



**DAMS AND RESERVOIRS: CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS STRATEGIES
ICOLD EUROPEAN CLUB STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS FOR
PUBLIC AWARENESS ON DAM BENEFITS: DAM DAY IN
EUROPE**

Sera Lazaridou, EurCOLD President

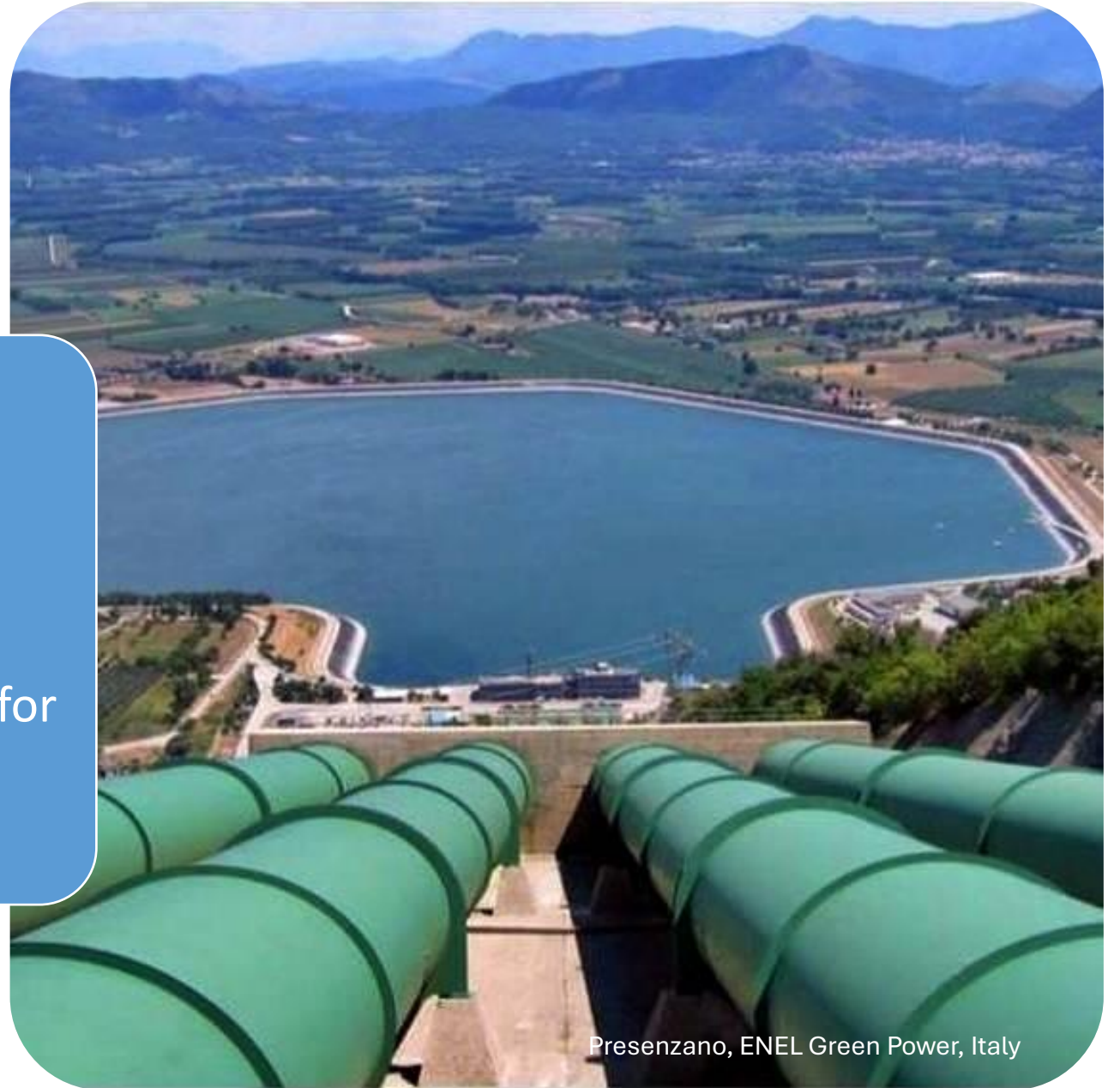
Alfredo Granados Garcia, EurCOLD Secretary General

Antonella Frigerio (RSE, ITCOLD), Guido Mazzà (ITCOLD)

Contents

ICOLD European Club (EurCOLD):

- Objectives & active Working Groups
- Initiatives and Actions for Public Awareness: « Dam Day – Reservoirs for Europe » overview & analytics on inaugural celebrations



EurCOLD Objectives & active Working Groups



27 European ICOLD member countries are EurCOLD members

MAIN OBJECTIVES (CONSTITUTION, 1995)

Encourage EWG and European Symposia

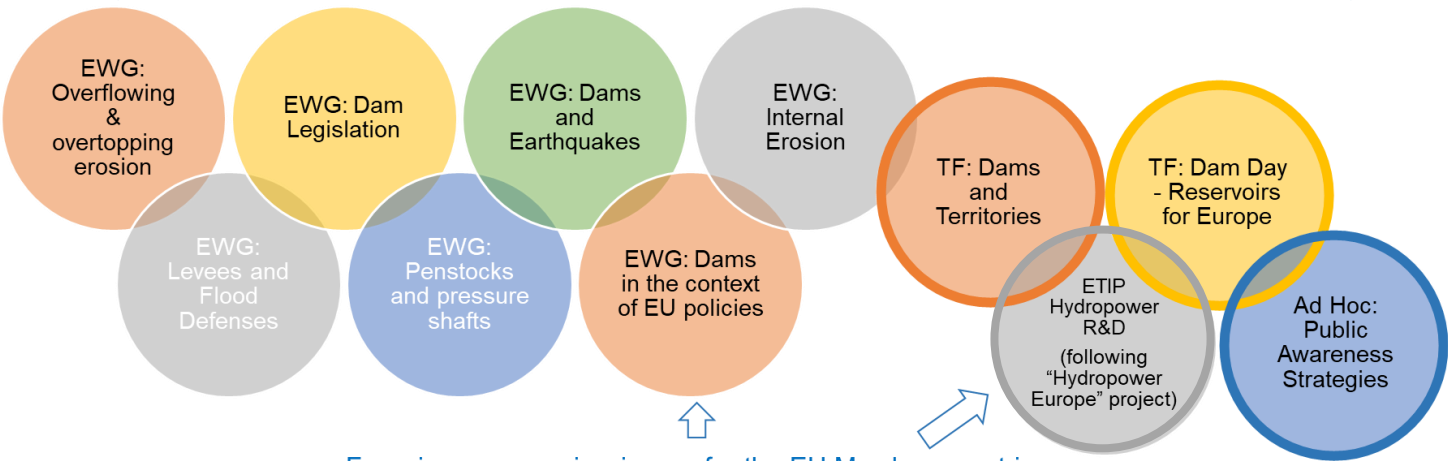
Encourage co-operation and exchange information among European countries

Provide expert technical advice in relation to dam and reservoir safety, where requested

Participate in public relations activities to explain social, environmental and economic benefits of dams

Promote co-operation in professional training of Young Professionals

Interact and collaborate with ICOLD Technical Committees



Focusing on emerging issues for the EU Member countries

Organize Meetings, Workshops, Seminars, Symposiums

EurCOLD Initiatives and Actions for Public Awareness

“Dam Day – Reservoirs for Europe” initiative



2024



Dam Day

Reservoirs for Europe

EurCOLD Initiatives and Actions for Public Awareness

National, European & International “day” event celebrations related to water, dams, hydropower

BRUSSELS HYDROPOWER DAY 2024

16 April 2024

BLUEPOINT BRUSSELS

The important role of hydropower as a catalyst in the clean and safe energy transition under uncertainties

Funded by the European Union

www.etip-hydropower.eu

Hydropower Day (ETIP Hydropower, not fixed)

Let's celebrate

GLOBAL HYDROPOWER DAY 11 OCTOBER 2023

With hydropower we can **provide affordable energy for generations**

iha

Global Hydropower Day (IHA – Global, 11/10)

14 Mars International Day of Action for Rivers (Day against Dams)

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ACTION FOR RIVERS

May 31 is NATIONAL DAM SAFETY AWARENESS DAY

DAM SAFETY IS A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

KNOW YOUR RISK, KNOW YOUR ROLE, KNOW THE BENEFITS OF DAMS AND TAKE ACTION!

