



## 26th ICID International Congress & 77th International Executive Council (IEC) Meeting The 2nd World Heritage Irrigation Structures Conference

### Official Program

Time Slot	Duration	Session Content	Host & Speaker Details
0–10 mins	10 minutes	Opening Remarks & Agenda Briefing	<b>Host:</b> Dr. Yutaka Matsuno, Chair of ICID WG-HIST
10–80 mins	70 minutes	Presentations	invited 7 speakers, 10 minutes per speaker
8–90 mins	10 minutes	Discussion & Closing Summary	

**Organizer:** ICID Working Group on History of Irrigation, Drainage and Flood Control (WG-HIST)

**Proposed International Partner:** Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations - Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (FAO-GIAHS)

**Date:** 13 October 2026

**Duration:** 90 minutes (1.5 hours)

**Venue:** Marseille, France

**Participation Format:** In-person only, no virtual participation available

**Expected Number of Attendees:** 50 persons

### Call for Papers

This workshop is officially organized by the ICID Working Group on History of Irrigation, Drainage and Flood Control (WG-HIST), as an accredited parallel event of the 26th ICID International Congress and 77th IEC Meeting. It will be held on **13 October 2026 in Marseille, France.**

## I. Background

World Heritage Irrigation Structures (WHIS) are invaluable treasures of human agricultural civilization, embodying the core wisdom of traditional water management, and playing an irreplaceable role in modern food security, water resources governance, ecological conservation, and cultural inheritance.

Against the backdrop of intensifying global climate change and the transformation of agricultural production modes, irrigation heritage faces the dual challenges of structural protection and functional adaptation. There is an urgent need to build a global collaborative platform for heritage conservation, unify international technical standards and cooperation mechanisms, promote the integration of traditional irrigation wisdom and modern water management technology, and mainstream irrigation heritage protection into national water governance and cultural heritage protection frameworks.

This conference focuses on the core proposition of irrigation heritage protection and sustainable utilization, shares global best practices, promotes interdisciplinary research and cross-border cooperation, and supports the long-term inheritance of irrigation heritage in the context of global sustainable development.

## II. Objectives

1. Facilitate dialogue among ICID member states, heritage institutions, and research organizations, to establish a unified international cooperation mechanism for irrigation heritage conservation, and advocate for the establishment of the World Heritage Irrigation Structures Association (WHISA).
2. Showcase successful cases of adaptive reuse of irrigation heritage in modern agriculture, ecological conservation, and rural revitalization.
3. Develop technical guidelines that balance the structural preservation of heritage and sustainable water resource utilization, and refine the WHIS selection criteria and dynamic monitoring mechanisms.
4. Call on nations to integrate irrigation heritage into national water resource management and cultural heritage protection systems, and promote capacity building of local communities in heritage management.
5. Establish a long-term academic exchange mechanism to ensure the continuity of global irrigation heritage conservation efforts.
6. Collect high-quality academic papers for the dedicated special issue of the *Irrigation and Drainage* (I&D) Journal, the official peer-reviewed journal of ICID.

### III. Workshop Format

#### III. Themes & Scope of Papers

Papers are invited around the core theme of World Heritage Irrigation Structures, including but not limited to the following sub-topics:

1. Heritage Value Exploration: Historical evolution, cultural value, ecological value, and scientific value of global irrigation and drainage heritage structures.
2. Heritage Conservation and Restoration: Scientific protection methods, structural safety assessment, restoration technologies, and practical case studies of historical irrigation systems.
3. Sustainable Management of Heritage: Adaptive reuse of irrigation heritage in modern water-efficient agriculture, climate-resilient development, and ecological management.
4. Cultural and Socioeconomic Impact: The role of irrigation heritage in rural revitalization, cultural tourism, community livelihood improvement, and intergenerational cultural inheritance.
5. Policy and Governance: Legal frameworks, funding mechanisms, international cooperation models, and multi-stakeholder collaborative governance systems for irrigation heritage protection.
6. Technological Innovation: Integration of modern engineering technology, digital technology, and traditional irrigation wisdom to enhance heritage adaptability and irrigation efficiency.
7. Education and Public Awareness: Academic research system development, public outreach, and youth education related to irrigation heritage.

#### IV. Submission Requirements

1. The paper must be original, unpublished, and not under review for publication elsewhere, with no academic misconduct including plagiarism, duplicate submission, or falsified data.
2. The paper must be closely aligned with the themes and scope of the workshop, with clear viewpoints, reliable data, rigorous logic, and standardized academic format.
3. **Abstract Submission:** The abstract must be written in English, with a maximum length of 500 words, including research background, objectives, methodology, core results, and conclusions.
4. **Full Paper Submission:** The full paper must be written in English, with a maximum length of 10 A4 pages, strictly following the author guidelines of the *Irrigation and Drainage Journal*.

- The corresponding author must confirm that all co-authors have approved the submission and publication of the paper.

## V. Key Dates

Submission Item	Deadline
Submission of abstracts (max. 500 words)	30 April 2026
Notification of abstract acceptance & invitation to submit full paper	30 May 2026
Submission of full paper	30 June 2026
Notification of full paper acceptance & oral presentation invitation	30 July 2026
Final revised paper submission for <i>Irrigation and Drainage</i> special issue	30 September 2026

## VI. Submission Guidelines

- All abstracts and full papers must be submitted as Microsoft Word documents via email.
- Submission email: Please send the complete documents to Dr. Yutaka Matsuno (Chair of WG-HIST) at [matsuno@nara.kindai.ac.jp](mailto:matsuno@nara.kindai.ac.jp), with CC to Mr. Gao Lihui, (Vice Chair of WG-HIST) at [gaolh@iwhr.com](mailto:gaolh@iwhr.com)
- Email subject format: **WG-HIST 2026 Workshop Submission - Author Full Name - Paper Title**
- All submissions must include a completed Abstract Submission Form (see Annex) attached with the abstract file.

## VII. Registration & Travel Information

All speakers and participants must complete the official registration for the 26th ICID International Congress. Full registration details, accommodation options, and travel guidance are available on the official congress website: <https://icidcongress2026.org/registration/>