

NEWS & information

MAY 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



IAH WORLD GROUNDWATER CONGRESS 2025

The 2025 IAH World Groundwater Congress, organised by IAH Australia will take place in Melbourne, Australia, from September 15-19. Read on to find out more about the exciting line up of speakers and organised field trips. [Page 6](#)

World Water Day 2025 - Hidrogeodía

This year's World Water Day, which took place on 22nd March, was on the theme of 'Glacier Preservation'. Once again, IAH groups and members got involved in this global campaign by organising and participating in a range of activities and events. [Page 7](#)

Hydrogeology Journal: Editors' Choice Articles 2024

The 2024 Editors' Choice articles have been announced for Hydrogeology Journal. The Editors have selected five articles, four of which are open access. Congratulations to all the authors! [Page 9](#)

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

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 Find IAH groups

 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



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of Hydrogeologists
the World-wide Groundwater Organisation

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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 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

Our support continues for all IAH members to work towards furthering the understanding, wise use and protection of groundwater resources throughout the world.

The Executive Council and Trustees recently met in Reading, UK, to discuss and set a budget for the year's activities. Alongside this, IAH's set of policies and procedures was reviewed, to ensure these can meet the increasingly stringent requirements of the UK regulatory regime for small businesses and charities. These will be made available to members for information in due course.

2025 is the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation, and with the support of the LUNA network, IAH has been involved in advocating for the importance of incorporating the groundwater component into cryospheric research. In March, we ran a webinar on this topic during the World Water Day celebrations. You can now watch a recording of this webinar on our YouTube channel. Find out more on Page 7.

We are still searching for a 2027 congress organiser. Is your national chapter interested in hosting IAH 2027? Let us know at info@iah.org.

Finally, we are almost halfway through the year - have you renewed your IAH subscription? We'd love to keep you as a member – or have you as a new member. Contact us if you would like to know more!

SECRETARIAT

From our Vice President

Dear Members,

There are many current events of global concern. How they will unfold and the implications for us are unknown. This is the current backdrop of our everyday lives, and we are impacted to differing degrees. We hope and pray sanity will prevail and that there will be peace on a global scale. Our lives go on, and we can only focus on what we can do to improve the world. This message is a personal reflection, so please bear with me. It was a huge privilege to be elected to the IAH Executive Committee, with the portfolio of Finance and Membership. The IAH has so many wonderful initiatives on the go, and there are so many aspects to the Organisation; it is taking time to understand it all. It great to see how much excellent work is being done on a volunteer basis to unite the hydrogeological community, share knowledge on the various aspects of hydrogeology, and educate the general public on this fascinating resource.

The IAH Executive Committee held an inception Council meeting in February. Meeting in person was extra special and beneficial. The agenda was very full, and several significant issues were addressed. Currently, the organisation is in good shape. We have a membership of 4991 and are seeing a 25% growth over the past 5 years. The financial status is sound. The various networks and commissions are active and well run. Importantly, the ECHN is in good hands and has a diverse and active committee. However, we must keep striving to grow and continually promote the groundwater science and message.

There are many meetings, symposiums and conferences on the go, which is terrific. We are looking forward to the International Symposium of Managed Aquifer Recharge (ISMAR), less than a month away, in my hometown of



Stellenbosch, South Africa. The event is fully subscribed, and it's going to be fantastic.

News from Melbourne, Australia, is that the IAH 2025 Congress is progressing well. I appreciate there are so many other events on the go, and thank you to all of you who put in the extra hours and effort to make these events happen. It's greatly appreciated.

Being involved in consulting work exposes me to many different situations. Regarding our domestic water supply, there is such a lack of funding for maintenance work. We have so much work to do to get the message out there that groundwater schemes need continual maintenance, monitoring, and management. Aquifers may be full, but reservoirs are empty. How do we change this? Two weeks ago, working in Namibia on a Water Resource Master Plan, it was so encouraging to see the excellent monitoring (Figure 1) and management of two critical coastal aquifers. It's so good to see the Namibians (NamWater) planning their water supplies in the 20 to 25-year time frame. Currently, the country has been blessed with good rains and recharge. Seeing the Omdel Dam at 30% was wonderful (Figure 2). This dam is the starting point of the enterprising Omdel MAR scheme. These are just two case studies highlighting how crucial it is that we keep interacting at multiple levels.

