

NEWS & information

DECEMBER 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



IAH WORLD GROUNDWATER CONGRESS 2025

Save the date! The 2025 IAH World Groundwater Congress, organised by IAH Australia will take place at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, in Melbourne, Australia, from September 15-19 2025. [Page 11](#)


IAH Groundwater Congress in Davos


This year's IAH World Groundwater Congress took place in Davos, Switzerland in September. The congress was attended by 1100 delegates, and was a huge success. A big thank you goes out to the organisers and attendees. [Page 8](#)


IAH membership renewals time

It's that time of the year for IAH membership renewals! We thank all our members for their continued support. If you're not yet a member, you can join us now to help IAH support and represent the groundwater community across the world. [Page 13](#)

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

 @iahgroundwater

 @iahgroundwater

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 www.facebook.com/iah.org



The **52nd** Congress of the International Association of **Hydrogeologists**

15–19 September 2025

MELBOURNE • AUSTRALIA

Groundwater now and for the future

Meeting Hosts



International Association
of Hydrogeologists
The World-wide Groundwater Organisation

Key dates

Call for abstracts open

November 2024

Registration opens

November 2024

Call for abstracts close

23 March 2025

Early bird registration closes

23 May 2025

IAH 2025 field trips

15 September 2025



iah2025congress.com

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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

We hope that you and all your colleagues have had a successful year. All at the Secretariat thank you for your support to IAH and your important work for our chapters, commissions and networks.

Our annual congress in September in Davos was hugely successful, with 1100 delegates from around the world, who participated in exceptional field trips and technical sessions. At our AGM we were delighted to welcome our new council members for the period 2024-2028 – and in particular our new President, Dr Teodóra Szócs. We thank all our outgoing officers, especially Dave Kreamer for his wisdom, leadership and sheer hard work!

Also at the AGM, Members voted in favour of the revisions to our 'Articles of Association' to bring these up to date, including ensuring compliance with UK banking conditions. Our Rules were updated too, bringing these into line with our revised constitution. More details are available on the IAH website.

We now look forward to all the new challenges and opportunities in 2025. Our chapters, commissions and networks no doubt have a full programme of activities planned, none more so than our Australian National Chapter. IAH's next World Groundwater Congress will take place in Melbourne, Australia in September 2025. Abstract submissions are now open – and you can already register for the congress at early bird prices too. Read on to find out more.

We hope that you will want to maintain your IAH membership. We believe that IAH has a crucial role in both supporting and representing the international groundwater community across the world – and that's because so many of you, in 134 countries now, are members of IAH.

Very best wishes for 2025.

SECRETARIAT

From our President



Dear Members, Dear Colleagues

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all IAH members and those colleagues who are dealing with groundwater and related subjects. I appreciate the trust that members have put in me by electing me to the position of President, the first female in IAH's history, and I will do my very best to justify that trust as we move forwards.

A big thank-you goes to Dave Kreamer our Past President for his tremendous work and dedication for all IAH activities, and to the outgoing members of the IAH Council for their hard work, Antonio Chambel, Natalia Vinograd, Yongje Kim, and Manuel Abrunhosa. Thank you to all of those who stood for election and to everyone who dedicated their time and efforts to help in achieving IAH's mission.

Some of our Council members were returned to office which will help ensure the smooth running of the association while sharing their experience with our new members. A warm welcome to our new and returning Council members, Dave Kreamer, Jane Dottridge, Julian Conrad, Marco Petitta, Amarendra Kumar Sinha, Sarah Bourke, Valentina Rakhimova, Bartolome Andreo, Luis Camilo Suescún, Joanna Doummar, Grant Ferguson, and Seifu Kebede Gurmessa. Thanks go to John Chilton and Nick Robins who have agreed again to be co-opted as UK-based Trustees.

The opinions of students and young professionals has always been important, and now, with the revision of IAH's Articles and Rules, the Chair of the Early Career Hydrogeologists Network (ECHN) is a full Council member. Welcome Jared van

Rooyen.

As IAH Vice President for Finance and Membership I had the opportunity to meet and work with many of you. In my role as President I will work to further extend the inter-member cooperation between IAH members and with our partner organisations. Our Commissions and Networks, and the National Chapters from around the world are pivotal to achieving our key aims, to advance the understanding and wise and sustainable use and protection of groundwater resources throughout the world.

One of the challenges will be to ensure IAH is recognised as the central organisation for hydrogeologists, students and professionals connected to any aspects of groundwater worldwide, a relevant and important voice in all groundwater-related topics, a globally recognised information source and facilitator for the transfer of groundwater knowledge. We aim to strengthen our education and outreach activities through our new working group. Please share information of events you are organising and tag IAH on social media, as this not just increases our visibility, but can help other IAH National Chapters in organising their activities or in joining yours where that is possible. With the coordination of our new LUNA Network, dedicated to the liaison between IAH and the UN Agencies dealing with (ground)water, we are looking for additional members who are interested in international engagement to promote

groundwater science and influence global policy.

