

NEWS & information

AUGUST 2024

IAH - THE WORLD-WIDE GROUNDWATER ORGANISATION

Furthering the understanding, wise use and protection of groundwater resources throughout the world

In this issue:

IAH & other resources

Council news

Meeting & event reports

Chapters, commissions
& networks

Regular IAH
announcements & news



INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF
HYDROGEOLOGISTS

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IAH WORLD GROUNDWATER CONGRESS 2024

The 2024 IAH World Groundwater Congress takes place in Davos Switzerland, from 8-13 September 2024. Register to join groundwater professionals, students, scientists, and stakeholders in the sharing and exchange of knowledge and ideas. Page 6


A thank you from IAH President, David Kreamer


Our outgoing President, David Kreamer, reflects on his last four years as President of IAH and the achievements the Association has made, and extends his thanks to the many people involved in supporting IAH and furthering the IAH mission. Page 4


Vote in the IAH 2024 Council Elections


Voting is open for the election of IAH's Officers, and all IAH members are entitled to vote. IAH elections take place every four years, and IAH is now undertaking elections for the next term of office for the period 2024-2028. Voting closes on 6th September. Page 10

Find us at <https://iah.org>. Connect by email info@iah.org and on social media:

 @iahgroundwater

 @iahgroundwater

 Find IAH groups

 www.facebook.com/iah.org

IAH WORLD GROUNDWATER CONGRESS 2024

Interacting Groundwater

08-13 September 2024
Davos, Switzerland

WWW.IAH2024DAVOS.ORG



Key Dates

After 18 August 2024
Registration using credit card
payment only

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Advertising & copy information

IAH News and Information is published 3 times a year. It is distributed as an insert in Hydrogeology Journal and is also published via IAH's website and email alerts. It reaches all members and supporters of the International Association of Hydrogeologists – around 8000 people – and can also be freely downloaded by individuals worldwide for personal/not for profit use.

We accept commercial advertisements. Advertising rates are €300 per full-page advert and €200 per half page. These rates apply for one issue. If you take an advert in two successive issues then the third is offered free of charge.

Corporate members, supporters and sponsors are offered special rates. Contact us for more details.

We are also happy to consider groundwater related articles from our members and supporters.

Copy dates are 1 March, 1 June and 1 October.

Email info@iah.org for further details.

Introduction

With around 1100 abstracts received and as many as 800 delegates expected, our colleagues in the Organising Committee for IAH's Congress in Davos have had a busy time in recent months. We appreciate that not all our members will have the chance of going to Davos but it already looks like it will be a success for all concerned. There's still chance to book your place and register – and well done to all those who have been working hard to ensure a successful Congress!

The other big story at this time is our elections. By now you will have received your invitation to vote and there are outstanding candidates for all of our Elected Officer posts. Make your voice heard and vote today! The elections will mark the retirement of President David Kreamer and Dave looks back in this newsletter on his 4 years as President during a very eventful period.

Voting closes on 6 September and the results will be announced at our Annual General Meeting on 10 September. You can attend in-person in Davos or you can find out details in this issue about how to attend online. Also taking place in Davos are meetings of our newest working groups, LUNA (Liaison with UN Activities) and Education and Outreach. We encourage Davos delegates to attend – but if you can't be there contact us at info@iah.org to tell us how you could contribute to these new groups.

Our membership continues to increase and you are now part of a vibrant network of 4350 members across more than 130 countries of the world, raising awareness of groundwater issues and contributing to the protection of the environment and all those who depend on this. And you can do more! Your national chapter needs you – and there are opportunities for supporting and further developing the work of our commissions and networks. You can find contact details for all our groups at <https://iah.org/groups> – and if there isn't already a group for you, contact us at info@iah.org and we'll be pleased to help you set up a new group!

SECRETARIAT



From our President

Dear Colleagues,

This will be my last chance to send a newsletter message to you. Every four years the International Association of Hydrogeologists holds elections for our Council members. All Council members except the President can stand for two terms, including our Regional Vice Presidents around the world and the IAH Executive Committee. This means that in our candidates for the next four years we have a mixture of new people and members who have already served one term. This also means that this message in this newsletter will be my final chance to thank the many people that continue to make IAH go forward, as I will be moving to Past-President status in September. In working with the Executive Committee and Council, I am proud to have them as colleagues and friends.

There are many, many people to thank. First of all, the IAH Secretariat has been truly awesome. A fine staff has been the engine that keeps IAH going, under the leadership of Ian Davey, Executive Manager. These hard-working people include: Sharon Warden, Emma Clare, Olivia Fraser-Cobbett, Sue Duncan, Hamish Johnson and Kellie Nicholson. Among many challenges the Secretariat has had to deal with over the last four years, some notable ones have included: organizing special, extra elections necessary because of the death or illness of several Council Members, a sudden need to quickly change banks handling IAH's affairs with a major financial reorganization, a turnover in Secretariat staff, and many normal, time-consuming efforts. Examples of these efforts are the production of budgets, creating member alerts and newsletters, website maintenance, educational and charitable efforts, email communications,

and a myriad of other tasks.

The Secretariat is truly the glue that holds IAH together and keeps us moving forward.