Whether you are a leading researcher or siting boreholes to supply water to refugee camps, you all play a critical role in understanding and managing this precious resource. We need to learn from one another, so please encourage your colleagues to join IAH and get involved.

All the very best with the critical work you are doing.

Julian Conrad

Vice President, Finance & Membership

Figure 1 (left): A production borehole in the Kuiseb aquifer is perfectly equipped for monitoring, and the aquifer is being managed sustainably by Festus and his team.

Figure 2 (right): A rare sight: the Omdel Dam at 30% and rising. As the turbidity drops, the water is released into the river alluvium to recharge the production boreholes.

IAH Executive Council Meeting

The IAH Executive Committee met in Reading, UK, in February, along with IAH's Trustees, the main purpose being to review the business plan for the year and to set a budget. The Executive aim to set a budget that corresponds to the expected income, supported by any funds that can be released from the Association's reserves, if needed. Mostly, IAH's income is from membership subscriptions so each year there is the hope that membership - and income - will be maintained or will increase and provide a firm foundation to work from. We are also grateful for the donations we receive from our congresses and for the financial support provided by our publisher, Springer Nature.

The latest Technical Insight Series paper was noted by the Executive, Co-Managed Aquifer Recharge, produced by the MAR Commission. There was discussion about the potential for further papers in the series. Actions for World Water Day and Hydrogeoday 2025 were also reviewed.

Preparations for our congresses in Melbourne, Australia in September 2025 and Budapest, Hungary in September 2026 continue to be on track. No arrangements have yet been made for 2027 and the Executive encouraged chapters to consider putting forward a proposal.

The 2024 finances were reviewed, with exchange rates impacting IAH's income, and discussion on Associate Student and sponsored memberships. Further financial discussions highlighted lower-than-expected royalties from Springer and Taylor & Francis and the need to recruit a new accountant after Sandra Larkins' retirement. Sandra has been with IAH for many years and we are very grateful for all of her hard work. The budget for 2025 included website updates, online security measures, and dedicated

funds for education and outreach initiatives.

Discussion around future plans for the Burdon Network Fund took place, which supports hydrogeological practices in Sub-Saharan Africa. The aim of the Fund is to support training and CPD opportunities in the region.

The Executive also addressed the need for more clarity in the roles of its commissions and networks, including reinvigorating inactive groups. The Council emphasised the importance of keeping members informed and updated on relevant issues, such as new policies and procedures which are currently being drafted by the Secretariat.

In terms of outreach, the Executive discussed plans to develop new educational initiatives, including an IAH Lecture Series and webinars. Efforts to support National Chapters and member engagement were also emphasised, with some regions showing growth and others needing more support.

The Executive Committee also discussed the 2024 reports that have recently been submitted by the Commissions and Networks. You can view the annual reports on the IAH website at <https://iah.org/about/reports/groups>.



The Executive Council Meeting was held in Reading, UK in February. From left to right: Olivia Fraser-Cobbett (Executive Officer), Nick Robins (Trustee), Ian Davey (Executive Manager), Teodóra Szőcs, Julian Conrad, Jane Dottridge and John Chilton (Trustee). Marco Petitta was present online at the meeting.

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

Our Esteemed Lineup of Speakers

Meet our speakers who are global experts and contribute to the enriching content in the coming 2025 World Groundwater Congress. Find out more at <https://iah2025congress.com/speakers/>

- Professor Grant Ferguson
- Bradley Moggridge
- Dr Catherine Moore
- Associate Professor Rebecca Nelson
- Dr Stacey Priestley
- Professor Richard Taylor
- Jeremy White

Acknowledgement of Country

IAH 2025 acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the land and sea in which we live and work. We recognise their continuing connection to land, sea and culture and pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

In particular the Congress venue, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC), is built on the banks of the Birrarung (Yarra River), we pay our respects to the Traditional Owners of Narm, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation.

