

IAH Groundwater Resources UNECE Classification and Management Network (GRUCMN)

Report on activities 2024

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Director: Peter van der Keur (GEUS, Denmark)

Co-directors: Magdalena Worsa-Kozak (PWR, Poland) & Kevin Parks (Stantec, Canada)

The mission of the GRUCM Network (GRUCMN) is to support communication and knowledge sharing between the Network and the hydrogeological community, including young / early career scientists, for the advancement of sustainable management of groundwater resources, attain Sustainable Development Goals and support Green Transition. This is achieved by strengthening the link between the Network and the hydrogeological community for the benefit of developing and applying the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC) and United Nations Resource Management System (UNRMS) with respect to groundwater resources and to develop guidelines including case studies for application and demonstration of sustainable groundwater resources management, including UNFC and UNRMS.

Activities in 2024

The GRUCMN and Groundwater Resources Working Group, represented by Peter van der Keur (Chair UNECE-EGRM-Groundwater Resources Working Group, GRWG), organized at the IAH 2024 World groundwater Congress: an oral presentation on Monday September 9 and on September 10 a dedicated Focus event on applicability and benefits of using UN Framework Classification to Water and Groundwater Resources. The focus event was a part of a process to address the public consultation of the Draft UNFC Supplemental Specifications for Groundwater Resources, finished Jan 2024, followed by Dialogue meeting with Stakeholders and decisions at the 15th Session of the Expert Group on Resource Management (EGRM) in Geneva, April 2024. Importantly, the focus event also was part of involving the wider community of hydrogeologists in the work of the GRWG, part of the mission of GRUCMN.

For this, members of the UN Water Expert Group on Groundwater were invited as well as the wider hydrogeological community, represented by IAH members.

The IAH Network 'Groundwater Resources UNECE Classification and Management Network (GRUCMN) did not have any further activities during 2024 due to a proposed changed scope of the Groundwater Resources Working Group (GRWG) as part of the Expert Group on Resources Management (EGRM) hosted by UNECE.

The refocused scope of GRWG is under preparation and on the agenda for the 16th session of EGRM in Geneva (24-28 March 2025) and the current GRUCMN Network is expected to change name & focus and become part of the Liaison with UN Activities (LUNA) Network.

Peter van der Keur,

Director GRUCMN