

# IAHS Ltd Office and IAHS support activities Report 2025

Covers period July 2024 – June 2025

## SUMMARY

This report reviews the activities of the IAHS Ltd office in 2024 and the first half of 2025. The company is in a stable financial position following major budget changes in early 2024 to ensure the long-term viability with emphasis on providing grants to financially disadvantaged early career scientists as the charitable focus whilst maintaining adequate reserves for ongoing operations.

The *Hydrological Sciences Journal* – *HSJ* continues to provide the main revenue for the Association and requires over half of staff time. The partnership with Taylor & Francis (T&F) for *HSJ* continued successfully with the Portfolio Manager, Harriet Konishi, working closely with Lottie Rundall (LR) and Kate Hill (KHi).

The IAHS membership has increased to almost 12,500 with 6,400 members in financially disadvantaged countries. The IAHS membership was kept informed of IAHS activities, new publications, news, and meetings via the eNews website and social media.

## IAHS OFFICE

The IAHS Ltd office continues to run well with no anticipated staff changes in the coming year. The IAHS Ltd office has four members of part-time staff as follows:

Table 1. IAHS Ltd staff

Claire Lupton (CL)	IAHS Executive Secretary	25 hrs per week	9am – 2pm Mon-Fri
Lottie Rundall (LR)	HSJ Editorial Manager	25 hrs per week	8am – 1pm Mon-Fri
Kate Hill (KHi)	HSJ Editorial Assistant	25 hrs per week	9am – 2pm Mon-Fri
Tarryn Payne (TP)	IAHS Communications Officer	20 hrs per week	10am – 2pm Mon-Fri

TP works exclusively from home following a house move to the northern UK in 2022 for family reasons. The remaining staff work in hybrid mode. LR and KHi are employed exclusively to work on the Journal and their contribution is outlined in the *HSJ* report. TP is employed to manage all aspects of the IAHS communication strategy for the Association, *HSJ* and HELPING decade including the working groups, in collaboration with the IAHS Management Team. She also provides all the oversight of the social media channels.

CL is responsible for the IAHS Ltd office at Wallingford, finance and the administration of travel awards such as the SYSTA scheme and officer support (with the oversight of the IAHS Treasurer, Kate Heal (KHe) in 2024 and now Kostas Soulis (KS) since 1 January 2025), as well as input to the IAHS website and IAHS membership, book sales and distribution, and is also available to support the Secretary General, President, and other officers in Association activities. Full details of the financial activities of the Association and the budget are presented separately by the Treasurers.

Helen Houghton-Carr (HHC) continues as Secretary to the Board of IAHS Ltd and is responsible for organising the annual IAHS Ltd Board meeting, paying the monthly salary to the IAHS office staff, monthly meetings with CL and with updating the list of directors and filing the annual accounts with the Charities Commission of England and Wales.

## COMMUNICATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

TP implemented the new *HSJ* Digest, in conjunction with the Editorial Office and Ampersand. The *HSJ* Digest is issued to all IAHS subscribed members approximately bi-monthly and to date 9 editions have been published. The IAHS communications strategy for 2025 was presented to the IAHS Ltd Annual Board meeting in February 2025. TP regularly attended the online *HSJ* Editors meetings in 2024 and 2025. She also learned how to administer and run Mentimeter, a browser-based presentation tool that allows users to create interactive presentations with polls, quizzes, and word clouds. This was requested by IAHS President and HELPING Chair, Berit Arheimer (BA), and was well received by the 94 attendees in the annual HELPING online conference in November 2024.

TP manages the IAHS and *HSJ* LinkedIn accounts, as well as the X and Facebook accounts using Meta Business Suite. Some of our key achievements in increased follower numbers from the start to end of 2024 include: IAHS X followers increased from 3,546 to 3,654, *HSJ* X followers increased from 2,393 to 2,576 and LinkedIn followers increased from 2,341 to 2,660. More than 70 posts were created on X for IAHS and almost 80 posts for *HSJ*, with

116,387 impressions across both X accounts. On LinkedIn more than 40,000 impressions and 2600 page views were received, and almost 1,000 new visitors. Each *HSJ* Digest post generated between 800 and 900 impressions on X.

