# 20 24

## **Annual Report**

Impact assessment matters more now than ever.













## Message from the President

Welcome to IAIA's Annual Report! As you will see in this report, IAIA saw some outstanding achievements in 2024. We held our largest conference ever, engaged successfully in Latin America, forged new partnerships, rolled out our new guidance on strategic environmental assessment, and much more. I'm grateful to our dedicated Board members and remarkable staff for these triumphant accomplishments.

Since 2024, the world has changed under our feet. We have seen planetary crises for climate and biodiversity accelerating over decades, but in the last few months we have seen shifts of a different kind: tariffs and economic threats, reductions in international aid to the Global South, and threats of shifting alliances, against a backdrop of war in the Middle East and Europe. As the effects spread, countries are bracing for tough economic times. This gives governments an extra incentive to promote rapid industrial development, rather than take the time to carefully and systematically examine proposed projects for unintended consequences. Regulatory processes like impact assessment will be under more political pressure from deregulation, and impact assessment professionals may feel the squeeze.

In times like these, the benefits of identifying hidden risks and long-term consequences can easily be overshadowed by decisions that favor short-term economic gains. We have to remember that when times get difficult, vulnerable groups and places become more vulnerable; we have fewer resources to mitigate the impacts of hasty decisions; and, we are less able to replace the services that nature provides us. This means that impact assessment matters more now than ever. So stay committed!

What impact assessment needs to do at this moment is demonstrate is that we can move both deliberately and efficiently--deliberately enough to make wise and fair decisions about

developments, and efficiently enough to do so at a pace that meets our pressing needs. We must and will rise to this challenge with resolve—and find ways to adapt, and even improve, along the way.

Alan Ehrlich President, IAIA









## Message from the CEO

It is a pleasure to report on a highly successful 2024 for IAIA, as we fully engaged with the targets and ambition of our new strategic plan. The five core pillars of the plan focus on two key areas: internal operational excellence, allied with enhanced external recognition.

Internally, we are reaping the benefits from our upgraded technology platforms and the greater connection and benefit this provides to our membership. Being able to draw upon the volunteer contributions of so many experts across the globe remains the key foundation stone for future success for IAIA.

We held two highly successful events during the year: firstly, IAIA24 in Dublin on the theme of a Just Transition was one of our most successful conferences ever, in terms of attendance, and also positive feedback. This was complemented by an excellent symposium in Guatemala on Infrastructure and the Environment that will be a springboard for further activities within Latin America.

Publication of our Global Guidance on the use of SEA in the Energy Transition marked a significant milestone. As well as providing an important industry resource, the guidance also represents essential content for training and workshop opportunities. This will support the strong growth in training & development activities already seen in 2024, aided by our new foundations course in social impact assessment.

Externally, we strengthened existing collaborations with major multilateral development organizations, but also began to raise the external profile of impact assessment through engagement with organizations such as the Global Commons Alliance, WEF, and Equator Principles. There is more to do as we seek to broaden sources of financial backing for IAIA—something that will only increase in importance as government support for international aid and corporate support for sustainability commitments come under further pressure.



It just remains for me to thank, firstly, the Board and IAIA members for their fantastic support over the past year, and of course, the brilliant and committed HQ staff in Fargo for the superb job that they continue to do.

Gary Baker
Chief Executive Officer, IAIA

## **Board of Directors**



President Alan Ehrlich Canada

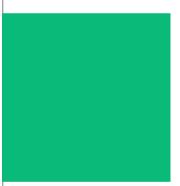


President-Elect Lone Kørnøv Denmark



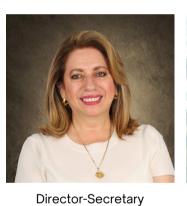
Past President **Edith Birungi** Kahubire South Africa



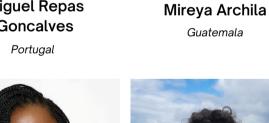




Director-Treasurer Miguel Repas Goncalves



Director Kiichiro Hayashi Japan





Director Francesco Mazzei Canada



Director **Abulele Adams** South Africa



Director Joana Pedro Luxembourg



## Mission and Vision

The International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) is an organization with a voluntary membership of professionals from a diverse array of interests and organizations, all of whom are concerned with environmental stewardship and sustainability. Collectively, our goal is to protect, not harm, the earth and its environments and peoples.



A just and sustainable world for people and the environment.





### **MISSION**

IAIA provides the international forum to advance best practice and innovation in impact assessment and advocates for its expanded use for the betterment of society and the environment.









