



SAMEA AGM Chairperson's Report

Date: 21 October 2020

Victor Naidu

SAMEA Chair

SAMEA 2020 Board members

1. Victor Naidu (Outgoing Chair)
2. Ayanda Mtanyana (Treasurer)
3. Mokgophana Ramasobana (Incoming Chair)
4. Cara Hartley (Incoming Deputy Chair)
5. Desiree Jason
6. Matodzi Amisi (former SAMEA Chair 2018/2019 and Outgoing Board Member)
7. Nozipho Ngwabi (Outgoing Board member)

SAMEA Coordinator Kate Mwaura appointed on a part-time basis (2 days a week)

SAMEA Administrator Marla Naidoo appointed on a part-time basis (4 days a week)

Context of COVID-19 pandemic

Implications for SAMEA to deal with future shocks and to become resilient

What were our experiences, observations and lessons?

The pandemic has **disrupted the meta narrative** of our democratic state, and in our case, monitoring and evaluation - to reduce poverty and inequality.

The pandemic highlighted **existing structural inequalities** and caused **further regression on the development agenda** of lives and livelihood of the most vulnerable in society - gender based violence and femicide, hunger, unemployment and poverty; in racial tensions and xenophobia.

State's interventions – the lockdown managed to reduce infections and death rate, the state interventions of relief to the poor and self owned businesses; economy stimulus through SMME support; and protection of the poor and vulnerable groups through unemployment grants, top-up grants, and food parcel distribution is **yet to be measured?**

Changed social behaviour – use of masks; use of personal protective equipment, sanitising of public spaces, washing of hands, social distancing, isolating when infected, use of social media and online work and schooling.

Increased public interest in health data and citizens demand for government accountability;

The **media's right to free press and expression** to create public awareness of real time data of the pandemic, poor state delivery of services and state corruption in the issue of tenders and expenditure of officials of COVID- 19 public funds.

Context of COVID-19 pandemic Implications for SAMEA to deal with future shocks and to become resilient

How do we as an organisation respond ?

Strategic focus on linking M&E with development issues in the context of pandemic and resilience, and response to public interest; demand for credible data and evidence about the pandemic and impact of state response, facilitating empowerment of critical citizenry participation in development.

Stewardship by the Board at the time of pandemic to its membership – discounted webinars, online workshops and conferences.

Value proposition – free online webinars, discounted workshops and 2021 Conference, opportunity for research and publications; EE internships, Topical Interest Groups; access to international VOPE activities

Building **the capacity of the Board** with the prerequisite skills and expertise from membership to enhance its governance and operations

Thought leadership - Adaptive Methodologies, Applying Systems Thinking and Complexity Concepts; Analysis and Use of big data for decision making and for predictive capability, use of technology for data collection, analytics and visualization.



Be purpose-driven: To live a purpose that supersedes the challenges of the times

Vision

Monitoring and evaluation is widely recognised in South Africa as a profession and discipline essential to development, and practiced and used in a manner that adds significant value to effective, sustainable development in South Africa.

Mission

SAMEA will cultivate a **vibrant community that supports, guides and strengthens the development of monitoring and evaluation in South Africa as an important discipline, profession and instrument for empowerment and accountability.**

To lead ethically and effectively:

Values

1. Integrity

To act ethically, honestly, in good faith and best interest of the organisation.

2. Competence

To make informed decisions based on evidence, knowledge and skill, due care and diligence.

3. Responsibility

To take collective responsibility to provide strategic direction and manage the implementation of programmes.

4. Accountability

To be answerable for the execution of their responsibility to the Board and membership.

5. Fairness

To take a fair and inclusive approach to address issues of equity and social justice, consciously act against any form of social prejudice and discrimination.

6. Transparency

To be open and transparent in exercising their duties.

