



International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) African Regional Working Group (AFRWG)

Third African Young Water Professionals Forum (Af-YWPF)

(Online)

Under the platform of Cairo Water Week 2020
18 – 22 October 2020, Cairo, Egypt

Theme: Water Security in Arid Regions: the Road to Dakar 2021

Organised and Supported by





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1. ICID and the African Regional Working Group

1.1 The International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)

The International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID), **established in 1950**, is a leading scientific, technical, international not-for-profit, non-governmental organization. ICID operates through a professional network of experts from across the world in the field of irrigation, drainage, and flood management.

ICID provides a knowledge sharing platform dedicated to issues that covers the entire spectrum of agricultural water management practices ranging from rainfed agriculture to supplemental irrigation, land drainage, deficit irrigation to full irrigation, etc. In addition, drainage of agricultural lands forms the core theme of commission's activities. Floods and drought, the two extremes of increasingly variable climate as a result of potential climate change, also form the focus of activities.

The irrigation and drainage sector is an important contributor to rural development. Irrigation and drainage systems and professionals play an increasingly crucial role in eradication of rural poverty by creating sustainable livelihoods for the majority of rural population, particularly in developing countries, and by supporting healthy living environments. It is therefore appropriate for ICID to realign its vision and dedicate itself to a mission that supports sustainable rural development. Thus, ICID aims to create “*A water secure World free of poverty and hunger through sustainable rural development*” by “*Facilitating prudent agriculture water management by encouraging inter-disciplinary approaches to irrigation and drainage management*”

1.2 The African Regional Working Group of the ICID

To address the various issue related to agricultural water management specific to Africa, ICID established the African Regional Working Group (AFRWG) in 2000 with an objective of promoting strong communications and networking among the African countries as well as regional and international institutions for enhancing cooperation and coordination and to support integrated river basin development, training and research issues and information system for African needs. This led to the establishment of the African Young Water Professionals Forum (Af-YWPF) which will be holding its Third Forum from 19-21 October 2020 (Online) under the platform of Cairo Water Week (CWW) 2020. The AFRWG has held four remarkable regional conferences since its establishment and is scheduled to host the **5th African Regional Conference on Irrigation and Drainage (ARCID)**, **March 2021** (depending on Covid-19 situation), Marrakech, Morocco on the theme “Sustainable Management of Irrigation for Improved Resilience of Agriculture in Africa.”



2. The African Young Water Professionals Forum

ICID took the initiative of establishing the Young Professionals Forum aimed at building the capacity of young professionals and creating a new generation capable for facing future water challenges,. This Forum is now an international platform for young irrigation and drainage professional from around the world with more than **2800 members**; mainstreaming youths towards the abundant rewarding opportunities in irrigation agriculture..

The African Young Water Professionals Forum (Af-YWPF) was the outcome of a decision taken during the 28th meeting of the African Regional Working Group (AFRWG) held in Mexico City, Mexico, October 2017, where it was decided to establish the African Young Water Professional Forum (Af-YWPF); The first meeting of the Af-YWPF was held in October 2018 during the First Cairo Water Week.

The Forum was established with the objective of bringing together Africa's future leaders from the private sector, research and government institutions around the central theme of water conservation for sustainable development. The water professionals would get an opportunity to showcase their knowledge and contribution to sustainable water management in an international setting, discuss what they learned from their experiences, and to broaden the mind and thinking of new and experienced water professionals.

Mandate

The African Young Water Professionals Forum (Af-YWPF) first convened in October 2018 with the following mandates among others.

1. Encourage and promote a high standard of professional development amongst the young professionals in the field of irrigation, drainage, and flood management;
2. Provide a platform for African young water, irrigation and drainage professionals, to exchange information, ideas, tools, experiences and possibly develop an Af-YWPF Mentorship program;
3. Expose African Young Water Professional to ICID's aims, objectives, role and activities;
4. Maintain and strengthen linkages with national and international youths having interests in water-related subjects or the activities, as relevant to ICID objectives.
5. Af-YWPF would also organize e-discussions and webinars through an e-forum (Af-YWFeF) on the topics of interest to African Young Water Professionals. Share the knowledge generated at individual and institutional level for mutual benefit of the agricultural water management community across Africa and the World.



