

NEWS & information

AUGUST 2025

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



IGNITE THE IAH WATER TORCH

Can you contribute a sample of water that holds cultural or scientific significance in Australia? At the Opening Ceremony of the 2025 IAH World Groundwater Congress, we'll pour these waters together to light our Water Torch and celebrate the diversity of Australia's precious resources. [Page 7](#)

Education & Outreach

We are pleased to share that we have recently published a Continuing Professional Development document, for those who do not have access to a formal CPD scheme. [Page 8](#)

National Chapter News

We've got lots of updates from our National Chapters in this Summer edition of News & Information, including news from Slovakia, Spain, Argentina, Great Britain, Hungary and Chile.

[Page 11](#)

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

JOIN IAH WORKSHOPS & FIELD TRIPS

iah2025congress.com

WORKSHOPS

Sunday, 14 September 2025

RMIT University, Building 80

- Environmental Isotopes Sampling right from field to Laboratory
- Expressing Subterranean Waters Creatively
- Practical Use of Multiple-Point Statistics in Python
- Applied Predictive Groundwater Modelling (GMDSI)



FIELD TRIPS

Monday, 15 September 2025

Departing 7:00 - 8:30 AM from Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre

- Get ready to hit the road and discover Victoria's hidden groundwater wonders!



IAH2025

15-19 September 2025
MELBOURNE • AUSTRALIA

Groundwater now and for the future



**International Association
of Hydrogeologists**
the World-wide Groundwater Organisation

In this issue

Introduction.....	3
From our Vice President	4
IAH Executive Council Meeting	5
2025 Annual General Meeting.....	5
Membership News.....	6
The World Groundwater Congress 2025.....	7
Education & Outreach.....	8
Mentorship Scheme Open.....	8
Commissions and Networks.....	9
ISMAR 12 Post Symposium Report.....	10
National Chapters	11
Diary Dates	16

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 11,000 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

The Organising Committee in Australia are excited to welcome those of you who have registered to Melbourne in September. Over 800 abstracts have been submitted for the congress and it is sure to be an amazing event. There is still time to register if you have not done so yet.

In this issue, Marco Petitta, our Vice President for Programme and Science, discusses declining enrolment of students in Earth Sciences. This is a serious concern for us. Hydrogeologists are stewards for water and environment management and protection and we hope that as a global community we can inspire more to take up studies to meet these increasing challenges. We're always interested in hearing your thoughts and suggestions, and in connecting our global membership, so please do contact us at info@iah.org if you have ideas for how we can collectively drum up interest in studying Hydrogeology.

Our membership continues to increase and you are now part of a vibrant network of nearly 4900 members across 135 countries, 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!

And finally, our Executive Manager has decided that it is time for someone with fresh ideas - and boundless energy - to take over. We will publish full details in the near future but in the meantime if this part-time role would be of interest to you, let us know at info@iah.org. In summary, with IAH based in the UK, the Executive Manager is the Association's company secretary, responsible to IAH's directors and members, and the UK legal and financial authorities, including its banking arrangements. The post oversees a small part-time Secretariat and contractors – and occasionally has time to take an interest in hydrogeology!

SECRETARIAT

From our Vice President

Dear Members,

Together with my Italian colleague Giulio Viola, professor at Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna, we have been reflecting in recent months on the reasons behind the steady decline in enrolment in university courses in Geology and Hydrogeology. We believe that two distinct factors must be considered: (1) The reduction – both in terms of hours and quality- of Earth Science education in high schools, resulting in students' limited familiarity with geology; (2) A climate of mistrust among young people, generated by climatic, economic, and geopolitical crises, which leads them to perceive the future as threatening and lacking concrete perspectives.

Numerous authors have already identified school curricula as a major contributor to this enrolment crisis: the disappearance of Earth Sciences as a standalone subject in the final year of high school, along with the prevalence of non-specialist teachers, has significantly reduced students' exposure to geological topics.

Another sensitive issue is the way Earth Sciences are portrayed in the media. Earthquakes, landslides, floods, droughts, and other emergencies dominate the headlines, fuelling an apocalyptic mindset. When even experts, out of scientific caution, emphasize uncertainty over progress, the message conveyed is often one of inevitability rather than a challenge that can be tackled – one that could motivate and engage younger generations.

Moreover, other researchers highlight a growing passivity among young people toward the future, often rooted in a perception of the “end of the world” as inevitable, driven by catastrophic natural events and climate change.

