



# SANCOLD ANNUAL REPORT 2020

## OVERVIEW 2020

The year 2020 was heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic which affected all SANCOLD and ICOLD activities.

### 1. SANCOLD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Elections were held at the end of 2019 for four vacant positions. A record twelve candidates were nominated of which three were under 35. Unfortunately though, the number of votes submitted was low.

David Cameron-Ellis, Michelle Blaeser, Quentin Shaw and Louise van Vuuren were duly elected. The other portfolios remained as in the previous year. Four co-options were made as indicated below

## SANCOLD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: 2020

No	Name	Organisation	Term * of Office	Remarks
1	B Mwaka	DWS (P&I)	2020	Reserved position. Renewed from 2018
2	X Mdletshe	DWS (NWRI)	2019	Reserved position Appointed from 2017
3	M van Dijk	SAICE	2019	Reserved position. Alternate T Hloele
4	M van Dijk	USAf	2022	Reserved position appointed 2020
5	D Cameron-Ellis*	ARQ	2022	Elected in 2019 for 3-year term <b>Treasurer</b>
6	L van Vuuren*	Gibb	2022	Elected in 2019 for a 3-year term <35 years
7	Q Shaw*	ARQ	2022	Elected in 2019 for a 3-year term. <b>Chairperson</b>
8	Ms M Blaeser	ARQ	2022	Elected in 2019 for a 3-year term
9	L Hattingh*	Vice-Chairperson Hattingh Anderson Assoc	2020	Elected in 2017 for a 3-year term.
10	R Greyling*	Knight Piesold	2020	Elected in 2017 for a 3-year term <35 years <b>YPF Chair</b>
11	G Robertson	JG Afrika	2021	Elected in 2018 for a 3-year term <35 years
12	V Schoeman	Knight Piesold	2021	Elected in 2018 for a 3-year term
13	H-J Wright*	ARQ	2021	Elected in 2018 for a 3-year term. <b>Webmaster</b>
14	G De Jager	AECOM	2020	Co-opted for instream flow requirements
15	D Grant-Stuart	Knight Piesold	2020	Co-opted for tailings dams
16	W Ramokopa*	DWS	2020	Co-opted for APP training/legislation change
17	D Badenhorst	AECOM	2020	Co-opted for Institutional knowledge
18	P D Pyke*	Contract -	2020	Externally appointed <b>Secretary</b> 2018
19				
20				

#### Notes:

- The term of office is defined from the year following the November elections in the previous year.
- Exco Members will be indicated thus. (\*)

## 2. OBJECTIVES FOR 2020

The Management Committee set the following objectives for 2020 at its first meeting in February 2020:

### INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

1. Meaningful participation in ICOLD activities.
2. Participate in the ICOLD Annual Meeting in 2020.
3. Greater involvement in the region and African Regional Club.
4. Strengthen the functioning of the SANCOLD working groups which relate to our representation on ICOLD Committees.

### LOCAL ACTIVITIES

5. Attract additional corporate and individual members.
6. Strengthen the relationship with the DWS Management and Ministry.
7. Monitor progress of scholarship holders.
8. SANCOLD Position paper on Floods
9. Development of a publication on *Your Dam* which will focus on the operation and maintenance of small dam and owners of such dams.
10. Preparation of a publication on Ecological Water Reserve;
11. Finalise and publish the publication on "*Your Tailings Dam*";
12. Improvement in the dissemination of SANCOLD and ICOLD publications.
13. Continued interaction with members particularly via the regular SANCOLD News and the website.
14. Update the website and keep it current and promote the sale of advertisements on the website.
15. Targeted marketing of SANCOLD.
16. Promotion of the SANCOLD Young Person's Forum;
17. Identify and prepare for SANCOLD 2020 Annual Event.
18. Organise short half-day workshops and/or courses.

### LONGER TERM (subject to input and funding from outside SANCOLD)

19. Support for a Guideline on Blasting Practices.
20. Support for the development of a Guideline on Risk Analysis.

The extent to which these objectives were accomplished is discussed in the paragraphs below.

## 3. MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Individual membership increased by 12 members during the year but a number of members had their membership terminated due to non-payment of fees, while Corporate Membership was static but will decrease when non-payment issues are addressed:

Membership Group	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
Corporate	53	47	51	53	54	52	52	
Individual	172	173	197	220	234	248	226	

Growth and interest in SANCOLD activities by Individuals remains noteworthy. The Corporate Membership growth has dropped due to mergers and resignations.

Members are requested to encourage colleagues and organisations to join SANCOLD.