The Covid pandemic has changed the work culture around the globe, and it is also important to keep our carbon footprint low, so we encourage online events. However, I am convinced that face to face meetings are also important, where informal discussions can be continued between and after sessions. This is also reflected in the increase of IAH membership when in-person IAH congresses are organised. This year's excellent IAH World Groundwater Congress organised by the Swiss National Chapter in Davos attracted a record number of 1100 participants, and the IAH membership is higher than ever, with more than 4500 members. Thank you to our Swiss colleagues!

We can be proud of our Hydrogeology Journal, its ongoing success with high impact factor and excellent scientific publications. A huge thank you to Cliff Voss, Executive Editor for 30 years, who will step down at the end of 2024, and a welcome in 2025, to Jean-Christophe Comte as the new Executive Editor. I would like to extend my thanks also to all the editors and reviewers.

In addition to the Hydrogeology Journal publications, all of you are encouraged to contribute new topics to our Technical Insight Series publications, which aims to provide summary information for IAH members and groundwater professionals. If you can also support us in translating the Strategic Overview Series, please let us

know. Often information provided here can be even more effective when presented in national languages as part of our outreach efforts.

The IAH Secretariat has been always the key central engine that ensures IAH's smooth operation, which wouldn't be possible without our Executive Manager Ian Davey, and devoted staff like Olivia Fraser-Cobbett and Sharon Warden, and Hamish Johnson. Thanks to you all!

I look forward to meeting the challenges of the coming next four years with all of you.

I'm looking forward, too, to meeting many of you at the next IAH World Groundwater Congress in Melbourne in September 2025.

Teodóra Szócs
President



Teodóra Szócs with Past Presidents Antonio Chambel and David Kreamer at the IAH World Groundwater Congress in Davos



Introducing the 2024-2028 Council Members

The results of IAH's elections were announced at the Annual General Meeting on 10 September 2024. Alongside our new President (pictured on Page 4), we'd like to welcome the new Council members for 2024-2028! You can read more about the election results at <https://iah.org/news/iah-elections>. There are five Council members beginning their first terms this year, namely Julian Conrad (VP Finance & Membership), Valentina Rakhimova (VP Eastern Europe & Central Asia), Luis Camilo Suescún (VP Latin America & The Caribbean), Bartolomé Andreo Navarro (Western & Central Europe) and A.K. Sinha (VP Asia). The Council also voted to include the Chair of the Early Careers Hydrogeology Network (ECHN) as a member of the IAH Council, currently Jared van Rooyen. You can read more about the Council members at <https://iah.org/about/council>.



Jane Dottridge



Julian Conrad



Marco Petitta



Jared van Rooyen



Joanna Doummar



Bartolomé Andreo Navarro



A.K. Sinha



Grant Ferguson



Sarah Bourke



Valentina Rakhimova



Seifu Kebede Gurmessa



Luis Camilo Suescún

IAH Council Meeting

The final meeting of the 2020-2024 Council commenced with the President's remarks and the agenda was confirmed. The Council reviewed the September 2023 meeting minutes, noting various actions, including progress on translating SOS papers and the formation of various new National Chapters. The Council unanimously agreed to maintain membership fees in 2025, acknowledging stable finances and the need to monitor changes in member retention.

Strategic updates included discussions on creating a new network, LUNA, to enhance communication with UN organizations. The Council unanimously supported this initiative and addressed the need for improved public awareness of groundwater issues. The proposal for the 2025 congress in Melbourne was approved, alongside plans for the 2026 congress in Budapest. The meeting

concluded with preparations for the upcoming AGM (see below) and assigned action items for future follow-up.



The majority of the 2020-2024 Council members in Davos after the Council meeting. From left to right: Antonio Chambel, Natalia Vinograd, Marco Petitta, Joanna Doummar, Teodóra Szőcs, David Kreamer, Manuel Abrunhosa, Seifu Kebede, Grant Ferguson, Jane Dottridge, Yongje Kim and Executive Manager Ian Davey.

IAH 2024 General Assembly

The 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) took place on September 10 in Davos, Switzerland, with both in-person and online participation. President Prof. David Kreamer opened the meeting by honouring colleagues who passed away in the past year with a minutes' silence. The meeting featured the presentation of the Presidents' Award to Jane Dottridge for her contributions to IAH, alongside discussions led by Jane on the progress of the Forward Look programme and the establishment of an Education and Outreach Working Group aimed at enhancing communication and engagement among members and others with groundwater interests.