2.1 LinkedIn Group

Outside training programs, workshops and conferences, the forum exists an e-Forum (Af-YWPeF) on [LinkedIn](#) to keep active engagement of members and to facilitate knowledge sharing. In less than a year of establishment, the forum has risen to a membership base of about **2800 professionals and experts** in the field of agricultural water management. Interaction is usually through e-discussions and Webinars organised Monthly (<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12143964>).

2.2 e-discussions

To encourage and intensify the active participation of Young Professionals in ICID activities in the domain of irrigation, drainage and flood management, IYPeF organizes a series of e-discussions and webinars as per the mandate to enable the young professionals to contribute their views on topics of interest with specific focus on AWM issues under varying climatic conditions. Af-YWPeF in consultation with AFRWG, identifies topics for e-discussion for a duration of two weeks. Each coordinator takes the lead for an e-discussion to coordinate and prepare a concept note giving brief introduction, objective, scope and expected outcome from the e-discussion on its completion. ICID (Central Office) in consultation with the relevant WGs help identify and assign one expert as Mentor for e-discussion and Af-YWPeF Coordinators are also encouraged to approach suitable mentors. The mentor will steer the discussion with his valuable inputs pertaining to the subject matter to make it more informative, insightful and enriching.

2.3 Webinars

ICID, under its policy for wider knowledge dissemination has been taking the lead to organize webinars for its members, in particular and wider irrigation and drainage community in general to promote active participation and bring a common understanding among the various stakeholders in the irrigation and drainage sector, particularly AWM. ICID through its webinars under Professional and Young Professional series facilitate various experts/speakers to present their innovations and other related topics to be recognized at an international level. Live recordings of the past webinars can be accessed at: www.icid.org/icid_webinar.html

2.4 Young Professional Training Programs and Workshops

ICID as part of its capacity development program and to attract young minds to Agricultural Water Management (AWM) sector has been organizing training programs and workshops for the YPs regionally and internationally. The main objectives of the training program/workshops are:

- To capacitate the young engineers in the area of irrigation and drainage sector and motivate them to work for the national development of their countries.
- To share innovative idea of irrigation and drainage, recent technology and others from different parts of the world (learning from key resource persons, exchange of ideas amongst the participants and providing opportunity to network with the international delegates).
- To provide exposure to the budding young professionals through capacity development.



3. Partners of Af-YWP Forum

ESCWA

The United Nations Economic Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) was established in 1973 pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1818 (LV). Its purpose was to stimulate economic activity in member countries, strengthen cooperation between them promote development. In recognition of the social component of its work, the Commission was renamed the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) under Economic and Social Council resolution 69/1985 of July 1985. ESCWA is headquartered in Beirut, Lebanon and maintains a technology hub in Amman, Jordan. ESCWA serves as a valued source of policy advice, a platform for discussion and consensus, a hub for cutting-edge research and knowledge, and an assembly for stakeholders of equitable and sustainable development. The Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies is hosted by ESCWA under its Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, which also pursues work on water, energy and food security. ESCWA works closely with international and regional organizations, including the League of Arab States and its subsidiary bodies. For more information, visit: www.unescwa.org

ACSAD

The Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD) was established in Damascus, Syria in 1968 as a specialized organization of the League of Arab States. ACSAD is mandated to support unifying Arab efforts that aim to develop the scientific agricultural research in arid and semi-arid areas of the region, and that help in the exchange of information and experiences and make use of the scientific progress and the modern agricultural techniques in order to increase the agricultural production. ACSAD also supports the Technical Secretariat of the Arab Ministerial Water Council and Arab ministries of agriculture through its governing board. For more information, visit: <http://www.acsad.org>

RICCAR

The Regional Initiative for the Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources and Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region (RICCAR) is a joint initiative of the United Nations and the League of Arab States launched in 2010. RICCAR is implemented under the auspices of the Arab Ministerial Water Council and further derives its mandate from resolutions adopted by the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment, the Arab Permanent Committee for Meteorology and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) Ministerial Session. RICCAR is implemented through a collaborative partnership involving over a dozen regional and international organizations. More information on the initiative is available at: www.riccar.org.



