

OUR VISION

IAIA is the leading global network on best practice in the use of impact assessment for informed decision making regarding policies, programs, plans and projects.

OUR MISSION

To provide the international forum for advancing innovation and communication of best practice in all forms of impact assessment so as to further the development of local, regional, and global capacity in impact assessment.

ANNUAL REPORT 2009



Transitioning to the Green Economy within IAIA

For our Association to evolve further as the international focal point for Impact Assessment practitioners, we must continue to build a strong organisational base in the work of the Board, IAIA headquarters (HQ), Committees, Sections, Affiliates, and Branches.

The Board provides strategic guidance to IAIA through the Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan identifies priority activities for allocating time and budgets. The Board met twice in 2009, with meetings post-conference in Accra and mid-term in Stockholm—otherwise it was all virtual. This year we paid particular attention to diversifying income streams. Board members are active people in IAIA and were necessarily “hands on” in seeing particular activities through to fruition along with others in the organisation.

The Association continues to benefit from its HQ hub and dedicated staff based in the office in Fargo, USA. As usual, this year saw staff contributing well beyond running the annual conferences. They continued to build the Web site as the focal point for old and new forms of communication and outreach described within, from newsletters to e-news, wikis to Facebook.

Committees are another important source of initiatives and voluntary effort. Committees sought awards nominations and recommended board nominations, led publications and IAPA

This report highlights transitions made by IAIA in the last year.

(Editorial Board) work, coordinated Sections and drove training and professional development initiatives such as practitioner standards. The Conference Programme Committee had its usual pivotal role. Additional Board committees kept oversight of finances and overall conference planning.

Sections provide for networking of members with particular sets of interests. Most importantly, section members continued in 2009 to take a leading role in shaping the annual conference programme. They also organised particular activities, such as guidelines and key citations, and took initiatives, such as the Biodiversity Section's celebration of the International Year of Biodiversity through the “Inspired by Nature” competition. The Students and Early Professionals Section is one way IAIA supported younger members.

Affiliates are an important way for IAIA to foster national and regional networks. This year affiliates met in a special session in Accra to discuss issues and opportunities. The year saw the rebirth of the Cameroon affiliate and a number of other countries considering forming affiliates. Both the Washington, D.C., Branch and the Ireland-UK Branch had a full year of regional activities and programs to enhance the professional networking opportunities so valued by IAIA members.

Together, the Board, Committees, Sections, Affiliates and Branches reflect a wealth of experience in IAIA and provide a strong voluntary base for the organization.

The annual conference is always the highlight of the IAIA year, and this was definitely the case in Accra, Ghana, in May 2009. The theme of “Impact Assessment and Human Well-being” helped to focus participants on issues of integration in impact assessment. It also kept us grounded and relevant to the realities of sustainable development, especially with our many African participants. (Proceedings are available at www.iaia.org/iaia09ghana.) Thanks go to Jonathan Allotey and all who helped organise this stimulating event.

Plans for 2010-2011 reflect the firm goal to be topical and reach out to new audiences. Climate change is clearly of immediate global interest and the topic through which IAIA aims to engage scientists and policy makers directly with the field of impact assessment through a series of symposia.

Let's all look for ways, as members of IAIA, to build networks of support, engage widely, and apply our tools in challenging contexts.

– Nick Taylor, IAIA President





Transitioning to

It's no secret that the world is constantly changing—governments, economies, technology, biodiversity, climate, cultures, and the global and local systems that support us all change. And across the world, individuals and organizations continue to respond and adapt to these changes. Over the past year, IAIA has been changing, too, transitioning to ways to better serve both our members and the impact assessment community. As part of that transition, we are communicating to new audiences in new ways.

Communicating to New Audiences

- IAIA's 29th annual conference was held in May 2009 in Accra, Ghana. There were 545 delegates participating in IAIA09 from 71 nations. In Accra, a record 53% of all conference delegates were from the African continent. By comparison, 23% of overall IAIA membership is from Africa. Currently, the region with the fewest representatives within IAIA is South America (3%). With plans for IAIA's annual conference to be in Mexico in 2011, we expect that percentage to increase.
- Integrated into IAIA's Strategic Action Plan are efforts to reach groups currently underrepresented within IAIA. In recent years, IAIA has focused on efforts to engage students/early professionals, IA professionals from Latin America, and corporate members. In 2009, the Board of Directors added another focus area: Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Using the capacity building contributions by our members (the voluntary donation that can be added to membership renewals), IAIA was able to fund two SIDS delegates to attend IAIA10. In addition, Board members will be meeting in Geneva to further develop a strategy to encourage SIDS membership in IAIA.
- At IAIA09 in Ghana, the concern over climate change led to developing topical and regional symposia on the role of impact assessment in climate change adaptation and mitigation. The first will take place in Aalborg, Denmark (25-26 October 2010). Another will be held in Washington, D.C. (15-16 November 2010), with the hopes of holding a third in Asia in 2011. The goal of these symposia is to bring those working in the field of impact assessment together with climate change scientists in order to bridge gaps between these communities and strengthen sustainable decision-making within society. Different than the annual conference, the symposium is a new meeting format for IAIA, and one that encourages fresh and dynamic leadership to forge ahead for IAIA in these topical areas.
- Reaching beyond the immediate impact assessment community, IAIA published a white paper in September 2009 on the role and value of impact assessment. It is written for technical people not familiar with impact assessment, for decision-makers on the fringe of impact assessment, and for people new to this field. IAIA plans to

continue outreach beyond our typical audiences by using this white paper to develop a document for non-technical laypeople, such as those in the media.