The Theory of Change underpinned in SAMEA's Vision and Mission Statement

In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and post pandemic:

- To strengthen M&E as a discipline and profession
- To produce critical empowered M&E community
- To provide alternative and critical voices to dominant development discourse and narratives
- To use multiple perspectives of our professional network to interrogate development problems
- To interrogate the impact of state intervention and recovery plan to the pandemic
- To pay particular attention and to address historical and present barriers such as digital divide and systemic exclusion to ensure access, diversity and inclusion and a sense of belonging to SAMEA as the professional community
- To contribute to effective and sustainable development

Governance, Finance and Communication Portfolio (Victor, Ayanda, Matodzi)

Clear focused outcomes

- Strengthened Governance system
- Strengthened Operations Management
- Strengthened Financial Management system
- Strengthened Stakeholder Management

Portfolio Committees

1. Governance, Finance & Membership Portfolio
2. Strengthening M&E: Capacity Building Portfolio
3. Strengthening M&E: Research and Learning Portfolio

Key Milestones for 2020

1. Strategic Planning Session end of January 2020 that developed an annual operational plan for 2020
2. Operations management through Portfolio Committees – Terms of Reference and 2020 workplans to strengthen professional community
3. SAMEA Board fully functional: 5 Board meetings + 1 scheduled for Nov 2020 + AGM 2020 + Annual Elections – 6 new members
4. Performance reviews of portfolios - 90% of the planned annual outputs and targets.

Governance, Finance and Communication Portfolio continued

Key milestones:

SAMEA Advisory Committee approved by Board to strengthen Governance and organisational sustainability - Chair Dr Lauren Wildschut, Michael Leslie, Candice Morkel.

Membership - As at 19 October 2020, SAMEA has **519** SAMEA members in good-standing which includes **16** Institutional Members

+/- 6000 members in the Community of Practice

Stakeholder management -

MoUs signed with CLEAR, DPME, WFP and UNICEF. MoUs are currently being implemented. Partners - Twende Mbele, ZENEX, NASCEE / IPASA / JET Education.

Key milestones for 2020

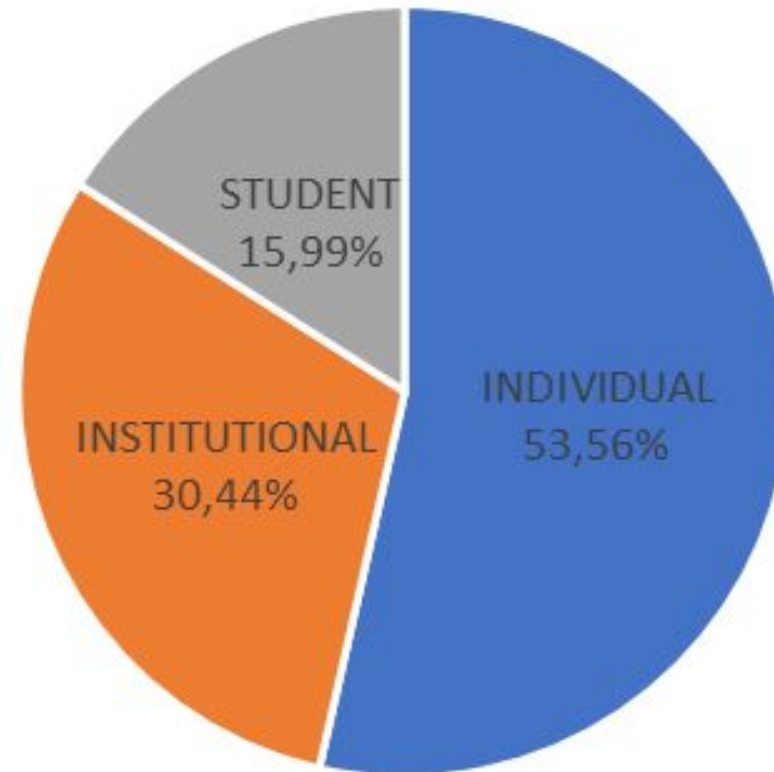
1. Integrated reporting for membership done twice a year
 - A Special Newsletter was sent to membership end of April 2020 via SAMEATalk
 - The Chairperson's AGM Report will be sent to members end of Oct 2020.
2. Regular announcements done via SAMEATalk.
3. SAMEA website has been regularly updated.