## **Main Events**

IAIA's international, in-person events foster knowledge exchange, professional development, and cross-sector collaboration while helping to raise the profile of impact assessment globally.



IAIA24: "Impact Assessment for a Just Transformation"

Annual Conference; 24-27 April 2024; Dublin, Ireland

- Record Attendance: IAIA's largest annual conference with 1,109 attendees from 89 countries.
- **Engaging Program:** 130 sessions featured 488 presenters on impact assessment, environmental protection, justice, and social inclusion.
- **High Impact**: 90% gained significant new information and techniques, 97% planned to share knowledge back home, and 99% would recommend future IAIA conferences.



IAIA Regional Symposium: "Infrastructure and the Environment: The route of Latin America towards sustainability"

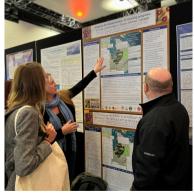
Regional Symposium; 6-7 November 2024; Antigua, Guatemala

- Diverse Participation: 212 attendees from 26 countries, with 57% joining their first IAIA event.
- **Regional Focus:** Simultaneous translations enabled discussions on ESIA in infrastructure, regulatory and financial factors, and societal-environmental dynamics in Latin America.
- **High Satisfaction:** 98% of surveyed attendees were satisfied and would recommend future IAIA events.



1,109

IAIA24 attendees from 89 countries (the largest in IAIA history!)





212

Infrastructure symposium attendees from 26 countries







## **New Initiatives**

IAIA continually seeks ways to expand member value and foster global collaboration on emerging challenges. Such initiatives reinforce our commitment to innovation and impact assessment leadership.



## New online resource "Improving Decision-Making for the Energy Transition: Guidance for Using Strategic Environmental Assessment"

- Launched in October 2024, this open-access guide offers best practices, tools, and case studies on key environmental and socio-economic issues in the energy transition.
- 500+ pages across 14 chapters cover SEA fundamentals (Part A) and sectorspecific applications (Part B).
- Browse plain-language executive summaries or download full chapters individually.



#### IAIA Professional Development Program: New "Social Impact Assessment" course

- This 12-module course, the second in IAIA's PDP series, guides learners through the key phases of SIA with expert mentorship and interactive sessions.
- Launched in June 2024 with a second offering in September, welcoming a total of 62 registrants from 28 countries.
- Satisfaction was high (98% satisfied), with 100% of learners reporting they acquired significant new information and techniques.
- Participant feedback helped refine the course for future offerings.



#### Virtual Forum: "Climate Adaptation in Megacities - Insights from Hong Kong"

- A six-week, free virtual forum exploring critical aspects of urban climate resilience.
- Sessions covered climate impacts on communities and infrastructure, typhoons and weather warning services, water and coastal resilience, urban heat and nature-based solutions, and finance, climate risks, and ESG.
- Session videos were viewed a total of 1,968 times in 2024.



## Supporting and presenting at FSFIA/HUSZPO's "Symposium on Sustainable Finance: From setting-up the rules to impact, verification, and reporting"

- This 2-day event in Croatia focused on aligning the EU Green Deal legislation with existing environmental reporting data and the environmental and social safeguards of international financial institutions.
- It offered IAIA members a key opportunity to raise the profile of impact assessment practice and advocate for inter-operability to support the sustainable finance community.



#### Energy for Development: Expanded program, new contract

- For nearly 20 years, IAIA has partnered with the Government of Norway. In 2024, a new agreement was signed directly with NEA under the Energy for Development program.
- In 2024, NEA funding supported 29 participants from developing countries to attend IAIA24. Funding also contributed to developing IAIA's SEA guidance and new SIA PDP course.



## **Training and Resources**

Whether virtual or in-person, live or on-demand, IAIA offers training programs for everyone. **Eleven in-person courses** were held in Dublin in conjunction with IAIA24. The Professional Development Program features two, 12-week, mentor-led, virtual course tracks, each offered multiple times throughout the year: **Foundations of Impact Assessment** and the new-in-2024 **Social Impact Assessment**. **Twelve live, online training courses** plus **11 free educational webinars** were also held throughout 2024.

IAIA's 40+ years of expertise is evident in its many **open access electronic publications**, with 14 new releases in 2024. *Impact* Assessment and Project Appraisal (IAPA), IAIA's **internationally-acclaimed professional journal**, released six issues in 2024 as well.

These diverse training and resource offerings ensure **continuous learning and knowledge sharing**, empowering impact assessment professionals worldwide.