Significant topics included the announcement that Cliff Voss would step down as Executive Editor of Hydrogeology Journal, with Jean-Christophe Comte set to succeed him in 2025. Dottridge also highlighted the strategic efforts to translate the IAH's Strategic Overview Series papers and called for volunteer assistance.

The revised Articles and Rules, developed over two years after HSBC's withdrawal of banking services to IAH, were then presented to members. The revised documents were discussed extensively, with concerns raised about member engagement in the revision process. Ultimately, the proposals were approved, achieving the necessary 75% support from voting members. Further information and the

revised Articles and Rules can be found at <https://iah.org/news/articles-rules-of-the-association-agm-2024>.

Additional awards were presented, including the Applied Hydrogeology Award to James Adamson and Zoran Stevanovic for their impactful work in groundwater resource development. The Distinguished Associates Award was presented to Chris Flavelle and Mira Rojanasakul of the New York Times; and Raphaëlle Aubert of Le Monde, for their impressive work on publicising important groundwater issues to a wide audience.

Vice President Marco Petitta updated members on IAH's commissions and networks, emphasizing opportunities for broader participation and collaboration in scientific endeavors. Financial updates were shared by Vice President Teodóra Szőcs, reporting a small deficit for the year but maintaining healthy reserves. Members accepted the nominations for the Honorary Members Award, which recognized notable contributions from long-term members, namely Vicki Kretsinger Grabert, Neno Kukuric, and Callist Tindimugaya.

Newly elected President Teodóra Szőcs outlined upcoming congresses in Melbourne (2025) and Budapest (2026), encouraging chapters to propose future venues.

IAH Annual Congress 2024, Davos

A big thank you to the organisers of this year's World Groundwater Congress in Davos. The Congress was attended by 1100 delegates, from 83 countries around the world. The dynamic and friendly atmosphere has highlighted the momentum of the global groundwater community.

IAH were pleased to be able to help fund the participation of several members, who would not have been able to attend or present papers without the support of the Association.

The week started with an icebreaker event, hosted by the Early Career Hydrogeologist's Network, at the Davos Hockey Stadium. There was an opening ceremony in the Plenary Hall, with a performance from Liquid Soul: Music from Water and Air, whose instruments are based on a classical piezometric probe.

The art installation that welcomed attendees in the foyer of the Davos Congress Centre was "Encounter Iced Sound 2.0", which had its premiere at IAH2024Davos before traveling to art museums in Switzerland and Europe. The Sound Pavilion provides an acoustic environment to "music by and for glaciers", that was composed by Ramon Landolt through field recordings, algorithm processing and performances in Alpine glacier caves and seracs, crevasses, and glacial lakes.

There were 15 excursions to areas of hydrogeological

interest in the region, such as karst springs, a large local landslide complex, hikes to the Morteratsch Glacier and a train ride, natural springs, captured springs and coloured travertine, and a hike to the summit and karst plateau of Mt. Sulzfluh. There was also a Gala dinner enjoyed by many congress attendees.

The end of the congress was marked by the handover of the 'groundwater torch,' recently received from South Africa after being replenished following the Cape Town Congress, and now with our Australian colleagues in readiness for the next Congress in Melbourne.

You can watch the plenaries on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/@iah2024davos>.



Awards

Congratulations to this year's IAH award winners, who were announced at the General Assembly during the annual congress in Davos in September.

Presidents' Award: The IAH Presidents' Award is given annually to a member who has made outstanding international contributions to groundwater science and to furthering IAH's mission to promote understanding and management of groundwater resources for the benefit of humankind and the environment. This year's recipient is Jane Dottridge.

Honorary Members: IAH accords the title of Honorary Member to those who have given exceptional services to the Association over a long period. The candidates are elected, following a recommendation by Council, by a vote

of the General Assembly of the Association. This year's recipients are Vicki Kretsinger Grabert, Callist Tindimugaya and Neno Kukuric.

Distinguished Associate Award: The IAH Distinguished Associate Award is presented to a person who is not a groundwater professional but has made an outstanding contribution to the understanding, development, management and protection of groundwater resources internationally. This year's award is given to Chris Flavelle and Mira Rojanasakul of the New York Times; and Raphaëlle Aubert of Le Monde.



Jane Dottridge
Presidents' Award



Vicki Kretsinger Grabert
Honorary Member



Callist Tindimugaya
Honorary Member



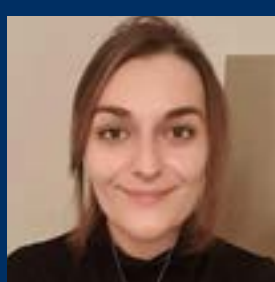
Neno Kukuric
Honorary Member



Chris Flavelle
Distinguished Associate Award



Mira Rojanasakul
Distinguished Associate Award



Raphaëlle Aubert
Distinguished Associate Award

Education & Outreach

Do you have an idea for a webinar? We can host your webinar on our Zoom account!