Kudos are due to the Hydrogeology Journal crew under Chief Editor Clifford Voss. Over the last decade, our IAH Hydrogeology Journal has had the highest impact factor of any journal in the world that is solely devoted to groundwater studies. Challenges with the changing nature of modern publication, with author disagreements on disputed national boundaries in maps, and increasing number of submissions to the journal are just a few of the situations handled with élan and thoughtfulness. The Editors have included Martin Appold, Jean-Christophe Comte, Jean-Michel Lemieux, Rui Ma, Maria-Theresia Schafmeister, and others. Editorial and technical support has come from Sue Duncan, Hamish Johnson, Susanne Schemann, supported by more than 50 Associate Editors, with additional support from David Drury and Jonathan Larkin. Profound gratitude is due for all their work.

Probably the mainstay of IAH are its National Chapters, Commissions, Networks, and Working Groups. There are too many committed members in these groups to list here, but they allow much participation, publication, and activities that advance IAH's mission to promote the wise use and protection of groundwater. Notably, several new Commissions and Networks have been established recently, such as the Socio-hydrogeology Network, the Groundwater Quality Commission, the Groundwater Resources UNECE Classification and Management Network, and proposed for the next Council meeting is a new group (LUNA) to coordinate



and collaborate all activities with the United Nations, to be led by Alice Aureli.

It has been a challenging four years. With deaths from Covid, we mourn the loss of colleagues and family members. For the most part, our Congresses over the last four years have been successful, and the hard work of the Organizing and Technical Committees is particularly appreciated. Covid impacted several of our Congresses, notably our Brazilian Congress originally scheduled for 2020 but which ultimately went ahead with a remote internet format in 2021. Our Congress in 2022 Wuhan, China, approved by the Council before Covid, also suffered in the pandemic, with no foreign, in-person attendance permitted, but successful nonetheless. The 2021 Congress in Brussels, Belgium and 2023 Congress in Cape Town, South Africa were masterfully organized and executed. Each was an in-person celebration of our science and our collegiality.

In the last four years IAH has made other advancements. We developed and approved a strong Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity Statement. While more can be done, we are making progress. Six of our thirteen IAH Council members, and half of our IAH Executive Committee members are women. The thousands of IAH members represent over 130 countries worldwide. We encourage full participation of our members and are continuing efforts to support diversity, and unrestricted exchange of ideas.

In addition to our Strategic Overview Series, IAH recently established a Technical Insight Series with issues on PFAS and Microplastics (https://iah.org/education/professionals/technical_insight_series). Over this last time-period we established an option for free Associate Student IAH membership (<https://iah.org/join-us/student-membership-of-iah>), and are proposing a new, Distinguished Lecture Series. IAH finances remain strong, and our membership is increasing again after a slight dip during Covid.

Lastly, I want to thank all the members in our groundwater community. My interaction with the IAH Council and Executive Committee has been very special – a simply great volunteer group. There are hundreds of you whose names are not mentioned here, who I consider friends. I apologize for not being able to thank you individually for your good humor and inspiring scholarship.

Our profession and our organization have been making the world a better place, and will continue to do so. It has been my privilege to have served as IAH President. I wish you all good things, productivity, and to continue in the adventure of hydrogeology.

See you in Davos.

Dave Kreamer



IAH World Groundwater Congress 2024, Davos



The IAH, the Swiss Society of Hydrogeology (SSH) and the Center for Hydrogeology and Geothermal Energy and Geothermics of the University of Neuchâtel (CHYN) invite you to the 51st IAH World Groundwater Congress in Davos in the Swiss Alps from September 8-13, 2024. Discover some of the Congress highlights below.

Explore current and future research trends and opportunities

Major trends in hydrogeology will be shared and debated by delegates from over 50 countries.

- Attend the plenary debates involving leading experts from around the world.
- Participate in the debate on the future of groundwater research.
- Choose among a broad range of session topics covering almost all aspects of hydrogeology.
- Discuss how to bridge gaps between research and policy/consulting.
- Get involved in the activities of IAH committees and networks.

Groundwater education in the spotlight

With rapidly changing roles of hydrogeologists and fundamental changes in teaching methods, it is time to make groundwater education an important congress topic.

- Share your view on groundwater education and participate in a global survey at www.iah2024davos.org/education.
- Attend a workshop and session on latest trends in hydrogeology education.
- Participate in a plenary debate on the perspectives of different stakeholders of groundwater education.

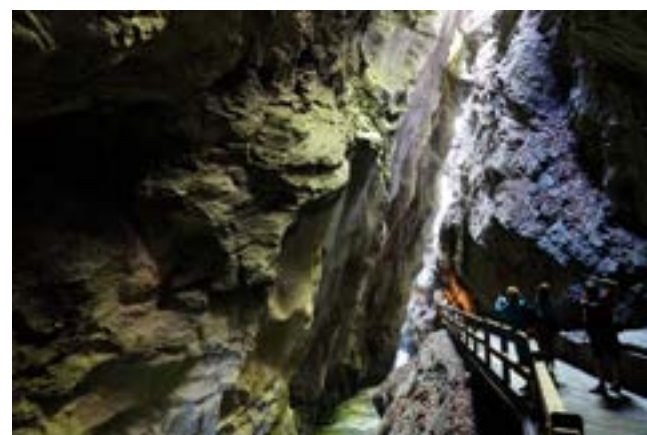
Discover innovative products and solutions

The exhibition throughout the week puts innovative products and solutions in the foreground.

Focus on glacier, cryosphere and groundwater

In keeping with its location, the Congress offers a special opportunity to explore how profound changes in the cryosphere affect groundwater, not only in mountainous regions, but also in connected lowlands.

- Follow the plenary dialogue between mountain hydrogeologists and cryosphere experts.
- Participate in a side event on how retreating glaciers impact groundwater.
- Attend the opening of a unique art installation on the sounds of glaciers.
- Visit the world-renowned snow and avalanche research institute in Davos.