Articles submitted to IAPA in 2024





## Community

**Our members** are a dynamic network of professionals from **117 countries** collaborating, sharing insights, and shaping the future. Member numbers saw a **strong rebound** in 2024, and **member engagement** in the IAIA Hub professional community continues to grow (2024 was the first full year on the platform).

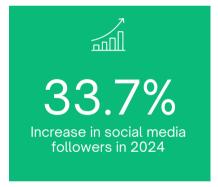
Our community extends beyond membership, though. IAIA saw **significant growth in social media, email marketing, and Google visibility** in 2024, where our content is resonating with users more than ever and attracting new audiences.

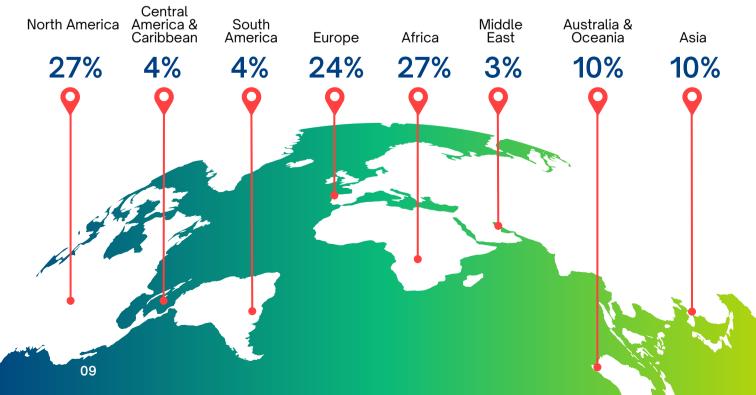












## Collaboration

IAIA's reach and impact grow each year through our collaborative partnerships with similar organizations and sustainability-minded companies around the world.

#### Affiliates as of 31 December 2024

Asociación Española de Evaluación de Impacto Ambiental (AEEIA) Associação Brasileira de Avaliação de Impacto (ABAI) Associação Portuguesa de Avaliação de Impactes (APAI) Association for Environmental Impact Assessment of Nigeria (AEIAN) Association québécoise pour l'évaluation d'impacts (AQÉI) Hong Kong Institute of Environmental Impact Assessment (HKIEIA)

IAIA Western and Northern Canada (WNC)

IAIA-Ghana

IAIA-Italia

IAIAsa (South Africa)

Impact Assessment Association Zambia (IAAZ)

Iranian Association for Environmental Assessment (IAEA)

Korea Society of Environmental Impact Assessment (KSEIA)

Myanmar Environmental Assessment Association (MEAA)

Nepal Association for Impact Assessment (NAIA)

New Zealand Association for Impact Assessment (NZAIA)

Ontario Association for Impact Assessment (OAIA)

Secrétariat international francophone pour l'évaluation environnementale (SIFÉE)

UVP-Gesellschaft e.V.

#### Corporate Members as of 31 December 2024

**ERM | United Kingdom** (Stewardship Level)

European Investment Bank | Luxembourg (Stewardship Level)
Qatar Free Zones Authority (QFZ) | Qatar (Stewardship Level)

Acorn International, LLC | United States

Albemarle Limitada | Chile

Assala Energy UK Limited | United Kingdom

Compliance Advisor Ombudsman | United States

Creating Communities | Australia

Earth Active | United Kingdom

Ecofish Research Ltd. | Canada

EDI Environmental Dynamics Inc. | Canada

EPC Consultanta de mediu SRL | Romania

Gaia Consult Inc | Korea, South

Hydro-Québec | Canada

Indigital | Australia

inDrive | Cyprus

Insuco Intl Limited | United Kingdom

K2A Management Co. Ltd | Cambodia

Millennium Challenge Account Kosovo | Kosovo

Ministry of Environment and Forestry (Indonesia) | Indonesia

Myanmar Survey Research Co Ltd | Myanmar

National Parks Board Singapore | Singapore

Observatorio de Desarrollo Regional y Promoción Social | Mexico

Parks Canada | Canada

Social Atlas | Australia

Socionaut, Inc. | Panama

Statkraft | Norway

Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) | Sweden

Synergy Global Consulting | United Kingdom

The Firelight Group | Canada

Vale | Brazil



Ireland-UK Branch Japan Branch Washington Area Branch



## **Treasurer's Report**

During this financial year, despite a significant rise in revenue, our organization experienced substantial losses, continuing a concerning trend from the past three years. Our main income sources included our Conference and Regional Symposium, financial support to our SEA initiative, membership dues, and our successful Professional Development Program, among other revenue streams. Together, these generated US \$1,941,120, representing an 89% increase on last year's total. Our two major events in 2024—IAIA24 in Dublin and the Infrastructure Regional Symposium in Guatemala—highlighted the value of hosting a second revenue-generating event, collectively raising \$1,303,336.

