The Fourth Phase Strategy &
The Annual Action Plan 2017-2018

Purpose and Background
About Fourth Phase
This “The Fourth Phase Strategy & The Annual Action Plan (2017-2018)” provides the
direction of phase strategy and framework for the 14th stages of activities of the INWEPF.
The member structure, the mission statement and the mandate of each Working Groups are
described as per separate paper “Terms of Reference for INWEPF Working Groups”.

1. The establishment of INWEPF
The agricultural water produces not only substantial provisions but also provides wide range of
services related to community, culture and environment. Such multiple functions and the value
of the agricultural water should be recognized and evaluated for the development and the
management of the water resources. However, since the ratios of rice growing countries are not
high, the general understanding for the rice growing, which requires considerable amount of
water, is relatively low. Thus, there is a strong need to promote understandings for the rice
growing so that the establishment of international network for water and ecosystem in the
paddy fields has been proceeded to resolve the common problems among rice growing countries.

2. On the occasion of the 3rd World Water Forum, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and
Fisheries of Japan (MAFF) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
(FAO) jointly organized the Ministerial Meeting on Water for Food and Agriculture on March
21, 2003. The Ministerial Recommendation highlighted three challenges, “Food Security and
Poverty Alleviation”, “Sustainable Water Use” and “Partnership”.

3. The INWEPF was established to provide a forum to realize the three challenges by
promoting dialogue, exchanging knowledge and experiences, creating synergy among existing
forums and strengthening capacity building in agricultural water management in paddy fields
with due consideration for environmental aspects.
4. During 2004-2005, the first year of INWEPF activities, the INWEPF Japanese committee carried out the duties as the host country. The INWEPF Japanese committee held the INWEPF 1st Steering Meeting and Inaugural Symposium in November 2004 and organized provisional working group in January 2005 to participate in “The Conference on Water, Food and Ecosystems” hosted by FAO/the Netherlands and spoke for the rice growing countries. Also, as the chair-country, INWEPF Japanese committee actively managed in preparing for INWEPF session at the 4th World Water Forum in 2006.

5. From 2005 to 2006 INWEPF Korean Committee took initiatives in the INWEPF activities as the chair-country. The INWEPF Korean Committee planned to work enthusiastically in activities such as close interaction among the member countries, participating in the international meetings and forums to establish the roles of the INWEPF and highlight the status of the organization in the international relations during this second year of the establishment.

6. Three working groups (Multiple Roles of Paddy, Vision Policy and Information Dissemination of INWEPF activities and programs, Monetary Assessment and Value Adding in the Multifunctional Roles of Paddy Fields) were established in 2006-2007 INWEPF steering meeting that was hosted by INWEPF Malaysian Committee

7. From 2008 to 2009, INWEPF implemented the monetary assessment and value adding in the multifunctional roles of paddy fields regarding “1) Flood Control”, “2) Prevention of soil erosion” and “3) Recharge of groundwater” with data of paddy fields collected from member countries, to develop understanding of the multifunctional roles of paddy fields.
And INWEPF participated in WWF5, Istanbul, Turkey on March 2009 and held the session with FAO, the theme “Water multi-tasking: how to obtain more benefits per drop from multiple uses and functions”. In the session, INWEPF reported the result of monetary assessment and value adding in the multifunctional roles of paddy fields. And INWEPF released the message from INWEPF to international community in the session.

8. From 2009 to 2010, at the 6th Steering Meeting, it was approved to set the 2nd phase (from November, 2009 to March, 2012, the 6th World Water Forum (Marseille)) and new member structure of each working groups.
New WG1: WG leader is Malaysia. WG1 works for the multiple roles of paddy farming.
New WG2: WG leader is Korea. WG2 work for Vision policy and information dissemination of INWEPF activities and programs or dissemination of INWEPF activities,
New WG3: WG leader is Japan. WG3 works for trial project of "South -South cooperation for PIM" for expanding of the Participatory Irrigation Management.
9. From 2010 to 2011, INWEPF Korean Committee held the 7th Steering Meeting, in Jeju, Korea. INWEPF joint symposium was opened to cooperate with International Society of Paddy and Water Environment Engineering (PAWEEES).

At the 7th Steering Meeting, it was approved (1) the establishment of Task Force Team, (2) the message from the INWEPF to WWF6 and (3) the “Terms of Reference for INWEPF Working Groups” and the “INWEPF Strategic Action Plan in 2010 to 2011”.

10. From 2011 to 2012, INWEPF Malaysian Committee held the 8th Steering Meeting, in Malaysia. At the 8th Steering Meeting, Task Force members reported the result of Task Force meeting that was held in March and August, 2011.