Tamina Gorge and hydrothermal spring
organpipeccoral/stock.adobe.com

Focus on groundwater for humanitarian aid and SDGs

The critical role of groundwater for humanitarian aid and to progress towards SDGs will be highlighted in a range of events, involving a broad diversity of stakeholders, including:

- A plenary discussion on how to harness the benefits of groundwater while avoiding or reversing groundwater depletion trends.
- Thematic sessions and panel discussions on humanitarian hydrogeology, conjunctive water management, water stewardship and transboundary aquifers.

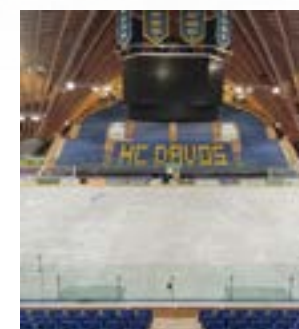
Strong presence of early career hydrogeologists

ECHN, UNESCO groundwater youth, Swiss Water Partnership Youth Network and Youth for the Rhine have joined forces and will organize events (see insert box for further details).

Get together in a scenic setting

Interact with groundwater experts from around the globe in a scenic setting.

- All the major events will take place in the "IAH village" around the Davos Park, an easy and central place to meet; from the Ice Breaker, the Glacier Art Installation, the Wednesday Night at the Hockey Stadium to the splendid Gala Dinner.
- The excursions will be complemented by numerous networking events in a scenic setting, which can still be booked shortly before the congress.



Eisstadion Davos
D Hunkeler

We look forward to seeing you!

Contact: info@IAH2024DAVOS.org

www.iah2024davos.org



Morteratsch Glacier, one of the excursion destinations.
menyhert/stock.adobe.com

Early Career Hydrogeologists' Network

The IAH Early Career Hydrogeologists' Network (ECHN) invite the hydrogeological community to join the events they are co-organizing at the 2024 IAH Congress in Davos:

- ECHN's social event on Wednesday, September 11, which is usually held at IAH Congresses for gathering and networking in a fun and relaxed context. This year the Swiss LOC have prepared a memorable evening at the local ice hockey rink. All IAH attendees are invited to join for a complimentary drink followed by a cash bar and stadium eats for a night of networking between our experienced and early career IAH members.
- The UN Groundwater Youth Network (GWYN) has partnered with the ECHN to host the first ever Youth Cafe in Davos this year. Keep your eyes on the congress program and be sure to attend to see our up and coming ECHNs in action.
- Two ECHN members have been selected to participate in this year's IAH panel discussions.
- For current and prospective ECHN members, we will hold our Annual General Meeting during the congress to provide all the information you need about the ECHN and how to get more involved in the network.

We hope you can join us!

Tschüss!

Isadora Kuhn, Stefania Stevenazzi, Jared Van Rooyen
Early Career Hydrogeologists' Network Steering Committee

Hydrogeology Journal Annual Team Meeting



In March, the Hydrogeology Journal (HJ) executive editor and editorial office team convened in Heidelberg, Germany, for their annual meeting with HJ's publisher.

Hosted by Fritz Schmuhl and Ilona Isaeva at the Springer Nature offices, the team discussed the healthy growth of the journal and potential opportunities for its future.

Key topics included the progress of the two upcoming special issues 'Interplay of Groundwater, Geology and Geological Processes' and 'Advances in Socio-hydrogeology', as well as a topical collection derived from the IAH 2023 congress. The status of HJ as a transformative journal, featuring both traditional and open-access publishing routes, was reviewed in the context of the rapid growth and demand for open-access research.

Particularly relevant topics included the present and future use of artificial intelligence in academic publishing and designing effective policies to circumnavigate the potential benefits and challenges it may provide. The HJ team also

explored different strategies for introducing additional benefits to HJ authors with IAH membership. In addition, the data collated by Springer demonstrated the status of HJ as a successful international journal, with the authors of articles accepted in 2023 coming from over 35 different countries and a growth in readership from the Asia-Pacific region.

This meeting served as a fond farewell to Sue, who was presented with gifts and a booklet of photos and messages from several of the editors that she has worked with over the last 19 years. Although she has officially moved on, she will continue to support the HJ editorial office team in the background.

Hamish Johnson and Sue Duncan



IAH editorial team (left to right): Hamish Johnson, Sue Duncan, Susanne Schemann, Cliff Voss, Fritz Schmuhl (Springer)



The fountain "Father Rhine" at Heidelberg Castle gardens

Membership News

Welcome!

A warm welcome to the 408 new IAH members who joined our Association in the period 23 March 2024 - 01 July 2024. View the list of new members at <https://tinyurl.com/new-members-Jul24>.

Free Student Membership

The IAH free student membership scheme continues this year. The 'Associate Student Member' subscription entitles students to discounts offered by IAH, newsletters and email alerts, participation in competitions and prize draws, to vote in elections, and opportunities for participating in our national chapters and commissions and networks (though not currently access to Hydrogeology Journal). We believe that all students enrolled on groundwater and related courses will want to be part of the IAH family. More information is available at <https://iah.org/join-us/student-membership-of-iah>.

Are you an IAH Member?

We thank all of our members for their continued support of IAH and the important work of our Commissions, Networks and Chapters. Current members can renew their membership via the online membership portal on the IAH website.

If you are not yet a member, you can subscribe today to start receiving the great range of IAH membership benefits, and join our global network of hydrogeologists and groundwater-related specialists.

