

NEWSLETTER

■ INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR IMPACT ASSESSMENT

COMING UP ...

IAIA11

28 MAY-4 JUNE 2011

PUEBLA, MEXICO

IN THIS ISSUE

News from the Field **1**

From the President **2**

Reports and Studies **3**

Board Highlights **3**

Affiliate & Section News **4**

IAIA Matters/Resources **5**

IAPA & Career Central **7**

EU'S REVIEW OF THE EIA DIRECTIVE

In June 2010 the European Commission launched a wide public consultation in relation to its review of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive, via an online survey being conducted up to 24 September 2010. The objective of this public consultation was to collect opinions from individuals, organisations and public authorities on:

- The overall view on the functioning and effectiveness of the EIA Directive
- The need to amend the EIA Directive
- The possible policy options for review
- The areas to be improved/amended

The Commission recognises that the EIA Directive, adopted 25 years ago, should be updated to reflect changes in EU legislation and policy and case law of the European Court of Justice. The Commission has identified several areas where further improvements are needed. The review should culminate in a new text that will also encompass new policy developments (e.g., in the sectors of climate change, energy and biodiversity) and implementation experiences. The revision will also streamline existing assessment procedures to the extent possible.

The consultation sought views on issues such as the screening of projects for EIA (in view of considerable differences among Member States), the quality of the EIA process (e.g., data used in the EIA, assessment of alternatives), the harmonization of assessment requirements among Member States, transboundary difficulties when activities affect more than one Member State, the role to be played by the environmental authorities, and development of synergies with other EU environmental legislation and policies such as climate change, resource efficiency and biodiversity, which are not sufficiently covered by the Directive in its current form.

The Internet consultation will assist the European Commission in the decision-making process, together with other sources (e.g., experience of the Commission, advice of a group of national experts, and findings of relevant studies to be conducted) when considering options for the review of the EIA Directive.

For more information, please contact Josh Fothergill at j.fothergill@iema.net. *Reprinted with permission from the Ireland-UK Branch newsletter.*

INTERNATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR SIA TAKE SHAPE

At IAIA10 in Geneva, a group of approximately 20 people declared an interest in assisting in the development of the International Guidelines for Social Impact Assessment. The International Guidelines are intended to build on the International Principles for SIA by giving more practical instruction about what this new understanding of SIA would mean for SIA practice. The process of developing the guidelines has been given an unexpected boost with support from the Belgium Presidency of the European Union. The Belgium Presidency is keen to promote the increased use of SIA within the EU, and in exchange for assistance in developing SIA in Europe, have agreed to host a workshop to enable the SIA International Guidelines to be developed. This workshop will probably be held in November 2010. A report on the International Guidelines will be given at IAIA11. More information available from **Frank Vanclay** (now based at the University of Groningen) who is coordinating the development of the Guidelines.

■ **FRANK VANCLAY** | UNIVERSITY OF GRONINGEN | FRANK.VANCLAY@RUG.NL



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Rita R. Hamm, Chief Executive Officer

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Jonathan Allotey

Emergency Response Plans

The collapse of the Deepwater Horizon Oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico earlier in the year brought to the fore the subject of emergency response plans. Now that the publicity on the incident has subsided, we can have some sober reflections on the matter. Emergencies and disasters can occur anytime without warning, and as impact assessment practitioners who handle the impacts of various developments or undertakings and their associated risks, we have to deal with emergencies. Preparedness is the key to confronting emergencies.

**Preparedness
is the key to
confronting
emergencies.**

Risks are associated with most developments and we have to find ways to deal with and avoid risks. Four phases are identified in emergency management:

1. **Mitigation** is the phase that IA practitioners deal with in environmental statements. Mitigation tries to prevent hazards from developing into disasters altogether or reduce the effects of disasters when they occur. In putting forward mitigation measures we should go beyond mitigation and address the other phases of emergency management.
2. **Preparedness** is critical in emergency management. It involves a continuous cycle of planning, organizing, training, equipping, exercising, evaluation and improvement activities to ensure effective coordination and the enhancement of capabilities to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate against natural disasters, acts of terrorism and other man-made disasters.
3. **Response** covers mobilization of the necessary emergency services in the disaster areas.
4. **Recovery** tries to restore the affected area to its previous states.

