

IAH COMMISSIONS and NETWORKS APPLICATION FORM

(Proposal for IAH COMMISSION ON MAR March 2011)

Background:

The proposal for the reform of Commissions and Networks was approved by Council at its meeting held in Krakow, Poland, during September, 2010. All existing Commissions and Networks will be dissolved as of midnight (GMT) June 30th, 2011 and will be superseded by a new system that will be implemented the following day - July 1st, 2011. Details are available at <http://www.iah.org/downloads/commsrev.pdf>

. The new system will include Commissions, Networks, Working Groups and Panels. However, the title "Commission" will be reserved for groups that meet our very highest expectations in terms of activity and deliverables. Under the revised scheme, it is expected that a minority of existing Commissions will qualify for new "Commission" status and that most of the remaining Commissions would qualify for "Network" status.

The application form provided here is for the creation of Commissions and Networks (see Table 1 under "Notes"). Separate application forms will be provided for Working Groups and Panels once the structure of Commissions and Networks is in place. IAH encourages all existing Commissions and Networks to consider this period in IAH history as a valuable opportunity for regeneration, perhaps with a revised mandate, new directions and a fresh, modern image. IAH particularly welcomes applications that will provide Commissions and Networks in new, emerging areas.

Applications for the creation of Commissions and Networks will be received at any time. However, Commissions and Networks that wish to begin their work on July 1st, 2011 must apply by March 31st, 2011 to provide adequate time for review. Although reviews will be conducted initially by a sub-Committee chaired by the Vice President for Programme and Science Coordination, final decisions will be made by IAH Council.

Applicants should provide as much detail as possible in the form below. Information may be typed in or cut and pasted from another document. A series of numbered notes is provided at the end of the document and should be consulted as appropriate.

Any questions should be addressed to Ken Howard, Vice President for Programme and Science Coordination, (gwater@utsc.utoronto.ca).

QUESTIONS:

1. Is this application for a Commission or a Network? (see Table 1 under "Notes" and definitions in Note 1)

Commission

2. What is the proposed name of your Network / Commission? (see Note 2)

Managed Aquifer Recharge (IAH-MAR)

3. What is the date of application?

March 2011

4. What is the proposed start date? (see Note 3)?

1 July 2011

5. Preferred term (i.e. initial period of licence)? (see Note 4)

6 years

6. Mission of the Network / Commission (see Note 5)

- To facilitate use of Managed Aquifer Recharge to provide access to safe drinking water for communities, and thereby advancing towards the UN MDG for water supply.
- To do this within the context of science-based, integrated, whole of catchment/basin water management, for environmentally sustainable and socially acceptable supplies, that advance socio-economic development.

It will do this by encouraging;

- research and development to advance scientific and technical knowledge,
- adoption of improved design, operational and governance practices
- awareness of MAR among IAHS members, related professions and the community
- development of a community of practice with international exchange of knowledge, information and resources (e.g. via a web page and an email list),
- initiative among members to undertake joint projects and activities they agree as important
- broad dissemination of results of research and practical experience (e.g. via conferences, workshops and short courses),
- investment in demonstration projects and capability particularly where communities do not have adequate access to safe drinking water supplies, and to increase resilience of communities and ecosystems dependent on groundwater
- linkages with related programs such as in health, water safety planning, agriculture, soil conservation, catchment management, environmental, poverty alleviation, urban planning, green energy and climate adaptation, that can conspicuously benefit from integration of MAR into cross-sectoral programs
- strong engagement with like-minded organisations, (eg UNESCO, IAHS, IWA, 3Rs), among others at international and national level (eg ASCE/EWRI, Tragsa) to achieve common objectives.

The current Commission's joint initiative with UNESCO, MAR-NET, is anticipated to continue as a focal area relating to use of MAR to produce safe drinking water supplies.

7. Both Networks and Commissions are required to maintain up-to-date websites (standalone or associated with the IAH website). Please check this button to acknowledge this requirement and provide an existing web site address if available.

Yes www.iah.org/recharge

8. Activities. Over the period of tenure (licence) Networks and Commissions are encouraged and/or expected to undertake a series of activities (see Table 1 under "Notes"). Hold down the Ctrl key and click on each of the activities that your Network / Commission plans to undertake . Further details for these activities are requested in Question 10 below.

Select all. The only possible exception is production of blue or green books. The commission will continue to produce numerous papers, but in our effort to ensure maximum international dissemination of information especially in developing countries, and reasonable recognition of effort of contributors, our strong preference is to contribute to Hydrogeology Journal, possibly in thematic editions, or to publications that will be web-mounted for free downloading.

We are also unlikely to produce maps due to the nature of the Commissions objectives.

9. Indicate other activities, not listed in Question 8 above, that your Network / Commission plans to undertake.

See Item 6. We also have an advocacy role in relation to development banks, UN agencies, national governments and research funding bodies to facilitate flow of resources to achieve these objectives. Any such resources generated will flow through those NGOs and government organisations who undertake activities that help achieve our goals and it will be their responsibility to justify the use of those funds to their provider. The Commission will not operate as a legal entity. The Commission will encourage providers to facilitate unrestricted written outputs so these can be freely disseminated internationally, including via links with the Commission's web site.