GWP-Med

Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med) was established in 2002 as the Mediterranean branch of the inter-governmental organisation, Global Water Partnership (GWP). Aiming for a water-se cure Mediterranean, GWP-Med works at the regional, transboundary, national, basin and local level. GWP-Med promotes action and facilitates dialogue on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM); provides technical support to policy making; implements demonstration activities; and contributes to skills and knowledge development. Strategic priorities include leveraging the SDG target 6.5 on IWRM, adaptation to climate vulnerability and change, and river basin/transboundary water management. Gender and youth issues, as well as private sector participation in water financing, are also key, cross-cutting issues for GWP-Med. GWP-Med facilitates a multi-stakeholder platform that brings together almost 100 water institutions and organisations, including 10 major regional networks of different water disciplines. GWP-Med extends its human resources in 7 Mediterranean countries with the Secretariat being based in Athens. For more information please visit www.gwpmed.org

IsDB

The Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) is a multilateral development bank (MDB), working to improve the lives of those the IsDB serve by promoting social and economic development in Member countries and Muslim communities worldwide, delivering impact at scale. IsDB provide the infrastructure to enable people to lead better lives and achieve their full potential. IsDB bring together 57 member countries across four continents - touching the lives of 1 in 5 of the world's population. IsDB is one of the world's most active MDBs, and global leaders in Islamic Finance, with an AAA rating, and operating assets of more than USD 16 billion and subscribed capital of USD 70 billion. IsDB is a truly global institution, headquartered in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, with major hubs in about 9 countries. For more information, visit: www.isdb.org



4. The Third African Young Professionals Training Workshop

Owing to the success of the 1st Af-YWPF and 2nd Af-YWPF, the forum has grown to attract more than **2800 members** from all African countries, thus becoming an important platform on the African continent for capacity development of Africa's future leaders in water-related sectors. Thus, the MWRI of Egypt, AFRWG of the ICID, ENCID and ICID will host the 3rd Af-YWPF at the Cairo Water Week 2020. The three-day forum will include the forum meeting, training workshop and converge with activities of the CWW 2020 to give YP's the opportunity to engage with experts and stakeholders in the water sector through interactive sessions, hands-on training workshops as well as seminars.

The event is organised by the African Regional Working Group of the ICID and presents an opportunity for panel questions and networking. At the workshop, presenters, facilitators, and trainers will share their experiences in the area of innovation, inspire participants and instil the confidence for them to voice their thoughts and ideas on ways to overcome challenges of water scarcity, particularly in the agricultural sector with a focus on water management.

4.1 Training Topics: Accurate estimation of crop water requirements and irrigation scheduling: This training encompasses five (5) sessions to demonstrate how to access remotely sensed water productivity data; monitor water productivity and identify gaps; promote interactive discussions to reduce gaps in water productivity and increase agricultural production; compare remotely-sensed data to measured data provided by workshop participants; evaluate projected evapotranspiration data using regional climate modelling outputs; and to estimate future water productivity using projected evapotranspiration data. Also, one session will use case studies based on field experiences to discuss how climate change impacts agricultural productivity and explore innovative technologies that can support inclusive and sustainable agriculture and benefit vulnerable groups.

Role of gender to achieve SDG's: This topic will be covered in one (1) session which will draw from experts how women and girls – especially those living in poverty – are disproportionately affected by a lack of water and sanitation services, making SDG 5 and 6 fundamentally interdependent. For example, inadequate sanitation and hygiene put women's health and survival at risk during pregnancy and childbirth. In addition, girls may drop out of school or suffer psychological stress because of the lack of adequate sanitation and hygiene facilities in their communities.

