



# Newsletter 6

## THE DAMS NEWSLETTER

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### ICOLD ON THE FRONT LINE FOR DEVELOPMENT

**Luis Riquelme**  
President, ICOLD

As the beginning of 2007 ends, high water marks in the global development arena have been established by the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) set by the United Nations. Different international agencies continue their efforts in being able to improve access to drinking water and food, sanitation, but there remains an obvious challenge, and that is how to ensure the world's ability to fulfil Sustainable Action when all signs of action seem to be under assault.

The case of Africa is well known. Twenty years of the population lives in famine, with famine consequences. The fight, the Clean Water, the Health Care, and the Education. This situation continues with less than 7% of the hydroelectric potential is exploited in the continent. Available in such a short time, even more of a challenge for the next several years.

Making the world more and denser population is a multidimensional issue, and it requires a multi-faceted approach. It is the Integrated Water Resources and Energy Management. All kinds of potentials must be taken into account: hydro, wind, solar, and geothermal. In order to generate the most efficient use of water, energy, and land, we must have a holistic approach that takes into account the social, economic, and environmental aspects. This means that we must be committed and agreed on an internationally recognized and widely applicable water management approach and will bring the benefits of justice to people.

It is therefore the aim and mission of ICOLD to promote and develop clean and hydropower in the developing world. Africa being the priority. ICOLD and its 88 National Committees represent more than 100 years of experience, with more than 1000 professionals and experts in the field of dams. There are also 12 Technical Commissions, in which approximately 100 experts participate, regardless of the disciplinary field of the activities or technical, economic, social and environmental nature or geographical location. Through ICOLD, we achieve a global, international organization, government and other staff participation, to help achieve the sustainable development vision.

ICOLD should be able to assist in the development of the continent. This is why we are working programs together in ICOLD, and the global hydrology for cooperation with United Nations organizations. On the global relations level, our main activities is clearly water and we hope to still serve as useful to ICOLD's mission.

Luis Riquelme  
President, ICOLD

Michael De Vivo  
Secretary General, ICOLD

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