



From Secretary General's Desk...



Dear Colleagues,

ICID, despite the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, is on a mission to expand its horizons by cultivating mutually beneficial partnerships with various like-minded organizations and private sector companies around the world. We recently signed a memorandum of understanding with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to identify and undertake synergetic activities to further our mandate, particularly in the area of climate change and its impact on water resources.

Similarly, we are working with various knowledge partners in offering online courses for water sector professionals. With Aqua Foundation Academy, an online course on dam and network safety is being offered. In cooperation with National Water Academy of India, Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd. and Netafim Irrigation Ltd., an online course on Micro-irrigation Systems has been launched. A tremendous international interest has been expressed by water sector professionals for both the courses. Many more courses are in the pipeline and we will keep you all informed about them.

It is heartening to share that some ICID office bearers have volunteered to contribute in ICID's course offerings, such as President Felix Reinders contributed immensely in the Micro-Irrigation Systems program and Vice-President Marco Arcieri delivered a presentation in the inaugural webinar for the Dam and Network Safety course. As we progress, we look forward to our other office bearers and experts at Working Groups to contribute to the effort. We plan to make these courses as permanent intellectual assets of ICID for future generations to come.

Let's all hope the COVID-19 situation comes under control around the world soon so that our face-to-face events resume for the benefit of all ICID stakeholders.

Stay safe and in touch with us!

Best Wishes,

**Ashwin Pandya**  
Secretary General, ICID

## Secretary General writes foreword for Water Digest's magazine release

Water digest is a premier Indian water magazine that brings the latest in technologies & varied opportunities to cope with escalating water troubles to the water industry worldwide. The objective is to promote and build awareness on critical water issues and trigger actions to facilitate the efficient management and use of water in all its dimensions on an environmentally sustainable basis. They promote both solutions and exchange of ideas that lead to a better understanding of problems being faced in the water sector. Water Digest has a strong national presence and network with a close working relationship with several ministries, industries, municipal corporations, civic bodies, regulatory agencies, financial institutions, and NGOs.



Water Digest actively participates in ICID events and on various occasions had covered and publicised ICID's initiatives and activities. Secretary General AB Pandya is also associated with Water Digest in the capacity of Editor in Chief. He wrote the foreword for Water Digest September magazine issue on "The Current Water Innovation: A Technology Breakthrough" published on 3rd September 2020. In his letter, he highlighted the impending challenges of water scarcity due to climate change, inequitable distribution, increasing population and ever-expanding demands. He also raised concerns about the immediate impact of water security on agricultural output and thus the global food security. While establishing the need of innovative technological and managerial systems, he laid out how multiple business opportunities should be promoted for the growth of water industry. He said, "Technology forms the foundation of every effort by making the required infrastructure available which is affordable and sustainable." He concluded by reminding the audience that it is high time that we cooperatively concentrate on developing innovative technological solutions in order to move towards sustainability.

This e-magazine release was part of Water Digest's bi-monthly magazine series which delivers updates on news replica watches, reports, tenders, upcoming events of water industry and updated information on the various important topics. Water digest reaches over 45,000 active, influential, and engaged readers providing new ways for the segment to connect with its potential clients through novel sections and special issues. To access the full magazine and more information, kindly visit: <https://www.thewaterdigest.com/>

## Dam and Network Safety Assurance Webinar

To globally launch and provide a glimpse of the upcoming Online course on Dam and Network Safety organized by ICID and Aqua Foundation Academy, a webinar was organized on Dam and Network Safety on September 10th, 2020. Secretary General A B Pandya and Vice President Dr. Marco Arcieri represented ICID. They shared their expert opinions based on their international, national, and regional experiences acquired over the last decades. The latter half of the webinar was presented by Dr. Sanjay Rana, Chairman Aqua Foundation.

SG Pandya led the discussion while acquainting the audience with the details and overall structure of the upcoming course. He began with establishing the relevance of Dams and related studies which form the lifeline of water and energy security. He discussed in detail the emergence and growth of dam safety management over the last years. While discussing the factors affecting dam safety, he broadly categorised them as Natural Phenomena, Constituent Materials, Construction Quality and Post Construction developments. After discussing these individual factors, he explained the management of Dam Safety Assurance at project level and the importance of basic infrastructure for its smooth functioning. Emphasis was laid on Inspection Programmes and systematic protocols to follow which will further lead to informed decision making. Knowledge Data base and research risk analytics should be developed and used periodically. Towards the end, while outlining the Indian Dam Safety initiatives, he highlighted that Dam and Safety is a specialised subject which has distinct construction and design features. Building financial as well as human capital is sine qua non given the magnitude of the task at hand.