As we go about our professional activities, we should not lose sight of emergency response management issues but ensure that measures and procedures are put in place for emergency situations.

IAIA has a special-interest Section for individuals interested in emergency response. See <http://www.iaia.org/sections/> for information on the Disasters and Conflicts Section.

■ **JONATHAN ALLOTEY** | ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY GHANA
JALLOTEY@EPAGHANA.ORG

SPECIAL SYMPOSIA CLIMATE CHANGE & IMPACT ASSESSMENT



Washington, DC, USA
15-16 November
[www.iaia.org/
iaia-climate-symposium-dc/](http://www.iaia.org/iaia-climate-symposium-dc/)



Aalborg, Denmark
25-26 October
[www.iaia.org/iaia-climate-symposium-
denmark/participation.aspx](http://www.iaia.org/iaia-climate-symposium-denmark/participation.aspx)



Dunedin, New Zealand
17-19 November 2010

Join us for a three-day conference on health impact assessment (HIA) bringing together international experts and practitioners in policy and planning, impact assessment, and health and wellbeing. Together we will review the latest studies and thinking about ways to make health impact assessment more effective. For more information, see www.iaia.org/hia2010/.

INCORPORATING ENHANCEMENT OF POSITIVE IMPACTS INTO ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTICE?

Dr **Elsa João** (Strathclyde University in Glasgow, Scotland) and **Matthew Mosher** (McGill University in Montreal, Canada) have developed a brief questionnaire on the use of enhancement in EA practice. The questionnaire hopes to give information on who is incorporating enhancement into EA practice, why, and what the term "enhancement" means to practitioners. Depending on practitioners' experience, the questionnaire can be answered in relation to SEA and/or project EIA and/or SIA and/or HIA. The questionnaire (which only takes 15 minutes to complete) can be found at www.strath.ac.uk/civeng/enhancementquestionnaire/.

Instead of completing a questionnaire, comments in an email to Dr Elsa João (elsa.joao@strath.ac.uk) or to Matthew Mosher (matthew.mosher@mail.mcgill.ca) are equally welcomed. Material gathered from emails and questionnaires will contribute to a planned special issue of the journal *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal*.

■ **ELSA JOÃO**

UNIVERSITY OF STRATHCLYDE | ELSA.JOAO@STRATH.AC.UK

INPUT SOUGHT FROM IAIA10 DELEGATES

The *Natural Resources Forum* (NRF), a quarterly journal issued by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) and published by Wiley-Blackwell, is inviting your views on the following question for the "Viewpoints" section of the February 2011 issue:

"Is the concept of a green economy a useful way of framing policy discussions and policymaking to promote sustainable development?"

"Viewpoints" offers a platform for academics, practitioners and experts to share their perspectives and to feature these perspectives alongside other responses in the journal. Each entry should be 200 words or less addressing the above question. NRF's editorial team will select contributions that address an important dimension of the debate.

The deadline for submission to the Viewpoints for the February 2011 issue is 15 November 2010. Please submit your contribution to nrforum@un.org and include your name, title, affiliation and contact details.

■ **CLAIRE M. FELLINI**

NATURAL RESOURCES FORUM

REPORT OF EVENT: EIA WORKSHOP, BATH

In February 2010 a meeting of UK EIA experts was held in Bath, England, to discuss effectiveness in EIA with the outputs contributing to IAIA's international study into effectiveness across environmental assessment processes. The forum was the brain child of **Trevor Turpin** (Nicholas Pearson Associates), who is leading the EIA component of the study, and aimed to identify and discuss potential solutions to problems that exist with current EIA practice. The forum built upon a series of ten EIA Effectiveness workshops that IEMA organised during the summer of 2009 to contribute to IAIA's research. All the presentations from this conference are available to download from www.iaia.org/affiliatesbranches/irelanduk-branch.aspx.

Reprinted with permission from the Ireland-UK Branch newsletter.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR HIGHLIGHTS

At its April 2010 meeting in Geneva, in support of IAIA's Strategic Action Plan (SAP) and in general business, the Board of Directors:

- Approved two new Sections: Energy and Cultural Heritage
- Approved creation of an endowment fund
- Although IAIA does not do professional certification, approved the concept of establishing agreements with certifying agencies authorizing them to apply IAIA standards

Full minutes are available at www.iaia.org (log in) > Admin & Member Services > Board and AGM minutes.