We most recently hosted an event for the Early Career Hydrogeologists Network (ECHN) on the 4th November, with a webinar hosted by Ashwani Tiwari (ECHN), with a talk from Subhash Chandra titled "Emerging pollutants in groundwater resources and their treatment methods". The webinar was a success and we would like to continue to host online events for our Commissions, Networks, National Chapters and Groups.

IAH's mission is to further the understanding, wise use and protection of groundwater resources throughout the world. Education & Outreach is a vital part of this mission. If you have a webinar that you need support with hosting, let us know at info@iah.org.



Image: by Slamlabs via Pixabay

Hydrogeoday 2025

The Hydrogeoday is a day of awareness raising of hydrogeology, held on a weekend close to World Water Day (March 22), and promoted by the Spanish Group of IAH (AIH-GE) since 2017. The initiative consists of free activities, guided by hydrogeologists, and is open to the general public, regardless of their knowledge in the field.

AIH-GE and the IAH Council would like to promote and expand Hydrogeoday in other countries, in line with IAH's education and outreach goals. They will receive proposals for guided tours during December and January, and will help organisers with the steps that they should follow to ensure the success of their event. IAH and AIH-GE have produced a fact sheet with more details and advice for organising your own Hydrogeoday event. You can download this from the IAH website at <https://iah.org/education/professionals/hydrogeoday>.

For more information and to submit an activity, email AIH-GE at aih-ge@aih-ge.org.



The World Groundwater Congress 2025, Melbourne



The **52nd** Congress of the
International Association
of Hydrogeologists
15-19 September 2025
MELBOURNE • AUSTRALIA
Groundwater now and for the future

Abstract submissions are now open for IAH 2025! We invite you to submit abstracts for both oral and poster presentations.

The Scientific Committee have put together a diverse range of themes:

- Indigenous groundwater knowledge
- Socio-hydrogeology
- Groundwater governance and policy
- Groundwater dependent ecosystems
- Groundwater - surface water interaction
- Groundwater and climate change
- Urban groundwater and infrastructure
- Groundwater and mining/resource projects
- Regional groundwater systems and transboundary aquifers
- Water quality and contamination
- Novel tracers
- Groundwater modelling
- Advances in groundwater data processing and platforms
- Managed aquifer recharge

Early Bird Rates Now Available

This event, held in conjunction with the 2025 Australasian Groundwater Conference, marks a significant return of the World Groundwater Congress to Australia after 12 years.

Seize the opportunity to save with early-bird registration and visit Australia in Spring.

As a delegate, you'll enjoy full access to a range of Congress benefits, including admission to all sessions and networking events.

You can find out more and register at <https://iah2025congress.com/registration/>

The call for abstracts closes on **28 February 2025**. Get in before the deadline to be considered for inclusion in the IAH 2025 Scientific Program, where together, we will explore the present and future challenges surrounding groundwater. You can find out more at <https://iah2025congress.com/call-for-abstracts/>

IAH is once again offering to cover the cost of registration for delegates from lower income countries. More details will be provided soon.



Hydrogeology Journal - Fieldwork Stories

From Ancient Empires to Modern Cities: Water Management Lessons from Indonesia

"If James Hutton had been a hydrogeologist, he may have predicted that the past holds the key to the present" Paul Whincup reports, reflecting on his research in Indonesia.

An article in Hydrogeology Journal <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10040-023-02758-8> describes the construction of thousands of artesian wells and hundreds of thousands of domestic wells in Jakarta, Indonesia. These wells provided a more viable water source than imported surface water, but over time they contributed to the subsidence and flooding that now devastate the city. In this case, the present situation is a direct legacy of past actions.

In contrast, research in Nusantara, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10040-024-02832-9> once the heart of Southeast Asia's greatest empire, reveals a highly sophisticated ancient water management system, with one notable exception: the introduction of terracotta ring wells for waste management, which were discontinued due to unsuitable hydrogeological conditions. Here, history took a different course.

As Jakarta faces the consequences of past groundwater management decisions, Nusantara offers valuable lessons in the importance of responding to environmental realities, an essential consideration as it prepares to become Indonesia's new capital city.



Paul Whincup in Indonesia with the Borobodur temple in the background.

We would like to make Fieldwork Stories a regular feature in News & Information Magazine. IAH members who are authors of recently published articles in Hydrogeology Journal can share with us stories describing the background to their work. Have you got a story to share with us? Let us know at info@iah.org.

About Hydrogeology Journal

IAH's Hydrogeology Journal is a premier journal for groundwater professionals, with eight issues (about 200 articles) per year.

