



SESSION DESCRIPTION FORM 2.

10TH WORLD WATER FORUM

This Session Description Form 2 is for the specified program of the session. Please complete this form no later than 28th of February 2024.

**The session description 1 (online form) is separately requested for the session coordinators to deliver a concise session outline with the contact info and the logistical requests.*

Session Code and Title:

1C3 - Revitalization of existing irrigated areas to be water-wise and climate-smart

Session Coordinators (Name, Position, Organization, email, mobile number):

Maher Salman, Senior Land and Water Officer, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, maher.salman@fao.org, +393 755935482

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Session Description including objectives and expected outcomes (500 words maximum):

Irrigation development and management interact with different systems such as ecosystems, climate and society. Such linkages must be recognized and strengthened to avoid negative impacts and reinforce the positive ones. In the light of this assumption, how can future irrigation revitalization guarantee the sustainable, climate-smart and efficient use of water? What are the required social and environmental safeguards to make irrigation development sustainable and equitable?

To respond to these questions, the session will dive into the topic of the revitalization of irrigated areas from multiple perspectives of sustainability and showcase innovations from the ground.

Over the past decades, the performance of irrigation systems in many countries has declined due to the deterioration and ageing of irrigation systems and infrastructure, exacerbated by local conditions in some countries whereas fragility persists. Despite the widespread dissemination of good practices for managing irrigation schemes and planning interventions, a significant gap exists in the form of a clear and practical guide for development and modernization. This is partly because irrigation development is increasingly contextualized in a broader and integrated concept, whereas mutual interactions amongst different systems must be understood to establish the best strategies for revitalization and modernization. Approaches for integrated assessments, including computer-aided solutions are available for different purposes such as digital tools for water accounting, water demand calculations or emission inventory. Other interactions such as the contribution of irrigation modernization to climate change mitigation through enhanced water management practices or renewable energy resources are also covered by standardized approaches. Nonetheless, some of them require traditional and case-specific approaches to unfold the complex relationships.

The session will provide a stocktaking of approaches for the revitalization and modernization of irrigation schemes, including the demonstration of tangible impacts on water efficiency and climate resilience, while ensuring access to water and food security. It will demonstrate the added value of established approaches for harnessing multiple benefits of irrigation system revitalization, including but not limited to the thematic topics of consumptive use of water, water measurements and accounting, impacts to downstream users, salinity and drainage, alternative irrigation methods for rice production and other crops to reduce methane and nitrous oxide emissions, alternative and renewable energy sources for irrigation.

Detailed Session plan :

ESTIMATED TIMING	ITEM DESCRIPTION / ROLE	SPEAKERS	SPEAKERS STATUS (OK OR TBC)
5 min	Opening remarks	Lifeng Li Director of the Land and Water Division Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	OK
10 min	Towards sustainable revitalization: Principles and flagship Initiative to map Irrigation Needs and Potential	Maher Salman Senior Land and Water Officer Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	OK
15 min	Panel discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setting criteria for climate-smart and sustainable revitalization Exploiting the potential of irrigation development for embracing environmental and social safeguards 	Marco Arcieri President International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage Yasmin Siddiqi Director, Agriculture, Food, Nature, and Rural Development Sector Office Sectors Group Asian Development Bank Nizar Zaied Manager, Agriculture, Water Resource & Rural Development, Economic & Social Infrastructure Islamic Development Bank	OK OK OK
10 min	Enhancing resilience through circular water management in fragile contexts: Lessons from SIF's irrigation canal rehabilitation in Syria	Marie-Sara Bouloumou Advocacy officer - Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Secours Islamique France	OK
40 min	Case studies: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A case study on low carbon irrigation development: towards low-carbon irrigation development - experiences from Asia A case study on on-farm irrigation management: improved paddy rice production for mitigation and adaptation A case study on water efficiency: Egypt's case study on promoting water efficiency in the Nile 	Lace Gore Principal Portfolio Management/ Water Resources Specialist Asian Development Bank Kenji Washino Secretary General International Network for Water Ecosystem in Paddy Field - Japan Committee Martino Melli Head of Office, Cairo Italian Agency for Development Cooperation	OK OK OK



	<p>Valley for better living conditions.</p> <p>4. Sensor-based irrigation management: affordable technology for water monitoring at the farm level</p>	<p>Eva Pek Land and Water Officer Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p>	<p>OK</p>
10 min	Interaction with the audience		
	Closing		