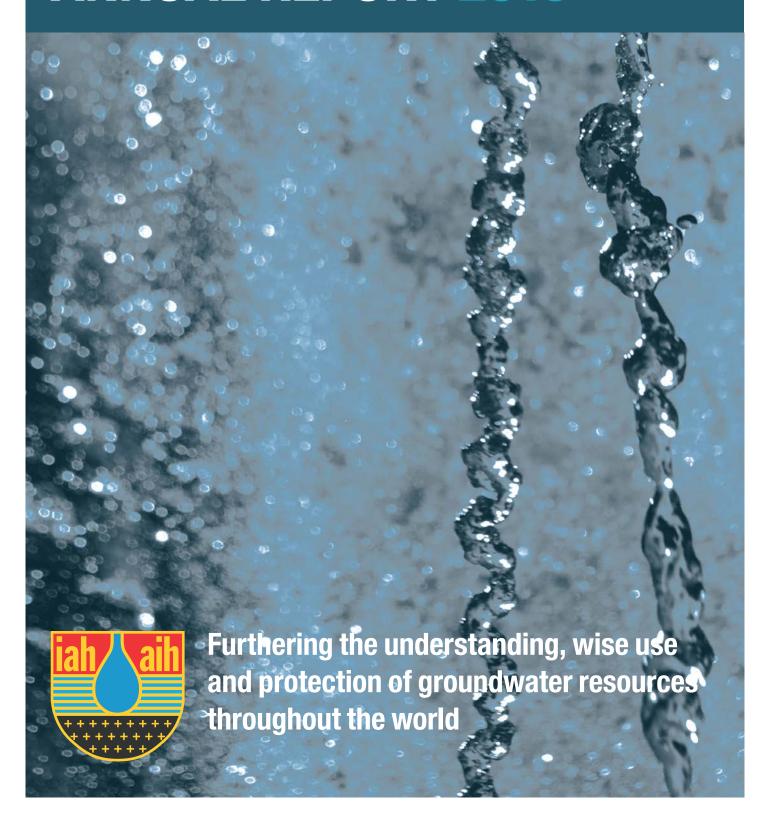
International Association of Hydrogeologists

the World-wide Groundwater Organisation

ANNUAL REPORT 2019





IAH Annual Report

There are many reasons to celebrate our achievements in 2019 and to look forward to 2020.

The feedback on the Malaga Congress was overwhelmingly positive. Delegates thought it was well organised and the scientific programme was of a high standard – congratulations to all concerned.

We had a record 4458 members, with significant increases in many of our regions and particularly in the numbers of students. We continue to work hard to establish the benefits that all members deserve and also to retain our student members as they move into professional careers.

Our finances held up well under the changing conditions in the currency markets and with an increased membership, higher royalties from our journal publisher and a contribution to central funds from the organisers of our 2018 Congress in South Korea, we recorded a healthy surplus.

This report refers to our activities in 2019 but has been prepared during the Covid-19 pandemic. The surplus achieved will be important in helping to manage any financial uncertainties associated with the pandemic.

We hope you find this annual report is informative and clear – if you have any questions or suggestions, please contact us at info@iah.org.

Questions or comments? Email info@iah.org

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Congress field trips, Malaga



President's message

Once again we had a successful year and in 2019 we have managed to raise the profile of groundwater in different ways. I am grateful to all our members for their commitment to IAH — and I am pleased to say that we finished the year with almost 4500 members, a record. I particularly want to thank those who work hard for our national chapters, commissions and networks, also my colleagues on IAH Council as we come to the final year in post, and the IAH Secretariat.

A highlight for the year was our Congress in Malaga, which was an outstanding event, with well-planned activities and sessions conducted on time. I am grateful to the organising team, the volunteers who helped each day and the delegates who made it such an enjoyable event.

