

WRIC News Letter**August 2005**

1. C2C Workshop (Training by Syrian C/Ps) was kicked off on August 3rd.

Series of C2C (Counterpart To Counterpart) Workshop started on Aug.3. Workshop schedule from Aug.2005 to July 2006 was planned, and first workshop was conducted on Aug.3-4 in GDBAB WRIC Center and Main Center respectively. First day was the lecture of outline of this C2C workshop and the other basic items such as hydrological observation, Database and so on. On this day, approximately 50 people including the other basin's staff attended the workshop. On second day, hands-on training for database and site visit tour for meteo-hydrological observation were conducted.

At the present time the target area of JICA cooperation project is only 2 basins (Barada-Awaji and Coastal) and Syrian Ministry of Irrigation should extend WRIC activities to the other 5 basins by themselves. Therefore, in order to keep the sustainability of this project, it is very important for Syrian C/Ps to conduct technical training for the other Syrian C/Ps and for the other related MOI staff. Moreover, it should be good chance for Syrian trainers to review their own knowledge and experience which they obtained through WRIC activities in past 3 years.

The detail schedule is available in WRIC. If you are interested in this, please contact the following e-mail address. In near future, this schedule will be uploaded to WRIC web site and you will be able to refer to our web site accordingly.



Lecture on Aug.3



Hands-on Training on Aug.4



2. IT(Network) Training course in Egypt finished

IT technology, especially network technology, is indispensable for WRIC activities to share the information and knowledge with each other. Therefore, in order to learn the advanced Computer Network Technology, total 4 trainees of WRIC staff were dispatched to Regional Training Center of Hydraulic Research Institute (RTC-HRI), Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Egypt from July 16th to August 12. The trainees received lecture and hand-on training mainly focused on management and maintenance of Windows Server System which is adopted in WRIC.

According to the RTC-HRI officials, WRIC trainees worked well during the course, and at the end of the training course all of them could obtain the certification. At the same time, Syrian trainees' impression and evaluation for this training course were considerably high. The content was highly professional, however it was easy to understand because all lectures were conducted by Egyptian professionals in Arabic. Moreover, training in Egypt is much more cost efficient than that in Japan. Therefore, in future, we are going to seek more possibility and occasions of training in the neighboring countries including Egypt.



Training Course

Handing Certification to Trainees

3. Japanese Teachers Mission Team visited WRIC

9 members of Japanese Teachers Mission Team visited WRIC on Aug.3. They viewed WRIC activities and made discussion briefly. We hope the teachers understood the meaning and objectives of our activities and



Lecture to Mission Members



contribute the Public Relations of this project in Japan. Actually, Syria is one of the most unknown countries for Japanese, and almost all Japanese do not know exactly even the location of this country. Hopefully, after they go back to school in Japan, they will let their students know the real situation of Syria and our activities.

4. Mr. Kodama (Hydrologist) and Mr. Umeda (GIS expert) arrived

2 Japanese experts arrived in Syria in the beginning of August. Mr. Kodama is hydrologist whose main task is quality control of meteorological observation data. Until now, WRIC collected huge observation data, however, many errors and outliers are included in data. Therefore, checking and removing of such errors are necessary to improve the quality and accuracy of database. He will conduct the workshop and hand-on training until the end of December.

Mr. Umeda is GIS expert and will do the check of GIS system and maps and help the GIS file servers installation at each WRIC centers. He will stay in Syria until the middle of October.

5. 3rd Syrian-Japanese Water Symposium to be held on Sep.5

3rd Syrian-Japanese Water Symposium will be held on **Sep.5 at Meridien Hotel in Damascus.**

As one of the activities of WRIC project, Syrian- Japanese Water Symposium has been held annually. The purpose of this symposium is to share the information and experience of WRIC and the other related organizations in water sector and to enhance the water resources management in Syria and neighboring region. Further to the more detail of the symposium, please refer to the attached program. We are now expecting about 150 participants from Syrian Government (MOI, MOAA, MOLAE, MOHC, DAWSSA etc), Research Institutes, Donor Organizations of Netherlands, Germany, EU, UN etc, and guests from neighboring countries from Jordan and Egypt.

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