Hydrogeology Journal is published by Springer Nature. Authors are able to choose whether to publish open access, or publish the article by the no-fee route by which only journal subscribers and IAH members will have full access.

Find out more at:

<https://iah.org/hydrogeology-journal>



Membership News

Welcome!

A warm welcome to the 226 new IAH members who joined our Association in the period 02 July 2024 - 24 October 2024. View the list of new members at <https://tinyurl.com/new-members-oct24>

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>.

Renewals time

We thank all our members for continued support to IAH and the important work of our Commissions, Networks and Chapters. We hope that you will want to maintain your IAH membership and that you will encourage colleagues to join us too.

Those who renew via the UK Secretariat will receive prompts from Sharon Warden in the upcoming weeks. If you renew via your national chapter please expect to receive communication from them as usual.

IAH also has 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 2024 we sponsored memberships for 285 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>.

The International Association of Hydrogeologists is a scientific, educational and charitable professional membership association for scientists, engineers, water managers and professionals working in groundwater resource planning, management and protection.

Our mission is to further the understanding, wise use and protection of groundwater resources throughout the world.

Members receive a great range of benefits, including Management Journal, books and conference discounts, printed and electronic resources. They will be able to participate in our National Chapters, Commissions & Networks, and share knowledge and experience.

We also have attractive and cost-effective schemes that can help you and your staff participate in global groundwater efforts and advance your company's interests.

Corporate membership is designed to provide benefits for your company or institute. This scheme is individual membership and 20% discount on further workshops, discounts on attendance at conferences.

Gold sponsorship is designed for companies providing services and equipment to the groundwater sector. It provides cost-saving opportunities for advertising in all our publications, discounts at conferences, publishing feature articles in our News & Information magazine, and opportunities to publicise your company in sponsoring events and activities.

For more details, pricing and the full list of membership benefits visit www.iah.org/join-us

www.iah.org info@iah.org

National Chapter News

IAH-Argentina National Chapter

Argentine Chapter of the IAH, together with ALHSUD and the National University of La Pampa, organized the XII Argentine Hydrogeology Congress and the XVI Latin American Hydrogeology Congress "Dr. Emilio Custodio" from September 16 to 20, 2024. This event, held under the theme "Groundwater: Challenges for Sustainable Management," was attended by over 150 participants, with 101 oral presentations and 18 poster presentations. The full papers were published in three volumes: 1 - Regional Hydrogeology, 2 - Hydrochemistry, Quality, and Pollution, and 3 - Hydrogeology of Salt Flats and others. You can find out more about the event at <https://congresohidrogeologia.unlpam.edu.ar/evento>



Congress attendees at the XII Argentine Hydrogeology Congress

The Congress featured keynote lectures delivered by John Cherry, Ricardo Hirata, Miguel Rangel, Ingrid Vargas, Carla Moscardi, and Corina Rodríguez.

A special tribute was given to Dr. Emilio Custodio, in recognition of his contributions to human resource development, the study, and understanding of groundwater in Argentina.

In addition to the Congress, three pre-congress courses were held on September 15 and 16, attended by a total of 50 students: "Water Chemistry and Quality" (taught by Dr. Carlos Schulz and Dr. Eduardo Mariño), "Environmental Hydrogeology" (taught by Dr. Miguel Auge), and "Groundwater Exploration" (taught by Dr. Esteban Tálamo).

Coinciding with the Congress, the Assembly of the Argentine Chapter of the IAH took place, during which the

group's leadership for the 2024-2026 period was elected.



Speakers at the XII Argentine Hydrogeology Congress

IAH-China National Chapter

The International Forum on Groundwater 2024 was successfully held in Changchun, China, from August 9 to 11, 2024. The forum was co-hosted by Jilin University, China National Chapter of the International Association of Hydrogeologists (CNC-IAH), and the Institute of Hydrogeology and Environmental Geology, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences (IHEG, CAGS). The event attracted 883 experts and scholars from domestic and international universities, research institutions, government departments, and enterprises and institutions in the field of groundwater research, making it the largest attendance in the history of the International Forum on Groundwater. Experts, scholars, and professionals gathered to discuss new theories, methods, and technologies in the field of groundwater resources and environment in the new era.



Congress attendees at the International Forum on Groundwater 2024

The opening ceremony was presided over by Professor Tianfu Xu, the chairman of the forum and dean of the School of New Energy and Environment, Jilin University. Presentations were given by Tie Bian, Vice President of Jilin University, and Chuntang Hou, Chairman of the CNC-IAH and Director of the IHEG, CAGS. Ten experts, including Academician Jun Lin from Jilin University, delivered keynote speeches at the forum.