This year we supported our colleagues at IGRAC (International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre) and achieved great success in having the theme of groundwater accepted for UN World Water Day in 2022. A proposal for an international year of aquifers is also progressing. We agreed to greater cooperation with INBO (International Network of Basin Organisations) and IWRA (International Water Resources Association) and we contributed to many international initiatives, such as the World Water Quality Alliance. These all highlight the importance of groundwater to the professions and stakeholders that we work with and will raise the profile of all our hydrogeology colleagues.

Our Hydrogeology Journal maintained its pre-eminence as a publication dedicated to groundwater, with performance measures again showing improvements. We added to the IAH library by publishing a further book in our 'International Contributions to Hydrogeology' series. We also launched a

Spanish translation of a key paper in our Strategic Overview Series, on Sustainable Development Goals, at our Congress, along with a Chinese translation, and published a new paper on groundwater and climate change adaptation.

We welcomed Namibia as a new National Chapter, a new Commission, on Groundwater Quality, and a new Network, on Socio-Hydrogeology.

I am pleased to report that having undertaken many activities concerning groundwater and for the benefit of our members, we also managed to achieve a surplus, which will support further activities in 2020.

With the elections for Council in 2020 it is worth reflecting on the legacy of the current Council. With many of the objectives of the 10-year Forward Look achieved, as this planning period comes to an end the current Council has been identifying matters to help our new Council in planning the next developments for IAH.

António Chambel

IAH President





Highlights

Our 2019 Congress was, 'Groundwater Management and Governance: Coping with Water Scarcity'. Delegates commended the organisers on the scientific programme and the field trips. The keynote presentations are being made available on our video channel.

We had a record number of members – 4458 in total, including 534 students and 56 corporate supporters. A discount was agreed at the AGM for students transferring to full membership, to encourage them to continue their membership of IAH. We also sponsored 240 members, mainly from low income countries.

Our survey of members' and supporters' views was greeted positively. Once again access to Hydrogeology Journal was a popular membership benefit. Opportunities for networking and our educational resources, including our Strategic Overview Series, conference and training listings, videos and useful links, were also valued.

We welcomed Namibia as our latest National Chapter, and also a new Commission, on Groundwater Quality, and a new Network, on Socio-Hydrogeology.

A new book was published in our series, 'International Contributions to Hydrogeology' - 'Monitoring Groundwater', by Ian Acworth, Emeritus Professor at the University of New South Wales. The book was launched at our Malaga Congress, and publishers Taylor and Francis donated several copies for prizes and awards.

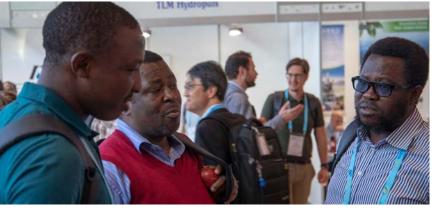
Our flagship publication, Hydrogeology Journal, continued to thrive, with a further increase in its Impact Factor, to 2.4. Author satisfaction remained very high and use of articles, measured by full text requests and downloads, also increased.

We published the ninth paper in our Strategic Overview Series, 'Climate Change Adaptation and Groundwater'. Adapting to climate-change, with more frequent droughts and intense rainfall events, requires better ways of managing water - making more use of aquifers is the natural thing to do. We also started publishing translations of the Series, with two papers in Spanish and Chinese.

Co-operation continued with international organisations, such as UNESCO, UN-Water, IAHS (International Association of Hydrological Sciences) and SADC (Southern African Development Community). IAH addressed the World Water Quality Alliance, which comprises more than 80 partners, including UN agencies and other international organisations concerned with water. Our Urban Groundwater Network linked with the newly formed International Water Association Groundwater Committee and we agreed to collaborate with IWRA (International Water Resources Association).

Our Early Career Hydrogeologists produced a poignant video to mark World Water Day. The 2019 theme, "Leaving no-one behind", highlighted the promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: as sustainable development progresses, everyone must benefit. We are proud that our younger members represent the future of responsible hydrogeology.

