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Development for Water, Food and Nutrition Security in a Competitive Environment



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**INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE
COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE DES IRRIGATIONS ET DU DRAINAGE**



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Theme:
**Development for Water, Food and Nutrition
Security in a Competitive Environment**



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The International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID), established in 1950 is the leading scientific, technical and not-for-profit Non-Governmental Organization (NGO). ICID, through its network of professionals spread across more than a hundred countries, has facilitated sharing of experiences and transfer of water management technology for over half-a-century. ICID supports capacity development, stimulates research and innovation and strives to promote policies and programs to enhance sustainable development of irrigated agriculture through a comprehensive water management framework.

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NATIONAL SCHOOL OF PLOT IRRIGATION, ECUADOR

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ABSTRACT

Within the framework of the Latin American Investment Fund of the European Union (LAIF), as a complementary contribution to the Technified Irrigation Project for small and medium producers in Ecuador, the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) handed an assistance to the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Ecuador, which is developed by its Under-Secretary of Technified Irrigation of Plots. The LAIF action includes the design and implementation of the National School of Plot Irrigation (ENIP) of Ecuador, commissioned by AECID to the Spanish state company TRAGSA, during the period 2017-2021.

The specific objective of ENIP is to strengthen the national capacities in design and management of irrigation systems, through the consolidation of a critical mass of experts and professionals in irrigation, which contributes to the improvement of the productive systems, to the efficient management of irrigation water and to the resilience of Ecuadorian territories to climate change. ENIP has constituted an Academic Coordination Committee and has three main components: training and technical assistance in irrigation, investments in Universities, and research & development & innovation.

Within the training, three academic levels have been designed. First one, for irrigation consultants aimed to irrigation specialists. A second level, aimed to managers and administrators of irrigation systems. And a third level, directly to the farmers. In the component of investments, demonstration plots of irrigation are being built and equipped with Universities in different parts of Ecuador, in order to have a network reference experiences, both in the coast and mountain regions, representative of territorial diversity.

At the same time, ENIP is creating a National Irrigation Observatory, with the development of forums, publication of irrigation technical books. Finally, the main lines of R&D&I in which progress is being made are resilience to climate change and agroecology and interculturality in plot irrigation.

Keywords: capacity building, irrigation systems, efficient water management, sustainable rural development, climate change, food security.

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