The International Forum on Groundwater 2024 featured 15 sub-venues with a total of 97 invited presentations and 149 oral presentations. The topics and directions of the presentations not only covered the basic research content of traditional hydrogeology but also integrated modern technology and social development trends, expanding into the fields of ecological environment and energy resources. The enthusiastic discussions among the participants highlighted a strong and vibrant academic atmosphere.



Speakers at the International Forum on Groundwater 2024

The forum showcased the latest scientific research achievements and new technological methods in the field of hydrogeology and water resource environmental protection. Through this forum, scientific research and development in the hydrogeological field were effectively promoted, and international academic exchanges and cooperation in hydrogeology were strengthened. The forum made significant contributions to protecting the ecological environment and promoting high-quality development. It provided strong scientific and technological support for the sustainable development of global groundwater resources and environmental protection. This forum offered valuable strategies for the hydrogeological sector to continue contributing to China's economic and social development.

IAH-Spain National Chapter

The Spanish Chapter celebrated the Congreso Ibérico de Aguas Subterráneas in La Coruña (Spain), from September 25 to 28. This event gathered over 100 participants and featured 90 presentations showcasing the latest groundwater research at the Iberian level. An award for the best scientific presentation by a young researcher, sponsored by the Ramón Areces Foundation with a €1,500 prize, was presented. Other key moments included the renewal of the Spanish Chapter Board for the upcoming term during the General Assembly, as well as the presentation of the Spanish Chapter annual awards.



Speakers at the Congreso Ibérico de Aguas Subterráneas

In October, association members began delivering talks in Spanish master's programs with hydrogeology content. The first was at the University of Cádiz in the Gestión Integral del Agua program. This is the third year that these talks are given, with the aim of introducing students to IAH, highlighting its activities and membership benefits.

The chapter also continues to promote Hydrogeoday, an outreach activity aimed at raising awareness about hydrogeology. To expand its impact, the chapter encourages other countries to organize similar field excursions. Online information sessions are scheduled for November to guide volunteers on how to organize Hydrogeoday events. For more information, Carolina Guardiola Albert can be contacted at c.guardiola@igme.es.

Looking ahead, the chapter is organizing a course on the design, construction, maintenance, and sealing of groundwater wells and piezometers. This will take place in February 2025 in Alicante (Spain), offering both theoretical and practical training to professionals.

National Chapter News (Cont.)

IAH-Namibia National Chapter

The Namibian National Chapter are excited to announce that they have their website up and running, which can be viewed at <http://www.nha.com.na>.

The NHA aims to promote technical excellence through peer reviews, recognizing that much valuable work remains unpublished, particularly in sectors outside academia. Many projects end with reports, leading to duplicated efforts instead of addressing data gaps. The NHA aimed to remove the fear around publishing by hosting a virtual seminar, which was held in November 2023. Topics included guidance on what data can be

shared, who to collaborate with, and common pitfalls. The seminar attracted 25 attendees. The initiative seeks assistance, such as co-authoring, to build confidence and emphasize the importance of publishing. Experts are encouraged to collaborate and help drive this effort forward.

To celebrate World Water Day 2024, the NHA took part in the world water run, which is an activity that we have added on to our annual calendar. With the support of the //Ae-Gams sports club we were able to organise another 5 and 10 km run/walk at the Elisenheim Estate. The walk/run which was held on 23 March 2024 gave us a platform

to introduce NHA, as well as leave the runners with a word of caution to use water wisely and be cognizant of our national water challenges.



NHA members that part took in the Hydrogeological World Water Run/Walk

National Chapters: Round-Up

It was great to see representatives of many of our national chapters in Davos at the IAH Congress. Our total membership is increasing and hopefully this is also the case for your chapter. Membership in several regions is growing, and we have members in 134 countries now. With that, more countries are wanting to start up their own national chapters.

We encourage you to keep your websites up to date so that all your members can be aware of what your chapter is doing.

If you would like an IAH national chapter in your country let us know at info@iah.org and we'll see how we can help you. Chapters are entitled to 10% of the

income from membership fees, which can be used to help with administration and running events. We also have a small amount of funds that you can apply for to help run specific events. If you – or your national chapter – can offer advice and support to colleagues wanting to start a chapter, let us know too.

If you have news about your national chapter let us know at info@iah.org. Remember to post it on your website too!

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>.

Liaison with UN Activities

The IAH-Liaison with UN Activities (LUNA) Working Group want to hear from you!

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



Karen Villhoth representing IAH, strengthening groundwater cooperation at the UNECE 10th session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention, in Ljubljana, Slovenia in October 2024.

The LUNA group would like to hear from any IAH members who are working with organisations in the UN family and, where appropriate, other intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations relevant to the United Nations. The aim is to collate all the interactions that IAH members have with UN agencies. LUNA's objective is to ensure that IAH is participating in and influencing the global debate and policy elaboration on groundwater and the environment in a changing climate, and to develop dialogue and joint action by enhancing alliances and partnerships.