Dam Safety Awareness Day (US, 31/05)

NATIONAL HYDROPOWER DAY August 24, 2023

THEME: HYDROPOWER IS KEY

NATIONAL HYDROPOWER DAY AUGUST 24, 2023

HYDROPOWER IS KEY

#HydroDay

National Hydropower Day Social Media and Messaging Resource Guide

National Hydropower Day (US, 24/08)

UN WATER

22 MARCH WORLD WATER DAY

2024 Water for Peace

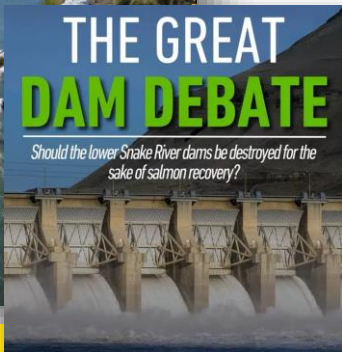
Water for Peace

World Water Day (UN, 22/03)

EurCOLD Initiatives and Actions for Public Awareness

Why establish a celebration day dedicated to Dams & Reservoirs?

DAMS ARE PROBLEM CREATORS, NOT PROBLEM SOLVERS

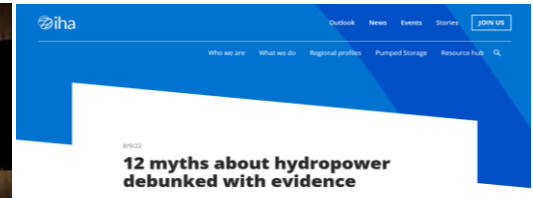
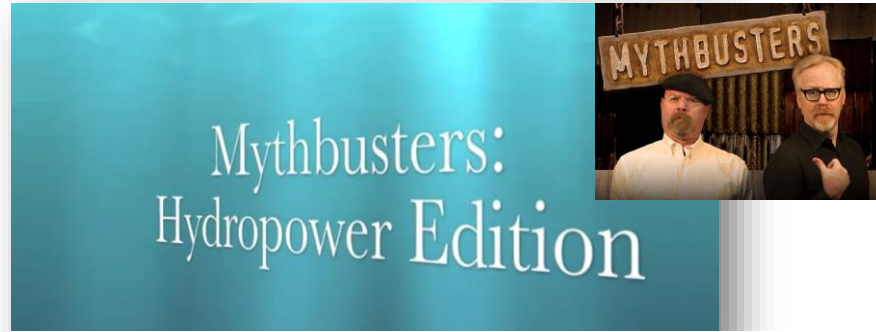


<https://www.americanrivers.org/threats-solutions/energy-development/dams-problem-creators-not-problem-solvers/>

Hydro-electricity: a green myth

Around 50 % of the existing dams in Europe have been built for hydropower purposes. Hydropower is not always a green source of energy, as it is generally portrayed, because it often brings environmental impacts. Hydroelectricity is indeed renewable, however it also brings a range of potentially adverse impacts including hydropeaking, the sudden release of flash flows, entrainment of biota, and river reaches depleted of flow. It is incompatible with rivers natural equilibrium. Moreover, the impounded reservoirs emit greenhouse gases. All of these effects are now common knowledge but new structures are still being planned all over Europe, especially in the Alps and the Balkans, often with little regard for their environmental impacts.

In many cases, dams are necessary for society. But nowadays, there are better and less environmentally harmful options to provide electricity: solar and wind energy are cheaper and less harmful. Restoration of floodplains is increasingly used to prevent floods and help society to become more climate change resilient. With these alternatives more and more available we can replace many older barriers with smart solutions that didn't exist 50 years ago. This is good news for our living rivers for four reasons.



Myth 5: Old hydropower plants need decommissioning and removal.

Reality: Hydropower is a forever resource.

There is over 600 GW of aging hydropower around the globe. While a few plants should be decommissioned and/or removed, the vast majority can be modernised.

IHA has undertaken studies on the potential for modernisation in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Upgrading our existing fleet is a massive opportunity for low-impact green electricity, showing we do not need new technology to make progress towards our net zero targets.

Myth 8: Drought will render hydropower unusable.

Reality: To mitigate against drought and floods we need more hydropower, not less.

Isn't it funny how we only notice hydropower's massive role in providing green electricity when we don't have it? With volatile weather conditions becoming more frequent, water management and multi-purpose reservoirs will be more important than ever in the future. Countries like Spain are only able to cope with drought today because of massive investments in water infrastructure in the 1970s.

Hydropower is the answer. While coal and nuclear use up vast volumes of water, hydropower can use the same drop repeatedly.

In fact, hydropower is among the best ways to mitigate droughts. IHA estimates that through the water storage function of its reservoirs, the hydropower industry prevents over US\$130bn in annual GDP losses from drought incidents.

The [IHA Climate Resilience Guide](#) provides a blueprint for hydropower operators to withstand the growing volatility in weather patterns.