The second presenter was VP Dr. Marco, Secretary General, Italian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage. He

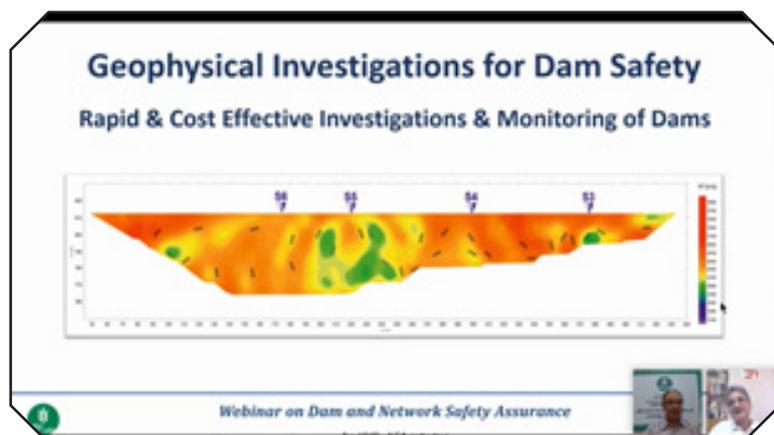


shared his views on the protocols of Safe management of large dams with specific case studies from Italy. He presented a global emergence of dams since the 1990s to the present day and how dams play an important role in enhancing water availability. In Italy, there are more than 14000 dams, with most of them over 50 years old and more thus prone to a higher risk of decaying, natural disasters and other hydrogeological risks. He further explained the sedimentation process and its related risks in the reservoir. The latter part of his presentation focused on different monitoring technologies and techniques ranging from Seabee Remote Controlled Survey Vessels to Satellite based data collection and reservoir monitoring. He discussed mitigation techniques like use of diversion and small barrages, reduction of soil erosion and run off processes through afforestation interventions and sluicing (water flows in the face of floods). While concluding, he stated that Dam can indeed become a major risk to human activities if proper and safe management protocols are not followed. One such disaster was the Vajont Disaster which led to the death of 1,917 people in October 1963.

The last presentation in line was given by Dr. Rana. He took the occasion to inform

the audience about the Geophysical Investigations for Dam Safety. He discussed rapid and cost-effective investigative tools and techniques for monitoring of dams. He explained the present scenario of dam investigations and the important role an inspector and his/her motivations play in a successful inspection. Electrical Resistivity Imaging is one inspection technique that can highlight the bad zones with higher saturation levels. Streaming Potential can detect as well as determine seepage potential within the dam structure. Ground Penetrating Radar is a geophysical technique which can detect cavity even in greater depths. He also discussed other techniques like Seismic fractions, ReMi/MASW, L-section tomography, and Cross Face tomography for velocity scales and density details of the dam and related surroundings. He ended his presentation by pointing that the key to dam safety is in identifying the problems in time, designing customized rehabilitation programmes with accurate identification of damaged areas, fractures and voids. The audience was informed about the upcoming Online Dam and Network Safety Assurance Course and were invited to participate and learn more about this specialized field.

The webinar turned out to be a huge success, with more than 1500 registrations from all over the world ranging from students, researchers, mid-level and senior engineers, government officers as well as various organisations in India as well as overseas. The session was concluded with interesting questions and answer round showcasing the multi-disciplinary audience pool it attracted. For more information and the full recording, kindly visit: <https://damsafety.co/>



## ICID e-learning training programs

### Micro-Irrigation Systems (MIS) Online certificate course

International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) in collaboration with the National Water Academy of India and two international industry leaders -Jain Irrigation Systems Limited and Netafim Irrigation Private Limited is organizing an online certificate course on Micro-Irrigation systems. The faculty team includes world renowned micro-irrigation experts and field research specialists on adoption of drip and sprinkler systems by farming communities. A brief description of the course is given below:

**INTRODUCTION:** Global water scarcity and increased demand for food are two main drivers for the urgent efforts to improve food productivity in agriculture, the sector that consumes 70-80% of annual freshwater availability. Micro-irrigation Systems (MIS) are fundamentally designed and operated to economize water application in crop fields. As MIS is an evolving technology, the existing curricula on these systems are still not adequately covered in regular academic programs. Also, the professionals who are already working in the area of agricultural water management (AWM) have had limited exposure to MIS concepts and practices thus far. The proposed short duration certification course offers to fill such existing knowledge and skills gaps.

