



International River-Basin Foundation

Awards for International River Summit 2025

- **WaClAg McDonald International River Award**
- **Eminent Scientist Award**
- **Climate Adoption Research Award**
- **Blue Ribbon Recognition Award**
- **Best Paper Award**
- **River Basin Expert Award**

WaClAg McDonald International River Award

Award Purpose

The *WaClAg McDonald International River Award* honors distinguished scientists, policymakers, technologists, and professionals who have made exceptional contributions toward advancing **Water, Climate, and Agriculture (WaClAg)** integration for sustainable river basin development. This award celebrates individuals or institutions demonstrating leadership in promoting **water resource movement, climate-smart agriculture, hydrological resilience, and river restoration initiatives** aligned with the objectives of IRBF and global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Award Description

This prestigious international award is jointly conferred by the **International River Basin Foundation-WCPI** and the **River Water User Association (India)**. It recognizes global visionaries who have contributed to:

- River ecosystem conservation and integrated water management,
- Innovations in agricultural water use efficiency,
- Application of artificial intelligence, IoT, and modeling in basin-scale decision-making, and
- Strengthening policies or community actions for sustainable hydrological balance.

The WaClAg McDonald Award signifies the bridge between science, society, and sustainability, honoring those whose work embodies the transdisciplinary mission of IRBF.

Award Criteria

Nominees should demonstrate:

- Leadership and innovation in water–climate–agriculture nexus research or practice;
- Proven impact on sustainable river basin management or adaptation strategies;
- Documented scientific contributions, publications, or policies influencing environmental governance;
- Community engagement and transdisciplinary collaboration across nations or sectors;
- Alignment of work with IRBF’s objectives and contribution to SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 2 (Zero Hunger).

Expected Future Commitments

Awardees are expected to:

- Continue their engagement with IRBF and River Water User Association initiatives;
- Mentor upcoming researchers, policymakers, and practitioners in water and climate resilience;
- Support the development of knowledge-sharing networks and joint programs under IRBF;
- Advocate for sustainable, science-based approaches to river and basin restoration at national and global levels.

Eminent Scientist Award

Award Purpose

This award recognizes a Scientist/Technologist/Educationist, national or International, who has made a significant and lasting impact in below mentioned fields and practice; He/She should be holding a reputed position in an organization or in society. His professional work should be in pursuance of objectives of IRBF and the fields of direct action chosen for development. He should have served the profession over an extended period of time and could have done reasonable professional accomplishments, the recipient should have committed to maintain a dynamic connection to all generations of IRBF practitioners and agree to support the activities of IRBF.

Award Description

The Eminent Scientist Award will be awarded together by the International River Basin Foundation-WCPI, and River Water User Association (India)-IRDRA.

This award will be presented in the World Congress after identifying worthy and committed senior recipient of international repute.

The award recognizes National and International Scientists in the field of

- Water Management Policy Planning
- Integrated water resource Management
- Ecosystem and Biodiversity
- Agriculture and Food Security

Award Criteria

Recipients of this award are recognized for outstanding conceptual or practical contribution and fundamental advancement in the fields and practices adopted by IRBF. In completing the nomination application, the nominator should address the nominee's commitment on the basis of the following criteria as possible. The recipient has repeatedly demonstrated:

- Writing, speaking, teaching, and delivering public presentations that have significantly contributed to the development of the field, the body of knowledge required for effective IRBF practice and building understanding of the value of IRBF brings to organization.
- Contribution to professional literature (e.g., has published highly-respected work; is a frequently cited source in books and journals; has created a body of work that has enhanced the practice of IRBF)
- Significant client/community impact through the application of IRBF, principles and practices.
- Commitment to others through teaching, mentoring, writing, speaking, blogging, and sharing information.
- Communication of the purpose, principles, values, and exemplifying the values and practiced the principles of IRBF in his/her own behavior.
- Global and/or national recognition for her/his contributions.

Expected Future Commitments

- The recipient should be Commitment to support IRBF to achieve its objectives through through teaching, mentoring, writing, speaking, blogging, and sharing information.
- He should show his willingness to support activities of IRBF and should be agree to advice on the issues related to application of IRBF objectives nationally or internationally.
- The recipient should be committed to link other scientists, community worker, and educationists to IRBF, and should support partnership with other social and scientific organizations to achieve SDGs.