Unfortunately, rising operational costs compared to the 2024 operating budget pushed total expenses to \$2,360,534, and combined with reduced donor contributions, resulted in an operational deficit of \$419,414. While our financial position is not yet fully balanced, the returns from our investment income partially offset this operational loss.

The shortfall primarily arose from reduced conference sponsorship, as well as membership dues and foundation/government support that were lower than anticipated based on the 2024 operating budget. We also incurred unexpected direct event expenses, which exceeded our initial budget projections. However, we have effectively managed expenses and successfully contained costs compared to the budget, adapting to changing revenue streams.

The recurring deficit is unsustainable and has reduced our reserves. Currently, our Financial Sustainability Fund (FSF) stands at \$1,135,000, representing 61% of the increased FSF target of \$1,869,000 set by the Board in November 2023. To achieve this target, we have developed plans to rebuild reserves by restructuring fundraising and sponsorship strategies and actively pursuing new fundraising opportunities.

We thank our membership, donors, sponsors, and staff, and we value everyone who supports our mission. We remain committed to restoring our financial health through transparency and



prudent decision making. We encourage donors, volunteers, and board members to share ideas on strengthening our financial base. By controlling costs and embracing proactive fundraising, we aim to protect our programs and fulfil our responsibilities to our members. Together, we can overcome these challenges and continue to ensure our long-term viability.

#### Miguel Repas Goncalves

Director-Treasurer, IAIA

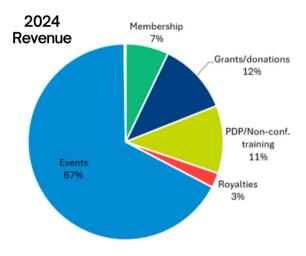
## **Financial Statements**

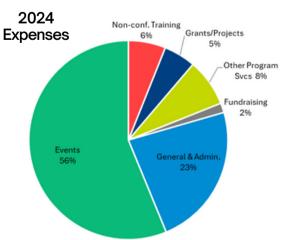
## STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND NET EQUITY - OPERATING ACCOUNT

All figures are in US\$ and based on the accrual method of accounting.

		Dec. 31, 24		Dec. 31, 23*	
ASSETS					
Total Current Assets	\$	372,452	\$	490,665	
Total Fixed Assets		15,638		16,224	
Total Other Assets		1,239,054		1,356,437	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	1,627,144	\$	1,863,326	
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY					
Liabilities					
Total Current Liabilities	\$	489,404	\$	395,44	
Total Long-Term Liabilities		109,915		138,836	
Total Liabilities		599,320		534,27	
Equity					
3100 Financial Sustainability Fund		1,135,000		1,135,000	
3200 Without Donor Restrictions		186,645		364,752	
3250 With Donor Restrictions		7,404		73,334	
Net Income		(301,225)		(244,037	
Total Equity		1,027,824		1,329,049	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$	1,627,144	\$	1,863,326	

\*Due to adjustments made during the audit of the 2023 financial statements, these 2023 figures differ slightly from IAIA's 2023 Annual Report.





#### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY - OPERATING ACCOUNT

For the years ended 31 December 2024 and 2023

	_	Jan-Dec 24	_	Jan-Dec 23*
Ordinary Income/Expense	_			
Income				
Admin Fees	\$	59,897	\$	65,348
Government Support		7,615		15,787
SEA Revenue		161,656		61,810
Memberships		138,778		110,375
Paper Copy of IAPA		630		420
Donations		1,127		63
Career Central Revenue		2,101		502
Prof. Development Program		130,760		94,376
Non-Conference Training		86,600		70,875
Royalties IAPA		47,252		32,456
Royalties-Other		50		88
Book Sales/Proceedings		80		90
Events		1,303,336		570,562
Miscellaneous Revenue		1,239		1,848
Total Income	\$	1,941,120	\$	1,024,601
Expenses				
Bank Service Charges	\$	6,340	\$	5,026
Committee Expenses		1,224		1,109
SEA Expense		58,521		63,710
Computer and Software Services		48,915		78,059
Payroll Expenses		731,333		626,973
Imp. Assessment/Proj. Appraisal		1,380		
Board Support		27,339		24,370
Office Expense		69,848		60,431
Professional Fees		175,419		143,737
Scholarships and Grants		8,405		18,860
Professional Dvlpmt. Program		74,639		67,354
Non - Conference Training		58,644		43,882
Marketing Expense		2,710		3,335
Liaison Activity				1,577
Non-Conference Travel & Meeting		3,847		9,913
Miscellaneous Expense		840		2,058
Depreciation Expense		4,870		4,643
Government Donor Expenses		10,100		6,150
CEO Transition				6,687
Direct Event Expenses	_	1,076,159		263,349
Total Expenses	_	2,360,534		1,431,223
Net Ordinary Income	_	(419,414)		(406,622)
Total Other Income	_	118,189	_	162,585
Net Income	\$	(301,225)	\$	(244,037)