IAH also have a member sponsorship scheme to support those who would otherwise be unable to join, which IAH members can donate to when they take out or renew their membership. In 2023 we sponsored memberships for 279 of our colleagues who would otherwise not have been able to participate in the Association's activities and to represent IAH across the world. The IAH sponsorship scheme helps us to be the inclusive Association we strive to be.

For more information about IAH membership, and to join us, visit <https://iah.org/join-us>.

Are you receiving your regular IAH messages and alerts with HJ link and latest news digests and initiatives?

Ensuring that our members receive their IAH benefits such as Hydrogeology Journal, discounts and offers is important to us. Do you work for a large government/commercial/educational organisation? Many such employers have firewalls in place. You may have to provide an alternative email address to receive your member mailings, or speak to your IT department. IAH emails are always sent from an @iah.org address. We'd hate you to miss out. Check your records at: <https://iah.org/members/edit-details>.





IAH Elections

Voting is now open for the election of IAH's Officers and all IAH members who have paid their subscriptions are entitled to vote. IAH's elections take place every four years. The current term of office ends with the General Meeting of the Association on 8 September 2024 and IAH is now undertaking elections for the next term of office (2024-2028).

The Role of Elected Members

Only IAH members may stand in IAH elections. Being an Elected Officer for IAH is rewarding - individuals come together to make important contributions to IAH for its members, and for the wider international groundwater community. They have a vital role in developing IAH's policies and plans, and in overseeing their implementation on behalf of the whole IAH membership. Much has been initiated under our latest Forward Look strategic plan and it will be for the next Elected Officers to develop and take forward these initiatives and ensure IAH's success during the coming years.

IAH's Elected Officers have considerable responsibilities and must act with a duty of care; they may be subject to sanctions if they do not. Those standing for election are asked to sign a statement confirming they accept the duties and conduct required. As we now come to the balloting stage we ask that you consider the responsibilities that the Elected Officers must undertake, when you make your choice of candidates and cast your votes.

The Candidates

All of the elected Officer posts on the current Executive Committee and advisory Council are up for election. In line with the Articles and Rules of the Association, the following are not eligible for re-election in their current posts: President David Kreamer has served the one term permitted and he will succeed Antonio Chambel on the Advisory Council as Past President; Vice President Natalia Vinograd (Eastern Europe and Central Asia) has served the maximum two terms in this role. You can find details

about all of the candidates at <https://iah.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Candidates-2024.pdf>

The Secretary General and Returning Officer have verified that all candidates fulfil the criteria specified in the IAH's rules.

The Election Process

The Association has contracted Mi-Voice, a reputable and well-established UK-based company, to help IAH conduct the voting process. Mi-Voice will send instructions for on-line electronic voting to each IAH member at the current email addresses that IAH holds. Those who renew or join during the voting period will also be able to vote. All IAH members may vote for all posts: you are not restricted to voting only for the Vice President of the region in which you live.

Voting online is a simple process. To cast your votes, you just click the button indicated on the website, which will automatically authenticate you with the voting site. There is additional information and also a Mi-Voice contact address on the website in case you need help with the voting process.

Voting commences from early July 2024 and closes on Friday 6th September at 12.00 noon BST. The results will be declared at the Annual General Meeting of IAH, which will be held in Davos, Switzerland on Tuesday 10 September (online access will also be available).

Should you wish to receive printed copies of materials please inform the Returning Officer, Ian Davey (idavey@iah.org).

Members are strongly encouraged to use this opportunity to exercise their democratic right to vote for the Elected Officers who will serve the Association from 2024 to 2028.

You can find more information about IAH's elections at <https://iah.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/General-Election-Information.pdf>

Ian Davey
Returning Officer

IAH Executive Committee Meeting

Executive Committee meeting, Rome, June 2024

IAH's Executive Committee met in June at Sapienza University, Rome, where our Vice President for Science and Programme, Marco Petitta, is a professor. The meeting was an opportunity to review the budget and work programme, which remain on track, and to consider preparations for IAH's Council meeting and Annual General meeting in September in Davos.

In other work, final recommendations were made for the revised governance documents, to be presented to Council and members in Davos. They were pleased that, ahead of IAH's elections, membership was increasing and potentially on course to be the highest ever. This increase was partly supported by a rise in Student Associate (free) membership, which they considered overall had been a positive initiative, but agreed that it should be kept under review. They looked forward to more students being actively involved in all aspects of IAH life.

They were impressed that around 1100 abstracts had been received for the Congress and that some 700-800 delegates were likely to attend. Several of IAH's commissions and networks will hold their annual meetings at Davos. The Exec called on all IAH groups to maintain and increase their activity and encouraged them to reach out to student members and involve them in each group.

There will also be meetings of the LUNA (Liaison with UN Activities) and the Education and Outreach working groups. The Exec encouraged IAH members - and other interested delegates - to attend these meetings and consider how they could contribute to future activities.

The Executive encouraged all members to vote in IAH's elections and look forward to meeting many of you at Davos.

2024 IAH Annual General Meeting

Notice is given that the 2024 Annual General Meeting of the International Association of Hydrogeologists will be held online at 17.30 BST on 10th September 2024. All members of the Association who have fully paid their subscriptions for the current year are entitled to attend the proceedings.