This fuels a clearly paradoxical situation: geological and hydrogeological expertise is more necessary than ever – for water resource optimization, territorial risk management, the energy transition, raw material sustainability, and climate change adaptation – yet the number of graduates is

falling, even as job opportunities in the field grow.

The issue, therefore, might not be the visibility of the discipline, but how it is presented.

A possible solution is to shift the narrative from the inevitability of disasters to the possibility of mitigating their effects through collective action, with young people as key players empowered by knowledge and technology. We must help young people understand that they are not doomed to be passive victims but are instead essential contributors to the solution. At the same time, the geological education and research system must be supported by stable, long-term public and private investment.

By reframing geology and hydrogeology as disciplines of opportunity and tools toward a safer, more sustainable future, we can invite younger generations to take an active role in tackling environmental and global challenges, and perhaps even reverse the enrolment trend.

In summary, training the next generation of geologists and hydrogeologists requires a shift from risk-centred communication to possibility-centred communication. Engaging young people, making them participants and co-protagonists rather than intimidating them, could be the key for attracting them to earth sciences, including hydrogeology.

The future of geology and hydrogeology – and, in part, of the planet – depends on our ability to convey this bold, open, and inclusive vision.

Marco Petitta

Vice President, Programme and Science Coordination



IAH Executive Committee Meeting

The IAH Executive Committee met online on the 3 and 4 June to review ongoing initiatives, business matters, and strategic planning. Ongoing efforts include the development of the LUNA network website, a new Technical Insight Series paper from the Coastal Groundwater Network, and succession planning for the Fractured Rock Hydrogeology Network. Steps are also being taken to ensure we have a full set of National Chapter constitutions as interest from the regulatory authorities and banks in the governance of IAH (and all charities) continues to increase.

Membership stands at nearly 4900, with notable growth in the LATAM region. A surplus from the 2024 Davos Congress has boosted central funds, enabling IAH to underwrite UNESCO travel grants for the 2025 Melbourne Congress and fund increased support for delegates. This funding will also help us to extend our educational and charitable initiatives and support other member benefits. There was also agreement to verify Associate Student memberships more stringently.

Education and outreach plans include continued development of a new lecture series to honour Emilio Custodio, ongoing work on the upcoming online Pan-African Hydrogeology Congress, and increased cooperation with the Groundwater Project.

Updates were received from IAH Commissions and Networks, with LUNA preparing a position paper for the 2026 UN Water Conference. Internal policy reviews and funding transparency for National Chapters were also discussed. The Executive committee discussed candidates for the 2025 President's Award, and several individuals were proposed for honorary membership. Congress planning progressed for Melbourne 2025 and future congresses.

2025 IAH Annual General Meeting

Notice is given that the 2025 Annual General Meeting of the International Association of Hydrogeologists will be held in person at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre and online on Wednesday 17 September from 4:30pm – 5:30pm (AEST). 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 ending 31st December 2024. 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 Annual General Meeting held on 10th September 2024 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 2025 in the subject line and your name and membership number in the body of the email. We will then send you the joining details.

SECRETARIAT

Membership News

Welcome!

A warm welcome to the 520 new IAH members who joined our Association in the period 02 April 2025 - 09 July 2025. View the list of new members at <https://tinyurl.com/new-members-july-25>.

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 certain 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 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>.

Are you an IAH Member?

We thank all our members for continued support to 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 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>.



The poster features the IAH logo at the top left, which includes a globe icon and the text 'International Association of Hydrogeologists' and 'the World-wide Groundwater Organisation'. To the right is a photograph of four people with backpacks hiking on a trail. The main heading 'JOIN US' is in large yellow letters. Below it, the text 'Support IAH and its global membership in protecting groundwater for people and the environment' is displayed. The poster is divided into sections for different membership types: 'Members' (individual), 'Corporate membership', and 'Gold sponsorship'. Each section includes a brief description of the benefits. At the bottom left, there is an image of the 'Hydrogeology Journal' and a QR code. The bottom right corner contains the website 'www.iah.org' and the email 'info@iah.org'.

JOIN US
Support IAH and its global membership in protecting groundwater for people and the environment

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 *Hydrogeology Journal*, book and conference discounts, printed and electronic newsletters. You 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 affairs and publicise your company's services.

