

SAIAE News Bulletin

South African Institute of Agricultural Engineers April 2005

In this issue of the SAIAE News Bulletin, the President discusses the first item of the first meeting of the new Council. It comprises the results from the measurement survey. The results confirm also that the three areas where SAIAE has invested most of its resources over the last year, have grown the most. Answers indicating the most growth as well as answers indicating problem areas are discussed.

SABI's National Congress 2005, to be held in June 2005, is also mentioned.

The International Agricultural Engineering Conference will be held in Thailand from 6 to 9 December 2005.

News flashes from SANCID are also included.

Editor

From the President's desk

We must plan for the future, because people who stay in the present will remain in the past – Abraham Lincoln

At the first meeting of the new Council the following took place:

- Summary & measurement or assessment of the success of previous actions,
- A futuristic look at the agricultural market and the prevailing driving forces,
- Determination of strategic goals for the Institute for the next two years, and
- Determination of actions to reach each goal and responsible portfolios.

This news bulletin will cover the first item, results from the measurement survey. The survey was designed to measure perceptions of members on the attainment of strategic aims and the leaders' corps.

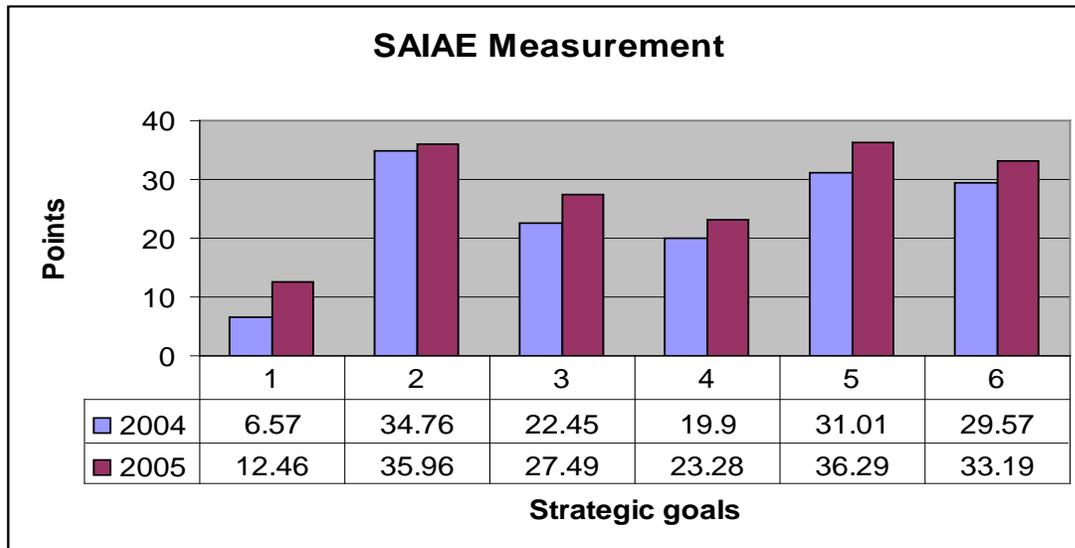
The results from the measurement range from – 20 to 60 with the following meaning:

- A number below 0 indicates a critical area where failure is eminent,
- A number between 0 and 20 indicates an area with insufficient critical mass, indicating that leaders should continue to work actively on the goal to stop the issue from sliding backwards,
- A number between 20 and 40 indicates that the goal has good potential for growth/is growing due to actions taken, and
- A number between 40 and 60 indicates that the issue has sufficient momentum to continue to grow naturally.

Comparison of annual changes also provides the leadership with a tool to indicate the effectiveness of their actions as seen/experienced by the members. With limited resources the Council can now allocate resources according to the priority of each strategic goal.

