

SANCID 2018

***“Opportunities to
manage climate change
”***



SANCID

**Joe Stevens
Chairman, SANCID**



- **Great honour to welcome you to the 2018 SANCID Biennial Symposium here at Ingwenyama Sport and Conference Centre, White River (Mpumalanga)**
- **SANCID celebrates 25 years of excellence fineness, since the very small beginning in 1993 and the great achievements since within a complete international arena**

**South African National Committee
on**

Irrigation and Drainage

1993 to 2018



25th Anniversary



- Special guests:
 - President of ICID: Eng Felix Reinders
 - Mr M Mlengana, Director General , DAFF
 - Ms S Xulu , HOD , MPDA
 - Dr Gerhard Backeberg, Exec Director , WRC
- In 2016 we had our symposium at Goudini , Worcester the theme - “*Sustainable irrigation water management with 2030 as our vision*”
- This year our theme is looking at opportunities to manage irrigation within a climate that is changing where we will look at the role of technology and innovative ideas how to make agriculture more resilient to a fast changing climate with subthemes:
 - Role of irrigation and drainage in dealing with drought
 - Tools and strategies to manage climate uncertainties
 - Role of policies in addressing food security
 - Innovation technologies in irrigation

- Earlier this year, August ICID Conference was held in Canada with the theme: *“Innovative and Sustainable Agri Water Management: Adapting to a variable and changing climate”*



South Africa agriculture

- Combination of variable climatic conditions (droughts and floods), unsure policy environment plus huge macro economic fluctuations create an exceptionally *volatile environment for SA agriculture and farming*
- In real terms, agricultural GDP peaked in 2017, supported by factors like an all-time record crop for maize and soybeans, and very favourable prices for horticulture exports arising from reduced production in the northern hemisphere and a return to profitability BUT since thenagric growth -24.8% (1 and 2nd quarters of 2018)

SA WeatherService forecasts indicate a 70% probability of El Nino occurrence from mid Spring into Summer 2018. Typical weather conditions that can be expected= warmer temps, and less rainfall in summer rainfall areas.

- What are the opportunities for an irrigation industry which is exporting more than R106.6 billion ZAR/annum ? That is what we need to debate.....

Expectations

- SANCID a unique platform where people of different disciplines meet (14) and build friendships
- 29 excellent scientists from various disciplines will address us on various aspects of climate adapted strategies and innovations
- Technical tour on Wednesday : Mayo Macs, Nelspruit

Mayo Macs is a multi-faceted South African company consisting of various shareholders (240 growers in SA) within the Macadamia value chain



Appreciation

- Sponsor:WRC (gold)