Importantly, the financial outcome for 2019 was positive, despite challenging economic circumstances, with a surplus of more than £10,000 at the end of the year and reserves in the bank of £112,000.









Thanks to our corporate sponsors





And our corporate members

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Publications

Our Strategic Overview Series provides authoritative summaries on a range of topics, informing people of how important groundwater can be for their own activities. This year we published the ninth paper in the Series, 'Climate Change Adaptation and Groundwater'. Adapting to climate-change, with more frequent droughts and intense rainfall events, will require better ways of managing and storing water. Groundwater can be highly resilient to climate change and storing water underground can provide a natural solution to help combat its effects.

We also began a programme of publishing the papers in the world's major languages. Initially we have translated two papers, in Spanish, to coincide with our Congress in Malaga, and also in Chinese. The full Series can be downloaded at https://iah.org/education/professionals/strategic-overview-series.

A new book was published in our series, 'International Contributions to Hydrogeology' – 'Monitoring Groundwater', by Ian Acworth, Emeritus Professor at the University of New South Wales. The book was officially launched at our Malaga Congress, with the publishers, Taylor and Francis, donating several copies for prizes and awards.

Our flagship publication, Hydrogeology Journal, continued to thrive, with a further increase in its scientific Impact Factor, which reached 2.4. This is a measure of the number of times that people who publish articles in scientific journals have cited articles from the Journal and indicates the scientific usefulness of its content. Author satisfaction remains very high and downloading of articles continues to increase. Overall performance compares well with similar journals. HJ includes papers from across the world, with an increasing number of from China, some of which are our highest cited articles.

The IAH website now has a new Education area – https://iah.org/education aimed at our various audiences – the general public, young people and teachers, students and professionals. We also regularly post links and resources via our social media.

IAH contributed to an infographic entitled "Groundwater — Critical for Sustainable Development", showing a timeline of groundwater use throughout history, to raise awareness with schools and other institutions and stakeholders. Groundwater use took off globally in the 1950's, now accounting for 25% of all freshwater use and 40% of the water used for irrigation globally. Future groundwater development in some regions could significantly mitigate impacts from climate change and population growth.



Commissions, Networks and Working Groups

'Managed aquifer recharge' uses structures that help 'spare' water to easily drain into the ground, to be extracted later for agriculture or for drinking water supplies. ISMAR10 – the 10th International Symposium on Managed Aquifer Recharge, held in Madrid in May, highlighted how this technology can help to solve global water challenges. IAH also held a workshop on the same subject in Stellenbosch, South Africa in April.

The Regional Groundwater Flow Commission looked at innovative approaches for understanding groundwater flow at the Malaga Congress, supported by the

EU ENERAG project (Excellency Network Building for Comprehensive Research and Assessment of Geofluids). The Commission also participated in the European Geological Union General Assembly in Vienna and in March in the international congress, 'Applied Geosciences for Groundwater', in Tunisia.

The working group, 'Future Frontiers of Hydrogeology', was established and will be considering over the next two years, 'what's next for hydrogeology'. Their findings will be published to stimulate further work.

National Chapters

Our National Chapters organised activities across the globe. The Australasian Groundwater Conference, in November in Brisbane, Queensland, was the most successful of these conferences to date. Our Tunisian National Chapter and the Tunisian 'Association Eau et Développement', organised the Atlas Georesources Congress in March, with more than 100 participants from 15 countries.

Our Indian Chapter, with the Society of Geo-Scientists, Jharkhand, organised a national conference on "Groundwater Management in Mining and Social Sectors", in September at Ranchi, with more than 250 delegates from 16 Indian states. Our South African National Chapter sponsored the second annual South African Development Community Ground Water Management Institute Groundwater Conference in September in Johannesburg. The theme was 'Groundwater's contribution to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals in the SADC Region'. The Serbian National Chapter and Serbian Geological Society organised the conference, "Towards Sustainable Management of Groundwater Resources", with more than 50 participants from 14 countries.