Discover Field Trips Now

Field Trips are now available to add-on to your registration. All trips will depart from and return to the Melbourne and Convention Exhibition Centre (between 7:00 to 8:30 am and return around 5:30 pm) on Monday 15 September 2025.

There are 6 Field Trips to choose from, and spaces will be available based on a first come first served basis, so get in quick and secure your spot on your preferred trip today!

- Central Victorian Mineral Springs
- Walhalla Historic Gold Mine and Recharge Observatory
- Central Bendigo Mine Rehabilitation Project
- Kangaroo Hills (dryland salinity) and Heathcote Wineries
- Groundwater-surface Water Interactions in Western Victoria
- Mornington Peninsula – Alba Geothermal Resort

You can find out more at <https://iah2025congress.com/field-trips/>

World Water Day & Hydrogeoday 2025



The first World Day for Glaciers was held on March 21, 2025, as part of the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation 2025 (IYGP 2025). Additionally, World Water Day, held annually on March 22, was dedicated in 2025 to the theme of 'Glacier Preservation'. IAHR members organised a number of successful events to mark the occasion.

Around World Water Day, most of the Hydrogeoday activities took place across 27 Spanish provinces. Due to adverse weather conditions in Spain, some of them had to be postponed or adapted. Updated dates can be found on the Hidrogeodía website at <https://www.aih-ge.org/hidrogeodia-2025/>.

This year Hydrogeoday events took place in Andorra, Bolivia, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Portugal and South Africa. Along with Botswana, Brazil and Ecuador, this makes a record of 11 participating countries, including Spain.

The Spanish Chapter is thrilled to see how this outreach initiative is spreading beyond Spain. Watching the videos and activities from other countries has been truly inspiring, reinforcing the impact of this shared effort in raising awareness about hydrogeology. We thank all organisers and participants for their dedication and enthusiasm. We encourage you to revisit the highlights on the Hidrogeodía website and follow the conversation on social media: @GE-AIH on X and our LinkedIn page: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/aih-ge/>.

On 21st March, we held a webinar titled "Glaciers and Groundwater Interactions: Challenges in a Changing Climate". Groundwater scientists from around the globe were invited by IAHR to participate in the event, where an overview of the issues surrounding research into the topic was presented, as well as a demonstration of the importance of groundwater in storing glacial meltwater, with the presentation of two case studies. Panellists were also invited to discuss future solutions and research needed. You can watch the webinar event on our YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QmVPwxkS7uQ>.



Membership News

Welcome!

A warm welcome to the 456 new IAH members who joined our Association in the period 25 October 2024 - 02 April 2025. View the list of new members at <https://tinyurl.com/new-members-apr25>

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 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>.

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.

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

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.

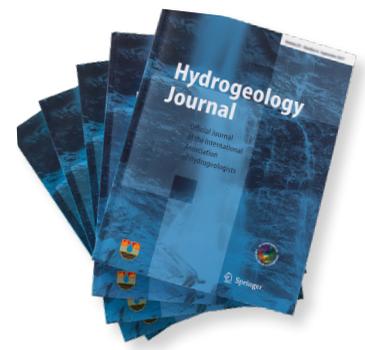
Corporate membership is designed to provide benefits for your company or institute. You receive 3 individual memberships and 25% discounts on further memberships, discounts on advertising in the IAH News & Information magazine, and at conferences.

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





Hydrogeology Journal- Editors' Choice Articles 2024

The 2024 Editors' Choice articles have been announced for Hydrogeology Journal (HJ). The Editors have selected five articles, four of which are open access.