Keep our Focus on Members

As at 19 October 2020, SAMEA has **519** members of SAMEA in good-standing which includes **16** Institutional Members

53,56% of the membership being Individual membership;
30,44% Institutional membership;
15,99% making up the Student membership

Membership



Type of Membership

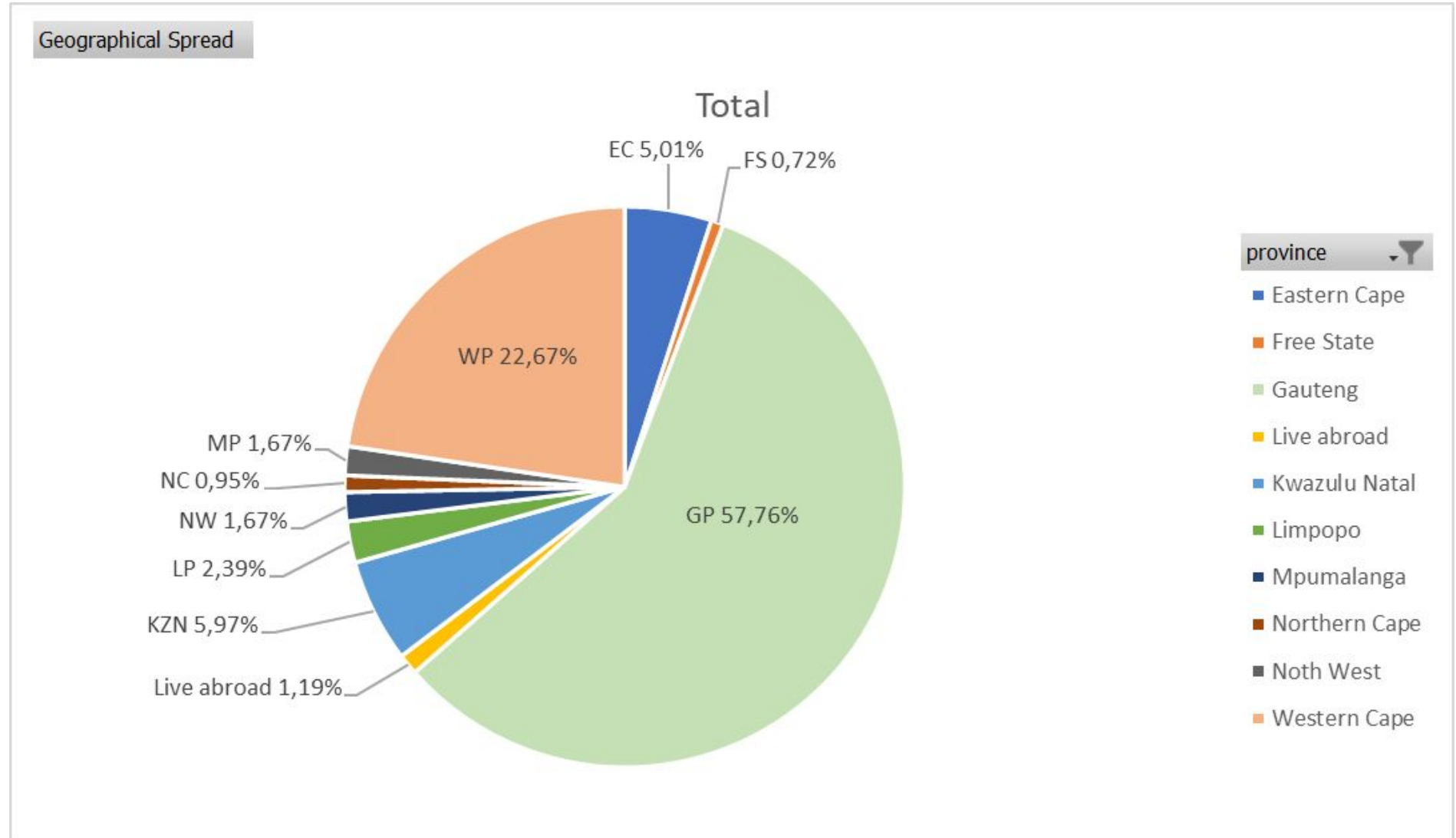
- Individual membership plan
- Institutional membership plan
- Student membership plan

Total: 519

Geographical Spread

Most members come from Gauteng making 57,76% followed by Western Cape with 22,67%, KZN with 5,97%, Eastern Cape with 5,01%, Limpopo Province at 2.39% , North West and Mpumalanga both at 1.67%, Northern Cape with 0,95%, Free State at 0.72% ad 1,19% who live abroad.

There will be new Board Members taking over the Membership portfolio in November 2020 who will have the opportunity to initiate campaigns to attract members from the various provinces especially the ones with very little membership representation.



Strengthening M&E: Capacity Building Portfolio (Mokgophana, Matodzi, Cara, Nozi)

Purpose: to deliver capacity building workshops to address different M&E skills and knowledge needs to contribute towards building the evaluation practice in the region.