**COURSE STRUCTURE:** The course, based on a points-system, has an inherent flexibility to suit the learning needs of prospective trainee through 3 main modules on MIS, namely:

- (a) **Agronomic Aspects:** Basic science of soil-water-crop interactions in various agro-climatic regimes; crop-specific cultural requirements; water and nutrient movements in micro-irrigation environment; irrigation scheduling and fertigation cycles; cropping patterns.. etc.
- (b) **Engineering Aspects:** MIS principles and practices; types of MIS currently used and their suitability in various scenarios; drip/sprinkler design and related processes; power and energy options for different water sources; and commercially available products and services for MIS in various parts of the world; and so on.



(c) **Management Aspects:** Field implementation challenges and solutions; potential financial support schemes in various countries; operational and maintenance requirements; capacities needed in the communities using MIS; and so on.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:** Prospective trainees will undergo an intensive learning exercise through 35 online sessions comprising audio-video lectures, webinars, assignments, quizzes, hands-on activities, and face-to-face online interactions with the course faculty to earn an international certificate that will add value to their professional credentials. The course was launched on 7th October 2020. In the subsequent weeks, the modules and study material will be uploaded online.

**PROSPECTIVE BENEFICIARIES:** The course is intended for those professionals who are working in the area of AWM and the current students in the academic programs oriented towards broader aspects of AWM.

**COURSE URL:** <https://icid.moodlecourse.com/>

**COURSE FEE:** This year participation in the course for a limited number of qualified individuals is free. You will have access to course lectures/videos, international webinars, and reference material. If you require the International Certificate of successful completion of the course, you will need to pay a fee of US\$100 to cover the cost of your personalized online evaluation through assignments and quizzes. The customized certificate will be mailed to you in PDF file. Instructions for secure online payment of the fee will be mailed to you.

**For queries and expression of interest,** please write to Dr. Sahdev Singh-Director (Knowledge Management) at [sahdevsingh@icid.org](mailto:sahdevsingh@icid.org) and [icid@icid.org](mailto:icid@icid.org).

### ICID signs MoU with World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE (ICID) and its long standing international associate World Meteorological Organisation signed a Memorandum of Understanding in September 2020 for a period of five years heading into a long-term partnership.

Recognizing the importance of improving, developing, and exchanging information and predictions in support of decision making for water management, food security, climate risk management and adaptation, ICID and WMO come together to improve international knowledge creation dissemination and service provision. ICID and WMO share mutual goals of poverty alleviation through food and water security and for that purpose they support interventions to reduce risks due to water related extremes floods and droughts, and effective climate change adaptation. To achieve these goals, both WMO and ICID have a mutual interest and commitment to work in the better management of floods/ droughts and agriculture water using the latest tools, technology, and data.

THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) is intended to enhance WMO's and ICID's outreach, capabilities and expertise in the domain of climate risk adaptations, flood, drought, irrigation, drainage and agricultural water management for the larger benefit of the international fraternity through information and services and general areas of cooperation and the scope and nature of collaborations at regional, national and international levels. This MoU encourages close cooperation, collaboration on projects and activities of mutual interest. Activities like information sharing, joint research tasks, consultations and technical support services will be promoted.

**World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)** is an intergovernmental organization with a membership of 193 Member States and Territories. It originated from the International Meteorological Organization (IMO), the roots of which were planted at the 1873 Vienna International Meteorological Congress. Established by the ratification of the WMO Convention on 23 March 1950, WMO became the specialized agency of the United Nations for meteorology (weather and climate), operational hydrology and related geophysical sciences a year later. The Secretariat, headquartered in Geneva, is headed by the Secretary-General. Its supreme body is the World Meteorological Congress. WMO provides world leadership, expertise and international cooperation in weather, climate, hydrology and water resources and related environmental issues and thereby contributes to the safety and well-being of people throughout the world and to the economic benefit of all nations. It facilitates free and unrestricted exchange of meteorological, hydrological and related data and products, which are essential for all real-time weather, climate, water and related environmental services, as well as for the assessment of the evolution of the climate system and is an important factor in matters relating to safety and security of society, economic welfare and the protection of the environment.

Prior to the signed MoU, WMO has been one of the partners of ICID in bringing together climate and water communities to manage natural disasters like floods and droughts. ICID had consultative status with WMO while WMO actively participates in ICID's technical bodies that interest WMO such as WG-CLIMATE. Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP) is another such initiative where ICID and WMO work together in collaboration. For more details, visit their website: <https://public.wmo.int/en>

## Online Certificate Course on Dam and Network Safety Assurance

International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) in collaboration with the Aqua Foundation Academy is organizing an online certificate course on Dam and Network Safety Assurance. The faculty team includes renowned industry stalwarts who have witnessed situations first-hand and provides mentorship for requisite skill sets in view of growing importance of an assured delivery of water to the beneficiaries and continued assurance of performance worthiness of the components involved. A brief description of the course is given below:

**Course Focus:** The course is meant for the professionals directly engaged in the works of maintaining and managing the irrigation and multipurpose projects having headworks in form of storage structures of various sizes and associated water distribution networks for providing water to the beneficiaries. The course aims at improving the skills of the professional entrusted with the responsibility of directly managing the facilities and ensuring their safety as well as reporting the status to the higher level of management. The works of such nature require exposure to the basics of the sciences and technologies that go into designing and operationalizing such facilities, deteriorations that can be expected over long years of usage, implications thereof towards continued safety of operators and hazard levels posed to the downstream communities, possible field and laboratory investigations techniques for identification of problems and reporting the observations to the expert personnel in a scientific and lucid manner so that the status at the field level is fully appreciated while planning the remedial measures by them.

Water management projects especially the irrigation projects are long lasting entities with a practically indefinite life. Even if the beneficiary land area changes its character in terms of land use, the utility of the head conservation works and the distribution networks remain or improve as they are required to deliver the water for larger economic good in keeping with development in economy of the area. On the other hand, the tenure of a professional employed for managing the project may be limited in keeping with the shortage of personnel and also the aspirations of the individual towards career progression. Many of the developing countries are facing this problem due to a smaller pool of manpower resources not in keeping with the growth in population of the projects. At any point of time, a change of hands

is inevitable with concomitant dangers of gaps in knowledge transfer.

Presence of exposure to a course of this nature provides necessary awareness to the incoming professional about the scope and nature of the assignment at hand and also makes the charged professionals aware of standard protocols and procedures involved. This is a first course in a set of courses of increasing levels of expertise and narrowing of focus for advanced exposure of relevant sub sets of professionals.

**Course Content:** The course content has been designed for fresh and practicing engineers who are involved with the dam operations, surveillance and safety assurance works and dam portfolio managers responsible for setting up dam safety programs.

**SECTION 1** – This section will expose the participants to the following areas:

- Overview of Dam Safety Aspects
- Legislative Provisions of Dam Safety- Existing and Future
- Overview of Basic Design Philosophy of Dam, Defense Measures Safety Features
- Documentation for Dam and Network for Safety Assessment
- Overview of Basic Design Philosophy for Conveyance Networks and Associated Structures-Canals and Pipelines
- Overview of Flood Risks and Handling them in Real Time, Effect of Flood
- Operations on the Safety and Upkeep of Dams and Networks
- Overview of Seismic Risks, Protocols for Assessment of Safety and Performance
- Instrumentation and Structural Behaviour Analysis
- Durability of Concrete Structures
- Behaviour and Performance Observation Programme
- Specialised Materials and Techniques for Repairs and Rehabilitation- Introduction
- Preparing and Carrying Out On-Site Inspection of a Concrete/ Masonry and Earth/ Rock fill Dams
- Hydromechanical Equipment and Dam Safety
- Evaluation of Different Types of Energy Dissipating Arrangements, and Remedial Measures
- Under Water Inspection Techniques
- Use of Hand-Held Mobiles, GPS and Remote Sensing Techniques for Network Status Assessments and Mapping
- Efficiency Measurement of Conveyance Network

- Network Status Assessment Using Mobile Technologies
- Assessment of Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Management Under Normal and Extreme Conditions, Information Communication, Processing and Decision Protocols, Standard Operating Procedures
- Dam Safety Instrumentation Monitoring in Dams and Allied Structures
- Rock Mechanics Investigations for Dams and Reservoir Slope Stability Problems
- Geomembranes for Seepage Control in Dams
- Latest Format being used for Writing Inspection Reports for Dams in India

**SECTION 2** – This section will expose participants to the latest investigation techniques in the following areas:

- Geotechnical Investigations of Existing Dams
- Non-Destructive Testing and Diagnostics for Distressed Structures Techniques & Case Studies
- Geophysical Techniques for
- Use of Temperature and Strain Sensing for Dams
- Latest Developments including Optical Fibre Sensors
- Geophysical Investigation Techniques

**Course Delivery Mechanism:** The course will be delivered through a Learning Management System (LMS), where pre-recorded lectures, videos, presentation, reading material etc. will be uploaded, so that participants can go through these at their own pace, within the time frame of 6 months. Live sessions will also be organized wherein participants can directly interact with experts and raise their queries. Preferred mode of receiving questions would remain through email.