Corporate membership is designed to provide benefits for your company or institute. You receive 3 individual memberships and 25% discounts on further memberships, discounts on advertising in the IAH News & Information magazine, and at conferences.

Gold sponsorship is designed for companies providing services and equipment to the groundwater market. It provides wide-ranging opportunities for advertising in all IAH publications, discounts at exhibitions, 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



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

Workshops Are Finally Here!

Whether you're a hands-on learner or a creative thinker, the IAH2025 Workshops are your chance to dive deeper.

Sunday, 14 September 2025 - RMIT University, Building 80.
Limited places available – secure your spot via the registration form!

From field sampling to spatial modelling and even artistic storytelling, this year's lineup brings something for everyone.

Choose from 4 engaging options:

- Environmental Isotope Sampling – From Field to Lab
- Expressing Subterranean Waters Creatively
- Multiple-Point Statistics in Python
- Applied Predictive Groundwater Modelling

Already registered? No worries – just email registration@iah2025congress.com to add a workshop to your booking.

Find out more about the workshops at <https://iah2025congress.com/workshops/>.

Ignite the IAH Water Torch

We invite IAH 2025 delegates to express their interest to contribute a sample of water that holds cultural or scientific significance in Australia.

At the Opening Ceremony, we'll pour these waters together to light our Water Torch and celebrate the diversity of Australia's precious resources.

Story Sharing: Please attach a brief note (50–100 words) explaining how your water is significant.

Email program@iah2025congress.com with "IAH Water Torch Sample" in the subject line.

Grab your official IAH 2025 tee or polo and wear it with enthusiasm at the Congress!

Every purchase donates \$5 to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mathematics Alliance (ATSIMA), supporting First Nations students in math and culturally responsive education.

To buy, simply tick the merchandise option on your registration form.

Already registered? Email registration@iah2025congress.com to add items to your existing order.



Education & Outreach

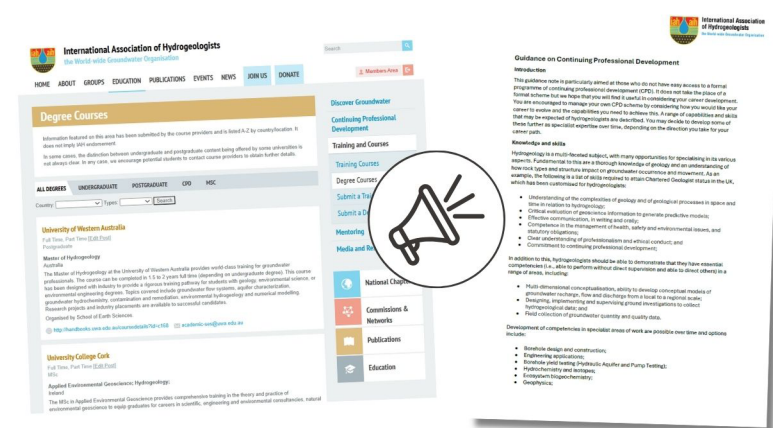
Interested in further studies or progressing your career in groundwater?

As part of our education & outreach initiative, we have listed training and degree courses related to groundwater on our website.

If you run a training or degree course that is not currently listed on our website, you can submit a course via <https://iah.org/education/training-and-courses>.

Alternatively, you can email us at info@iah.org with the course information and we will add it to our website for you.

We have also recently produced a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) guidance document, which is aimed at those who do not have access to a formal programme of CPD. We have also produced a document aimed at those who are considering a career in Hydrogeology - and how IAH can support you.



You can read the documents via <https://iah.org/education/continuing-professional-development>.

Apply for the next round of the IAH Mentoring Scheme

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

Mentor (giver of advice) apply here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/IAHmentor2025>

Mentee (receiver of advice) apply here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/IAHmentee2025>

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 about the scheme, and to see examples of first-hand experience, 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>.

Network Chair Vacancies

The Fractured Rock Hydrogeology Network and the Urban Groundwater Network are both searching for new chairs. If you are interested in being involved, then please let us know at info@iah.org.

Liaison with UN Activities (LUNA) Network

LUNA have now established a website - please visit <https://luna.iah.org/> to find out the most recent updates from the Network.

In June, IAH President Teodora Szocs participated in a panel discussing the future of water at the high-level celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme and 60 years of UNESCO Water Sciences. At the same event, LUNA Chair Alice Aureli was awarded for advancing knowledge on groundwater.



Teodora Szocs participates in a panel discussing the future of water.