The Editors' Choice articles are those that are considered to be exceptional by the editors—Martin Appold, Jean-Christophe Comte, Jean-Michel Lemieux, Rui Ma, and Maria-Theresia Schafmeister. The selected articles are ones that the editors especially like, for a variety of reasons, from among the ~140 articles that were published in the HJ issues of 2024. They illustrate a range of attributes, from outstanding science to philosophical interest, challenging arguments, and more. The editors believe that HJ readers will find these articles to be especially interesting and valuable. They highlight the importance of groundwater in our world, how we humans interact with groundwater, and how we might preserve and manage groundwater resources in the future.

The 2024 articles can be grouped into five important areas:

- Long-term groundwater datasets
- Uncertainty and confidence in groundwater modelling of geological repositories
- The role of groundwater and aquifers in mitigating hydrological extremes
- Land subsidence in coastal cities
- Evolution of research topics in hydrogeology

Read the full Editors' Message at <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10040-025-02880-9#Tab1>.

Congratulations to all of these distinguished authors for producing such valuable and interesting articles!

Author(s) Vol/No, pages DOI	Hydrogeology Journal – Article Title
John Chilton, Stephen Foster 32(2): 347–352 https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10040-023-02759-7	Long datasets for improved understanding, management and protection of groundwater
Sanneke van Asselen, Gilles Erkens, Molly E. Keogh, Roelof Stuurman 32(3): 867–889 https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10040-023-02762-y	Shallow-subsidence vulnerability in the city of New Orleans, southern USA
Jens T. Birkholzer, Alexander E. Bond, Chin-Fu Tsang 32(5): 1295–1305 https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10040-024-02799-7	The DECOVALEX international collaboration on modeling of coupled subsurface processes and its contribution to confidence building in radioactive waste disposal
Julian Xanke, Zoran Stevanović, Tanja Liesch, Alexander Kaltenbrunn, Nataša Ravbar, Hervé Jourde, Bartolomé Andreo, Juan Antonio Barberá, Nico Goldscheider 32(6): 1587–1605 https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10040-024-02811-0	Flooding and flood water storage in karst systems of the Mediterranean region
Catherine Christenson, Michael Cardiff 32(7): 1787–1800 https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10040-024-02829-4	Where has hydrogeologic science been, and where is it going? Research trends in hydrogeology publishing over the past 60 years

Hydrogeology Journal - Fieldwork Stories

Understanding nitrate trends through groundwater age

A recent study published in Hydrogeology Journal <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10040-024-02871-2> reveals new information about groundwater age (residence time) in the distinctive karst landscape within Minnesota's Driftless Area, USA.

Researchers examined current concentrations of a discontinued row-crop herbicide, popular in the 1970s and 1980s, in springs and wells, then compared these data against its historical use. These results were combined with independent age-dating methods to reveal a mixture of groundwater ages, ranging from 10 to 40 years old in many of the region's shallower springs and wells to thousands of years old in deeper aquifers.

The combination of groundwater residence time, historical land use, and climatic information was also applied to the interpretation of nitrate concentration trends for nearly 1,200 well, spring, and stream monitoring locations over the past 20 years.

Discover groundwater's fascinating, complex movement in Minnesota's karst landscape (Minnesota Department of Agriculture).

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8pqzQfMH1BgX_Alw4TXhmF6Ogcl-8_Fm

Explore the distribution of springs across Minnesota (Minnesota Department of Natural Resources).

https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/groundwater_section/mapping/springs-msi.html



Groundwater emanating from a spring and flowing into a cold-water trout stream in Minnesota's karst landscape. Photograph accreditation: Kevin Kuehner

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:

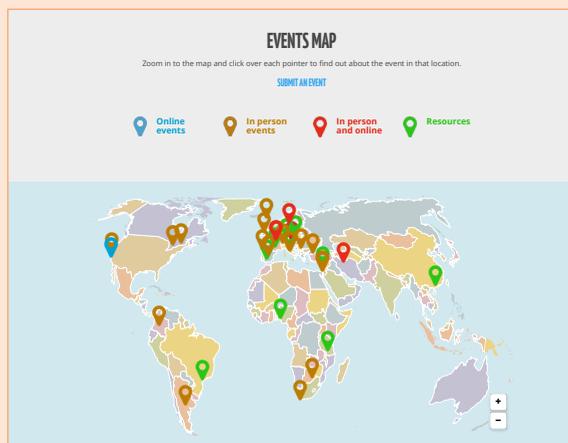
<https://iah.org/hydrogeology-journal>



IAH Events Listing and Activities Map

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

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



New IAH Publication

Technical Insight Series: Co-Managed Aquifer Recharge

The latest Technical Insight Series paper 'Co-Managed Aquifer Recharge' was produced by the Managing Aquifer Recharge (MAR) Commission. The paper discusses improving Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) with a new management approach: the co-managed aquifer recharge (Co-MAR) concept, in which stakeholders actively participate in the decision-making process, with the aim of improving governance, rural development and water security.

Read the paper at https://iah.org/education/professionals/technical_insight_series.



Past President Stephen Foster Receives Honorary Doctorate

On 20 March 2025 Dr Stephen Foster, IAH Past President 2004-08, received a Doctorate Honoris Causa from the UTCB in Romania primarily for his global work on urban groundwater evaluation and management. Congratulations to Stephen!



IAH Applied Hydrogeology Award: Call for Nominations

We are pleased to call for nominations for the 2025 'Applied Hydrogeology Award'. This award aims to recognise those who have made an outstanding contribution to the application of hydrogeology, resulting in an increase in living standards in low and middle income countries.

A panel appointed by IAH Council will review the nominations and it is intended that the award will be presented in September at the 52nd IAH World Groundwater Congress in Melbourne, Australia.

Candidates do not need to be members of IAH but non-IAH members must be nominated by an IAH member. We are also willing to consider nominees from previous years.

IAH members may put themselves forward and they can submit the information that is requested themselves. In this case we also request details for a referee who would be prepared to provide additional information to the assessment panel, if required.

The information provided for candidates should include:

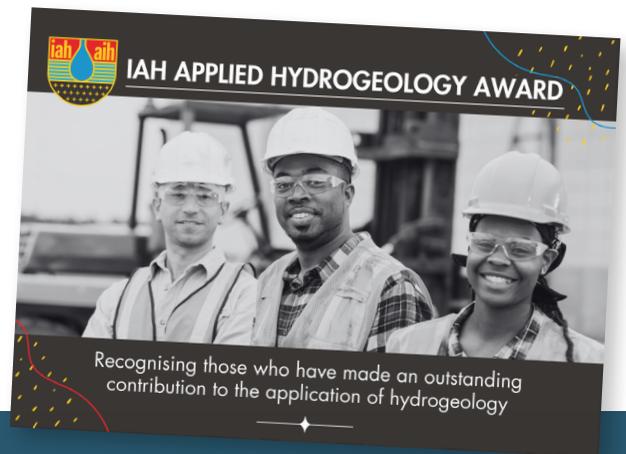
- An explanatory statement by the person submitting the nomination (up to 300 words);
- A brief career history of the candidate (up to 300 words);
- A list of projects the candidate has carried out, including aims, region and period of time;
- A list of projects (planned or accepted), patents,

publications or equivalent information.

- For candidates who are not IAH members, a letter of recommendation from an IAH member (up to 300 words).

And finally, if you had just 1 minute to persuade the panel why your nomination deserves the award, tell us what you would say, using not more than 100 words!

Your proposal must be in total no longer than 5 pages of text in a single pdf-file. This should preferably be in English. Although we are happy to accept nominations in other languages such as Spanish, French, German, Chinese or Arabic, the judging will be based on an English version. It should reach the IAH Secretariat by e-mail (info@iah.org) before July 1st 2025. We look forward to receiving nominations from all our IAH Regions, to reflect the work of applied hydrogeologists across the world.