In response to internal discussions and evolving trends in social media engagement, TP presented a paper to the IAHS Management Team which explored the feasibility and implications of adopting Bluesky as part of the IAHS communication strategy. It compared IAHS's current use of X with the practices of peer organisations, examined the benefits and challenges of Bluesky, and presented survey data on social media use collected from 98 IAHS members between March and May 2025. It was decided to pilot a phased approach to IAHS adoption of Bluesky: initiating a pilot presence on Bluesky, monitoring outcomes, evaluating resource requirements, and engaging members to ensure inclusive and effective digital communication.

### **Marketing and Branding for IAHS and *HSJ* Website for IAHS and *HSJ***

The IAHS website continues to be hosted by Ampersand Studio. A monthly website support contract is now in place. The eNews and calendar on the IAHS website continue to be regularly updated with 42 enews items issued in 2024 and 28 in 2025 to date. New website pages were created to give more information about the Association to improve transparency, and information on the HELPING Working Groups, International Commissions, IAHS Committees, IAHS Working Groups. In addition, they were all extended to enable access for all HELPING Working Groups, International Commissions, IAHS Committees, IAHS Working Groups to their own pages to improve continuity of data. Active HELPING Working Group webpages include REHYDRATE 1.1, Hydrologic Design 1.11, Drought in the Anthropocene 2.2, Outreach, Communication & Science Interfaces 3.2, Co-Creating Water Knowledge 3.3.

### **IAHS Communication Forward Plan**

An assessment of progress towards the six IAHS core communications messages for 2024, as set by the IAHS Management Team was conducted at the end of 2025 and a renewed plan, incorporating eight new core messages for 2025, was agreed during the annual IAHS Ltd Board meeting in February 2025.

### **DIGITAL WATER GLOBE**

The spinning globe and link to SMHI website for the IAHS Digital Water Globe were added to the home page of the IAHS website in March 2023. A series of guides were created by TP to help members to add their data. Applications from members for access to DWG are monitored by the IAHS Secretariat.

The development phase of the DWG was concluded in October 2023 and all payments transferred for development along with the maintenance and hosting payments so far, following evaluation by the DWG Steering Group of regular reports from SMHI. As of 25 June 2025, there are 96 personal profiles, 71 case studies, 14 publications and 5 time series added to the DWG (see Figure 1). Currently only 35% of IAHS officers have posted a personal profile. Efforts are continuing to encourage all officers and members of HELPING working groups to contribute. To assist with this, in March 2024, Eduardo Mario Mendiondo was appointed as the DWG Editor-in-Chief following an open call for applications and appointed six DWG Associate Editors from around the world.



Figure 1. IAHS Digital Water Globe contributions (as of 25 June 2025).

The current contract with SMHI for the Digital Water Globe runs to 31 March 2026. A fixed term working group has been led by the Chair of IAHS Ltd (Kate Heal, KHe) to consider the performance of the DWG to date and make recommendations for its future. A separate paper will be presented by KHe.

## IAHS SIVAPALAN YOUNG SCIENTISTS TRAVEL AWARDS (SYSTA)

The SYSTA scheme continued to be very successful and is the main vehicle for IAHS individual charitable funding in line with the charitable objectives of the company. A full report is given separately. Three rounds of SYSTA funding were made in 2024:

1. ICCE International Symposium in Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, Germany, on 24–26 July 2024. Five applications were received by the deadline of which three were eligible. Two awards were made:



Figure 2: SYSTA awardees presentation at the 2024 ICCE International Symposium - Paolo Porto (ICCE President), Zeinab Raigani, Tobias Heckmann (ICCE 2024 Organiser) and Subhankar Das (photo courtesy of Michal Habel (ICCE Secretary))

Table 2. ICCE SYSTA Awards

RAIGANI Zeinab Mohammadi  
DAS Subhankar

Iran, Islamic Republic of  
India

- 9<sup>th</sup> IWRM/14<sup>th</sup> STAHY/1<sup>st</sup> EBHE joint meeting in Florianópolis, Brazil, 4-7 November 2024. 35 applications were received by the deadline of which 24 were eligible. Four awards were made, all to males, two from India, one from Ethiopia and one from South Africa. One male from India was unable to secure a visa due to late application as a result of their other travel (and despite reminders from CL).