#ETIPHYDROPOWER #Hydropower #RenewableEnergy #CleanEnergy #GreenEnergy



#RenewableEnergy #Hydropower #Sustainability #ClimateChange #EnergyTransition

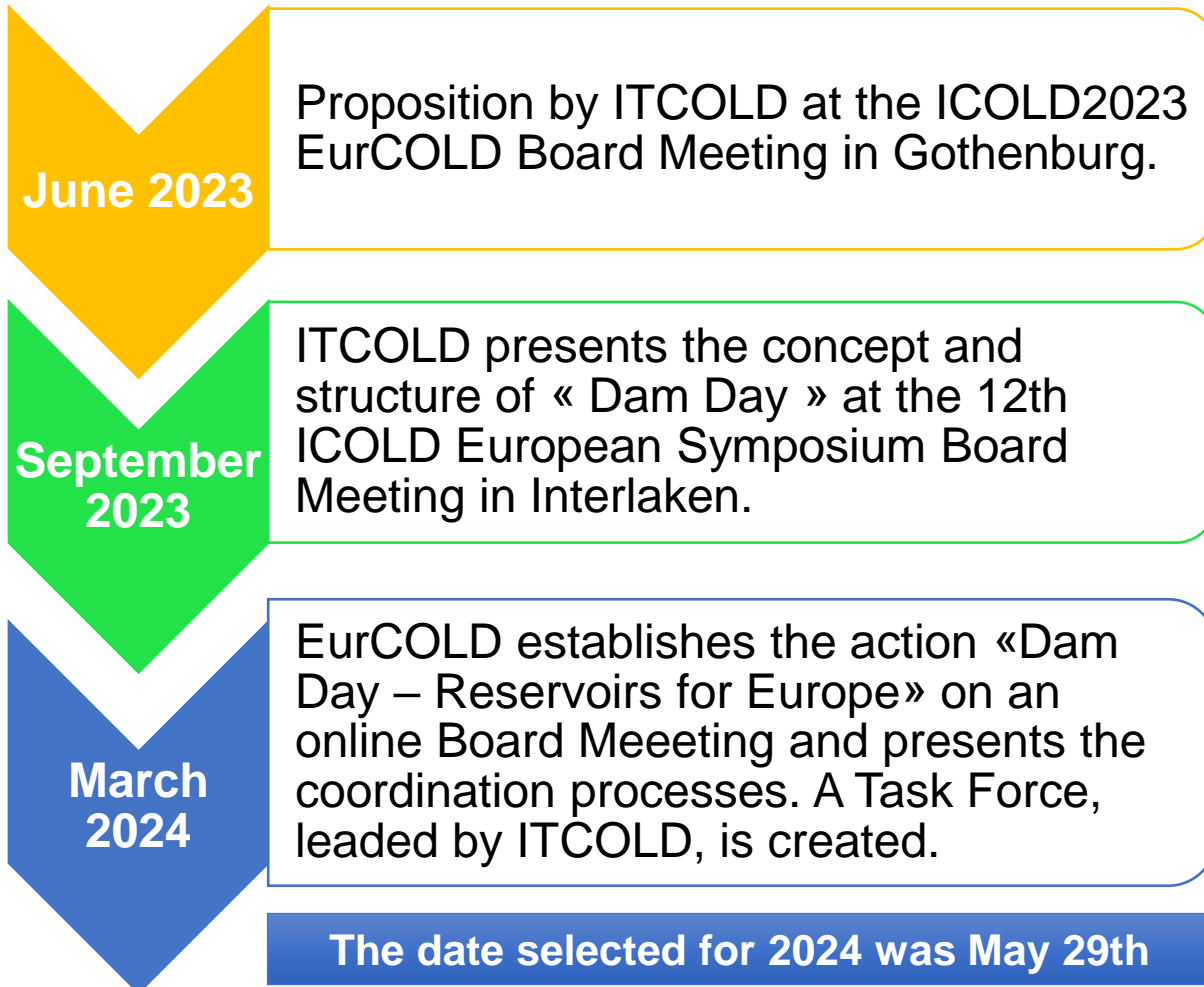


EurCOLD Initiatives and Actions
for Public Awareness
Why establish a celebration day
dedicated to Dams &
Reservoirs?



EurCOLD Initiatives and Actions for Public Awareness


“Dam Day – Reservoirs for Europe” establishment timeline



“Dam Day - Reservoirs for Europe” is an annual celebrations day declared by EurCOLD (ICOLD European Club) and being held in May, aiming to advocate, recognize contribution and spread knowledge on the role of dams and their reservoirs in an economic, social and environmental context.

Events on a national basis are coordinated by ICOLD European National Committees.

EurCOLD collaborates to synchronize and engage the NCs, disseminate the principal objectives and organize and promote events.



2024 Dam Day Reservoirs for Europe

Declaration

Dam Day - Reservoirs for Europe is an annual celebrations day declared by EurCOLD (ICOLD European Club) and being held in May. The establishment followed an initiative of the Italian Committee on Large Dams (ITCOLD) aiming to advocate, recognize contribution and spread knowledge on the role of dams and their reservoirs in an economic, social and environmental context. The event was celebrated for the first time in May 29th 2024 with the active participation of EurCOLD member countries.

Objectives and structure: Main objectives of the Dam Day include raising public awareness about dams, engaging local communities, providing the values of dams and their contribution for sustainable social development and prosperity, providing information to high school students and young professionals on job opportunities in the dam sector, promoting interactions between different professional figures and administrators operating in the dam sector. The Dam Day is celebrated around Europe with a variety of events showcasing the important role of dams and their ability to adapt with resilience to climate change extremes (floods and droughts) and safely the increased needs for potable water, water for energy and irrigation purposes. Activities related to the event, may take place a short period before and after the predefined day.

Coordination: Events on a national basis are coordinated by the European ICOLD National Committees. EurCOLD collaborates to engage and synchronize National Committees and disseminate Dam Day's main objectives.

Examples of activities: Interested parties (Dam owners, Authorities, cultural Associations, Universities, etc.) are encouraged to conduct events and activities such as technical visits to dams and excursions, debates, seminars, etc. The event is also supported by an online campaign in social media.

History: The Dam Day - Reservoirs for Europe day was formally proposed by the Italian Committee on Large Dams (ITCOLD) to the ICOLD European Club members in 2023 Board Meetings in Gothenburg and Interlaken (9th ICOLD Annual Meeting and 12th ICOLD European Club Symposium respectively) and in March 2024 (online EurCOLD Board Meeting) it was approved and officially declared that the "Dam Day" would be defined each year, within the second half of May of each year.

May 14th, 2024

News Release
Dam Day: Promoting Dams and Reservoirs for Europe

"Dam Day - Reservoirs for Europe" will be celebrated for the first time this May 29th, 2024, aiming to recognize the contribution and spread knowledge on the beneficial role of dams and their reservoirs in an economic, social and environmental context for local communities and countries within Europe.

The annual celebration of "Dam Day" was declared in March 2024 by EurCOLD (European Club of the International Commission on Large Dams - ICOLD) to raise public awareness of the contribution of dams and reservoirs to the sustainable social development and prosperity of European countries. The establishment of the "Dam Day" followed a proposal by the Italian Committee on Large Dams in June 2023.

Dam Day is celebrated around Europe with a variety of events taking place a short period before and after the 29th of May. Interested parties (Dam owners, Authorities, Associations, Universities, etc.) are encouraged to conduct events and activities such as technical visits to dams and excursions, debates, seminars, etc. and engage dam sector professionals, Young Professionals, students, stakeholders, and the population at large.

ICOLD European National Committees participate in the celebrations promoting activities around their countries. These events are also supported by an online campaign on social media.

To learn more about participation and events in your country and around Europe, contact your National Committee (<https://www.icold-club.org/86/committees/ncs/index.html>).

Dams and reservoirs' role is even more important than before around Europe, considering climate change and energy transition challenges and we encourage the public to identify their benefits and support their sustainable development for the generations ahead.

