

**International Workshop on
Irrigation, Water Quality and
Environmental Flows
Adelaide, Australia, June 2012**

Name (Mr/Ms/Dr):.....

Position:.....

Organisation:.....

Full Address:

City:

Postal Code:

Country:

Tel.:

Fax:

E-mail:

I would like to attend the workshop

I would like to present a paper

a poster

Entitled:

E-mail these details and a 600 word abstract (as a WORD file) as soon as possible and **not later than 15th February, 2012** to Rag@ceh.ac.uk;
sylvain.perret@cirad.fr; icid@icid.org

Organising/ Scientific Committee:

Dr Ragab Ragab, Vice President of ICID and member of Working Group on the Use of Poor Quality Water, ICID. Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, CEH, UK.

Dr Sylvain Perret, Chairman of Working Group on Environment, ICID. CIRAD UMR G-Eau Asian Institute of Technology. Thailand

Dr Samia El-Guindy, Chairman, Working Group on the Use of Poor Quality Water, ICID. National Water Research Centre, Delta Barrage, Cairo, Egypt

Dr Anna Tedeschi, Secretary of Working Group on the Use of Poor Quality Water, ICID. CNR-ISAFO, Italy

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Prof. Faisal Taha, Research Program Director, Biosaline Agriculture Centre, Dubai, UAE

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Dr. Willem F. Vlotman, Vice President, ICID

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Registration Fee

Participants need to register for the. 63rd IEC and 7th Asian Regional Conference, 24-30 June 2012, Adelaide, Australia. For more information, please access Conference website:
<http://online.saneevent.com.au/ial2012/>

2012



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**63rd IEC Meeting
of the International Commission on
Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)**

Adelaide, Australia, June 2012

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

on

**Irrigation, Water Quality
and Environmental Flows**

**FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT
and
CALL FOR PAPERS**

International Workshop on. Irrigation, Water Quality and Environmental Flows Adelaide, Australia, June 2012

This workshop is being organised under the auspices of the International Commission for Irrigation and Drainage's (ICID) Work Group on the Use of Poor Quality Water for Irrigation and the Working Group on Environment. It will be held in conjunction with ICID's 63rd International Executive Council Meeting.

General scoping & Objectives

The workshop aims at addressing both input and output waters in irrigation, as key interfaces between irrigation systems and the environment. A first sub-theme concerns the quality of input water in irrigation, with a special focus on poor quality water, and related issues. A second sub-theme refers to drainage waters, as return flow and the potential contribution to Environmental Flow Requirements, EFR. This Workshop will bring together experts from all over the world to discuss their experience with using different types of poor quality water and how these should be managed to minimise environmental impacts and promote sustainable practices. The state-of-the-art, and experiences on Requirement for Environmental Flow assessment, interactions with irrigation, impacts of REF implementation will be discussed. A multidisciplinary perspective with many dimensions of the interactions between irrigation, REF and other uses will be debated.

Background on Poor Quality Water

Poor quality water is increasingly used as a source of irrigation water. This is due to a general

deterioration in fresh water quality associated with its more intensive use and re-use, the allocation of better quality water to "more economic" uses and the recognition that irrigation can often extract value from water with a quality too poor for other uses.

Traditionally irrigators have been more concerned with crop production objectives, with less focus on reducing the environmental impact of irrigation activities. This narrow approach is no longer adequate and the success of irrigation is increasingly evaluated by determining its long-term sustainability and its broader environmental impacts.

Background on Environmental Flow Requirements

Irrigation remains by far the largest freshwater user and interacts crucially with river ecosystems. Indeed, massive river water extractions for irrigation contribute to depriving river ecosystems of the minimum flow required for their healthy functioning. Drainage and return flow from irrigation potentially contributes significantly to EFR, but this is often not accounted for by practitioners. As a result, irrigators and irrigation systems are sometimes blamed for excessive extractions, yet hardly recognized for return flow, as a positive externality and a contribution to EFR. In turn, meeting EFR may impose restrictions on extractions for irrigation. Policies on EFR are yet to be developed & implemented in many countries. Further, such requirements remain basically unknown in many basins, despite plethora of methodologies available to assess EFR. Finally, EFR establishes the environment as an additional water user, among other sectors, therefore increasing competition for water at the basin level. Economic & social consequences of EFR remain to be established in most basins.

Sub Topic Themes (Water Quality)

- *Irrigation with poor quality water as a means to reduce environmental impacts (reduced salinity and plant nutrients)*
- *Health aspects associated with irrigation with poor quality water*
- *Environmental impacts associated with using poor quality water for irrigation*
- *Management practices that promote sustainable use of poor quality water for irrigation*
- *Institutional issues arising from poor water quality irrigation impacts on the environment*
- *Management of poor quality water to reduce salinization of water resources*
- *Management of poor quality water to reduce salinization of water resources.*
- *Management of poor quality water to reduce eutrophication (enrichment with plant nutrients) of water resources*

Sub Topic Themes (Environmental Flows)

- *Irrigation Return Flow: positive or negative externality? Experiences, case studies; quantitative and qualitative aspects, contribution to EFR*
- *Water quality of irrigation return flow: standards, regulations, monitoring systems*
- *Assessment of EFR: methodologies, experiences, case studies*
- *Impacts of implementing EFR on irrigation water use; techno-economic analyses*
- *Implementing EFR in context of off-stream / in-stream multiple uses*
- *Case studies on EFR policy & implementation*
- *Ecosystem Services provided by irrigation drainage: case studies and experiences, policy mechanisms.*