

SARIA ACTIVITIES 2023

Since 2019, SARIA has been inactive due to COVID 19

On 9th October, 2023 SARIA held a virtual workshop with 7 members participating (South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Madagascar, Mauritius, and DRC).

The main objective of the workshop was to get updates on irrigation activities by National Committees on Irrigation and Drainage. It also aimed at getting updates on irrigation projects taking place in members' countries.

NATIONAL COMMITTEES

- So far South Africa and Zimbabwe have paid their membership fees to ICID
- Other active members are yet to pay because of financial challenges
- South Africa and Zimbabwe submitted names of female young professionals for consideration to participate in 25th ICID Congress
- Zimbabwe held one meeting to revisit the constitution to be in line with ICID constitution
- Generally, most national committees were not active due to COVID 19 pandemic.
- Most countries promised to revamp / establish national irrigation committees so that they actively participate in SARIA and ICID activities.

CHALLENGES

- Some countries have stopped participating in SARIA Meeting/workshops despite extending invitations (Angola, Seychelles, Namibia, Mozambique, Lesotho and Botswana).
- Poor coordination amongst stakeholders in most member states.
- Inadequate financial resources

NATURAL DISASTER

The region was greatly affected by the natural disaster (Tropical Cyclone Freedy) which caused wide spread flooding and damage in March 2023. Most affected countries include Madagascar, Mozambique, Malawi, and Zimbabwe.

- Madagascar: 299,000 people were affected with 7 deaths
- Mozambique: 120,000 people displaced with 165 deaths
- Malawi: 659,300 people displaced and 679 deaths with 537 missing
 - Over 6,000 ha of Irrigation Schemes have been damaged
 - Over US\$ 60 million is required to rehabilitate these schemes