The IAH Irish Group held its 39th annual conference on another topical theme: "Groundwater: drought, floods and climate change".



Supporting our members

We had a record 4458 members, in 132 countries, including 57 corporate members, many taking advantage of discounts available to them for individual members. A discount was agreed for our student members when they transfer to full membership. Fees for 2020 were kept at the 2019 level. We also provided 240 sponsored memberships, mainly for colleagues in low income countries.

Our Karst Commission established a fund to support attendance at their meetings of IAH's younger members from low income and transition countries. The Transboundary Aquifer Commission also announced plans for a new award, to sit alongside our long-standing international awards.

We were delighted that former IAH President Professor Michael J. Knight became a Member of the Order of Australia, recognised by the Australian Government, "for significant service to scientific education, particularly hydrogeology and groundwater management".

On a lesser scale, we had several prizes for draws and feature writing, to encourage members' participation in IAH. We are grateful to authors and their publishers for copies of "Hydrogeology" by Bernward Hölting and Wilhelm G. Coldewey, "Field Hydrogeology" by Rick Brassington, "Coastal Hydrogeology" by Jimmy Jiao and Vincent Post, and "Investigating Groundwater" by lan Acworth. Jeroen November of Belgium won our feature writing competition with his article on raising groundwater awareness (pictured). We also gave a runners-up prize to Valerie Wendo of Kenya, who is studying in Hungary.

Delegates to our Malaga congress were able to take home free books from our book exchange event, organised by our Early Careers Hydrogeologists Network and supported by the British Geological Survey, who donated and transported more than 100 books. Delegates donated their own books, too, before selecting volumes to add to their own personal libraries.

Our mentoring scheme was popular again and not just with those at the beginning of their careers. The scheme helps individuals to connect, sharing knowledge and experiences. In 2019, once again, the process also helped IAH to be informed about the needs of its members, where gaps in communications may be and to consider future plans of the association.

Members also offered advice in our newsletter's 'Ask a Member' column. "Seek and engage with many mentors — mentors open doors and pathways to invaluable life and career experiences". One member emphasised the importance of sharing our collective knowledge and experience from across the world and that being a member of IAH can help, no matter where the day to day work is carried out. Another asserted that "IAH represents a globally recognized scientific voice and develops and maintains collaborative partnerships with other scientific organizations and NGOs". One advised those who were wavering: "Don't give up and go into banking..."!



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Raising groundwater awareness: 'Why did the chicken cross the road?"

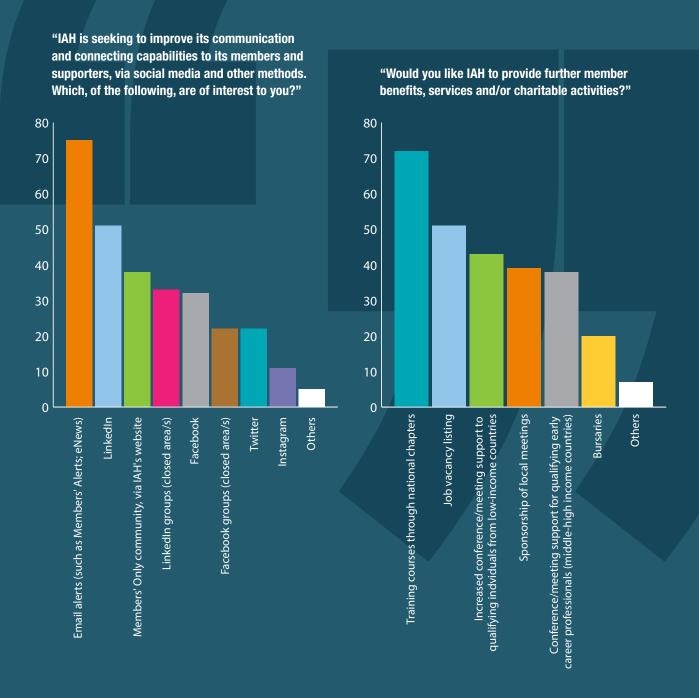
Jeroen November (Belgium)

