

FRENCH COMMITTEE ON LARGE DAMS  
COMITÉ FRANÇAIS DES GRANDS BARRAGES

# SMALL DAMS

Guidelines for Design,  
Construction and Monitoring

*Coordination : Gérard Degoutte*



*Cemagref*  
EDITIONS

FRENCH COMMITTEE ON LARGE DAMS  
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## ***Guidelines for Design, Construction and Monitoring***

*Coordination : Gérard DEGOUTTE (ENGREF)*

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## PHOTOGRAPH REFERENCES

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Ph. 1, 2, 4, 7, 9 – 10 : E. Alonso

Ph. 3, 6, 11, 20, 21 – 22 : G. Degoutte

Ph. 5, 8, 12, 13, 14 – 23 : P. Royet

### ***Small dams, guidelines for design, construction and monitoring :***

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## MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP

---

CHAIRMAN, WORKING GROUP: G. DEGOUTTE (ENGREF)

### **Group Geological and geotechnical studies**

Chairman: P. BRUNEL (CARA)

Committee Members: E. ALONSO (Cemagref), J.-P. BECUE (SAFEGE), J.-L. BRODIN (CACG),  
B. COUTURIER (BRI), D. LAUTRIN (Cemagref), G. MICHEL (SCP)

### **Group Fill dams**

Chairman: E. ALONSO (Cemagref)

Committee Members: J.-P. BECUE (SAFEGE), G. BOLLE (expert), J.-L. BRODIN (CACG),  
P. BRUNEL (CARA), A. CASSARD (DDAF Bas-Rhin),  
G. DEGOUTTE (ENGREF), M. DORÉ (MECASOL),  
D. LAUTRIN (Cemagref), J. LEFEBVRE (ingénieur conseil),  
G. MICHEL (SCP),  
P. ROYET (Cemagref), G. TRATAPEL (CNR)

### **Group Small concrete dams**

Chairman: P. ROYET (Cemagref)

Committee Members: G. DEGOUTTE (ENGREF), M. GIRARD (SOMIVAL), M. IINO (ISL),  
J. TEYSSIEUX (COYNE & BELLIER), G. TRATAPEL (CNR)

### **Group Life of the dams**

Chairman: Ph. VINCENT (EDF)

Committee Members: A. EMERIAU (DDAF Lot-et-Garonne), Ph. MARTIN (CACG),  
G. MICHEL (SCP), P. ROYET (Cemagref)

### **Chapter Choice of site and type of dams**

J.-P. BECUE (SAFEGE), G. DEGOUTTE (ENGREF) and D. LAUTRIN (Cemagref)

### **Chapter Preliminary determination of design flood**

J. LAVABRE (Cemagref)

### **Chapter Management of water quality**

H. BEUFFE, A. DUTARTRE, Y. SOUCHON, S. VALENTIN (Cemagref),  
A. GRÉGOIRE (EDF), A. HÉTIER (CACG) and M. LAFFORGUE (AquaTechnique)

## MEMBERS OF THE READING PANEL

---

† A. GOUBET, president of CFBG

D. BISTER (EDF)

A. CARRERE (COB)

P. DUPEUBLE (BACHY)

J.J. FRY (EDF)

P. HABIB (former president of International Society on Rocks Mechanics)

F. LACROIX (Cemagref)

P. LE DELLIOU (BETCGB)

† P. LONDE (emeritus president of International Commission  
Large Dams)

P. MALIVERNEY (EDF)

## PREFACE

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*These guidelines for the design and construction of small dams have been drafted under the aegis of the French Committee on Large Dams. Small dams are conventionally defined as dams less than approximately 25 metres high.*

*The designer of a small dam may face a difficult task because he will not have access to the design and monitoring resources commonly deployed for larger dams.*

*The recommendations and advice in these guidelines have been drawn up on the basis of the climate, population and economic conditions found in France. They may require some modification if used in a different context.*

*For example, safety criteria may be relaxed if the valley downstream of the dam is sparsely populated; greater caution may be required in the absence of abundant rainfall and streamflow records; and some of the arrangements recommended may be considered needlessly costly luxuries.*

*Nevertheless, the guidelines provide a consistent foundation on which country-specific alternatives can be built up. It is thus of undeniable general interest, and the French Committee has decided to support an English language version.*

† André GOUBET

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