Additional information on Dam Day is available at EurCOLD's webpage and LinkedIn page, respectively:
<https://www.icold-club.org/86/committees/ncs/index.html>
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/icold-european-club-eurcold>

EurCOLD Initiatives and Actions for Public Awareness

“Dam Day – Reservoirs for Europe” events structure (indicatively) aiming to expand communication channels

Technical visits and study days at dam sites to mobilize and trigger (young) professionals and university students interest

Visits & excursions at dams (Schools, Public)

Seminars, workshops on dam engineering

Sports and other activities (e.g. cultural) at dams and their reservoirs

Promotion on social media and the press

Events take place in parallel across Europe, a short period before & after the predefined date



EurCOLL Initiatives and Actions for Public Awareness

“Dam Day – Reservoirs for Europe” May 2024 inaugural celebrations in numbers

The event was celebrated for the first time on May 29th, 2024, with the support of many EurCOLL members:

Albania, Belgium, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom and Cyprus and ICOLD YPF



18 EurCOLL member Countries and Cyprus (total 19 countries) supported the inaugural celebrations

Photo: PTCOLD



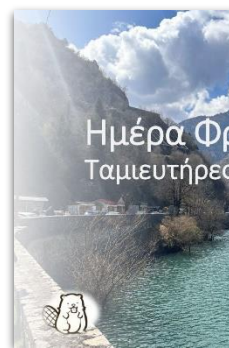
19 seminars, workshops, webinars, symposiums

Photo: POLCOLD



34 onsite visits (for professionals, universities, schools, general public)

Photo: ITCOLD



Other actions (e.g. podcast, ~1000 leaflets for distribution to schools, happenings, activity games for kids, online campaigns, video of dams)

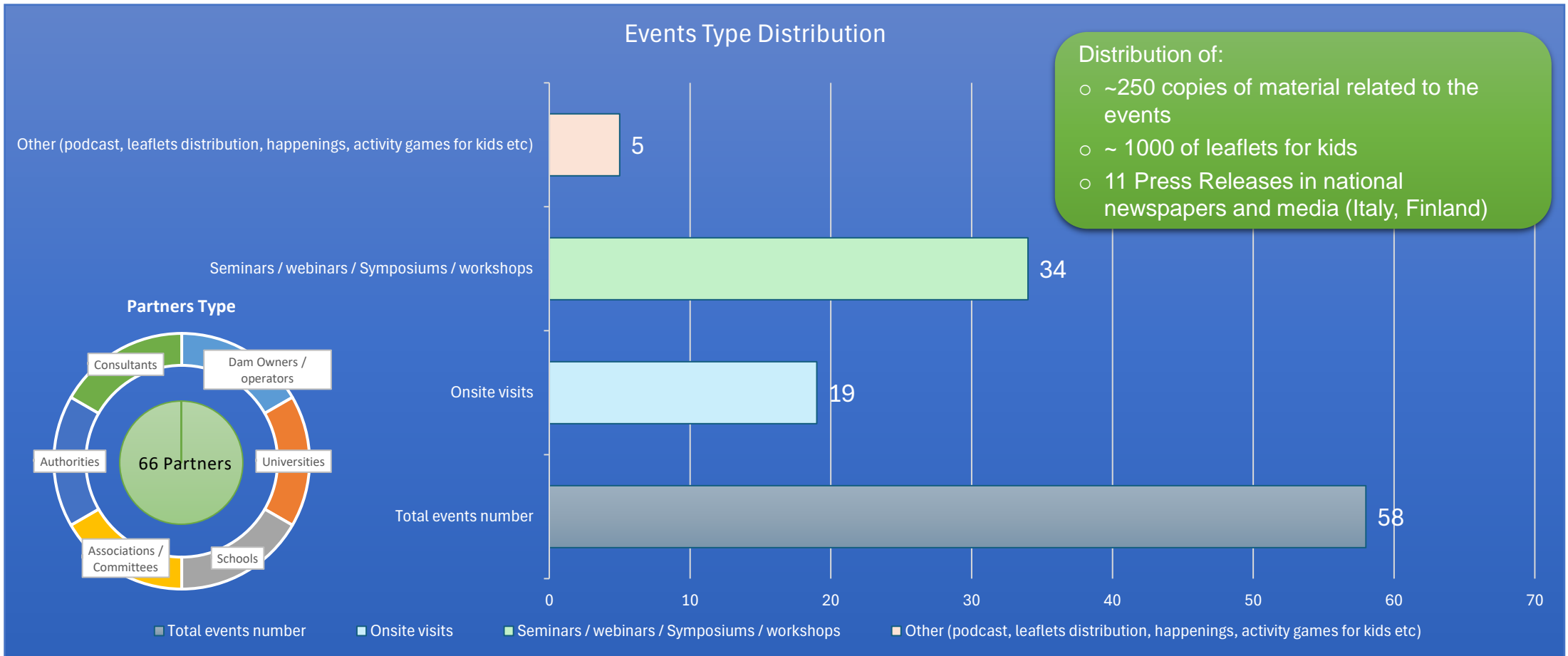
Photo: ITCOLD

EurCOLL Initiatives and Actions for Public Awareness

“Dam Day – Reservoirs for Europe” May 2024 inaugural celebrations in numbers

Inaugural **national campaigns** and events in: Albania, Finland - Norway - Sweden, Greece, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Romania, SPANCOLD & ICOLD YPF, Switzerland, United Kingdom

Collaboration with 66 partners for 58 events around Europe

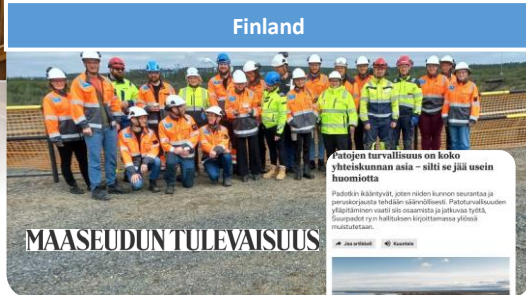


EurCOLD Initiatives and Actions for Public Awareness

“Dam Day – Reservoirs for Europe” May 2024 inaugural celebrations in numbers

Inaugural national campaigns and events in: Albania, Finland - Norway - Sweden, Greece, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Romania, SPANCOLD & ICOLD YPF, Switzerland, United Kingdom

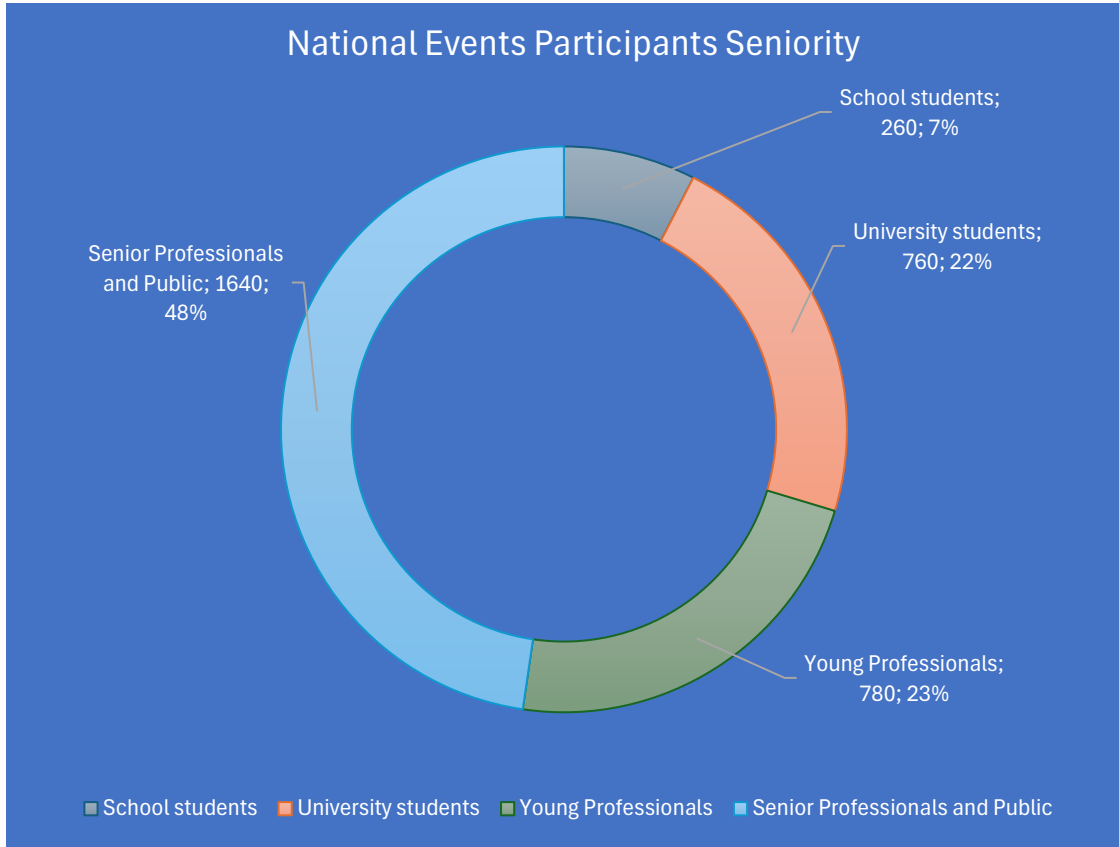
Total Participants recorded approximately: 3440 professionals & students