As obvious as the answer is to the above riddle 'To get to the other side', it's obvious for geo-scientists and policy makers that groundwater awareness needs to be raised. The best and safest path to that other side may in fact be different, approach including sequential tunneling or fly-over options'. Neither of these however will get said chicken safely to the side of the road within the required timeframe. That timeframe being a changing climate, increasing demand on sixed based. As a geo-scientist working in the field of environmental enforcement for a regional government, I get a good end-of-pipe place by different entities, a compliance should be sufficient to the safely defined a groundwater related legislation. As well-intended groundwater legislation is not be.

As a geo-scientist working in the field of environmental enforcement for a regional government, I get a good end-of-pip view of the compliance regarding groundwater-related legislation. As well-intended groundwater legislation in the service of the field remains necessary to obtain the environmental goals laid out effective field presence. In my specialized field of enforcing groundwater drilling and abstractions, geo-scientists play an about obe tackled by proper means when necessary, a significant amount of compliance promotion in the field remains as well as an analycate remains when necessary, a significant amount of compliance promotion in the field remains and constitute from the success and suggestions for science-based improvement of the science science as the successary and suggestions for science as the scienc

Survey

We received responses from more than 30 countries in our survey of members' and supporters' views, with a spread of ages from 18 to 65+ and 26% from women. This is in line with our membership profile and we are seeking ways to improve diversity and inclusion. Access to Hydrogeology Journal is still the most popular membership benefit, the Journal itself being considered good or excellent. Opportunities for networking are highly valued and our website is seen as good or excellent. Likewise, IAH's educational resources, including our Strategic Overview Series, conference and training listings, videos and useful links, are valued. Respondents would especially like to see training courses developed and a listing of job vacancies. These, and others, are being considered.



Council meeting

The 2019 Council meeting took place in September at the IAH Congress in Malaga. An important purpose of the meeting is to consider the Association's finances and the Vice President for Finance and Executive Manager reported that the situation for 2018 was positive, with a surplus of more than £13,000 at the year-end and reserves in the bank of over £112,000.

Good use was made of our separate funds: the Education Fund, for a Strategic Overview paper on mining and groundwater and support for the Early Careers Network at Congress; the Burdon Fund for technical books distributed to IAH members in Sub-Saharan Africa; and the Asia Fund to support an Indian National Chapter conference.

Membership had increased significantly at the time of the meeting, particularly in India, China and in Malawi, the Scottish Government paying for sponsored memberships. Student memberships had risen and several companies had taken advantage of the revised corporate scheme, which allows 25% discount for additional individual members.

Although a cautionary increase in membership fees was considered to counter possible inflation, Council proposed that there should be no increase to either individual or corporate fees. It was noted that members in this year's survey were not in favour of a rise. A 25% discount on the full membership fee, for a period of 2 years, was agreed for those transferring from student membership.

IAH receives many requests from NGOs for advice on groundwater matters. Council proposed that IAH should link with training providers to prepare guidance and programmes of support.

Regional Vice Presidents reported on a range of activities worldwide – a 'groundwater stewardship' initiative that aims to foster links across Pacific and Asia, prospects for further national chapters in Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America, potential growth of the Early Careers Network in Colombia and Indonesia, hints of further countries that may be interested in hosting congresses and celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Japan Association of Hydrogeology.

Council noted that our 10-year Forward Look strategic plan would come to an end in 2020 and that much had been achieved, though there were still outstanding actions. It was proposed that a small working group should be established to put forward suggestions for the new Council to consider in 2020, to help develop the next strategic plan.