Key milestones

Webinars- Four webinars conducted and the 5th scheduled 12th of November 2020. Topics focused on the evaluation implications of the pandemic, whilst others focused on practical content.

Emerging Evaluators - operationalising the strategy, creation of the EE database, sponsorship of four EEs who enrolled in the workshops per their M&E skills needs.

October 2020 workshops

- 10 online workshops facilitated by world renowned and M&E scholars and practitioners contributed their expertise pro bono
- Free workshops with a minimal fee towards the issuing of a certificate of attendance to SAMEA members in good standing.
- Financial Partners include UNICEF & ZENEX and supporting partners Twende Mbele, CLEAR-AA, PDG, Southern Hemisphere, Khulisa, Data Innovator, and facilitators who offered their time and content pro bono.

Planning for SAMEA Biennial Conference 2021- Appointment of Professional Conference Organiser & setting up a Conference Committee.



Financial Sponsors



In-kind workshop Sponsors



Strengthening M&E: Research and Learning Portfolio (Matodzi, Cara)

Key purpose: To promote knowledge creation and learning in M&E and to shape the M&E research agenda.

Milestones for 2020

Topical Interest Groups (TIGs) to create spaces for our members to share their knowledge and learn from others in a very focused way-

Emerging Evaluators (EE) TIG and EduCOVID

Topical Interest Group (TIG)

GLocal Webinar with WFP-Implementing our MoU, Eval in Crisis, 86 people attended

Community of Practice -

SAMEA / BRIDGE Community of Practice

African Evaluation Journal - Special Edition featured 11 peer-reviewed articles based on papers presented at the 7th biennial conference of October 2019

Evaluator Competencies: SAMEA finalised its Evaluator Competencies in mid-2020. The final set has 52 competencies across seven domains.

Research Agenda – In collaboration with DPME, SAMEA is currently developing a research agenda with relevant topics that will guide post graduate students and research agencies.

Action Learning - Joint meeting was held between NASCEE/IPASA/JET Education. This partnership will focus on planning and hosting a one-month online M&E Bootcamp with the intention to collaboratively produce a M&E Resource Toolkit for our members.

Concluding remarks – SAMEA's future focus on Professionalisation

Immediate Goal

- To **broaden access, diversity and inclusion** through capacity building, internship, webinars and recognition of experiential learning.
- **Citizen empowerment in M&E** – participatory and empowerment monitoring and evaluation, evaluative and critical thinking – awareness, participation and accountability.
- **M&E Theory and Practice to be responsive to COVID-19** new theories, agile evaluation designs and research methods to deal with complexity and uncertainty.
- **Strengthening evaluation profession** -advocacy and application of ethical standards, competency and evaluation standards by commissioners and evaluators.

Medium to Long-Term Goal

- Quality assure qualifications and short courses offered by training providers to improve graduateship to deal with complexity, uncertainty, shocks and resilience.
- **To facilitate more research and discourse on the process of establishing a Professional Body** to regulate the profession – that will include issues:
 - professional designations
 - certification
 - professional registration / de-registration
 - professional accreditation
 - Continuous Professional Development (CPD) of monitors and evaluators



International Affiliations

African Evaluation Association
Promoting Africa-rooted and
Africa-led evaluation



Association Africaine d'Evaluation
Promouvoir l'évaluation créer et mené
par les Africains



International Organization for Cooperation in Evaluation

EVAL4ACTION

The **Decade of Evaluation for Action**, also the **Eval4Action** campaign, calls upon all actors, everywhere to accelerate the delivery of Sustainable Development Goals, by advocating for stronger evaluation capacities and evidence-based policies.

You can read more about Eval4Action on the Decade of Action website:

www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/decade-of-action



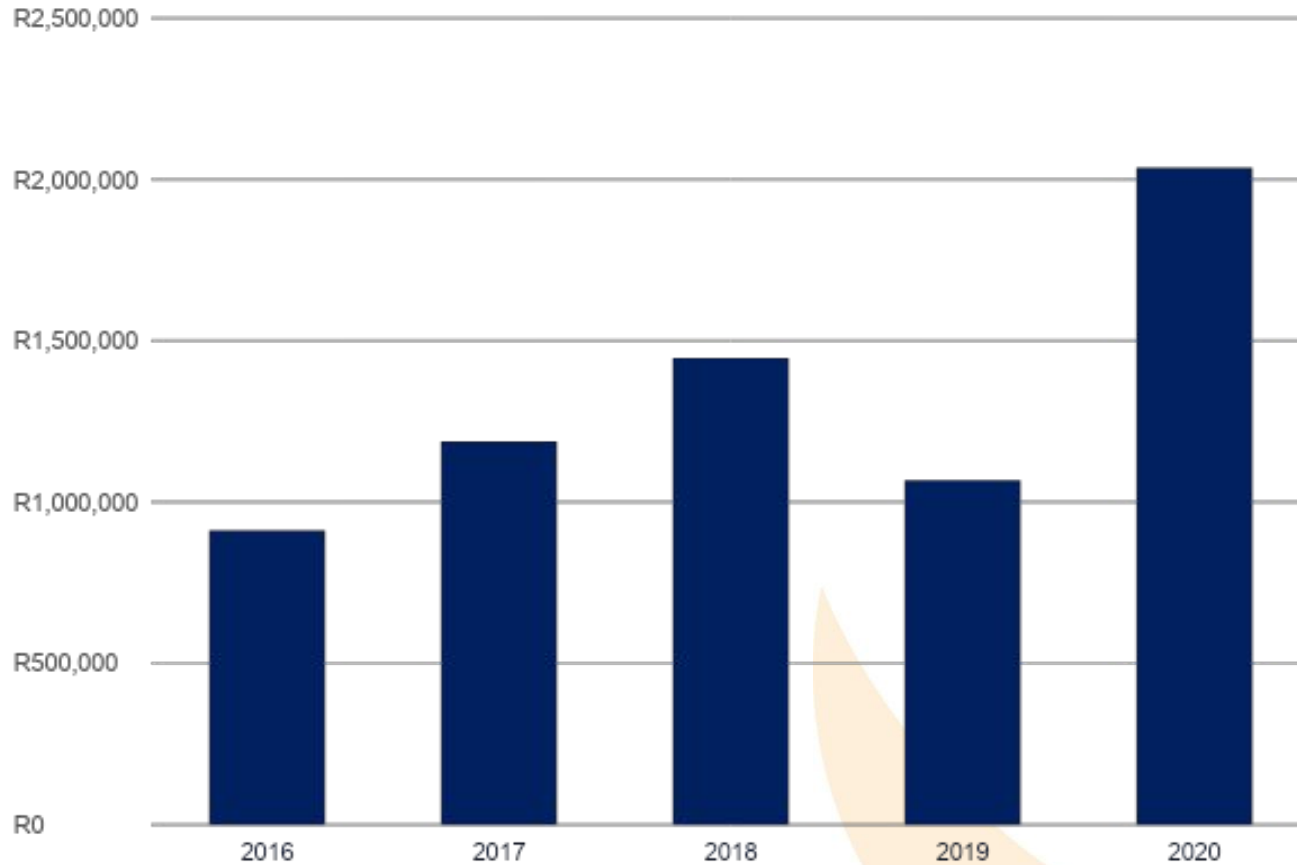
**I commit to influential
evaluation. Do you?**
eval4action.org

Financial Review for year ending 28 February 2020

- SAMEA continues to maintain a **healthy financial balance**, which reached an **all time high of R2m** in FY2020
- Given that we are **offering virtual workshops** this year, we will go into the conference year with a relatively high balance (R1.6m est.)
- The 7th Biennial Conference was **delivered in a cost-effective manner**, which contributed to the healthy financial balance despite significantly lower sponsorships
- There is room to **improve our membership and sponsorships**
- **Treasury Management Guidelines continue to be followed** with the exception of a finance sub-committee (decisions are made board level)
- **BVSA continued to serve as the SAMEA bookkeepers** and had increased scope to support the conference bookkeeping based on prior resolutions to have scope supported
- **BVA Inc. are the SAMEA auditors** – belongs to the same group of companies as BVSA, but not the same company