Yhteisön turvallisuus on koko yhteiskunnan asia – silti se jää usein huomiotta

Päätökset käännytettiin jättämällä kunnan seuranta ja perusturvaosuuden tehtävät sisäministeriön. Pitkänmatkaisen ylläpitämisen vasti oli osamaita ja jatkuvaa työtä. Suomessa on hallituksen kirjottamassa yleisiä muokutetaan.

MAASEUDUN TULEVAISUUS



EurCOLD Initiatives and Actions for Public Awareness

“Dam Day – Reservoirs for Europe” May 2024 indicative photos from events

Inaugural national campaigns and events in: Albania, Finland - Norway - Sweden, Greece, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Romania, SPANCOLD & ICOLD YPF, Switzerland, United Kingdom



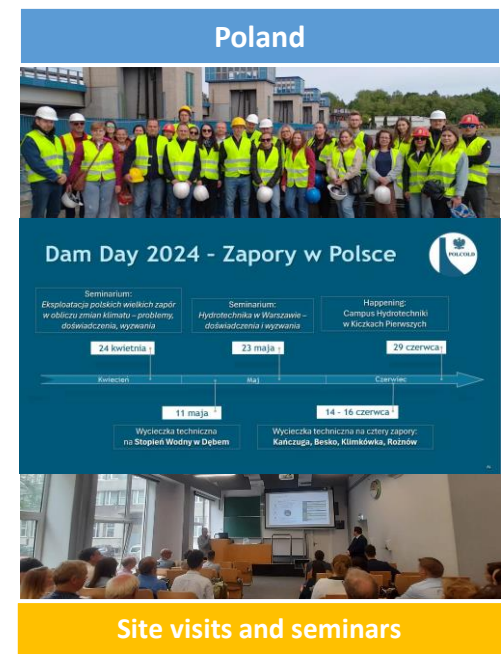
Italy

Numerous site visits and seminars, > 2300 participants



Romania

Site visit and seminar



Poland

Site visits and seminars

United Kingdom

British Dam Society
1,710 followers
Tw • Edited •

EUROPEAN DAM DAY

Today marks the first ever European Dam Day, which is an initiative created by ICOLD European Club (EURCOLD) to promote the awareness, understanding and role of dams historically and in our current climate.

British Dam Society are proud to join our fellow National committees, today and over the next week, in celebrating our industry, the people who work within it and to be able to share with everyone some interesting facts on the assets in the UK, historical incidents, changes in legislation and exciting investment projects that are currently ongoing.

Who are BDS? <https://lnkd.in/g/ZBAXXFY>

The British Dam Society is an Associated Society of the Institution of Civil Engineers. BDS exists to advance the education of the public and the profession in technical subjects relating to planning, design, construction, maintenance, operation, safety, environmental and social issues related to dams and reservoirs.

The BDS consists of approximately 800 individual and 30 corporate members and is open to anyone wanting to share experience or knowledge of all aspects of dams and reservoirs.

Over the year, we host evening meetings, technical papers, publications, forums, site visits and a biannual conference. Each year we produce a yearbook describing the events we have held and hearing from individuals, along with corporate member pages.

A link to our 2023 yearbook is: <https://lnkd.in/g/ewHYXaW>

We hope you will find the posts over the next week interesting and we would encourage all our members to share posts about their careers/projects over the next week.

If you want to find out more information on the BDS, please contact us.
<https://lnkd.in/g/NHdZpDG>

Rachel Davies
BDS Chair

13 posts, ~400 direct likes, ~20 reposts



Online campaign



Portugal

Site visit and seminar

SPANCOLD & ICOLD YPF

WEBINAR
«DAMS AND DIGITALISATION: NUMERICAL MODELS AND BIM»

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2024

Candidature of Madrid to host the 29th Congress in 2028. SPANCOLD

ICOLD YPF SPANCOLD

Webinar



Greece

Kids leaflet distribution at Marathon dam marathon race, organized by EYDAP

Sample photos and events selected by posts made online by the NCs LinkedIn pages, to promote inaugural #DamDay celebrations (we do not own copyright of the photos)

EurCOLD Initiatives and Actions for Public Awareness

“Dam Day – Reservoirs for Europe” May 2024 inaugural celebrations in numbers:
Online Promotion and Dissemination (ITCOLD event website) **La Repubblica!**

ITCOLD

Information on scheduled events was uploaded on the website: <https://dam-day.itcold.it/>



24 mai-1er juin 2024
Dams du 1er barrage en Italie

organisé par ITCOLD et promu par l'ICOLLD European Club avec l'appréciation de la direction générale du MIT des Points positifs

Une série de manifestations se sont répandues dans tout le pays pour promouvoir la connaissance du rôle joué par les barrages dans le contexte socioéconomique, environnemental et énergétique actuel du pays.

[PARTENAIRES](#) [MANIFESTATIONS](#)

60 000 De grands barrages dans le monde

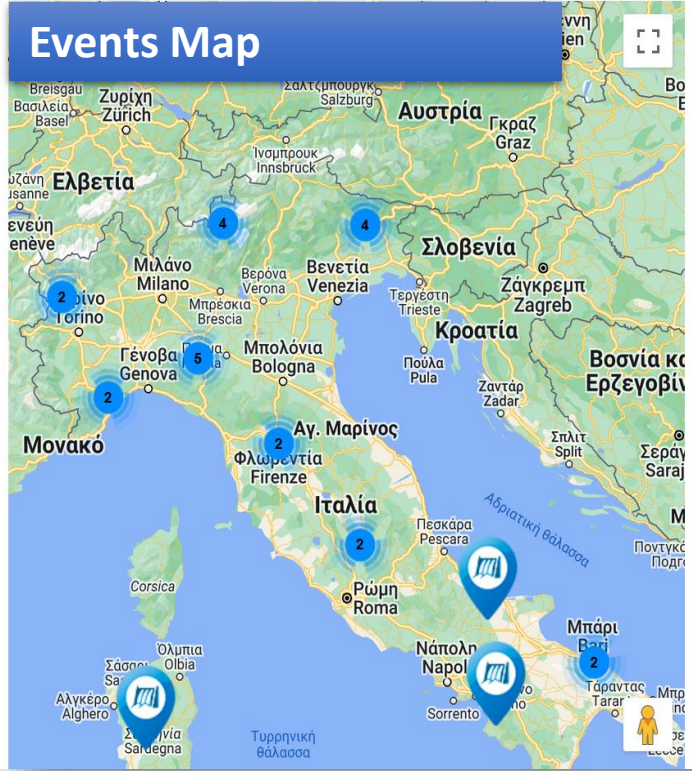
532 Grands barrages en Italie

Les 13 Des milliards de m³ envahis en Italie

26 events, 20 partners

Manifeste des barrages

Promu sous la présidence italienne du Club européen ICOLD (EURCOLD), le «Manifeste Mani – Dams et réservoirs» vise à promouvoir une plus grande prise de conscience du rôle des barrages d'un point de vue socio-économique et environnemental.