It was approved to make presentation about (1) the dissemination of INWEPF activities and (2) the message from the INWEPF, at the 2nd Asia Pacific Water Summit (APWS2) and WWF6. And INWEPF participated in WWF6, Marseille, France on March 2012 and participated in the Asia Pacific Region’s session 2.1 which was organized by FAO and ESCAP, held the workshop with ICID Japanese national committee and opened a booth at Japanese pavilion in order to introduce INWEPF activities.

In the session and workshop, INWEPF made presentation (1) “Guidelines for monetary assessment of flood and sediment control in paddy field” from WG1, (2) “How to balance productivity and environmental protection?” from WG2, (3) “Guideline for PIM activities "Multifunction role of paddy," from WG3 with announcement of the message from the INWEPF to the WWF6.

11. From 2012 to 2013, INWEPF Myanmar Committee hosted the 9th Steering Meeting, in Myanmar. In the Steering Meeting, the followings were reported: “The result of the INWEPF activities (2011-2012), (from Malaysia), "INWEPF newsletter, (from Japan), "The result of the 6th World Water Forum, (from Japan)" and "The result of the INWEPF Task Force meeting, (from Thailand)".

At the same time, the followings were approved: “Third Phase Strategy & The Annual Action Plan (2012-2013)” and “Terms of Reference for INWEPF Working Groups”.

12. From 2013 to 2014, INWEPF Thai Committee hosted the 10th Steering Meeting, in Chiang Mai, Thailand. In the Steering Meeting, the followings were reported: “The result of the INWEPF activities (2012-2013), (from Myanmar)”, "The result of the 2nd Asia Pacific Water Summit, (from Japan)”. At the same time, "Third Phase Strategy & The Annual Action Plan (2013-2014)” was approved.

13. From 2014 to 2015, INWEPF Vietnamese Committee hosted the 11th Steering Meeting, in Hanoi, Vietnam. In the Steering Meeting, the followings, (1) "result of the INWEPF activities (2013-2014), (from Thailand)”, (2) "result of the INWEPF WG2 International workshop (Agriculture heritage of paddy farming) at Side Event of 22nd ICID congress in Gwangju, Korea,
(from Korea)” were reported respectively. (3) Proposed INWEPF Activities at World Water Forum 7 include Enhancement of each Local Committee, (4) Arrangement of Steering meeting and Symposium in the future, and (5) Revision of TOR and Annual Action Plan 2014-2015 (from Japan). Also “Third Phase Strategy & The Annual Action Plan (2014-2015), TOR, Arrangement of Steering meeting and Symposium in the future, etc.” were approved. And, INWEPF participated in WWF7, held in Daegu & Gyeongbuk, Korea on April 2015 and hosted INWEPF Workshop as a side-event of the WWF7, supported by INWEPF Korean Committee. At the Workshop, INWEPF member countries made presentations on (1) “Multiple Roles of Paddy Fields” by WG1, (2) “Agricultural Heritage Value of Paddy Field” by WG2, and (3) “South-South Cooperation for Rural Development” by WG3, with an announcement of the message from INWEPF to WWF7.

14. From 2015 to 2016, INWEPF Sri Lanka Committee hosted the 12th Steering Meeting, in Negombo, Sri Lanka. At the Steering Meeting, the followings were reported: “The result of the INWEPF activities (2014-2015), (from Vietnam)” and “The result of the INWEPF International workshop at Side Event of The World Water Forum 7 in Daegu, Korea, (from Korea)”. At the same time, the followings were approved: “The Fourth Phase Strategy & The Annual Action Plan (2015-2016)”, “Terms of Reference” and “Terms of Reference for INWEPF Working Groups” toward The World Water Forum 8.

15. From 2016 to 2017, INWEPF Cambodian Committee hosted the 13th Steering Meeting, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. At the Steering Meeting, the result of the INWEPF activities (2015-2016) were reported from Sri Lanka. At the same time, the followings were approved: “The Fourth Phase Strategy & The Annual Action Plan (2016-2017)” and “Terms of Reference for INWEPF Working Groups”.

See annex for the history of the symposium and workshop.

Mission statement, vision, plan of the fourth phase and expected outcomes

Mission statement
16. The mission of the INWEPF is to realize the three challenges: “Food security and poverty alleviation”, “Sustainable water use” and “Partnership” by promoting good practices of water management in paddy fields with due consideration for conservation and sustenance of rice-based ecosystems by cooperating with all stakeholders.