Financial Review for year ending 28 February 2020

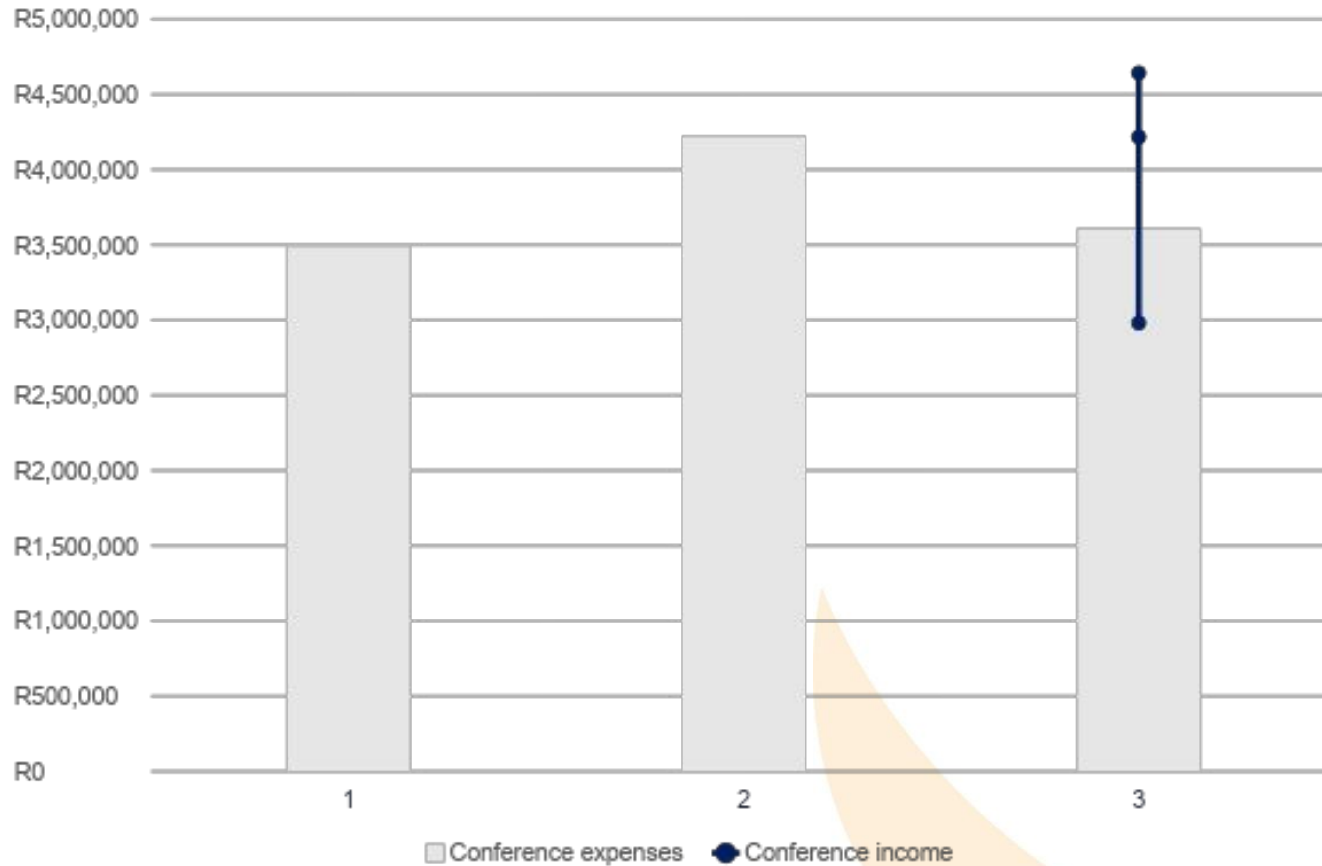
Cash and Cash Equivalent



SAMEA continues to have a **healthy financial balance**. FY2020 saw us doubling our balance target of R1million. This sets up the association well for non-conference years where we continue to provide services to our members while receiving limited income.