Veillez choisir une région

Veillez sélectionner une valeur

Veillez sélectionner une valeur

- Visite guidée
- Visite de la térature
- Visite technique
- Séminaire
- La Convention
- Conférence de presse

occasion et auxquels seront maîtres les travaux de personnel du Consortium et de la coopérative Cilento Servizi.

25 mai 2024 - Gênes (GE) : Coups tirés des barrages de Giacopiane et de Pian Sapeio

Inviter des groupes et des communautés de photographes amateurs très actifs sur Instagram pour capturer des plans inhabituels et non publiés du paysage des barrages sur le territoire.

26 mai 2024 - Nibbiano (PC) : Amis du Pô au-delà du Po pour découvrir le barrage de Molato

Les associés de « Les Amis du Surpo » viennent visiter le barrage de

Events Data Base



EurCOLD Initiatives and Actions for Public Awareness

“Dam Day – Reservoirs for Europe” May 2024 inaugural celebrations in numbers: Online Promotion and Dissemination provided by EurCOLD (main structure)



EurCOLD & National Committees:
~160 posts
LinkedIn mainly, X and Instagram

Received ~ 4400 likes
(and comments)

Leading to ~ 330 reposts
(further likes – comments - reposts)

EurCOLD Initiatives and Actions for Public Awareness

“Dam Day – Reservoirs for Europe” May 2024 inaugural celebrations in numbers: Online Promotion and Dissemination provided by EurCOLD (LinkedIn page)

ICOLD European Club (EURCOLD)
747 followers

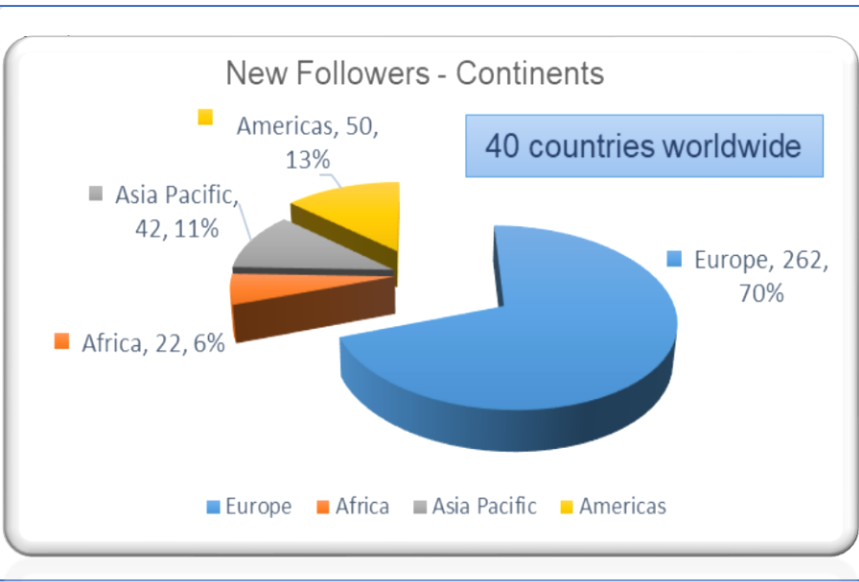
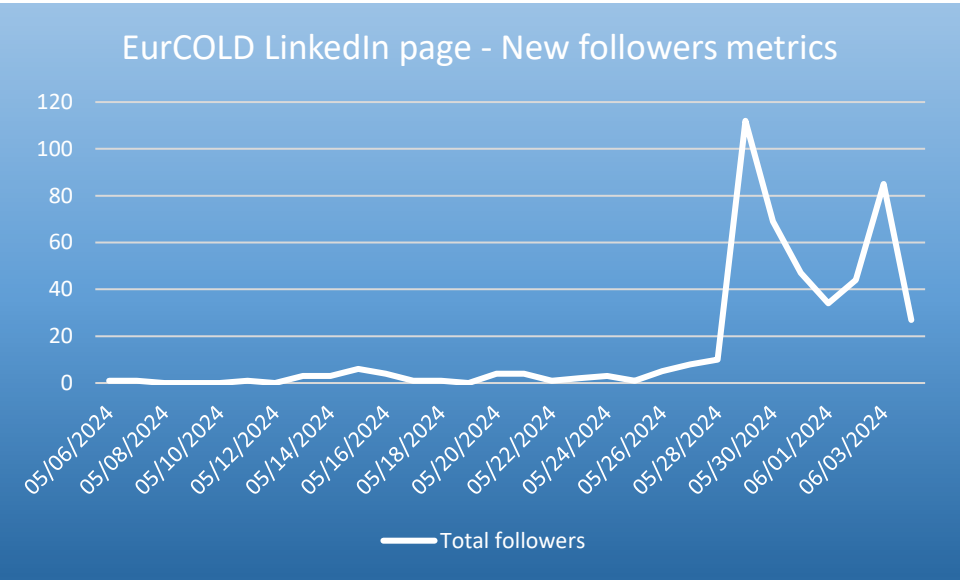
Today, May 29th 2024, we celebrate the inaugural "Dam Day - Reservoirs for Europe" establishment. This event aims to raise public awareness about dams, highlight their values and contribution to sustainable social development and prosperity, engage local communities, provide information to school students and young professionals, and promote interactions between different professionals and administrations in the dam sector.

#DamDay is already being celebrated across Europe with a variety of events that showcase the important role of dams. These events demonstrate how dams can adapt resiliently to climate change extremes, such as floods and droughts, and meet the increasing needs for potable water, as well as water for energy and irrigation purposes.

Throughout this week and beyond, we will share and repost information on activities related to Dam Day and the values of European dams. To kick off, we are presenting a video slideshow featuring information on dams across Europe and celebration activities. All photos and data have been provided by EurCOLD National Committees.

We encourage you to recognize the benefits of dams and support their sustainable development for future generations!

International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD)
British Dam Society
Eija Isomaki
Comité Français des Barrages et Réservoirs (CFBR)
GCOLD - Greek Committee on Large Dams
ITCOLD
Catalin Popescu
SPANCOLD - Comité Nacional Español de Grandes Presas
Mateja Klun
Swiss Committee on Dams
Yasemin Er
Sera Lazaridou



EurCOLD LinkedIn page tripled its followers in less than 10 days (27/05 – 04/06) gaining within a month ~600 new followers (today > 1000)

The Online Campaign was supported and promoted by ICOLD, International Water Power and Dam Construction, ETIP Hydropower, many Dam Owners & Operators, Engineering and Consulting Companies around Europe