For detailed course structure, registration process, free structure and industry collaborations, please visit <https://www.damsafety.co/>

### Contact Details

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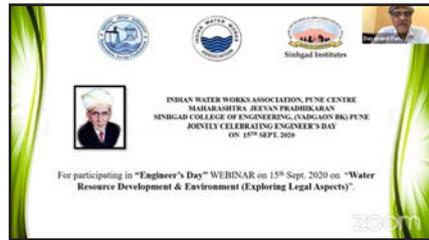
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## ICID attends Indian Water Works Association's Engineer's day Webinar

The Indian Water Works Association (IWWA) is a voluntary body of professionals concerned and connected with water supply for municipal, industrial, agricultural uses, and treatment and disposal of wastewater. IWWA focuses on the entire Water Cycle “encompassing the environmental, social, institutional and financing issues. IWWA was founded in 1968 with headquarters at Mumbai. IWWA has 35 Centres spread across the country and is very active in conducting different activities in the areas of Water Supply and Wastewater Treatment and Disposal. IWWA has a membership of more than 11000 plus professionals spread all over the country and abroad.

In celebration of Engineer's day held on 15th September 2020, Indian Water Works Association, Pune Centre in collaboration with Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran, Pune and Sinhgad College of Engineering, (Vadgaon Bk) Pune organised a webinar on “Water Resources Development & Environment (Exploring Legal Aspects)”. The webinar was attended by ICID officials. The guest speaker for the webinar was Eng. Chetan Pandit.



Mr. Chetan presented his views on the legal aspects of Water resource developments and how it affects the environment and the holistic development of the country. During his webinar, he traced the legal developments in the form of changing water and environment regulations over the years in India since independence. He applauded government's initiatives to build an environmentally conscious legal framework through acts and instruments like Wild Life Protection Act 1972, Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974, Forest Conservation Act 1980 and the National Green Tribunal Act 2010. However, he explained in detail the Environment Internal Impact Assessment Act 2006 which transformed the environmental regulations for India.

He also highlighted the limitations of the legal framework which due to bureaucratic complications leads to delayed project completions and pending approvals. Towards the second half of the discussion, he presented his views on Environment Impact Assessment 2020 draft and its proposed changes. In conclusion, he informed the audience, how development and environment protection share an intricate relationship which needs crucial attention and a balanced approach to achieve sustainable development.

**About the speaker:** Eng. Chetan Pandit has completed B. Tech. (Civil) from IIT-Delhi, India and M. Tech. (Hydrology) from National University of Ireland, United Kingdom. He served and retired as a member of (Water Planning and Projects) Central Water Commission, and Ex-Officio Additional Secretary to Government of India, in March 2012. Post retirement, he has been working as a consultant, particularly in the field of Inter State Water Disputes. Consultant to Government of Goa, India since 2014, and continuing, for Mandvi river dispute with Karnataka; and Consultant to Government of Chhattisgarh since 2018.

## ICID attends National Water Mission's 16th Water Talk

National Water Mission (NWM), India has initiated a lecture series 'WATER TALK' to promote dialogue and information sharing among participants on a variety of water related topics. The aim of 'WATER TALK' is to stimulate awareness, build capacities of stakeholders and encourage people to become active participants to sustain life by saving water on earth. Sharing ideas among participants enhances knowledge, ensures consistent dissemination of information and builds capacities in better water management. The Program is intended to be a platform to transfer knowledge, solve problems, brainstorm and promote teamwork among various participants. The Water talk Program also provides an opportunity of 'learning something new' and 'broadening our perspective through the sharing of knowledge and experience. NWM organized the Sixteenth Water Talk virtually on 21st August 2020. ICID officials from the central office attended the session.

Sixteenth Water Talk was conducted digitally due to Covid-19 caused disruptions. The guest speaker was Ms Jyoti Sharma, Founder, FORCE a NGO based out of New Delhi, India. The topic of the e-Water Talk was “Each one a Jal-Rakshak (Water Guard) –Care for Water, Work for Water, Be like Water.” Beginning with highlighting the concurrent challenges of water scarcity



faced by each one of us, she motivated the audience that every individual needs to manage water responsibly. Quoting factual information, she established the importance of capturing and storing rainwater given its seasonal and demographic variabilities. To quote her, she said “*There is enough water, however, there is a need to learn to manage it an efficient manner. The water crisis can be averted if everyone works as a water guard aka Jal Rakshak*”

She introduced the 5 R's propagated by her organization, FORCE NGO in the direction of Water Conservation. These are **Reduce** wastage, **Reuse** water at-least once, **Recharge** ground water, **Recycle** wastewater and **Respect** water. She showcased in detail various case studies implemented by her organisation based on these elements in different parts of the country.