Climate Adoption Research Award

Award Purpose

This award recognizes a Scientist/Technologist/Educationist, national or International, who has made a significant and lasting impact in below mentioned fields and practice; He/She should be holding a reputed position in an organization or in society. His professional work should be in pursuance of objectives of IRBF and the fields of direct action chosen for development. He should have served the profession over an extended period of time and could have done reasonable professional accomplishments, the recipient should have committed to maintain a dynamic connection to all generations of IRBF practitioners and agree to support the activities of IRBF.

Award Description

The Eminent Scientist Award will be awarded together by the International River Basin Foundation-WCPI, and River Water User Association (India)-IRDRA.

This award will be presented in the World Congress after identifying worthy and committed senior recipient of international repute.

The award recognizes National and International Scientists in the field of

- Water Management Policy Planning
- Integrated water resource Management
- Ecosystem and Biodiversity
- Agriculture and Food Security

Award Criteria

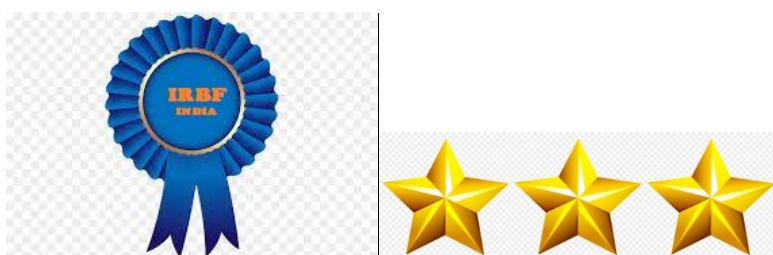
Recipients of this award are recognized for outstanding conceptual or practical contribution and fundamental advancement in the fields and practices adopted by IRBF. In completing the nomination application, the nominator should address the nominee's commitment on the basis of the following criteria as possible. The recipient has repeatedly demonstrated:

- Writing, speaking, teaching, and delivering public presentations that have significantly contributed to the development of the field, the body of knowledge required for effective IRBF practice and building understanding of the value of IRBF brings to organization.
- Contribution to professional literature (e.g., has published highly-respected work; is a frequently cited source in books and journals; has created a body of work that has enhanced the practice of IRBF)
- Significant client/community impact through the application of IRBF, principles and practices.
- Commitment to others through teaching, mentoring, writing, speaking, blogging, and sharing information.
- Communication of the purpose, principles, values, and exemplifying the values and practiced the principles of IRBF in his/her own behavior.
- Global and/or national recognition for her/his contributions.

Expected Future Commitments

- The recipient should be Commitment to support IRBF to achieve its objectives through through teaching, mentoring, writing, speaking, blogging, and sharing information.
- He should show his willingness to support activities of IRBF and should be agree to advice on the issues related to application of IRBF objectives nationally or internationally.
- The recipient should be committed to link other scientists, community worker, and educationists to IRBF, and should support partnership with other social and scientific organizations to achieve SDGs.

Blue Ribbon Recognition Award



Award Purpose

This award recognizes a potential Scientist/Technologist/Educationist, national or International, who has made a significant and long lasting impact in below mentioned fields and practice; He/ She should be holding a reputed position in an organization or in society. His professional work should be in pursuance of objectives of IRBF and the fields of direct action chosen for development. He should have served the profession over an extended period of time and could have done reasonable professional accomplishments, the recipient should have committed to maintain a dynamic connection to all generations of IRBF practitioners and agree to support the activities of IRBF.

Award Description

The Award will be awarded together by the International River Basin Foundation-WCPI, and River Water User Association (India)-IRDRA.

This award will be presented in the World Congress after identifying worthy and committed recipient having potential for research and development and interested to collaborate with IRBF and support its activities.

The award recognizes National and International Scientists in the field of

- Water
- Climate and
- Agriculture

The blue ribbon symbolizes the distinguished and committed professional having potential to provide his services to IRBF. Blue is also the colour of water denotes sustainable development goal 6 of United Nations and relating to other goals.

We have also created other categories of this award with golden stars.

Award Criteria

Recipients of this award are recognized for their contribution and fundamental advancement in the fields and practices adopted by IRBF. In completing the nomination application, the nominator should address the nominee's commitment on the basis of the following criteria as possible. The recipient has repeatedly demonstrated:

- Writing, speaking, teaching, and delivering public presentations that have significantly contributed to the development of the field, the body of knowledge required for effective IRBF practice and building understanding of the value of IRBF brings to organization.
- Contribution to professional literature (e.g., has published highly-respected work; is a frequently cited source in books and journals; has created a body of work that has enhanced the practice of IRBF)
- Significant client/community impact through the application of IRBF, principles and practices.
- Commitment to others through teaching, mentoring, writing, speaking, blogging, and sharing information.
- Communication of the purpose, principles, values, and exemplifying the values and practiced the principles of IRBF in his/her own behavior.
- Global and/or national potential for her/his contributions.

