

IAHS Bureau: Working Group (WG) and Committees

Chair Name: Hodson Makurira

Name of Working group or Committee: Africa Regional Committee

Names of participants and role(s) of each officer:

Role	Name of person	Activities/Responsibilities (e.g. communication)
Chair	Hodson Makurira	Promote IAHS, Special Issue in HSJ, Oversight of regional chapters, participation in regional symposia Coordination of all Regional Committee activities, motivating young scientists, Coordinating the PIAHS and Review paper on Africa Hydrology. Prepare and administer the annual budget. Report on Regional Committee business to the Bureau.
Vice Chair	Bertil Nlend	Promote IAHS, Special Issue in HSJ, Oversight of regional Chapters, participation in regional symposia Assist the Chair in activities coordination, organise research agenda and outreach. Prepare activities report. Assist in budget development and administration.
Secretary	Moctar Dembélé	Promote IAHS, Special Issue in HSJ, Oversight of regional chapters, participation in regional symposium (e.g. UNESCO FRIEND), work on 23 UPH. Assist the Chair in activities coordination, improving membership, facilitate and report meetings and initiate correspondence. Keep records of all IAHS-ARC business. Budget preparation and administration. Manage communication.
Regional/ Chapter Representatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Central Africa (Huguette Emvoutou, Gode Bola) - East Africa (Victor Kongo, Seifu Tilahun) - North Africa (Emna Gargouri, Mourad Guesri) - Southern Africa (Michele Toucher, Kawawa Banda) - West Africa (Afua Owusu, Komlavi Akpoti) 	Organize and coordinate regional activities (e.g. webinars in each sub-region, sub-regional membership). Foster a strong interaction among countries in the region.

Advisors	Hubert Savenije, Gill Mahe, Christophe Cudennec, Jean Marie Kileshye-Onema	Advisory role
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What is the main scientific challenge your WG will focus on during the next-coming year?

- Produce a comprehensive review or synthesis paper on hydrology in Africa
- Connect hydrologists working in Africa

Which UPH(s) does the Working Group/Committee contribute to? (No 1-23: check

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/02626667.2019.1620507>)

1-23

Which Theme and WG of HELPING Decade do the WG/Committee contribute to? (See current status here

<https://iahs.info/Initiatives/Topic-for-the-Next-IAHS-decade/helping-working-groups/>)

- Theme 1: HELPING with global and local interactions
- Theme 2: HELPING with holistic solutions for water security
- Theme 3: HELPING with Cross-Cutting Goals

Work plan for 2025

PERIODICAL WG/Committee WORKSHOP	<p>Conduct webinars per Regional chapter of the ARC.</p> <p>Webinars Series by Regional Chapters</p> <p>West Africa</p> <p>++ Dr. Abdoulaye FATY - Lecturer / Researcher – Geography: continental hydrology - Cheikh Anta DIOP University, Dakar, Senegal. Presentation title: Climatic vulnerability of water resources in the Senegal Basin in the context of major hydroelectric infrastructures. 6th May 2025</p> <p>++ Jeff Dacosta Osei -PhD fellow and Research Assistant - Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, USA. Presentation title: Hydrological Analysis to rehabilitate the Jimbale Culvert in Ghana using GIS and Remote Sensing. 6th May 2025</p> <p>++ Cheffou Mairoukoundou rachid, Université Abdou Moumouni. Presentation Title: Suivi des inondations par approche de télédétection : cas de Filingué (Niger). 9th July 2025</p> <p>++ NDIAYE Papa Malick, IRD. Presentation Title: Hydrological variability of large rivers in West Africa: gap filling with earth observations and daily rainfall-runoff modelling. 9th July 2025</p> <p>++ GOUDIABY Omar, Laboratoire Leïdi de l'Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis (Sénégal). Presentation Title: Hydrological evaluation of gridded rainfall products for streamflow simulation in West Africa. 9th July 2025</p> <p>North Africa</p> <p>++ Prof. Taha B. M. J. Ouarda – "Water Resources Management and Unconventional Water Sources" - 19th march 2025</p> <p>++ Dr. Khaoula Khmiri – "Hydrological Insights from Machine Learning: Enhancing NDVI Prediction and Land Use Dynamics Assessment in Tunisian Semi-Arid Regions" - 27th february 2025</p>
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COMMUNITY PAPER	<p>- Community paper on: 23 UPH in Africa (on standby, waiting update from FRIEND-Water colleagues).</p> <p>- Review paper on: Hydrology and the Water resources of Sub-Saharan Africa Leaders: Hodson Makurira, Gil Mahe, Dominique Mazvimavi, Hubert Savenije, Moctar Dembélé, Bertil Nlend, Jean Marie, Raphael Mtshimanga , Christophe Cuddenec and Andrew Oglive Progress to date: WaterNet has seconded two interns to assist in data compilation Conclude the Review paper by October 2025</p> <p>- Community paper on African hydrology perspective on the HELPING decade. First draft by December 2025</p>
DIGITAL WATER GLOBE	<p>We continue to advertise. Members from the ARC are encouraged to create their profiles on DWG. During next months, we plan to add items from regional representatives and other leaders of the committee.</p> <p>Continue to encourage membership to participate in the initiative</p>
OTHER INITIATIVES	<p>- Database of IAHS ARC members 237 registrations as of May 2025 Continue with membership recruitment and updating the database.</p> <p>- IAHS ARC Research Mobility Grant With the support of the IAHS Bureau to the regional committees, we launched a research mobility grant to enhance research capacity, foster south-south collaboration and encourage knowledge exchange among hydrologists in Africa. The call was launched in May and closed on June 15, 2025. We received 159 applications, of whom 120 were eligible. The evaluation of the applications are ongoing and the results should be announced by mid-July. Three winners will be announced, each receiving between 1000-1500 GBP for a short mobility of at least 2 weeks in a host institution in Africa, between July and December 2025.</p> <p>- HSJ Special Issue on <i>Twenty-first century hydrological challenges and opportunities in Africa</i>. Launched in November 2023. Manuscript deadline: 30 November 2024. Extend the deadline to the first quarter of 2025. Publish SI by August 2025. <u>Status as of May 2025</u> Published papers: 14 In production: 4 In review/awaiting revision: 22 Rejected/withdrawn: 12</p> <p>- EGU 2025 session on African Hydrology HS2.1.6 Advances in African hydrology and climate: monitoring, modelling, water management, food and water security. https://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EGU25/session/51991</p> <p>- AGU 2025 session on African Hydrology H039 - African Hydrology: Bridging Data, Models, and Innovation for Sustainable Solutions. https://agu.confex.com/agu/agu25/prelim.cgi/Session/247629</p> <p>- IAHS Academy Our committee is eager to contribute to the organization of the IAHS Academy. This was postponed to 2026.</p> <p>We are still committed to supporting the organization of the IAHS Academy in 2026 in China. It would be good to waive or reduce registration fees for attendees from economically disadvantaged countries. Moreover, it would be good to find a solution for registration fee payment for those countries as the use of credit cards for international payment is usually challenging.</p>