She also emphasised on international

success stories, she shared that 80% of Israel's sewage water is recycled and then used for irrigation. Singapore's wastewater recycling plant uses advanced membrane techniques to produce water that is clean enough to be used for the electronics industry and be bottled as drinking water. She encouraged the audience to wholly participate in National Water Mission's “Catch the Rain” initiative and contribute towards water conservation. Ms Sharma also emphasised the need for today's students to understand the concept of water footprint and to act as care takers of every water using entity in their surroundings including the clothes we clean and the food we eat which affects water availability directly as well as indirectly. She concluded the session with a small prayer dedicated to water, as a precious gift from nature, humankind's greatest sustainer. The water talk ended with a question and answer round session.

Senior Government dignitaries attended the webinar along with more than 500 participants. The webinar witnessed participation from various sectors, independent researchers, school students, university graduates, engineers, several NGOs, international organisations as well as the government from across the country.

## Important Announcements

### 71st International Executive Council (IEC)

71st IEC meeting will be held virtually in two Sessions on **07-08 December 2020** – First Session on Monday, 07 December 2020 from 18:00-20:00 Hours (IST) and Second Session on Tuesday, 08 December 2020 from 18:00-20:00 Hours (IST).

Pre-council virtual meetings have started from 12th October 2020. For more updates and information, visit ICID website, <http://icid-ciid.org/home>

### 5th African Regional Conference (ARC)

5th African Regional Conference (ARC) and the Young Professional's Training Program (YP-TP) was proposed to be held in the first week of December 2020. However, with COVID-19 situations and their effects on travel restrictions remaining the same around the world, under consultation with the Moroccan National Committee (ANAFIDE) and ICID Central office, it have been postponed to 2021. Further details will be shared as and when available.

### 10th International Micro Irrigation Conference: Dates will be announced later

10th International Micro Irrigation Conference (10MIC) to be held in Agadir, Morocco, will be a standalone event in 2021. Dates will be announced later. Micro-irrigation (drip/ trickle or localized irrigation) was introduced on a commercial scale in the world sometime in the 1970s. Micro-irrigation is the most efficient method of water application to crops. However, owing to the technicalities involved in its design, operation, and maintenance, the pace of its adoption was rather slow. To promote the use of micro-irrigation on a large-scale, the irrigation community worldwide, especially in developed countries, launched the International Micro Irrigation Congress in the year 1971. Subsequently, ICID volunteered to organize the event beginning with the 5th International Micro Irrigation Congress held in South Africa in 2000 to create awareness among its members about the

latest developments in micro-irrigation technology to enhance crop production.

### Submission of Abstracts and Full Papers for 24th ICID Congress, Symposium and Special Sessions

IAL/ IACID/ICID much appreciate the time and efforts of the aspiring participants in submitting their abstracts for the ICID Congress and associated events and Irrigation Australia. All abstracts submitted to date stand automatically included for consideration. We are fortunate to have your wholehearted participation with nearly 300 abstracts. Some abstracts have been approved for the submission of full-length papers. We assure you that the submissions will remain valid throughout the period, and you may continue the preparation of your full-length papers and submit them on the portal for further review and inclusion in the proceedings of the Congress. Since the event is delayed, we have extended the dates for the submission of full-length papers substantially. Please visit the portal for the latest deadlines. However, we request you to not wait until the deadline and continue preparing for the full-length paper and submit the same online. Some of our friends who registered on the portal have not proposed abstracts or papers for the Congress. This postponement offers a golden opportunity to do so now and catch up with your other friends. The window for the submission of the new abstracts stands extended to **30 November 2020**. Please note the important deadlines:

- Submission of 'Extended Abstracts' (500-600 words): **30 November 2020**
- Notification of Acceptance of Extended Abstracts: **31 December 2020**
- Submission of Full Papers: 15 February 2021
- Notification to Authors (oral/poster/presentation): **15 April 2021**

In the meantime, should you wish to withdraw or edit your submission, you may do so at the portal <https://icid-events.org/tech> management for 24th Congress, Symposium and Special Sessions.

## National Committee News

The Irrigation and Water Forum: British National Committee of ICID

ICID's long associate Dr Melvyn Kay from British National Committee in association with Turkish Water Institute (SUEN) published a book



entitled: **'Improving irrigation water use efficiency: A synthesis of options to support capacity development'**. Turkish Water Institute (SUEN) as part of the Blue Peace in the Middle East Initiative: Regional collaboration on Water published the book in June 2020.

This book is designed to support capacity development to improve water use efficiency in irrigation as part of the project, Blue Peace in the Middle East: Regional Collaboration on Water. It provides a foundation for developing a series of in-depth training manuals and programmes that are appropriate for different audiences and circumstances. Water scarcity is a major concern within the United Nation's 2030 Development Agenda. It discusses in detail the challenges faced in increasing the effective use of water in large-scale irrigation schemes and proposes options for modernising systems from both a technology and a management point of view.