4.2 Our Daily Time Table (Cairo, Egypt Time)

Apart from the sessions associated with the opening day of Cairo Water Week, the programme will follow the following schedule:

- Mornings: from 10:00 to 11:30 hrs with one coffee/tea break at 11:30
- Afternoons: from 12:30 to 16:00 hrs with one health break at 14:00

5 Detailed Schedule of the Young Professionals Training Program

Time/Date	Activities	Venue
Day 1 - Sunday, 18th October 2020		
10:00 – 11:30	Official opening of CWW (Online/physical)	
11:30 – 12:00	Break	
12:00 – 16:00	CWW Activities	Online
Day 2 - Monday, 19th October 2020		
Opening Session of the Third Af-YWP Forum		
10:00 – 11:30	<p>Speeches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Ashwan Pandya –Secretary General of ICID • Dr. Mohamed Wahba - Chair of AGRWG-ICID • Dr. Felix B. Reinders - President of ICID & WASAG • Ms. Roula Majdalani, Director, Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies; Cluster Leader, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA • Eng. Amadou Thierno Diallo, Director General, Global Practices, IsDB 	Online
11:30 – 12:30	Break	
Training Session 1		
12:30 – 14:00	<p>Convenors: ESCWA, ACSAD, ICID, and AFRWG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening and introduction to the Regional Initiative for the Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources and Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region (RICCAR) (30 minutes) • Overview of water, agriculture, and climate data (50 minutes) • Q & A (10 minutes) 	Online
14:00 – 14:30	Break	
Training Session 2		
14:30– 16:00	<p>Convenors: ESCWA, ACSAD, ICID, and AFRWG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using remote sensing datasets (WaPOR) and crop coefficients to estimate actual crop evapotranspiration, historical to near-present (70 minutes) • Q & A (2 periods, one midway and one at end of session, 10 minutes each) 	Online

Day 3 - Tuesday, 20th October 2020

10:00 – 11:30	Training Session 3	Online
	Convenors: ESCWA, ACSAD, ICID, and AFRWG <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irrigation scheduling using AquaCrop software (70 minutes) • Q & A (2 periods, one midway and one at end of session, 10 minutes each) 	
11:30 – 12:30	Break	
12:30 – 14:00	Training Session 4	Online
	Convenors: ESCWA, ACSAD, ICID, and AFRWG <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deficit irrigation scheduling using AquaCrop (25 minutes) • Q & A (10 minutes) • Supplementary irrigation scheduling using AquaCrop (20 minutes) • Case studies (10 minutes) • Q & A (10 minutes) • Closing session (15 minutes) 	
14:00 – 14:30	Break	
14:30 – 16:00	Training Session 5	Online
	Convenors: GWP-Med, ICID, and AFRWG <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction by co-convenors, objectives and structure of the session – 5min • Why gender transformative approach for water security and investments in Africa? <i>Dr. Anthi Brouma, Deputy Regional Coordinator, GWP-Med</i> (12min) • Gender issues in agricultural water management, <i>Ms. Prachi Sharma, Knowledge Officer, ICID</i> (12min) • Q&A (15min) • Case studies from the African Young Water Professionals Network (16min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Ms. Sinafekesh (Ethiopia)</i> ○ <i>Mr. Sebyala Hamidu (Uganda)</i> • Interactive discussion on how to engender the work of the African Young Water Professionals for meeting the SDGs (25min) • Key take away messages and closing (5min) 	