<sup>\*</sup>Due to adjustments made during the audit of the 2023 financial statements, these 2023 figures differ slightly from IAIA's 2023 Annual Report.





## **Donors**

Thank you to these partners who have contributed over the past three years. Their cumulative contributions are listed.

#### **Higher Levels of Contributions to IAIA**

- ERM (\$106,000)
- European Investment Bank (\$122,000)
- Government of Canada/Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (\$500,000)
- Inter-American Development Bank (\$363,000)
- Norwegian Environment Agency (NEA) (\$168,000)
- Oil for Development (NORAD) (\$2,029,000)
- WSP/Golder (\$120,000)

#### \$50,000+ IAIA Global Leadership Club

- Hatch
- International Finance Corporation (IFC)

#### \$25,000+ IAIA Resilience Club

- Teck
- Stantec
- Chiba University of Commerce
- British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office

#### \$10,000+ IAIA Strategic Initiatives Club

- Ashawa Consults
- Ausenco/Hemmera
- Enbridge, Inc.
- Environmental Protection Agency, Ireland
- EPC Consultanta de mediu ŠLR
- Failte Ireland
- Global Container Terminals
- IDB Invest
- Korea Environment Institute
- Newcrest
- TC Energy

#### \$5,000+ IAIA Advanced Capacity Club

- Acorn International
- · BC Environmental Assessment Office
- Ecofish Research Ltd.
- Malaysia Convention and Exhibition Bureau
- Prizma
- RINA Consulting Spa
- Skeena Resources
- SLR Consulting
- Vancouver Fraser Port Authority
- · Ventus Development Services

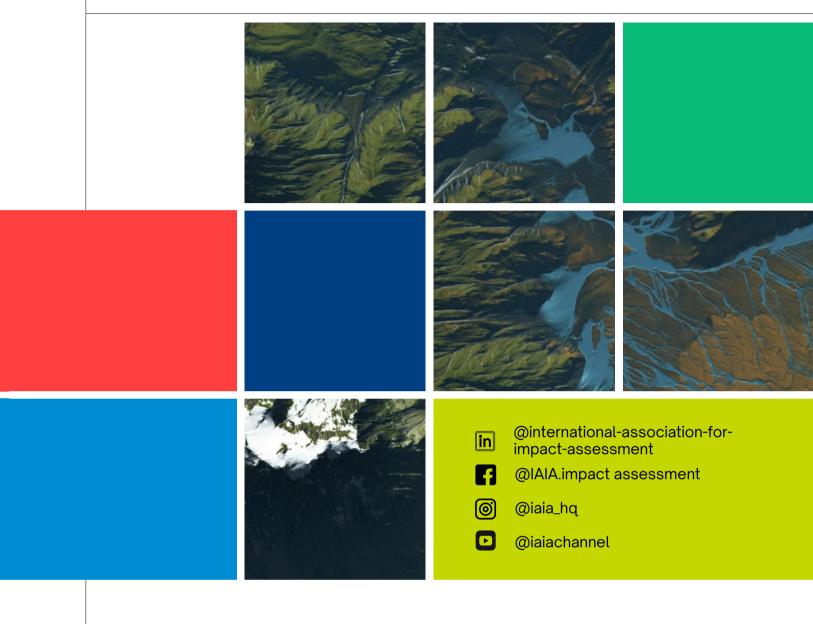
#### \$2,500+ IAIA Premier Club

- Geoambiente S.A.
- SLR Consulting

#### \$1,000+ IAIA Club

- · City Preten S. de RL
- E&S Solutions
- EEGSA
- Quebec City Business Destination









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#### **IAIA Staff**

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Chief Operating Officer

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Jennifer Howell

Director of Membership & Digital Strategy
Shelli LaPlante Schneider

Registration & Accounting Specialist

Sue Quinn

Training Program Specialist

Kiesha Blaser

Events & Projects Specialist
Caitlyn Grimm