FOLLOW IAIA ON FACEBOOK

Check us out at www.facebook.com/pages/IAIA-International-Association-for-Impact-Assessment/311623229112. The purpose of this page is to expand IAIA's reach, network to new people, and draw them to the more expansive information and resources on IAIA's Web site.

If you already have a Facebook account, we encourage you to become a "fan" and post links and content, start a discussion, and share the page with your contacts who might be interested. Even if you don't have a Facebook account, please check out the page, as you'll still be able to view everything.

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This authoritative handbook surveys the full breadth and depth of SEA, bringing together a range of international perspectives and insights on the theoretical, methodological and institutional dimensions and practical issues of the field.

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DCGIS BECOMES OFFICIAL METHODOLOGY IN ITALY FOR GIS-BASED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The Dynamic Computational GIS (DCGIS) is an integrated advanced methodology for environmental impact assessment of projects and plans, based on application of structured GIS language and compliant with US EPA and ASTM risk assessment standards and criteria defined by WHO for HIA. The main characteristics of this methodology are concerned with (1) cumulative impact assessment and (2) innovative participation and communication of advanced modeling results into simple GIS-based language. The adoption process of DCGIS into official policy framework has been successfully supported by IAIA members has included the participation of twelve Provincial Municipalities and local stakeholders. The project started in 2007 and after three years of testing, applications and validations were officially adopted on 26 June 2010 with Regional Decree N. 11317/10 for environmental screening of waste treatment and disposal plants (representing one of the most critical kinds of procedures (EIA/SEA) in terms of participation and acceptance with local communities).

The main goals of this project are (1) to improve effective and practical use of GIS supported by a structured language for addressing impact conditions (baseline cumulative impacts frame) enforcing communication levels between institutional and private players, (2) to provide an integrated approach based on modeling and monitoring application (predictions and measurements integrated into official GIS based procedure), and (3) to enforce the participation level during the authorization phase of projects.

This official step has been reached thanks to a cooperation of researchers, institutional and private players and represents an important phase of that strategic challenge to enforce an iterative dialogue between scientific and administrative-governmental worlds.

In particular, this system represents a screening frame for any instances of EIA and SEA and will be proposed to other nations.

For additional information, contact segreteria@iaiaitalia.org.

IAIA-ITALIA UPDATES WEBSITE, PROVIDES INFORMATION IN ENGLISH

IAIA-Italia is updating its Web site; the first page in English, where you can find the main events organized and attended by IAIA-Italia and the announcement of the upcoming Symposia on Climate Change and Impact Assessment, is available at www.iaiaitalia.org/events.htm. An English version of all IAIA-Italia Web pages is underway.

CULTURAL HERITAGE SECTION FORMED

In response to increasing interest in the cultural heritage component of EIA and SEA, IAIA has created a Cultural Heritage Section. Cultural heritage is an integral facet of impact assessment, but has received less attention than the biophysical and social components. The importance of culture in development is recognized in the policies of international and regional financial institutions, bilateral aid agencies, and the laws of national governments. Guidance material and tools are available for improving coverage of cultural heritage. Since 2005, several IAIA annual conferences have included sessions and training courses on cultural heritage in impact assessment.

At IAIA11 there will be a meeting to discuss the Cultural Heritage Section, the Key Citations on Cultural Heritage in Impact Assessment, and a draft of Best Practice Principles. The time and location for the Section meeting will be posted in the IAIA11 program. All who are interested are encouraged to attend, or to send comments to both Arlene Fleming and Júlio de Jesus.

■ **ARLENE FLEMING** | WORLD BANK | HALANDARLENE@MSN.COM
■ **JULIO DE JESUS** | APAI | JULIO.M.JESUS@GMAIL.COM

A D V E R T I S E M E N T

Environmental Impact Assessment

Practice and Participation | Second Edition

Kevin S. Hanna, Wilfrid Laurier University

Environmental Impact Assessment: Practice and Participation, second edition, examines current debates, recent cases, and ongoing developments in EIA. Canadian author Kevin S. Hanna provides a comprehensive examination of environmental impact assessment through fascinating case studies and detailed profiles of EIA laws and regulations. Ranging in scope from the challenges and future opportunities for EIA to detailed topics such as First Nations responses to high-level radio-active waste disposal, this text exposes students to the real world implications of EIA and is an essential introduction to the field.