On the 9th and 10th July, Professor Thomas Boving -



Alice Aureli receiving an award for advancing knowledge on groundwater.

attended the 2026 UN Water Conference held at the UN Headquarters in New York on behalf of IAH. LUNA is managing IAH's participation in the upcoming 2026 United Nations Water Conference, which will be co-hosted by the Republic of Senegal and the United Arab Emirates from 2-4 December 2026 in the United Arab Emirates.

LUNA continues to promote IAH and its deep understanding of groundwater systems within the UN Network.

Early Career Hydrogeologists Network (ECHN)

The ECHN are proud to jointly host a session at the 2025 IAH Congress. It will be led by the UNESCO Groundwater Youth Network (GWYN) and ECHN and is titled: *The Groundwater Debate: Tapping into the Future*.

This session will empower the next generation of groundwater experts by placing them at the heart of a dynamic debate on the future of groundwater. With groundwater often overlooked and its challenges largely invisible, the community-driven session will address pressing topics and future challenges pinpointed by Congress attendees through a pre-session poll. Through structured arguments and counterarguments, youth participants will present their visions, with a panel of established professionals and aspiring experts providing reflections on the debate. This setup also fosters an intergenerational exchange of knowledge and ideas while sharpening participants' critical thinking and advocacy skills.

Follow our new ECHN LinkedIn page: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/early-career-hydrogeologists-network-echn-of-iah/?viewAsMember=true>

ISMAR 12: Post-Symposium Report

The International Symposium on Managed Aquifer Recharge (ISMAR) is the premier international event on MAR research and practice, held every 3 years under the auspices of IAH, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

ISMAR 12 was held in Stellenbosch, South Africa from 28 April to 2 May 2025. This was an opportunity for the rest of the world's MAR experts and academics to come to South Africa, showcase their specialities, and form the African connections that can provide their companies and institutions with their next international MAR partnership to facilitate new projects and studies, this time in Africa.

The number of delegates who attended ISMAR 12 exceeded even our most optimistic expectations, with 184 delegates and exhibitor staff from over 30 countries participating in the symposium. Renowned experts, including Adam Hutchinson, Ricky Murray and Peter Dillon delivered impactful plenary presentations that highlighted advancements in their respective fields.

Both delegates and exhibitors provided overwhelmingly positive feedback on the organization and content of the Symposium. The event began with a vibrant and enthusiastic atmosphere that was successfully sustained throughout the week.

The Symposium programme, special sessions – panel discussions, workshops and social programme went exceptionally well. Hosting the event at a hotel just outside Stellenbosch proved ideal, encouraging delegates to mingle and network without the distractions should it have taken place in a city setting.

Following ISMAR 12, delegates continued their discussions on social media, underscoring what is essential in an event like ISMAR 12 – it's not just the formal programme or discussions during the symposium, but the ongoing dialogue, networking, and exchange of information that helps to drive collaboration and exchange of information.

IAH-South Africa National Chapter (IAH-SA).



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. 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 nearly 4900 members and 53 national chapters. Please make the new members 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.

From time to time chapters ask about IAH's membership fee structure, as chapters are entitled to 10% of the fees for their members. IAH has individual members and the chapters are voluntary groupings of members in countries. These are autonomous and subject to the regulations that apply for such associations in their respective countries. Of course, in bringing together IAH members and representing the 'IAH brand', the activities and constitutions of national chapters also need to align with IAH's principles and aims. This is important for protecting IAH's status as a regulated charity and also banks are looking much more closely at our international financial relationships.

Originally, member subscriptions were held centrally by IAH. The immense value that national chapters provide to members and IAH more generally was recognised and later a decision was taken to provide financial support from IAH's membership fees. This helps members in our 53 chapters but with members in more than 130 countries, most countries (though not most members) aren't able to benefit from a national chapter or the funding that's provided.

We hope to see many members of our national chapters at Melbourne in September. As usual there will be the opportunity for representatives of each chapter to meet. This would be a good opportunity for national chapter representatives to come together to discuss the fee structure – and any other matters of interest.

We welcome thoughts from all members and chapters on this. So do contact us at info@iah.org on this or if you have any suggestions about activities for national chapters or setting up a new national chapter where you are.