Delegates from Brazil and Belgium gave updates on progress with organising the next congresses in 2020 and 2021. A proposal for the 2022 congress to be held in Wuhan, China was accepted and a proposal for a congress in Switzerland was presented.

Finally, Council was pleased to give its support to the establishment of a new National Chapter in Namibia.

See a list of IAH's Council members here https://iah.org/about/council



2019 IAH Annual General Meeting

The 2018 Annual General Meeting took place on 22nd September 2019 in Malaga, attended by 147 IAH members and 29 non-members. Members accepted the 2018 accounts and reporting, as well as Council's proposed early career membership fee discount. The Executive team summarised progress with planned activities and explained how efforts to raise the profile of groundwater through international engagement, for example with UNESCO and UN Water, aimed to be beneficial also for all IAH members. Everyone was encouraged to take advantage of the IAH Commissions and Networks, including the new groups on groundwater quality and socio-hydrogeology.

Our Presidents' Award (from the current and immediate past Presidents) was presented to the renowned Hydrogeologist, Dr John Cherry. The Distinguished Associate Award, for a non-groundwater professional who has made an outstanding contribution to groundwater matters, went to Francesca Bernardini, for enhancing policy and governance for groundwater protection worldwide. John Chilton and Shammy Puri were both made Honorary Members, for their

exceptional services to IAH over many years. Yanxin Wang received our Applied Hydrogeology Award, for advancing and applying the understanding of hazardous substances in groundwater, helping to ensure safe potable-water supply for farmers in remote parts of China.

Yanxin Wang



John Chilton





Distinguished Associate Award Francesca

John Cherry Francesca Bernadini

International Engagement

IAH, with its global membership and wide range of expertise, is frequently asked to input to international initiatives on water and environment management. Our Council members, and members of our Commissions, Networks and National Chapters help ensure that groundwater is not overlooked in the wider debate on water and environment, often seeking to influence socio-economic matters and governance.

This year the IAH contributed to the work of UNESCO. UN-Water, IAHS (International Association of Hydrological Sciences), SADC (Southern African Development Community), and IWA (International Water Association) amongst other organisations.

In September 2019, IAH Secretary General Bruce Misstear addressed the World Water Quality Alliance, which comprises more than 80 partners, including UN agencies and other international organisations concerned with water. This was a joint presentation with IGRAC on the topic of groundwater quality, delivered at the WWQA workshop in Ispra, Italy.

IAH leads the Groundwater Management Working Group of the Sustainable Water Future Programme. This aims to secure groundwater resources today for livelihoods, food security, climate resilience and economic growth and sustain resources for future generations. The group prepared the Bengaluru Action Plan for high level ministerial representatives at the Budapest Water Summit.

Businesses, often criticised for neglecting their environmental responsibilities, are beginning to understand how their activities can affect ecosystems

We continue to develop links with organisations across the world. The IAH Urban Groundwater Network is collaborating with the newly formed International Water Association Groundwater Committee, led by an IAH member, and we agreed to work more closely with the International Water Resources Association. Our USA National Chapter supported the National Groundwater Association's annual 'Groundwater Week', which is designed to provide educational and networking experiences for the industry.

Finally, the theme of the 2019 World Water Day was "Leaving no one behind", highlighting the central promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: as sustainable development progresses, everyone must benefit. This is highly relevant to groundwater and our Early Career Hydrogeologists' Network produced a poignant video to mark the day. We are proud that our younger members represent the future of responsible hydrogeology.



The author W. Somerset Maugham is often quoted when times get difficult, the full quote being, "We live in uncertain times and our all may yet be taken from us". IAH is certainly not in that situation in 2019, but as a UK-based charity, with income mainly in euro and expenditure mainly pounds sterling, the ongoing uncertainty over Brexit has the potential to affect our finances, as exchange rates react to each stage of the drama. Moreover, looking at the wider world economy, António Guterres, UN Secretary-General noted the risks to the global economy saying that, "While global economic indicators remain largely favourable, they do not tell the whole story".

