



SANCOLD

SANCOLD News



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The 2018 SANCOLD Conference in session

SANCOLD 2018 CONFERENCE

The 2018 SANCOLD (South African National Committee on Large Dams) Conference was held at the NH Lord Charles Hotel in Somerset West in November 2018. Some 100 participants shared in the proceedings and social

events, and, despite the lower numbers, the conference and study tours were very successful.

Stephan Dreyer won the prize (a complimentary admission to the 2019 SANCOLD Conference) for the Best Presentation by Members of the Young Person's Forum.

SANCOLD 2019 CONFERENCE

The SANCOLD 2019 Conference will be held at the aha Kopanong Hotel in Benoni, Gauteng, from Wednesday to Friday 6–8 November 2019. The general theme of the 2019 Conference is *Sustainable long-term dam infrastructure development and management*.

South Africa is currently experiencing a lack of proper long-term implementation, operation and maintenance of large-scale electricity infrastructure in South Africa. Similar issues are also starting to surface with regard to water infrastructure at various levels. On top of that many parts of the country have also experienced a severe drought in the last few years. Urgent intervention is needed to prevent



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a similar long-term “Eskom scenario” for water infrastructure in South Africa. As a result, the focus needs to change to proper long-term sustainable operation and maintenance (including preventative maintenance). The potential future impact of aspects such as climate change, sedimentation, long-term behaviour of materials, etc, also have to be taken into account to achieve this long-term goal.

SANCOLD 2019 will be a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) accredited event by both ECSA and SACNASP (South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions), and attendance for all three days will be worth 3.0 credits (1 credit per day).

Registration for the event will open early in July 2019. Further details are available on the SANCOLD website (www.sancold.org.za).

ICOLD MEETING IN OTTAWA JUNE 2019

The 87th Annual Meeting of the International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD) will be held in Ottawa, Canada, from 9–14 June and, as usual, a number of SANCOLD delegates are expected to attend. SANCOLD is represented on 20 of the ICOLD Technical Committees, which produce technical bulletins of good practice for the industry.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR POST-GRADUATE STUDIES (2019)

SANCOLD has identified the urgent need to update the data and methods used for design flood estimation in South Africa, and has initiated a National Flood Studies Programme (NFSP) to update these. To advance this programme, SANCOLD is proud to announce that it has provided (for 2019) financial support of R75 000 to each of five students whose research links into furthering this programme.

This financial support has been provided to the following candidates who are working under the guidance of Prof JC Smithers at the University of KwaZulu-Natal:

- Nkosinathi Dlamini whose study proposal is titled *Development and assessment of a joint probability event based approach for design flood estimation in South Africa*.
- Udhav Maharaj whose research proposal is titled *Refine and update the SCS-SA model for design flood estimation to account for antecedent moisture conditions and joint association of rainfall and*



Nkosinathi Dlamini



Ryshan Ramlall



Udhav Maharaj



Keanu Singh

runoff using the results and methodology from an CSM system that was developed.

- Ryshan Ramlall whose research proposal is titled *Assessing and updating techniques for disaggregating daily rainfall for design flood estimation*.
- Keanu Singh whose research proposal is titled *An assessment of data quality and availability on the estimation of design floods in South Africa*.

The final award of financial support went to:

- Todd Thomas whose research project, *Deriving areal reduction factors using radar imagery*, is taking place at Stellenbosch University under the guidance of Prof JA du Plessis.

We wish these awardees success in their studies and hope that their research will provide valuable input to the NFSP. □



Todd Thomas