SECRETARIAT

National Chapter News

IAH-Slovakia National Chapter

From 20 to 22 May 2025, the Slovak IAH chapter and the Slovak Association of Hydrogeologists organized the 7th field hydrogeological seminar on the topic "Groundwater in interaction with anthropogenic activities". The topic is highly relevant for the situations arising around the assessment of the potential impact of the construction of highway tunnels on groundwater in Slovakia. The exchange of experience with practical examples of groundwater capture by various types of artificial drainage was of benefit to all participants, as the event was attended by experts from a wide range of professional organizations (water management, environmental protection, private consulting companies, balneology, universities and academic institutions). The seminar also included an excursion to important hydrogeological sites in the nearby mountain areas, managed by the Central Slovak Waterworks Company, a.s. (springs Jergaly, Podzemný tok, Čierna II, drinking water source of Harmanecký / Čremošiansky tunnel and Korytnica spa). At these sites, groundwater capture works were carried out in the past or even recently. To add to their practical knowledge of karst, participants also visited Harmanecká jaskyňa Cave. In addition to practical demonstrations, impacts of tunnel construction on karstic groundwater were also presented in the form of lectures, given by Mr. Némethy and Coplák. They both described negative and possible positive effects of tunnel construction, with parallel capture of groundwater as a potential drinking water source.



Delegates at the 7th field hydrogeological seminar in Slovakia.

IAH-Argentina National Chapter

XIII Congreso Argentino de Hidrogeología y IX Seminario Hispano-Latinoamericano sobre Temas Actuales de la Hidrología Subterránea

The Argentine Chapter of the International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH-GA) and the Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences at the National University of Mar del Plata cordially announces the 13th Argentine Congress of Hydrogeology and the 9th Spanish-Latin American Seminar on Current Issues in Groundwater Hydrology, titled "Groundwater: A Source of Life that Flows and Connects Us", to be held from September 21 to 25, 2026, in the city of Mar del Plata (General Pueyrredon, Buenos Aires, Argentina).

Thematic Areas

- Regional Hydrogeology
- Hydrogeochemistry, Isotopes, and Groundwater Quality
- Urban and Peri-Urban Hydrogeology
- Groundwater-Dependent Ecosystems
- Sociohydrology, Groundwater Planning and Governance
- Water and Productive Processes

The first circular of the congress will be published in September.

Revista Argentina De Hidrogeología (RAHi)

The Revista Argentina de Hidrogeología (RAHi) is published by IAH Argentina Chapter. This is a periodical publication that aims to cover a gap in terms of the need for articles on hydrogeology in Spanish. It is promoted by the Argentine Chapter, with the collaboration of researchers from universities and science and technology institutes from all over Latin America.

The articles refer to scientific research and technical papers on hydrogeology, with a special focus-

National Chapter News (cont)

on the different regions of Argentina. From theoretical and methodological studies to applied research, the RAHi promotes the advancement of hydrogeological knowledge through open access, free distribution and a commitment to the 'ad honorem' work of its team.

Each year, RAHi publishes a digital issue, available on the IAH-GA website. The link to the journal is as follows <https://aihgacomar.wordpress.com/revista-argentina-de-hidrogeologia/>

IAH-Spain National Chapter

In May, the president of the Spanish Chapter of the IAH, Carolina Guardiola-Albert, was invited to participate in the Colombian Hydrogeology Congress, where she gave a keynote lecture about the involvement of the Spanish in the National Groundwater Action Plan and engaged in fruitful exchanges with Latin American colleagues.



Carolina Guardiola-Albert at the VIII Hydrogeology Colombian Congress.

As part of our commitment to promoting scientific knowledge and supporting emerging researchers, the Spanish Chapter funded the Best Scientific Poster Award at the 28th Salt Water Intrusion meeting. This award was given to Robin Voland in recognition of outstanding research and scientific communication.

The chapter also contributed to the planning of two training courses on hydrogeology—covering basic concepts and well construction—held in the Balearic Islands (Spain). The courses were organized in collaboration with the regional School of Public Administration. They took place between May and June

2025 and were attended by 30 public officials.



SWIM Best Scientific Poster Award ceremony, this award was funded by the Spanish Chapter of IAH.

The Spanish Chapter has also signed a collaboration agreement with CONAMA (Spanish National Environmental Congress) to actively participate in the organization of its upcoming edition. CONAMA is a key national forum for dialogue and action on sustainability and environmental issues in Spain.