Mentoring Scheme Now Open

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>.

Liaison with UN Activities (LUNA)

LUNA supported the coordination of IAH activities with UN World Water Day and the International Year of Glaciers Preservation. In addition to this, LUNA is facilitating IAH's participation in the 50th anniversary of IHP and 60 years of water sciences at UNESCO, planned for June 2025. It is planned that the IAH President will attend the event. A joint IAH/UNESCO IHP webinar in September 2025 on groundwater and transboundary aquifers/cooperation is in planning. LUNA is also preparing an IAH position paper for the UN-Water 2026 Conference which will be shared with IAH members at the IAH Congress in Melbourne.

Professor Viviana Re, a member of the LUNA core team, is the IAH focal point for contributions to the UN WWDR 2026 report focusing on "Water and Gender".

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.



Chair of the LUNA Network, Alice Aureli participating in World Water Day Celebrations at the UN Headquarters in Paris.

Early Career Hydrogeologists Network (ECHN)

At the 2024 IAH Congress in Davos, the ECHN Steering Committee organized events to foster engagement among early-career hydrogeologists. In collaboration with the UN Groundwater Youth Network and the Swiss Water Partnership, we hosted a "networkshop," facilitating informal exchanges between early-career and senior experts. Our social event featured a hockey game between the youth teams of HC Davos and HC Ambri, followed by a lively Bingo night, blending fun with intergenerational networking. During the Annual General Meeting, the SC introduced ECHN to new members and bid farewell to outgoing leaders Jared van Rooyen, Jade Ward, and Stefania Stevenazzi, who will continue as advisors.

We are excited to announce the newly elected ECHN Steering Committee for 2025! A heartfelt thank you to Jared van Rooyen, Stefania Stevenazzi and Jade Ward, our outgoing Chair and Co-Chairs, for their dedication and contributions over the past few years. Congratulations to our new Chair, Co-Chairs, and the entire task team—we look forward to another fantastic year ahead!



We are looking forward to meeting everyone in Melbourne 2025 and building another unforgettable science & friends experience. It has been whispered that the organization of ECHN activities is already taking form. Meanwhile, you can keep posted about our activities on our social media on LinkedIn, Facebook, X and Instagram and you are welcome to visit our website www.echn.iah.org to get to know and contact our team.

Fractured Rock Hydrogeology Network

The Fractured Rock Hydrogeology Network is searching for a new Chair. If you are interested in being involved, then please let us know at info@iah.org.

National Chapter News

IAH-Spain National Chapter

The Spanish Chapter organised a Well Construction and Sealing Course (February 10-14, 2025) in Alicante, Spain. During four intense days 75 participants learned about design, construction, maintenance, and sealing of groundwater wells and piezometers. Twenty experts from the public and private sector explored best practices in drilling, geophysical logging, well design, and innovative technologies for sustainable groundwater management. The course was developed in the Alicante Archaeological Museum (Spain) thanks to the Alicante Provincial Council and the University of Alicante collaboration. Initiatives like this are key to improving water management by ensuring technical standards in the construction and decommissioning of groundwater wells.



Delegates at the Well Construction and Sealing Course held in Alicante, Spain.

Nature-Based Solutions Conference

On March 18, the Spanish Chapter organized the first Nature-Based Solutions Conference for Groundwater Management in collaboration with the Spanish General Directorate of Water and the WaSHa Project. The event took place at the Tagus Hydrographic Confederation facilities in Madrid, Spain. There were approximately 100 in-person participants, with around 70 people joining remotely. The conference provided a valuable opportunity for reflection on nature-based solutions from diverse fields of expertise, including hydrogeology, agronomy, and forestry engineering. It also generated strong proposals for their application in Spain. Given the high level of interest, the event was recorded, and the video will be made available on the Spanish Chapter's YouTube channel. The Spanish Chapter is deeply grateful to the speakers for their participation and contributions to the conference.