Dam Day
Reservoirs for Europe

~1000 direct (and indirect) likes, ~80 reposts, ~18% mean engagement rate

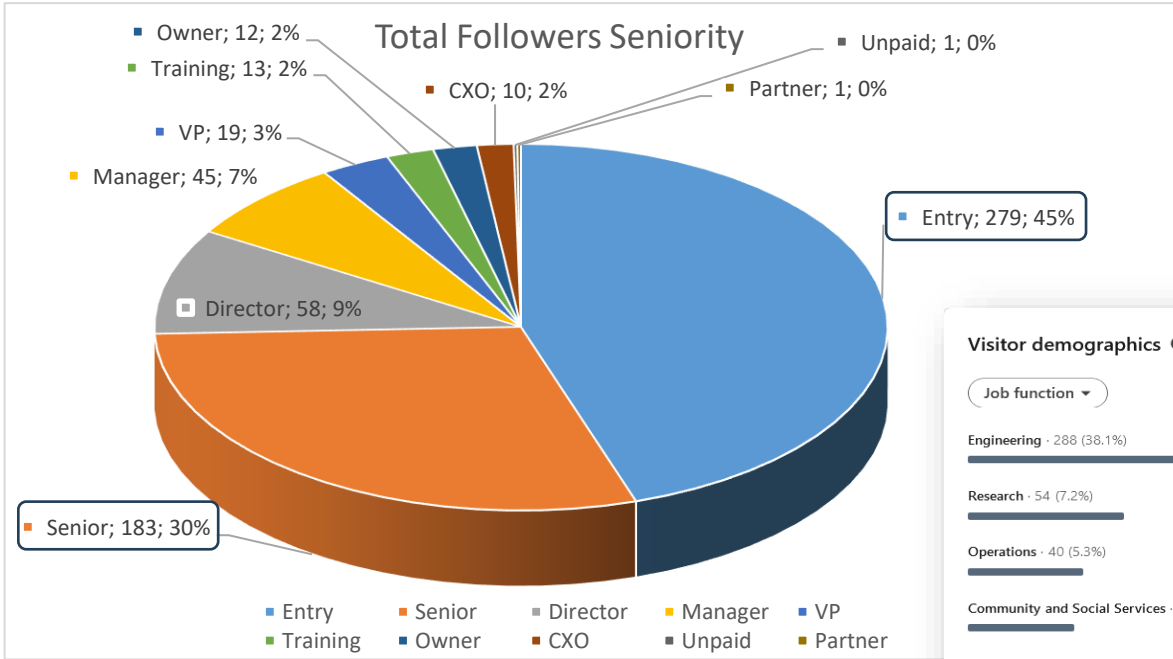
Un importante día para el futuro del agua

[See translation](#)

Europe celebrates inaugural "Dam Day" on May 29th
waterpowermagazine.com

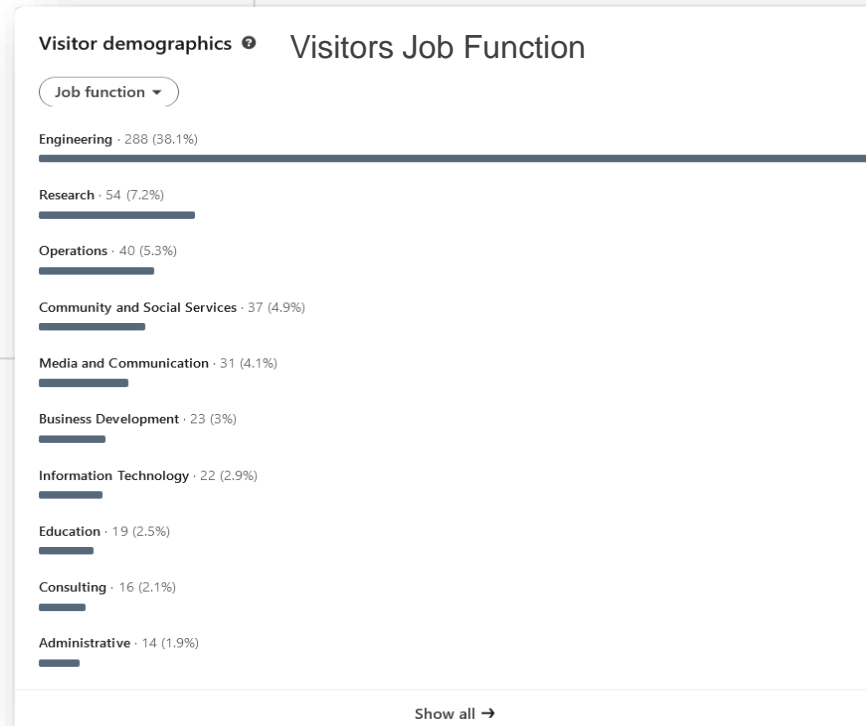
EurCOLD Initiatives and Actions for Public Awareness

“Dam Day – Reservoirs for Europe” May 2024 inaugural celebrations in numbers: Online Promotion and Dissemination provided by EurCOLD (LinkedIn page)

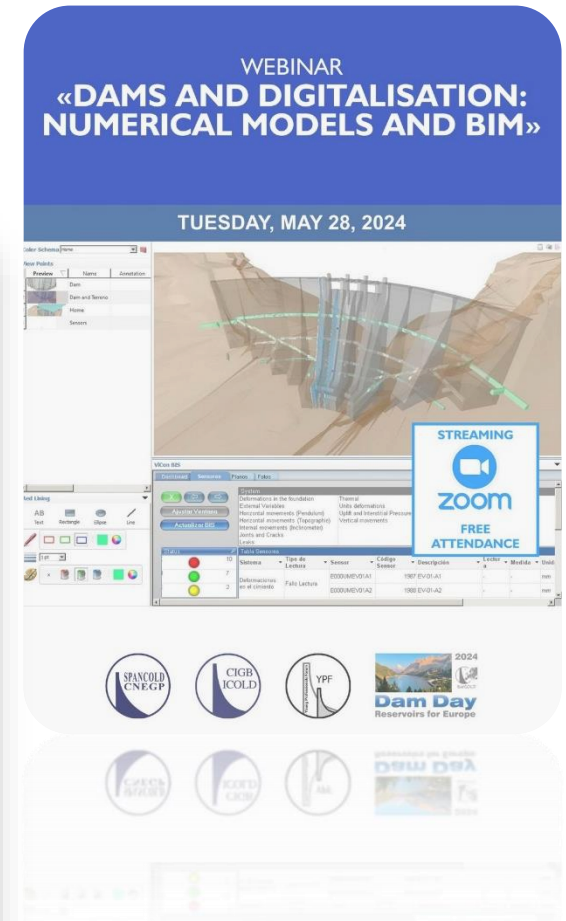


Positive response from our industry

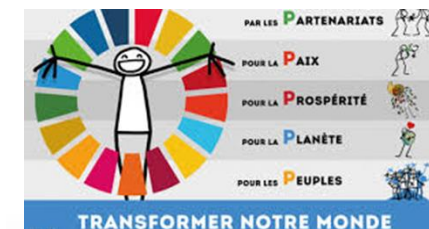
Today marks #DamDay, thank you ICOLD European Club (EURCOLD) and ITCOLD for the initiative!



Engage our industry and target to widespread messages to other sectors and the public at large



“Dam Day – Reservoirs for Europe” core document: Manifesto «Dams and Reservoirs »



The European ICOLD Club (EurCOLD), by means of this document, aims to create awareness in Europe on the role that water reservoirs and dams play in our lives and, consequently, call for a smarter governance framework.

The MANIFESTO represents a commitment by the European dam industry to the effective, efficient, socially concerned, transparent and responsible management of water resources.