The objective is to provide a foundation from which universities and colleges can develop a new curriculum for training future generations of irrigation planners and managers to cope with the major changes needed in the light of increasing water scarcity, growing demand for food, and socio-economic changes among farming communities. It is aimed at professionals involved in irrigated agriculture: engineers, agronomists, land/soil managers, and others who plan, design, and operate irrigation systems, and particularly to provide education and training across the sector to professionals, technicians, and farmers. Although it emphasizes modernising large scale irrigation in the Middle East, the countries that make up the Blue Peace initiative, it is largely generic and based on international experiences of improving irrigation performance and as such it would be applicable for other regions as well.

A pdf version of the book is available free of charge and can be downloaded from the SUEN website: <https://www.suen.gov.tr/Suen/en/catdty.aspx?val=456>

**Dr. Melvyn Kay** is an independent consultant who works with national and international agencies, like DFID, FAO, World Bank, and UNESCO writing and editing on all matters of water resources management, particularly specialising in water for food production. He was the Editor in Chief of UN Water's 2018 review of progress with SDG 6 (the 'Water Goal') and is the author of 'Practical Hydraulics and Water Resources Engineering' 3rd edition for CRC press. Prior to this, he was Senior Lecturer in Irrigation Engineering at Cranfield University (Silsoe College) in the UK following an earlier career with consulting engineers in the Middle East and Africa.

## Webinar on Cultural Heritage Solutions for Water Challenges

ICOMOS, an international network of experts works for the conservation and protection of cultural heritage places. It is the only global non-government organisation of this kind, which is dedicated to promoting the application of theory, methodology, and scientific techniques to the conservation of the architectural and archaeological heritage. ICOMOS contributes in improving the preservation of heritage, the standards and the techniques for each type of cultural heritage property: buildings, historic cities, cultural landscapes and archaeological sites. ICID and ICOMOS have collaborated for many webinars, activities and events in the past, including "Water and Heritage" side session in India Water Week 2019 held in New Delhi, India. The two organisations worked closely on the cause of rain water harvesting. Moving ahead ICID has initiated to be part of ICOMOS upcoming webinar series on "Cultural Heritage Solutions for Water Challenges". Secretary General Eng. Ashwin B. Pandya will represent ICID in the second webinar of the series to be conducted on Wednesday 14 October 2020 from 12.00 to 13.30 CET.

The specific objective of the webinar is to inform the participants about the objectives and activities on water related cultural heritage by international water organisations including World Water Heritage Systems programme ICID, the Specialist Group for Water and Waste water in Ancient Civilizations, The



Ramsar Culture Network, the Global Water Museums Network, the Global Water Partnership (GWP), and the International Centre for Transdisciplinary Water Research.

### Webinar Series: Cultural Heritage Solutions for Water Challenges.

**WEBINAR 1:** Wednesday 16 September: 2020 from 12.00 to 13.30 CET:

Objectives, activities and modalities including cooperation with water organisations and experts for the International Scientific Committee on Water and Heritage.

The first webinar was very well received with 328 registrations from 58 countries and all continents. The webinar discussed the significance of water-related heritage for water management challenges today and tomorrow, progress the conceptual challenges for research, the creation of an international scientific committee under ICOMOS and initiatives on water and heritage at the national level.

The link to the presentations in the first webinar, "Water and Heritage Explained" is <https://thewaterchannel.tv/videos/september-16-2020-water-and-heritage-explained/>

**WEBINAR 2:** Wednesday 14 October 2020 from 12.00 to 13.30 CET

A tour d'horizon of water related heritage activities and organisations in international water institutions

**WEBINAR 3:** Tuesday 17 November 2020 from 12.00 to 13.30 CET

Presentation of telling examples and assessment methodologies of water related cultural heritage for present and future water management planning and policies.

For more details and registrations, please visit: <https://www.thewaterchannel.tv/ICOMOS>



## XIV World Aqua Congress: Aqua Foundation's International Conference and Exhibition



ICID's long associated organization Aqua Foundation is organizing its annual international conference on the theme of "Water and Climate Change" on 29th October 2020 and 30th October 2020. ICID is supporting the event in the capacity of a Knowledge Partner and Associate.

XIV WAC (14th World Aqua Congress-International Conference & Exhibition on Water & Environment) is being organized on October 29-30, 2020, at a virtual platform. This year's theme, "Water and Climate Change," highlights

the urgent importance of strengthening water security and establishing access to a sustainable water supply in the face of changing climate conditions worldwide. Over the years WAC has emerged as the most consistent and comprehensive event addressing issues of water & environment and having a considerable impact on policymaking. Complete details of present and past events are available on the event website [www.worldaquacongress.org](http://www.worldaquacongress.org).