LUNA have already been putting in significant effort, most recently working alongside the IAH Commission on Transboundary Aquifers. Karen Villhoth gave a short intervention at the Tenth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (MOPI0), related to the programme area on Conjunctive Water Management of Transboundary Surface Waters and Groundwaters, proposed as part of the Water Convention's Programme of Work 2025-2027.

If you want to be involved with LUNA or let them know of any ongoing work with UN-related agencies, you can email luna@iah.org. LUNA is also developing a website where they will share information - coming soon!

Socio-Hydrogeology Network

People, and Groundwater: A Poetic Dialogue by Sarang Kulkarni

We are delighted to share a poem by Sarang Kulkarni, titled "People and Groundwater: A Dialectic Poem," now available on the IAH-SHG website at <https://sociohydrogeo.iah.org/resources/groundwater-and-art>. This piece highlights the vital connection between humans and groundwater, emphasizing the challenges and responsibilities we face in managing this precious resource.

Sarang Kulkarni's poem eloquently portrays a conversation between People and Groundwater, capturing the urgency of sustainable water management. It -

The Latest from our Commissions and Networks (Cont.)

reflects the consequences of human actions on groundwater and underscores the need for awareness and participatory management practices. The poem serves as a reminder of the delicate balance we must maintain to preserve our environment.

We hope this approach inspires IAH members and the broader community to explore creative methods for communicating scientific concepts in a simple artistic manner and raising awareness about hydrogeological science.

Read the full poem on the IAH-SHG website and join us in celebrating the fusion of art and science.

We look forward and welcome such contributions from IAH members.

Commission on Karst Hydrogeology

Recently, two members of the Karst Commission received a special honor from the hydrogeological community for their long-standing activity. At the Eurokarst meeting held in Rome last June, a certificate of Honor was awarded to Jim LaMoreaux for his prolonged and much valued activity in the KC group.



Jim LaMoreaux (left) receiving a certificate of Honour at Eurokarst in June

Zoran Stevanović was presented with the IAH Applied Hydrogeology Award during the IAH conference in Davos last September. Zoran received this award due to his ongoing activity in hydrogeology, which included both scientific activity and practical projects. Recently, Zoran initiated a broad project – MIKAS (Most Important Karst Aquifer Springs), which aims at gathering and presenting the most important karst springs at the global level, as well

as at a national level (NIKAS).

Members of the Karst Commission organized and chaired 3 sessions on different karst hydrogeology topics at the IAH meeting in Davos:

Karst hydrogeology: Flow systems and modeling approaches - Pierre-Yves Jeannin, Hervé Jourde, Laurence Gill,

Karst Hydrogeology: Water supply and engineering solutions - Peter Malik, Zoran Stevanović,

Karst Hydrogeology: Water quality, sustainability and ecosystems - Nico Goldscheider, Avi Burg.

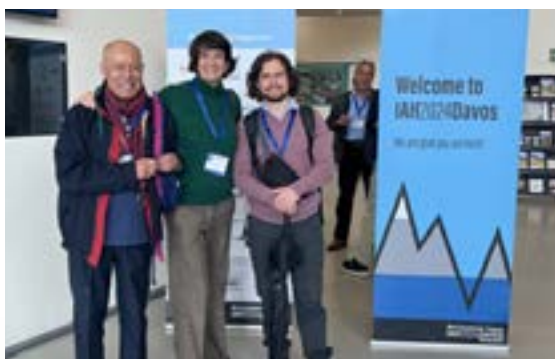
Two KC members - Nico Goldscheider and Pierre-Yves Jeannin, were the organizers and leaders of two field trips that took place during the IAH meeting.

In June 2025, the KC is issuing a professional tour of karstic springs and landscapes in Missouri and Florida, USA, under the guidance of KC members Neven Kresic and Todd Kincaid.

Commission on Regional Groundwater Flow

The IAH-RGFC is deeply saddened to announce that Prof. José Joel Carrillo Rivera, the Honorary Life Member of the Commission and one of the most active advocates for the significance of regional groundwater flow, passed away on October 3rd. This is a great loss to the Mexican and international hydrogeological community. The [memorial](#) written by Alessia Kachadourian (RGFC-IAH board member), demonstrates his engagement with hydrogeology. His activity and valuable legacy will be preserved and continued. The IAH-RGFC pays tribute to his memory with a [short video](#).

The RGFC was represented by several board-members and supporters at the IAH Congress in Davos. The board members co-organized a successful session entitled "Basin-scale groundwater flow, heat & mass transport processes: Looking beyond individual aquifers to address current hydrogeological challenges" (conveners: Laura Condon, Etienne Bresciani, Hanneke Verweij, Xiao-Wei Jiang, Alan MacDonald, Stefan Kollet, Szilvia Simon, Judit Mádl-Szőnyi, Reed Maxwell). The invited speaker of the session was Grant Ferguson.



