

Second Draft

INTERNATIONAL DRYLAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (IDDC)

**Tenth International Conference on Development of Drylands
Meeting the Challenge of Sustainable Development in Drylands under Changing
Climate – Moving from Global to Local**

12-15 December 2010, Muscat, Oman

Sponsored by

Ministry of Agriculture and the Research Council of Oman

The International Dryland Development Commission (IDDC), which is an autonomous nongovernmental nonprofit organization established in 1987 by the individuals and institutions interested in sustainable development of dry areas, is promoting all aspects of dryland studies by fostering cooperation, collaboration and networking between various international, regional and national organizations. One of the important *modus operandi* of the networking of IDDC has been to hold a major scientific conference every three years to provide opportunity to participants from around the world to exchange research results and experiences in dryland development and combating desertification. In pursuance of this objective the IDDC has organized in the past nine international conferences. The Commission is hosted by the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Alexandria, Egypt.

The Tenth International Conference on Dryland Development (ICDD) on “**Meeting the Challenge of Sustainable Development in the Dry Lands under Changing Climate – Moving from Global to Local**” will be held on 12-15 December 2010 in Muscat, Oman. It will be organized under the auspices of the International Dry Lands Development Commission (IDDC) and sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Research Council of Oman and other national and international organizations.

Proposed Topics of Interest

There is increasing evidence that the ecological impact of the global climate change is being witnessed much faster than earlier anticipated. Dry areas of the world have highly fragile ecosystem, which is highly vulnerable to the anticipated environmental changes. For sustainable development of the dry lands and other dry areas, it is important that the resilience of these ecosystems to cope with the challenges of global climate change is enhanced. However, the assessment of climate change at the global level masks the changes that are occurring at regional and local levels. In order to develop effective adaptive and mitigation strategies, it is necessary that **assessment at local levels** covering various ecologies is done. The Conference will provide an opportunity to see how

assessment could be moved from **global to smaller spatial levels** and the probable impact of these changes on the natural resources and agricultural productivity of different ecosystems in the dry areas and exchange information and possible ways to enhance the resilience of these systems through adaptation and mitigation strategies using traditional knowledge as well as modern science and technology. It will also identify challenges faced by the communities that live there, and reducing the pace of climate change through improved management of natural resources of water, land and biodiversity in the dry areas.

Subjects to be addressed include the following:

1. **Assessment of climatic change** in arid lands: **Moving from global to local**
2. **Local impact** of climate change on the natural resources of water, land, and biodiversity and the productivity of agriculture (including fishery) in the dry areas; national case studies.
3. **Enhancing resilience** of local agricultural communities in the drylands through **adaptation strategies** involving improved methods for water capture, management infrastructure, and use, development and selection of crops and varieties adapted to low moisture regimes and high temperature stress, and appropriate agronomic management practices including conservation agriculture.
4. **Mitigation strategies** to cope with climate change in dry areas based on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture and food chains, and through development and use of **solar** and other sources for **renewable energy** and through **carbon sequestration**.
5. Blending **indigenous/traditional knowledge** and heritage with modern science in the sustainable development of dry areas under changing climate, particularly with respect to water use, including **ground water**, and cropping systems.
6. **Socioeconomic, institutional and policy** considerations for development of dry areas under impact of climate change.

Papers

Papers are invited covering scientific and developmental aspects within the framework of the topics suggested above. They should build on existing knowledge and have projections for future direction. They could be presented orally or as posters, as decided by the International Scientific Committee.

Persons planning to present papers at the Conference should submit a one page, single spaced abstract of 200-300 words by **30 June 2010**. Completed manuscript must be submitted by **31 August 2010**. Papers must be formatted as per the guidelines provided by the International Scientific Committee. The Conference language will be English. One copy of the proceedings volume containing the papers presented at the Conference will be provided to registered participants.