Additionally, on May 2025 one of our members, Acacia Naves (University of Coruña, Spain) contributed to the participatory process for drafting the Groundwater Regulation and Technical Standard in Honduras. Acacia presented the Spanish experiences, including the Spanish Chapter involvement in groundwater-related legislation. During the event, the idea of creating a Honduran chapter of IAH was raised.



May 21, 2025, participatory process for the development of the Honduran Groundwater Regulations and Technical Standard in Tegucigalpa.

National Chapter News (cont)

IAH-Hungary National Chapter

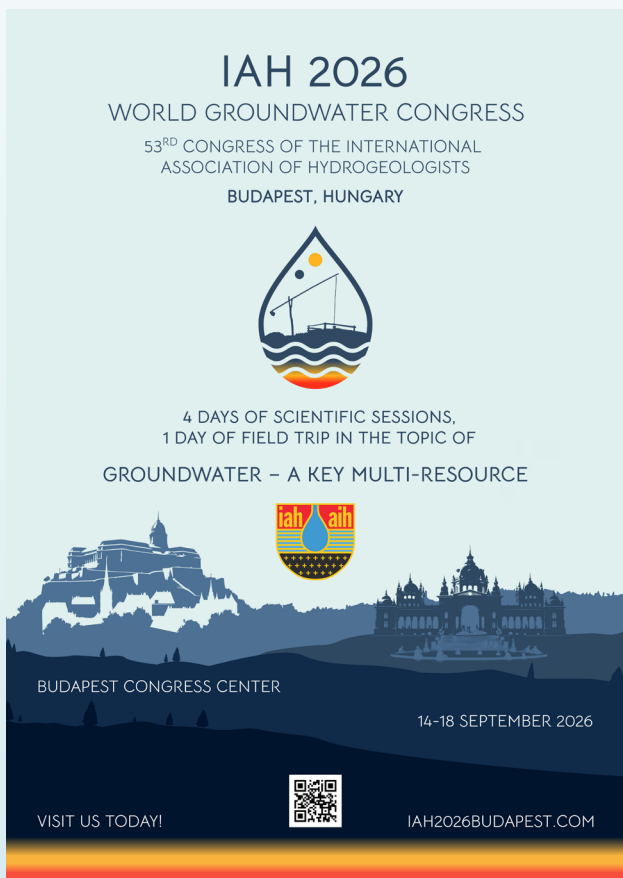
Official Website Now Live for the IAH 2026 World Groundwater Congress in Budapest

The Hungarian National Chapter is happy to announce that the official website is now live for the 53rd World Groundwater Congress of IAH, taking place 14-18 September 2026 at the Budapest Congress Center in Budapest (Hungary): <https://iah2026budapest.com/>

Four full days of expert-led sessions, plus a day-long field trip await you in 2026 as we explore the theme "Groundwater – a Key Multi Resource"

Why Budapest? A city intertwined with water — from the Danube's riverbank filtration supplying 1.8 million people, to its iconic thermal springs, karst caves, and spas — it is the perfect backdrop for groundwater discourse.

Save These Dates: 14-18 September 2026. Mark your calendar and visit the website for updates on the programme, themes, keynote speakers, registration, travel, accommodations, and hosting information.



IAH-Chile National Chapter

The First Hydrogeology Congress of the Chilean Chapter: An Outstanding event for IAH's Future

The First Chilean Hydrogeology Congress 2025, organised by the International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) - Chilean Chapter, was held on April 23-25, 2025, at Termas del Corazón, San Esteban, Chile Central. This event brought together professionals, academics, and students to discuss advances in groundwater management and protection.

The congress featured 41 oral presentations and 30 posters, addressing key topics for hydrogeology. Three keynote lectures conducted by professors Dr. Ricardo Hirata (USP, Brazil), Dr. Jürgen Mahlkecht (ITESM, Mexico), and Dr. Fernanda Álvarez (UdeC, Chile) contributed to up-to-date discussions on groundwater resources. A photographic contest was held in conjunction with the congress, reflecting the beauty of the Andean hydrogeological systems, and the winners were Katherine Moreno (first place), Jordan Flores (second place) and Carolina Veroitza (third place), in addition, the Best Scientific Poster Award was given to Luis Godoy, whose work stood out for its rigor and contribution to hydrogeological knowledge from the use of InSAR data.



The First Chilean Congress paid an emotional tribute to Dr. Ramón Aravena, an outstanding hydrogeologist pioneer in the environmental tracer uses in hydrogeology, whose career is inspiring new generations. An emotional recognition that raised ovation for his professional experience.

