

FROM AFRICA TO ASIA AND BACK AGAIN: TESTING ADAPTATION IN FLOOD-BASED FARMING SYSTEMS

Annual Meeting 28 to 30 April, 2016

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Knowledge Products

1. Design Guidelines on Spate Irrigation
2. Guidelines on FBFS
3. Shared practical notes
4. Journal articles

Design guidelines on spate irrigation

Justification:

- Lack of technical expertise and technical guide tops the list of the major causes for the failure of many spate irrigation development interventions

Content – five main chapters

1. Hydrology and water resources analysis (HRC - Sudan)
2. Design of diversion structures and intakes (PARC/SPO and SPNF).
3. Design of canals and distribution systems (MU and ICRAF)
4. Design of on-farm structures (MU and SPNF)
5. Operation and maintenance requirements (MetaMeta)

SPN overall responsibility?

Design guidelines on spate irrigation

Progress so far (till April, 2016):

- Chapters 1 to 3 are ready in draft – still need a lot of work
- ICID has agreed to publish the guidelines

Plans (May to December, 2016)

- Involve the interns/young professionals
- Finalize the five chapters in draft
- Present the draft chapters at the ICID congress in November 2016 in Thailand
- ICID submits the draft chapters to reviewers

Guidelines on Flood-based Farming Systems (FBFS)

Justification:

- Up-scaling the knowledge-base from spate irrigation to the other FBFS was a key rationale for embarking on this project.
- Spate irrigation covers about 3 M ha - FBFS up to 30 M ha

Content

- Similar to the FAO guidelines on spate irrigation
- Topics could cover: status and potential; flood, spreading, distribution; land preparation and soil fertility; managing soil moisture and field water management; conjunctive use; socio-economic aspects; agricultural practices and extension services.

Guidelines on Flood-based Farming Systems (FBFS)

Progress so far (April, 2016)

- It is a new deliverable – we are starting

Plans (May to December, 2016)

- MetaMeta responsible for overall coordination?
- Involve the Interns/young professionals in documentation and write-up
- Identify relevant topics/chapters
- Roughly 50% of the guideline document ready

Shared Practical Notes and Articles

Justification: *Integral part of the communication strategy*

- Shared practical notes also in local languages (SPNF to coordinate?)
 - Facilitates cooperation among project team and countries
 - Easy to read and hence can travel far among farmers, practitioners and even policy makers
- Journal articles (ICRAF to coordinate?):
 - Facilitate mainstreaming FBFS in regular educational systems at colleges, universities

Shared Practical Notes and Articles

Content: *Closely linked to the three research themes*

- Water governance, water rights, conflicts and conflict mitigation.
- Managing soil moisture and soil fertility.
- Improving water diversion and distribution efficiency.
- Other relevant topics?

Shared Practical Notes and Articles

Progress:

- It is a new deliverable

Plans (May to December, 2016):

- Involve Interns/young professionals
- Three practical notes on topics of shared interest – more than two countries to be involved
- At least two journal articles