- The AGM agenda will include receiving the report and accounts for the period ended 31st December 2023. The full financial statement will be made available on the annual reports pages of the IAH website <https://iah.org/about/reports/management>.
- Minutes of the 23rd Annual General Meeting held on 20th September 2023 are available at: <https://iah.org/members/iah-meetings>.
- If you would like to attend online please send an email to info@iah.org with IAH AGM 2024 in the subject line and your name and membership number in the body of the email. We will then send you the joining details, including a password, and papers for the meeting. We would be grateful if you could email us by 31st August 2024 so that we can arrange for enough online capacity for everyone who would like to join the meeting.

SECRETARIAT

Education and Outreach

IAH's mission is to further the understanding, wise use and protection of groundwater resources throughout the world. To help deliver this objective we have a wealth of resources available on the IAH website. Browse the full catalogue at <https://iah.org/education/professionals>.

Video gallery

Explore a selection of videos and recordings for professionals and students, including webinars, congress keynote and speaker presentations, and interviews with eminent hydrogeologists. Visit <https://iah.org/education/professionals/watch-and-listen> for more details.

Sites of interest

Browse our curated collection of resources and weblinks, where you can find more in-depth information about a variety of hydrogeology topics. Visit <https://iah.org/education/professionals/links-resources>.

IAH Publications

The IAH Strategic Overview Series summarises key topics relating to groundwater resources and hydrogeological science for professionals and learners in a variety of sectors, and can be found at <https://iah.org/education/professionals/strategic-overview-series>. The IAH Technical Insight Series comprises technical papers aimed at groundwater and related professionals, and can be found at https://iah.org/education/professionals/technical_insight_series.

Out of Print Books

Many authors have contributed their time and enthusiasm over the years to enable the production of a large collection of IAH books. Books that are no longer available to buy from our publisher are listed at <https://iah.org/education/professionals/out-of-print-books>, and are free to download and share.

IAH Education and Outreach Working Group meeting in Davos

There will be a meeting during the World Groundwater Congress in Davos to plan the next steps for the IAH Education and Outreach Working Group. Once fully in place, the group will set out a strategy for delivering more support to members, taking account of different needs from students through to continuing professional development across the world, and will include general education and more specific training opportunities. The Working Group will build on the many IAH education and outreach activities already in place, and will help to co-ordinate and implement related initiatives.

We are delighted to welcome Sarah Bourke, IAH's Vice President for Australasia and the Pacific, as chair of the Education and Outreach Working Group.

If you are interested in attending the meeting, or becoming involved in the group generally, get in touch with us at info@iah.org.

Introducing IAH-LUNA

The IAH Liaison with UN Activities (LUNA) Working Group has recently been established. LUNA will support IAH's mission by promoting the development and exchange of scientific, technical and other information with organisations in the UN family and, where appropriate, with other intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations relevant to the United Nations.

Since IAH became a formal 'Associate Partner' of UNESCO in late 2022, it became clear that we need a better mechanism for channeling our support to UNESCO and other parts of the UN family.

LUNA will play an important role, with the objective of participating in and influencing the global debate and policy elaboration on groundwater and the environment in a changing climate, and developing dialogue and joint action by enhancing alliances and partnerships.

LUNA will assist with specific activities, including the UN-Water-coordinated World Water Day, and World Water Day Development Report.

The IAH Executive are delighted that Alice Aureli has agreed to chair the LUNA Working Group. Alice has been an IAH member and supporter for many years. Her experience as head of the groundwater group at UNESCO, and of the 'UN family', will be of great benefit to IAH, as we aim to manage - and respond with the authority proportionate to IAH's standing - to the growing number of requests for support from different branches of the UN.



Alice Aureli at the 39th UN-Water Meeting at the headquarters of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in Rome, Italy.

Apply for the next round of the IAH Mentoring Scheme

IAH's next round of mentoring is open for applications! Whether or not you have participated in the scheme before, IAH members may apply by completing the forms below.

- Mentor (giver of advice) apply at www.surveymonkey.com/r/IAHmentor2024
- Mentee (receiver of advice) apply at www.surveymonkey.com/r/IAHmentee2024

The IAH mentoring scheme supports its members in three important areas; scientific and technical advice, career options and pathways, and practical experience.

Demand for mentors continues to outstrip supply. Please, if you could give a little time to help support mentees, we know it would be appreciated. Volunteering as a mentor does not take up as much time as you might think.

The scheme is only open to IAH members – but if you are not yet a member you are welcome to join us now!

For more information visit <https://iah.org/education/professionals/mentoring>.

SECRETARIAT



The Latest from our Commissions and Networks

Commissions and Networks

IAH's commissions and networks contribute to the science of groundwater and undertake outreach, education and training. They run sessions at IAH congresses, co-convene technical meetings and field excursions with other societies, host workshops and training courses and prepare educational and outreach publications.

Find out more about IAH's commissions and networks and make contact with them at <https://iah.org/groups/commissions-networks>.

Commission on Managing Aquifer Recharge

The call for abstracts is now open for the 12th International Symposium on Managed Aquifer Recharge (ISMAR12). The Commission on Managing Aquifer Recharge (IAH-MAR) and the IAH South Africa National Chapter invite you to save the date for ISMAR12, which will be held in Stellenbosch, South Africa, from 28 April to 2 May 2025. The main theme of the Symposium is "From Theory to Implementation and Operation", with 8 sub-themes to guide abstract submissions for consideration. Further details are available on the ISMAR12 website to help clarify the sub-themes for both presenters and attendees. Please note the abstract submission deadline is 1 September 2024. For more details visit <https://ismar12.org.za/>.