*Figure 3: SYSTA awardees presentation at the joint meeting in Florianópolis - Berit Arheimer (IAHS President), Salvatore Grimaldi (IAHS President Elect), SYSTA awardees - Sintayehu Adefires Abebe, Mlungisi Maxwell Shabalala, Gode Bola Bosongo, Jean-Marie Kileshye Onema (IAHS Secretary General).*

*Table 3. 9<sup>th</sup> IWRM/14<sup>th</sup> STAHY/1<sup>st</sup> EBHE SYSTA Awards*

ABEBE Sintayehu Adefires	Ethiopia
BOLA BOSONGO Gode	Democratic Republic of Congo
SHABALALA Mlungisi Maxwell	South Africa
MOHANTY Mohit Prakash*	India

\* denotes unable to attend.

- IAHS Academy in Cairo, Egypt in 20-25 July 2024. Due to the large number of expected applicants all applicants had to first be accepted for the Academy which involved extra communication with the IAHS Academy Chair. 25 applications were received of which nine met all the eligibility criteria. Three awards were made:

*Table 4. IAHS Academy SYSTA Awards*

CASTILLO RAPALO Luis Miguel	Brazil
KAMEL Asmaa Medhat Yousif	Egypt
YEBOAH Felicia	Ghana

Unfortunately, the Academy was unable to go ahead due to logistical reasons so these awards will be transferred to the Academy planned in China in January 2026.

Two rounds of SYSTA funding have been made so far in 2025:

- 2nd International Sociohydrology Conference, 19-21 July in Tokyo, Japan, involving the International Commission on Human-Water Feedbacks. 28 applications were received by the deadline of which 19 were eligible. Three awards were made. Flight and hotel reservations have been made and the registrations paid directly by IAHS. Currently two are able to attend and one is awaiting a visa decision.

*Table 5. ISHC SYSTA Awards*

SHANONO Nura Jafar	Nigeria
ARIYANTI Vicky	Indonesia
SINGH Apoorva	India

- The XIIth IAHS Scientific Assembly, 5-10 October at IIT Roorkee, India. 26 applications were received of which 19 were eligible. Seven awards were made. Registrations and hotel accommodation have been organised by IAHS and flight options are being investigated for visa appointments.

*Table 6. IAHS 2025 Scientific Assembly SYSTA Awards*

ADDI Martin	Ghana
GWAPEDZA David	Namibia
KANDULA V Subrahmanyam	India
KUSUMASTUTI Cilcia	Indonesia
ALEXANDER Augustina Clara	Tanzania
MAHAMAT NOUR Abdallah	Chad
DJIEUGOUE TCHUIGOUALEU Boris Monfort	Cameroon

## IUGG Grant

In November 2023 IUGG awarded a grant of \$8500 to the 9<sup>th</sup> IWRM/14<sup>th</sup> STAHY/1<sup>st</sup> EBHE joint meeting in Florianópolis, Brazil, in November 2024. Due to the difficulties of distributing funds in Latin America the IAHS Ltd office agreed to distribute these funds based on the allocation by the LOC. The funds were received from IUGG and therefore processed in the IAHS Ltd accounts and the grants distributed. Travel grant letters were sent to the nine awardees (2 females from Peru and Mexico and 7 males from Bolivia, Colombia, Chile, India, Peru, Turkey and Uruguay). Unfortunately, just before the meeting the female from Mexico was unable to travel so her grant was redistributed amongst the other awardees and the remaining underspend used to fund the registrations for the SYSTA awardees. A report detailing the distribution of grants and success of the meeting was submitted to IUGG in February 2025.



*Figure 4: IUGG grant awardees and SYSTA awardees presentation at the joint meeting in Florianópolis with Salvatore Grimaldi (IAHS President Elect), Pedro Chaffe (ICWRS President-Elect and LOC), Berit Arheimer (IAHS President) and Jean-Marie Kileshye Onema (IAHS Secretary General).*

## PUBLISHING

The *Hydrological Sciences Journal* – *HSJ* continues to provide the main revenue for the Association. The partnership with Taylor & Francis (T&F) for *HSJ* continued successfully. A full report is included from the Editor in Chief of *HSJ*.

The 2018 framework agreement with Copernicus was renegotiated according to how the service has been used, the requirement to be more transparent with the peer review process for PIAHS, and rising costs of Copernicus services. The new agreement was signed in October 2024 and will continue in force for successive three year periods unless four months' notice is given. Several meetings were required to agree on the changes including the new pricing. Christophe Cudennec (CC) handed over the role of PIAHS Editor in Chief to Jean-Marie Kileshye Onema (JMKO) as the IAHS Secretary General from July 2023. Three PIAHS volumes were published in 2024:

- **Volume 385** 'IAHS2022 – Hydrological sciences in the Anthropocene' from the IAHS 2022 Scientific Assembly.
- **Volume 386** from the 9th International Conference on Flood Management conference in Japan in February 2023.
- **Volume 387** 'Mountain Hydrology and Cryosphere' from the International Conference on Mountain Hydrology and Cryosphere, Kathmandu and Dhulikhel, Nepal, 9–10 November 2023.