Measurement results

	2005	2004	Change	Percent
1 Correct positioning of the career in the market	12.46	6.57	5.89	9.81
2 Functional representation of the career on governing bodies	35.96	34.76	1.20	2.00
3 Value adding continuous professional Development aspects	27.49	22.45	5.04	8.40
4 Supportive infrastructure for new students/entrants	23.28	19.9	3.38	5.63
5 Needs addressing interaction with members	36.29	31.01	5.28	8.80
6 Effective leadership	33.19	29.57	3.62	6.03



The results confirm clearly that the three areas where the SIAIE has invested most of its resources over the last year have grown the most, namely:

- Correct positioning of the profession in the market - 9.81 % growth
- Needs addressing interaction with the members – 8.80 % growth
- Value Adding Continuous Professional Development – 8.40 % growth

The answers indicating the most growth include:

- Members are aware of the role the Institute play in assisting ECSA with profession related matters,
- Members receive communication from and invitations to meetings on a regular basis,
- Members are aware of the CPD event and are aware of the SAIAE marketing campaign, and
- Members feel comfortable in approaching the leaders of the Institute.

The answers indicating problem areas include:

- No work received due to the SAIAE marketing campaign,
- No knowledge that SAIAE is a member of SETAG,
- No referrals or personal visits to the SAIAE website, and
- No invitation to participate in the marketing campaign.

Overall the measurement has confirmed that the strategic actions are seen by the members and that measurable growth took place in areas where resources were allocated. It has also confirmed that the measurement tool is effective in tracking success as seen/felt by the members.

A warm word of thanks to the members that responded in the very short reply time allowed for this survey to be conducted.

In the next edition, our strategic goals for the next two years.

Kind SAIAE regards

Louis Lagrange
President: SAIAE

News from SANCID

International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage – 21st
European Regional Conference – **Frankfurt (Oder),
Germany 15 to 19 May 2005. More info:
www.erc2005.org**

SABI's National Congress 2005

The National Congress 2005 of SABI will be held from 1 to 3 June 2005. The theme of the congress will be *The next decade of H₂O and Energy*.

The congress will focus on the optimal utilization of water and energy in the next decade. New practices/innovations in irrigation scheduling, fertigation, maintenance, design guidelines, soil and water management, and irrigation information for emerging as well as commercial farming will be covered. Irrigation experts, farmers, companies and representatives of related industries should attend .

The comprehensive programme will include topics such as system performance; dynamics of enriched water; is water saving possible; H₂O – at what cost; hydraulic dynamics; intensive agriculture; and soil for the next generation.

The congress will be held at the Alpine Health Resort in the Drakensberg. The resort is situated in the scenic northern Drakensberg Mountain range, halfway between Johannesburg and Durban.

Considered to be one of southern Africa's premier conference and holiday venues, Alpine Health Resort allows you to relax in the comfort of an exclusive mountain village.

The exhibitions will present a showcase of the latest irrigation technology during the congress. Exhibition stands are available to irrigation companies for introduction of new products.

Deadlines for the registration of delegates as well as for exhibitors are from now until 15 April 2005. Costs are as follows:

- Congress fee (SABI member)
R2 000/person
- Congress fee (non SABI member)
R2 500/person
- Exhibitors (SABI member)
R5 000/company
- Exhibitors (non SABI member)
R6 000/company

International Agricultural Engineering Conference Bangkok, Thailand. 6 to 9 December 2005

Under the auspices of AAAE, this conference on the theme “Agricultural Engineering-Technologies and Future Trends” will be held at the Asian Institute of Technology in **Bangkok, Thailand, from 6 to 9 December 2005**

Topics:

- Power and machinery
- Food Engineering and biotechnology
- Soil and water engineering
- Energy in agriculture
- Agricultural systems
- Structures and environment
- Electronics in agriculture
- Agro-industry
- Agricultural engineering education
- Agricultural waste management
- Ergonomics
- Terramechanics
- New materials and emerging technologies

Important dates:

Deadline for submissions of abstracts:	1 March 2005
Notice of acceptance:	31 March 2005
Full papers due:	1 August 2005
Early registration with payment due:	12 October 2005

For more information, please contact: The Secretariat, Attn: Dr. Emmanuel C. Canillas, International Agricultural Engineering Conference, ASE SERD Asian Institute of Technology, P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathumthani 12120, THAILAND. Tel: +66 2 524 5494. Fax: +66 2 524 6200. E-mail: aaae@ait.ac.th emann@ait.ac.th

News from SANCID

19th International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage “Use of Water and Land for Food and Environment Sustainability” to be held in **Beijing, China from 10 to 18 September 2005**. More info at www.bicc.com.cn