- Through the generosity of donors, IAIA was able to offer the Capacity Building Stipend (CBS) program for IAIA09. With funding from the Swedish EIA Centre (supported by the Swedish International Development Agency), we were able to bring 50 CBS applicants from 18 developing countries to attend IAIA09 in Ghana. Unfortunately, fewer donor funds were available for IAIA10, but we were ultimately still able to fund a limited number of CBS applicants for our 30th annual conference in Geneva.
- In February 2010, IAIA instituted a new means to recognize committed members of IAIA. Called "Sustaining Members," anyone with four current years of uninterrupted IAIA membership who has signed IAIA's Code of Conduct will be listed on the IAIA Web site, updated annually. These members are also entitled to use the term "IAIA Sustaining Member" on their professional correspondence.

Communicating in New Ways

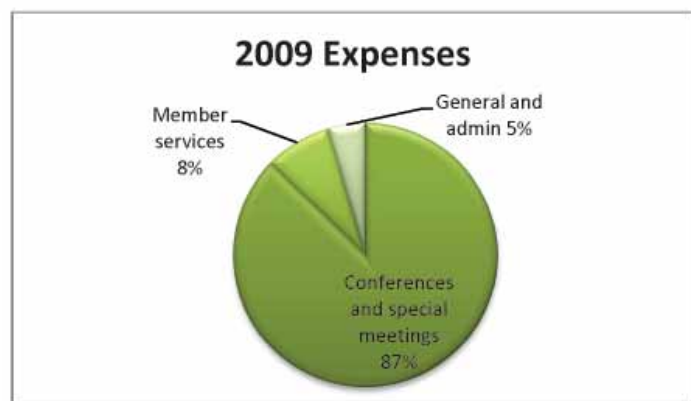
- With a full-time Web developer on staff, IAIA has been improving and streamlining our Web site like never before. Perhaps the most noticeable change has been to the site's graphics. For functionality, the site search has been updated to give more user-friendly results, and a "bread crumb trail" was added to the public area so users can see where they are in the Web site's hierarchy and more easily return to previous pages. While members automatically receive information about upcoming conferences and events, we now can capture the interest of non-members who visit our site before the event's program or registration form are even available. By completing a simple request form, they'll automatically be added to our e-mail notification list for that particular event.
- *¿Habla usted español? Parli italiano? Fala português?* An increasing number of IAIA's publications are now available in other languages, including Spanish, French, Portuguese, and Russian, thanks to IAIA members and Affiliates. Some Best Practice Principles documents, quarterly IAIA newsletters, the Code of Ethics, and the Mission, Vision and Values statement are all offered in additional languages. IAIA continues to work with our partners to expand the number of publications in additional languages.
- In January 2010 we announced a new funding opportunity for IAIA members. The IAIA Board of Directors set aside a small pool of funds for "Mini Challenge Grants," which are a competitive source of funds to encourage members and Sections to undertake innovative projects to advance the strategic direction of IAIA.
- IAIA launched its Facebook page in February 2010. The purpose of this page is to expand the reach and

economy

networking opportunities of IAIA and to draw visitors to the extensive information and resources contained on IAIA's Web site. In Geneva, HQ and the IAIA Board will discuss other social media options, and what might be the best fit for IAIA.

- In March 2010, IAIA launched the IAIA Wiki, an online resource for impact assessment. Members are invited to contribute to a number of topic areas, or create their own.
- In honor of 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity, the IAIA Biodiversity and Ecology Section has organized a competition to celebrate the diversity, value and beauty of life on earth, and the natural systems that provide goods and services for our health and well-being. The competition opened in February 2010 and is accepting both written and visual submissions through October. Complete guidelines and information are available at www.iaia.org/inspired-by-nature.

As of IAIA's fiscal year end of 31 December 2009, total liabilities and net assets were US\$1,083,321, compared to US\$1,110,026 as of 31 December, 2008. In the face of the global economic downturn, we suffered a net income loss of \$25,448, compared to a gain of \$11,006 in 2008. Our market gain in 2009 was \$58,396, compared to a loss in 2008 of \$181,919.



