
with ERWG to initiate an in-depth discussion on the viability of National Committees in (Western) Europe and suggest ways forward to enhance attractiveness of ICID membership for NCs who are dependent on paying members. In this regard, ICID CO requested PH Bart Schultz (The Netherlands) to take up the matter with NETHCID for reconsideration of their decision. ERWG may like to discuss membership issues of countries from Europe and initiate in-depth study as suggested by NETHCID.

ERWG Agenda Item 2: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 – Status of Activities relevant to European Region

7. At Bali meeting (2019), the WG reviewed the Action Plan of Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 towards the milestones on the three goals, such as (i) B1 - Supporting development of appropriate policies; (ii) C3 - Promoting regional cooperation; and (iii) F1 - Enhancing institutional capacity development in member countries. In line with the mandate of the WG and its plan, the group encouraged its members to organize knowledge sharing events such as workshops, seminars/sessions and conferences.

8. The 70th International Executive Council (IEC), vide Resolution IEC-2/70 has approved the Action Plan 2018-2022, including activities identified by Regional Working Groups (RWGs) and Working Groups (WGs) under PCSO and PCTA, committed to be achieved over a period of five years. In order to develop fresh action plan for 2018-2022, RWG may revisit the Action Plan appended to Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 and review the same during virtual meetings and update it till 2022 (refer Annex 2). The ICID CO created a new column i.e. ‘Milestone for Year 2022’ in the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 of the WG activities for finalizing it during the virtual meeting and provides its input to PCSO. WG will discuss updates on activities undertaken to achieve goals as per roadmap as indicated above and update roadmap milestones till 2022.

ERWG Agenda Item 3: Seminar/Session of the WG related to Agricultural Water Management in Europe

9. During the Bali meeting, the group proposed to organize Baltic State Drainage workshop on agriculture water management in 2020 at Latvia in line with the same workshop held in May 2019 at Lithuania. In this regard, ICID CO requested VPH Irena Bondarik to provide further details, including updated announcement etc. so that it can be shared with NCs/members of the WG. VPH Irena Bondarik will provide further updates at the meeting.

10. The French National Committee of ICID (AFEID), co-organized a two-day Conference on “Water Savings in Irrigation” from 13-14 November 2019 at Montpellier, France. The conference focused on scientific and technical questions linked with the water savings achievable through changes in irrigation system or management. It also covered quantitative water savings in irrigation: attempts and achievements in European countries, results of experimental trials, farmer practices’ monitoring. The conference brought together 250 participants, originating from France and 17 other European countries, including all stakeholders like agricultural profession (agricultural advisers, water users associations, chambers of agriculture), institutions (water agencies, agriculture ministries, European Commission), scientists, private companies (irrigation equipment, sensors, irrigation scheduling tools) and students. The conference was an opportunity to (i) exchange on levers to save water and improve irrigation efficiency, (ii) share feedback on quantitative irrigation water savings achieved in different European member states, (iii) share methodologies used in different countries to assess potential achievable water savings, (iv) encourage exchanges between operational, institutional, political, technical and scientific stakeholders, (v) exhibit some innovating technological solutions to save water in irrigation. The outcome/feedback of the conference is available at http://www.icid-ciid.org/icid_data_web/conf_wsi2019.pdf

11. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization - International Hydrological Programme (UNESCO-IHP), co-organised a two-day conference on “Droughts, Low Flows & Water Scarcity” from 11-13 December 2019 at UNESCO Headquarters (Paris), France. The conference, organised in the framework of IHP (Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme), focused on Mediterranean and West African countries. Fifty-seven papers were presented during the session. More than 170 participants attended the conference. During the plenary session, AFEID presented two papers – (i) Presentation of Costea Project, jointly managed by AFEID and AFD (French International Development Agency), fostering sustainable management of Sahelian water resources for more efficient irrigation, and (ii) Some insights on possible NGO input on water tension monitoring and adaptation strategy identification, based on a ten year cooperation between AFEID and two sister organizations, addressing forthcoming water tensions in Europe and Mediterranean countries. The outcome/feedback of the conference is available at http://www.icid-ciid.org/icid_data_web/conf_dlfws2019.pdf

