

26th ICID International Congress and 77th IEC Meeting in Marseille 12-17 Oct 2026

2nd ICID TF-WEWM International Workshop

Title: Women in Water Governance and Management: From Participation to Meaningful Leadership – A Showcase of Local to Global Best Practices

Date & Time: 13 October 2026, 14:00–16:00 (2 hours)

Workshop Format

This workshop will combine presentations of selected papers with an interactive and moderated panel discussion. Drawing on insights and experiences gained from ICID-related events and meetings in Australia, India, Malaysia, Nigeria, Tajikistan, Iran, and Japan, as well as collaboration with international institutional platforms such as IWA and FAO, the session will bring together emerging leaders, researchers, practitioners, and water governance advocates from diverse regional, institutional, and cross-sectoral contexts.

The selected contributions will highlight practical experiences and innovative approaches to advancing women's meaningful leadership in water governance and management, while linking local and national experiences with broader regional and international perspectives. The selected presenters will also participate in the final moderated discussion.

Proposed Programme Schedule

Time	Time slot	Programme Segment
14:00–14:10	10 minutes	Opening Remarks, Chairperson, ICID TF-WEWM
14:10–15:40	90 minutes	Presentation of six selected papers, 15 minutes per presentation
15:40–15:45	5 minutes	Pre-recorded video message from IWA
15:45–16:00	15 minutes	Moderated panel discussion and Q&A with presenters and participants

FAO's participation is also being considered, and the necessary consultations are currently underway.

Planned Proceedings

The selected papers presented at the workshop will be compiled and prepared as part of the workshop Proceedings. The Proceedings file is currently under preparation and, once completed, will be submitted to the ICID Central Office for final review and approval.

Thematic Structure of the Selected Contributions

The selected contributions address women's participation and meaningful leadership in water governance across diverse regional contexts and are organized under three strategic themes:

- **Strategic Governance and Institutional Leadership** – advancing women's roles in decision-making, institutional leadership, collaboration, and inclusive water governance.
- **Climate Resilience and the Water–Energy–Food–Ecosystems (WEFE) Nexus** – exploring integrated approaches to climate change adaptation, water resilience, the water–energy–food–ecosystems nexus, traditional knowledge, and nature-based solutions.
- **Sustainable Economy and Digital Equity** – examining opportunities for sustainable and inclusive economic development, innovative financing, digital transformation, and equitable access to emerging technologies in the water sector.

Overall, these perspectives provide a geographically diverse and cross-sectoral picture, demonstrating how women's leadership can contribute to more inclusive, resilient, and effective water governance.

Expected Number of Speakers

Approximately 7 key speakers, including the Chairperson and six selected paper presenters. The selected presenters will also participate in the moderated panel discussion.

Short Paragraph for the Congress Programme / Social Media

The 2nd International Workshop of the ICID TF-WEWM, entitled “**Women in Water Governance and Management: From Participation to Meaningful Leadership – A Showcase of Local to Global Best Practices**” — held alongside the 26th ICID International Congress and 77th IEC Meeting in Marseille — examines the structural transition of women from technical and grassroots roles (at the local community level) towards strategic and institutional leadership across the water sector, with particular emphasis on water resources management and agricultural water management. The session is built around evidence-based case studies and structured around three strategic themes: strategic governance and institutional leadership; climate resilience and the water–energy–food–ecosystems (WEFE) nexus; and sustainable economy and digital equity. Drawing on the outcomes of previous ICID-related meetings in Australia, India, Malaysia, Nigeria, Tajikistan, Iran, and Japan, and with the participation of other partners and ICID member countries, the workshop establishes a link between local practical action and national and international policymaking. Through selected presentations and an interactive and moderated discussion, the workshop and session will explore, from different parts of the world, how women's leadership, local knowledge, institutional collaboration, innovation, and cross-sectoral approaches can contribute to more inclusive, resilient, and effective water governance.