For latest IAH-MAR updates, view their monthly newsletters, available at <https://recharge.iah.org/newsletters>.

Early Career Hydrogeologists' Network

The year 2024 has come with significant achievements and new advancements for the Early Career Hydrogeologists' Network (ECHN). The IAH Congress in Cape Town laid the groundwork for our initiatives. ECHN were thrilled to welcome numerous new members at the General Assembly, with 12 early-career hydrogeologists expressing intention to actively participate in the Steering Committee. This spike in interaction demonstrates the community's expanding vitality.

One of the most significant decisions made in 2024 was the formation of a new organization under the ECHN framework. This approach attempts to improve coordination and efficiency by designating a number of portfolios to reflect our various activities and make the ECHN initiatives more accessible to external members and community, more organized and efficient.

Looking forward to the 2024 IAH Congress in Davos, the ECHN is brimming with excitement to introduce their new organization to the international hydrogeological community and ensure that the congress is not only intellectually fascinating, but also inclusive and dynamic. See Page 7 for more details of the activities planned.

As ECHN embark on this adventure, they invite all members to contribute to creating the future of hydrogeology and building a vibrant community of researchers and professionals.

The steering committee now represents 12 countries from all over the world, check out the current and incoming members at <https://echn.iah.org/about>.

The ECHN Team wish you all a prosperous year of science and development and hope to see you in Davos in September!

More information visit <https://echn.iah.org/>.

The 4th EUROKARST Conference, June 2024



Biennial European Conference on the Hydrogeology of Karst and Carbonate Aquifers, Eurokarst2024

The Department of Earth Sciences of Sapienza University of Rome hosted EUROKARST2024, the fourth edition of the biennial European Conference on the Hydrogeology of Karst and Carbonate Aquifers, which took place from 10-14 June. The organisation was taken care of by the three members of the Karst Commission of the International Association of Hydrogeologists; Francesco Fiorillo (University of Sannio), Mario Parise (A. Moro University of Bari) and Marco Petitta (Sapienza University of Rome), the conference co-chairs, and with the support of the Italian Chapter of the IAH as organisational partner.

There was a large participation with 209 participants present in Rome who attended from 30 countries, both European (19) but also non-European (as many as 11). The first day was dedicated to the training of young researchers through three parallel refresher courses held by internationally renowned lecturers. Respectively, the courses were held by Neven Kresic (USA), by Andreas Hartmann and Gabriele Chiogna (University of Dresden, Germany) and by Pierre-Yves Jeannin (Swiss Institute of Speleology and Karstology). At the end of the lectures, there was also a final seminar by Thomas Reimann (University of Dresden).

The scientific programme took place over the next three days, with five keynote lectures given by internationally renowned experts such as Neven Kresic (USA), Bartolomé Andreo Navarro (University of Malaga), Pierre-Yves Jeannin (SISSKA, Switzerland), Hervé Jourde (University of Montpellier, France) and Diana Maria Paola Galassi of the University of L'Aquila. These were joined by two other invited talks by Zoran Stefanovic (formerly University of Belgrade, Serbia) and David Kreamer (Las Vegas University, USA). The meeting of the IAH Karst Commission was also hosted during the conference.

Thanks to the co-ordination provided by more than 40 chairs, the two parallel sessions of oral presentations

(more than 90 contributions in total) took place over the three days, focusing on the five themes identified for the conference: Methods and Models in Karst Hydrogeology, Vulnerability and Protection of Karst Groundwater, Karst Geomorphology and Landscape, Monitoring and Management of Caves, and Karst Groundwater-Dependent Ecosystems. The programme also included lively and interesting poster sessions, with over 50 contributions. During the closing ceremony, the next Eurokarst conference was announced, to be held in summer 2026 in Neuchâtel, where the first Eurokarst conference was held 10 years earlier.

On Friday 14, at the close of the conference, more than 110 congress participants took part in the three final excursions, organised in characteristic places of the Apennine karst. A first group visited the Ferrarelle bottling plant in Riardo (Caserta) and moved on to the great Gari springs in Cassino in the afternoon, coordinated by IAH members Vittorio Paolucci (Ferrarelle) and Michele Saroli (University of Cassino). The second fieldtrip took place in the Matese Mountains and at the Grassano and Teleso Terme springs, organised by colleagues from the University of Sannio under the guidance of Francesco Fiorillo. The third field-trip was to the Piana di San Vittorino and the Peschiera springs in the Rieti region, accompanied by the Sapienza team formed by Salvatore Martino and Marco Petitta.

The event closed with the hope and objective of being able to host a future edition of Eurokarst in Italy in the next few years, given the success of both the organisational and scientific aspects of the event.

Francesco Fiorillo, *Department of Science and Technology, University of Sannio*
Mario Parise, *Department of Earth and Geoenvironmental Sciences, University of Bari Aldo Moro*
Marco Petitta, *Department of Earth Sciences, Sapienza University of Rome*



IAH National Chapters

IAH's national chapters are a valuable means of bringing scientific, professional and social benefits to our members and community, and also enable the Association to promote sound and sustainable groundwater use at a country and regional level. Some even collect fees in local currency for the convenience of our members. National chapter committees are run on a voluntary basis by members and we are very grateful for their efforts.

We currently have over 50 national chapters and are keen to establish more.

View the full listing at <https://iah.org/groups/national-chapters>.

National Chapters: Round-Up

We are still receiving your annual reports – thank you for all of these. But if you haven't already submitted yours, there's still time to do this and we look forward to hearing from you soon! We encourage you too, to keep your websites up to date so that all your members can be aware of what your chapter is doing this year.