In 2025/2026 a volume in partnership with UNESCO will be published entitled 'Fifty Years of Evolution of Science of Hydrology: From Science to Application and Way Forward'. Two volumes are anticipated from the C2EA Water and Sanitation Week held in Cotonou, Benin, in June 2025, the first entitled 'Circular Economy and Technological Innovations for Resilient Water and Sanitation Systems in Africa' and the second 'Innovative Research and Technology Transfer for Sustainable Water and Sanitation Management in Africa'. A volume is also anticipated from the IAHS2025 Scientific Assembly.

## BOOK SALES

Whilst no further print copies of Red Books are to be produced, publications of Red Books, Benchmark and Special Publications continue to be promoted and sold through the IAHS website, occasional book sellers and through Amazon. The IAHS website provides an online bookshop for the publications with payment through PayPal. As anticipated, book sales numbers and income are low and difficult to predict, although they contribute only a small proportion of IAHS Ltd income.

UK sales in 2024/5 were as follows: Special Publications (Blue Books) 6; Benchmark Series 5; Red Books 2.

Three of the Blue Books (all SP9 'Leonardo Da Vinci's Water Theory: On the origin and fate of water') were ordered via the IAHS website but as the purchasers were in the USA the books were shipped from the stock at PSSC. These sales were prompted by a TV series about Leonardo Da Vinci.

### Book Sales in North America

Dollar-priced IAHS publications are available at Amazon.com, Baker & Taylor and Barnes & Noble. The contract for warehousing and distribution with PSSC is a requirement of the sellers to have publications physically on hand in the USA. The US storage and sales are a small expense rather than income but it is not clear whether these sales would come directly through the UK office without this channel. The overall system in the US continues to work well with bank transfers received directly from Amazon.com and the shipments fulfilled by PSSC. We currently have about 600 unsold books in storage at PSSC and 100 at Amazon and have prepaid the PSSC costs for the first 2 months of 2025.

US sales in 2024/5 were as follows: Special Publications (Blue Books) 1; Benchmark Series 2; Red Books 2.

## SUPPORT TO IAHS

CL administered the IAHS Regional Committee grant for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop organised by the IAHS Latin America Regional Committee in Santiago, Chile, in March 2024, which required dealing with several different organisations in Chile. The travel award was also administered for the 2024 Falkenmark awardee to attend 9<sup>th</sup> IWRM/14<sup>th</sup> STAHY/1st EBHE joint meeting in Florianópolis, Brazil. However, he was unable to attend as he was on placement in South Africa and arrived back in Senegal too late to secure a visa appointment in time for the meeting. The 2025 Falkenmark awardee is currently being supported to attend the IAHS2025 Scientific Assembly.

In administering travel awards for grant awardees and SYSTA awardees fraud potential is reduced by paying directly