MANIFESTO

Dams & Reservoirs



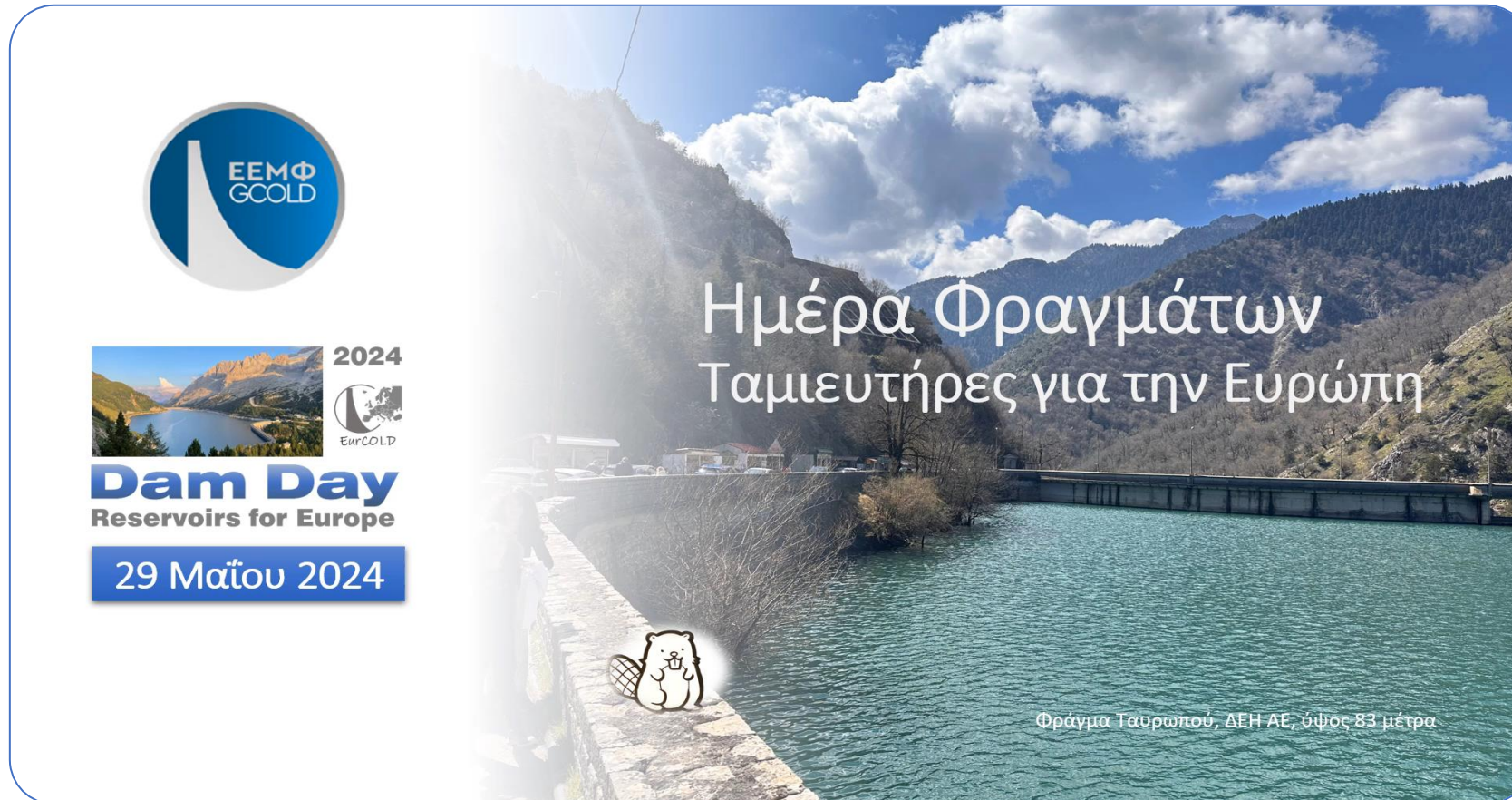
May 2024 (update in progress, following the November 2016 issue)

October
2024



“Dam Day – Reservoirs for Europe” May 2024 inaugural celebrations: Engaging Younger Generations

~950 leaflets to 8 schools and online activities for kids (ALBCOLD, ITCOLD, GCOLD, Cyprus)



EurCOLD Initiatives and Actions for Public Awareness

Questionnaire to prioritize future actions



English (United Kingdom) ▾

EURCOLD Public Awareness Strategies

4 May 2024

Questionnaire

[Start now](#)

EURCOLD Public Awareness Strategies

1. Select the Country of your National Committee
2. Are there actions promoting dams, implemented either by your National Committee or other organizations in your country (e.g., dam owners, other scientific committees, universities, ministries / public authorities, etc.)?
 Yes
 No
3. If YES to question 2, could you provide examples and / or online links / archives?
4. Would your National Committee be interested in adopting (additional) strategies to promote dams?
 Yes
 No
5. What information / actions would you consider as essential to promote?
 Successful projects and initiatives
 Qualitative and quantitative values on dams benefits and contribution to local communities and national societies
 Proactive actions of dam owners
 Other

Co-chaired by Sera Lazaridou, Guido Mazzà, Antonella Frigerio.

EurCOLD Initiatives and Actions for Public Awareness

“Dam Day – Reservoirs for Europe” continuous events promotion



PT

Insira um termo de pesquisa...

- HOME
- DOCUMENTS & LETTERS
- OBJECTIVES
- ORGANIZATION
- MEMBER COUNTRIES
- WORKING GROUPS
- SYMPOSIA
- CONTACTS
- FOR MEMBERS
- MORE

Latest news

2024
Dam Day
Reservoirs for Europe

Wednesday, June 12, 2024 - 14:15
May 24 to June 1, 2024. 1st Day Dams in Italy
Dam Day - Reservoirs for Europe is an annual celebrations day declared by

Tuesday, May 28, 2024 - 15:09
Challenges and Innovations for Safe Dams

Thursday, December 14, 2023 - 19:49

EurCOLD Website



Penstocks, pressure shafts & pressure tunnels
workshop

EurCOLD Working Group

November 21st 2024

Online & in presence

Date and time	Location
November 21, 2024 08:30 - 20:00, UTC +1	TU Graz Rechbauerstraße 12 8010 Graz Austria

Registration
Via ewg2024@tugraz.at by October 25, 2024

organized by

ATCOLD
in collaboration with
TU Graz
RSE

Dam Day
Reservoirs for Europe

EurCOLD LinkedIn



JANUARY 2024, ISSUE NO. 1

EurCOLD
ICOLD European Club Annual Newsletter

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

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- Summary, p.2
- Activities 2023, p.3 to 24
- Activities 2024, p.25
- Closure p.26

PREFACE

Sera Lazaridou, EurCOLD President
Alfredo Granados, EurCOLD Secretary General

Dear colleagues,
In 2023 we had the opportunity and pleasure to meet in both the 91st ICOLD Annual meeting in Gothenburg, Sweden and the 12th ICOLD European Club Symposium in Interlaken, Switzerland. Launching an annual newsletter was discussed and approved in the latest Board Meeting in Interlaken, aiming to collect information on the activities that were carried out throughout 2023 and are scheduled ahead in 2024, by the Board, the European Working Groups - Task Forces - Ad Hoc Groups and the National Committees. Providing short briefings on the completed activities and listing scheduled future actions we consider that it will serve as an archive giving us at the same time an overview on the

EurCOLD Annual Newsletter

EurCOLD Website: <https://icold.apambiente.pt/>

EurCOLD LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/icold-european-club-eurcold/>

Grazie – Thank you



2024



Dam Day

Reservoirs for Europe

We encourage all organizations to support and participate in 2025 celebrations to widespread & establish a successful institution