Expected Future Commitments

- The recipient should be Commitment to support IRBF to achieve its objectives through through teaching, mentoring, writing, speaking, blogging, and sharing information.
- He should show his willingness to support activities of IRBF and should be agree to advice on the issues related to application of IRBF objectives nationally or internationally.
- The recipient should be committed to link other scientists, community worker, and educationists to IRBF, and should support partnership with other social and scientific organizations to achieve SDGs.

Best Paper Award

Award Purpose

This award recognizes a potential Oral/Poster national or International, who has presented a paper in the technical session of the congress and his/her research has significant impact and practical application in below mentioned fields and practices; His research, case study or review work should be in pursuance of objectives of IRBF and the fields of direct action chosen for development. He/she may have done reasonable professional accomplishments during his/her studies, the recipient should have committed to maintain a dynamic connection to all generations of IRBF practitioners and agree to support the activities of IRBF.

Award Description

The Award will be awarded together by the International River Basin Foundation-WCPI, and River Water User Association (India)-IRDRA.

This award will be presented in the World Congress after identifying worthy and committed recipient having potential for research and development and interested to collaborate with IRBF and support its activities.

The award recognizes National and International Scientists in the field of

- Water
- Climate and
- Agriculture

Award Criteria

Recipients of this award are recognized for their contribution and fundamental advancement in the fields and practices adopted by IRBF. In completing the nomination application, the nominator should address the nominee's commitment on the basis of the following criteria as possible. The recipient has repeatedly demonstrated:

- Writing, speaking, teaching, and delivering public presentations that have significantly contributed to the development of the field, the body of knowledge required for effective IRBF practice and building understanding of the value of IRBF brings to organization.
- Contribution to professional literature (e.g., has published highly-respected work; is a frequently cited source in books and journals; has created a body of work that has enhanced the practice of IRBF)
- Significant practical importance and scope for replication of results to another area.
- Significant client/community impact through the application of IRBF, principles and practices.
- Commitment to others through writing, speaking, blogging, and sharing information.
- Communication of the purpose, principles, values, and exemplifying the values and practiced the principles of IRBF in his/her own behavior.
- Global and/or national potential for her/his contributions.

Expected Future Commitments

- The recipient should be Commitment to support IRBF to achieve its objectives through, writing, speaking, blogging, and sharing information.
- He should show his willingness to support activities of IRBF and should be agree to participate in the activities related to application of IRBF objectives nationally or internationally.
- The recipient should be committed to link other scientists, community worker, and educationists to IRBF, and should support partnership with other social and scientific organizations to achieve SDGs.

River Basin Expert Award (Agriculture, Technology, Social Science)

Award Purpose

The *River Basin Expert Award* recognizes outstanding experts who have contributed significantly to **agriculture, technology, or social science applications** in the context of river basin management. This award honors interdisciplinary achievements that enhance productivity, sustainability, and resilience of river ecosystems and dependent communities.

Award Description

Conferred by the **International River Basin Foundation** and the **River Water User Association (India)**, this award celebrates professionals with demonstrated expertise in:

- Agricultural water management, crop modeling, or precision irrigation;
- Application of technological innovations (AI, GIS, IoT, modeling) for basin management;
- Social or institutional frameworks improving community participation and river governance;
- Policy or educational contributions toward integrated water resources management.

Award Criteria

Nominees should exhibit:

- Measurable outcomes or innovations improving river basin sustainability;
- Publications, fieldwork, or technology transfer with lasting community or policy impact;
- Active engagement in multidisciplinary or stakeholder-driven approaches;
- Recognition within the professional community for advancing IRBF's mission;
- Contributions supporting SDG 6 (Water), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption), and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

Expected Future Commitments

Awardees are expected to:

- Collaborate in IRBF's regional and international projects for sustainable basin development;
- Provide advisory support or mentoring to emerging researchers and practitioners;
- Promote integration of social, technological, and agricultural innovations for river restoration;
- Contribute to IRBF's publications, roundtables, or global summits advancing transdisciplinary water science.