Our total membership is increasing and hopefully this is also the case for your chapter. We currently have around 4350 members, which is a great recovery following the Covid pandemic. Around 17% of our members are students, from across the world. It's great to see this level of interest from those who will form the future hydrogeological community and take on leadership roles. Please make them welcome in your chapter. Many will want to participate in the activities you run - and with your encouragement some will be able to help in running those activities. With your ongoing support they will want to become full members of IAH in the future. We would particularly like to see those who have taken out Associate (free) Student membership become fully part of IAH.

We hope to see many members of our national chapters at Davos in September. As usual there will be the opportunity for representatives of each chapter to meet together. We also encourage you to take part in meetings of our newest working groups, LUNA (Liaison with UN Activities) and

Education and Outreach, and consider how your chapter can contribute. Input to these from country and regional perspectives, as well as specialist fields, is critical. For LUNA, input to UN meetings in Geneva, New York and Paris is important, as well as links to regional groups across the world. The theme of each UN World Water Day and the annual World Water Development Report (WWDR) often requires inputs relevant to particular regions. For example, for 2025 the focus is on glaciers, which will be especially topical for some of our chapters.

Do contact us at info@iah.org if you have suggestions about activities for national chapters or would like to know more about setting up a national chapter where you are.

SECRETARIAT

National Chapter News

IAH-Argentina National Chapter

XII Argentinian Congress Of Hydrogeology - XVI Latin American Congress Of Hydrogeology
Dr. Emilio Custodio Gimena
"Groundwater, Challenge For Sustainable Management"

The Argentinian Group of The International Association of Hydrogeologists, the Latin American Association of Groundwater Hydrology for Development, and the Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences of the National University of La Pampa, invite you to participate in the Latin American Congress of Hydrogeology and XII Argentinian Congress of Hydrogeology that will take place from September 17 to 20, 2024 in Santa Rosa city (La Pampa, Argentina). The event is aimed at professionals, researchers, teachers, students, administrators, and those responsible for groundwater management.

Simultaneously "EXPOHIDRO 2024", a space for companies, consultants, and public organizations, among others, linked to groundwater will be held.

Link: <https://congresohidrogeologia.unlpam.edu.ar/>

IAH-Belgium National Chapter

CBH-BCH Grant 2024: Empowering Future Hydrogeologists!

CBH-BCH (the IAH Belgian Chapter) is dedicated to promoting education, scientific research, technical development, and the dissemination of knowledge in the field of hydrogeology. The Belgian Chapter undertakes various activities to achieve its goals, including organizing conferences, congresses, study days, evening classes, scientific research, and the dissemination of publications.

Made possible with the results of the IAH2021 organised in Brussels, Belgium, the CBH-BCH Grant aims to further meet the association's objectives by increasing awareness of hydrogeology-related activities, broadly disseminating information, and encouraging ambitions in this field.

With this grant, the CBH-BCH wishes to support its members, specifically a master's or PhD student in hydrogeology enrolled at a Belgian university. The student's work or study must align with the goals of CBH-BCH.

The grant, up to a maximum of €1000, explicitly aims to

financially support the recipient's participation in an event related to the IAH. This event could be organized by a national chapter, directly by the IAH, or in partnership with IAH (e.g., UNESCO). It can be a congress, workshop, multi-day seminar, colloquium, or similar event.

Further information is available via the BCH-CBH council at iahbelgium@gmail.com.

IAH-China National Chapter

2024 International Conference on Sustainable Water and Environment (ICSWE2024) Concludes Successfully

The "2024 International Conference on Sustainable Water and Environment (ICSWE2024)" was co-hosted successfully by Chang'an University, China, Zululand University, South Africa and International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) China National Chapter from 14-16 June 2024 in Xi'an, China. Over 220 representatives from more than ten countries, including China, the United States, South Africa, Brazil, India, Malaysia, Kuwait, Egypt, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Nepal, attended the conference to discuss the important research topic of sustainable groundwater use and environmental protection in the 21st century.

The conference featured one main venue and three parallel sessions, with experts delivering over 70 academic presentations. Professor Wanfang Zhou from ZeoEnvironmental in the United States, Professor Ricardo Hirata from the University of São Paulo in Brazil, Professor Elango Lakshmanan from the Indian Institute of Technology, Researcher Wang Hao from the Xi'an Research Institute (Group) Co., Ltd. of China Coal Technology & Engineering Group, and Professor Godfred Darko from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Ghana, made the keynote speeches, focusing on the high-resolution characterization of pollutants, the water resource management under changing environments, the control and utilization of mine or high-arsenic



National Chapter News (Cont.)

groundwater, and so on, respectively.

This conference showcased the latest scientific research achievements and related new technologies in the field of international sustainable water resource use and environmental protection, effectively promoting the development of scientific research in the field of water resources and environment. It also has a positive and far-reaching significance for strengthening international academic exchange and cooperation in the field of water resources and environmental sciences, and promoting the awareness of building a "community with a shared future for mankind."

IAH-France National Chapter

The IAH French Chapter (CFH) were involved in the 10th World Water Forum, which took place from 18-24 May 2024 in Bali, Indonesia. CFH contributed to the organization of the cross cutting session 10 "Groundwater Governance" with IHP UNESCO, French Water Partnership and Senegal Ministry of Water and Sanitation. The session took stock of the groundwater data and thinking elaborated at the IAH conference on "Groundwater, key to the Sustainable Development Goals" (May 2022, Paris). It examined the challenges and solutions for better groundwater governance.