Financial Review for the year ending 28 February 2020

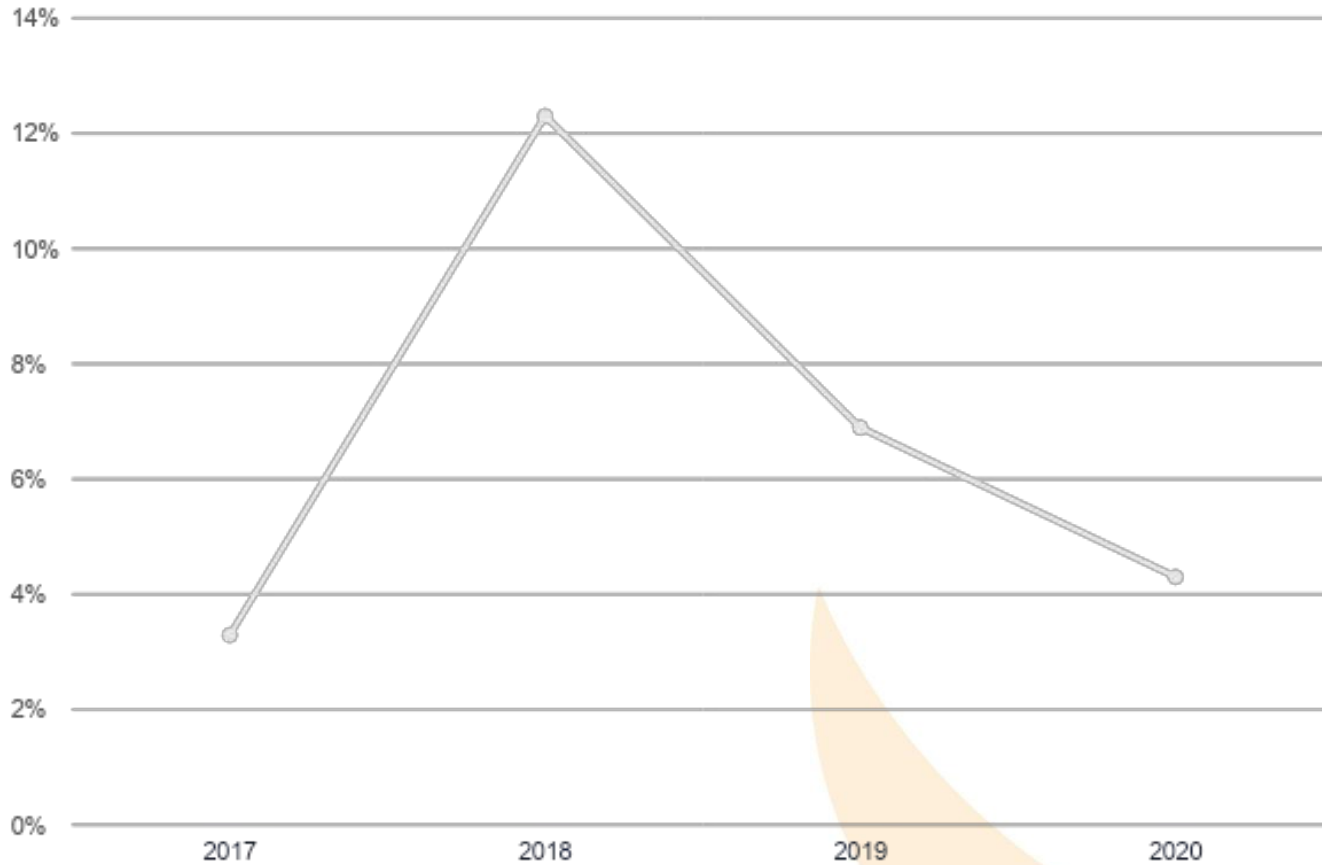
Biennial Conference Income and Expenditure



The 7th Biennial conference was delivered in a **cost-effective manner**, which saw ticket proceeds covering the costs of delivering the conference. There were lower costs and higher income than for FY2018.