ERWG Agenda Item 4: Review of policy issues impacting irrigation and drainage sector

12. The review of the policy documents related to water resources impacting irrigation and drainage sector in Europe included in the Action Plan 2030 of the ERWG under Goal B (Activity B2.1: Review of European / NC policy documents related to water resources that impact irrigation and drainage sector). VP Dr. Marco Arcieri (Italy) agreed to look at the history of the framework directive with the support of PH Bart Schultz (Netherlands) and VPH Laszlo Hayde (Hungary). During the ERWG meeting held at Bali, PH Bart Schultz confirmed that he would prepare a
summary of the relevant policy documents in Europe, VPH Laszlo Hayde agreed to coordinate with NC of Hungary NC updating and circulating a questionnaire among members on national legislation and. VP Dr. Marco Arcieri / VPH Dr. Laszlo Hayde / PH Bart Schultz will provide further updates at the meeting.

**ERWG Agenda Item 5: Links with regional and trans-national organizations for co-operation**

13. At Bali meeting, it was noted that WG discussed the need to strengthen linkages among relevant organizations in each member country and also across the European region. In this regard, WG reviewed the list of cooperating organizations, reducing the list to organizations with a reasonable expectation of collaboration in the coming years. ERWG included 7 National Water Management Associations, 5 European professional organizations and 5 European Water Management institutes in the list (Annex 3). WG requested its members/NCs to strengthen linkages and cooperation with these regional and transitional organizations as well as to provide details of the contact person(s). WG will deliberate on actions taken up for interaction and cooperation with these regional and transitional organisations during the meeting.

**ERWG Agenda Item 6: Activities of Focus Groups of ERWG**

14. During the Bali meeting, the WG discussed the activities of ‘Focus Groups’ and decided to have following five Focus groups based on their relevance to Europe: (a) Focus Group on History (WG-HIST) led by VPH Laszlo Hayde; (b) Focus Group on Environment (WG-ENV) led by Mrs. Seija Virtanen; (c) Focus Group on Sustainable Drainage (WG-SDRG) led by Dr. Bernard Vincent & Dr. Irene Bondarik; (d) Focus Group on Water Related Risks led by Prof. Klaus Roettcher & Mr. Olli-Matti Verta and (e) Focus Group on Irrigation and Drainage in the States under Socio-economic Transformation (WG-IDST) led by VPH Peter Kovalenko. Focus Group lead members will apprise the members of the ERWG on the latest updates/developments in respect of their respective Focus Groups at the meeting.

**ERWG Agenda Item 7: Task Force on Legislative Framework on Agricultural Drought Mitigation for European Regional (TF-DMD) – Updates**

15. ERWG established a Task Force on Legislative Framework on Agricultural Drought Mitigation for European Regional (TF-DMD)\(^2\) with a mandate to (i) Improve drought risk management; (ii) Consider additional water-supply infrastructures; and (iii) Promote water-efficient technologies and practices. VP Dr Marco Arcieri (Italy), Member of the ERWG has taken a lead for further activities of the TF. VP Dr. Marco Arcieri has shared the ‘Concept Note’, together with mandate, scope and objectives of this TF (Annex 4). In April 2020, ICID CO requested VP Dr. Marco Arcieri to share the updated information of this activity with ERWG Chair VPH Ian Makin for further discussion in the next of the group. VP Dr. Marco Arcieri / VPH Chair Ian Makin will provide further updates at the WG meeting.

**ERWG Agenda Item 8: Any other business**

16. The Irrigation and Water Forum British National Committee of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (IWF/ICID.UK) organized two technical meetings titled “Irrigation: Making it Work for the Poor” on 22 February 2019 where PH Peter Lee (UK), member of the WG made a presentation on ‘Key and Smart Actions to Alleviate Hunger and Poverty Through Irrigation and Drainage’. (refer https://waterforum.files.wordpress.com/2019/04/irrigation-making-it-work-for-the-poor.pdf for more details) and second meeting titled “Increasing water security – How do we do it?” was also held on 8 November 2019 (refer https://waterforum.files.wordpress.com/2020/05/iwf-meeting-8nov19-summary.pdf for more details). The above information has been uploaded on the ERWG website for dissemination.