Registration

The registration fee is US\$ 300 (US \$ 150 for students) for those registering by 31 July 2010. Fee for registration later than 31 July 2010 will be US \$ 400 (US \$200 for student). The registration fee covers workshop publications including the proceedings and coffee/tea/snacks during the forenoon and afternoon breaks and lunch for 4 days (12-15 December). The local transportation, visa arrangements and other logistics will be covered by the courtesy of the host country.

The conference scientific tour will emphasize the use of traditional knowledge in managing the water resources (*Aflaj* system) amongst other interesting applications of science and technology in managing natural resources in the dry areas.

Conference Deadlines

Arrival of abstracts	30 June 2010
Authors notified of acceptance of papers	31 July 2010
Early registration deadline	31 July 2010
Complete manuscripts to be submitted to the organizers	31 August 2010

If you are considering attending the Conference, please complete the attached form and return it to the address indicated. This will ensure that you receive additional information and registration material, and will assist the planning.

International Scientific Committee

Chairman: Prof. Dr Adel El-Beltagy, Chair of IDDC, Chair of Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR), and Chair of Agricultural Research and Development Council of the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, Government of Egypt

Members: H.E. Dr Hilal Al-Hinai, Secretary General, The Research Council, Sultanate of Oman

Prof. Iwao Kobori, Senior Program Advisor, United Nations University, Tokyo, Japan

Prof. Charles F. Kennel, Distinguished Professor of Atmospheric Science, Emeritus Senior Advisor, Sustainability Solutions Institute, University of California, San Diego, USA

Prof. Dr R.G. Wyn Jones, Associate Director, Center for Arid Zone Studies, University College of North Wales, UK, Secretary-General, IDDC

Prof. Dr Atsushi Tsunekawa, Director of Arid Land Research Center, Tottori University, Japan

Dr. Zafar Adeel, Director, United Nations University - Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH), Hamilton, Canada

Dr. M.V.K. Sivakumar, Director, Climate Prediction and Adaptation (CLPA) Branch, World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Geneva, Switzerland

Dr. Ayman Abu-Hadid, President, Agriculture Research Council (ARC), Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, Giza, Cairo, Egypt

Prof. Dr Mohan Saxena, Senior Advisor to the Director General, ICARDA, Gurgaon, Haryana, India, Executive Secretary, ICDD

Local Organizing Committee

Chairman: H.E. Eng. Khalfan Al-Naabi, Undersecretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Oman

Members: Dr. Ahmed Al-Bakri, Director General of Agriculture & Livestock Research, Ministry of Agriculture, Oman

Mr. Ibrahim Al-Ajmi, Director General of Climatic Affairs, Ministry of Environment & Climatic Affairs, Oman

Eng. Sulaiman Al-Riyami, Water Resources Expert, Ministry of Regional Municipalities & Water Resources, Oman

Dr. S.A. Prathapar, Dean, College of Agriculture & Marine Sciences, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman

Expert, Ministry of Agriculture, Oman

**The International Dry Lands Development Commission (IDDC)
Tenth International Conference on Dry Land Development**

Letter of Intent

Full Name:.....Title: Dr/Prof/Mr./Ms
(First name) (Middle name) (Surname)

Nationality:.....

Address:.....
.....
.....

Telephone (business):.....

Fax (business):.....

E-Mail:.....

Please mark your choice in the box by x

1. Participate in the Conference with no paper or poster presentation []
2. Present a poster under the title: []
.....
3. Make an oral presentation under the title:..... []
.....
4. Participate in the post-conference excursion []

.....
Name

.....
Signature and Date

Please return this letter of intent electronically to:

Dr. Mohan C. Saxena, Executive Secretary, IDDC
E-mail: m.saxena@cgiar.org; mohan.saxena@yahoo.com

Copied to:

Prof. Dr. Adel El-Beltagy, Chair of IDDC
E-mail: elbeltagy@optomatica.com ; aidahanem@gmail.com

And a hard copy to:

The ICDD Secretariat
C/O Prof. Dr. Adel El-Beltagy, Chair of IDDC
Agricultural Research and Development Council,
9, El-Gama'a St., Giza, Cairo, Egypt
Fax: +202-35681581