1) **IWP Secretariat In-House Activities**

i) IWP Secretariat had sent comments and suggestions on the Draft Annual Reports-2018 received from the implementing network partners (at end December, 2018) for finalization. The final reports would be shared with the Regional Office, GWP-South Asia.

ii) Draft Accomplishment Report for the activities undertaken by IWP in 2018 had been prepared. The same would be shared with Regional Office, GWP-South Asia and would also be uploaded on IWP website after finalization.

iii) Terms of Reference for undertaking IWP activities in 2019 were sent to the implementing partners.

2) **Participation in Workshops /Conferences /Meetings**

1. **9th International Micro-Irrigation Conference (16-18th January, 2019)**

Indian National Committee on Surface Water (INCSW), International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID), Central Water Commission (CWC) and WAPCOS Ltd. organized 9th International Micro Irrigation Conference (9th IMIC) from 16-18 January, 2019 in district Aurangabad, State Maharashtra, India on behalf of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India. The theme of international conference was “Micro Irrigation for Modern Agriculture.”
The sub themes of the technical sessions were as under:-

**Sub-Theme 1:** Micro Irrigation Design, Innovations, and new Techniques for increased Crop Productivity.

**Sub Theme 2:** Micro Irrigation fund & Government support through Micro Irrigation.

**Sub Theme 3:** Micro Irrigation for Cluster Level Farming & Small farm holders.

**Sub Theme 4:** Operation & Maintenance Services and Capacity Development for the Micro Irrigation Systems.

The event targeted a wide range of participants including policy makers, manufacturer of various industries (irrigation, agriculture, construction etc.) engineering companies, Trade organizations (retail, wholesale, import/export), government departments, trade associations, research institutes, universities, academicians and other public organizations. The conference paved the way for better water management in India through micro-irrigation. From India water partnership, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, Dr. Veena Khanduri and Project Associate Ms. Sudha Kumari attended the conference at Aurangabad. India Water Partnership organized farmer’s session along with Water and Land Management Institute (WALMI) on 16th January, 2019. This session was chaired by Dr. A.S. Dhawan, Vice Chancellor, Vasantrao Naik Marathwada Krishi Vidyapeeth and Co-Chaired by Dr. Suresh Kulkarni Secretary, Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (MWRRA) under the Govt. of Maharashtra. In this session farmers from different states shared their learning and experiences of using Micro-irrigation techniques.

*A progressive farmer sharing his success story during Farmers session in 9th IMIC*
During the Technical session on Sub Theme 3: Participatory irrigation, Ms. Sudha Kumari Project Associate from IWP presented a paper on “Capacity Development for Farmers and their Service Providers”. This session was chaired by Mr K.C. Naik Chairman, Central Ground Water Board and Co-Chaired by Mr R.K Sinha Chief Engineer, Central Water Commission, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India. Delegates from various organizations of India and different countries also presented their papers during this session. Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, India Water Partnership was the nodal officer for the farmer’s bazaar. During the farmer’s bazaar, group of farmers from different villages had setup their stalls and displayed their organic products.
Farmers and SHGs displaying their products in Farmers’ Bazaar
2. **Bilateral Workshop on “Building an Operational Composite Drought Monitoring Index for India” from Jan 22 - 23, 2019 at New Delhi**

Water Technology Centre (WTC), Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Government of India organized a United States-India Educational Foundation (USIEF) sponsored bilateral workshop on “**Building an Operational Composite Drought Monitoring Index for India**” from January 22-23, 2019 in collaboration with University of Nebraska, Lincoln under its MoU with the ICAR/IARI as part of the on-going US-India 21st Century Knowledge Initiative Grant Program. The main goal of the workshop was to collect feed-backs on the strengths and operational capabilities so far developed and validated Drought Monitoring Technology and its comparison with the Government of India’s existing drought monitoring protocol, from various stakeholders/participants to identify the way forward.

The participants were from Ministry of Agriculture, ICAR, Indian Metrological Department (IMD), National Institute of Hydrology (NIH), Karnataka State Disaster Management Authority, Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKS), Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC), NGOs (International Water Management Institute & India Water Partnership), National Remote Sensing Centre, etc.

Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, India Water Partnership attended this workshop and briefed about South Asia Drought Monitoring System (SADMS) developed through partnership initiative of International Water Management Institute, World Meteorological Organization, Global Water Partnership (GWP)-South Asia, CGIAR, CCAFS and Governments of South Asia, which integrates remote sensing & ground truth data such as; rainfall, soil information, hydrological data, vegetation indices, etc. She also explained that SADMS is a first kind of regional platform for South Asia and have inherently finer spatial details (500m resolution than other commonly available global drought products.

The workshop was coordinated by Dr. Ravinder Kaur, Principal Scientist, IARI and Regional Council Member, GWP-South Asia.