Vision
17. The INWEPF will provide an open platform for promoting dialogue, exchanging
information and experiences, creating synergy among existing forums, strengthening capacity building, developing good practices and formulating ideas for innovative policy and management options in the field of sustainable paddy water use, conservation of environment and better governance.

The shortage of water resources and climate change delays many agricultural development activities, it needs modification of cropping pattern, new tools of plant breeding and genetics research to meet the climatic changes and shortage of water in the future.

In this situation, INWEPF will enhance the exchange of data and new information comes from INWEPF activities between different authorities related to water management in paddy fields between countries and international organizations.

**Plan of the fourth phase**

18. INWEPF fixes a phase every 3 years focusing on the “World Water Forum as a scene of the worldwide discussion for water issue” that is held once in 3 years and INWEPF settles the phase strategy and sets up the concrete target and roadmap of activities, utilization of the outcome, in the direction of the target to achieve three challenges of mission statement.  
1) The activities toward the WWF8, treating as “Fourth phase” to accomplish the prioritization of four themes for realizing three challenges.  
2) The purpose of the Fourth Phase Strategic Action Plan is succeeded to the Third Phase Strategic Action Plan “Promotion of sustainable paddy farming”.  
3) The three themes of the target for the activities as “Fourth Phase” are focused.  
4) The three working groups are reorganized, leading of activities’ theme.

**Prioritization of themes for realizing the three challenges**

19. The prioritizations of themes for INWEPF challenges are as followed:  
Theme 1 : Efficient and sustainable water use to address poverty alleviation and food security from environmental, social and economic aspects  
Theme 2 : Multiple use and ecosystem functions of paddy fields  
Theme 3 : Better governance to improve sustainable water management, including participatory irrigation management and capacity building  
Theme 4 : Promoting farmers’ and other stakeholders’ participation in policy formulation, decision-making and project management (planning, construction, operation and maintenance)

**The target for the activities to accomplish the prioritization of four themes as “Fourth Phase” toward the WWF8**

20. The target for the activities to accomplish the prioritization of four themes as “Fourth Phase” toward the WWF8 is “Promotion of sustainable paddy farming”.

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The themes of the target for the activities as “The Fourth Phase”
21. The themes of the target for the activities as “Fourth Phase” are as followed:
I. Functions and response of paddy farming on water, food and environmental problems
II. Development of understanding of paddy farming of the international community
III. Promoting strengthening relationships with international organizations which conduct technical cooperation projects and INWEPF member countries

New WGs for the purpose of the achievement of activities’ themes
22. Reorganization of working groups for the purpose of the achievement of activities’ themes is as followed:
WG1: Multiple Roles of Paddy Fields
WG2: Sharing of policies, technologies, and information on modernization of irrigation system for agricultural water management efficiency in paddy fields.
WG3: International cooperation and collaboration for sustainable paddy farming

Expected outcomes
23. The outputs of each WG activities in 2015-2018 are as followed:
WG1: 1. Quantification or Evaluation of the value of multi-functionality at the model site
   2. Study and compilation of the good practices in on-farm water and agricultural management to enhance values and benefit of the multiple functions of paddy fields.
   3. Dissemination of the result of the above, through website
WG2: 1. Collection of good practices (policies and technologies) on modernization of irrigation system for agricultural water management efficiency in paddy fields.
   2. Compilation and dissemination of the result of INWEPF activities through workshops etc.
WG3: 1. Collecting, organizing, classifying and compiling INWEPF member countries construction plan of irrigation facilities, design and execution standard, operation and maintenance systems and examples of channel repairing methods.
   2. Investigating, examining and compiling the construction methods of irrigation facilities for considering the initial and running cost.
   3. Investigating, examining and compiling repair and operation and maintenance methods of durable soil channels.
   4. Facilitating strengthening cooperation among INWEPF member countries.
   5. Compiling results of above action and promoting them by website and so on.

The Annual Action Plan: 2017 - 2018
Steering Meeting
24. The Steering Meeting is the managing body of the INWEPF to decide action plan.
   ・ The 14th Steering Meeting was held in Angeles, The Philippines in November 2017.
Host countries of upcoming steering meeting are proposed as followed:

- The 15th Steering Meeting (2018) : Japan (confirmed)
- The 16th Steering Meeting (2019) : Korea (confirmed)

The Japan was confirmed as the venue of the 15th Steering Meeting at the 13th Steering Meeting in Cambodia.

**Working Group**

25. Activities of each WG in 2017–2018 are as followed:

WG1: 1) Continuing the activity based on each country’s activities on the designated functions.
   2) Maintain and uploading more materials and information in the WG website.