Left to right: Prof. José Joel Carrillo Rivera, Alessia Kachadourian and Yussef Abud Russell in Davos

Commission on Groundwater and Climate Change

The CGCC provided a substantial contribution to the IAH Congress in Davos, where we chaired a whole-day session on "Groundwater and Climate Change – Impacts and Opportunities". We had contributions from 25 speakers (13 full presentations and 12 poster pitches) on diverse topics, from global modelling to field studies, from around the world. On the same day we held our annual meeting to discuss several initiatives aimed at: i) raising global

The presentations and posters proved that basic research in and practical application of groundwater flow systems is essential in all hydrogeological activities.

The commission held its annual meeting at the congress. During the meeting the board was renewed and young researchers were involved in the management of the tasks of the organization. The commission organizes monthly to bi-monthly online lectures on new research results and practical applications of groundwater flow systems. All interested are welcome! The details will be shared on the online platforms of the RGFC ([Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#)).



Chair: Tibor Stigter, IHE Delft Institute for Water Education
Co-Chair: Jianyao Chen, Sun Yat-sen University
Co-Chair: Saulo Vieira, Aquasoil GmbH



Group photo of the RGFC-IAH Meeting at Davos

awareness around groundwater and climate change; ii) promoting research and development and iii) supporting education and capacity strengthening. We discussed our role in the UN Summit of 2023, following up on the UN Water "Year of Groundwater" in 2022, for which we contributed to the UN WWDR and published an essay on "Groundwater and Climate Change – Threats and Opportunities" in the Hydrogeology Journal in 2023. More recently we supported a Collection in Theoretical and Applied Climatology.

It is also nice to note that more people are joining and actively engaging with the Commission (currently around 80 registered members), which will allow us to better support our mission and that of IAH. After many years serving on the Commission, Jodie Miller stepped down as co-chair. We thank Jodie for all her efforts and are counting on her continued involvement in the Commission. Meanwhile, Saulo Vieira has agreed to take up the role of co-chair. Saulo is a GroundwatCh alumnus currently working at Aquasoil GmbH. We look forward to working together on upcoming activities supporting the UN-Water Expert Groups and LUNA, as well as the IAH Education & Outreach Initiative and several other activities.

Diary Dates

29-30 Jan 2025 – Online

[Sustainable Landscape and Green Infrastructure \(SLGI\) – 2nd Edition](#)

The second edition of the Sustainable Landscape and Green Infrastructure (SLGI) conference navigates the challenges of safeguarding both tangible and intangible elements that define the Earth's ecological identity.

<https://www.ierek.com/events/sustainable-landscape-and-green-infrastructure-slgi-2nd-edition#introduction>

28 Apr - 2 May 2025 – Stellenbosch, South Africa

[12th International Symposium on Managed Aquifer Recharge \(ISMAR 12\)](#)

The main theme "From Theory to Implementation and Operation" places the focus on the latest research, implementation of MAR sites and the practicality of operating MAR schemes. The 8 Sub-themes cover multiple aspects in the field of MAR in the domestic/municipal, agricultural, and mining sectors. Oral and Poster presentations, multiple workshops and social interactions will allow the delegates to present innovative solutions and discuss pressing societal challenges

<https://ismar12.org.za/>

3-6 Jun 2025 – Århus, Denmark

[LUWQ 2025 Conference](#)

The Land Use and Water Quality Conference is an interdisciplinary conference on the cutting edge of science, management and policy to minimise effects of agriculture and land use changes on the quality of groundwater and surface waters.

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

10-13 Jun 2025 – Bordeaux, France

[Groundwater Quality 2025](#)

Themes are groundwater – surface water interfaces and interactions, point sources and remediation strategies, Diffuse groundwater pollution from urban sources and agriculture, groundwater quality and climate change, modelling groundwater quality, urban, and suburban groundwater, decision-making for sustainable management of groundwater quality, groundwater quality and mining, emerging chemicals (PFAs, Micro-Plastics and others), groundwater quality across scales: from lab to field, from site to megasite.

<https://groundwaterquality2025.fr/>

11-13 Jun 2025 – Turin, Italy

[Flowpath 2025 | National Meeting on Hydrogeology](#)

Save the date! More information to be announced soon.

<https://www.iahitaly.it/news/flowpath/flowpath-torino-2025-save-the-date#:~:text=Il%20prossimo%20Flowpath%20si%20terr%C3%A0%20a%20Torino%20dall'11%20al%2013>

View more events at <https://iah.org/events>

Submit your event details at <https://iah.org/submit-an-event>



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