	<p>- IAHS special sessions in local congresses (e.g., WaterNet symposium; Zanzibar Water Conference)</p> <p>++ IAHS is supporting the WaterNet Symposium to be held in Zambia by sponsoring students</p> <p>++ Contribute articles to the JPCE Special Issue for 2025 with papers from the 2024 Maseru Symposium</p> <p>++ Extend support to WaterNet Symposium in 2025</p>
	<p>- Water Week in Benin</p> <p>We got a request to co-organize the 2nd edition of Water and Sanitation Week (June 3-5, 2025, Cotonou Convention Center), with the African Center of Excellence for Water and Sanitation (C2EA) of the National Water Institute (INE/UAC). On the topic "From Research to Innovation and Technology Transfer". A proceeding of the first edition is under production with some of our members as guest editors, and the same is planned for the second edition.</p>
	<p>- IAHS Assembly</p> <p>We are involved in the scientific committee of the IAHS assembly and supporting the organization of the event.</p>
	<p>- Communication strategy</p> <p>We are developing a communication strategy to facilitate knowledge sharing in our committee and promote the work of our members. We have a new volunteer playing the role of communication officer. Two other persons have volunteered to assist with our communication. We will use that opportunity to increase our presence on social media and boost our membership.</p>



Guidelines for filling the Workplan:

“PERIODIC WG/Committee WORKSHOP”

This workshop should be organized by the WG/Committee. It should be an IAHS event, not a session during a conference. It can be co-organized with other Commissions or other organizations. In the latter case the role of IAHS should be clearly identifiable in the organization.

Typically, such workshops have an annual frequency, have a relatively small number of participants (in the range of 40-100), and are particularly precious for collecting the community and focusing on common and emerging research topics.

In the work plan table are expected information about the WG/Committee Workshop.

If the WG/Committee has already finalized the organization, the webpage link of the workshop and the date and the venue should be specified. If the WG/Committee has just started to plan and organize, the date and venue or the available information should be specified. If the Commission recently held the workshop, few summary information should be included in the table and the report link or the pdf should be provided.

The report format is simple and described below:

First page: WG/Committee name, title of the workshop, date, venue, Group Picture of the event

Second page: Statistical summary of the workshop: number of participants, Countries, number of oral presentations, number of posters (if they were present).

From the third page: Scientific Program

Last page: list of participants (EDI?)

“COMMUNITY PAPER”

The final aim of the WG/Committee is to shed light on research topics related to the WG/Committee. Collecting the community and working together the expected outcome is to provide a community paper that summarizes milestones or crucial emerging topics.

In the work plan table, some information on the community paper status is expected. For instance, it would be useful to know if the WG/Committee has been planning the community paper, the topic, authors, the percentage of development, and when it is expected to be submitted. This information is crucial for coordinating such activity with the HSJ Editors.

You can find some examples here:

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UPH

“DIGITAL WATER GLOBE”

As you know the DWG is finally active: <https://dwg.smhi.se/dwg/> and we are looking forward to receiving the contribution from the IAHS community on case-studies and links to data and IAHS publications.

Since our community is shaped by the Commissions, Committees and Working Groups we invite you to advertise the DWG and include all the officers' Personal profiles in the visualisation tool (linked to other items).

The information requested in the table is the number of items that you plan to include in the DWG during the next months and the number you did in the last period.