Speakers at the Nature-Based Solutions Conference held in Madrid, Spain.

IAH-Switzerland National Chapter

Hydrogeology: Quo Vadis...?

Hydrogeology faces numerous challenges but also can provide various methods and solutions to address current and future issues. Swiss colleagues have created a survey entitled Hydrogeology: Quo Vadis...?, which aims to discuss the current state of groundwater within the context of global megatrends (e.g., climate change, land use changes, population growth, digitization, etc.), identify key hydrogeological challenges, and explore whether perspectives and opinions differ across various fields (e.g., research, implementation, groundwater-related organizations, water suppliers, consulting firms, etc.). All IAH members are invited to participate via the following link and to disseminate it to their networks:

<https://forms.gle/b5U52AVcbQ4twFDt5>

The survey is based on a workshop last year jointly organized by the Swiss Groundwater Network (CH-GNet) and the Swiss Hydrogeological Society (SGH). It was one of the preparatory activities for the IAH congress in Davos under the umbrella of the Swiss national chapter. While some feedback has been received at the congress already, the initiators would now like to extend the invitation to all interested members of the hydrogeology community to participate. They are eager to gather opinions on the state of groundwater and potential strategies for improved water management and groundwater protection.

Thank you for your contribution! For any question or suggestion please contact: christian.moeck@eawag.ch

National Chapters: Round-Up

Thank you to the national chapters that have already submitted their annual reports. This is a requirement for establishing a chapter and we look forward to receiving more reports in the coming weeks.

It's great to see how active chapters have been during the past year and we wish you success with your plans for 2025. We would like to ask you to please consider setting up a website if you do not have one already. Please email us at info@iah.org if this is something you would be interested in. If you already have a website, please do ensure that it is as up to date as possible.

Several national chapters have logos, if you are interested in developing a logo for your national chapter then please do so. There are no prescribed standards, though many national chapters have embedded their national flag into the IAH central logo. The logo can then also be hyperlinked to the central IAH website. If you would like to develop a logo or need any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We encourage you to organise talks, webinars, seminars and workshops of local relevance, keeping

the interest and science of hydrogeology at the fore.

National chapters are established in accordance with local laws and are of course largely autonomous, but because they are part of the 'IAH family' and include the 'IAH brand', IAH's UK regulators sometimes ask for information about our chapters. We would therefore be grateful if chapters could send us a copy of their current constitution (no need to translate this to English).

The activities listed above aim to encourage continued growth in IAH membership, especially if hydrogeologists know they will learn more about the subject locally and internationally and, importantly, have the opportunity to network with colleagues. A growing network has numerous benefits for our profession. Also, the more you encourage IAH membership, the more funds will return to your chapter.

Your work is greatly appreciated and we look forward to supporting you further!

SECRETARIAT

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 31st March with a webinar moderated by Saurabh Kumar Singh (ECHN), with a talk from Martina Gizzi titled "Geothermal Resources, Sustainable Groundwater Management and Opportunities for Young Researchers". 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

Diary Dates

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://www.luwq2025.nl/>

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](#)

The Italian Chapter of the International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) is pleased to invite you to the 7th Edition of Flowpath. Following the tradition of the previous editions, the conference will be an opportunity for hydrogeologists and professionals to exchange ideas and discuss different issues on groundwater resources.

<https://www.iahitaly.it/news/flowpath>



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16 -18 Jun 2025 – Rome, Italy

[Global Summit on Environmental Science and Engineering](#)

This conference is to present the most recent developments, highly cited researchers, industrial leaders, and exhibitors across the globe will share their research, showcasing commercials in all current market fields.

<https://environmentglobal.org/>

25 Jun-18 Jul 2025 – Online

[Pumping Tests Course | Hydrosymple](#)

This course aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the fundamental methodologies and practices for the implementation and management of wells, with a particular focus on the planning, execution, and interpretation of pumping tests.

<https://hydrosymple.com/en/prodotto/pumping-tests-course/>

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

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