Some problems still persist with e-mail communications with members as it appears as if some members are not receiving the SANCOLD e-mails and notices. Members are requested to ensure that their internet service providers and their systems do not classify e-mails from SANCOLD as “suspicious” or junk mail.

#### 4. SANCOLD LOCAL ACTIVITIES

SANCOLD focussed on a number of local matters during the year, the foremost being:

- SANCOLD provided financial support of R75 000 each in 2020 to two post graduate students whose research links into furthering work for the National Flood Studies Programme.
- Limited progress with the preparations for the financing of the National Flood Studies Programme. A Management Committee representing key role players has been formed.
- SANCOLD has initiated attempts to engage with the Management of DWS to better align SANCOLD activities to support the DWS Dams mandate.
- SANCOLD is concerned about issues around APP Training/Legislation change. This remains a priority but SANCOLD still needs to develop a realistic and workable strategy to take this forward.
- Expansion of SANCOLD Working Groups related to ICOLD Committees on which SANCOLD has representation;
- Publication of SANCOLD information in local and international journals.
- SANCOLD has implemented a policy similar to that of ICOLD in respect of free downloading of its publications for members;
- Revamping the SANCOLD website;
- SANCOLD Publication on *Your Tailings Dam*. This brochure has been developed and published under the guidance of Duncan Grant-Stuart. It is available on the SANCOLD website.
- Preparations for the SANCOLD 2020 Annual Conference were rudely interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the event was eventually cancelled. The SANCOLD AGM will be held virtually.
- SANCOLD Publication on *Our Dam*: The updating of the publication *Your Dam (1990)* by the Dam Safety Office (DSO) is considered important. This publication has several frequently asked questions which a small dam owner would typically ask. Kelvin Legge, is leading the initiative. Some progress was made during the year and an initial draft has been produced which must be expanded;
- Guideline on Ecological Water Reserve: A research project on this topic has been expanded into a draft guideline which is in the reviewing stage. Gerald de Jager is the convenor of the initiative;
- The YPF has hosted three webinars this year; with technical topics covering “Technical Advancements on Spillway Design” by Gerald de Jager, “New SANCOLD Guidelines for Sizing Dam Outlet Structures for EWR Releases” by Gerald de Jager and “New SANCOLD Publication Your Tailings Dam” by Duncan Grant-Stuart. The webinars have been successful and were attended by various SANCOLD Members across the country. The YPF Webinar Sessions will continue in 2021.
- The YPF has initiated a process to index past SANCOLD Technical Papers with the intention to make these available to SANCOLD Members electronically on demand. The technical papers cover the symposiums between 2002 to 2019 and the indexing system envisaged will allow for grouping of specific topics, papers by author or content, for ease of reference. The process should be completed in 2021.
- The various SANCOLD Working Groups for SANCOLD Guidelines and Publications are given below.

#### **SANCOLD Working Groups for SANCOLD Guidelines and Publications**

<b>Guideline/Publication</b>	<b>Convenor</b>	<b>SANCOLD Working Group</b>
Guideline on Floods	Vacant	Vicci Schoeman Andre' Gorgens Danie van der Spuy David Cameron-Ellis
Guideline on Risk Analysis	Louis Hattingh	Ivor Segers Pilate Moyo Moses Motaung Gerald de Jager Louis Kirsten
Geotextiles for Dams	Kelvin Legge Danie Badenhorst	Prof Fannin +Local experts
<i>Our Dam</i> Publication	Kelvin Legge	
<i>Your Tailings Dam</i>	Duncan Grant-Stuart	
Guideline on Ecological Water Reserve	Gerald de Jager	Ms Hermien Oberholzer Dr Patsy Scherman
Guideline on Blasting Practices	David Cameron-Ellis	Claude Cunningham Gerrie van Jaarsveld
Seismic	Anglo American drives initiative	David Cameron- Ellis Graham Roberts
Pollution Control Dams	Kelvin Legge	
Freeboard	TBC	Louis Hattingh David Cameron-Ellis Henry-John Wright Wally Ramokopa
Position Paper on Freeboard	Robert Greyling	David Cameron-Ellis Michelle Blaeser
Position Paper on EPP	Cameron Fraser	Danie Badenhorst Guy Robertson Louise van Vuuren Jaretha Lombaard Bandula Kendaragama

## 5. SANCOLD YOUNG PERSON'S FORUM

A Young Engineers' Forum in ICOLD was formed in Lucerne in 2012. SANCOLD agreed that SANCOLD should form a similar Forum in South Africa and once operational would liaise with the ICOLD Forum. Robert Greyling of Knight Piesold is the current and outgoing Chairperson. Currently we have over 50 members of the Forum which has been quite active over the 2020 year. There will be a separate report on it's activities.

