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Preface

This book contains most of the papers presented at the First International Conference on Sustainable Irrigation, Management, Technologies and Policies, held in Bologna in 2006 and organised by the Wessex Institute of Technology. The objective of the Meeting was to bring together engineers, scientists and managers from laboratories, industry, government and academia to exchange knowledge in the field of irrigation in its broadest sense. The conference aimed to cover technical as well as policy related topics in order to find innovative solutions for the many problems to be resolved in order to reach sustainable irrigation solutions.

The emphasis of the Conference on inter-disciplinary activities explored new areas for collaboration among different professionals involved in irrigation studies and applications. This made the First International Conference unique.

Irrigation is of great relevance in many fields, such as agriculture, landscaping, water management, water policies and economics, amongst others. Improving our understanding of technical as well as economic issues can lead not only to a better understanding of the topic and all aspects of the problem, but also to find more effective solutions.

This book contains the following sections: Irrigation controls; Irrigation systems and planning; Irrigation modelling; Irrigation management.

The organisers are grateful to the members of the International Scientific Advisory Committee who have helped with the selection of the papers included in the book, as well as to all contributors. The quality of the material makes this Volume a most valuable tool for scientists and researchers to appreciate the state-of-the-art in this important field.

The Editors
Bologna, 2006

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