Although we seek revenue diversification, we are continuing to rely heavily on the annual conference for revenue generation. Following is a list of the past seven annual conferences and the revenue generated by each:

2009 Accra, Ghana	\$614,758
2008 Perth, Australia	\$872,190
2007 Seoul, Korea	\$975,021
2006 Stavanger, Norway	\$970,714
2005 Boston, Massachusetts, USA	\$459,198
2004 Vancouver, British Columbia	\$699,266
2003 Marrakech, Morocco	\$356,259

the green

As an association of people concerned about the environment and the impacts our actions have upon it, IAIA has always operated with an environmental perspective, and we continually strive for ways to become even more "green."

In 2009, IAIA signed the Global Principles for Socially Responsible Associations and Non-Profits, as proposed by the American Society of Association Executives and the Center for Association Leadership. And we continue our long history of incorporating as many green initiatives as possible into our business operations and conference planning. For example, by restructuring our sponsorship packages, we've been able to reduce the number of paper inserts in conference delegate bags while still providing value to our donors. At IAIA10, we're pleased to be able to offer water filling and paper recycling stations within the conference center. We've purchased carbon offsets for our journal and newsletter printing and mailing, as well as offsets for travel of headquarters staff and all Capacity Building Stipend recipients.

Being "green" is important to our members, too. In the 18 months since we began offering an option for electronic-only subscriptions to our journal, *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal*, 70% of our members are now using this option. That means fewer hard copies of the journals printed, and fewer being sent through the postal system. IAIA members also seemed to favor an electronic voting system for board members. Using paper ballots in the past resulted in a return rate of about 8%. For the election this past year, we adopted an electronic voting system, with a jump in our return rate to 30%.



By contrast, income from membership fees totaled \$136,767 in 2009, compared to \$163,100 in 2008.

Investments

Investments as of 31 December 2009 are summarized as follows:

Mutual funds	\$268,051
Fixed income	200,011
Money funds	<u>380,377</u>
Total	\$848,439

The Road Ahead

IAIA is continuing the strategy begun in 2005 of holding special conferences or events between the annual conferences. The first of these special events was the conference on Strategic Environmental Assessment held in Prague, and the second one was the Cumulative Effects Assessment conference of 2008 in Calgary, Alberta. Two special Climate Change and Impact Assessment Symposia will be held in the fall of 2010, the first in Aalborg, Denmark, and the second in Washington, D.C. We have budgeted both in such a way that we hope to add to IAIA's net assets through these events.

IAIA continues to have a healthy overall financial situation, although we must now do more to retain and increase our asset base to surmount current economic conditions. Greater corporate sponsorship for IAIA conferences and events is needed given the minimal gain in net assets since IAIA07 in Korea.

The staff of IAIA Headquarters deserve our appreciation, especially Bridget John, for outstanding assistance with fiscal planning and budgeting over the last 12 months. The staff's high level of continuous professional support and commitment to the membership and Board is evident daily, as is their prudent and conservative management of the budget. It is their work that has kept IAIA on a sound financial track in spite of the global economic downturn.

– Wes Fisher, Treasurer/Director

2009 Board of Directors

President Nick Taylor, Taylor Baines & Associates, New Zealand

President-Elect Jonathan Allotey, Environmental Protection Agency, Ghana

Past President Sachihiko Harashina, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan

Secretary Luis Montañez-Cartaxo, Comision Federal de Electricidad, Mexico

Treasurer Weston Fisher, The Cadmus Group, USA

Director Charlotta Faith-Ell, WSP Sweden, Sweden

Director Júlio de Jesus, ECOSSISTEMA, Portugal

Director Marina Khotuleva, Ecoline EIA Center, Russia

Director Maya Gabriela Villaluz, World Bank, Philippines

Director Lea den Broeder, RIVM, The Netherlands

IAIA Affiliates

- Association for Environmental Assessment – Cameroon (ACAMEE) (pilot)
- Asociación Espanola de Evaluación de Impacto Ambiental (AEEIA)
- Associação Portuguesa de Avaliação de Impactes (APAI)
- Association québécoise pour l'évaluation d'impacts (AQEI)
- Eastern Africa Association for Impact Assessment (EAAIA) (pilot)
- IAIA-Ghana
- IAIA-Italia
- IAIA South Africa (IAIASa)
- IAIA Western & Northern Canada (IAIA-WNC)
- Korean Society of Environmental Impact Assessment (KSEIA)
- New Zealand Association for Impact Assessment (NZIAIA)
- Ontario Association for Impact Assessment (OAIA)

IAIA Branches

- Ireland-UK Branch
- Washington (DC) Area Branch

IAIA Membership as of 31 December 2009

Region	Members	Percent
Africa	284	23%
Asia	177	14%
Australia & Oceania.....	108	8%
Europe	302	24%
North America	355	28%
South America	35	3%
Total	1,261	100%

International Association for Impact Assessment

1330 23rd Street South, Suite C | Fargo, ND 58103-3705 USA
 Phone +1.701.297.7908 | Fax +1.701.297.7917
info@iaia.org | www.iaia.org

