

2023 CHAPTER REPORT



Each national chapter is required by IAH Rule 6.5 to provide an annual report on its activities. This helps us to report the Association's activities and is published on the IAH web site. It is also expected that, under the terms of the chapter's constitution or rules, the national committee will make an annual report to members in their country.

1. ABOUT YOU

Your name	Michael Sinreich
Email address	michael.sinreich@hydrogeo.ch
Role/responsibility held in chapter	Chairman

2. YOUR CHAPTER'S INFORMATION

Is your chapter's information correct on IAH's website: https://iah.org/groups/national-chapters Please tell us of any changes now and each time a new committee is chosen.	
Does your chapter have its own website? If so, please confirm the URL. If you do have a website, who is responsible for its management? Please provide contact details.	www.hydrogeo.ch This website represents the Swiss Hydrogeological Society, including the IAH Swiss National Chapter.
Would you be interested in IAH hosting your chapter's website/providing support? As an example, see https://germany.iah.org/ .	To be decided in due time.
Does your chapter have an elected committee? If yes, how often are elections held and how are they managed e.g. postal/email vote/at meetings?	The committee of the Swiss Hydrogeological Society also constitutes the committee of the IAH National Chapter. Seven members are elected for three years each, with the possibility of re-election, representing the geographical, idiomatic, and professional diversity of the country and members. Elections are held by personal voting at yearly General Assembly meetings.

3. LOCAL MEMBERSHIP

How is local membership status and trends? e.g. stable, declining, increasing.	The Swiss Hydrogeological Society comprises more than 300 members, about one third of which are also IAH members. IAH membership status remains more or less stable, while national membership slightly increases continuously.
What are your challenges to recruitment? e.g.	Although quite successful in attracting

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<p>volunteer time/limitation, IAH fee rates, competition from other societies, language, etc.</p>	<p>new/young professionals for our society (e.g. master thesis award), recruitment for concurrent IAH membership is more difficult, particularly regarding colleagues outside research and academia. The IAH fees are significantly higher than the relatively low national membership fees of about 30 Euros only. The 2024 Davos IAH congress might help to increase the membership number this year.</p>
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4. YOUR CHAPTER'S ACTIVITIES IN 2023

<p>Did your chapter hold an annual meeting (AGM-style)? If so, please advise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date and place of meeting • Approximate number attending 	<p>The Swiss Hydrogeological Society, and Swiss IAH National Chapter, respectively, regularly organizes its annual conference for members and non-members with about 100 participants.</p> <p>Since 2021, after Covid, the annual national meetings could be held in presence again. In 2023, it took place the 16/17 of June in the Zurich region, including excursion to nearby sites, and attracted around 80 participants. The General Assembly, however, was hold online again.</p>
<p>Did your chapter hold other events e.g. technical and scientific meetings, seminars, conferences, field visits, training events?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you have already reported these to the IAH Secretariat, only summary information is required. • If not, these please provide a summary of dates, location, number of participants, topics, etc. and how successful you felt each event was. • Do you have photos we can use? • Are your events open to IAH non-members? • Did you hold events in partnership with others e.g. a national society, company, institution? 	<p>The Swiss chapter did participate to the organization of national events, such as the annual Swiss Geoscience Meeting.</p> <p>The national chapter focuses on strategical planning in terms of drinking and irrigation water supply in Switzerland, with the objective to obtain more political and public attention. In this context, it co-organized in 2023 a national conference on groundwater use in a changing world.</p>

5. YOUR CHAPTER'S PLANS

<p>Do you have any activities or tasks planned for 2024? If yes, please provide brief details, including if your plans are limited because of e.g. lack of funds or local interest/volunteer support to help</p>	<p>A major part of Swiss chapter activities is related to the preparation of the IAH World Groundwater Congress in Davos. It will take place on 8-13 of September 2024, as a joint event of the IAH, the Swiss Hydrogeological Society, and the</p>
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	Center of Hydrogeologie and Geothermics at Neuchâtel university. www.iah2024davos.org
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6. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Please use this section to make any additional comments/suggestions e.g. what support from IAH centrally might assist your chapter, future plans you would like to see for IAH

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