10. Details of Activities. Please provide further details regarding each of the activities that your Network or Commission plans to undertake (see Note 6).

Group Meetings

Open plenary meetings will be held at ISMAR and IAH symposia (and other appropriate opportunities) at appropriate intervals to engage with the community and discuss progress, planned activities and give an opportunity for regional issues to be discussed. Reports of meetings will be disseminated via the web site and e-mail notification.

See http://www.iah.org/recharge/MAR_meetings.htm

Sessions at Conferences

Workshops at ISMAR series of conferences held about every 3 years

Stand-alone Specialist Meetings / Symposia

ISMAR series (ISMAR7 held in 2010) of conferences held every 3 years.

Training Workshops

- To establish or link at least eight regional or national hubs closely aligned with MAR where there is already a capability or interest.
- To provide training through relevant UNESCO networks, centres and chairs and other relevant organisations and facilitate establishment of a UNESCO Chair in MAR. E.g. 1st SADC Workshop on Management of Aquifer Recharge. 26 – 29 Oct 2009 UNESCO Chair in Hydrogeology, University of the Western Cape.

Exchange of Knowledge

Searchable database on web site, ISMAR conferences and meetings as well as MAR-NET

Dissemination of Knowledge

- To develop a communications plan to deliver key messages using various media and languages (at least English, Spanish and Chinese) and websites
- To produce reports, position papers, policy briefs, training materials, videos (DVDs) in appropriate languages (at least English, Spanish, and Chinese).
- To contribute to ISMAR Conferences scientific programme – both papers and posters as well as organising.
- To contribute to ISMAR Conferences and by holding a joint plenary with IAH-MAR to inform on network activities and seek feedback.
- To assist in raising profile of MAR in IAH Congresses and National Chapter IAH Conferences by encouraging themes that allow papers on aspects of MAR.

Research

- To provide support for proposals that address key MAR research issues (eg assessing the global potential for MAR)
- To facilitate identification of information needs and promote research including at a network of demonstration projects.

Liaison / Interaction with other groups / organisations

Promotion of demonstration projects

- To engage with implementing agencies (governments, NGOs, private companies) and funding bodies (banks, aid agencies, private sector) on the scientific evidence for the relevance and applicability of MAR to economically address needs for water security, human health, and sustaining livelihoods and the environment.
- In partnership with regional centres and national governments, to encourage development of proposals to funding bodies to facilitate

implementation of well-sited, -designed, -operated, -monitored and -evaluated showcase MAR projects.

Education

MAR wise strategies document supported by UNESCO and translated into Spanish and Chinese. Further material developed by commission members will be disseminated when available.

Expert Advice e.g. to UN / Governments

- Australian policy guidelines for MAR (Aug 2009) made available for global community.
- UNESCO/IAH-MAR collaboration on developing IHP, sponsorship of symposia, workshops and publications.

11. Deliverables. Both Networks and Commissions are expected to provide annual reports to IAH Council. Please check this button to acknowledge this obligation. In addition, Networks and Commissions are either strongly encouraged or expected to i) produce monographs / maps and ii) contribute to the IAH Book Series (see Table 1 under "Notes"). Please indicate your plans for deliverables.

i) Monographs / Maps

See response to Item 9. Funding required for this type of output.

ii) Contributions to IAH Blue / Green Book Series

Associated series of proceedings from ISMAR conferences will continue – sponsored by a variety of organisations

12. Please provide information about the applicant.

Dr Peter Dillon/Ian Gale (current co-chairs)

13. Officers. Networks will be organised and run by a Director and two Co-Directors. Commissions will be organised and run by a Chair and Co-Chair (see Note 7 re: Officers and elections). Please provide the names, IAH membership numbers and contact e-mail addresses for the "caretaker" officers who will run your Network/Commission at its inception.

Dr Peter Dillon (caretaker chair) CSIRO, Australia

Mr Ian Gale (caretaker co-chair) BGS, UK

Prof Wang Weiping (caretaker co-chair), Uni. Of Jinan

We are looking to IAH Executive to define and implement election process. Commission has no administrative support except that which could be provided through IAH office.

14. Please provide any other information you feel will be useful.

IAH-MAR is an established and energetic commission with its first meeting (as a Working Group) being held in November 2000 at Cape Town (IAH XXX). It became accepted as a Commission following the Munich Congress in 2001. There are about 300 people on the email list of IAH-Commission on MAR and there are established links with other relevant associations/networks, such as IHP National Committees, Intl. Water Assoc, Rainwater Harvesting Assoc., Chinese MAR Network, DINA-MAR network (Spanish) etc.

Two sister web sites in Spanish and Chinese have been set up and can be accessed from www.iah.org/recharge