

国際水田・水環境ネットワーク
International Network for Water and Ecosystem in Paddy Field (INWEPF)

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The “International Network for Water and Ecosystem in Paddy Field” (INWEPF) will be established with identified countries, mainly in the Asian region, and international organizations in November 2004. The network is a flexible platform for exchanging information and fostering partnerships relating to water and ecosystem in rice-based systems. Everyone, at international, national, civil societies and individuals, will be invited to attend it

The contents have been designed, based on three challenges (i.e. “Food Security and Poverty Alleviation”, “Sustainable Water Use” and “Partnership”), which was stated by the Ministerial Meeting on Water for Food and Agriculture held on the occasion of the Third Water Forum in Japan in March 2003. The outline of the INWEPF is as follows:

<p>1. General issues</p> <p>1) Overall Goals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Securing Stable Food Supply • Alleviating Poverty • Sustaining Water Use • Harmonizing with Nature • Developing Sustainable Rural Societies <p>2) Objectives</p> <p>Establishing a Flexible Platform for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchanging and integrating Information • Fostering partnerships 	<p>3) Expected outcomes</p> <p>Recognizing the diversity of rice based systems, INWEPF in the initial stage identify common and context specific issues that will result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A better understanding of water and paddy ecosystems and their services and impacts on surrounding environments in various contexts. • The development of specific key messages • The promotion of new management approaches
<p>2. Modalities</p> <p>1) Framework</p> <p>a) <u>Everyone is invited:</u> International, national, civil society and individuals</p> <p>b) <u>Linkage among three components:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Research 2) Policy/Action 3) International cooperation <p>c) <u>Four means to achieve outcomes:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Steering Meeting 2) Virtual Meeting 3) General conference 4) Working groups 	<p>2) Target</p> <p>a) Target Area</p> <p>Where rice is a major concern for production and consumption</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~ Initially Asian Monsoon region ~</p> <p>b) Target in each component</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research component: <u>“Opinion leader”</u> • Policy/Action component: <u>“Leading forum”</u> • Int'l. Cooperation component: <u>“New frontiers”</u>
<p>3) Detailed themes</p> <p>a) Research component (Part1) General agenda with a pro-poor focus <u>Information Exchange/Discussion</u> on 7 items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Efficient and sustainable water use [environmental-social-economic] 2) Equitable and optimal water allocation/use to address poverty alleviation and food security at the global, regional and local levels [rainfed, irrigation] 3) Multiple use and ecosystem functions (e.g. biodiversity conservation) of paddy fields, including social/cultural aspects and governance arrangements. 	<p>a) Research component (Part2)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4) Measures to mitigate environmental degradation associated with paddy production (chemicals, methane, water logging, salinity, groundwater contamination...) 5) Field level rice production systems for improving water productivity through rice varieties and farming practices 6) Managing risks against flood, drought and salinization 7) Governance, including Participatory Irrigation Management to increase capacity for integrated water resource management

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<p>c) International Cooperation component</p> <p>Information Exchange/Discussion on 4 items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Building stakeholder capacity 2) Promoting farmers' and other stakeholders' participation in policy formulation, decision making and project management (planning, construction, operation and maintenance) 3) Promoting the application of countries' experiences and innovative research results 4) Creating and enhancing partnerships 	<p>b) Policy/Action component</p> <p>Information Exchange/Discussion on 1 item:</p> <p>Policies and strategies for good governance for improving sustainable management of rice based systems with specific attention to water, land and environment</p> <p>Targets: 1) Rice growing countries 2) Global community</p>
<p>d) Integrated Action among three components</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <u>To hold sessions at the Steering Meeting</u> summarizing/reporting discussions in the VM 2) <u>Prioritization of actions and agenda</u> 3) <u>To craft key messages and promote them at various water networks, programs, and events</u> at regional and global levels such as WWF4 or WSSD follow-up, etc 	