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ARE YOU UP FOR A CHALLENGE?

Knights of old threw down a glove when issuing a challenge to another knight. Rose-Hulman winner **Charlotte Bingham** threw down a glove to issue a challenge to all IAIA members to raise money for an IAIA capacity building endowment fund. Charlotte will contribute seed money for the fund this year and provide a match next year (up to a pre-set limit) for any donations our members make between now and 30 September 2011. So for every \$1 you give, it will become \$2, thanks to Charlotte.

To make a contribution through IAIA's online store, see www.netforumondemand.com/eweb/shopping/shopping.aspx?site=iaia&prd_key=924e7321-981c-4c9f-9fd7-426fc625b568 and enter the amount you'd like to contribute. You can also add it to your membership renewal; just write in the amount under the optional voluntary contribution line on the form and add it to your total, or add the Capacity Building Contribution in the online store.

Other members have expressed interest in doing the same thing as Charlotte, so it is possible each dollar contributed to this fund could be worth \$3 or even more. If you are interested in joining Charlotte by providing matching funding, please contact Bridget John at IAIA Headquarters (bridget@iaia.org).

PAST CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

The CD-ROMs of past conference proceedings (IAIA00, IAIA02, and IAIA04) are now available for purchase (while supplies last) in IAIA's online store. Each CD-ROM costs US\$10 (shipping included).

- IAIA00: Back to the Future - Where Will Impact Assessment Be in 10 Years and How Do We Get There? (Hong Kong)
- IAIA02: Assessing the Impact of IA (The Hague)
- IAIA04: Whose Business is It? Impact Assessment for Industrial Development (Vancouver)

Log in to www.iaia.org and visit the online store to order.

IAIA10 PROCEEDINGS INFORMATION



IAIA10 PowerPoint submissions are still invited. If you would like to post the PowerPoint submissions from your presentation in Geneva on the IAIA10 proceedings Web page, please send the file to IAIA webmaster Jeff Torreson (webmaster@iaia.org).

Please provide Jeff with your name, the title of your presentation, and the number and name of the session in which you made the presentation.

Reviewed papers from IAIA10 concurrent sessions that have been submitted to IAIA HQ are posted online. Concurrent thematic session papers that have been reviewed by session chairs and received by HQ have also been posted. Questions regarding concurrent thematic papers should be sent to Jennifer Howell (jen@iaia.org).

Mark Your Calendar

IAIA & AFFILIATE ACTIVITIES

Impact Assessment in Policy and Practice. A gathering of professionals to consider and discuss aspects of impact assessment in central and local government policy development and service delivery. Every 4th Tuesday of the month. Wellington, New Zealand. www.nziaia.org.nz/Library/WellingtonForum/Wellington.htm

OAIA 2010 Annual General Meeting and Conference: "Revisiting Federal Environmental Assessment Policy and Practice." 14-15 October. Ottawa, Canada. www.oaia.on.ca/news.htm

CNAI'2010 - National Congress on Impact Assessment. 20-22 October 2010. Vila Real, Portugal. www.apai.org.pt/

EIANZ Annual Conference: "From Discovery to Delivery: Science, Policy, Leadership and Action." 26-29 October. Te Papa, Wellington, New Zealand. www.confer.co.nz/eianz2010/

KSEIA Autumn Meeting: Regional Development and Impact Assessment. 29-30 October. Chonju, Korea. KSEIA@hitel.net

Climate Change and Impact Assessment Special Symposia. 25-26 October 2010 in Aalborg, Denmark. 15-16 November 2010 in Washington, DC, USA. www.iaia.org

Health, Wellbeing, and HIA: Working Better, Working Smarter. 17-19 November 2010. Dunedin, New Zealand. www.iaia.org

IAIA11. Impact Assessment and Responsible Development for Infrastructure, Business and Industry. 28 May-4 June 2011. Puebla, Mexico. www.iaia.org

2010: The International Year of Biodiversity
America by Cecilia Ormaechea



Inspired by Nature

IAIA is holding a competition open to all

You are invited to submit your written inspirations, photographs and art works before the 15 October 2010.

Winning entries will be showcased at IAIA'11.