17. In addition, the Annual Gerald Lacey Memorial Lecture held on 14 May 2019 titled ‘Climate change and water security in Africa’. The Lecture was given by Professor Declan Conway from the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment at the London School of Economics (LSE); the lecture linked to the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals 6 and 13, and covered key aspects of water resources distribution and variability across sub-Saharan Africa, linkages between spatial patterns of rainfall variability and the river basin areas that provide run-off used to generate hydropower, the effects of service disruption on businesses and critical linkages between climate events and economic activities in urban areas, and what continued climate change might mean for achieving water security. The information of Annual Gerald Lacey Memorial Lecture 2019 is available at https://www.ice.org.uk/eventarchive/2019-gerald-lacey-lecture-climate-change-london.

Notes for Chairperson:

1. Draft minutes of this meeting to be submitted to ICID Secretariat after the meeting.

\(^2\) TF-DMD was established vide Resolution IEC-2/69 during the 69th IEC meeting held in August 2018 at Saskatoon, Canada.
## MEMBERSHIP OF EUROPEAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (ERWG)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Countries (Year of joining)</th>
<th>Present representatives (Year of Joining)</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Finland (2000)</td>
<td>Mr. Olli-Matti Verta, Secretary, 2011</td>
<td>Attended the meeting in 2016, 2017 &amp; 2019 Represented in the WG meeting in 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Czech Republic (1997)</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Svatopluk Matula (1997)</td>
<td>Associate member from 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Hungary (1955)</td>
<td>VPH Dr. Laszlo Hayde, Ex-Chairman and member</td>
<td>Attended the meeting in 2016, 2017, 2018 &amp; 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>Switzerland (1951)</td>
<td>Switzerland Representative</td>
<td>Mr. Petra Hellemann, Secretary of CH-AGRAM contributed by email in 2016 Switzerland withdrew from ICID membership in 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Georgia (2017)</td>
<td>Georgian Representative</td>
<td>Dr. Givi Gavardashvili attended the meeting in 2017 as new country</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Ex-Officio Member**

| 1.      | Russia                      | Mr. Peter Alexey Yurievich (2014), Chairman, erstwhile European Work Team on Drainage, EWTDRA | No contribution in 2016 |
### ROAD MAP TO ICID VISION 2030 – ACTIVITIES RELEVANT TO EUROPEAN REGION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Outcomes/Outputs</th>
<th>Milestone for Year 2017</th>
<th>Milestone for Year 2018</th>
<th>Milestone for Year 2019</th>
<th>Milestone for Year 2020</th>
<th>Milestone for Year 2021</th>
<th>Milestone for Year 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goal B: Be a catalyst for change in policies and practices</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy B1: Supporting Development of Appropriate Policies</td>
<td>1.7 Review of European/N C policy documents related to water resources that impact irrigation and drainage sector</td>
<td>Technical Report</td>
<td>Compilation of various policies related to water resources by Members in their country and start review few most important policy document</td>
<td>Draft of policy review report with recommendation</td>
<td>Finalisation and issue of policy review report</td>
<td>Continuation of review of remaining policy document</td>
<td></td>
<td>??</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goal C: Facilitate exchange of information, knowledge and technology</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy C3: Promoting Regional Cooperation</td>
<td>3.1 Organise workshops/ Seminar etc.</td>
<td>Proceedings of workshop/semi nar</td>
<td>To decide on theme and sub-themes for the workshop/seminar to be organised as internal/international workshop in the WG meeting</td>
<td>Workshop/ Seminar including publication of outcome/ recommendations from previous workshop</td>
<td>Workshop/ Seminar including publication of outcome/ recommendations from previous workshop</td>
<td>Workshop/ Seminar including publication of outcome/ recommendations from previous workshop</td>
<td></td>
<td>??</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goal F: Facilitate capacity development</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy F1: Enhancing Institutional Capacity Development in Member Countries</td>
<td>1.5 To launch from Europe an international e-Discussion on Water issues and/or Environmentally Sustainable Water Management in Europe like as YP4F</td>
<td>Knowledge sharing and capacity development of YP</td>
<td>e-Discussion on Water issues and/or Environmentally Sustainable Water Management in Europe like as YP4F</td>
<td>e-Discussion on Water issues and/or Environmentally Sustainable Water Management in Europe like as YP4F</td>
<td>e-Discussion on Water issues and/or Environmentally Sustainable Water Management in Europe like as YP4F</td>
<td>e-Discussion on Water issues and/or Environmentally Sustainable Water Management in Europe like as YP4F</td>
<td>e-Discussion on Water issues and/or Environmentally Sustainable Water Management in Europe like as YP4F</td>
<td>??</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: Consultative Group (CG) Report: A Water Secure World Free of Poverty & Hunger: A Road Map to ICID Vision 2030)
1. **Profile**

