THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
SUSTAINABLE IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT,
TECHNOLOGIES AND POLICIES

Sustainable Irrigation III

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Sustainable Irrigation Management, Technologies and Policies III

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Preface

This book contains most of the papers presented at the Third International Conference on Sustainable Irrigation, Management, Technologies and Policies held in Bucharest and organized by the University Politehnica of Bucharest and the Wessex Institute of Technology of the UK with the collaboration of the European Society of Agricultural Engineers and the International Commission of Agricultural Engineering.

The meeting followed the success of the first two Conferences which were organised in Bologna (2006) and Alicante (2008). The meetings discuss ways to achieve the most efficient and equitable use of water resources applied in irrigation, at the same time as ensuring their sustainability.

The objective of the Conference Series is to provide a venue for an international presentation and dissemination of papers related to sustainable ways of conducting irrigation. Sustainable irrigation has three key aspects, i.e. i) developing ways of using scarce water resources most efficiently to maximize food production while minimizing the environmental impact of irrigation activities on the affected land and water resources; ii) ensuring that the extraction of water from surface and groundwater sources is set at sustainable levels to maintain healthy aquatic ecosystems to secure a continued supply of quality water for irrigation, recreation and urban/industrial uses; iii) facilitate an equitable distribution of the water available for consumption between competing users, which is essential to maintain sustainable communities.

The papers presented in this volume have been classified in the following sections: Irrigation Management; Modelling and Simulation; Farmer’s Actions, Environmental Benefits and Socio-Economic Consequences.

The Editors are indebted to Professor Ecaterina Andronescu, Rector of the University Politehnica of Bucharest, for her support of the meeting and having accepted to act
as Honorary Chairperson. They are also grateful to all authors for the excellent standard of papers and the members of the International Scientific Advisory Committee and other colleagues who helped to select contributions, ensuring in this manner the quality of the book.

The Editors, 2010
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