Winning entries will be given one year of membership with hard copy journal subscription. Runners-up will win one year of IAIA membership.

Please visit www.iaia.org/inspired-by-nature for submission guidelines and instructions, or contact Bridget@iaia.org for more details.

Co-ordinated by IAIA's Biodiversity & Ecology Section

RESEARCH CORNER

INPUT INVITED FROM STUDENTS, SCHOLARS

One of IAIA's strategic goals is to make contributions, advancements and disseminate IA research. Among IAIA's members are several junior and established scholars who are passionate about impact assessment (IA) and bring that enthusiasm into their research. Master's and Ph.D. students in particular are close to the "sharp end" of innovative and original IA research, contributing to the advancement of the theory and practice of IA and providing up-to-date breadth and depth of knowledge on cross-cutting themes and topical issues.

The IA Research Corner is intended to provide students, as well as more senior scholars, an opportunity to inform other IAIA members about their research topics, disseminate knowledge, communicate findings, or seek contributions.

Contributions to this feature are invited. Text should be no longer than 300 words and may be sent to jen@iaia.org. The deadline for the next issue of the newsletter is 1 December.

Have you or an IAIA member you know recently made news, celebrated a promotion, retired, or completed a major project?

Please send the information to the newsletter and share it with the IAIA community!

WANTED: YOUR FAVORITE PHOTO

Please send your favorite photo of an IA-related project as a high resolution TIFF (minimum 4"x6" 300 dpi), together with a description of the photo, to jen@iaia.org. Select photos will be featured in upcoming newsletters.



CALL FOR CONFERENCE HOSTS

Are you interested in hosting a future IAIA annual conference in your country?

The Board evaluates many factors, including location; proposed theme in relation to the IAIA mission, vision and values; quality of the proposal; and potential financial outcome. Contact Rita Hamm at IAIA HQ (rita@iaia.org) to express your interest and receive information on preparing an effective proposal.

COURSES & COACHING

IFC Performance Standards & Equator Principles for ESIA's



Following this 1-day course, participants will know how to improve design and troubleshoot ESIA studies and action plans to make them bankable. The course elements include:

- Genesis, context and application of standards
- Designing bankable ESIA's & ESAPs
- Social, resettlement and public consultation
- Biodiversity challenges and offset solutions
- Due diligence & role of Independent Engineer

Sustainability Reporting (GRI)



This course can be provided as a 2-day and GRI-certified course or as a 1-day boot camp. The latter is designed for first-time reporters in the extractive sector. The course elements include:

- Genesis, drivers and state of practice
- GRI's framework and emerging changes
- Boundary setting, materiality tests
- Leveraging existing systems, indicators & data
- Credibility enhancement & assurance

Expert Practitioner & Trainer



Mehrdad Nazari (MSc, MBA, LEAD Fellow) is a Senior ESIA & CSR Advisor with 20 years of international experience. He troubleshoots ESIA's and CSR strategies to make them bankable, credible and sustainable, and assists extractive clients with GRI reporting. Previously, Mr. Nazari was Principal Environmental Specialist, European Bank (EBRD, UK); CSR Research Director, CoreRatings (UK, now Innovest, DNV); and Project Manager, Dames & Moore Germany (now URS). He is a certified ISO 14,001 Lead Auditor, a GRI-approved trainer and provides also assurance services. Additional information and references can be requested via e-mail from mnazari@charter.net or downloaded here:

www.primasolutions.com

IAPA SEEKS INCLUSION IN SSCI


Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal is IAIA's journal. It is one of the few journals in the world fully dedicated to impact assessment. It is within IAIA aims to continue improving this journal and keep it at the level of the best international journals. An important step is to have *IAPA* indexed in the Social Science Citation Index (SSCI); this will improve the international recognition of *IAPA* as being among the best.

To achieve this status, *IAPA* needs to be cited in other journals that are already in the SSCI. And it needs to receive good and even excellent articles. You can help us in this effort. If you are submitting a paper to another journal, please make sure that the journal is already in the SSCI and please cite *IAPA* papers. And if you are submitting a paper to *IAPA*, remember that *IAPA* goes to over 120 countries, to libraries as well as to members, and is widely read by policy makers, consultants, etc., and by academics and students.