CFH also participated in the UNECE public consultation on the draft UNFC "Additional Resources and Specifications for Groundwater". CFH collected the opinions of 118 hydrogeologists from all over the world, took part in dialogue meetings and defended the specificities of groundwater as a common good.

For more information about CFH and their activities, visit <https://www.cfh-aih.fr/>.

IAH-Ethiopia National Chapter

After being dormant for a number of years, the Ethiopian Association of Hydrogeologists (EAH) is pleased to announce their successful registration. This achievement has been a challenging journey, but EAH are thrilled to have reached this milestone.

The executive committee of EAH met in June to set their next agenda and outline future plans.

EAH are excited to reinvigorate the association and look forward to sharing more updates and developments with the IAH community.

For more details about EAH, please email their committee, as detailed on <https://iah.org/groups/national-chapters>.



Members of the EAH Executive Committee

IAH-Spain National Chapter

On April 16th, 2024, the Spanish Chapter of the IAH (AIH-GE) co-organized a Technical event about implementing the National Groundwater Action Plan. This workshop was held in the Ministry of Ecological Transition. The event was recorded and can be seen on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BRpubLcIMYg>).

In the first week of July, the AIH-GE co-organized a Groundwater session at the Geological National Congress, which took place in Ávila (Spain). It was a success, with around 20 communications received. Following this event, in the second week of July, the AIH-GE carried out the VIII groundwater modeling course in Granada (Spain). 25 participants and 8 teachers enjoyed this 5 full-day course, learning with freely available tools of flow, transport, and geochemical numerical modeling.



Participants at the VIII Groundwater Modeling Course

During the summer months the AIH-GE will be very busy organizing the Iberic Congress of Groundwater, which takes place from September 25 to 27, 2024 at the Universidade da Coruña. More than 100 abstracts have been received. Visit <https://cias2024.webs.upv.es> for more details.

In Memoriam

It is with sadness that we mark the passing of Professor Ghislain de Marsily (1939-2024)

Since the 1960's Professor Ghislain de Marsily was a prominent contributor to the field of hydrogeology, who was an IAH Presidents' Award recipient, IAH Honorary Member and IAH President of the French chapter.

Ghislain was a legendary figure at Paris VI, where he completed his PhD in 1978, became Professor of Geology in 1985, and was then Director of the Applied Geology Laboratory until 2004.

Throughout his career, Ghislain was an inspiring teacher and a large number of students graduated under his

guidance. His textbooks have become important milestones in the development of hydrogeological sciences and in particular his textbook on quantitative hydrogeology has become a standard for students.

To read a full obituary written by Craig Simmons, and to watch his IAH Hydrogeologist Time Capsule Project interview, visit <https://iah.org/news/obituary-ghislain-de-marsily>.

(Photo by Antoine Meyssonier 2014).



IAH Events Listing

View the IAH event listing at www.iah.org/events, and the IAH activities map at www.iah-activities.org, to see upcoming IAH and other hydrogeology-related events taking place around the world.

Is your event listed? Send us the details via <https://iah.org/submit-an-event> and we will add it to the listing!



Diary Dates

8-13 Sep 2024 – Davos, Switzerland

IAH 51st World Groundwater Congress

Share your findings and get a comprehensive update on the latest international developments on groundwater and their relevance for society in a scenic Alpine setting.

Organised by The Swiss Society of Hydrogeology and the Centre for Hydrogeology and Geothermics of the University of Neuchâtel.

<https://www.iah2024davos.org/>

17-20 Sep 2024 – Santa Rosa city (La Pampa - Argentina)

XII Argentinian Congress of Hydrogeology and the XVI Latin American Congress of Hydrogeology

Dr. Emilio Custodio Gimena

Topics include: Regional Hydrogeology, Hydrochemistry, Quality and Contamination, Hydrogeology of Salars, Urban Hydrogeology, Surface water - groundwater interaction, Planning, Management and Legislation, Public Policies and Water Governance.

Organised by National University of La Pampa, ALHSUD and IAH Argentine Chapter.

<https://congresohidrogeologia.unlpam.edu.ar/>

25-27 Sep 2024 – La Coruña, Spain

Congreso Ibérico de las Aguas Subterráneas. CIAS 2024

The purpose of this congress is to bring together groundwater professionals to share knowledge and experiences. In this sense, the call is open to consultants, drillers, academics, students and, in general, to all those who orient their activity to hydrogeology.

Organised by the IAH Spanish Chapter (AIH-GE).

https://cias2024.webs.upv.es/?page_d=21

2-6 Oct 2024 – Pirot, Serbia

XVII Serbian Symposium On Hydrogeology

The symposium gathers experts in the field of hydrogeology and related scientific disciplines, representing a meeting place for domestic and foreign colleagues from the spheres of academia, business, industry, and politics with the aim of presenting scientific and professional achievements and their development.

Organised by the Department of Hydrogeology of the Faculty of Mining and Geology, University of Belgrade, in cooperation with the IAH Serbian Chapter and others.

<https://17hgs.edu.rs/>

27-29 Nov 2024 – Monterrey, Mexico

The Groundwater Symposium of the IAH Mexico Chapter

IAH-Mexico's 'Simposio de Aguas Subterráneas' takes place from 27-29 November 2024 in Monterrey, Mexico. Join experts, academics, and students to explore the challenges and solutions in groundwater management.

Organised by the IAH Mexican Chapter

<https://aguassubterraneeas.mx/>

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