Despite these concerns, we consider that IAH's finances remain sound. With continued careful financial management and hopefully ongoing growth in our membership and corporate support, we believe this will continue to be the case.

Summary

There was a budget surplus of £10 234 following adjustment for foreign exchange changes, compared with an overall budget surplus in 2018 of £13 208. Total assets at 31/12/2019 were £122.348 compared with £112.114 for the previous year. The aim has been to retain around £100,000 as reserves, though, given that this figure was established some years ago a more suitable amount now may be rather higher.

Income was higher than projected in the 2019 budget: £326,500 as opposed to £304,204. We received a higher than anticipated income from the increased membership and from our publisher, from royalties and in support of IAH staff costs. In addition, the Organising Committee of the Daejeon Congress made a contribution to central funds.

Expenditure, at £316,266, was above the budgeted £304,224. This was mainly because IT costs were not fully covered in the budget. In addition, website development work was brought forward and commissioned when it became evident that the increased income would allow for this. Payments to Springer for members' copies of Hydrogeology Journal were higher than budgeted for, with the increase in

Euro

membership. Costs, though, were moderated as increasing numbers (61%) received the Journal online rather than as hard copy, which is more cost-effective for IAH. Editors' stipends were above the budgeted amount, owing to variations in exchange rates.

Currency exchange losses amounted to nearly £10K, which is perhaps a little surprising given the weakness of sterling in part of the year. In fact, exchange rate changes resulted in a monthly variation from a £3160 gain (July) to a loss of £5288 during October, when many of IAH's euro transactions are carried out.

Trading activities

These are carried out through the Association's subsidiary company World-Wide Groundwater Ltd. There was no activity during 2019; the company is, however, maintained at a small charge in the event of further requirements arising for its use.

Foreign Currency Gains and Losses International Association of Hydrogeologists From 1 September 2019 to 31 December 2019 Unrealised 7,011 (13) 7,011 GBP (10,84 łAH Annual Report 2019 / **13** Accounts Payable 20,468 102,524 EUR

25 095



Statement of financial activities for the year ending 31 December 2019

Incoming resources		£	£	EUR(€)	USD(\$)
Membership fees			243,056	287,292	321,077
Contract and subvention income			38,501	45,508	50,860
Investment income			168	199	222
Donations			20,804	24,590	27,482
Royalties			30,229	35,731	39,933
Other income			19,614	23,184	25,910
Total resources received			352,372	416,504	465,483
Resources expended					
Member services	Salaries	24,067			
	Printing and publications	115,955			
	Hydrogeology Journal Editorial Office	13,674			
	Refunds to National Chapters				
	and other grants	20,041			
	Website development	11,438			
	Other	4,019	189,194	223,627	249,925
Donations and grants payable			5,574	6,588	7,363
Support costs	Salaries	31,535			
	Travel and subsistence	58,256			
	Printing, stationery and database administration	12,998			
	Other	6,679	109,468	129,391	144,607
Management and administration of the charity	Salaries				
	Strategic review and training	20,134			
	Accountancy fee	2,232			
	Other	, -	22,366	26,437	29,545
Finance costs (bank charges)				5,577	
and depreciation			4,718 331,320		6,232
Total resources expended Net income/expenditure			21,052	391,620 24,883	437,674 27,810
Net foreign exchange gains/(losses)					
Net incoming resources			(9,992)	(11,811)	(13,199)
Balance brought forward at			11,060	13,073	14,610
1 January 2019			112,114	132,519	148,103
Balance carried forward at 31 December 2019			123,174	145,592	162,713