## 6. INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The other main activity of SANCOLD relates to international matters. SANCOLD represents South Africa on the International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD). We have representation on 21 of ICOLD's 27 Technical Committees. These Committees are a key activity of ICOLD and require much dedicated effort on the part of the participants. South African Working Groups have been formed for most of these Committees and the names of the current participants are reflected in the tabulation below.

### SA Representatives on ICOLD Committees and SANCOLD Working Groups: 2019

<b>No</b>	<b>Committee Name</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>SA Representative</b>	<b>SANCOLD Working Group</b>
A	Committee on Computational Aspects of Analysis and Design of Dams.	2017-2020	G Roberts	RSA membership approved in Vienna

C	Committee on Hydraulics	2019-2021	H-J Wright	D Cameron-Ellis
D	Committee on Concrete Dams	2018-2021	Q Shaw (Vice Chairman)	J Kroon H-J Wright A Botha D Ochan
E	Committee on Embankment Dams	2017-2020	D Badenhorst (Vice Chairman)	H Elges K Legge (Geofabrics) C Fraser C Fynn
F	Committee on Engineering Activities Associated with the Planning Process for Water Resources Projects	2014-2017	L Mabuda	M Mugumo J van der Mescht
H	Committee on Dam Safety	2018-2021	I Segers	L Hattingh L van den Berg B Sibanda A Kockott B Kendaragama
I	Committee on Public Safety Around Dams <sup>3</sup>	2016-2019	Vacant	SANCOLD Members please apply to the Secretary
J	Committee on Sedimentation of Reservoirs	2017-2020	Prof G Basson	Approved in Vienna
K	Committee on integrated operation of hydropower stations and reservoirs	2015-2019	L Furstenburg	J Basson J Sawyer
L	Committee on Tailings Dams	2017-2020	D Grant-Stuart	A Copeland J Wates S Dorman B Makgekgenene D Brink
M	Committee on Operation, Maintenance and Rehabilitation of Dams	2017-2020	P Pyke (Vice Chairman)	L Moloï Rep of Umgeni Water
O	Committee on the Register of Dams & Documentation	2017-2020	W Ramokopa	B Collet
P	Committee on Cemented Materials Dams	2017-2020	D Cameron-Ellis	Vacant-SANCOLD Members please apply to the Secretary
Q	Committee on Dam Surveillance	2017-2020	L Hattingh (Chairman)	A Botha DJ Hagen
S	Committee on Flood Evaluation and Dam Safety	2015-2020	J Smithers	
T	Ad hoc Committee on prospective and new challenges for dams and reservoir in the 21st century	2017-2020	H Anderson <sup>1</sup>	
U	Committee on Dams and River Basin Management	2018-2021	G de Jager	
V	Committee for Hydromechanical Equipment	2016-2019	R van Wyk	Dr M Ellis
Y	Committee on Climate Change	2017-2021	G de Jager	Corresponding member
Z	Committee on Capacity Building and Dams ( <i>Ad Hoc</i> Committee)	2017-2021	V Schoeman	
RE	Committee on Resettlement due to Reservoirs	2018-2021	K Naidoo	

Representation cannot be changed In the case of an **ad hoc committee**. SANCOLD Working Group members make inputs into the ICOLD Committee via the SANCOLD Representative.

ICOLD changed its policy in regard to the sale of their publications (Bulletins) and the Executive Meeting in 2010 decided to make them free to members in electronic form in order to increase dissemination of the information via the National Committees. Draft Bulletins are made available at an earlier stage to enhance distribution. We have received the access code for free downloading and members should approach the SANCOLD Secretary for the access code. This will enable you to register your own direct access to the ICOLD website. Several SANCOLD members have made use of this facility and other members are encouraged to make use of this excellent knowledge-base.

## **8. AFRICAN REGIONAL CLUB**

The ICOLD meeting is being held virtually so that no meeting of the African Regional Club was held this year.

## **9. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The cancellation of the SANCOLD Annual Conference has adversely impacted our finances but they are sound for the current level of activity. The audit for the current year is being finalised. Members will be supplied with feedback once this has been completed. There will be no increase in membership fees for the next financial year

## **10. CONCLUSION**

- This year has been difficult due to the COVID-19 pandemic which has limited activities.
- SANCOLD Individual membership is showing steady growth specially among younger members.
- 2020 has been a year of consolidation in SANCOLD activities.

**Quentin Shaw**  
**Chairperson: SANCOLD**  
**November 2020**