Financial Review for the year ending 28 February 2020

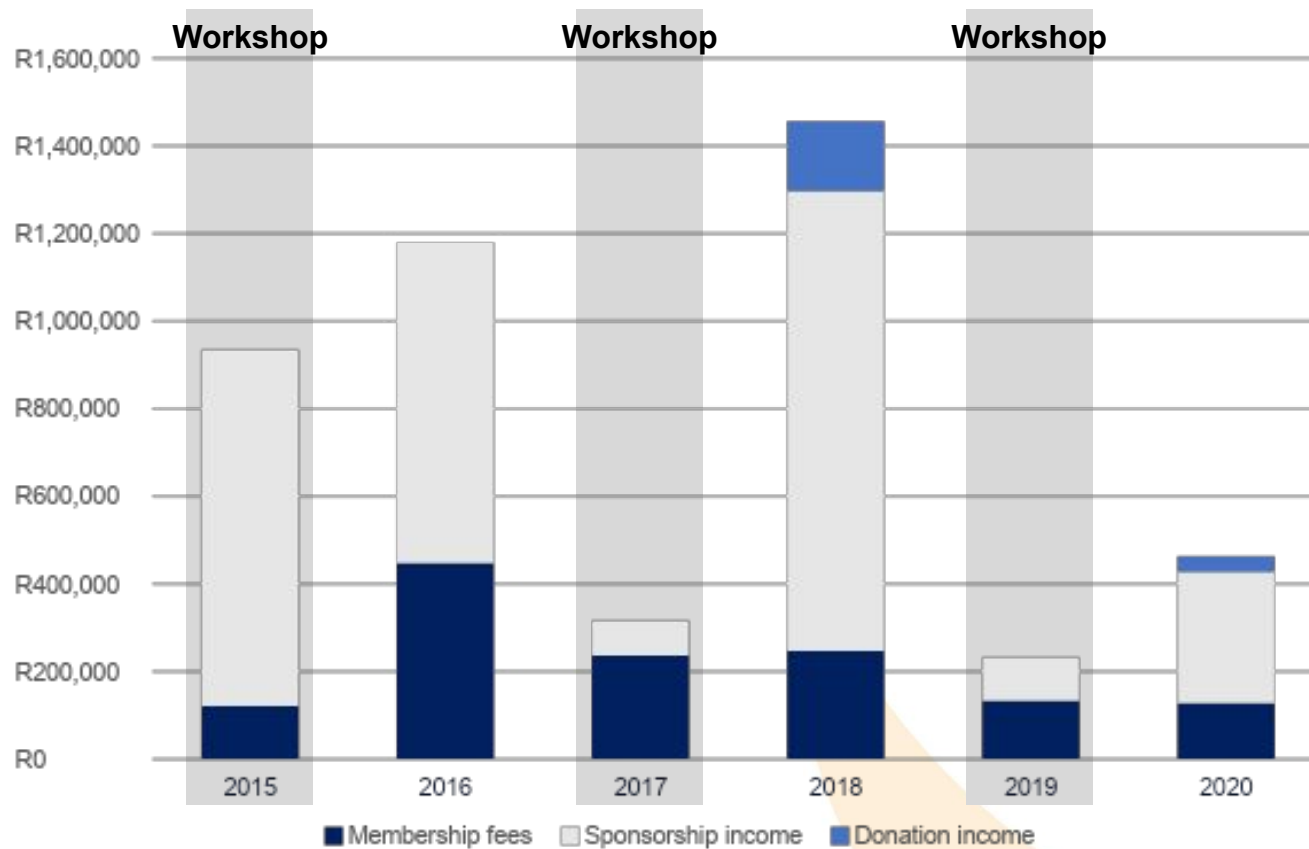
Trade and Other Receivables



We have also seen an **improvement in collections** of conference and workshop proceeds by the end of the financial year.

Financial Review for the year ending 28 February 2020

Non-Conference Income



Our membership fees and sponsorship income have been declining. We are also beginning to see a limited cyclical effect as a result of the conference.

Looking ahead...

- We need to **finalise the modality of the 8th Biennial Conference and appoint a PCO** as soon as possible to take full advantage of the potential cost savings, while replicating lessons from the previous conference
- We need to **continue to strengthen our value proposition** to our members and sponsors to grow our base
 - We have the **means to provide more services and resources** to our members
 - We need to **leverage existing sponsor relationships** to benefit from previous commitments
- We need to continue to build on the financial foundation laid by previous boards and **achieve financial sustainability**

2020 Election

- **Process:**
 - Advise of the Advisory Committee
 - Online
 - Managed by external IT management company
 - Only members with active paid up membership participate
- Nominations: 27 July to 14 August 2020
- Voting: 24 August-04 September 2020
- Had a tie, extended by one day as per voting rules
- In total 136 members cast 488 votes spread as follows

2020 Election-results

Nominee

IAN GOLDMAN

TAKUNDA CHIRAU

TIKWIZA SILUBONDE

BABETTE RABIE

KEMEDI KGAPHOLA

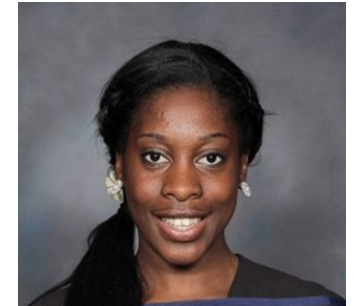
ELEANOR HAZELL

SEIRAH NGCOBO

NANA DAVIES

TERENCE BENEY

New members





Thank you!

Email: info@samea.org.za

Website: www.samea.org.za

Twitter: @SAMEA_ZA