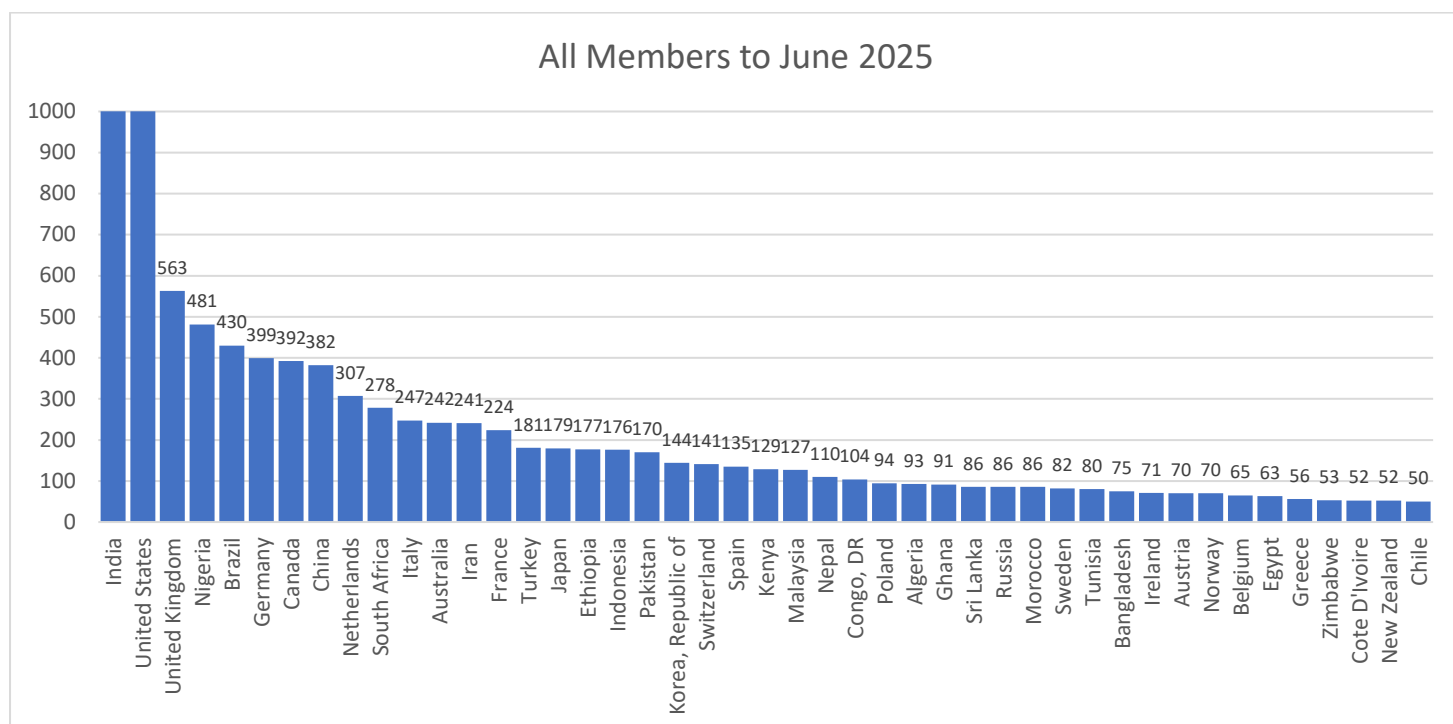
to suppliers where possible (for registration, accommodation and flights) rather than to an unknown individual who might not attend. Where possible these bookings are made with flexible terms such as refundable flights and hotels. Usually the flight costs (other than agent costs) have been recovered but often the registration fee and hotel bookings cannot be refunded where the decision not to attend is made late especially due to visa issues. It is also clear in the award letter that any costs incurred by the awardee (such as visa application costs) will not be refunded unless the event is attended.

To improve transparency and services for the IAHS community, new documents were prepared to ensure the collection of Participant Licence fees from IAHS branded conferences as well as guidance for LOCs about the use of IAHS branding and expectations in organising an IAHS event.