National Chapter News (cont)

With an extensive and significant participation, the event has been a space for the exchange of knowledge and innovative solutions to the country's water challenges.

The success of the congress reinforces the commitment of AIH Chile to the promotion of hydrogeology and interdisciplinary collaboration. Responsibility that as IAH-Chilean chapter expects to continue growing by promoting even better initiatives.



IAH-Great Britain National Chapter

Ineson Lecture 2025

Save the date: 19th November 2025

The IAH-GB Chapter, together with the Hydrogeological Group of the Geological Society, London, will be hosting this year's 2025 Ineson meeting at the Geological Society, Burlington House, London. This year will be a joint event hosting both the Ineson and Darcy lectures. The theme is:

Sustainable Groundwater: Old and New

Following the 2024 theme of droughts and floods, this year's event will focus on the role of groundwater as a sustainable resource in relation to water scarcity. Global water use is increasing, with unequal distribution of demands across geographic areas such as those with high population and/or agricultural water use, and over time (seasonal and in periods of drought). As groundwater provides the largest overall volume of freshwater source, it has the potential to buffer these spatial and temporal variations in demand, if managed sustainably. The event will consider the opportunities and challenges in achieving

this, looking at the role of historical and possible future climates as a key driver affecting both recharge and water demand, approaches to quantifying current and historical actual recharge rates and residence times, the balance between demand and long-term replenishment (including the role of fossil groundwater), and the equitable use of both groundwater and surface water resources to provide overall water security.

The 2025 Ineson Lecture will be given by Dr Bridget Scanlon, a Research Professor at the Bureau of Economic Geology, Jackson School of Geosciences, The University of Texas at Austin. Bridget's Ineson lecture will discuss the conjunctive management of surface water and groundwater to increase the sustainability of global water resources.

The 2025 Darcy Lecture will be given by Dr Grant Ferguson, a professor of hydrogeology in the Department of Civil, Geological and Environmental Engineering at the University of Saskatchewan. He also holds a joint appointment in the School of Environment and Sustainability at the University of Saskatchewan and is an adjunct professor at the University of Arizona and University of Waterloo. Grant's Darcy lecture will discuss ancient fossil groundwater systems and how their lack of sensitivity to current climate changes can make them a strategic resource, if used at appropriate rates.

There will be a number of supporting speakers on related topics, a call for posters and a panel discussion. More information will be made available in the coming weeks.

Diary Dates

10-11 Sept 2025 – London, United Kingdom
[Dye Tracing Summer Training Course 2025](#)

TRAQUA and Glasgow Caledonian University London (GCU London) are teaming up to bring you a 2-day in-person training in fluorescent dye tracing.

<https://www.traqua.be/>

15-19 Sept 2025 – Melbourne, Australia
[IAH 2025 – The 52nd Congress of the International Association of Hydrogeologists](#)

Join us for an extraordinary gathering of groundwater expertise at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, from September 15-19, 2025. 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.

<https://iah2025congress.com/>

23-24 Sept 2025 – Denver, CO, USA
[Managed Aquifer Recharge: Unleashing Resiliency, Protecting Groundwater Quality](#)

Managed aquifer recharge (MAR) is the purposeful recharge of water to aquifers for later recovery or other benefits. MAR is an increasingly important tool for mitigating the economic, environmental, and public health impacts of water shortages. This conference provides a forum for sharing technical, regulatory, and institutional lessons to develop successful recharge projects.

<https://www.ngwa.org/detail/event/2025/09/23/default-calendar/25Sept5029>

28-29 Oct 2025 – Fez, Morocco
[International Conference on Water Resources and Environmental Studies](#)

Hydrogeology, Hydrology, Environment. Fez the millennium city, will host three days of focused presentations, insights and networking for specialists from academic institutions, research centers and policy makers.

<https://icwes2025.sciencesconf.org/>

2-6 Nov 2025 – Denizli, Turkey
[4th International Multidisciplinary Conference on Mineral and Thermal Waters](#)

This Conference is organized by members of the Commission on Mineral and Thermal Waters (CMTW) of the International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) and Pamukkale University Geothermal Application and Research Center. It represents one of the largest periodic meeting of the working group CMTW of IAH focused exclusively on mineral and thermal waters.

<https://www.minwat2025.org/>

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<https://iah.org/submit-an-event>



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