Day 4 – Wednesday, 21st October 2020

Training Session 6		
Convenors: IsDB, ICID, and AFRWG		
10:00 – 11:30	<p>Financing Water Sector in IsDB MCs and Development challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IsDB Water Sector Financing and Policy Direction by Dr Nizar Zaied, Global Lead Water, IsDB (15 minutes) • Q & A (10 minutes) • Asset management in Irrigation Infrastructure: Case studies from IsDB financed projects by Dr Hala Al Hamed, Global Water Resources Specialist, IsDB (15 minutes) • Q & A (10 minutes) • Financing of Sustainable Irrigation and Drainage Infrastructure: Case studies from IsDB financed projects by Eng Bakhodir Mirzaev, Senior Global Water Specialist, IsDB (15 minutes) • Q & A (10 minutes) • Panel Discussions Moderated by Eng. Sami Ahmad Faruqi, Global Practice Manager (15 minutes) 	Online
11:30 – 12:30	Break	
Closing Session of the Third Af-YWP Forum		
Convenors: ESCWA, ACSAD, IsDB, ICID, and AFRWG		
12:30 – 14:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keynote: Dr. H K Varma –Executive Director - ICID • Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, RICCAR Coordinator, Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies; Chief, Water Resources Section, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA • Eng. Sami Ahmad Faruqi, Global Practice Manager, Economic & Social Infrastructure Department, IsDB, • Closing remark (Dr. Mohamed Wahba- Chairman of AFRWG) 	Online

Day 5 – Thursday, 22nd October 2020

All day	Converging with Activities of the Cairo Water Week.	Online
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4.3 Workshop Venue

Sessions will be conducted virtually. A meeting invitation will be sent via email for each workshop session from the convenors. The email will include a participant link and guide describing system requirements. All the sessions will be via Microsoft Teams. A link for each session will originate from the escwa-h2o@un.org email. Participants are kindly requested to mute their microphones and turn off video (other than when speaking) to minimize noise and bandwidth usage.

6. List of Young Professional Participants

No	Name	Country	Gender	e-mail	Mobile	Photo
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7. List of Speakers/Training Officers



Dr. Felix B. Reinders

President, International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)

He specialises in Water resources management and Irrigation engineering in the Agricultural and Civil Engineering field, including research, design, training and mentoring.



Dr. Ashwin B. Pandya

Secretary General – ICID

Presently he is engaged with Governments of Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa, WAPCOS, the World Bank for various hydropower and other projects involving design and construction of large underground caverns and other geotechnical structures in India and abroad.



Dr. Marlene Ann Tomaszekwicz

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Marlene Ann Tomaszekwicz serves as Regional Advisor for Geographic Information Systems for Climate Change Analysis at the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), within the Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster and in support of the Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies, based at ESCWA.



Dr. Ihab Jnad

Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD)

Ihab Jnad currently works as head of water resources department for the Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD) located in Damascus, Syria. He also acts as associate professor at the Faculty of Agriculture –Damascus University (Syria).



Mr. Mazen Naaman

Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD)

Mazen Naaman currently works as water resources expert for the Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD) located in Damascus, Syria. He also acts as head of the data analysis section and database administrator for the Water Resources Information Center (WRIC) for the Lattakia (Syria) Water Resources Directorate.



Eng. Sami Ahmad Faruqi

Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)

Sami Ahmad Faruqi is presently heading the Social Infrastructure Global Practice, covering core business sectors of Water Resources, Urban Development, Health and Education in the Islamic Development Bank, headquartered in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.



Eng. Amadou Thierno Diallo

Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)

Amadou Thierno Diallo is the Director-General of Global Practices at the Islamic Development Bank Group (IsDBG), where he has been employed since 2011. He was also acting director of the Agriculture and Rural Development Department and Director of the Office of the Vice President Operations at the IsDB



Dr. Anthi Brouma

Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean (GWP-Med)

Anthi Brouma is the Deputy Regional Coordinator, Theme Leader on Governance, Sustainable Financing & Diversity. Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean (GWP-Med). Dr. Anthi a political scientist by education, specialized through her postgraduate studies on global development issues and water policy.



Dr. Mohamed A. Shehata Wahba

Chairman of the African Regional Working Group of the ICID
Mohamed Wahba is currently an International Visiting Scientist with the Chinese Academy of Science. He is also a Senior Researcher with the Drainage Research Institute, NWRC, MWRI-Egypt and a Vice President Honoraria (VPH) of the ICID



8. Useful Information

For emergency, please contact

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International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) African Regional Working Group (AFRWG)



Third African Young Water Professionals Forum (Af-YWPF) (Online)

Theme: Innovative Systems to Respond to Water Scarcity

18 – 22 October 2020



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