The various participation options in the XIV World Aqua Congress (Conference & Exhibition):

1. Register as a delegate, which has been kept without any fee.

2. Present your technology in a specially carved out Industry Presentation slot
3. Support the event and enhance your brand visibility through sponsorship or advertisement
4. Exhibit your products & services at the event likely to be attended by close to 3,000 participants. Rates starting at as low as INR 10,000.

The demo video of the virtual event is available at <https://youtu.be/aTfZb1JbP80>



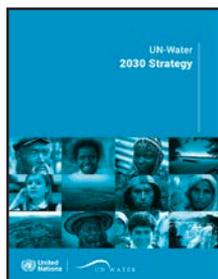
## The International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD)

The International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD) has announced the postponement of its 88th Annual Meeting and Symposium on Sustainable Development of Dams and River Basins. The decision is based on the request made by the Indian National Committee on Large Dams (INCOLD) following a close monitoring of the outbreak of coronavirus around the globe. ICOLD 2020 will be held from 28 November - 3 December 2020 in New Delhi, India.

## Publications

### UN-Water 2030 Strategy

The UN-Water 2030 Strategy represents a collective way forward to address the water and sanitation challenges over a ten-year period with necessary focus, urgency, effectiveness and coherence. As the 2030 Strategy will take UN-Water to the target date for the 2030 Agenda, it has a focus on accelerating progress towards the targets of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, which at the start of the 2030 Strategy period are alarmingly off-track, as well as other relevant global targets. Thus, the SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework, launched in 2020 as part of the Decade of Action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, constitutes a central element of the 2030 Strategy.



The 2030 Strategy builds on UN-Water's 2014-2020 Strategy, Terms of Reference and mandate, and the UN-Water External Review 2018. It has been collectively developed through a consultative process including UN-Water Members, Partners and External Support Agencies. The 2030 Strategy document presents UN-Water's vision, mission and three lines of work, and outlines a Theory of Change through which UN-Water can fully realise its potential during the ten-year period. Lastly, it sets out how the collective success for UN-Water will look like in 2030.

## Call for Applications: Indo-Russia Joint Technology Assessment and Accelerated Commercialization Program

Funding Opportunity for Indian SMEs/Start-ups/Businesses for Joint R&D Collaboration with Russia.

The Department of Science and Technology jointly with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and Foundation for Assistance to Small Innovative Enterprises (FASIE) of the Russian Federation launched the India-Russia Joint Technology Assessment and Accelerated Commercialization Programme on July 23rd, 2020. The programme aims to connect Indian and Russian Science & Technology (S&T) led SMEs and Start-ups for joint R&D for technology development and for cross-country technology adaptation. Projects are being sought on leading S&T focus areas, including but not limited to, IT&ICT (including AI, AR, VR), Medicine & Pharmaceuticals, Renewable Energy, Aerospace, Alternative Technologies, Environment, New Materials, Biotechnologies, Robotics and Drones.

Over a period of two years, the Department of Science and Technology shall fund up to INR 15 Crores (150 million) to ten Indian SMEs/Start-ups



and FASIE shall provide similar funding to the Russian projects. The maximum funding per project for the Indian enterprise would be INR 1.5 Crore and the applicant must co-finance 50% of the amount requested from DST, GoI. The programme will provide access to partial public funding for jointly selected projects with the participation of at least one start-up/SME from India and one SME from Russia. The selected projects will be required to bear partial funding as well, either through own funds or alternate sources of funding. In addition to the financial support, the teams will also be supported through capacity building, mentorship, and business development.

To know more and apply to the programme, please log on to [www.indiarussiainnovate.org](http://www.indiarussiainnovate.org)

In case of any queries, please write at [info@indiarussiainnovate.org](mailto:info@indiarussiainnovate.org)

### Progress on drinking-water, sanitation and hygiene in schools: Special focus on COVID-19



The report provides updated estimates for drinking water, sanitation and hygiene in schools including progress from 2015 to 2019. It highlights the rapid improvement needed to ensure students have access to handwashing facilities with soap and water during the COVID-19 pandemic and to meet associated SDG targets by 2030.

Highlights: The World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's

Fund (UNICEF), through the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP), produce internationally comparable estimates of progress on drinking water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and are responsible for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets related to WASH. Since the establishment of the SDGs, the JMP has published global baseline reports on WASH in households (2017), WASH in schools (2018) and WASH in health care facilities (2019), and a progress update on households (2019). This report presents updated national, regional and global estimates for WASH in schools up to the year 2019, with a special focus on the implications for ensuring the safety of students and school staff during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.