WG2: 1) Holding a workshop for collecting good practices (policies and technologies) on modernization of irrigation system for agricultural water management efficiency in paddy fields.
   2) Compilation of Synthesis Report on modernization of irrigation system through each country’s report.
   3) Making announcement for collecting good practices (policies and technologies)

WG3: 1) Collecting, organizing, classifying and compiling INWEPF member countries construction plan of irrigation facilities and design and execution standard.
   2) Investigating and examining the construction methods of irrigation facilities for considering the initial and running cost.
   3) Investigating and examining repair and operation and maintenance methods of durable soil channels.
   4) Continuing at cooperation among INWEPF member countries relating to PIM and so on.
   5) Compiling results of above action and promoting them by website and so on.

**Workshop organization of the Working Groups**

26. INWEPF Korean Committee plans to have an INWEPF WG2 Workshop in June (TBD) 2017 in Korea.

**Symposiums**

27. INWEPF plans to hold a symposium as follows:
- Symposium in 2018 to be held in Nara, Japan.

**Website and Newsletter**

28. The newsletters will be distributed to the members by using the official website of the INWEPF
operated by the INWEPF Japanese committee. The procedure for the newsletter circulation will be formulated by coordinating country.
Annex

Symposiums
- In November 2005, the symposium was held in the name of “Water and Environment in the Paddy Fields” to discuss the subjects including the integrated water management in the paddy fields and the contribution to conserving the environment in 2006.
- In July, 2007, the symposium “Prosperity and Sustainability of Paddy Fields and Ecosystem” was held.
- In November, 2008, the symposium “Efficient and Sustainable Water Use to Address Poverty Alleviation and Food Security” was held in Bali, Indonesia.
- In November, 2009, the symposium “The Value and Evaluation of the Multiple Functions in Paddy Fields” and “The Method of Supporting due to the Spread of Irrigation Skills for Paddy Farming such as Participatory Irrigation Management” is held in Tokyo, Japan.
- In November, 2010, the symposium "Climate change and Food security with sustainable agriculture" and "Sustainable irrigation techniques" is held in Jeju, Korea.
- In November, 2011, the symposium “Sustainable Agriculture Water Use and Multifunction of Paddy Fields “is held in Penang, Malaysia.
- In November, 2012, the symposium “Water Management for Paddy Field Irrigation and Impacts of Climate Change” is held in Yangon, Myanmar.
- In November, 2013, the symposium “Balancing between Food Safety and Food Security in Paddy Production” is held in Chiang Mai, Thailand.
- In November, 2014, the symposium “Multifunctional Role of Irrigation management in Paddy production and mainstreaming disaster risk management in the context of Climate change” is held in Hanoi, Vietnam.
- In November, 2015, the symposium “Climate change impacts and Sustainability of Paddy farming in Asia” is held in Negombo, Sri Lanka.
- In December, 2016, the symposium “Flood and Draught impact to Farming and Eco-system in paddy fields in the context of Climate Change” is held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Workshop

WG1
- Field Study of INWEPF Working Group 1 on function of ground water recharge in Sri Lanka was held on 6~7 July 2013
- Field Study of INWEPF Working Group 1 on function of ground water recharge in India was held on 24~25 September 2014

WG2
- INWEPF Workshop of WG2 on GIAHS of paddy farming in Asia was held on 19~21 June 2013, in Korea
- INWEPF Workshop of WG2 on agricultural heritage on paddy farming was held as a side-event of 2014 ICID Congress 18 Sep, 2014, in Korea

- INWEPF Workshop of WG2 on Irrigation Modernization for efficient water use was held on 22~23 October 2015, in Korea
- INWEPF Workshop of WG2 on Irrigation Modernization for efficient water use was held on 28~30 September 2016, in Korea
- INWEPF Workshop of WG2 on Irrigation Modernization for efficient water use was held on 28~29 June 2017, in Korea

WG3
- Trial training of PIM among INWEPF countries in Asia (Laos-The Philippines) was held on 10~13 December 2012
- Trial training of PIM among INWEPF countries in Asia (Myanmar-Thailand) was held on 14~19 January 2013
- Technical Exchange Seminar of PIM among irrigation staff/engineers in Asia and Africa in Thailand (Ethiopia and Tanzania-Thailand) was held on 4~7 March 2014
- Evaluation Seminar of PIM between Myanmar and Thailand was held on 8~11 December 2014
- Trial training of PIM among INWEPF countries in Asia (Bangladesh, Sri Lanka-Thailand) was held on 2~7 March 2015