The European Regional Working Group (ERWG) of ICID was founded at the 46th IEC Meeting in Rome in September 1995 and is acting under the motto “Comprehensive land and water management in European river basins for the sustainable development of the rural landscape”. The tasks of ERWG can be summarized as follows:

(a) Knowledge transfer and exchange of experience in matters of border crossing water and land management in European countries

(b) Co-operation of experts and organisations engaged in national, supranational and international objectives of water management and irrigated agriculture

(c) Development and promotion of border crossing projects and conferences

(d) Members are the ICID National Committees of 16 European countries, as below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Representative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>Prof. Davor Romic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>Mr. Hannes Puu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>Mr. Olli-Matti Verta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>Dr. Laszlo Hayde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Dr. John Martin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Mr. Marco Arciero</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Mr. Pedro Eduardo da Cunha Serra</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Representative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>Prof. Ion M. Nicolaescu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Dr. (Mrs.) Irena G. Bondarik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Netherlands</td>
<td>Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Mr. Ian Makin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>VPH Prof. Peter Kovalenko</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. **Countries with observer status**

- Bosnia & Herzegovina: Prof. Dr. Mihovil Vlahinic
- Moldova: Mr. Valeriu Catrinescu

3. **Water Network**

In addition to the European National Committees of ICID, the following organizations/association/institution has been incorporated in the ERWG Water Network:

**A. Five European professional organizations**

(i) CIPR - Commission Internationale pour la Protection du Rhin

(ii) EurAgEng - Special Interest Group on Soil and Water, European Society of Agricultural Engineers

(iii) EWA - European Water Association

(iv) EWRA - European Water Resources Association

(v) TECHWARE - Technology for Water Resources

**B. Seven National Water Management Associations**

(i) BSHE - Bulgarian Society of Hydraulic Engineers

(ii) DWA - German Association for Water Management, Waste Water and Waste (Chair: Prof. Klaus Roettcher)

(iii) DONBH - Society for Irrigation and Drainage of Bosnia & Herzegovina

(iv) LZHIS - Lithuanian Association of Land and Water Management Engineers

(v) MHT - Hungarian Hydrological Society

(vi) RSRE - Russian Society of Reclamation Engineers

(vii) SITWM - Polish Association for Water Plant Construction and Land Improvement Engineers and Technicians
C. **Five European Water Management Institutes**

(i) ACVAPROJECT - Water Management Design Institute (Moldova Republic)
(ii) DHI - Danish Hydraulic Institute
(iii) IIDS - Institute of Irrigation and Development Studies, University of Southampton (United Kingdom)
(iv) RIIDHE - Research Institute for Irrigation, Drainage and Hydraulic Engineering (Bulgaria)
(v) IME - Institut Méditerranéen de l’Eau (France)

4. **Work Results**

(a) ERWG Letter No. 1 to 20 (newsletters)
(b) Irrigation Sector Reform in Central and Eastern European Countries (project report book/CD)
(c) European Sector Vision on Water for Food and Rural Development (report)
(d) ICID Guide "How to work out a drought mitigation strategy" (guideline)
(e) Water Resources Management in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Lithuania, Slovenia (book)
(f) Diffuse Entries in Rivers of the Odra Basin (research report)
(g) Proceedings of several European conferences
(h) First and Second CEE WFE Dialogue Reports (Dialogue on Water, Food and Environment – Dialogue on the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive in Agriculture in the Central and East European Countries) (reports)
(i) Danube Valley: History of Irrigation, Drainage and Flood Control (book)