Notes for Authors are available in the journal and on the Web (www.scipol.demon.co.uk/iapanote.htm); submit papers to the editors at A.Morrison-Saunders@murdoch.edu.au and francois.retief@nwu.ac.za.

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IAPA: FREE ONLINE!

Did you know? Full online texts of articles in *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal* since March 1999 are free to IAIA members through **IngentaConnect**. Tables of contents, abstracts and index, and a contents alerting service are also available.

All items in *IAPA* are open-access 24 months after publication. Bookmark **IngentaConnect** at www.ingentaconnect.com/content/beech/iapa today!

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- October**
- 16 World Food Day
- November**
- 8 World Town Planning Day
- December**
- nn International Volunteers Day

PAPERS SOUGHT FOR SPECIAL ISSUE OF IAPA

Papers are sought for a special issue of *IAPA* on enhancement of positive impacts to be published in 2011. This special issue will bring together, for the first time, ideas on accentuating the positive from different angles, including SEA, EIA, SIA and HIA.

Enhancement could be associated with a wide range of issues such as biodiversity, social development, ecosystems (as well as soils, water or air), health, green spaces, landscape character, and cultural or historical heritage.

Guest editors are **Elsa João** (University of Strathclyde), **Frank Vanclay** (University of Groningen) and **Lea den Broeder** (National Institute for Public Health and the Environment, Netherlands).

Submission deadline of full paper is 14 January 2011, but please send intention to submit paper by 7th Oct 2010 to elsa.joao@strath.ac.uk.

In parallel, and in order to gather data for the special issue, a questionnaire has been developed on the use of enhancement in EA practice. The questionnaire hopes to find out information on who is incorporating enhancement into EA practice, why and what the term enhancement means to practitioners. (See article on page 3.)

Both the call for papers for the special issue and the questionnaire can be found at www.strath.ac.uk/civeng/enhancement/.

■ **ELSA JOÃO**
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WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

1 March - 30 May 2010

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NEW ON THE 'NET ■ WWW.IAIA.ORG

- Updates: IAIA11; Climate change symposia in Denmark and Washington, DC; HIA in New Zealand
- IAIA Handbook — now online
- Public and administration pages updated with user-friendly features and new look and feel
- And more! Bookmark www.iaia.org today!

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Quotable

All conservatism is based upon the idea that if you leave things alone, you leave them as they are. But you do not. If you leave a thing alone, you leave it to a torrent of change.

G.K. CHESTERTON

IAIA IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

Subject to change; watch for updates!

October 2010

25-26 ...Climate Change Symposium, Aalborg, Denmark
27-29 ...Midyear Board meeting
29.....Climate Change Symposium, Washington, DC, registration deadline (or until limit of 400 is reached)

November 2010

15-16 ...Climate Change Symposium, Washington, DC
17-19 ...HIA2010 New Zealand

December 2010

1Newsletter articles due
31.....CBS applications due

January 2011

3Newsletter mailed
31.....IAIA11 student fee waiver deadline
31.....IAIA11 paper/poster abstract submission deadline

February 2011

28.....IAIA11 last date authors may register and pay in full to be included in IAIA11 final program
28.....IAIA11 Early Bird rate ends; Quickpass deadline

March 2011

1Newsletter articles due
28.....IAIA11 draft papers due
31.....IAIA11 deadline for technical visits and training course registration
31.....IAIA11 deadline for exhibits, mentor program, requests for inserts in delegate bags

April 2011

1Newsletter mailed
28.....IAIA11 paper reviews complete

May 2011

28IAIA11 training course instructor agreements due
28.....Board action items, annual reports and Annual General Meeting action items due

June 2011

1Newsletter articles due
11.....IAIA11 pre-registration cutoff
28-4.....IAIA11

July 2011

20.....Newsletter, IAIA12 first announcement mailed
11.....IAIA11 deadline for revised papers

IAIA Newsletter

Next issue: January 2011

Submission deadline: 1 December 2010

Professional practice articles should be a maximum of 150 words. Send submissions or questions to professional practice news co-editors **Richard Fristik** (Richard.Fristik@wdc.usda.gov) and **Bram Noble** (b.noble@usask.ca).

General interest articles should be a maximum of 300 words. Send to **Jennifer Howell** (jen@iaia.org). Suggestions, comments, and story ideas are always welcome.

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