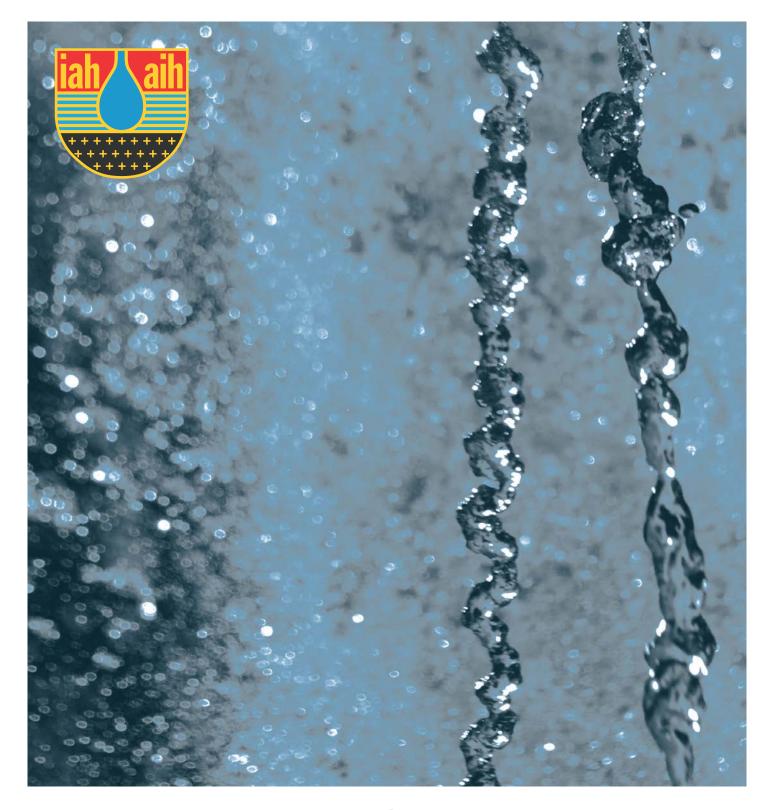
Balance sheet as at 31 December 2019

		2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018
		£	£	EUR(€)	EUR(€)	USD(\$)	USD(\$)
Fixed assets		650	1	768	1	859	1
Current assets							
	Cash and						
	debtors due	153,613	129,147	181,571	144,515	202,923	163,500
Creditors							
	Amounts due within						
	one year	(31,089)	(17,034)	(36,747)	(19,061)	(41,069)	(21,565)
Net assets		123,174	112,114	145,592	125,456	162,713	141,936
Represented by:							
	Unrestricted Funds	91,343	80,415	107,967	89,984	120,664	101,805
	Burdon Fund	31,831	31,699	37,624	35,471	42,049	40,131
Funds		123,174	112,114	145,592	125,456	162,713	141,936

Statement by the Association's reporting accountant: These summarised accounts are extracted from the full financial statement of the Association which were subject to an unqualified report by Locke Williams Associates LLP, Blackthorn House, St Pauls Square, Birmingham, B3 1RL. The independent examiners have confirmed that the summarised accounts are consistent with the full annual financial statements and the Trustees' Annual Report of International Association of Hydrogeologists for the year ended 31 December 2019. The annual report and accounts were adopted by the IAH Council on 23 September 2020 and were submitted to the Charity Commission and the Registrar of Companies.

These summarised accounts may not contain sufficient information to gain a complete understanding of the financial affairs of the Association. For further information, the full accounts, the reporting accountants' report on those accounts and the trustees' annual report should be consulted; copies of these can be obtained from the IAH International Office or downloaded from www.iah.org.

Throughout this report the conversion from sterling (\mathfrak{E}) to euro (\mathfrak{E}) is at the rate of $\mathfrak{E}1.182 = \mathfrak{E}1$ and to US dollar (\mathfrak{F}) is at the rate of $\mathfrak{F}1.321 = \mathfrak{E}1$.



International Association of Hydrogeologists

the World-wide Groundwater Organisation

IAH Secretariat

PO Box 4130, Goring, Reading RG8 6BJ, UK

Email: info@iah.org

www.iah.org

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