

**MINUTES OF THE ONLINE 1st MEETING OF THE
WORKING GROUP ON ENVIRONMENT (WG-ENV)**

6 May 2021, 13:30 hours (IST)

Strategy Theme: Basin

Presented by the Chair

Year of Establishment: 2015

Completion of the Mandate: 2021

Mandate: (a) To provide guidance to policy makers, planners, designers, and managers in the irrigation and drainage sector on the following environmental aspects of irrigation and drainage systems: (i) physical, (ii) chemical, (iii) ecological, (iv) socio-economic, and (v) cultural; (b) To address concerns to the effects on local, regional and global common goods, such as climate, biodiversity and human health; (c) To work towards the management of a sustainable environment, through adapted practices, adequate policies and institutions, maximizing positive and minimizing adverse effects of irrigation and drainage systems.

Members present: (1) Prof. (Ms) Charlotte de Fraiture, Chair (Netherlands) (2) Dr. (Ms) Seija Virtanen, Secretary (Finland), (3) Dr. Carl Walters (Australia), (4) Dr. (Ms.) Aynur Fayrap (Turkey), (5) Dr. Yutaka Matsuno (Japan), (6) Dr. Giulio Castelli (Italy), (7) Dr. Hao-Che Ho (Chinese Taipei Committee)

Personnel of ICID Central Office present: (1) Er. B.A. Chivate, Director (Technical)

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WG-ENV Minutes Item 1: Introduction by the Chair/ Vice Chair

1. The Chair Professor Charlotte de Fraiture welcomed all the members and presented the theme of the online meeting.
2. The Secretary Dr. Seija Virtanen gave a brief introduction on the focus of the joint article and went through the general writing instructions of an individual case study.

WG-ENV Minutes Item 2: Review paper “Positive Ecosystem Services from Irrigation and Drainage Systems”

3. The chair presented the draft of the content of the review paper comprising the case studies concerning the “*Positive Ecosystem Services from Irrigation and Drainage Systems*”. The members of the group gave short presentations of their case studies as follows:

- Dr. Yutaka Matsuno (Japan) presented three case studies viz. 1. Flood control (Paddy Dam), 2. Micro-climate, and 3. Eco-Tourism (Social effect of paddy rice landscape on communities);
- Dr Giulio Castelli presented his case study concerning Micro-(meso) climate regulation due to irrigation/water harvesting in Ethiopia;
- Dr Carl Walters presented a case study concerning integrated catchment management;
- Dr. Seija Virtanen presented a case study concerning the effects of controlled drainage and subirrigation on greenhouse gas emissions;
- Dr. Aynur Fayrap presented a case study from Turkey concerning controlled drainage effect on soil salinity.

4. The group discussed widely the format of the publication whether it should be organized based on ecosystem services or measures such as irrigation, paddy fields, controlled drainage etc. In addition, it was stated that there would be enough material for a special publication focusing on positive ecosystem services of irrigation and controlled drainage. It was decided that a discussion paper will be written first and after that a specific publication will be proposed to the Journal Irrigation and Drainage. The draft discussion paper will be written by the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary, Dr. Yutaka Matsuno, Dr. Aynur Fayrap and Dr Carl Walters were willing to contribute to the writing and also all the group members are welcome to contribute to it.

5. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the next ICID conference has been postponed to June 2022 (now in October 2022) and hopefully the next group meeting will take place there. However, the writing of the paper will continue and WebEx Meetings will be arranged when needed.

6. There was no other business. The Chair thanked all the members for sparing their time in participating on the Zoom meeting.