5. **Projects**

(a) Flood risk mitigation by agricultural non-structural measures
(b) Drought mitigation strategies
(c) Implementation of the European Water Framework Directive
(d) Flood plain management on Odra, Nemunas and Vistula
(e) Flood prevention strategies
(f) Point and diffused pollutants in the Odra basin
(g) Sustainable irrigation and drainage management under the conditions of transitional economy
(h) Dialogue on water for food and environmental security in Central and Eastern Europe

❖❖❖❖❖
Annex 4 [Appendix VI, Item 7]

TASK FORCE ON DROUGHT RISK MANAGEMENT (TF-DRM)

Introduction
Drought and water scarcity are becoming increasingly frequent and widespread phenomena in many Countries of the European Union. While Europe has always been considered as having adequate water resources, the long-term imbalance resulting from water demand exceeding available water resources is no longer infrequent.

It was estimated that by 2007 at least 11 % of Europe’s population and 17 % of its territory would have been affected by water scarcity, raising the cost of droughts in Europe over the past thirty years at EUR 100 billion. The EU Commission expects further deterioration of the water situation in Europe if temperatures keep rising as a result of climate change. Water is no longer the problem of a few regions, but now concerns just about all of the 500 million Europeans.

Relevance For ICID
One of the main goals of ICID Mission to be achieved within the Agenda 2030 is to enable higher productivity with less water and energy, under the constraint and uncertainty of climate change. Thus, mandate and objectives of this Task Force can greatly contribute to reach this goal, enhancing on the one hand role and visibility of ICID in a broader international context and, on the other, offering a substantial contribute to solve the problem.

Mandate and Objectives
Following the increasing droughts occurred in the past few years, several Countries have moved from crisis management to Drought Risk Management. The associated measures often result in comprehensive drought risk management plans with water stress area mapping, alert levels, warning systems, etc. The TF-DMD should have all the necessary flexibility to develop specific drought management plans in relevant river basins and, of course, in different area of the World also.

The Task Force on Drought Management Framework will offer a contribute to

Improve drought risk management
- Set up of specific Drought Risk Management Plans to supplement WFD (Water Framework Directive) river basin management plans, where needed, in accordance with WFD provisions, in Europe and other areas of the World.
- Conceive operational prototypes and set up of implementing procedures for an Early Warning System and, by the end of 2022, develop recommendations at National Governments level. This system will integrate relevant data and research results on drought monitoring, detection and forecasting on different spatial scales, thus making possible to evaluate future events.
- Foster exchange of information and best practices on drought risk management, besides identify methodologies for drought thresholds and drought mapping.

Considering additional water supply infrastructures
- Planning of additional water supply infrastructure such as storage of surface and/or ground waters in order to mitigate the impacts of severe drought events, taking into due account the cost-benefit ratio.
- Analyze the possibility of realization of plants for use of alternative sources (brackish waters, desalinized or waste water). Any definitive position on these options will have to be based on further work on risk and impact assessment, taking into account the specific bio-geographical circumstances of Member States and regions.

Promote water efficient technologies and practices
Efficiency of water use in agriculture can still be considerably improved across the EU. In some regions, up to 30% of the volume of water consumed in agriculture could be saved, whereas leakages in agricultural water supply and irrigation networks can exceed 50%. In addition to improving technologies, the upgrading of irrigation management practices is a necessary instrument in all sectors where huge quantities of water are used
- Develop techniques for rainfall harvesting
- Promote the use of low water quantities in paddy fields - (rice dry cultivation
- Investigate the possible and different adaptation of agriculture to climate change.

Work Plan – 3 Years
- Disseminate and facilitate the exploitation of the results of research on water scarcity and drought issues.
- Establish working relationships and disseminate most relevant Drought Risk Management Action Plans in the ICID Community and in the broader International Network.
- Create a water scarcity and drought information system throughout Europe
- Provide Drought Risk Management training and capacity building for Government Officers

Potential Partners
All of the NCs that are willing to participate in the program will be joining together to present the lessons learnt.

❖❖❖❖