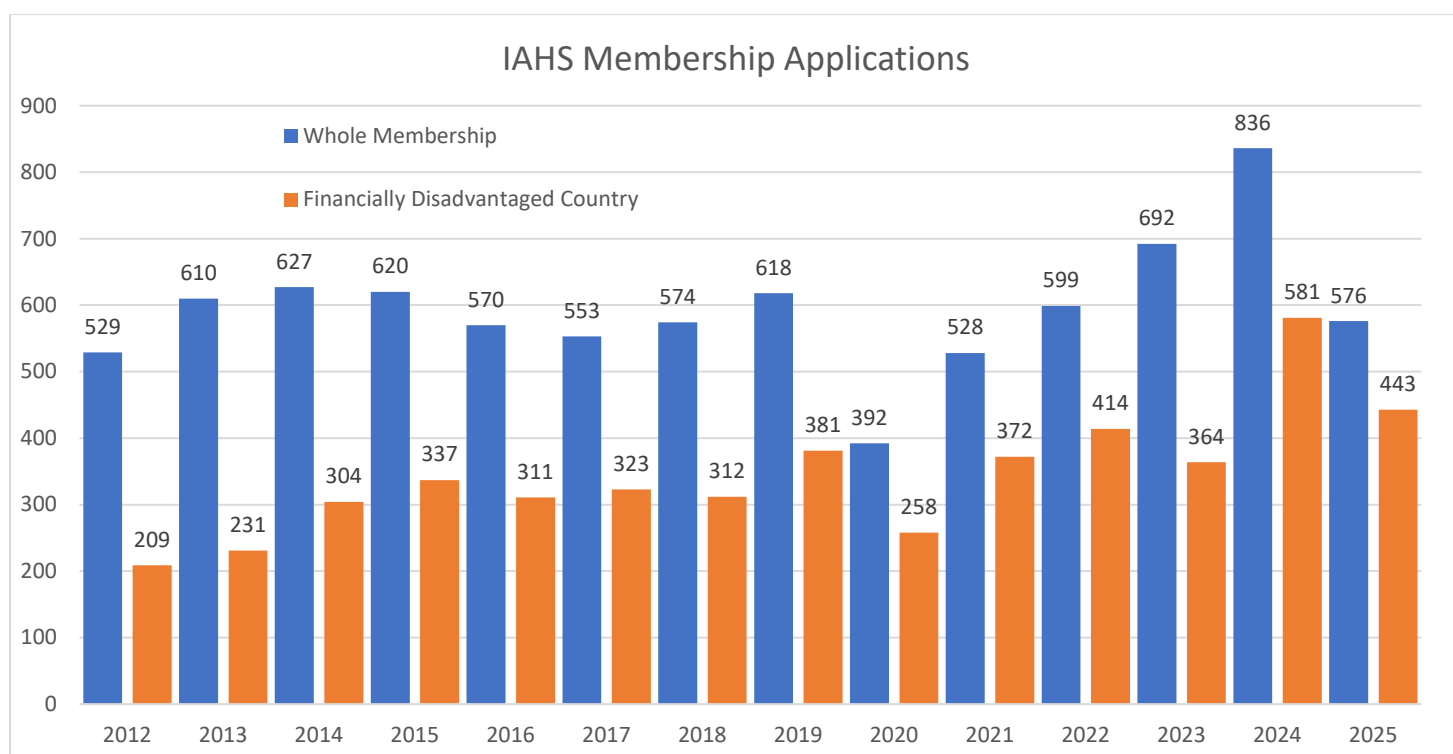
CL also administers the IAHS membership, list of officers and the list of National Representatives with communication with the IUGG Secretariat.

## IAHS MEMBERSHIP

Almost 850 new individual members in 96 countries were accepted in 2024. To date 576 members have been accepted in 2025 bringing the total membership to 12,497, of which 6,400 (51%) are in financially disadvantaged countries. Increased interest in the Association has been seen in Brazil due to the Latin America Regional Committee and 9<sup>th</sup> IWRM/14<sup>th</sup> STAHY/1<sup>st</sup> EBHE meeting in 2024, and in countries such as Lesotho and DR Congo as a result of promotion by the Secretary General. Analysis of the membership is shown in Figures 5a-b and the global distribution of full membership and new members is included in Figures 6a-b.



*Figure 5a. IAHS total membership by countries with the highest number of members, 50 or more (the number for India is 2543, USA 1031)*



**Figure 5b.** IAHS membership applications, both total applications (blue bars) and applications from financially disadvantaged countries (orange bars), by year.

## BENEFITS TO IAHS MEMBERS

All IAHS Members in financially disadvantaged countries, defined as the countries with the 60% lowest GDP per capita of all countries of the world, calculated from the latest UN data (2023), receive free access to *HSJ* and up to 80% discount on book prices by logging in to the Member Area of the IAHS website. There is a special *HSJ* subscription price for other members who also receive 25% discount on book prices.

T&F provided funds to support the annual Tison Award, *HSJ* Associate Editor award and to host the *HSJ* Editorial Retreat every 3 years.

The 2024 grant awarded to WaterNet Trust was used to support 14 early career hydrologists (9 female, 5 male) to attend the 25<sup>th</sup> WaterNet/ WARFSA/GWP-SA Symposium held in Maseru, Lesotho, in October 2024.

## OUTLOOK

All IAHS proceedings volumes will continue to be produced by Copernicus as online open access. Our publishing activities will therefore focus on *HSJ*. The IAHS Ltd office will continue to support the IAHS Bureau, the Digital Water Globe and HELPING Scientific Decade as well as to administer and support the SYSTA scheme.

IAHS Ltd staff will attend the IAHS2025 Scientific Assembly in October 2025 and the *HSJ* Editorial Retreat side event on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> October.

30 June 2025



